

# The Echo

## The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904

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March 2002

### DEMOLITION BEGINS AT GLEN ECHO PARK

By David Chitwood

The North Arcade area of Glen Echo Park has been transformed into an active demolition zone, Karen Pittleman, Site Manager for Glen Echo Park, told the Glen Echo Town Council.

The park has had to move much of its property to several different locations, and keeping things organized has been a challenge, she said.

The police headquarters was the first area gutted. Two large dumpsters have been filled with materials removed from the North Arcade. Some of the interesting items removed for safekeeping include art deco lettering, the popcorn sign, and the safe dating from the park's Chautauqua period of the late 1890s. Doors will also be salvaged.

The new structure is expected to take two to three years to complete and will retain the historic style of the old art deco Arcade.

Another high chain link fence near the west end of the Spanish Ballroom encloses some of the playground area. Much of the play equipment has been relocated or removed. The three spinning apparatuses have disappeared, but six swings and the two large pieces of climbing equipment remain.

An improved food concession area will be added to the ballroom, allowing the current concession space to revert to its original use as a lounge for dancers.

When the contractor has finished working upon construction at the west end of the ballroom in July or August, the playground area may be completely restored, unless part of

it is still needed for a construction staging area.

At the east end of the ballroom, some excavation is being done, but tests for hazardous materials in the exterior stucco must be completed before any of it can be removed. The Spanish Ballroom will be closed to dancers on April 8. All dance events will at that point move to the newly-rehabilitated Bumper Car Pavilion.

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### CLERK-TREASURER RESIGNS; CATHY POLAK REPLACES HER

Stacey Malmgren announced last month that she will be leaving the post of Glen Echo Clerk/Treasurer at the end of February. She held the post one year.

She is leaving for a part-time job in the field of event planning, which was her profession for the 12 years before she became town clerk/treasurer. She lives on Wellesley Circle with husband Andy and children Ben, 4 and Hank, 2.

Mayor Debbie Beers has appointed Princeton Ave. resident Cathie Polak to replace her in the part-time job. She has lived in Glen Echo for more than 20 years.

The mayor will ask the town council to confirm the appointment at the March meeting.

## THE ECHO

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**Next Deadline March 22**

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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.

♻️ Printed on Recycled Paper

## TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

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**6106 Harvard Avenue or Box 598, Glen Echo, MD  
20812**

**Office Hours: Monday and Friday: 9:30 am- 12  
noon, or by appointment**

### MAYOR

Debbie Beers 301-229-7308

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Eve Arber 301-263-0016

Tom Lorenzen 301-229-7835

Timothy K. Maloy 301-229-4745

Nancy Long 301-332-3823

### CLERK-TREASURER

Cathie Polak 301-320-4041

### ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

Kathleen Horwitz 301-320-2171

### TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.glenecho.org>

## SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Long—use or rental of the Town Hall

Eve Arber—vehicle control, abandoned autos

Tim Maloy—streets and sewers

Tom Lorenzen—long-term improvements and bike path

If you wish to discuss any of these items, please call the respective councilmember directly. Phone numbers are listed on p. 2 of *The Echo*.

## CORRECTION

In an article in the February *Echo* about the ground-breaking ceremony at Glen Echo Park the fact the County Councilman Howard Denis was one of the officials giving a speech was omitted.

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## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** Bunk beds with storage trundle, perfect for young children ages 3-8/ Very sturdy and well made. \$100 or best offer. Call 301-229-4379.

**DELIGHTFUL WATERFRONT HOUSE** for rent in South Bethany, Del. by a Glen Echo resident. 5 min. walk from beach, 3 bedrooms, 2/5 baths. Washer, dryer, air conditioning, screen porch, boat dock. Sleeps 8. Call Connor-Jacosen, 1-800-543-5550 and ask for the Hewitt house. Available May through August.

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** Three bedrooms, two full, two half baths, maple kitchen, dining room, family room, sitting room, large finished lower level room, private patio, low/no maintenance yard. Interior to be painted; some new carpeting. Non-smokers. 21 Wellesley Circle, available Apr. 1. 301-229-7032.

**MOVING SALE:** Fray tweed comfy sofa, \$150. Gray velveteen sofa, \$50. Off-white brocade easy chair/rocker, \$75. Sleeper loveseat covered in small floral print, \$100. Rust corduroy covered sleeper, \$25. Large metal desk, \$40. Floor lamp, \$12. 301-229-7032.

**SNOW SHOVELING:** if you want your sidewalk, driveway or walkway shoveled when it snows please call Spenser Steele, 301-229-0241.

**WATERCOLOR CLASSES.** Small, friendly classes for adults. All levels, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian house in Garrett Park. Martha Seigel, MFA, The American University. 21 years teaching experience. Call 301-946-5388.

**GIVEAWAY:** Metal frame for twin bed. 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: 24<sup>th</sup> of each month.*

## VANDALS BREAK INTO VACANT TOWN HOUSE

By Carlotta Anderson

A light burning in the living room alerted nearby residents to something wrong at a house that had been dark and unoccupied for some time.

A policeman called to the house at 31 Wellesley Circle saw that a small pane of glass had been broken out from one of the front windows. The front door was also ajar. It was unclear if anyone had actually entered the house, since it was possible to turn on the light by reaching through to the light switch.

However, beer bottles were strewn around the yard and there was evidence of a "clubhouse" use in portions of a derelict shed. Local young people had been seen on several occasions by neighbors in the yard and on the front porch of the house.

The police dusted the front door for fingerprints and are investigating the incident.



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## A NEW WAY TO RESOLVE NEIGHBORHOOD DISPUTES

A new program is now in place to resolve disputes between communities and between neighbors that do not appear to belong in court. The Conflict Resolution Center of Montgomery County is supported solely by grants and donations and there is no fee for its service.

Disputes are handled by professional mediators who must meet the strict criteria of other, more established conflict resolution centers in the state of Maryland and in Virginia and D.C. The center also provides workshops for community members to help them develop collaborative problem solving skills.

The center mediates the following types of disputes: neighbor-to-neighbor, family member disputes, consumer/merchant, roommate/housemate, friendships in trouble, some land use issues, small claims, District Court referrals.

For information contact Executive Director Merle Rockwell, 301-593-9473, Email: CRCofMC@aol.com.

### 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.

## HOW TO GROW A GIANT PUMPKIN: PART ONE

By Andy Malmgren

*Last month Andy offered free packets of giant pumpkin seeds. This is the first of an eight part series of Echo articles on growing giant pumpkins.*

We will start with seed selection and germination. According to the Maryland Cooperative Extension, the last frost date for Glen Echo is around the first week in May. For the biggest pumpkin, plan on germinating your seeds indoors in mid-April. Depending on the weather, plant the seedling outside around May 1.

I have packets of seeds harvested from the 120 lb. pumpkin I grew last summer. (The world record is over 1,400 lbs.) Drop me an E-mail if you would like free seeds—malmgren@gis.net.

There is a theory among pumpkin growers that big seeds grow big pumpkins. Select the five largest and most robust looking seeds. Fill a large peat pot or container with a high quality seed-starting soil. Plant one seed per container by pushing the seed, pointy end down, about one inch into the soil.

Cover each container with plastic wrap or tinfoil. Place the seed containers in a pan with ¼" of water for about two hours or until the soil on the top of the container is damp. Pumpkin seeds germinate best in soil around 75-80 degrees F.

Place the seeds in a warm location such as the top of the refrigerator or a sunny window. Keep the soil damp until the seeds sprout in 5-7 days. Then remove the plastic wrap and place the sprouts in a sunny window.

**Next month...Planting and Fertilizing Pumpkins**

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 11—8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall  
Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

## Around TOWN

Some 30 Glen Echoans had a private tour of the U.S. **Botanic Garden** on Saturday, Jan. 19. It was led by executive director Holly Shimizu, a Bryn Mawr Ave. resident. The visitors were awed by the tropical jungle room, the orchid room, the desert room, and the medicinal plant room as well as the close-up view of the Capitol from the Garden's front steps. Many thanks, Holly!

A woman from Melbourne, Australia, found the **town website** on her computer and wrote the *Echo* editor to try to locate Jerry Bodlander because she thought they might be related. Jerry's name showed up because he is an occasional reporter for *The Echo*.

**Call N' Ride** is a county service that enables the elderly and persons with disabilities with limited income to purchase taxi and wheelchair van transportation for a portion of the normal cost. The transportation is a curb-to-curb service and trips may be made for any purpose. To find out if you are eligible, call 301-948-5409.

**Discovery Creek Children's Museum** at Glen Echo Park has a new program for infants and parents. You put the baby in the Snuggli or backpack and meet each Thursday morning during April or May to get some exercise on the museum's trails, expose the baby to nature and socialize with other new parents over decaf coffee and low fat muffins. The four session, one-and-a-half hour program costs \$95. Reservations 202-364-3111.

## ASTRONAUT TO TALK AT CLARA BARTON CENTER.

Cabin John resident and astronaut Greg Linteris will recount his experiences during two trips on the Space Shuttle Columbia at the Clara Barton Community Center on Thursday, Mar. 7 at 8:00 p.m. The Center is located at 7425 MacArthur Blvd.

The presentation will include slides, a 15-minute video taken from the shuttle, and a question and answer period. Mr. Linteris was a Payload Specialist on the 1997 trips. The missions studied the effects of micro-gravity on combustion and material science.

Mr. Linteris is currently on the research staff at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and an instructor at Johns Hopkins University.

Children are welcome and there will be some space-related materials for them. "Cosmic refreshments" will be served.

### COMMUNITIES CONCERNED ABOUT COMMUNITY CENTER CUTBACKS

The county has cut back operating hours of the Clara Barton Community Center and is contemplating reducing them even further.

All interested local residents, in particular those who take classes at the center or use the weight room or other facilities, are urged to attend a public meeting with county officials regarding this issue on Tuesday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd. A large turnout is essential.



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### PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

47 Wellesley Circle (rent) \$1,600/mo.  
5906 Oxford Rd. (rent) \$3,000/mo.

### PROPERTIES SOLD

7308 University Ave. \$414,120  
6009 Princeton Ave.  
\$455,000

### BURNED-OUT STREET LIGHT?

If you see a burned-out street light, you can report it to Pepco by calling 202-833-7500 and giving the location and, preferably, the pole number. You should also note whether it is a wooden or metal pole.

If the problem is a burned-out bulb, the light will be replaced within 72 hours, Pepco says. If it is a wiring problem, allow 7-10 working days.

## COUNCIL TO CHOOSE FROM THREE LANDSCAPING BIDS

By David Chitwood

Four landscaping firms have submitted proposals for contracts with the town and were invited to make presentations to the town council. They were Chapel Valley Landscape Company, Hughes Landscaping, Spring Garden and the town's current landscapers, Landscape Projects.

Matt Owens of Chapel Valley Landscape Company gave a brief presentation about his firm to the council last month. Like representatives of the other companies, Mr. Owens had walked through the town with former Clerk-Treasurer Stacey Malmgren to assess landscaping needs.

Councilwoman Nancy Long asked about the use of pesticides by the company. Mr. Owens indicated that weed control would be obtained via the use of Roundup, which Mayor Beers said was used by the town's current landscape contractor. Mr. Owens said the firm would ask the town what would be the best timing for Roundup application, and described it as a safe chemical.

He stated that according to his observations there was not much of a need for insecticides. (This reporter did not point out that he had observed two box elder bugs crawling on Mr. Owens' clothing before his talk. Box elder bugs have been a problem in the town hall every year).\*

A dormant oil may be applied to woody plants for adelgid and scale insect control, he said. Signs will be posted to indicate areas that will receive pesticide applications. Mr. Owens added that the firm would avoid using chemical pesticides if this is the preference of the town.

The Mayor pointed out that the sensitivity of some property owners to sidewalk plant cutbacks requires good people and community relations skills. Mr. Owens replied that his firm would give residents the opportunity to meet with them in order to discuss their specific concerns, and a supervisor will always be on-site.

Because of the Mayor's concern that this issue needs resolution before the next town council meeting, the council agreed that the Mayor and Councilwoman Eve Arber would examine the competing bids.

\* *Ed. Note: Although box elder bugs are a nuisance in the town hall, they are beneficial insects and not a landscaping problem, according to Asst. Ed. Diana Hudson-Taylor.*



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### STANCHION ERECTION TEMPORARILY STALLED

The town council remains concerned about the lack of an effective barrier between some parts of the bicycle trail and MacArthur Blvd. and seeks stanchions such as the ones recently installed along Goldsboro Road between River Road and Bradley Boulevard.

Councilman Tom Lorenzen reported that he had attempted to telephone the person in charge of stanchion installation twice, and he had received one phone message in return, but a personal conversation had not yet taken place.

--David Chitwood

*LADIES OF GLEN ECHO*

*You are invited to a Ladies  
Night  
at Julia Wilson's  
7309 University Ave.*

*Monday, March 18, 8:00 p.m.*

*Please RSVP 301-320-2331*

### FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

- Thursday, Mar. 7, 7:00-10:00 p.m.—American Indian Intertribal Council
- Sunday, Mar. 10, 3:30 p.m.—Folklore Society Family Dance

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.

### TRASH, RECYCLING PICKUP PROBLEMS?


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# GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

## DANCES

Every Friday, contra, square and folk dances  
 Every Saturday, swing dancing, 9:00-midnight  
 Every Sunday, contras, square and folk dances  
 Sunday afternoon tea dances, 3:30-6:00:  
 First & third Sundays, waltzes,  
 Second Sundays, western swing dances  
 Fourth Sundays, cajun and zydeco

## ADVENTURE THEATRE

**Raggedy Ann and Andy**  
 March 9-April 14  
 Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30  
 Tickets: \$6.00 Call 301-320-5331

## THE PUPPET THEATRE

**Cinderella**  
 Through April 14  
 Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30  
 Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00  
 Tickets: \$5 Call 301-320-6668

## GLEN ECHO PARK GALLERY IN THE OLD STONE TOWER

**The Carousel Show: A Look at the Restoration Work  
of Rosa Ragan and Ron Rozelle  
Through March**

Saturday & Sunday, noon-5:00 p.m.

## PARK FILM SHOWN EVERY SATURDAY

A 60-minute documentary film, "Glen Echo on the Potomac" is shown at Glen Echo Park every Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

On Sundays at 2:00 p.m. a ranger will conduct a 30-minute stroll through the Dentzel Carousel to talk about its fascinating history and its restoration.

These events are free to the public and take place throughout the year.

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## MISSING ECHO?

If you don't get an *Echo* on time, please call Jane Stevenson, 301-229-3578, who is in charge of delivery. You can also pick up an extra copy at the postoffice by asking a clerk for one.