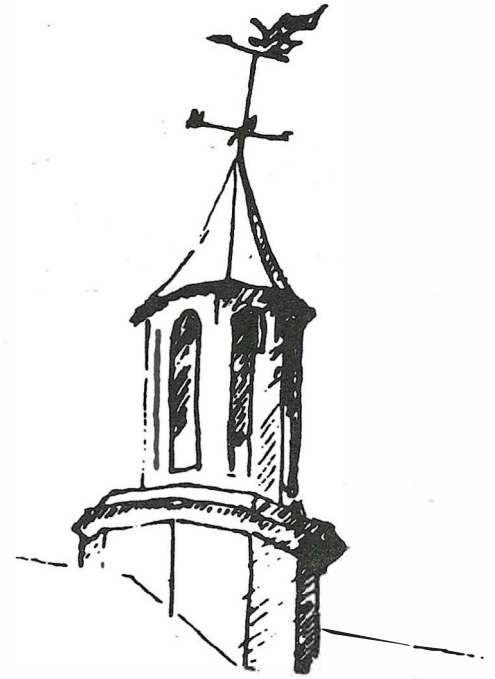


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



June 2002

COUNCIL APPROVES BUDGET FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR

By John Bruce Wells

The Glen Echo Town Council on May 21 unanimously approved next year's budget of \$281,627.40 as proposed by Mayor Debbie Beers in her May 2 letter to town residents. The \$71,000 reduction from last year's budget came primarily (\$40,000) in Capital Improvements under the category of street paving.

Councilman Tim Maloy, who is in charge of street maintenance said that in the future the town will consider doing street work on a rolling basis, one street per year. This year's street repair work is split over this and next year's budget.

The other major reduction in anticipated expenses (\$15,000) came in Maintenance of Public Space. This reduction is due to the completion of Town Hall painting. Next year's budget will remain basically the same with the addition of a maintenance agreement on the elevator, and work on the hall's wood floor.

Other significant reductions for the 2002-2003 budget were:

- Legal budget (\$6,000) due to the completed acquisition of the town's right-of-way
- Street lights (\$4,000) due to participation in a purchasing cooperative
- Survey of Public Spaces (\$3,000)
- Administration \$3,000)

- Payroll \$2,785), starting salary for new clerk/treasurer
 - Fixed Operational Expenses (\$1,000), heat, water, telephone, etc
- Significant increases for the 2002-2003 budget were:
- Refuse/Recycling (\$2,000)

—continued on page 4

TOWN POTLUCK PICNIC

Sunday, June 30

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Town Hall lawn (inside in case of rain)

Residents should bring a main dish, salad or dessert for 8 people.

The town will provide sodas, plates and dining utensils.

Please call Cathie at 301-320-4041 or email townhall@glenecho.org to volunteer to help.

THE ECHO

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♻️ Printed on recycled paper

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TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.glenecho.org>

PLEASE NOTE NEW OFFICE HOURS ABOVE

LAW & ASSOCIATES, INC.
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Heather Cottage

Financial Planning

LETTER TO THE TOWN

Dear Neighbors:

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during the recent street construction process. We know that it has been disruptive for many of you who have nevertheless cooperated in moving your vehicles on short notice so that we did not have a single incident where anyone had to be towed.

We hope that these repairs will last a long time and that we will not have to endure a similar process for a number of years. Thank you again.

Sincerely,
 The Mayor and Town Council

STREET RENOVATION COMPLETED

By James Gibney

Road crews from E.E. Lyons finished repairing and refinishing selected town streets at the end of May. The work focused on fixing the most severe problems on Glen Echo streets rather than rehabilitating the entire street infrastructure, which Mayor Debbie Beers told the Town Council would have cost nearly \$1 million.

Total estimated cost is \$125,000, which represents an overrun from the original bid by Lyons of \$102,000 but is consistent with the original estimate of \$152,000 that the town received from its consulting engineering firm, A. Morton Thomas.

Most of the overrun resulted from the need to fix defects that had worsened since the original bid, or to address additional specific problems raised by residents. One unexpected cost: the discovery of unstable subsoil on Wellesley Circle, which required the excavation of four to six inches of soil before the street could be repaved, adding roughly \$10,000 to the repair bill.

Town council members agreed at their May 13 meeting to shift \$50,000 from the town's general fund surplus to pay for the additional costs. They also agreed to plan on a long-range schedule for future repairs, possibly choosing one street every other year for rehabilitation.

Despite the abrupt commencement of the work—the result of a last-minute change by the contractor—all cars were removed in time to complete the work. Mayor Debbie Beers praised former council member Gloria Levin for her role in supervising the repairs. “It was invaluable to have someone on site to talk with contractors,” said the mayor. “Gloria has really taken on and masterminded this project.”

Councilmembers Eve Arber and Tim Maloy were also on hand overseeing the repairs.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS: TALES OF GLEN ECHO AND GLEN ECHO MEMORABILIA

Sunday, June 23
2:00-5:00 p.m.
Glen Echo Town Hall

Richard Cook and Debbie Lange, authors of “Glen Echo Park: A Story of Survival,” will discuss the interesting history of the park and the town.

Their book, which explores the park's Chautauqua era, amusement park era, and arts park era, is based on thirty years of research and interviews, including conversations with the Baltzley family, the Schloss family, and many Glen Echo Amusement Park staff.

They have also drawn information about early Glen Echo from Clara Barton's diaries and letters.

As an added attraction, all are invited to view and participate in an exhibit of Glen Echo Memorabilia. Several local collectors will show their photos of the town and park and other local memorabilia.

Everyone is encouraged to bring photos, slides, negatives, and mementos to share with others. We will have a photo-slide-negative scanner available for those who would like to have electronic versions of their mementos or would like them to be considered as illustrations in the history book being written for the town's 2004 centennial.

The authors' presentation is part of a two-year lecture series and other activities to commemorate the centennial of the town of Glen Echo, which was chartered in 1904. The Centennial Committee, chaired by Bonnie Whyte, is planning a series of lectures, historical and social activities centered on the past history and current residents of the unique small town.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information contact: Bonnie Whyte, (301) 229-3392, bwhyte@erols.com, or c/o Glen Echo Town Hall (301) 320-4041.

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FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

The following activities booked at the town hall are free for town residents:

Thursday, June 6, 7:00-10:00 p.m.—American Indian Intertribal Council

Mondays, June 3, 17, 24—Bulgarian Dance Rehearsals

Monday, June 10, 8:00 p.m.—Town Council Meeting

Sunday, June 23, 2:00-5:00 p.m.—Richard Cook and Debbie Lange, “The History of Glen Echo Park and the Town of Glen Echo” plus exhibit of Glen Echo Memorabilia.

VEGETATION CUTBACK DEADLINE SATURDAY, JUNE 15

The Glen Echo Town Council has set the deadline for the annual town vegetation cutback as Saturday, June 15.

This means that **all vegetation growing across and over any town sidewalk** must be cut back by residents with sidewalks adjoining their property by this deadline.

Pedestrian walkways must be clear of foliage.

After June 15 a landscape crew will complete the work and the cost will be assessed to the violator.

Vegetation cutback is especially important at street intersections where foliage at street level and above can impair the visibility of drivers. The town council did not approve a suggestion to post mirrors at two problem intersections because of concern that any such mirrors might be vandalized and broken.

Thanks for your cooperation.

BUDGET (FROM PAGE 1)

- Centennial Celebration expenses (\$1,000)
Estimates of town income next year were down approximately \$4,000. This is a result of decreased interest income earned on the town's investments and county revenue sharing. The decrease in income could have been worse had not state income tax and revenue estimates for property taxes not shown increases.

Next year's property taxes were unanimously approved by the town council to continue at the current rates for real estate (\$0.14 X 100% of real property valuation) and for personal property used for business purposes (\$0.80 per \$100 of property valuation).

Other than the *Echo* reporter, no residents were present at the town budget hearing.

GROWING A GIANT PUMPKIN: FLOWER POLLINATION

By Andy Malmgren

(This is part four of an eight part series of Echo articles on growing giant pumpkins.)

By now the vines of your pumpkin plant should be taking up most of your yard and probably some of your neighbor's. In mid-June the vines will begin to flower.

Pumpkin vines produce both male and female flowers. This is why you don't need two pumpkin plants to make pumpkins. The female flowers are always located at the ends of the vines and have a small pumpkin under the flower. The male flowers are usually located at the leaf stems and do not have a pumpkin under the flower.

Bees will cross-pollinate the pumpkin flowers naturally or you can do it yourself. If you decide to try a little cross-pollination, you will need to rent a large bee costume... just kidding. To cross-pollinate, simply remove a freshly opened male flower from the vine and carefully strip off the outer flower petals. Rub the pollen-covered male stamen inside the female flower. Rub the pollen from the stamen on the stigma, located in the inside-center of the female flower.

The trickiest part of pollinating is timing. The female flower must be in the initial stages of blooming. If pollination is successful, the pumpkin will begin growing like wildfire. If pollination is not successful, the fruit will begin to rot and fall off the vine.

Note: Be on the lookout for Vine Borers and Bean Beetles this month!

(You can view Andy's giant pumpkin plant in the front yard at 42 Wellesley Circle behind the bamboo "teepee" for bean support.)



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COUNCIL MULLS OVER MORE DANCE USE OF TOWN HALL

By James Gibney

A new request to book the Glen Echo Town Hall for an additional dance group provoked a spirited discussion about the most appropriate uses for the facility at the May 13 Town Council meeting.

"Town Hall is becoming a Mecca for dances, and it's a very hard use for the hall," observed Mayor Debbie Beers.

The hall is currently used on most Monday and Wednesday evenings by groups practicing English Country and Bulgarian dances. (The cost to refinish the floor runs anywhere from \$2,000 to \$2,500; annual general maintenance costs for the entire hall are approximately \$38,000.)

In addition to the wear and tear on the hall floor, council members cited several other difficulties, including increased parking, the difficulty of scheduling town events, and the burden imposed on those who have to supervise the opening and closing of the hall.

"We need to examine more generally how the hall is being used by dance groups," argued Council member Tom Lorenzen. Council members agreed to put Town Hall usage on June's council meeting agenda.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE PLANS

All townspeople are invited to join or attend the next Centennial Committee meeting on Tuesday, June 18 at 8:00 p.m. at the town hall. We are looking for your good ideas!

Plans are underway for a session on Sept. 22 for Glen Echo "old timers" who were here before the park closed to reminisce and tell others about the town as it was.

In October, the Clara Barton site staff will make a presentation on Clara Barton, her home, life and the multitude of visitors she had while living in Glen Echo.

Harry Ways, expert on the Washington Aqueduct, has been rescheduled for November. Mark your calendars now—details will follow when dates and times are confirmed.

POSTAL INQUIRIES?

It is no longer possible to get postal information by calling one's local post office.

For information by phone call toll-free number 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777) for all postal inquiries.

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

*at Susan Grigsby's
7325 University Ave.*

Thursday, June 20, 8:00 p.m.

Please RSVP 301-229-7735

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Around Town

Emily Beers graduated from Colgate University, in Hamilton, NY, on May 19. Emily majored in English and minored in Art History and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She will begin work as a paralegal at the New York offices of Covington & Burling in July. She is the daughter of Don and Debbie Beers of Wellesley Circle.

Emily's brother **Michael**, a sophomore at Walt Whitman High School, recently attended a four-day seminar as Walt Whitman's delegate to the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference. Each school in Maryland sends one sophomore to the Conference each year.

Michael has also been invited to represent Whitman as a National Scholar at the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. Michael is president of the sophomore class and was a co-captain of the Whitman JV Soccer team last fall.

Congratulations to **Yvonne Harrison**, who was promoted to Glen Echo Postmaster in April. She has been a window clerk at the Glen Echo Post Office for 18 years. She

will be formally installed on June 15. She is a graduate of the Texas Woman's University.

Ms. Harrison said that the Glen Echo Post Office has been short-handed for over two years, which explains the long lines customers sometimes encounter. There should be two window clerks plus the Postmaster; there is often only one clerk available. Sometimes a postal carrier is also present, but he/she cannot be assigned to a window.

Lindsey Whyte graduated on May 5 from the University of Richmond. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Studio Art and Elementary Education. She was a member of Varsity Swimming, Varsity Golf, and Alpha Chi Omega Sorority. She is currently looking for a teaching position in the area for pupils between 2nd and 4th grade.

Sara Hewitt graduated May 23 from the University of Maryland, receiving a Masters of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. She was featured as one of the University's "Up and Coming", in the "Maryland Research Magazine," Fall 2001. Following graduation she will be working in Rosslyn, Virginia for TRW, an aerospace company.

A county study entitled "Economic Forces That Shape Montgomery County: Update 2002" reveals that **job growth** slowed through the first half of 2001 and turned negative in the third quarter. However, early statistics released by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, shows job growth resumed in January 2002.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

OUR RESPONSIBLE BABYSITTER is seeking morning work, five days a week. She is very reliable and good with children. She also does light housekeeping. For references, call Julia Wilson (320-2331) or Stacey Malmgren (263-0146).

HOUSING SOUGHT: Looking to rent a house, garden apt., or room in shared house in or near Glen Echo. I'm a massage therapist, dancer and nature lover in my late 30s who is responsible, considerate and needs a sunny garden to play in. Please call Amy at 301-655-0274.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.75 per line of 50 characters or fewer. Display ads: \$4 per column inch. Ads may be left with or mailed to the editor at 38 Wellesley Circle, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Make checks payable to: Town of Glen Echo. Deadline: 24th of each month.

YOUTH MUSICAL JUNE 8 & 9 AT PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

A youth musical, "David and the Giants," will be presented Saturday and Sunday, June 8 & 9 at 7:00 p. m. at the Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 5500 Massachusetts Ave., Bethesda (across from the Little Falls Library).

A tale for all ages, it features the "Fee-Fi-Fo-Fum Dancers."

Donations accepted.



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ELECTION JUDGES NEEDED

Montgomery County's Board of Elections is seeking individuals to serve as election judges on Primary Election Day, Sept. 10, and on General Election Day, Nov. 5.

Judges must be registered to vote in Montgomery County and able to speak, read and write English. While acting as a judge they must not hold or be a candidate for public or party office.

Training will be provided and all judges will be compensated for serving.

To apply, or for more information, call the Election Judge Recruiters:

Democrats: Eileen Finnegan 240-777-8572
Paulette Polite 240-777-8571

Republicans: Sarah Davis 240-777-8577
Margarita Torres-Rodriguez 240-

777-8576

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

March/April, 2002

Chapel Valley (landscaping)	\$2,350.00
Student Biz.net (partial painting T.H.)	\$9,957.00
Allied Printing (April, May Echo)	\$330.66
Royal Gutter Service	\$170.00

Looking for a life changing experience?

Come to Glen Echo Baptist Church, where you will be educated as to what God's Word means. All teaching is straight from the Bible.

Sunday School 9:30am, Sunday Services 11:00am and 6:00pm, Wed night service at 7:00pm.

Also on Wed, children 6-10yrs at the Annex (University & Harvard Sts.) 7:00pm.

DR. JULIAN HUBBELL LECTURE BASED ON NEW RESEARCH

"Dr. Julian Hubbell, Chief Field Agent, American Red Cross" is the subject of a special lecture at the Clara Barton House on Sunday, June 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Presented by Architectural Historian Elizabeth Lampl, it is based on her recently completed research for the National Park Service. She discovered new information about the special relationship between Clara Barton and Dr. Hubbell and his contribution to the success of the American Red Cross.

She also interviewed Hubbell relatives and obtained information pertaining to the restoration of his bedroom in the Clara Barton House.

The lecture will be followed by an open house from 2:00-4:00.

CLARA BARTON PERFORMANCE SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1:00 P.M.

Actress Mary Ann Jung will portray Clara Barton in a solo program entitled "Clara Barton—Red Cross Angel" at the Clara Barton National Historic Site on Sunday, June 23.

Her performance will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will be followed by an open house from 2:00-4:00.

Ms. Jung was just honored by the Maryland State Arts Council with an award for outstanding Solo Theatrical Performance for her Clara Barton show.

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES AT GLEN ECHO PARK

By James Gibney

Following the removal of a Pepco pole that had stalled work on the North Arcade of Glen Echo Park, renovation is proceeding apace. According to Karen Pittleman, site manager at Glen Echo Park for the National Park Service, the worst concentrations of hazardous material were found near the old shooting gallery site, where workers had to remove 12 inches of soil contaminated with lead from old paint, shot, and targets.

The abatement of hazardous material (primarily lead paint and asbestos) from the Spanish Ballroom has finished.

Work has also begun on a new concession stand. Ms. Pittleman noted that while there will be no concession service this summer, there will be vending machines, possibly also including ice cream.

Construction continues to affect attendance at some park events. Zydeco and swing dances are attracting about half the number of customary attendees. Following a June pottery show, the stone tower Gallery will be dark until further notice for renovation, including the installation of a ramp for disabled access.

The Labor Day art show will still be held, though this year it will be located at the Bumper Car Pavilion.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, June 10—8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

LOCAL CRIME

Since mid-March there have been several nearby residential burglaries. They usually involve female suspects who may claim to be looking for a lost child or dog, or possibly ask for a glass of water in an effort to distract the victim.

On March 14 jewelry was stolen from a house on Goldsboro Rd. In May jewelry, stamp & coin collections, a kinetic clock and sculpture was stolen from a house in Tulip Hill.

In April two young white men posing as Church of Latter Day Saints missionaries distracted a homeowner in the daytime in the front yard of a house on Loch Lomond Dr. while someone else came in an unlocked door and took jewelry, silver and cash. The two men had white shirts and ties but did not have the large name tags typical of Mormons.

—Norman Hudson-Taylor



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