

The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



October 2008

DESIGN OF BIKEWAY PROJECT OUTLINED AT COMMUNITY MEETING

By Sophie Keefer and Carlotta Anderson

Widening of a local portion of MacArthur Blvd. to accommodate bike lanes in both directions was discussed at a public meeting on September 11. The meeting was attended by town council members Eve Arber, Nancy Long, and Steve Matney.

The design of the project was outlined at the meeting and was supported by most of the 25 people who attended, according to *The Gazette*. Burr Gray, president of the Cabin John Citizens Association, said the project was "hugely important to Cabin John and our community."

The widening and reconfiguration of the roadway would extend from Oberlin Ave. through Cabin John to the I-495 overpass. The project does not call for work on the portion of the boulevard between Oberlin and the D.C. line at this time.

Three-foot wide bike lanes would be created by adding two feet of pavement on both sides of the road and reducing both vehicle lanes from 11 to 10 feet. The turn lane into Wilson La. would also be reconfigured, according to the article.

In a letter to County Executive Isiah Leggett, the Town of Glen Echo expressed concern about issues that directly affect the town. Of "paramount concern," the letter from Mayor Debbie Beers said, was the environmental impact of the area at the trestle over Minnehaha Creek in Glen Echo Park. The project envisions the bikeway veering from its present location east of Oxford Rd. and descending onto NPS property and across the trolley trestle bridge over Minnehaha Creek and then up to the

front parking lot of the park. The town noted that a NPS permit and compliance would be required as well as that the grade would be too steep to comply with ADA requirements.

Council member Steve Matney told the town council at its September meeting that Glen Echo Park site manager Kym Elder had told him that there was no agreement by NPS for the county to go through the park's section. He also said he would like to know why the middle section of the bike path was being done first.

The town's letter noted that the plan does not address the Route 29 bus stop, which presumably would have to be moved.

Also of concern was the necessity for the bikeway planners to coordinate with the county's storm abatement project between Goldsboro Rd. and Bannockburn Dr., the letter pointed out.

The town noted that any reduction in visibility for motorists and bicyclists at the intersections of town streets with MacArthur Blvd. would be a problem.

The project was projected to cost \$7.8 million. County executive Isiah Leggett will decide soon whether to move ahead on it.

**COME TO THE HALLOWEEN PARTY
OCTOBER 31, 5:00 P.M.
GLEN ECHO TOWN HALL**

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*

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20812

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TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.glenecho.org>

MAYOR GETS GO-AHEAD FOR DRAIN INLET REPLACEMENT

Mayor Debbie Beers met last month with Michael Mitchell, Senior Engineer of the county Dept. of Public Works and Transportation and several officials from the George Washington Memorial Parkway to discuss the issue of replacing the storm drain inlet at the juncture of University and Oxford. Montgomery County had offered to do this at its own expense.

At the meeting, everyone agreed that Mr. Mitchell should be able to go ahead with the replacement of the inlet. The work should be timed to start within the next month. The County was scheduled to begin its work on the Dunrobbin & Annan inlets across MacArthur Blvd. in September and would like to do our inlet at the same time (for reasons of economies of scale).

The NPS agreed to expedite the permitting process to move this along. In the meantime, the NPS intends to put a camera into the drain to see if the pipe has collapsed.

Long range, the NPS said that it would like to partner with Glen Echo on the Oxford Rd. drainage problems, irrespective of who ultimately is determined to own the road. They are suggesting additional inlets and also regrading to improve drainage.

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ALTERCATION AT WEDNESDAY DANCE GOES TO COURT

By Sophie Keefer

An altercation during a Wednesday evening English Country Dance event in late August resulted in a "peace order" filed by a town resident against another dancer. Mayor Debbie Beers and Clerk-Treasurer Cathie Polak were subpoenaed by the defendant the night before having to appear in court to testify regarding the town's employment relationship with the town resident, the plaintiff.

However, they were not required to testify, since the town resident had in the meantime agreed to dismiss the charges against the defendant.

At the Sept. 8 town council meeting, the mayor stated that the resident is not an employee of Glen Echo. He replied that he had performed jobs in the town hall but had not billed the town in five years because he considers it his civic duty. Mayor Beers said that from now on the town would hire a handyman. The town resident apologized for what had happened.

Mr. Roger Brofeus, representing the Folklore Society of Greater Washington, which sponsors the English Country Dances, said he was concerned that the recent altercation would reflect negatively on the dancers and that he had sent a note to the parties involved expressing the negative impact the incident has had. He said that the town hall is a great place to have the dances and he would not want the Society to lose this privilege.

Mayor Beers said she appreciated this but it is a question of liability. The town can not be subjected to lawsuits against the town.

The town resident was present at the meeting and apologized for what happened. The mayor stressed that both the resident and Mr. Brofeus should be "forewarned" and that if there are any altercations at the dances they will be banned.

RESIDENTS' CAR BURGLARIZED

A car parked on Princeton Ave. was burglarized on Monday, Sept. 15 sometime between 8:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. The GPS system in its leather carrying case was stolen as well as several electronic games in a red box. The burglar(s) pulled out all the items in the glove compartment and left the contents on the seat and the floor.

The golden brown Honda Minivan Odyssey is the property of Robin and Florian Kogelnik. It was unlocked.

POLICE REPORT

Norman Hudson-Taylor attended the Western County Community Advisory Board Meeting on Sept. 15 to hear Commander Russell E. Hamill speak about crime. In general, he said, crime was down in August, although thefts from autos (largely unlocked) continue to occur in large numbers.

He said the department was "beyond committed" to solving the Seven Locks apparent burglary and murder that occurred Sept. 2/3 at a home in the 8900 block of Seven Locks Rd. Mary Frances Havenstein, 63, was found Sept. 3 bound and dead of multiple injuries. Twelve detectives have been assigned to the case, he said.

The Gazette reported on Sept. 24 that police have officially linked this incident to two others of the five home invasion burglaries that occurred in the county in the last year.

Commander Hamill continues to request citizens to report to the police anything unusual in their neighborhood, even if it seems inconsequential. Call the non-emergency dispatch number 301-279-8000 if you notice something unusual or 911 in an emergency.

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LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

*at Carlotta Anderson's
38 Wellesley Circle*

Wednesday, October 15, 8:00 p.m.

Please RSVP 301-229-3748

TOWN HALL BEING PAINTED

By Sophie Keefer

Painters are currently painting the town hall and will be here for several weeks, clerk-treasurer Cathie Polak reported to the town council last month.

She said today the painters had been attacked by bats roosting in the shutters. Nets will need to be put over the shutters so that they can't fly back in. The town has a bid for someone to install metal on the back of the shutters so the bats can't roost there again. Bat boxes could be put at the end of the Town Hall for the bats to roost in. The bid is for \$1200 (including the bat boxes). Mayor Beers made a motion to proceed with the bid, which was passed.

Council member Kogelnik asked the status of any plans to soundproof the inside of the Hall. Council member Matney said that the problem is finding contractors to do it. It is a specialized job and is usually done for larger auditoriums. Council member Arber noted that while it is possible to soundproof a space by installing panels, batting, etc., it must be up to code, which makes it expensive.

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

September 8

Sharon Cleary of the C&O Canal Park Service said there had been extensive **damage to the towpath** during the recent rain storm, especially at Old Angler's Inn, and many trees down. She said there were few funds to repair the damage because of the time of year (most emergency money has been spent).

Council member Long reported that the **Labor Day art show** at Glen Echo Park was a success, with 25% more participation by contributors than last year and a total of 529 works.

Council member Long also reported that there is a new **superintendent of the George Washington Parkway** -- Dottie Marshall, formerly assistant to Audrey Calhoun.. She thinks John James, who was acting superintendent, may return to being deputy superintendent.

Council member Long said she had received two letters requesting **use of the Town Hall**. One was for a Sunday afternoon dance, through April, and there were no objections from the council. Also approved was one from the Seneca Valley Sugarloafers, a walking group, that will use the Town Hall as its headquarters for a walk on October 18 and will be walking through town as part of the walk. They have instructed all participants to park in the Glen Echo Park lot, not in the town, and that pets must be leashed and will be cleaned up after. Pets will not be permitted in the town hall.

Council member Arber reported that she attended a meeting where the deputy secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation talked about **projects in Maryland**. These included rail to Dulles, the ICC, the Bay Bridge, use of rail to abate traffic congestion, use of speed cameras by municipalities, and highway funding issues. She also reported that the MML is looking for an elected representative to sit on the board of Montgomery County Cable TV.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 13--8:00 p.m.
Glen Echo Town Hall
Contact the clerk-treasurer to add an item to the agenda.

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GLEN ECHO PROPERTIES

21 Wellesley Circle. (rent)	\$2,750/mo.
32 Wellesley Circle (rent)	\$1,890/mo
5808 Oxford St. (rent, furnished)	\$3,000/mo.

SCHEDULE SET FOR STREET REPAIR PROJECT

By Sophie Keefer

The town's consulting engineers, A. Morton Thomas, have provided Council member Robin Kogelnik with a tentative schedule for the town street repairs, she told the town council last month.

According to the schedule, following a pre-bid meeting and review of the bids by A. Morton Thomas, a bid to proceed would be selected by the town council in January, looking to commence the work in April. She emphasized that by increasing the length of time spent in the process, the town will have more time to review the proposals and negotiate with the bidders.

Mayor Beers asked if A. Morton Thomas expected many bids. Ms. Kogelnik responded that A. Morton Thomas plans to ask particular companies to bid, but can't guarantee who will make proposals.

LOCAL MUSIC SERIES TO BEGIN

The 2008-09 season of the Music at Redeemer Series begins on Saturday, October 18, at 7:30 p.m., with a performance by renowned British concert organist Robert Munns. Mr. Munns will play the Church of the Redeemer's two-manual, 27 rank Di Gennaro-Hart pipe organ, which was completed in fall 2007. The program includes works by J.S. Bach, Andrew Fletcher, Olivier Messiaen, and Max Reger.

Admission is free. Reception to follow.

On the same day there will be an art show on display in the Parish Hall, where the post-concert reception will be held. The Church of the Redeemer is located at 6201 Dunrobbin Dr. at MacArthur Blvd. For more information, please call 301-229-3770.

ARTIST OFFERS FREE CAMPAIGN POP-UP

Carol Barton is offering a free Campaign '08 pop-up. Just download the pdf from the website below print it onto card stock. Then follow instructions, pick your candidate, and assemble it. Here's the link. Please pass it along to anyone you might think would be interested:

<http://www.popularkinetics.com/Images/Making%20Photos/White%20House%20Pop-Up/White%20House%20Pop-Up.PDF>

Worship the LORD in
the beauty of holiness . . .

- Psalm 96:9

■ Sunday Morning

The Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Adult Education Forum	9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care	10:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist	10:30 a.m.
Church School	10:30 a.m.

■ Special Events

The Blessing of the Animals - Sunday, October 5	12:30 p.m.
Organ Recital: Robert Munns - Saturday, October 18	7:30 p.m.
Parish Art Exhibit - Saturday, October 18	9:00 p.m.
Fauré Requiem with Orchestra - Saturday, November 1	5:00 p.m.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information about our expanded ministry with children and youth.

THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
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www.redeemberbethesda.org

Town Halloween Party

Friday, October 31

5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Bring a Treat to Share

Contact townhall@glenecho.org
or 301-320-4041 to volunteer

Volunteers needed to set up
(Thursday, October 30)

Clean up volunteers needed

AROUND TOWN

The kids are welcome at the next performance by Tom Helf's "Cravin' Dogs" band, which takes place on Sunday, Oct. 12. "Cravin' Dogs" will play a special afternoon show at IOTA in Arlington, Virginia, which also happens to be the place where Tom and Michelle met. The show will start at 2:00 p.m., and "Cravin' Dogs" will play two sets. Admission is \$12.00. IOTA will be non-smoking that day. The club is located at 2832 Wilson Blvd., 703-522-8340, www.iotaclubandcafe.com. For more info on the band, please visit www.cravindogs.com

The Bethesda Coop in Cabin John will be celebrating 25 years at that location with an open house on Saturday, Oct. 18, from noon-4:00 p. m. There'll be live music, demonstrations, free samples, wine tasting and more. The coop specializes in organic and natural foods and fresh local produce. Anyone may buy at the coop, or may become a member and get a 5% discount on purchases for a \$50/year membership. It is located in the MacArthur Square Shopping Center on MacArthur Blvd.

The Bannockburn Community is setting up a Neighbor Assisting Neighbor system to help enable seniors or others who have problems that might force them to leave the community to remain in their own homes by offering support services. The community has been included in the Montgomery County Partnership Program and will be used as one of the county's five model groups researching this need. Every section of Bannockburn has been assigned to a contact person who may be called by a resident needing assistance.

POTOMAC RIVER JAM ALL SUNDAY OCT. 26 AT LOCKHOUSE 8

The Potomac Conservancy is holding its first annual Potomac River Jam—a daylong celebration of the river and canal—on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 8:00-5:00.

Local musicians will play acoustic sets of Celtic, folk and indie music through the afternoon. There will be a morning bird walk and nature photography session, and canoe trips to Minnie's Island will be offered as well as a bike trip along the towpath. For kids there will be face-painting and other activities. A show of photography and art will also be on display.

Longtime resident Tim Maloy has temporarily moved to Abu Dhabi, UAE, where he is working for an English language startup newspaper targeted to the large English speaking expat community in the United Arab Emirates and the greater Middle East region. He says the staff is "a wonderful globalized mix of Middle Easterners, Brits (hailing from the likes of the Guardian and Telegraph newspapers) and Yanks like me, including former Wall Street Journal, Washington Post and ex wire service editors and reporters." He is renting out his Oxford St. home during his absence.

TREASURER'S REPORT August 2008

Design-Weld (TH fence repair)	\$1,400.00
Homer Mitrakas (TH painting)	\$28,500.00
Knopf & Brown (legal)	\$3,839.50
Post Newsweek media (charter amend.)	\$549.65



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GRADES 3-6 INVITED TO CLUB FRIDAY AT CLARA BARTON COMMUNITY CENTER

The Dept. of Recreation's Club Friday will be returning to the Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John on Oct. 10. The event takes place every second Friday of each month beginning Oct. 10 until May 8 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Annual cost is \$20. Membership is limited to the first 150 applicants in grades 3 to 6.

Activities include billiards, bingo, DJ dances, ping-pong, crafts, theme nights, etc. Call 301-229-0010 for more information or sign up at the Community Center

YOGA CLASSES OFFERED AT COMMUNITY CENTER

The Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John offers a monthly free yoga class where basic postures are taught. It is tailored for beginners. The instructor is Jo Alexander.

For more information and the fall schedule please call 301-229-0010.

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VOLUNTEER NEEDED TO REPRESENT TOWN ON LOCAL FIRE BOARD

Glen Echo is looking for a volunteer to serve on the Conduit Road Fire Board, which is the governing body of the Glen Echo Fire Department. Glen Echo is in its response area and should be represented on the board of directors.

The position involves attending a monthly meeting and relaying urgent information to the town council. According to John Barrett, who has served as the town's representative for the past five years, it is a rewarding and important link for Glen Echo.

Please contact the town office at 301-320-4041 or Mayor Beers at 301-229-7308 if you are interested.

STREET LIGHT OUTAGES

To report lights out go to www.pepco.com. Once on the Pepco home page, click on Report street light outage.

In subsequent phases of the new system there will be a tracking mechanism that will provide status and completion dates for the specific inquiry.

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FALL FROLIC AT PARK OCT. 25

Glen Echo Park's 4th annual Fall Frolic will be held on Saturday, October 25, 2008. This family event with a festive Halloween theme is open to the public, and visitors of all ages are invited to the Park to explore the arts through hands-on crafts, live performances, and Halloween activities.

Presented by the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts, the activities will start at 10 a.m., and continue through the evening with a swing class and dance in the Spanish Ballroom beginning at 8 p.m.

Special Halloween festivities will take place from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. There will be pumpkin painting, face painting, and Halloween-themed games. Children may also decorate their own trick-or-treat-bag and go trick-or-treating through the galleries. The Halloween celebration will conclude with a costume parade through the park at 3:30 p.m.

DATE TO REMEMBER

Town Holiday Party—Saturday, Dec. 13.

GEORGETOWN CHORALE SEEKS SINGERS FOR LOCAL REHEARSALS

Georgetown Chorale, which rehearses locally at the Church of the Redeemer off Macarthur Boulevard near Glen Echo, wishes to recruit additional singers to audition for the chorale. The chorale is a nonprofit organization; all the proceeds from the spring concert are donated to a designated local charity.

The Chorale will be rehearsing Wednesday evenings. All parts welcome. Learn more at www.georgetownchorale.org or call 301-229-4866.

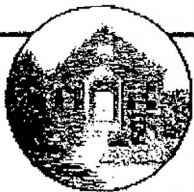
FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

Monday, October 13, 8:00 p.m.—TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, October 11, 8:00 p.m.—GLEN ECHO FILM FESTIVAL

Friday, October 31, 5:30 p.m.—TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY



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Sunday Services 11:00 am

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