

# The Echo

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

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May 2002

### WILLIAM OFFUTT TO SPEAK AT TOWN HALL MAY 5 AND 8

William Offutt, author of the popular history book, "Bethesda," will appear at the Glen Echo Town Hall Sunday, May 5, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. to speak on the early history of Glen Echo. He did research in the town archives for the sections of his book concerning Glen Echo. At his talks, he often tells amusing or enlightening anecdotes to convey the history of the area.

He will also sell and sign his book, which he has published in both soft and hard cover editions.

Mr. Offutt will also be appearing here on Wednesday, May 8, at 10:00 a.m. to speak on D.C. streetcar lines, including the trolley to Glen Echo. That talk is under the auspices of the Welcome to Washington organization and residents are invited.

His May 5 appearance, which was arranged by town resident Nancy Long, is part of a two year lecture series to commemorate the centennial of Glen Echo, which was founded in 1904. Everyone is invited to come. No reservation is necessary. Refreshments will be served.

**TOWN BUDGET HEARING  
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 8:00 P.M.  
GLEN ECHO TOWN HALL**

**ALL RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

### BUDGET HEARING MAY 21

A public hearing on next year's budget will be held Tuesday, May 21, at 8:00 p.m. at the Glen Echo Town Hall.

The budget, to be drawn up by Mayor Debbie Beers this year because the clerk-treasurer is new on the job, will be distributed to residents no later than May 7. The budget must be officially adopted before the fiscal year begins July 1.

It was agreed to shift monies appropriated in this year's budget for snowfall removal to salaries to cover a shortfall.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Glen Echo Town Picnic  
Sunday, June 30**

## 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.

♻️ Printed on recycled paper

## TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

**Town Office:301-320-4041**

**Town Office Fax:301-320-3639**

**E-Mail: townhall@glenecho.org**

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

**Office Hours:** Tuesday, 12:30-3:30 p.m, and  
Friday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m, 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>

**PLEASE NOTE NEW OFFICE HOURS ABOVE**

## 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.

## 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 this page.

## NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 13—8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHOSEN FOR PARK

The Glen Echo Park Implementation Committee has drawn up a slate of 19 candidates to serve as the founding Board of Directors for the new non-profit entity that will manage the park.

Glen Echo Mayor Debbie Beers will hold a designated seat for a three-year term, and Gerritt Hale representing the Bannockburn Civic Association will hold a designated seat for a one-year term. Burr Gray, president of the Cabin John Citizens Association, was appointed for a two-year at-large seat.

The Board of Directors will be responsible for raising funds, providing policy guidance and providing oversight for the new entity.

The Executive Director Search Committee has not yet finished its charge to screen potential candidates and present them to the new board for final interview and selection.

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## SPRING BRINGS NEW BABY

Was it the full moon? The ice cream soda that Amy Niles was not supposed to have? Or just a baby ready to be delivered, at only 34 weeks?

On March 30, at 9:36 p.m., Amy, Herb and Hannah Niles of 13 Vassar Circle welcomed Justin Harrison into their family. Justin was born at Georgetown University Hospital. He weighed five pounds five ounces, and measured 19 inches.

While Mom left the hospital after a four-day stay, Justin remained in the Intensive Care Unit for observation; he successfully graduated and was discharged on April 10.

He is very strong, and determined to grow quickly. Although suffering from severe sleep deprivation, Mom and Dad say that Justin is eating round the clock, and is doing great! He looks forward to spending time with Hannah at Glen Echo Park.

## SIX STOLEN BIKES DISCARDED IN TOWN

Six stolen bicycles were abandoned in Glen Echo last month at the bottom of Cornell Ave., on the old trolley right-of-way above Bryn Mawr Ave., and elsewhere. Four have been picked up by the police; one is being kept by a town resident in case its owner claims it, and one is at the town hall (see Classified Ads).

Three women's bikes left at the bottom of Cornell are possibly the same ones seen earlier on the right-of-way. After they disappeared, two more bikes appeared, both girls' bikes. They all appeared to be either almost new or in good condition.

Abandoned bikes showing up in Glen Echo is not a new phenomenon. In the past, they have been advertised in *The Echo* but no one in town has claimed them. It appears that they are taken for the thrill of stealing and not for the thief's use.

The Bannockburn and Cabin John communities have been informed that bikes are showing up in Glen Echo.

If you find an abandoned bicycle in town, please inform the town (301-320-4041) and the *Echo* editor (301-229-3748).


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## QUIET FROM AIRPLANES WAS NICE WHILE IT LASTED

Lobbying by the airlines and local officials has ended the cutback of flights and altered flight patterns put in place after Sept. 11, according to *The Washington Post*. The restrictions were set to be lifted in late April.

The flight paths will be restored to the curvy route along the Potomac River, which is directly over Glen Echo and means residents will again be subjected to the roar of jets.

The curfew of flights before 7:00 a.m. and after 10:00 p.m. will also be lifted, although most flights will be limited to 6:00 a.m. to midnight. Private aircraft will still be banned.



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## Around TOWN

**Shirley Strong** would like to thank all the people of Glen Echo who have been so helpful and supportive. Her recent illness, cryptococcal meningitis, has left her visually impaired, so she sees only light and dark and outlines. If you see her out and about, identify yourself, or stop by to visit.

Glen Echo's terrorism expert—**Chris Hewitt**—was quoted in a *New York Times Magazine* article of April 7, "From Tree-Hugger to Terrorist" about a member of a radical environmental movement. A professor of sociology on the University of Maryland Baltimore County campus for the past 25 years, Mr. Hewitt has written four books on terrorism. The latest, "Understanding American Terrorism: From the Klan to alQaeda," will be published shortly by Routledge.

In the article, he was quoted: "When your hopes have been raised and you feel there's a chance for victory through legitimate political means, you'd be foolish to resort to terrorism...But if your movement suddenly collapses or suffers political reversals, then some activists will be tempted to go for terrorism."

Chris's daughter, **Vicki Hewitt**, had a one-person

exhibit of her paintings at Glen Echo Park's Yellow Barn April 27 and 28. The 40-50 works included figures, still life and landscapes, all of them for sale. Vicki, a senior at Walt Whitman High School, is a student of Walt Bartman's. She has lived at the family's Wellesley Circle home since birth.

Glen Echo artist **Brockie Stevenson** will celebrate "60 Years of Painting" in an exhibit at Villanova University in Villanova, PA. from April 28-June 7. It is sponsored in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. A number of Glen Echo residents have silk screen prints of Mr. Stevenson's paintings in their homes. He has lived for many years at 6106 Yale Ave.

**Debbie Lange** of Wellesley Circle and **Richard Cook**, who has long been involved with historical research and writing about Glen Echo and Glen Echo Park, gave a talk on April 27 as part of the Bethesda Literary Festival. In their "Tales of Romance, Adventure, and Skullduggery at Glen Echo Park," they elaborated on several of the stories in their book, "Glen Echo Park: A Story of Survival" as well as others not included. The book covers the park's past from the Chautauqua era through the amusement park days and the present arts program days. It includes 106 historic photos of the park.

Drummer **Tom Helf** will be performing with his new band, "Headstones," at the Luna Park Grille, 5866 Washington Blvd., Arlington, on May 11.



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## WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

After renting in Cabin John for two years and getting to love the area, Mark and Kathleen Wolf were determined to buy a house in the neighborhood. They found a house for sale at 6000 Bryn Mawr Ave. and moved here in February. It is an excellent commute for them both. Kathleen drives to Gaithersburg against commute traffic to Shire Pharmaceuticals, where she is clinical operations manager in research and development. There she has worked on several projects, including ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) and oncology treatments.

Before that, Kathleen, who is from Boston but majored in international health at George Washington University in D.C., spent four years doing administrative studies for an Alexandria neurologist testing patient responses in the fields of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's research.

Mark commutes to the Washington Navy Yard where he is a naval architect for the Military Sealift Command. That organization operates a fleet of 100 merchant ships operated by civilians in support of the U.S. Navy. The assignment might be refueling at sea with a tanker, sending a hospital ship, as was done after the World Trade Towers tragedy, or transporting jeeps or ammunition to wherever they are needed.

Mark left Denver to study naval architecture at the Webb Institute for Naval Architecture in Long Island, a very specialized four-year college with a total enrollment of 70-75.

Both are sports fans. Kathleen ran the Marine Corps Marathon last fall, her first marathon. Mark plays volleyball with a local group at the Bannockburn Elementary School Thursday evenings.

A hearty welcome to you both.



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## AQUEDUCT, MEMORABILIA ON JUNE 23 CENTENNIAL PROGRAM

The Glen Echo Centennial Committee is sponsoring a talk by former Chief of the Washington Aqueduct, Harry Ways, and an exhibit of Glen Echo Memorabilia on Sunday, June 23, from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Mr. Ways, who is now retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has lectured and written extensively. He will discuss the building of the aqueduct just before the Civil War. He has studied the career of Montgomery Meigs, the brilliant engineer who oversaw the building of the aqueduct. He will be speaking at 3:00 on the history of the aqueduct.

Several collectors will show their photos of the town and park and other memorabilia and it is hoped that town residents will add their own contributions.

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 used as illustrations in the history book being written for the town's 2004 centennial.

For further information, please contact Richard Cook, 301-990-9350 evenings 6:00-9:00 p.m. or weekends.



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## CONTROLLING PESTS THAT WANT TO EAT YOUR PUMPKINS

By Andy Malmgren

*(Part three in an eight part series)*

Pumpkin plants are susceptible to damage from Squash Vine Borers, Mexican Bean Beetles, and Squash Bugs. In Glen Echo, vine borers and Mexican Bean Beetles will cause the most damage to pumpkins vines.

Adult vine borers are moths that lay eggs from June to August. The adults do not damage plants; they leave that task for their children. The larva are white with brown heads and chew tunnels into vegetable and fruit vines. A telltale sign of borer infestation is a small pile of chewed pumpkin vine at the soil line. Soon after, the leaves will wilt and the vine rapidly die. The vine borers then hibernate in the soil. Vine borers did in my pumpkin patch last year. This year I'll be ready for them.

Mexican Bean Beetles (MBB) are yellow-brown with sixteen black spots. They are frequently mistaken for Lady Beetles, but Lady Beetles are reddish-orange with varying numbers of spots. MBB's cause lace-like damage to leaves and can quickly strip a leaf to the stems.

Pumpkin plants are tender, and the application of pesticide can shock the plant and hinder growth. Luckily for us, both vine borers and MBB's have natural enemies that provide biological pest control. Nematodes are reportedly an effective means of controlling vine borers. Nematodes are microscope worms that live in the soil and attack vine borers while they are hibernating there. Nematodes can be purchased from garden supply stores and applied using a garden sprayer. Nematodes are also very effective against Japanese Beetle larva and other pests. They are harmless to people, animals, and beneficial insects like earthworms.

Pediobius foveolatus is a small beneficial wasp that will seek out and destroy Mexican bean beetle larvae. They can also be purchased from garden supply stores

For more information about gardening and pest



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## CLASSIFIED ADS

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP** with weeding or pet sitting, please call Charlie Wells of Bryn Mawr Ave. 301-229-4503.

**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.

**BICYCLES FOUND:** A small children's bike was found in the yard of 6108 Princeton Ave. and taken to the town hall. Call 301-320-4041 to identify. Brand new girl's bike found on the old trolley right-of-way. Call Steele, 301-229-0241

**APARTMENT FOR SALE** 1 BR, 1 BA, pool, balcony, secure bldg near Montgomery Mall Call 301-563-6436.

*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.*

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## LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

*You are invited to a Ladies Night*

*at Trina Carter's  
32 Wellesley Circle*

*Monday, May 20, 8:00 p.m.*

*Please RSVP 301-263-9576*

### MANY CLASSES OFFERED AT CLARA BARTON CENTER

A very popular twice-weekly exercise and strength training workshop for seniors is offered at the Clara Barton Community Center in the former Clara Barton School building in Cabin John. It meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30-12:15 and requires only a senior activities card, which costs \$12 for the year.

There is also a senior travel program with inexpensive day trips to the Pearl Buck House in Buck County, Pa., a riverboat cruise on a paddlewheeler on the Choptank River, and a garden tour of Longwood and the Nemours Estate.

Here are some of the other classes offered by the Montgomery County Recreation Dept. at the Clara Barton Center:

- Mad Science Tots Spring (ages 4-6)**
- Discovering Music for Toddlers (ages 1-3)**
- Great Symphonies and Concertos (adults)**
- Box Aerobic Exercise**
- Definitions (Strength Training)**
- Yoga Plus**
- Yoga Stretching for Health**
- Yoga Plus Body Rolling Workshop**
- How to Play Suit Contracts**

A fitness room with stairmasters, bicycles, a multi-station machine, leg press and free weights is available all hours the center is open at a cost of \$15 for six months usage or \$25 a year.

Drop-in bridge is held Monday from 9:30-11:30 and Friday from 10:00 to noon. Drop-in table tennis is held Tuesday and Thursday at 1:00.

The center is located at 7425 MacArthur Blvd. in Cabin John. For more information, call 301-217-6830.

The county also offers many summer camp programs and a Teen Travel Club with pick-up from Thomas W. Pyle Middle School.

## GLEN ECHO WEALTHIEST ZIP CODE IN METRO AREA?

The *Washington Business Journal* reported in its April 19-25 issue that "20812 Glen Echo" is the wealthiest zip code in the Washington Metropolitan area.

It cited the 2001 median household income as \$132,872.

Next in line 22066 Great Falls, with \$128,601; 20854 Potomac, with \$120,201; and 20818 Cabin John with \$119,467. 20816 Bethesda ranked seventh with \$113,692.

## JUNE PET ADOPTION DAY IN CABIN JOHN

Adoptable animals from the D.C. Animal Shelter will be available at the Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John Saturday, June 8, from noon-2:00 p.m.

This will be the fourth pet adoption event at that location. Most of the pets are from foster homes, meaning that the foster parent is there to provide information about the temperament and habits of each animal.

The events are sponsored by the Washington Humane Society and staffed by volunteers.

For more information and photos of available animals check out the website [www.washhumane.org](http://www.washhumane.org).

### SAVE THE DATE

**Glen Echo Town Picnic  
Sunday, June 30**

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## LANTERNS STOLEN; BREAK- IN OF HOUSE ATTEMPTED

Two decorative lanterns were stolen from in front of a Wellesley Circle house on April 9.

The same day someone attempted to enter another Wellesley Circle house by piling up garden furniture and trying to force a window.

Both incidents were reported to the police.

## HELP CLARA BARTON CENTER BY JOINING NON-PROFIT GROUP

A local nonprofit group is being formed to help the Clara Barton Community Center and ensure that its popular programs and operating hours can continue in the coming fiscal year. The group would help in organizing activities, fundraising, volunteer support, etc.

A representative from the county Recreation Department told the Cabin John Citizens Association that the Center's operating hours would remain the same for the remainder of this fiscal year, but that the county's current fiscal crunch might cause a reduction next year.

The center currently opens every weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. It closes at 9:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, and at 5:30 p.m. Friday. Saturday hours are 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. It is closed Sunday.

In a letter from Mayor Debbie Beers, Glen Echo has asked the county to keep the operation at its current levels and offered to work with the recreation department to make that possible.

The County Council is currently reviewing its budget for next year. Anyone wanting sufficient funding to be allocated so the operating hours can remain unchanged may send an email to the County Council President, Steve Silverman ([steven.silverman@co.mo.md.us](mailto:steven.silverman@co.mo.md.us)), and to our representative Howard Denis ([councilmember.Denis@co.mo.md.us](mailto:councilmember.Denis@co.mo.md.us)).

The Potomac Community Center has had a supportive nonprofit groups for the last decade which proved to be quite successful in generating and supporting popular programs.

If you are interesting in participating in such a group please contact Burr Gray, 703-607-2740 (w), or [burr.gray@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:burr.gray@alum.dartmouth.org). It is important that members of all the local communities participate in this effort.

## GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT

Further construction work on the North Arcade has been held up because PEPCO needs to take down a utility pole.

Remodeling of the ballroom is proceeding swiftly. East and west ends have been excavated, but lead abatement work must be done before proceeding; the Puppet Company can continue to operate because it is sealed off.

Dances have been moved to the Bumper Car Pavilion, where a stage has been erected and heavy plastic "curtains" installed as protection against the elements.

--Anne Lewis

### FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS AT WHITMAN MAY 22-23

Walt Whitman High School will hold its annual Festival of the Arts on May 22 and 23 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Visual arts, photography, and ceramics, performances by orchestra, band, chorus, dance, drama and poetry groups, and a student fashion show will be featured.

A silent auction and student art sale will also be held both evenings.

Walt Whitman High School, 7100 Whittier Blvd., Bethesda, 301-320-6600.

## FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

**Thursday, May 2, 7:00-10:00 p.m.—American Indian Intertribal Council**

**Sunday, May 5, 3:00-5:00 p.m.—William Offutt, "Early History of Glen Echo"**

**Wednesday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.—William Offutt, "D.C. Streetcars."**

**Sunday, May 12, 3:00-6:00 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.