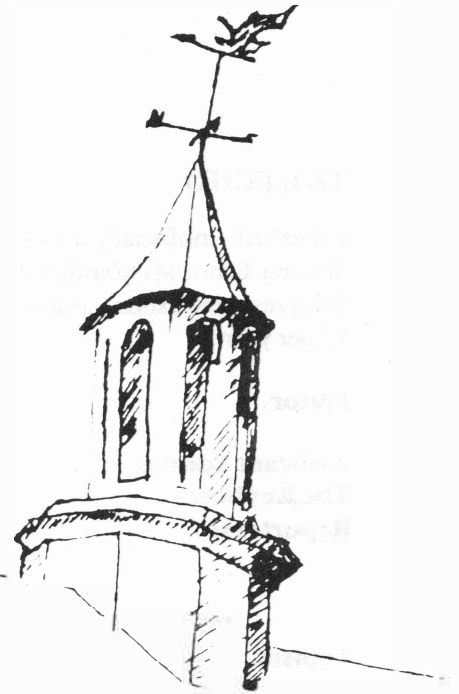


# The Echo

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



OCTOBER, 1982

### Town to Raise Money for Playground at Park

By Julie Milstien and Carlotta Anderson

After many years of off-and-on discussion about a place for town children to play, the Town Council has reached a decision, but the playground won't be on town property. At its September 13 meeting, the Council enthusiastically embraced Councilwoman Nancy Long's suggestion that money be raised under the aegis of a tax exempt organization to give playground equipment to Glen Echo Park to maintain a playground there.

The Park Service indicated the preferred location would be the site of the former playground, which was inadvertently destroyed when the swimming pool was demolished this summer.

Although the playground would be open to the general public and not exclusively for town children, the town would have the advantage of not having to maintain it or have liability responsibility, according to Councilwoman Debbie Beers.

She, Mayor Kuster, Councilwoman Long and two town residents met with Park Service officials on September 23, a meeting to which all town residents were invited.

The town would be ready to collect and raise money for a foundation under the auspices of the National Park Service with the target sum of \$5,000, Councilwoman Beers reported. The town

#### TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY

Saturday, October 30  
7:00 - 9:00  
Glen Echo Town Hall

ALL AGES INVITED  
COME IN COSTUME

Volunteers Needed

#### TRICK-OR-TREAT NIGHT

Sunday, October 31  
7:00-9:00

Leave porch light on if  
you welcome trick-or-treaters.

**THE ECHO**

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**Editor:** Carlotta Anderson  
(229-3748)  
**Assistant Editor:** Julie Barrows  
**The Keyhole:** Tillie McNoldy  
**Reporters:** Julie Milstien

**Typists:** "Mac" McNoldy  
Eleanor Balaban  
Cathie Polak  
Cathylu Bruno

**Mail Subscriptions:** Tillie McNoldy

**Distribution:** Jane Stevenson  
Brockie Stevenson  
Alberta Bartkus  
Jan Shaut  
Barbara Odell  
Susan Pettey

**Collating:** Betty and Bill Briggs

**Headlines:** Barbara Shaw  
The Writer's Center

**Illustrations:** Jackie Peed  
Edd Barrows

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**TOWN OFFICIALS**

**MAYOR:**  
Fred Kuster 229-2070

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**  
Debbie Beers 229-7308  
Nancy Long 229-0196  
Bonnie Whyte 229-3392  
Rex Borsari 229-4907

**CLERK-TREASURER**  
Paula Wolff 229-2378

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:**  
Daryl Kuster 229-2070

**ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD:**  
Louise Englehardt 229-0219  
Frank Corder 229-6747  
Julie Milstien 229-4529  
Barbara Odell 229-4494

**NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

Monday, October 11 -- 8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall  
All Residents Encouraged to Attend  
-----  
Those wishing to add items to the agenda of the meeting should contact Clerk-Treasurer Paula Wolff, 229-2378

**GLEN ECHO PROPERTY SALES**

6004 Princeton Avenue....\$195,000

-----  
7327 University Avenue. . \$154,000  
John and Eloise Deebo to Gloria Levin  
-----

Property sales in town are printed in THE ECHO after settlement date. The information is supplied by Realtor Louise Engelhardt.

## TOWN PLAYGROUND (from p. 1)

would contribute money to this fund, "probably a fairly large sum," which would be used to buy and install playground equipment.

Such a playground would not stand in the way of a possible ice skating rink, Site Manager Audrey Calhoun explained, since those interested in constructing such a rink had been told their proposal would have to work around the former playground on the site.

A town playground on Park land was not the first choice of townspeople who responded to a town survey on the subject last month. Of 46 townspeople or owners of town property not living in town who answered the survey questionnaire, 16 listed the town park at Princeton and University Avenues as their first choice. Glen Echo Park got 11 first choice votes, part of the old trolley right-of-way got seven and 12 votes were opposed to any playground.

When an ECHO reporter questioned how the Council decision fit with the responses to the playground survey, Mayor Kuster replied that if the numbers favoring the Glen Echo Park site as their first and second choices were added together, the majority approved this site. He also said that not one person living around the town park wanted the playground there and a letter opposing that location written by George Bolton, whose property adjoins the town park, was read to the Council.

Councilwoman Bonnie Whyte noted that the new plan would probably eliminate state money through the Project Open Space program as a source of funds for the playground. Under this program, the town might qualify for some \$13,000 in state funds by paying 25% of the expenses for approved projects.

Councilwoman Beers has submitted a town proposal in the form of a preliminary application to Project Open Space listing the three alternate sites originally mentioned.

The town hopes to have some equipment ready by spring, according to Councilwoman Beers. She said that although the Park

## Town Council Highlights

September 13

A revision of the Animal Control Ordinance providing for a two, rather than one, year term was unanimously approved by the Town Council. The Mayor submitted the names of Frank Corder, Julie Milstien and Barbara Odell as Board members, with Cathy Howe as alternate. They were appointed by the Council. The Board will choose its own chairman and establish its own rules of procedure.....

The Mayor indicated that a "stumbling block" to the sale of Trav's may be the fact that the owner is asking \$91,000 as a down payment.....

A request by the Glen Echo Dance Theatre for use of the Town Hall as rehearsal space for up to nine hours a week beginning September 1 was unanimously denied by the Council. Councilwoman Long pointed out that unlike the Writer's Center, the Dance Theatre had not lost any space and that the Post Office had complained in the past about noise from dance classes. The Council indicated that it would consider separately an occasional request by the Theatre for a dress rehearsal or occasional performance, if it should be submitted.....

The new storm windows for the Town Hall cost \$2055 but the final figure may be higher since the iron grates have to be adapted to be replaced on the Post Office windows.....

- - Julie Milstien and  
Carlotta Anderson

Service did intend to rebuild the playground itself, "they admitted they would not do it for several years because of lack of funds."

Glen Echo property owner Richardson Beard has volunteered to help construct any playground the town builds.

## NOTEWORTHY GLEN ECHO BUILDINGS: 20 Wellesley Circle

by Florian Lechner, as told to  
Carlotta Anderson

(THE ECHO asked Mr. Lechner to tell about the stone house he built here some 30 years ago. Mr. Lechner added the following note to his manuscript:

"Humbly I would like to dedicate this document to the beautiful basin of the Potomac River.")

When I was about 20 years old, in 1924, I left Rohrbach, Germany, near Munich, north of the Alps. I lived in Atlantic City, New Jersey, before coming to Washington, D.C. I worked here as head pastry chef at Congressional Country Club on River Road, and lived there as well.

In the early '30s I had the opportunity to purchase the lots on Wellesley Circle very inexpensively--for \$200. The location was convenient to my work. I studied architecture in my spare time, and designed the house myself by copying various parts of houses I had seen. The building of the house took four years, since I did most of the work myself. It was begun in 1932, and although I moved in before completion, it was not finished until 1936. I used to work on the house during the day and at Congressional in the evenings.

While at Congressional, I often catered parties for Mrs. Lilly Stone, who owned the Seven Locks Quarry on River Road. She told me I could have all the stones I wanted to build the house if I carried them away myself. I loaded them into a pick-up truck and had Charley Jones, a stone cutter, cut them to fit. The walls of the house are 18" thick. The wooden parts of the house came from three saw mills.

The house measures 24' x 48' and has four bedrooms, three full baths and a garage with a finished second floor and basement. Its style is inspired by Gothic architecture. It cost \$6,000 to build, including an electric stove, which was very rare at the time.

I have loved every minute I have lived in it, as well as its location in Glen Echo near the Potomac River basin.

(Mr. Lechner married his wife, Lillian, in 1936.

(continued on p.5)



Drawing by Jackie Peed

## UTILITIES TEARING UP STREETS

Utility companies are playing havoc with town streets and we will need to replace them sooner than we thought, according to Mayor Kuster.

The C&P Telephone Company has not yet done any work but has left a pothole in the street in the Wellesley Circle area in preparation for later repairs, he told the Town Council.

In order to increase water pressure and replace lines which are too small, WSSC appears to be tearing up every street in town, the Mayor said. Some streets, such as Harvard Avenue, are being torn up twice. The work has left residents without water unexpectedly as WSSC finds out by trial and error where the water connections are.

---Julie Milstien

## LECHNER HOUSE (from p. 4)

Their son, John, who was born in 1944, "hung around" with Eddie Dennis, Steve Fessenden, Fred Kuster, and Johnny Cannon, and lived here until he married in 1968.

In addition to building one of the most beautiful houses in the area, Mr. Lechner is notable for riding a motorcycle and bicycle until very recently. He retired from Heidi Bakery of Giant Foods in 1972.



Bruce Gaber, a membrane biochemist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, is a new resident at 6000 Harvard Avenue. He moved there in August with his daughter, Paula, 10, who attends the fifth grade at Bannockburn Elementary School. Another daughter, Mi-ai, occasionally stays with them.

Bruce's hobby is working with stained glass.

Welcome to Glen Echo!

## Residents Plant Trees For Town Beautification

Three large trees will grace Town Hall and town park grounds this fall entirely through the efforts of some dedicated town residents.

Members of the Arbor Day Committee, who raised \$200 for the trees through a bake sale at the June town picnic, have selected and planted the trees and will be caring for them in the future.

Arbor Day committee members Brockie and Jane Stevenson, Edd Barrows and Holly and Osamu Shimizu visited three nurseries on September 25 and selected a Zelkova (Village Green) tree for planting between the flagpole and the street in front of the Town Hall.

For the center of the town park at Princeton and University Avenues they chose a double-flowered pink spreading cherry. Also purchased were four small evergreens to go around the Town Hall sign.

Another member of the Arbor Day committee, Rollina Sadarangani, and her family, contributed a Colorado blue spruce strong enough for hanging Christmas ornaments every year to be planted near the Town Hall sign. It was given in memory of her father.

The trees were planted on September 26 by committee members. The Stevensons have offered to water and care for them in the future.

The Town Council unanimously and enthusiastically approved the planting of the trees. Mayor Kuster said there is also \$500 allocated for trees in the town budget, as well as the possibility of additional Project Open Space funds, and asked the committee to work on a master plan of town landscaping.

---Carlotta Anderson

By

# THE KEYHOLE

Tillie McNoldy

It is with sadness that THE ECHO must announce that Tillie McNoldy feels that more than eight years of peering through the Keyhole is enough and is retiring from the job with this issue. She joined the staff in August, 1974, and has reported on the doings on her fellow townspeople accurately and faithfully ever since. We regret her decision but are grateful for her long service to the community. She will continue handling the mailing of subscription copies.

To remind residents of Glen Echo Halloweens of the past, Tillie starts off her column this month with an excerpt from THE ECHO printed 30 years ago.

"Illegal parkers in Glen Echo are feeling the strong arm of the law this week, even tho the arm wears a ruffled sleeve and dainty bracelet.

Already eight 'tickets' have been passed out by the new party in power. Last Saturday the group won an election by a virtual landslide in this community of 496 persons. Under the firm rule of Mayor Ann Olive, age 15, boys and girls have knuckled down to the task of keeping order in town. While the 'tickets' distributed haven't meant a fine for recipients, they have carried authority.

A person receiving three of the 'tickets' from the junior officers may be snitched on by the youngsters, who indicated they are rarin' to go and tell the real police of any three time losers they run across."

One half hour after the election, a 'ticket' for illegal parking was tacked on the car of fireman Bob Worsham."

If the above article causes you to wonder where you were while this was taking place, it's because the majority of our current residents were not living here.

Held in the auditorium of the Glen Echo Firehouse (now the site of the Baptist Church), the secret balloting was under the supervision of the regular community officials and open to all youngsters living in town. As the results were read, the winners were presented with arm bands designating the offices which they would hold for one week.

Following the week of holding office, they, together with all the other children, celebrated by going to the Town Halloween Party. The party has become an annual event and one which the children eagerly look forward to attending.

\* \* \* \* \*

Janice and Jimmy Miller, formerly of 6101 Bryn Mawr Avenue, were seen around town at several places. They now call Cherokee Village, Arkansas, home but they will always have a warm spot in their hearts for Glen Echo, since they lived here so many years.

While they came to Glen Echo, Carol Reptsik, of 7309 University Avenue, traveled to Allentown, Penna., and Richard Carroll, of 6105 Yale Avenue went to San Francisco, California.

Last minute "flings" before settling down for a long winter.

\* \* \* \* \*

Begun in 1939 by former Mayor Beulah McCuen as an experiment in child psychology, the election was held yearly just before Halloween. It was discontinued during the war for a few years but later was reinstated. This is the 30th anniversary of the election in which Betty Espinosa of 13 Vassar Circle served as advisor to the young town officials. She was also in charge of the spoils.

There were 100 children in town in 1952 so it was quite a race to fill the offices of Mayor, Police Chief, Deputies, Clerk-Treasurer and Councilmen.

## MORE VIEWS THRU THE KEYHOLE

(from preceding page)

The Espinosa home at 13 Vassar Circle was the scene of a farewell dinner for Eloise and John Deebo who recently moved from 7327 University Avenue to Lake of the Woods, Virginia. Not only was the food prepared by Betty delicious, and the drinks by Manny refreshing, but the gathering and reminiscing of "old" friends and neighbors made it a very pleasant evening and one which was enjoyed by everyone.

\* \* \* \* \*

It's good to see two of our neighbors home and feeling much better after being hospitalized for a few days. Carolyn Reptsik, of 7309 University Avenue, and Ronnie Vine, of 6010 Princeton Avenue, both selected Sibley Memorial Hospital in which to obtain medical and surgical services.

\* \* \* \* \*

A legal career is in the future for Paula Wolff of Yale Avenue. She is now studying law at the American University Washington College of Law and thinking of eventually specializing in the defense of doctors in malpractice suits or in international law.

Since she can only attend classes evenings and summers, Paula calculates the course will take her a total of three years. Despite also having a household and young daughter to care for, Paula intends to continue her services to the town as Clerk-Treasurer.

\* \* \* \* \*

HAPPY GHOST AND GOBLIN MONTH BIRTHDAY  
WISHES TO:

Neal Shaut-----October 15  
Nancy Long-----October 17  
Mac McNoldy-----October 30  
Marty Martinez-----October 30

\* \* \* \* \*

## BUS ROUTES TO BE CHANGED

County Executive Charles Gilchrist has informed town officials that in 1984, when the Metro Red Line extension opens, Metrobus routes N4 and N5 will no longer go directly downtown. Instead they will go from Westmoreland Circle to link up with the Metrorail system.

Public hearings were to be held in late September. Mayor Kuster told the Town Council he intended to write a letter expressing Glen Echo's opposition to a change in the N4/N5 route.

---Julie Milstien

## Classified Ads

PIANO THEORY, music appreciation, solfeggio lessons in your home. All levels. Possibility to take part in public recitals. Warsaw Conservatory graduate. Best credentials. Call Kasia Szymanski mornings, 979-3432.

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Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents and may be left in THE ECHO box at the Post Office or given to Ann Simpich, 23 Wellesley Circle. Please do not phone them to the Editor. Fee to non-residents: 50¢ per line of 36 spaces or fewer. Make checks payable to "The Town of Glen Echo" and mail to Ann Simpich, 23 Wellesley Circle, Glen Echo, Md. 20812.

AD DEADLINE: 24TH OF EACH MONTH

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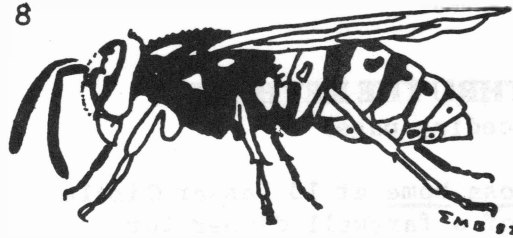
## Good Dog News

Owners of all town dogs have now obtained Glen Echo town licenses for their pets, according to Animal Control Officer Daryl Kuster.

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# BUG NEWS

8



from Edd Barrows

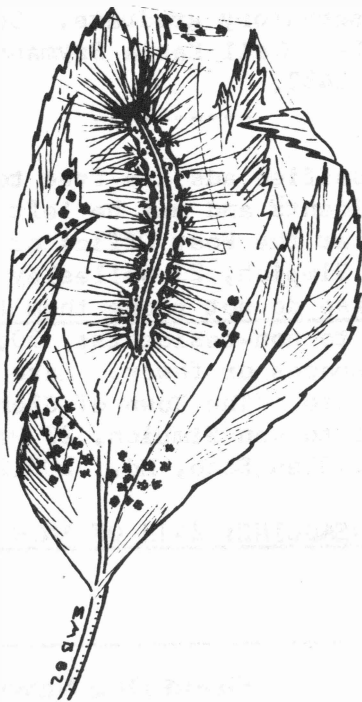
Mr. Harry Odell (7317 Columbia Avenue) recently asked me to check tents of caterpillars on hickory and black walnut trees on and near his property. The tents were made by fall webworms (a species of moth), not the infamous gypsy moths, as Mr. Odell had feared, which do not make tents.

Fall webworm moths have caterpillars in late May and June and again in August and September. They do not kill trees, but some people consider them unsightly, to say the least. Their webs are made over ends of leafy branches of more than 120 kinds of fruit, shade and woodland trees. Obviously, they are not especially finicky feeders.

The webs resemble those of the eastern tent caterpillar, which makes its nests at tree crotches, however, not over ends of branches.

If necessary, fall webworms can be controlled by removing and disposing of infested branches. This can be difficult if branches are high. As a last resort, chemical sprays (Sevin or diazinon) can be used.

The best strategy, in my opinion, is to coexist with these caterpillars, if possible. Why pollute the environment with noxious chemicals and kill any of earth's creatures needlessly?



Mature fall webworm caterpillar on small nest enclosing part of a black walnut leaf. The caterpillar is green with black spots and white hairs. (Black dots in nest are droppings.)

Edd Barrows lives at 21 Wellesley Circle and is a professor of biology at Georgetown University.

## News From Glen Echo Park

Restoration of the carousel concerned a large group of people, including Mayor Kuster, Councilwoman Long, and resident Frank Corder, at a meeting on August 17. There is \$6,000 available for the first step, which will be largely a fact-finding mission.

Repairs to the roof of the Spanish Ballroom have been held up because the contractors, who are to be paid at intervals, are unable to buy new materials, since their check was lost somewhere in the bureaucracy. The facade will also probably not be finished by the projected November 1 completion date.

The annual art show opened at the Park on Labor Day weekend, with food donations from town residents, including a cheese tray from La Haute Cuisine and contributions from Mayor Kuster and Councilwoman Long.

The Park Service has initially given "a favorable response" to the proposal of Henry Barrows and Jeff Kirk to restore the "yellow barn" building, according to Site Manager Audrey Calhoun.

**Adventure Theatre** presents

THE INVISIBLE PEOPLE  
October 23 - November 21  
Sat. & Sun. -- 1:30 and 3:30  
\$3  
Reservations: 320-5331

## At the CLARA BARTON SITE

Sunday, October 24

Quilt Show, 10:30 a.m. -  
4:00 p.m.

Visitors are encouraged to ask advice or learn techniques.

## Writer's Center Leaves Park Except for Four Workshops

The Writer's Center, a mecca for writers unique in the U.S., moved the bulk of its facility to Brookmont School at the end of September.

A proposal by the Center to retain one small room in return for holding four workshops per term was accepted by the Park Service. All other classes will now take place at Brookmont, as well as the printing of books and booklets.

Eventually, the Center hopes to construct its own building at the Park and has made such a proposal. The Park Service has indicated, however, that it cannot act on such a proposal at this time because the future of the Park is uncertain, according to Jane Fox, Executive Director of the Writer's Center.

