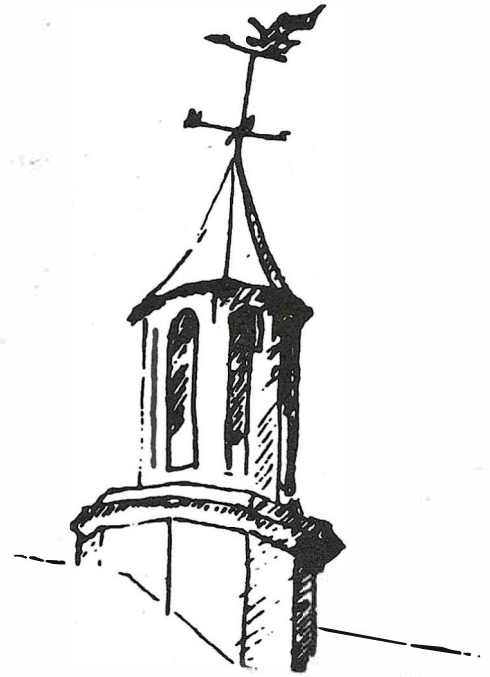


# The Echo

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

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September 2002

### VASSAR CIRCLE OWNER WANTS VARIANCE FOR LARGER HOUSE By Jake Quinn

The new owner of 11 Vassar Circle, Randy Yazhary, attended the Aug 12 town council meeting to discuss his plans for the property he bought several months ago.

Mr. Yazhary, a Bethesda resident, stated that he had made the purchase as an investment and wished to improve the property for resale. He said that he had developed the impression that the town disapproved of his plans and ideas.

Mayor Debbie Beers assured Mr. Yazhary that no one was disapproving of anything and emphasized that the town's concern was simply ensuring that everyone comply with existing rules.

Mr. Yazhary said that he learned only after he had made his purchase that the information the County zoning department had given him was incorrect, and that the small lot sizes in Glen Echo require more stringent zoning standards.

He believes that he needs a zoning variance to make the house large enough to make his investment worthwhile.

Mr. Yazhary admitted that he was unprepared for the regulations required by Montgomery County in Glen Echo. His prior experience in real estate development was with larger homes (6,000 square feet) in Naples, Florida.

He described his surprise upon receiving complaints about the dumpster that he had placed on the Vassar Circle property shortly after he took possession, believing that residents would be pleased that he was taking steps to improve the property. He removed the dumpster immediately, but since

### FIRECRACKERS IN MAILSLOT ALARM TOWN FAMILY

A Wellesley Circle family was awakened at 1:20 a.m. on Aug. 16 to a loud bang downstairs. What they found was a lot of smoke and an exploded shooting firecracker which had shot up six feet of stairs, burned the vinyl flooring and blackened the wall.

The firecracker, along with two others which were unexploded, had been placed in a mail slot in the front doorway.

Police responded within a half hour and investigated the vandalism.

The family later noticed that someone had scratched the side of their minivan, probably using a key.

A couple months previously, a three-inch diameter hole had been burned in the ceiling of a new shed and blackened the area around it.

They plan to nail the mail slot shut and replace it with an outdoors mailbox.

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then Mr. Yazhary has stopped cleaning things up.

The Mayor pointed out that the only problem with the dumpster was that Mr. Yazhary had not obtained the necessary permit for it.

When Mr. Yazhary pressed for some expression of support or opposition, the mayor and councilmembers stated

—continued on page 3

## THE ECHO

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♻️ *Printed on recycled paper*

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, September 9—8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall  
Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

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## 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**

## WORKERS NEEDED FOR LOCKHOUSE 8

The Potomac Conservancy is looking for volunteers to help out at the next Lockhouse 8 restoration workday on Saturday, Sept. 7, 9:00 a.m.-noon.

The focus will be on cleaning up the interior wooden beams, minor repainting, and other projects. Please bring hammers, pliers or other nail pullers, and work gloves. Wear long pants and sturdy workboots.

Drinking water and snacks will be provided.

Don't forget to bring a lunch for a celebratory picnic after the workday.

Lockhouse 8 is on the C&O Canal towpath just up the canal from Glen Echo.

For more information or to RSVP contact Matt Berres.  
703-276-2777, Ext. 203.

## COUNCIL AGREES TO \$2,000 MATCHING GRANT FOR HISTORY

By Jake Quinn

The Town Council last month approved making a \$2,000 matching grant to support the production of a history of Glen Echo as well as a walking tour of Glen Echo that Carlotta Anderson is developing for the 2004 town centennial celebration.

They represent two separate publications--the walking tour being a brochure and the history being a book.

Recently, Ms. Anderson circulated a survey asking town residents to share any information they have about the history of their homes, which will be used for the brochure.

Ms. Anderson's request to the council was for assistance with publishing costs, which she estimates will be around \$4,000. She is applying to the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission for a \$2,000 grant, which, if approved, must be matched by an equal grant from the sponsoring agency, in this case, the town.

The Council expressed enthusiasm for the project and approved the request with the stipulation that there be a charge for the books when they're published.

## VASSAR CIRCLE (FROM PAGE 1)

that they could not develop opinions without seeing his plans. He acknowledged that because the lot is only 4,181 square feet, redevelopment must remain within the footprint of the existing house.

Regulations permit a two-story house on the lot, so with an existing footprint of about 950 square feet, a 1,900 square foot house could be in compliance. Mr. Yazhary said his research indicates that a new home in the Bethesda area must be at least 2,200 square feet to command the return he seeks on his investment; thus, he would like a variance to add about 150 square feet to the existing footprint.

The council insisted that in order to express an opinion they would have to see his building plans documented. They recommended to Mr. Yazary that he obtain a specific plan, get a legal advisor, get a plat for the property, clean up the property, secure the property, and consider expanding the property by digging out and finishing the basement. He was also encouraged to speak with his immediate neighbors.

He agreed to get a permit for a dumpster and clean up the property, provide six copies of a plat showing the footprint of the existing house and provide an architect's drawing of the contemplated addition(s).

Mr. Yazhary stressed that he would not proceed with the project if it was inconsistent with the community's wishes. He said he wanted a sense of how the town felt so as not to waste energy and resources. He said that he would await a reaction to the drawings he plans to provide.

Later in the meeting the Mayor Beers observed that people are being misinformed by the county about town zoning regulations too frequently. She will have the town attorney draft a letter to the county zoning office describing the problem, and suggested that he also draft a summary of relevant rules, especially zoning regulations, to provide to Glen Echo residents.

*(Ed. Mr. Yazhary purchased the property for \$172,000 in May. Last month he offered it for sale as is for \$350,000.)*

### 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.

### CRAFTS TO SELL?

The annual Bannockburn Craft Show, planned for Sunday, Nov. 3 at the Bannockburn Clubhouse, has room for a few more adult artists. Call Kitty Sherwin to apply: 301-229-9649.

## LOCAL RESIDENT NEW CHEF AT INN AT GLEN ECHO

By Carlotta Anderson

Joshua Greenberg, who moved to Glen Echo with his family in 1987 when he was 18 years old, has just been appointed Chef de Cuisine at The Inn at Glen Echo.

He will be re-writing the whole menu so that all dishes will be from his own recipes. A favorite of his is Apricot and Sesame Glazed Pork Chop with Wasabi (Japanese horseradish) mashed potatoes, and grilled zucchini boat stuffed with fontina creamed spinach.

Joshua started cooking at age 15, emulating his mother, Lisa, who enjoyed cooking. "I always got a lot of satisfaction from it; it makes people happy," he said.

After graduation from Walter Johnson High School, he studied to be a private chef in Hermosa Beach, Calif. He honed his cooking skills at Pastini's in Breckenridge, Colo, and then became a private chef there for Gordon Gould, inventor of the laser beam. Most recently he was at The Bistro in Bozeman, Mont, where his sister, Surale lives. She is president of a consulting company, Decision Support Partners, Inc.

When he decided he wanted to return to Glen Echo after 12 years in the West, he contacted the owner of The Inn at Glen Echo and was hired. "It was just good timing," he explained. He never worked there before.

Joshua is now living in his old home at 7315 University Ave. with his father, David, and stepmother, Pam Mason. David is now a Realtor with Evers & Company Real Estate in Chevy Chase.

Joshua hopes residents will come to the Inn to give his cooking a try. He says residents should look forward to future promotions.

## LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

*You are invited to a Ladies Night*

*at Kathleen Wolf's  
6000 Bryn Mawr Ave.*

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


*Please RSVP 301-229-7041*

### FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

July, 2002

Allied Printing (Echo)	\$167.58
MLGIP (annual website expense)	\$383.25
Waste Management (trash)	\$2,357.85

*(A full accounting of all bills paid and payments received is available as part of the town council minutes.)*



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## CLASSIFIED ADS

**ARTIST'S WAY WORKSHOP.** Facilitated by an award winning teacher and poet. Based on the book by Julia Cameron. Join a supportive group on this transformative journey to discover your creative self. For anyone who wants to live more creatively. Starts Sept. Debbie 301-229-1678.

**TOWNWIDE YARD SALE.** Saturday, Oct. 26. Anyone interested please call Diana Hudson-Taylor, 301-229-2163.

**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 yrs. teaching experience. Call 301-946-5388.

*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.*

### RESIDENT ALERT!

Police have requested that we notify residents that if they see any unauthorized person entering the premises of 11 Vassar Circle, or lurking in the yard, please call them at 301-279-8000.



### *Intimate Dining*

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## SURVEY BEING PREPARED ABOUT TOWN HALL USE

A questionnaire to survey town residents on their views of desirable town hall policies and practices was discussed by the town council at its August meeting.

Originally drafted by Councilwoman Nancy Long, it will be modified by Councilman Tom Lorenzen to incorporate points brought out in the discussion and then presented to the council for final approval at its September meeting.

There was a general discussion of appropriate fees and how to gauge the community's feelings about whether the hall should become a significant revenue source for the town.

The council also discussed a request by a town resident to use the hall for two hours, three mornings per week, for a reading class for six pre-school children. The proposal includes charging a fee for the class. The council appeared favorably inclined but felt it needed more information, and suggested that the proposal be put in writing and presented at the next council meeting.

--Jake Quinn

## COUNCIL DONATES \$200 TO POTOMAC CONSERVANCY

Responding to a request made by Carlotta Anderson, the town council last month voted unanimously to donate \$200 to the Potomac Conservancy, a local land preservation group.

Among its other activities, Ms. Anderson described the group's efforts to transform Lock House 8, on the C&O towpath near Glen Echo, into a museum and classroom, and the group's work on Minnie's Island, accessible by boat from Lock 8.

She emphasized how the group's work to preserve the land along the Potomac River benefits our community.

Councilwoman Nancy Long endorsed Ms. Anderson's proposal, observing that, after a rocky start, the Potomac Conservancy had matured into an effective organization.

Mayor Beers suggested that the town might also make a grant to the new Partnership at Glen Echo Park (see article, p. 8), which has just been the beneficiary of a \$100,000 pledge from the National Park Service.

With \$1,000 in the town budget for such outlays, and \$200 of that now committed to the Potomac Conservancy, the mayor and council debated whether to commit the remaining \$800 to the Partnership, or perhaps a higher amount. The issue was tabled until the next meeting.

—Jake Quinn

## WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

When Robin and Florian Kogelnik and their children moved to Glen Echo last month, they were following in the footsteps of their friends Alexis Feringa and DJ Johnson, who arrived here a few months earlier.

Indeed their houses are only a stone's throw apart. The Kogelniks live at 6100 Princeton on the corner of University and Princeton, and the Feringa/Johnsons live at 6009 Princeton.

The Kogelniks had spent several years looking for the right place to move their family when Alexis and DJ recently introduced them to Glen Echo. "It was what we were looking for," said Robin. "A small town, a real neighborhood, close to D.C., a good commute, a place with lots of kids, a place kids would love to grow up. We saw this house and fell in love with it"

The Kogelniks have two sons, Hannes, 3 3/4, and Carsten, 2.

They had been living in Arlington since getting married six years ago, although Robin's job took them to Paris, France for two-and-a-half years of that time. In France, she was the marketing director for one of the sponsors of the men's World Cup soccer championship.

During their stay, Florian earned his M.B.A at the Haute Ecole Commerciale, and Hannes was born. Florian has also studied in Berlin and Vienna, and got his law degree at the University of Denver.

Since moving to Glen Echo, Florian bikes to work at the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) at 15th and K, NW. where he is the director of business operations.

Robin works part-time out of their house as the director of marketing for a small technical consulting company.

Both are avidly interested in the outdoors and sports – tennis, running, skiing, soccer. The boys love trains, trucks, their tricycles and the park carousel.

Welcome to Glen Echo!

### PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

48 Wellesley Circle \$800,000

### GLEN ECHO PROPERTY SALES

6100 Princeton Ave. \$630,000

## WEIGHING YOUR GIANT PUMPKIN

By Andy Malmgren


*(This is part seven of an eight part series of Echo articles on growing giant pumpkins)*

It is hard to find a scale large enough to weigh a giant pumpkin. The most common method of determining pumpkin weight is via a series of measurements.

First, measure the circumference of the pumpkin from blossom end to stem. Next, measure over the top in both directions: from ground to ground along the axis from stem to blossom end, then perpendicular to the stem-blossom-end axis. Add these three measurements together, then multiply by 1.9.

It sounds complicated, but it is easier then trying to fit your pumpkin on a bathroom scale.


*(Ed. Andy's pumpkin weighed approximately 293 pounds with a 108-inch circumference at Echo press time).*



*Eleanor*

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## SUBURBS WITH OLDER HOUSES MORE HEALTHY, STUDY SAYS

A just-released study by the National Cancer Institute found that people who live in areas with houses built before 1974 are almost 50 percent more likely to walk a lot for pleasure, *The New York Times* reported.

This is because development patterns in the past were more conducive to an active life-style than development since then, the lead researcher explained. He said that showed the importance of planning environments that increase the suitability for walking and its healthful benefits.

With its many sidewalks, Glen Echo certainly fits the bill. Any time of the day or night, one is likely to encounter town residents walking to the post office, the town hall, the park, or just out for sociability and pleasure.

All the more reason for residents to check to see if Mother Nature has overtaken their recent cutbacks of foliage growing over the sidewalks, once again forcing residents into the streets. There are a number of locations in town where that is again the case.

## FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

**Thursday, September 5, 7:00-10:00 p.m.-American Indian Inter-Tribal Council**

**Monday, September 9, 8:00 p.m.—TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**Sunday, September 15, 3:00-6:00 p.m., 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.

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# GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

## THE PUPPET THEATRE

**Tales of Beatrix Potter**  
**September 7 through October 13**  
 Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30  
 Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00  
 Tickets: \$6. Call 301-320-6668

## ADVENTURE THEATRE

**James and the Giant Peach**  
**Through September 8**  
**Bunnicula**  
**September 28-November 3**  
 Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30  
 Tickets: \$6. Call 301-320-5331

**The DENTZEL CAROUSEL will remain open through September 29. Hours are W-Th—10 a.m.-2 p.m.; weekends, noon-6 p.m.**

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CHOSEN FOR PARK

**By Jake Quinn**

Katey Boerner has been named new executive director for the Glen Echo Partnership for Arts and Culture, according to Karen Pittleman, Site Manager for Glen Echo Park.

She described Ms. Boerner as enthusiastic and arts-oriented. She was chosen by the new 19-member board of the Partnership. Ms. Boerner most recently served as the chief financial officer of Share Our Strength, a DC-based anti-hunger non-profit group, and prior to that worked in the arts.

Ms. Pittleman also reported that the National Park Service is making a grant of \$100,000 to the Partnership.

## EVENTS AT THE PARK

The Spanish Ballroom is closed for renovations, but dances will be held year-around in the Bumper Car Pavilion. It is heated with space heater.

**Friday Night Dances**—contras, squares and country mixers. Beginners welcome. \$6. 8:30-11:30

**Saturday Night Dances**—swing dancing, cajun/zydeco or salsa. \$10. 9:00-midnight

**Sunday Afternoon Tea Dances**—walses, swing, cajun/zydeco. \$5. 3:30-6:00

**Sunday Night Dances**—contra, square, folk. For experienced dancers. 7:30-10. \$8.

## PARK CONSTRUCTION PROCEEDING NICELY

Glen Echo Park's North Arcade will be substantially completed in March and ready for use in May 2003, according to Site Manager Karen Pittleman. After a difficult start, work on the Spanish Ballroom is proceeding well, she told the Glen Echo Town Council last month.

The Puppet Company will be moving to the Ballroom while their space is being redone. "The Nutcracker" will be their first performance in the interim space. The Ballroom will be available for dancing and other activities in May. In the meantime, dances will continue to be held in the Bumper Car Pavilion, where kerosene heaters will be used during cold weather.

Ms. Pittleman provided copies of the agreement between the National Park Service and Montgomery County on Glen Echo Park to the mayor and town council. Under the terms of the agreement the NPS will "forever do grounds maintenance" as well as provide snow removal, tree maintenance, and roof maintenance on the Carousel, the North Arcade and the Spanish Ballroom. She also reported that the NPS also planned to provide more interpretative services.

Mindful of the Carousel's historic preservation needs, NPS will continue restoring the animals (there are only six left to finish) and will not allow the Carousel to be operated more hours than currently.

--Jake Quinn