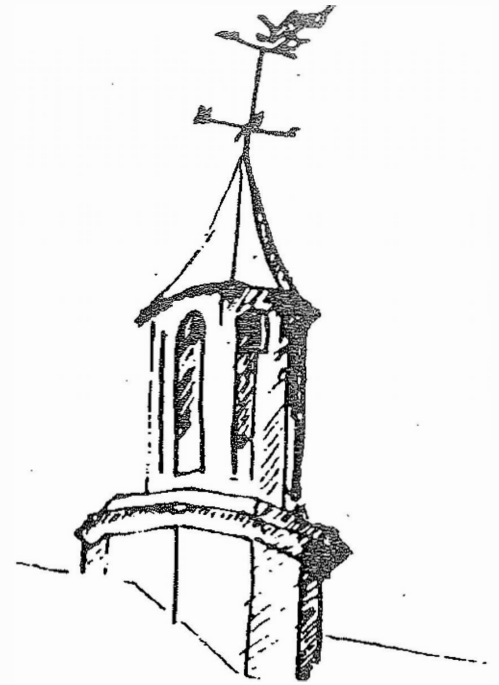


# The Echo

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



September 2007

### TOWN USING OFF-DUTY POLICE TO FINE STOP SIGN VIOLATORS

By Carlotta Anderson

The town has spent nearly \$3,000 this year paying off-duty county policemen to enforce observation of the stop sign at the intersection of Oxford Rd. and University Ave. This was deemed necessary by the town council because of the large number of violators, almost entirely visitors to events at Glen Echo Park.

The fine for running a stop sign is \$90. The officers are hired for a three-hour minimum at \$35/hr, and write from 10-18 tickets per shift. The town does not get the revenue from the fines. In the first round of tickets in June all but one waited until the last minute to pay and one decided to go to trial, police said. Since that person lost in court, it appears the tickets are holding up in court, Mayor Beers said.

The clerk-treasurer schedules one to three shifts per weekend, and occasionally weekdays during the park's camp drop off and pick up times. These are timed to coincide with activities at the park and are usually weekend evenings. A shift is three to four hours. The police come in a police car, in uniform. They are available for hire when off-duty.

Police got one complaining letter from a citizen asking them not to enforce the law, according to Norman Hudson-Taylor, the town's representative on the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Bethesda District of the Montgomery County police for the past five years. The police told him they were

### TOWN TO GO AHEAD ON EMERGENCY STREET REPAIRS

By Dave Chitwood

Mayor Beers expressed her concern about poor conditions on some town streets at the Aug. 13 town council meeting. She mentioned the expanding hole at the intersection of upper Cornell Ave. and Wellesley Circle, as well as holes on Yale Avenue.

Other areas targeted for emergency street repair include the town hall parking lot and Oxford Ave., she said. She pointed out that something had to be decided soon because cold winter temperatures will make repair difficult.

The repairs are not part of the planned massive street rehabilitation for the town but are needed to respond to critical conditions. Town ordinances allow bypassing typical bid solicitation protocols in the event of emergency.

Councilmember Robin Kogelnik moved that the town go ahead with these emergency repairs. Councilmember Steve Matney seconded, adding that the language in the motion should be rephrased to accommodate language in the town ordinances pertaining to emergency conditions. He added that the proposal would require street closures for 24 hours. Because some of the repairs will be along Oxford Road, E.E. Lyons, the contractor, will be asked to coordinate these closures with the park

## 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

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

If you want to know what's going on in town between *Echo* issues, you can sign up to be on two email lists for town residents. This will give you up-to-the-minute changes in dates of events, announcements, reminders of movies, Ladies' Nights, and other information

One of these lists is issued from the town hall and may be signed up for by sending an email to the town office at townhall@glenecho.org.

The other is operated as a yahoo group, glenecho@yahoo.com and may be signed up for by contacting Dan Macy at dmacy@mbspro.com.

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 10—8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall  
Contact the clerk-treasurer to add an item to the agenda

## TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

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

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

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

**Office: 6106 Harvard Avenue; mailing address: Box 598, Glen Echo, MD**

20812

**Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-3:30  
or by appointment**

### MAYOR

Debbie Beers 301-229-7308

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Eve Arber 301-263-0016

Robin Kogelnik 301-320-5269

Nancy Long 301-332-3823

Steve Matney 301-320-2059

### CLERK-TREASURER

Cathie Polak 301-320-4041

### TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.glenecho.org>



## Autumn 2007 at REDEEMER

### ■ SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

The Holy Eucharist	8:00 am
Adult Education	9:15 am
Choral Eucharist	10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Care	10:30 am

### ■ DEDICATORY ORGAN FESTIVAL

Friday, 19 October	8:00 pm	John Walker, organ
Saturday, 20 October	8:00 pm	John Walker, organ
Sunday, 21 October	5:00 pm	Nathan Laube, organ

*Admission is free. Reception to follow each concert.*

### THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

6201 Dunrobbin Drive ▪ Bethesda, Maryland 20816  
(301) 229-3770 ▪ [office.redeemer@verizon.net](mailto:office.redeemer@verizon.net)

[www.redeemerbethesda.org](http://www.redeemerbethesda.org)

## POLICE TICKETING (FROM PAGE 1)

not unhappy with the town's arrangement.

It has been observed that when the stop sign is not monitored, many vehicles do not stop, even for pedestrians. In fact, one officer said other vehicles run the stop sign even when he is writing a ticket.

Hiring officers in Glen Echo began in 2005 in response to concerns about a driver who was circling through town several times an hour, mostly without stopping and without appearing to have any purpose in his trips. This practice continued for several months and alarmed residents. The town began considering enacting a "no cruising" ordinance before the activity stopped. The town spent \$2470 that year in an effort to enforce the driver's traffic violations, but the off-duty police also issued tickets for vehicles that did not stop on Oxford Rd. The town had been unsuccessful in getting the regular on-duty county police to do the enforcement.

At that time, park officials said that people were complaining about the enforcement and suggested the stop sign be removed, according to Mayor Beers. They made a video of traffic at the Oxford-University intersection. The park has not taken any responsibility for this enforcement even though the violators are primarily its visitors. Oxford Rd. is town, not park, property.

Thereafter Glen Echo Park officials were engaged in discussing three alternative proposals for re-routing traffic on Oxford. It appeared they might take some action to redirect traffic and/or reduce visitors' violations at the stop sign. The town hoped one of these might solve the problem and suspended hiring officers in 2006, although \$3,000 had been budgeted for that purpose. The park's proposals were presented at a public hearing at the town hall, but "went nowhere," the mayor said.

However, according to Kym Elder, Site Manager of Glen Echo Park, park officials did conclude that the community favored changing the park's entranceway and submitted Alternative 2 to the project planning process. This alternative provided for both park entrance and exit to be combined at the point of the current exit road onto Oxford Rd., well above the intersection with University Ave.

This project was included in the NPS budget for 2008 and approved by Congress, she said. However, Congress has not yet indicated which projects have been funded or to what extent. In addition to waiting for this information, the NPS must still receive the final resolution from its legal counsel's office regarding whether Oxford Rd. belongs to the town or the park.

In addition to monitoring the traffic and stop sign, the off-duty officers in Glen Echo are available to enforce other violations in town. One contacted a resident who had lived in town longer than 30 days and not yet registered his vehicles in Maryland.

Running the stop sign could actually be prosecuted under town ordinances, in which case the town would get the revenue from the fines, but the mayor believes such tickets might be more difficult to uphold in court.

They were quite effective in the early 1900s, however, when the town had a marshal equipped with a 38-caliber revolver, a blackjack, and handcuffs, plus the assistance of four deputy marshals. He enthusiastically arrested all motorists on MacArthur Blvd. who did not have licenses on both front and back of their cars or were exceeding the 12 mph speed limit. The fact that MacArthur Blvd. was not in the town's jurisdiction did not trouble Mayor John Garrett, who collected the money at his home. The fine was \$25. The town had a chief of police until the 1960s.

Other municipalities also pay for their own police enforcement. Chevy Chase Village has its own police force. The Town of Chevy Chase has a non-resident constable who schedules the shifts of off-duty police officers and budgets \$127,000 per year for this purpose. Garrett Park, with a population around three times that of Glen Echo, is thinking about it, although the county does ticket parking violators when they are asked to do so. They feel that if they targeted all violators for a week straight they might break the pattern of bad behavior, an official said.

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## TOWN PETITION SENT; NO RESPONSE YET

The petition signed by 66 town residents asking for a flashing light at the intersection of Princeton Ave. and MacArthur Blvd. was sent last month to two officials at the Montgomery County Dept. of Public Works and Transportation, the Montgomery County Police, and the office of County Councilman Roger Berliner.

The town has heard only from Councilman Berliner's office, indicating that it had contacted DPWT about the petition and asked that it be sent a copy of the Department's response to the town.

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## FIOS INSTALLATION CONCERNS SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS

By Dave Chitwood

Verizon's installation of FIOS fiber optic service in Glen Echo brought a spirited debate at the Aug. 13 town council meeting, when the topic of boring, drilling, and trenching was discussed. Those present expressed concerns about whether lines connecting homes would be strung overhead or placed underground. In the latter case, the worry was about the conditions of property and streets afterwards.

Mayor Beers had not been at the July Council Meeting when the FIOS installation issue was first discussed; she described her surprise when the Clerk-Treasurer informed her of the nature of some of the comments expressed at the meeting and of the restrictions that some had suggested to be placed upon Verizon. The mayor said that she strongly believes that if homeowners want the new service, then they should not have to wait while the town and Verizon go through a long procedural process.

Councilmember Eve Arber responded that she and town residents attending the meeting merely wanted information about the installation process. For example, would a series of trenches be dug throughout the entire town?

Councilmember Steve Manney added that his understanding was that although individual homeowners may prefer underground installation, Verizon would make the decision on overhead versus underground connectivity. He would like to ask Verizon several questions, for example, if three houses on one side of a street needed to be connected to a line on the other side, would one trench be dug or three?

The mayor said that Verizon would probably choose the most efficient process and would not do anything differently here than in other parts of the county, such as Bannockburn. She added that she did not want to set up any roadblocks and that if Verizon promised to set things right, they should be allowed to proceed. She added that she would "go after them with all my might" if they reneged on their promise.

Councilmember Robin Kogelnik suggested that perhaps "overregulation" might be a concern, and the mayor agreed that this was a good word. Ms. Kogelnik stated that it would be interesting to learn, however, if there was actually a master plan of some sort or whether the installation would be planned on a case-by-case basis.

Mayor Beers said she had suggested that Verizon be allowed six months to effect street restoration, a period of time which would take into account the difficulty of repairs during the winter. In a letter quoted in the August *Echo* and by the Mayor, Verizon stated that property "would be restored to the same or better condition within six months of work completion."

## WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

The town now has two more children to add to its generous contingent of youngsters. Julian, 5, and Isabella, 2, moved with their parents Frank and Kathleen Triveri to Wellesley Circle this summer. Julian will enter the first grade in Bannockburn Elementary School this month.

Parents Frank and Kathleen are both lawyers, although these days Kathleen is mainly a Mom. When they met in the hallway of an apartment house in Woodley Park, where they had adjoining apartments, both had just started their first jobs. Frank now works for Sprint in Reston. An Alexandria, Va. native, he studied at George Mason University in Virginia.

Kathleen is from the small town of Bellport, Long Island, N.Y. and is happy again to be living in a small town near the water, as in her childhood. She attended Williams College and received her law degree at Indiana University.

She is a semi-professional musician, playing the violin in the Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic in Alexandria. Frank plays the electric guitar.

Welcome to Glen Echo!

### DIDN'T GET YOUR ECHO ON TIME?

The scheduled delivery date for *The Echo* is the Sunday before the first Monday of each month. If you don't get your copy by that date, please notify circulation manager Jane Stevenson at 301-229-3578. It is only by hearing from you that we know there is a circulation delay.

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## AROUND TOWN

Maryland is one of 25 states with **red light camera programs**. Montgomery County instituted the use of photo enforcement in October of 1999 with 10 cameras. Today there are 40 cameras county-wide at 35 intersections. The current locations of red light cameras are available on the Montgomery County Police website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police), under automated traffic enforcement. Photo enforcement cameras are placed in intersections and photograph vehicles after the light turns red. A picture of the vehicle's license plate is taken and sent to the violator. Violators in Montgomery County receive a \$75 civil citation for running a red light.


County Councilman Roger Berliner has convened an Infill Development Task Force to address the problem of older homes being tom down and being replaced with "infill" houses that are of **disproportionate size** compared to the surrounding houses. According to *The Mohican Hills Citizen*, its purpose is to develop policy recommendations and create a framework for proposing county legislation to replace the current zoning code, which took effect in 1956 and has some parts written as early as 1928.

The **Glen Echoers Barbershop Quartet** will sing songs of the past on Sunday, Sept. 9 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. at the River Center at Lockhouse 8, which is maintained by the Potomac Conservancy. One member of the quartet is Richard Cook, a long-time historian of Glen Echo and the vicinity. He began collecting Glen Echo artifacts—bottles or broken china from the Oakdale Villa hotel— on the hill below

Wellesley Circle when he was still a teenager, some 40 years ago.

The restoration of the old **Sycamore Store** building at the corner of Walhonding Rd. and MacArthur Blvd. has finally been approved by the Montgomery County Board of Appeals after a three-and-a-half year struggle. A letter in *The Mohican Hills Citizen* from owners Dean Brenneman and Peter Pagenstecher indicates they will convert the old store into an architectural and administrative office. Opened as a grocery store in 1919 by Hugh Johnston, it was both store and residence for the Rogers family until 1995, when it was sold. Some local residents fought hard to prevent this old landmark from continuing as a commercial establishment, but were finally overruled by the county.

Bruce Douglas was walking his dog one night recently in Mohican Hills when he felt something biting his neck and ruffling his hair. He then saw a **bat flying away**. Since the bat could not be captured, the state Office of Health and Mental Hygiene told him, he would need the anti-rabies treatment at a hospital emergency room. Luckily, the days of painful shots in the abdomen are long past, he wrote in *The Mohican Hills Citizen*, and all he needed was one dose of a human immune globulin (HIG) to protect him while the vaccine was producing his own immune response, plus five doses of vaccine over a 28 day period. He wrote that he found them no more bothersome than a typical flu shot. He was also told that this post-exposure treatment is a medical **urgency**, but not a medical **emergency**.



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## LANDSCAPING BIDS SOUGHT FOR NEW TOWN PARK

Councilmember Nancy Long has contacted several landscape architects or landscaping firms about design plans for the new town park on Princeton and University Aves, across from the existing town park

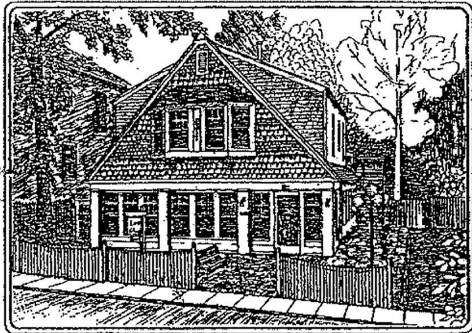
She has already received an elaborate \$9,000 proposal from Trace Landscape Architects which was set to expire August 16; she expressed concern that it may exceed the allocated landscaping budget, which is \$30,000. Councilmember Steve Matney added that the Trace plan requires that a topographic survey be done, which would further increase the cost. The Trace plan included a "paved area," but it was not clear if it would be flagstone, brick or asphalt.

Mayor Beers asked Ms. Long if the town's "regular landscaper" (Chapel Hill Landscaping) could be contacted to submit a proposal. There was also some discussion about the use of Centennial funds for the project

The mayor asked Councilwoman Long to ask Trace Landscape Architects for an extension and to get two other formal bids.

--Dave Chitwood

*LAW & ASSOCIATES, INC.*  
(301) 229-8500



*Heather Cottage*

*Financial Planning*

## LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

*You are invited to a Ladies Night  
at Maryse Rhein's  
6102 Princeton Ave.*

*Wednesday, September 19, 8:00 p.m.*

*Please RSVP 301-229-7910*

### FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

**Saturday, September 8,, 7:30 p.m.—GLEN ECHO  
FILM FESTIVAL**

**Monday, September 10 , 8:00 p.m.—TOWN COUN  
CIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, September 18, GYPSY MUSIC, World  
Music Folklife Center**

**Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 p.m. English Coun-  
try Dance.** Live music. No experience or partner  
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## "THE ART OF CLARA BARTON" OPENS SEPT 15 AT BARTON HOUSE

The annual Fall Lamplight Open House at the Clara Barton National Historic Site will feature the opening exhibition of "The Art of Clara Barton," a show of works on paper done by Clara Barton as well as works by local artists inspired by Miss Barton or of the site itself.

Miss Barton's works have never before been shown to the public. They include still-life images of flowers, shells, leaves, and imagery resembling heroic goddesses. They are on loan from an anonymous donor.

The open house will be held from 7:00-9:00 pm. and will include tours of the house by costumed guides.

### GLEN ECHO PROPERTIES

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## TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

August 13

Councilmember Steve Matney indicated that he would present a full summary of the town **street repair project** at the September council meeting. A very brief discussion centered on the geotechnical capabilities of contractors, the feasibility of "rough order of magnitude" estimates, the need for inclusion of traffic calming devices in the proposals, and the impossibility of the town being able to create a total "bid package".

The request of the World Music Folklife Center to present a program of **Gypsy music** on Tuesday, Sept. 18 at the town hall was discussed. Sponsored by town resident Anna Bayer, it would use "moderate amplification to achieve acoustic balance" and as many as 100 people are expected. Parking was a concern, and the mayor noted that even the 25-30 attendees at the English Country Dances Wednesdays clog up the streets. It was finally agreed that Councilwoman Long would contact the organizer of the event to approve it but discuss free admission for town residents, carpooling, and use of the Glen Echo Park parking lot.

Because Halloween is on a Wednesday, Ms. Long will also inform the **English Country Dance** group that they will be denied the use of the hall on that date so that the Halloween Party can be held.

And, in keeping with the **ghoulish tradition of Halloween** in Glen Echo, the film "Behind the Mask: The Rise of Leslie Vernon" will be shown in town on October 13. See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behind\\_the\\_Mask:The\\_Rise\\_of\\_Leslie\\_Vernon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Behind_the_Mask:The_Rise_of_Leslie_Vernon) for further details about this film. "It stars Nathan Baesel as Vernon, as well as Robert Englund, who is better known for playing the legendary horror film icon Freddy Krueger. It follows a film crew documenting a supernatural serial killer who terrorizes the small town of Glen Echo, Maryland, although the film was actually shot in Oregon, Maine, and California.

--Dave Chitwood

### NEED NEW RECYCLING BIN?

If your green recycling bin has been damaged, if you are a new resident and didn't find a bin when you moved in, or if you need another one, you may obtain one.

Just call Clerk/Treasurer Cathie Polak at the town office, 301-320-4041 and let her know you need one.

# GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

## EVENTS AT THE PARK

### DANCES HELD WEEKLY IN THE RENOVATED SPANISH BALLROOM:

**Friday Night Dances**—contras, square and country mixers. Beginners welcome. \$7. 8:30-11:30

**Saturday Night Dances**—swing, cajun/zydeco, salsa. \$12. 9:00-midnight

**Sunday Afternoon Tea Dances**—waltzes, swing, cajun/zydeco. \$7 or \$10. 3:30-6:00

**Sunday Night Dances**—contra, square, folk. Forexperienced dancers. 7:30-10. \$9

## ADVENTURE THEATRE

Stuart Little

September 15-October 21

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

Tickets: \$8.00 Call 301-320-5331

## THE PUPPET THEATRE

Rapunzel

September 14-October 7

Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30

Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00

Tickets: \$8.00 Call 301-320-6668

## YELLOW BARN STUDIO & GALLERY

Individual and group art exhibits can be viewed every Saturday and Sunday from noon-5:00 p.m.

Exhibits change weekly.

## PARK NEWS

**Adventure Theatre** renovation is proceeding ahead of schedule—so quickly that the September performances may possibly be held on the new stage instead of the temporary quarters near the Spanish Ballroom.

A textile artist has established residency at the Yellow Barn.

Repair of the yurt roofs were not included in the original agreement between the County and the National Park Service. The county has agreed to handle the repair of at least one roof. The intention is to replant all of the roofs after they are repaired, except for one roof that accumulates a lot of material and weight.

Councilmember Nancy Long attended the July 11 meeting of the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, where a representative of the Baltimore group that will take over the **Discovery Creek Children's Museum** was in attendance. He indicated that the firm had no current interest in developing the Crystal Pool but would revisit this issue in six months

--Dave Chitwood



## Glen Echo Baptist Church

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## Bringing God's Truth to Life

Sunday School . . . . . 9:30 am

Sunday Services . . . . . 11:00 am

Wednesday Activities . . . . . 7:00 pm

Mid-Week Bible Study . . . Vassar Circle