

The Echo

The Town of
GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND
Chartered, 1904



SEPTEMBER 1983

Police Question Legality of Town's "No Parking" Sign Colors

By Julie Milstien and Carlotta Anderson

The Montgomery County police question the legality of the "No Parking" signs posted in Glen Echo, so they are reluctant to ticket parking violators in the area of Trav's, County Police Officer Alfred Poole and Sgt. Thomas Lantzy told the Town Council on August 8.

The police have not ticketed any illegally parked cars on Tulane Avenue since "No Parking" signs were erected on the east side of the street in July, according to Mayor Fred Kuster.

Mayor Kuster had requested the presence of the officers at the town meeting because during the week of July 13 three separate acts of vandalism to town property had occurred involving the signs.

Office Poole asked if the Mayor had been in contact with the Office of the Traffic Engineer of Montgomery County. He acknowledged that the town has its own charter and the right to post its own signs, but said he was not certain of the legality of the signs because they were not in the usual red and white colors of No Parking signs.

He said that the police want to be sure when a traffic citation comes to court, they are in the right in enforcing it as police officers.

— Continued on Page 3



TOWN ART SHOW

Sunday, September 25
Glen Echo Town Hall

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Open Bar — Free Snacks

An Exhibit by Glen Echo Resident
Artists

Residents wishing to exhibit their
work should contact Mayor Kuster,
229-2070 as soon as possible.

The Echo

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Carlotta,

After being on the road for two weeks I came here to the mountains and fell in love with the Park (Glacier National Park). I have a good job with room and board in the Glacier Park Lodge until the season closes mid-Sept. Then I'll move on, perhaps Bozeman or Kalispell. The people who work and hike here are wonderful too.

Best to all in Glen Echo.

Cathy Bruno

(Ed: Cathylu Bruno moved to Montana a couple months ago from 6006 Bryn Mawr Avenue. A Whitman High School graduate, she lived in Glen Echo several years and was a frequent typist for THE ECHO.)

GLEN ECHO PROPERTY SALES

6109 Harvard Avenue \$89,000
By Harvard Limited Partnership
to Mary K. Flaherty

COUNTY CONSIDERING RETAINING N5 BUS IN RUSH HOURS

The proposal to replace the N4/N5 bus line with Ride-On service to connect with Metro has met strong opposition, and the County is now considering retaining the N5 service into D. C. during morning and evening rush hours.

The fare would be higher, however, according to Edward A. Daniel, Chief of the County Division of Transit Services.

The original proposal was developed "to avoid the cost of providing service duplicative to the rail system," Mr. Daniel wrote to resident Julie Milstien, who had objected to the plan. "However, Massachusetts Avenue is somewhat removed from the rail corridor, and many existing riders would have longer travel times with a bus/rail transfer."

He added that if N5 were retained, the fare would "at least cover all operating costs and at least be equal to the equivalent bus/rail fare between Friendship Heights and Metro Center."

He emphasized that no final decision on the matter had been made.

The town also sent a letter protesting abandonment of the existing bus service and claiming that a Ride-On to Bethesda would not adequately replace the current service.



NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday - September 12 - 8:00 p.m.
Glen Echo Town Hall

All Residents Encouraged to Attend

Contact the Clerk-Treasurer if you wish to add an item to the agenda

STREET MASTER PLAN PROPOSED

The Town Council, at its August 8 meeting, considered a bid of \$4340 from Nova Associates to work out a master plan for street maintenance and repair.

The plan would include developing a street/topographical map and taking pictures of all trouble areas.

The Council authorized the Mayor to negotiate with Nova to perform the work at a fee lower than their bid, not to exceed \$3800.

NO PARKING (from page 1)

He offered to contact the County Attorney or the Traffic Engineer's Office to determine the legality of the signs. Otherwise, he said, they cannot be enforced.

After the meeting, Mayor Kuster consulted with Town Attorney Tom Craven, who indicated that the County has no jurisdiction to tell the town what kind of signs it can have.

"Our speed limit and stop signs are a matter of County and State requirements," the Mayor said. "Street signs don't come under that caveat. By state charter we are allowed to make the laws for No Parking signs.

"The Council will have to deal with the problem of the County police refusing to enforce the laws. My own personal choice would be some sort of meaningful infraction process."

Town resident Frank Corder noted at the Council meeting that on an occasion when he had sought police assistance for parking violations by Trav's customers, an officer explained to him that one of the reasons the police are reluctant to ticket cars there was confusion about property lines; the Town's, the Park's, and private property in the area.

Sgt. Lantzy suggested that the Town Council adopt a traffic order which would be put on file with a copy in the district station, and to give the police a copy of the Town boundary limits to aid in enforcement.

Officer Poole suggested, in addition, the painting of an edge line on Tulane so drivers would know where the street began.

RESIDENT'S LETTER IN THE POST COUNTERS SCATTER PLAN OPPOSITION

Under the heading "Scrap the Scatter Plan", the Washington Post printed a letter on July 24 which termed the proposed National Airport Scatter Plan "arbitrary, unnatural, and dangerous."

The writer, Robert C. Toth, of Chevy Chase, went on to say that "homeowners living under the present routes bought in those locations knowing about the noise and enjoying an appropriately lower purchase price. The Scatter Plan promises them a windfall profit at the expense of the rest of us."

Incensed at what he considered an unfair accusation, Glen Echo resident Jim Anderson wrote a rejoinder, which The Post printed August 1. The text follows:

"For those who think that we in the Cabin John-Glen Echo area are unduly sensitive about the noise of approximately 260 airline flights passing over our houses every day, it might be instructive to list some of the intrusions that are not included in that simple number.

"The flights land and take off at one-minute intervals, at both ends of the day. The din is continuous in the early morning and evening hours. Most evenings it is not possible to sit outdoors and have a conversation.

"The White House and other helicopter flights and the executive business jets also follow the Potomac corridor and they rival the jets in their noise level. On the days when the President and his support staff fly over our house to Camp David, it sounds like the opening scenes in 'Apocalypse Now.'

"To those like Mr. Toth who argue that we in this area, in effect, bought a house next to the railroad track with our eyes open

BETHESDA CO-OP COMMUNITY MEETING

The Bethesda Avenue Food Co-op, which will be moving to Cabin John, will hold a community meeting September 15 for the propose of describing the aims of the food store and getting feedback from the surrounding communities.

The meeting will take place at 8 p.m. at the home of Mark Diehl, 6520 75th St., Cabin John. The co-op is especially interested in hearing what items local citizens would like it to carry and what events might be of interest to them. While it was located on Bethesda Avenue, the co-op provided a series of music programs, films, and other events.



and now must live listening to the sound of trains in our cut-rate houses, I would point out that Glen Echo and Cabin John (as well as the Palisades) are old, well-established communities that predate commercial aviation (and Chevy Chase). If some of the older residents along the Potomac have sold out at reduced prices, it is partly a result of the relentless noise of the airplanes.

"The scatter plan is not the final answer, but it is worth trying, if only to adjust an inequitable burden. I think the real answer may involve a greater use of Dulles or BWI, but the Scatter Plan is a beginning."

NOTEWORTHY GLEN ECHO BUILDINGS: 30 Wellesley Circle

By Bud Plunkett

While we were resurrecting the wreck known as "Pop More's House," many of the countless interested passers-by would look at us like we were a little crazy and ask, "Why would anyone get into a mess like this?"

That's a good question, and I guess I might as well address it first off.

We had been introduced to Old Town Glen Echo by Mr. Rick Beard,* who was trying to sell us the house at 6101 Yale Avenue. After looking at the "Hippy House" on Yale Avenue at least six times, we finally came to terms with Rick (and the house, with all of its problems) and decided to rehabilitate it.

During this process, I remember meeting the Editor of THE ECHO one day while working on the house. I was installing wood parquet tiles on a floor that sloped, to say the least. They somehow didn't fit just right, and Carlotta said, "That's part of the Glen Echo charm." That was the theme that kept us going to substantially restore that house. Thinking we were moving to New England, we sold it to our dear friends and neighbors, Brockie and Jane Stevenson, who had been living at 6105 Harvard and had fallen in love with the house during our rehabilitation.

Of course, as a part of somebody's law, after agreeing to part with our home on Yale Avenue, we found that we were to stay in Washington after all. We bought another house from Mr. Beard off Massachusetts Avenue near the fire station. After much work to return the house to first class shape, we found that we didn't like the neighborhood at all. Not only us, but our cats didn't like it either.

About that time we got a call from our "friendly" real estate agent, who told us there was a "charming little house that needed our kind of touch on the market in Glen Echo." Love is blind, and so are amateurs who love old houses. The house was, of course, 30 Wellesley Circle (otherwise known as the "Born to Lose" or "River Rat" house from the name on the van belonging to the former residents.)

When we first looked at it, there was an old bathtub outside the front door. This should
(continued on next page)

*(Ed: Mr. Beard currently resides at 48 Wellesley Circle.)



30 Wellesley Circle in the throes of rehabilitation.

30 WELLESLEY CIRCLE (from preceding page)

have told us something, but we had already begun to get hooked. A previous owner had attempted to restore the house, and, realizing the error of his ways, had called on his real estate agent to find a new fool with hope and cash.

After an hour's deep thought, we called our favorite full service bank, and they gave us a commitment of a 16% construction loan over the telephone. We went charging forward with our purchase with no contingencies. Little did we know what was ahead; the loan commitment promptly fell through, as did many others.

In the past, remodeling old houses had proven to be a therapeutic hobby for both of us. This little caper turned out to be almost a nightmare. If at times we seemed a little less than hospitable to the many interested by-standers, it was usually because some new crisis had just arisen for which there was no apparent solution.

Our "full service" bank did one good thing for us (we finally got a loan six months later from an out-of-state bank at 22% interest). It insisted that we hire an architect. This was undoubtedly the best move that we made in the whole episode. Dunn and Partners in Washington did our plan, and the architect was a patient guy through the whole mess. We had to cut some corners with his plan for fiscal reasons, but he really did a great job for us (God bless you, Jack Brady).

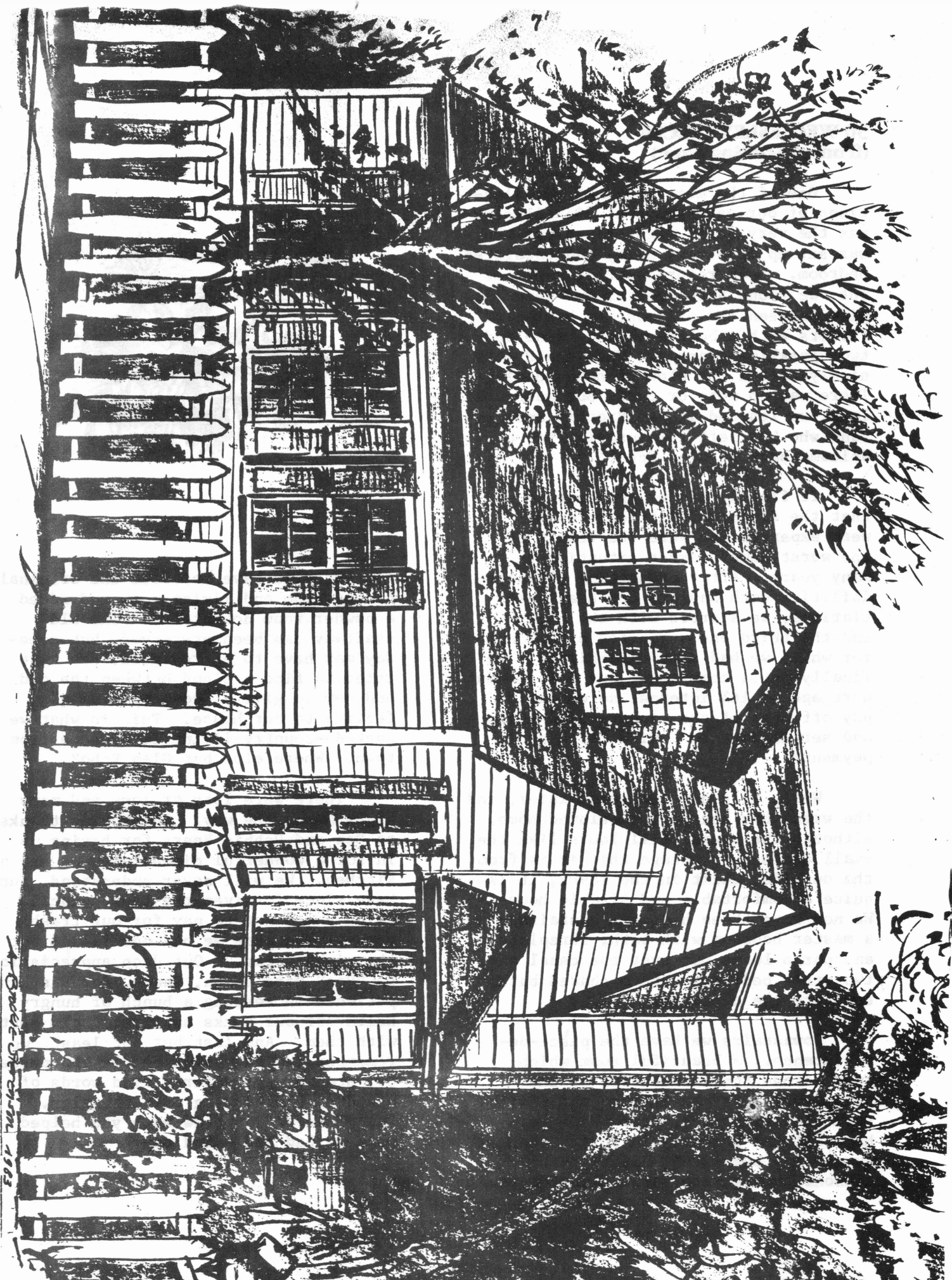
Meanwhile, the whole real estate market was going to HADES in a handbag, and we couldn't get a nibble on the sale of our Massachusetts Avenue house. We finally wound up renting it to American University students and renting the master bedroom back from them until the new house was livable. Well, folks, if you haven't lived in a college dorm lately, you have got some new experiences coming. We lasted about 30 days. Every night we started picking up some fast food and bringing it over to the Wellesley Circle construction site to review the day's progress and have a quiet dinner on a pile of lumber. Finally, after awakening to a football game at 3:00 a.m., we decided that it had to be better in Glen Echo, so we packed up and moved into the house. At the time it had one old bedroom with a roughed-in bath, no walls on the bathroom, no windows or doors on the house, no heat, one electric circuit, no kitchen...and no front steps.

One day, one of the members of the town government came by unannounced for a "tour" -- apparently to determine if we were living under conditions which might not constitute a "healthy environment" in Montgomery County. The politician asked incredulously, "You're not really living here, are you?" During the tour, the Pol was attempting to navigate the rickety stairs and scaffolding and almost got stuck half way up...Baby and all.

Then there were the raccoons who took up residence in the rafters. Before we finally discovered you could drive them out with mothballs, they had a regular routine of coming down into the kitchen each night to feed on whatever was available. They are very brazen little critters when they are on a food hunt.

(continued on next page)

On page facing -- 30 Wellesley Circle rehabilitated, by A. Brockie Stevenson



4 Small Orchard 1903

30 WELLESLEY CIRCLE (from preceding page)

One of the most poignant recollections of our early days at 30 Wellesley was the very first night after our bed was set up in a very dirty and unpainted bedroom. Upon returning from a dinner out, we found a thoughtful and beautiful gift between the pillows: a basket of flowers with a bottle of nice wine and two sparkling glasses. What could more nicely soften the blow of homesteading? There was no note or card, but much later we learned it was Brockie and Jane who had left the surprise for us. Welcome back to Glen Echo!!

It finally became apparent to us that the financial difficulties we were experiencing were the result of the worst money market situation in many years. After exhausting all possibilities with Savings and Loan Associations, we started with the banks and the third one suggested a VA loan, for which we had some eligibility. We finally got a commitment for a permanent mortgage at 16% interest so we could pay off most of the construction bills and settle down to nice fat monthly payments.

Well, it's now two years later, and the wreck has become our beloved home. Although the house still looks like the small Chataqua cottage that it is from the outside, built in the 1890s, it is quite a comfortable and sizable house. We now have three bedrooms upstairs: a master bedroom with bath, fireplace and porch looks out over the canal and two other bedrooms with a shared bath complete the upstairs.

Downstairs we have the pièce-de-résistance...a beautiful room which runs across the entire rear of the house, which is the kitchen and family room with fireplace, from which we have all the greenery in spring and summer and beautiful sunsets in other seasons through the large glass doors.



We also have restored the original dining room and living room and added a powder room downstairs. The old stairway has been preserved, but someday may have to be replaced. We have tried to find a blend between the old and new to give a "country living" feeling to our house. This is what we wanted--country living 20 minutes from town. Where else but Glen Echo?

There were lots of lows and many highs along the way. Our loving thanks to Don and Debbie Beers for having us in for a wonderful dinner when we had no kitchen. We will never understand, but have since forgiven, the town council which voted not to pay for our trash removal "because we had not filled out the right forms." Our deep appreciation to "Pop" More's son, Danny, for his kind patience in keeping a bunch of hungry heirs off our backs until we could settle with them. And last but not least, we remember the many nice people who passed by, stopped and offered kind words of encouragement during our struggles. You'll never know how much you helped when we had had a bad day.

Town Council Highlights

August 8

Councilman Bill Shultz requested a sense of the Council with respect to acquiring the Chalk right-of-way formerly used for the trolley line. He moved for the record that the Council take a position with respect to activity seeking ownership of the right-of-way contiguous to Glen Echo. Councilmember Long seconded it, and the motion passed 4-0.

Councilman Shultz suggested that The Echo write a history of proceedings relating to the right-of-way and that ideas for its use should be developed...

At a recent event held at the Town Hall in June, the users found the grass uncut and the airconditioning incapable of maintaining a comfortable temperature, reported Councilwoman Long. Clerk-Treasurer Lois Carroll reported that their money had been refunded for use of the Hall.

Councilman Shultz suggested coordinating lawn care with scheduled events in Town Hall.

Councilwoman Beers stated that the installation of an attic ventilating fan, which should alleviate the heat problem, is postponed until spring because the installer broke his hand...

Town resident Bud Plunkett had expressed concern to Councilman Shultz about the safety of people using the foot of Cornell Avenue by his house for access to the Canal. Mayor Kuster will contact the National Park Service about replacing the fence. There was discussion about the possibility of abandoning that portion of Cornell Avenue to the adjacent property owners so that they could maintain it...

There was a Maryland Municipal League meeting in July attended by Mayor Kuster and Councilwoman Long.

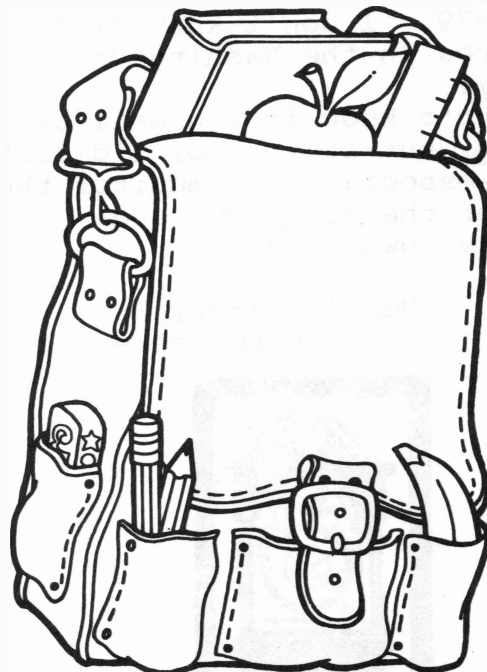
The CATV ordinance amendment which the Council declined to consider was vetoed by the County Executive. Thus the CATV Ordinance which Glen Echo has adopted is the one which will now be sent to the County Executive...

Mayor Kuster announced that the Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department voted unanimously on July 26 to buy and give to the Town a Platform Seesaw Model PW 320. Councilwoman Long reported that La Haute Cuisine has contributed \$100 to the Play-ground fund...

Councilman Shultz asked the Council to consider distributing the agenda with The Echo to all residents before the Council meeting, which the Council agreed to...

There were 3 Town residents at the August 8 Town Council meeting, along with the Mayor, Clerk-Treasurer Town Attorney, and all four members of the Town Council.

----- Julie Milstien



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the ECHO:

A catch-up of news at 7326 University Avenue:

In late May, I received my Doctorate in Public Administration from George Washington University. During this period (3 years), I have been doing many things including work with the International Year of Disabled Persons, With Horizon Health Group - a psychiatric hospital company and a psychotherapy practice in Wheaton.

I have just accepted a new position in Nashville- as a Vice President for a new company developing residential treatment centers and other cost-effective methods of psychiatric and long-term care. I move on 26 August.

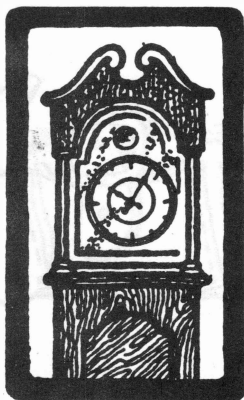
Meanwhile, my ex-wife, Mary Burton, is a psychologist with the British public health service 1½ hours north of London, England.

Elizabeth and Tony Huff will be the new residents at 7326--both very fine additions to Glen Echo.

Although business has kept me away a lot, Glen Echo has been a lovely and great place to live since 1979. I don't know of a nicer area in the Washington vicinity.

I don't know if you mail out The Echo, but if you do, I'd like copies--especially to monitor the fight for the pileated woodpecker as town bird.

Best regards,
Rick Beinecke

**Classified Ads**

PIANO TEACHER, 30 yrs. exp., degrees in pedagogy and performance. Exp. in learning disabilities. Call 229-3274 for audition or interview.

WANTED- Occasional baby sitter for nearby church nursery on Sunday mornings, 10:45 a.m.-12 noon, pays \$12 per Sunday. Must be over 15 and have own transportation. Call 229-3383 and ask for Susan.

PIANO TEACHER, Ann Mitrisin. 15 years exp. teaching adults, children, group classes. Music Degree, performing exp. Call 229-7882 for information.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents and may be left in The Echo box at the Post Office or given to Carolyn Reptsik, 7309 University Avenue. Please do not phone them to the Editor.

Fee to non-residents: 50¢ per line of 30 spaces or fewer. Make checks payable to "The Town of Glen Echo" and mail them to Carolyn Reptsik, 7309 University Avenue, Glen Echo, MD 20812.

AD DEADLINE: 24th of each month

Antiques Show and Sale

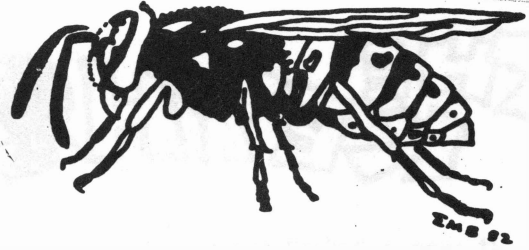
The Concord-Saint Andrew's United Methodist Church will hold its tenth Antiques Show and Sale on September 21, 22, and 23.

The Church is located at the corner of River and Goldsboro Roads. Hours for the show are 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday. Luncheon will be available each day, with tea-time from 3 p.m.

Approximately 28 dealers will be displaying high quality antiques at the show.

BUG NEWS

from Edd Barrows



I was happy to receive the responses regarding Town Organisms (Edd had proposed that the townspeople choose a town bird, tree, flower and insect). Raya's distinctive drawing in last month's ECHO is delightful. I agree that the spectacular, prehistoric-looking pileated woodpecker is a good candidate for the Town Bird. Its "kuk--kuk--kukkuk--kuk-kuk, etc." (Peterson, 1947, "A Field Guide to the Birds") reminds me of jungle movies that use the Australian kookaburra (or laughing jackass bird) in soundtracks of events that are supposed to be happening in Africa.

I am not in favor of using any non-native organism for Town honors if we can help it, however. The hollyhock, which Raya proposed, is an interesting plant with its weevils and bumble bee pollinators, but it is a native of Eurasia.

Hopefully we shall be able to vote on our Town Organisms at least before Christmas, lest some other town beat us to the punch!



Tony Huff and Elizabeth McAleer Huff, who were married July 20 in Taos, N.M., moved last month to 7326 University Avenue.

Tony is a psychiatric social worker with Family and Child Services, a private agency in D.C. He trains graduate students from Howard, Catholic and Maryland Universities and does group psychotherapy for adolescent boys, young adults and battered women.

Elizabeth is assistant to the director of doctoral programs in the George Washington University graduate School of Government, which is where she met the Huffs' predecessor at the University Avenue address, Rick Beinecke. Rick, incidentally, has moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he has a new position as Assistant

Vice-President for Development for Health Industries of America. (See Letters to the Editor).

After their wedding, the couple spent a month camping and mountain climbing, including an assault on Mt. Elbert in Colorado, which soars to 14,433 feet. Tony said it was great to make it to the top, but he was still limping 10 days later.

Elizabeth's other interests include bicycling, swimming and other water sports, while Tony, who is an aircraft mechanic by training, also tinkers with cars and jogs.

They have both visited Glen Echo many times in the past couple years, and are delighted to come "to a neighborhood and people you enjoy." We wish them a hearty welcome!

THE KEYHOLE

Mostly By

Tillie McNoldy

It was a "plus" for the town when Bertha Smith, of 7308 University Avenue, decided to move from Florida to Glen Echo. Thanks to her efforts, the place once more looks like the well kept property it was when Mr. "Mac" and his sister Charlotte lived there many years ago. Remodeling, paint and landscaping does wonders for a former "eyesore."

* * *

Seen around town once again were former neighbors, and neighbors who have recently returned from "far away places."

Gary Smith who lived on Princeton Avenue as a child returned for some reminiscing with the McNoldys.

Maryse Rhein and daughter Stephanie of Princeton Avenue returned after several weeks in France and Switzerland. Wonder if returning to work on Monday will be a challenge after vacationing on the Riviera!

Daryl Kuster of University Avenue and Kate Flaharty of Harvard Avenue did their traveling in the far northwest. They started in Seattle, but ended up in Vancouver. They should have interesting tales to tell.

* * *

Believe congratulations are in order for our former neighbor Richey D. Adams who now resides in Silver Spring and who recently was elected to the Board of Directors at the Montgomery County Red Cross.

Also to the McNoldys of Princeton Avenue upon the arrival of grandchild No. 2. Christina Hope was born to Sharon (McNoldy) Kleinfelter and husband Jim on August 24. Best wishes to the happy family who reside in Arcadia, Indiana.

Welcome back temporarily to Irene and Ed Cannon who were visiting in Glen Echo from mid-July to after Labor Day. They left their Sun City West, Arizona, home because of the summer heat, but determined that Arizona was not so bad with its dry heat as the Washington area this summer, with its humidity.

On their way here, the Cannons spent two weeks traveling across Canada, and spent the Fourth of July in Custer, S. D., where they tried buffaloburgers and found them "delicious."

* * *

Ray Cannon of 45 Wellesley Circle, son of the above-mentioned Cannons, recently returned from Fucino, Italy, where he was visiting an earth satellite station on a trouble shooting assignment for Intelsat of D. C., where he works as a computer specialist.

* * *

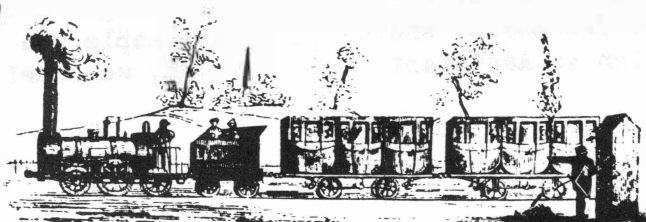
Please leave items for "The Keyhole" in THE ECHO box at the Post Office.

PARKWAY CLOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION

A section of the George Washington Parkway near Glen Echo is being closed daily for construction during non-rush hours.

The D. C. bound lane just east of the Glen Echo exit is being closed for one mile from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. During that time, workers with flags will direct two-way traffic alternating in the west-bound lane.

The construction will last until October. An underground cable is being laid to upgrade electrical service.



At GLEN ECHO PARK

CHAUTAUQUA SUMMER CONCERTS

September 18

Flexus Mime, 2:00, free

September 25

"Come Out Swinging" - 2-3:30, free

DANCES

Tuesdays -- Open Clog

Fridays -- Squares & Contras, live music

Saturdays -- Folk, live music

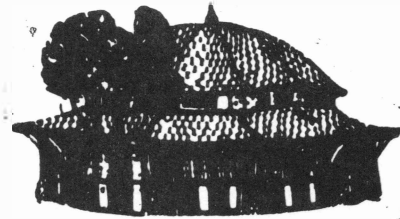
Sundays -- Ballroom & Swing, 17-piece
dance band (last dance Sept. 25)

Dances begin at 8:30 (8:00 Sundays)

Admission: \$3

FALL CLASSES BEGIN

The fall term begins in September.
Call 492-6282 for a brochure.



Adventure Theatre

THE RANSOM OF RED CHIEF
until September 25

THE UNWICKED WITCH
October 8-Nov. 6

Saturdays & Sundays, 1:30 & 3:30
\$3 -- Call 320-5331 for tickets.

At the CLARA BARTON SITE

Sunday, September 11, 2-4 p.m.

CLARA BARTON IN CUBA

During the Spanish-American War Clara Barton and the American Red Cross provided aid for Cuban civilians and American servicemen. This program portrays the activities of the Red Cross and the U.S. forces in Cuba during that war.

INFRACTIONS ORDINANCE STUDIED

A model Municipal Infractions Ordinance drafted by Town Attorney Tom Craven was presented to the Town Council at its August 8 meeting.

The Ordinance is intended for incorporation into the Animal Control Ordinance and the Vehicle Control Ordinance to replace the now existing penalty clause.

The drafted Ordinance states that a violation of any provision of the Article shall be punishable as a municipal infraction and that a citation shall be issued and delivered by the Town Council.

After discussion by Councilwoman Deborah Beers, who wished to include the amount of the fine in the ordinance, as well as provision for a warning before a fine was imposed, Councilman Shultz moved and Councilwoman Long seconded a motion that the model ordinance on municipal infractions be forwarded to the Ordinance Review Committee for purposes of recommending a course of action to the Council.

The motion passed 3-0, with Councilman Odell abstaining.

---Julie Milstien