

The Echo

The Town of
GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND
Chartered, 1904



AUGUST 1985

Street, Sidewalk Repairs Should Be Finished Mid-August

Pouring of the concrete for the sidewalk extension on Wellesley Circle and curbs elsewhere in town met an unexpected snag and completion of street and sidewalk repairs is now projected for mid-August.

The delay involved a credit problem, according to Councilman Bill Shultz. Concrete is normally purchased on a credit basis, he was told, and the Virginia-based contractor only had a credit rating in Virginia and had to obtain one in Maryland in order to do work in this state.

Street repairs were also delayed by the problem, since the engineers didn't want the heavy concrete trucks to pass over new patches of street repairs.

New speed limit and stop signs for the town have not arrived despite notification

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 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 (tentative agenda attached)

several months ago that the County would manufacture them, according to Councilman Shultz. Since the County doesn't stock the 20 mile per hour speed limit signs the town requested, it had to first approve and then agree to fabricate them. About a dozen have been ordered.

The new stop signs are for the location at Oxford Road and University Avenue, where the Council decided to set up a three-way stop intersection to reduce speeding along Oxford Road.

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The Echo

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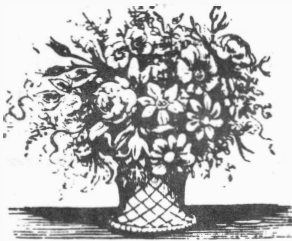
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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE—August 23



Letters to the Editor are welcomed, as well as articles for publication. Volunteer reporters are always needed. Call the Editor, 229-3748.

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TOWN OFFICIALS

(Town Office: 320-4041)

MAYOR:

Fred Kuster 229-2070

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Debbie Beers 229-7308
Nancy Long 229-0196
Harry Odell 229-4494
Bill Shultz 229-1269

CLERK-TREASURER:

Lois Carroll 229-3780

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:

Daryl Kuster 229-2070

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD:

Edd Barrows 229-3193
Nancy Helmig 229-0893
Julie Milstien 229-9274
Jane Eldredge (alternate) 229-4110

STREET SIGNS (from page 1)

The town plans to replace other street signs which are missing with plastic instead of more expensive metal versions. The Mayor is looking for a sign-maker to make a stencil so that even if the signs are stolen, they can be easily replaced.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

"A first rate worker" is how Mayor Fred Kuster described Steven Cleaver, who has been doing general maintenance of town streets, sidewalks and parks this summer.

A high school student from Springfield, Virginia, Steven works every day from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at a rate of \$5 per hour.

He started the last week in June and will be working in town until August 21.

Town Council Highlights

July 8 Meeting

Obstructions to town sidewalks by overhanging trees and shrubs were discussed by the Council. Councilwoman Debbie Beers noted that such obstructions can be pruned at town expense and the cost simply added to the offender's tax bill.

This opened the discussion to the possibility of forbidding townspeople from cutting down trees on their own property if the trees are considered scenic assets to the town. "I'm very much in favor of taking some step to protect the tree stock we have now," said Councilwoman Long. Councilwoman Beers countered that "people have some right to cut down their own trees."

Councilwoman Long suggested that a scenic easement might be a way to save trees over a certain diameter which were deemed important to town aesthetics. But one visitor to the meeting, who had previously lived in a town where such an easement was written into the covenant he signed prior to buying his house, suggested that it would be difficult to get all Glen Echo residents to agree to such a covenant after the fact.....

There was a renewed complaint about unjustifiably high bills for purchases from the Glen Echo Hardware Store (see the Echo, June 1985, p. 1). Council members wanted to know why it had cost \$500 for paint (at \$15/gallon) for painting the interior of the post office. Mayor Kuster responded that an itemized bill was available for inspection if anyone wished to see it....

The town still has not submitted the final application to the State of Maryland for funds to cover the cost of the playground located in Glen Echo Park, according to Councilwoman Debbie Beers. The reason for the delay is that the Park Service had not submitted its bill until now. In reply to a report on other promised playground funds, Mayor Kuster stated that the Glen Echo Fire Department contribution should be received soon....

A new refrigerator has been bought for the Town Hall for \$607...

Resident Bertha Smith requested that the Council consider what recourse the town has towards residents who neglect the appearance of the exterior of their houses. The Mayor pointed out that the town is not a historic district, and although the County can be called for health or building code violations, it was outside the town's jurisdiction to make residents maintain the outside of their homes.....

---Julie Milstien and Rex Rhein

Champagne Flows to Celebrate Birth of a Flower

By Julie Milstien

The Town of Glen Echo was the scene of another first on July 5 when Raya Bodnarchuk's night-blooming cereus blossomed for the first time in nine years.

The night-blooming cereus, or *Epiphyllum oxypetalum* (latifrons), is a member of the cactus family and native to Mexico, Central and South America. Its white waxy flowers last only from mid-evening until mid-morning of the following day. They grow out of the leaf to a size of up to 14 inches and have a fragile fragrance described to this reporter as not unlike "plastic baby dolls."

According to Town plant aficionado and Arbor Day Committee member, A. Brockie Stevenson, of 6106 Yale Avenue, in Peru, where the shy blooming plants grow up the sides of houses, a blossoming is an occasion for night-long celebration. Not to be outdone, Raya served champagne to an awestruck crowd of neighbors and friends assembled (some even roused from sleep) at her house at 6105 Harvard Avenue.



Raya's blossom (photographed by Mark Leatherman)

---continued on next page

NIGHT-BLOOMING CERESUS
(from preceding page)

Raya kept vigil by the blossom, which she had watched from the green bud stage for two weeks, until it finally closed at 4 a.m. "Great timing," said her houseguest, Francesca Bini Bichisecci, visiting here from New England.

Your reporter wonders what kind of incredible faith it takes to keep a thing like that for nine years.



Illustration by Raya Bodnarchuk

**NO, THE TOWN HALL HAS NOT
HAD OFFICE HOURS—
YES, OFFICE HOURS ARE COMING**

Contrary to reports in The Echo based on the Mayor's optimism, the Town Hall has not been open for regular office hours nor has the answering machine been installed.

As a result, callers to the new telephone, 320-4041, have received no answer.

However, the Mayor assures The Echo that as soon as Clerk-Treasurer Lois Carroll returns from her vacation in early August there will be regular office hours all day Monday and half day Saturday. The Mayor says he is "trying to get someone for Wednesday."

At the beginning of August the town will purchase an answering machine and hook it up, the Mayor said.

A bulletin about the office hours will be distributed in town, he said.

NEW COMMITTEE SET UP

On the basis of a resolution proposed by Councilman Harry Odell, the Town Council at its July 8 meeting unanimously approved a standing Glen Echo Community Affairs Committee of three residents to plan, organize, publicize and supervise the annual town picnic, Halloween party, holiday party and flea market.

The resolution specified a small budget and a written report after each function.

The residents will be appointed by the Mayor with the concurrence of the Council. The Mayor is looking for volunteers, who should contact him if interested.

---Julie Milstien

Clara Barton Site Smokestack Raised In Response to Town Resident's Complaint

The National Park Service has raised the smokestack on the furnace building near the Clara Barton House by 30 inches because of a complaint about fumes from town resident Willem Polak.

The new furnace building was necessary because there had been two fires in the chimney of the Clara Barton House in the past two years, according to a letter to the town from District Ranger Audrey Calhoun. Because the chimney was too small to adequately vent the furnace that was previously located in the House, and the threat of fire was so great, it had been necessary to locate the new furnace outside the House, she wrote.

The Park Service also responded to the concern of another town resident about the possibility of asbestos in the blue-stone in the Glen Echo Park parking lot. Four samples of the gravel from two locations in the parking lot were sent to a laboratory in Salt Lake City for analysis. The samples variously exhibited less than .02 or less than .03 asbestos fibers per cubic centimeter, according to Ms. Calhoun.

She said that is considered a fairly low level. According to the standards of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), there would have to be 2.0 fibers per cubic centimeter for the concentration to be deemed hazardous, she said.

Ms. Calhoun requested that town residents not throw debris over the boundary fence along Oxford Road onto Park Service property. She said that once the grass stops growing, the maintenance crew will remove the debris which has accumulated and repair the fence.

DOG & CAT LICENSING REQUIRED

All dogs and cats in the town of Glen Echo must have up-to-date rabies vaccinations and be licensed by the town. Proof of rabies vaccination is necessary in order to purchase a license.

The fee for male or spayed female dogs and cats is \$4; for unspayed females it is \$8. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Glen Echo and left in my mailbox at 7306 University Avenue along with your name, address and phone number, the name of your pet and date of last vaccination. I will return the tag and/or receipt to you.

Rabies vaccinations are now valid for a period of three years from the date of inoculation except for kittens and puppies when it is only one year.

There are currently around three dogs and five or six cats in town which do not have up-to-date rabies inoculations. A large number of dogs and cats are still unlicensed.

--Daryl Kuster
Animal Control Officer

EXCERPTS FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT—June 1985

Economy Printing Service (Printing <u>ECHO</u> , 2 months).....	\$103.80
Pepco (Street Lights).....	332.77
Stewart Petroleum (Town Hall fuel).....	246.00

TRASH COLLECTION TIMES

For newcomers to town or residents who are confused or have forgotten, these are the times for trash collections:

Tuesday and Friday--all but heavy-weight trash, including garden refuse.

Friday--newspapers, to be bagged and picked up separately (they can be placed in grocery bags).

Last Wednesday of the month--heavy or large quantity of discardables

Leaf bags are made available at no cost to town residents who need them for garden refuse. To obtain some, contact the Mayor or Clerk-Treasurer.

Fitness Classes Again To Be Held at Town Hall

Tuesday and Thursday evenings are the times for the new series of fitness classes at Glen Echo Town Hall sponsored by the Montgomery County Department of Recreation. They will be held from 9:15-10:15 a.m. and will begin September 17.

In approving the request for the classes, the Town Council asked that no town resident be denied entry to a class. "Our primary consideration in granting requests such as this is the benefit to be derived by town residents from attending these classes," Councilwoman Nancy Long wrote in a letter to the Fitness Program Supervisor. She suggested adding evening classes as well.

She reminded the Recreation Department that it has not yet paid its rental fee for use of the Town Hall for sessions in 1983-84, and for only one of the sessions held during 1982-83. The rate charged is \$10 per hour.

Council Preparing Tickets For Vehicle Ordinance Violators

Citations, or tickets, to be presented to anyone violating the provisions of the town Vehicle Control Ordinance will be made up in the near future, according to Councilman Harry Odell.

The Town Council approved Councilman Odell's draft citation form at its July 8 meeting. A copy of the Vehicle Control Ordinances was delivered to town residents in June.

Among the prohibitions are the following:

- Parking a vehicle on a sidewalk;
- Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;
- With the left side nearest the curb;
- Within 20 feet of a stop sign;
- So as to impede traffic;
- For more than five consecutive days without permission from the Town Council;
- In a wrecked, unlicensed or abandoned condition;
- Driving in excess of 20 miles per hour;
- Repairing a vehicle in public space.

A violation of any of these provisions, if cited, could entail a \$25 fine to be paid to the town.

WELCOME NEIGHBOR

Liza Nichols moved to 23 Wellesley Circle in June, along with Jason, 9, and Grace, 6. Grace will be a first grader at Bannockburn in the fall; Jason attends the Lab School in Washington, D. C. The family lived previously in the Palisades area of D. C.

Liza works in a children's clothing store and is taking a real estate class. She enjoys knitting, reading and listening to music, as well as sailing. She is part owner of a sailboat docked at Annapolis.

THE KEYHOLE

By

Tillie McJally

A delayed "thanks" to George Bolton of Oxford Road and his grandson who cleaned up the remaining litter in the town park after the "Flea Market" held in May.

Not only was the market a success, but it served as an introduction to town social life for month old Alicia Bedard of Harvard Avenue, who was accompanied by her mother Debbie. Bevin Shimizu, son of Holly and Osamu from Bryn Mawr Avenue, was also there enjoying the festivities from his stroller. For Mary Franklin, age three months at that time, it was her second social event. Mary lives on University Avenue with parents Marge and Cal.

* * * * *

And while we are on the subject of town babies---that bunch of pink balloons you may have seen fastened to the fence at 6107 Harvard Avenue, was the novel way Kate and Jim used to announce the arrival of another Horwitz. Jillian Horwitz made her debut at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital at 7 a.m. on July 20th and weighed 9 lbs 3½ oz.

Congratulations to the happy family!

* * * * *

The list of graduates this year from Whitman High School contained the names of two of our town residents. Robbie Borsari of 6107 Princeton Avenue will enter the University of Colorado in the fall.

Grant Foster of 5 Vassar Circle will enter the University of Maryland.

Congratulations to each of you and best of luck in your chosen fields.

Here for the graduation exercises was Robbie's mother Rex Borsari, who came from Melbourne, Florida, for the occasion.

* * * * *

Janice and Jimmy Miller, who lived on Bryn Mawr Avenue for many years, were seen dashing around the area. They left Cherokee Village, Arkansas, to attend the high school graduation of their grandson "Doug" Locke (Linda's son) and naturally could not make the return trip home without stopping in Glen Echo. Good to see you folks. See you again at Christmas?

* * * * *

Classified Ads

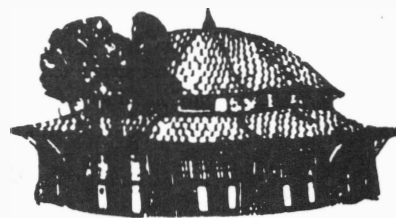
WANTED: APT. OR SMALL HOUSE for rent in Glen Echo or nearby. I have been living in Cabin John for the past 2½ years. Call Jill. 275-4465 (weekdays), 320-2275 (weekends, evenings).

* * * * *

WANTED; AN ENERGETIC SOUL to place a solar light in the cupola on the roof of the Town Hall. Bring your own ladder, which will need to be about 50 feet long. To volunteer, please call Mayor Kuster.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents and may be left in The Echo box at the Post Office, or given to Carolyn Repstik. PLEASE DO NOT PHONE THEM TO THE EDITOR. Fee to non-residents: \$.50 per line to 30 spaces or fewer. Display ads are \$2 per column inch. Make checks payable to "The Town of Glen Echo" and mail them to Carolyn Repstik, 7309 University Ave., Glen Echo, MD 20812. AD DEADLINE: 24TH OF EACH MONTH.

At GLEN ECHO PARK



THEATRE FEST

Sunday, August 25, noon-6 p.m.
Puppets, mime, dance, workshops.
Most performances free.

LABOR DAY CONCERTS

Sunday, September 1, 2 p.m.
D.C. 3, a jazz group

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Monday, September 2, 2 p.m.
Rockville Concert Band

CAROUSEL PROGRAM

Sunday, September 8, 5:30 p.m.
Program about the antique
Dentzel carousel and the
history of carousels

DANCES

Friday Nights--Square and
Contra. 8:30 p.m., \$3.50

Saturday Nights--Ballroom.
9 p.m., \$5. Live Band.

Sunday Nights--Folkdancing
8 p.m., \$4.

THE PUPPET COMPANY

Thursdays, August 15, 22 & 29,
7 p.m., Spanish Ballroom
Hansel and Gretel--a marionette
show with music by Humperdinck.
\$3. No reservations necessary.

Adventure Theatre

A Stone that Sings
August 24 through September 22
Saturdays & Sundays, 1:30 & 3:30
\$3. Reservations: 320-5331

15th ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION

August 31, September 1 & 2
noon to 6 p.m.
Spanish Ballroom.
Over 300 works of art, most of
them for sale.

NEW CLASSES BEGIN

Among the new classes to be
offered this fall at Glen Echo
Park are the following:

Fundamentals of Jazz
Felt Making
Functional Metals
Building a Stage Voice
Comedy Techniques for Young Actors
Flamenco
Irish Ceili

For times, dates and fees call
492-6282 for a free brochure.

At the CLARA BARTON SITE

Victorian Magic Show
Sunday, August 11, 2 & 4 p.m.

- - - - -

Chair Caning Demonstration
Sunday, August 25, 1-5 p.m.



A G E N D A

COUNCIL MEETING

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO

MONDAY, August 12, 1985

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Status on Town Street Repair
5. Open Space Ordinance
6. Ordinance Review Committee
7. Glen Echo Park Report-Long
8. Town Hall Use-Long
9. Town Hall Maintenance-Beers
10. Town Maintenance-Shultz
11. Maryland Municipal League-Kuster
12. Additions to the Agenda

A-

B-

C-