

The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



March 2001

FORMER MAYOR PAUL ALBAN DIES

Glen Echo lost one of its historically prominent long-time citizens with the death on January 28 of Paul Alban. Paul was born in town in 1919, served as mayor from 1970-77, and as member of the town council for five years before that.

Except for the years spent at university and in military service during World War II, he lived in Glen Echo almost continuously until he was hospitalized after a stroke in 1993.

Services were held at the National Lutheran Home in Rockville on Feb. 1. Interment will take place at Arlington National Cemetery at 3:00 p.m. on Mar. 7.

Paul was born at home in the house now numbered 19 Vassar Circle. At that time, the whole of Vassar Circle and most of the southeast side of Wellesley Circle from University Ave. to Cornell Ave. was his grandfather's farm. His grandfather, who had six children, grew corn, kept goats, which grazed along MacArthur Blvd., and had a hog pen on the slope below the houses presently located on Wellesley Circle near the lower end of Cornell Ave.

He attended what is now the Clara Barton School. He went on to Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, the University of Idaho, and Yale University, where he received a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942. During the war, he piloted B-17s, B-24s, and B-29s in the South Pacific.

In 1946 he began working for the Army Map Service as a stereo compiler. He spent 19 years in the field compiling information, traveling in every state and throughout Europe,

Africa, Asia and the Middle East. He set up the China Map Service in Taiwan. He worked for the Defense Mapping Agency for 36 years and was honored with a commendation for distinguished service on his retirement in 1979.

—continued on page 3

MAY ELECTION FOR MAYOR, TWO COUNCILMEMBERS

The four-year terms of Mayor Debbie Beers and Councilmembers Michael Brintnall and Norman Bernhardt will expire in May. They have not yet announced whether they will stand for reelection.

A town election will be held Monday, May 7.

Candidates for these offices must be registered Glen Echo voters who have resided in the town at least one year prior to the election and be at least 25 years of age for councilmembers and 30 years for mayor. They are not required to be U.S. citizens.

Anyone wishing to run for these offices must file a written declaration of candidacy by no later than 20 days prior to the election, which is Apr. 17.

Statements from candidates will be published in the April issue. They should be sent or delivered to the editor of *The Echo*.

THE ECHO

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Letters to the Editor are welcomed. They must be signed. Articles for publication are also solicited. Any comments about *The Echo* may be addressed to the Editor, the Mayor or any councilmember. Volunteer reporters are always needed. Call the Editor at: 301-229-3748.

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TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

Town Office 301-320-4041

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20812

Office Hours: Monday (if holiday, moved to Tuesday), and Thursday: 9:30 am- 12 noon, or by appointment

MAYOR

Debbie Beers 301-229-7308

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Norman Bernhardt 301-320-2469
 Michael Brintnall 301-229-6792
 Timothy K. Maloy 301-229-4745
 Nancy Long 301-332-3823

CLERK-TREASURER

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

Kathleen Horwitz 301-320-2171

TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS: <http://www.glenecho.org>

NOTICE

Allied Printing, printer of *The Echo*, has moved to 8844 Monard Dr., Silver Spring (off Brookville Rd. near Grubb Rd.—10-15 minutes from its old location in Bethesda). Unlike in its former location, there is plenty of convenient, free parking.

New numbers are: phone: 301-563-6435, fax: 301-563-6438. A map to the new location can be printed from Allied's website: www.allied-bethesda.com, or may be requested by mail or fax.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 12—8:00 p.m.
 Glen Echo Town Hall
 Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda



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PAUL ALBAN (FROM PAGE 1)

At one time Paul lived at 29 Wellesley Circle, but moved with his mother to 6104 Bryn Mawr Ave. in 1932.

He lived in several nursing homes after his stroke; after breaking his hip in 1994, he could not walk again.

Nancy Long, who knew him much of his life and served with him on the town council, remembers him as "serious and conscientious as a town official and in his professional life, but with a sense of humor, a twinkling eye and a penchant for teasing. Working with him was not only productive; it was fun.

"His affection for Glen Echo was evident in his long service to the town as mayor and councilman, as unofficial advisor and as a good and caring neighbor.

She summed up: "Paul played a significant role in the town's history and is part of that history."

Survivors include his special friend, Mary Ann Kouri, a sister, June C. Winkels, cousin Betty Ward and several other cousins.

--Carlotta Anderson

TOWN CONSIDERS PROPOSAL FOR SPEEDING STUDY

By Dave Chitwood

The engineering firm of A. Morton Thomas has proposed that it be given \$4100 to study speeding on University, Oxford, and Bryn Mawr and congestion on Harvard. The study would be in response to determining where best to locate any speed bumps or speed controlling measures. Recommendations for rectifying any identified problems will also be included as part of the study.

The proposal is broken down into the speeding study (\$2,800), congestion study with recommended solutions (\$800) and a determination as to whether the recommended speed humps on Bryn Mawr and Oxford will result in more vehicles using Princeton Ave. to avoid the humps (\$500).

Councilman Tim Maloy commented that the proposed sum of \$4100 seemed overly expensive. Councilman Norman Bernhardt thought the county could perform such a study but Councilman Maloy expressed concern that the county would perform such a study in a timely manner.

Mayor Debbie Beers commented that she thought Princeton Avenue was also to be included in the speeding study, whereas the proposal mentions Princeton only to the extent of allocating \$500 to determine if traffic on it will increase when speed humps are constructed elsewhere.

Councilman Bernhardt proposed that a formal vote on the proposal not be taken until next month so that the county could be contacted first. The mayor agreed but stated that the bid process should begin soon. Councilman Maloy emphasized that the Bryn Mawr residents have identified a real public safety issue and came to the council meeting last month in order to have the issue finally resolved.

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JANICE MILLER DIES; LONGTIME RESIDENT

By Sherry Deebo

Janice Miller, who lived with her husband, Jim, at 6101 Bryn Mawr Ave. for many years, died at her home in Cherokee Village, Ark. on Friday, Jan. 26. Her husband, three children, Linda, Nancy, and Jimmy, and six grandchildren, survive her.

Jim and Janice Miller moved to Glen Echo in the early 1950s. Her mother, Willie Meeks, was a charter member of the Glen Echo Baptist Church, where Janice served as pianist, Bible teacher, children's choir director, and in other capacities.

She also began working for the post office when it was located across from the Town Hall next to the old trolley track. She became Postmaster sometime in the 1970s, after the post office was in its present location.

At the time, all employees of the post office were residents of Glen Echo. Many remember Janice dressing up as an angel or Christmas tree during the holiday season.

After retiring in the early 1980s, Jim and Janice moved to Cherokee Village, Ark. They maintained an interest in the town and townspeople, however, and Janice was a subscriber to *The Echo* at the time of her death.

STREET REPAIR SURVEY IN; REPAIRS TO BEGIN SOON

By Dave Chitwood

Because the asphalt paving season will soon be here, the mayor indicated that the bid process should begin soon after next month's town council meeting.

The mayor also stated that good news was contained in the report. A structural engineer subcontracted by AMT reported that the retaining wall on University Ave. between Bryn Mawr and Harvard needs only a few weep holes. The town has received a new street survey from A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Consulting Engineers. Mayor Debbie Beers pointed out at the last town council meeting that the original survey for street repairs received some time ago included a non-itemized estimate of approximately \$1 million.

The revised study includes item-by-item descriptions of possible repairs and emphasizes areas that need the most work. Councilman Tim Maloy was charged with examining the study "line by line"; he will report on it at next month's council meeting. The council will examine Mr. Maloy's recommendations and begin the process of soliciting bids for repairing the town's streets.

The Mayor indicated that the town had not received any bids for the construction of bumps. Therefore, the town will combine the speed hump bid with the larger street reconstruction bid when the specifics are decided upon.

The report concluded that the small cracks found in the wall do not compromise the integrity of the wall.

POPULAR RESIDENTS MOVE TO GREECE

The Grant family—Richard, Polina, Alexandros and Isabella—moved last month from Glen Echo to Athens, Greece, where Richard will be director of the technology and communications department of Greek Telecom.

They have rented out their Wellesley Circle home for two-and-a-half years, and do not intend to return before then, although the duration of their Greek stay is not determined yet. They will be living in an apartment they own in Athens.

Polina is Greek-born and has a large family living in Athens. She and Richard met while students at the University of Maryland while her father was military attache at the Greek Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Polina, who has been professionally involved in faux painting here, will be working with a decorative business doing faux painting of walls for two Club Med hotels outside Athens.

CLASSIFIED ADS

GIVEAWAY—Automatic pet feeder with rotating compartments, twin icepacks and battery operated timer. Two battery-operated smoke detectors, work fine. Also box of trumpet music for beginner. Call Anderson, 301-229-3748.

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

POST OFFICE DISCUSSING NEW LEASE AT TOWN HALL

By Dave Chitwood

The Post Office three-year lease expires at the end of December and the Post Office has informally indicated that it desires another lease. This is not surprising, given its recent investment in the building in the form of a government-funded \$500,000 renovation.

Currently, the town obtains \$26,800 annually from the Post Office located in the town hall building. The town also pays the facility's utility bills, which Councilman Norman Bernhardt estimated at \$200-\$300 monthly.

The town council last month discussed whether utilities should be included in the rent. Councilman Bernhardt stated that as long as the town pays the electricity bills, there is no incentive for the Post Office to conserve energy. He commented that he has observed employees wearing sweaters in the summer. Moreover, utility payments are usually not included as part of business leases.

Councilwoman Nancy Long stated added that it is important to maintain a good relationship with the Post Office so that they will take care of their space properly and that she prefers solutions that are simple.

The council wondered how much comparable retail space rents for in the immediate area, but the mayor said comparison with nearby retail space is difficult because the town hall is not retail property. Therefore, the town should charge a bit less than comparable retail space.

It was agreed that prior to next month's council meeting, Councilman Bernhardt would obtain retail lease figures from the Cabin John shopping center. The mayor will use these figures in determining an equitable rent before approaching the Post Office with a proposal. She stated that the town may propose forgoing a rent increase if the Post

Office will absorb utility costs.


A quick check of historical figures revealed that three years ago space was rented at the Glen Echo Shopping Center for \$24 per square foot; a quick calculation estimated the current Post Office lease to be \$20 per square foot.

RESIDENTS INVITED TO BONSAI LECTURE AT HALL

The Summer Garden Club cordially invites all residents of Glen Echo to its March 20 meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Glen Echo Town Hall. There will be a lecture, display and slide show given by Janet Lanman, a Bonsai expert, titled "Bonsai: What It Is and Hints on How You Do It."

Light refreshments will be served after the presentation.

For more information, please call Madeline Peeler, 301-229-8330.



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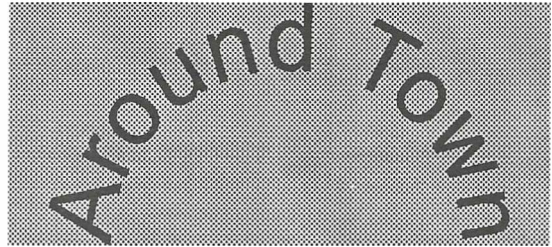
LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

at Madeleine Gilinsky's
48 Wellesley Circle

Wednesday, March 14, 8:00 p.m.

Please RSVP 301-320-5679



Sara Hewitt of Wellesley Circle has just received the ISR/Northrop Grumman Fellowship. Sara, 20, the daughter of Chris and Maire Hewitt of Wellesley Circle, is a Mechanical Engineering senior at the University of Maryland. The fellowship covers full tuition plus financial coverage of living expenses. Sara is working on the project, "Adaptable Simulation Models for Manufacturing." She is a Gemstone (honors) student in the Nuclear Waste Disposal Research Group.

Another outstanding town scholar is **Laura Beers**, daughter of Don and Debbie Beers of Wellesley Circle. She has just been admitted to the Ph.D. history program at Harvard University with full funding, including tuition and \$16,000 per year stipend for living expenses. The five-year commitment begins in fall, 2001. Also included is a \$3,000 per year grant for summer study.

Tom Helf and his band, "Cravin' Dogs," got a rave review from *The Washington Post* after their Feb. 16 sold-out 15th anniversary show at the Barns at Wolf Trap. "After nine albums, hundreds of shows and...some 24 personnel changes, the Dogs have matured into a powerfully tight unit that holds its own against better-known and better-compensated national acts," according to the review.

Michele Brafman, a video documentary filmmaker and Tom Helf's wife, showed her film, "American Lives: Jewish Stories," to the February gathering of the Ladies of Glen Echo (which—in a break with tradition—included men) at the home of Debbie Beers. Many in the audience commented on how moving they found the segments dealing with an interfaith love affair and of a previously non-observant Jewish family who had begun incorporating Jewish traditions in their lives.

Extensive rehabilitation of Great Falls tavern on the **C&O Canal** is in the works, according to Town Councilwoman Nancy Long. Funding also has been obtained for a restroom facility to be constructed across MacArthur Boulevard from the Old Anglers Inn. Plans are for MacArthur Boulevard to be widened at the intersection with Falls Road in order to provide safer access to Great Falls Park.



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MOST PAPER PRODUCTS CAN NOW BE RECYCLED

Almost any clean paper except phone books and hardback books can now be put into paper bags or small cardboard boxes and placed in the green containers for Tuesday recycling. This includes office paper, magazines and catalogs, junk mail, and boxes of all sizes

Large cardboard boxes must be flattened out by folding them or cutting the fastening tape so they will fit into the narrow side bins of the recycling truck.

Councilman Norman Bernhardt told the town council last month that he is disappointed in the low number of town citizens breaking their cardboard boxes into sizes suitable for recycling. Unless flattened out, the boxes will not be recycled and will be disposed in the regular trash stream, unless they are so large that they will not be picked up at all.

He said he has a supply of "Mixed Paper" stickers if people want to designate a container for that purpose.

Councilman Bernhardt reported that after a second examination of the large trash totes that Waste Management could provide to eliminate one weekly residential trash pickup, he has decided that they are too large to be useful in solving the town's trash disposal problems. No one wants to haul something that large around, and they consume a lot of space, he said.

TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

Tuesday & Friday--all trash, except heavyweight objects.

Tuesday--recyclables, including plastic, metal and glass, and all paper. Newspapers tied or in paper grocery bags. Mixed paper except phone books and hardback books in paper bags or small cardboard boxes. Large cardboard boxes flattened to fit in narrow side bins of recycling truck.

Wednesday—garden refuse, cut into four-foot lengths and tied, placed in compostable leaf/grass bags, or in a large trash container labeled "Recycling" and used only for yard waste.

Last Wednesday of the month--heavy or large quantity of discards.

If you have any trash or recycling pick up problems call Waste Management directly at 301-340-0774 and ask for Dispatch.

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

February 12

Mayor Beers announced that James Brandon, who has audited the town's books in recent years, has changed jobs. Because the new firm that employs him does not perform the same type of work as his previous firm, he can no longer provide the town a useful audit. Because the audit process starts in midsummer and concludes in the fall, the Mayor indicated that the town would have to **locate an auditor** fairly soon...

The bid from the company that has provided **landscaping services** to the town, Landscape Projects, arrived in January. Because the bid was valid for only 30 days, immediate action by the town was necessary. The amount of the bid--\$840 monthly—is about \$1,000 increase over last year's costs. The mayor stated that the town really had no choice because no other bids were on the table. Councilwoman Nancy Long suggested that the contract should include a clause calling for seasonal plantings of flowers near the flagpole. A motion to accept the bid inclusive of the suggested clause carried unanimously.

Town Attorney Norman Knopf has drafted a release and acknowledgment of risk form for signature by parents participating in the **weekly parent-child sessions** held in the Town Hall. The mayor commented that it seemed like a standard release form. Councilwoman Long pointed out that nannies were not mentioned in the release form as supervising a child, only "one of his or her own parents". The mayor indicated that even if a nanny is tending a child, the parent would still be the person to sign the form and is ultimately responsible; what transpires between a parent and a nanny is their problem, not the town's. She proposed that the term "caregivers" be added to the release form.

Councilman Michael Brintnall is preparing an outline for a **personnel handbook** to be used in the town's employees. The handbook is not to be a binding contract. Several items to be included are an equal employment opportunity statement and a declaration that employment may be terminated by either party at any time provided sufficient notice is given. Other items included duties, hours, timekeeping, holidays, leave, travel, and various pro forma prohibitions, such as outside employment that conflicts with the town's needs or involves behavior that would detract from the town's image.

--Dave Chitwood

FINAL PARK PLAN ISSUED

The final General Management Plan for Glen Echo Park has been issued and is available for review at Glen Echo Park and on the Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/glec>. There will be a 30-day public comment period, after which a Record of Decision will be published by the National Park Service.

The final plan identifies the Modified Public Partnership as the selected alternative.

Tenovation of the Spanish Ballroom will begin in May, according to Councilwoman Nancy Long. The first area to be addressed will be the addition on the left as one faces the Ballroom. This will provide The Puppet Company with a place to perform during the major ballroom construction events that will follow.

The Photo Studio will move to a temporary space below the restrooms.

BANNOCKBURN SCHOOL HOLDS RUMMAGE SALE

On Saturday, March 24, 2001, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bannockburn Elementary School, will hold a huge **Rummage Sale** of gently used adult and children's clothes, toys, books, records, tapes, sports equipment, housewares, baby equipment, and much more.

Proceeds will benefit PTA programs. The school is located at 6520 Dalroy Lane in Bannockburn. Free admission. Questions? Call (301) 320-6555.

AT GLEN ECHO PARK

Adventure Theatre: Androcles and the Lion, Mar. 30-Apr. 8

Puppet Theatre: Pinocchio, Feb. 28-Apr. 8

Gallery: Recent Work by Lida Stifel

Dances: Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, Sunday afternoon tea dances

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

Thursday, Mar. 1, 7:00-10:00 p.m. American Indian Inter-Tribal Council meeting

Tuesday, Mar. 6, 7:30 p.m. Mycological Assoc. meeting---open to residents

Tuesday, Mar. 20, 11:00 a.m. Sumner Garden Club, slide show on Bonsai (see p.5)

Wednesday, Mar. 21, 9:00 a.m. Springfield Garden Club

Thursday, Mar. 22, 8:00 p.m. Folklore Society Concert

Every Wednesday, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Young Children's Playgroup

Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 p.m. English Country Dance. Live music. No experience or partner needed. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington.



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