

# The Echo

The Town of  
**GLEEN ECHO, MARYLAND**  
Chartered, 1904



**APRIL 1986**

## **Council Votes Against Leasing Land For Parking**

By Julie Milstien

The Town has written the president of Harvey Construction Company, new owner of the former Trav's Inn property, to say that it is not prepared, at this time, to lease Town-owned land for restaurant parking.

The president, Joel Fernebok, had presented a proposal at the February Town Council meeting to lease an area located between Tulane and Oberlin Avenues that has been used for storage and a basketball court.

The Council voted 3-0 to oppose the proposal. Councilman Shultz was absent.

The letter also informed the property owners that the Town was willing to help "in the development of better and more efficient parking and traffic arrangements" at that location, including "discussions with the O. Roy Chalk interests." The latter refers to the property alongside MacArthur Blvd. that the trolley formerly used.

Mayor Kuster said at the meeting that the intent was "not to ... throw the baby out with the wash."

The Council supported the idea that the Town property remain open space. When asked by resident

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### **Fifth Annual Town Flea Market**

Saturday, May 3 (raindate May 10)  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Corner of Princeton and University  
(For details see p. 8)

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# The Echo

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(229-3748)

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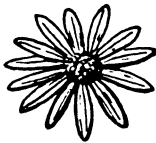
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**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE—April 25**



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 BOARD:

Edd Barrows 229-3193

Nancy Helmig 229-0893

Jane Eldredge 229-4110

## EARLIER NEWSPAPER PICKUP

Newspapers for the recycling program will now be picked up around 7:30 a.m. Fridays, earlier than previously.

Be sure to get your newspapers out in time Friday mornings or leave them out Thursday evening.

The recycling program is both environmentally and financially sound, saving the town monies that would have to be spent for waste disposal and bringing in some payment.



## TOWN REJECTS PARKING LOT (from page 1)

Renny Springuel what the Council felt was the future of that side of Town, Councilwoman Long replied, "if not parkland, then residential. I'd be happy if all commercial activity in that part of town would cease and desist."

The 13,900 square feet of property was sold to the Town in 1964. Resident Billy Briggs, who was a Councilmember during that period, described the motivation of the Council at the time as "trying to stop the Baker Brothers." "We felt," he said, "if we lost that piece of property it was our way of losing that whole end of town."

Resident Gloria Levin raised the question of why the Council went into executive session at a special meeting before the regular Council meeting to consider the issue, since it seemed so straightforward. She was told that it was on the advice of the Town Attorney, since there were some complex legal points to consider.

The Council received four letters opposing the leasing of the land and none in favor.

Although Mr. Fernebok had indicated that if the Town would not make the land available for parking, the owners would probably lease the property out as a bar, the manager of the proposed restaurant, Alex Stylos, said they will proceed as if it were to be a restaurant, Mayor Kuster told the Council. Meanwhile, the Town Attorney is investigating the claim that a parking lot will have to be built, and what a legitimate parking space is.

A name for the new restaurant has not yet been chosen, Mr. Stylos told The Echo. "Glen Echo Station" and "Glen Echo Inn" are two possibilities, he said. No resident put a suggestion in the suggestion box.

## OPEN SPACE ORDINANCE TABLED AFTER RESIDENT PROTESTS

By Julia Anderson

A number of residents spoke against the proposed "Open Space" Ordinance at the March 10 Town Council meeting. The draft ordinance, a copy of which was passed out to each household, would replace sections 5.2 to 5.8 of the Town Ordinances after the town attorney called those sections "archaic."

The Ordinance includes restrictions and guidelines for a resident's use of his own property, and what he does with trees, weeds and other vegetation on his land. Rene Springuel called the Ordinance "a covenant restricting personal property" and stated that he moved into the town because it didn't have anything like the ordinance the Town now proposed.

Bea Smith called it "a violation of civil rights," and Don Dworski enumerated seven objections to the Ordinance, including its vagueness, that "it gives too much power to a non-elected body," and that there is no appeals process. He offered his aid in a redrafting.

Councilmembers Beers and Odell rejected the idea that it was too vague, the former saying that "it is appropriate for the needs of our municipality."

Councilwoman Long made a motion to table the draft ordinance until next month, and the Council agreed unanimously.

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## GLEN ECHO PROPERTY SALES

41 Wellesley Circle....\$167,000

Information on town property transactions is provided by Eleanor Balaban, Realtor with Coldwell Banker Real Estate, and a town resident.

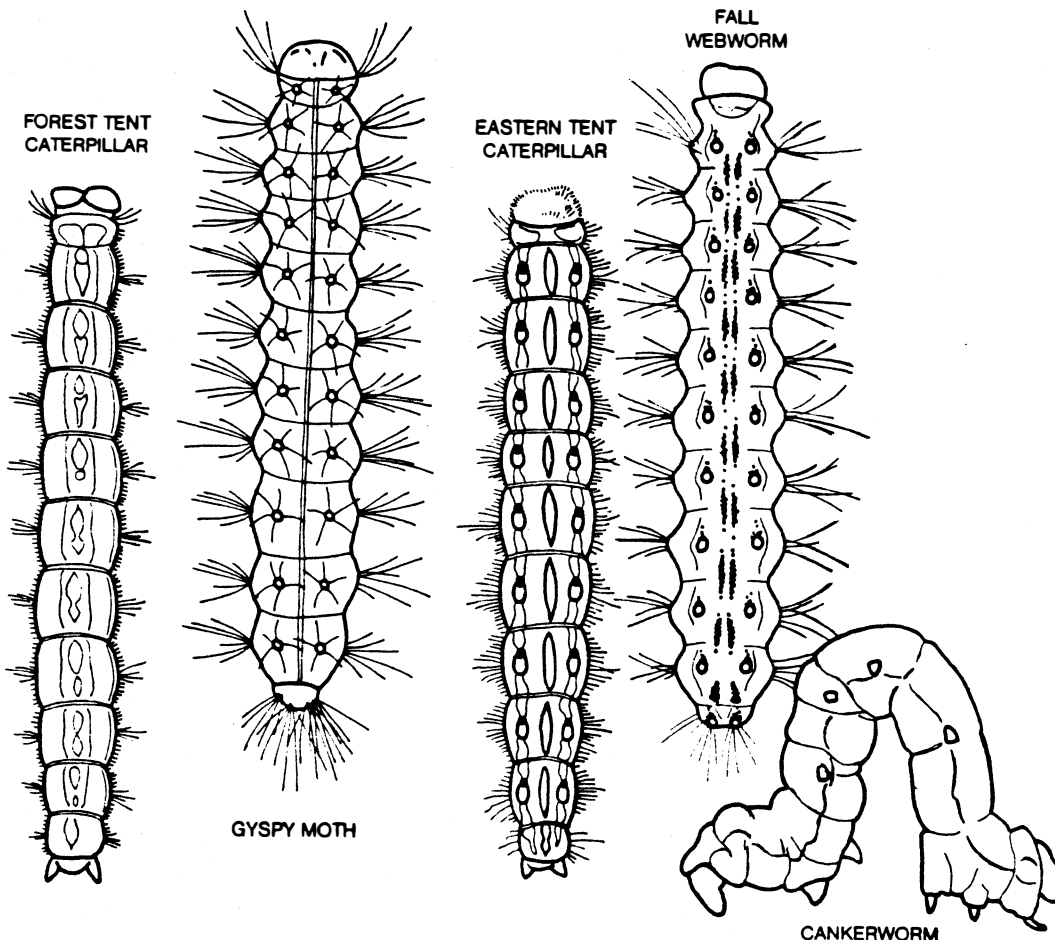
## Gypsy Moths Will Arrive En Masse Soon

By Edd Barrows

"Big fronts" of gypsy moths north and west of Glen Echo are expected to "roll into" town as soon as 1987, Tom Hofacker, USDA Forest Service, told about 30 persons who gathered in the Town Hall on March 18 to learn about these moths.

Gypsy moths, which were accidentally introduced into Massachusetts in the last century, are now prevalent in New England and parts of eastern Canada, where they have denuded thousands of acres of forests. Gypsy moth caterpillars kill trees by weakening them through defoliation.

Glen Echoites will have gypsy moths on a continuing basis because it is highly unlikely that this pest can be eradicated from North America. Speakers at the meeting, which was organized by Regina Greenspun, President of the Mohican Hills Citizens Association, seemed to agree that in the long term we will have to learn to live with the moths by controlling their population size as well as we can and planting tree and shrub species that the moths do not prefer as food. These include arborvitae, azalea, boxwood, dogwood, holly, mountain laurel, rhododendron, redbud, spicebush, tulip poplar and yew.



How to Tell Gypsy Moth from Other Leaf-Eating Caterpillars

## CONTROLLING GYPSY MOTHS—A DILEMMA (from page 4)

The speakers suggested that we should use integrated pest management (IPM) against the moths. IPM is using all means possible to control a pest species while being as kind to our natural environment as possible.

Gypsy-moth IPM involves using nontoxic methods when their population sizes are low. When there are only a few moths, one should remove egg masses from tree trunks and elsewhere in one's yard, spot spray caterpillars with Bacillus thuringiensis (BT), especially when they are young in April and May, and remove caterpillars from low plants by hand. The eggs and caterpillars can be killed in a bucket of hot soapywater.

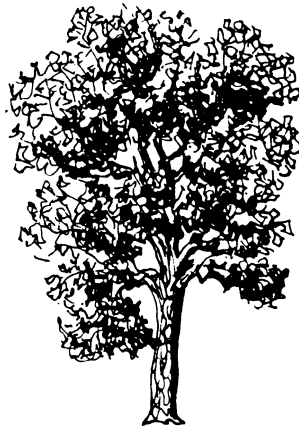
When moth populations become too large for these controls, it becomes worthwhile to use barrier bands on tree trunks and apply aerial BT sprays. BT is not known to have deleterious effects on humans, their vertebrate pets, or wildlife that are not caterpillars. As a last resort when an infestation is very strong, unfortunately, chemical pesticides, such as carbaryl and dimilin are aerially applied.

In Montgomery County, 2,400 acres are scheduled to be sprayed with BT, including about 40% of the Bannockburn area which is considered especially vulnerable.

Mr. Hofacker showed a film called "The Gypsy Moth ... A Dilemma," whose very appropriate title summarizes the gypsy-moth problem well. If we don't try to control this insect, it could kill many town trees. If we do try to control it, it will take time and perhaps some cost sharing with the State for control measures on a continuing basis. If we use pesticides, we will kill many beneficial organisms and could harm ourselves, dogs, and cats -- causing long-term deleterious environmental effects.

In controlling gypsy moths, we shall win, and we shall lose.

(More information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is on file at the Town Hall.)



## No Date Set for Replacement Of Canal Footbridge

By Carlotta Anderson

The wooden footbridge across the C&O Canal below Glen Echo, washed away in the November flooding, will almost certainly not be replaced before the end of this summer.

Continuing to clear away the debris from "the worst damage since the flood of 1936" has first priority, according to Park Service spokesman Earle Kittleman. Since the job is so labor-intensive, the Park Service decided to enlist Boy and Girl Scouts in a C&O Camporee during July and August. It is hoped that volunteers can do the cleanup because there are no funds available and a supplemental appropriation has not been put before Congress, Mr. Kittleman said. The damage estimate is \$9 million; \$2 million has been spent already.

"It will take years to put it to rights," Mr. Kittleman said. He noted that the path is still rough and the surface not restored, although the portion from Georgetown to Seneca is now open to the public.

The Glen Echo footbridge was only one of many picked up and forcibly moved by the waters. It would not be cost-effective to replace them, according to Mr. Kittleman. "It's easier to build a new bridge."

The Park Service is hoping that corporations, communities and private individuals will make donations, which can be earmarked for specific repair projects on the Canal. In the event of such donations, the Park Service will provide the expertise to work up plans and specifications and take care of the design work and contracting.

## Box Elder Bugs Blanketing Walls

With thousands of box elder bugs massing on some walls, Glen Echo is facing a major infestation this spring. However, town biologist Edd Barrows stresses that the insects are totally harmless and will be gone in a week or two.

"They don't eat human food or clothing or rugs, they don't bite humans or animals. They don't do anything except eat box elder trees and they don't even seem to harm them," he reassured townspeople.

The insects hibernate in leaves or warm places next to houses and sometimes get into houses through window frames. The large numbers this season he attributes simply to population fluctuation.

For those who feel they have to do something, he suggests sweeping them off the walls and dumping them on Park lands, or killing them by placing in hot soapy water. But he says if they are just left alone they will migrate to the box elder trees as soon as the leaves are out in April.

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Ms. Horwitz's letter in the March issue of The Echo says it all. I thank her for writing it and join her in thanking all our town officials, past and present, for making Glen Echo so very special. And I also thank you for your superb and continuing dedication to The Echo.

Nancy McDonald

## OWNER'S HOUSE AUCTIONED WHILE SHE WAS ABROAD

Montgomery County auctioned Susan Kirkby's house at 6008 Bryn Mawr Avenue in June 1984 because of unpaid back taxes which the mortgage company had neglected to pay while she was abroad in the Foreign Service.

However, the law provides a term of several years during which the owner can pay the taxes and get the house back, according to Mayor Kuster, and Ms. Kirkby has done that.

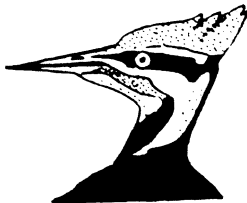
In a letter to The Echo, Ms. Kirkby commented: "Despite having many friends still in Glen Echo...apparently the city fathers claim they could not find me (for tax bill!)." She enclosed a notice she wanted published giving her address as follows:

Susan Kirkby  
American Embassy, Mexico City  
P. O. Box 3087  
Laredo, Texas 78041

Mayor Kuster defended the town's actions by pointing out that "We're only legally obligated to send the tax bill to the last known address. We don't have to chase people around the world to find them." He said since the tax bills were not returned, the town was unaware that Ms. Kirkby had not received them.

When the taxes were not paid, the town sent a letter to the County and "they put it in the system," which means putting the house up for auction. The Mayor said there are people who pay taxes of houses in arrears in the hopes that the owner will not pay the taxes in the designated number of years, after which the house will revert to them.

---Carlotta Anderson



## Council Votes Higher Fees For Use of Town Hall

In an unanimous decision, the Town Council voted at its March 10 meeting to raise the rates for rental of the Town Hall as follows:

- there will be a \$50 deposit for any use of the Hall, including for resident's use;

- residents can use the Hall twice a year without charge;

- there will be a \$400 fee (including deposit) for organizations charging admission or asking for donations or for social functions by non-residents;

- the deposit is refundable provided the Hall is cleaned and left in a satisfactory condition.

- every person or group reserving the Hall will be given a list of guidelines for cleaning after use.

---Julia Anderson

## Fire Department To Get Airboat

The Glen Echo Fire Department is in the process of acquiring a Yankee Airboat in order to perform river rescues more safely and successfully.

The boat, measuring eight feet wide and 20 feet long, has a 350hp Chrysler engine in the rear, no rudder and "sits on top of the water using the same principle as the hydrofoil," according to Mayor Kuster, who is the Fire Department Treasurer.

It can move on concrete and on land and will be hauled to the rescue spot on a trailer. Two or three rescue personnel will man it. It will be able to go over the Little Falls Dam and manoeuvre in the river to perform rescues the Fire Department was not capable of before, according to the Mayor. He said it could replace helicopter rescues, which are very dangerous.

The Airboat with trailer will cost around \$25,000 and will probably be purchased this summer.

---Carlotta Anderson

## **New Postmaster Appointed**

We at the Glen Echo Post office are pleased to announce that as of February 15, 1986, Ellen Nash was awarded the position of postmaster.

Having been a clerk at this office for the past 10 years, she is well adjusted to the community and its needs. She fully intends to make herself available to answer questions and deal with situations that call for her attention whether they be post office or community related. We pride ourselves on the fact that our reputation for customer services is unsurpassed, and now with Ellen at the helm we will strive all that much harder to strengthen the rapport between our office and our neighbors.

We hope the townspeople and the surrounding community will wish her all the best as she begins a new and exciting phase in her career.

## **Kindergarten Roundup Scheduled**

Bannockburn Elementary School will hold its annual Kindergarten Roundup on Tuesday, April 15 for children who are entering kindergarten in September.

Please pass the word on to friends and neighbors who have an eligible child, to call the school office, 229-3097, for an appointment. Children must be five years old on or before December 31.

At Kindergarten Roundup each new child will have an opportunity to see the school, meet the teachers and take part in some screening for planning purposes.

Since the school has already registered two full classes for kindergarten, the principal is anxious to get an accurate count from the community to plan adequately for the incoming students.

---Carol Bowis

## **"Junk To Treasure" Theme of Fifth Annual Town Flea Market**

By Edie Springuel

Cleanup week in Glen Echo will be heralded in again this year by the Annual Flea Market on Saturday, May 3, from 10 AM to 4 PM (rain date May 10). It will be held at the town park at the corner of Princeton and University Avenues.

Tables can be reserved with a \$5 donation by calling Lois Carroll at 229-3780 or Kathleen Flaherty Horwitz at 320-2171 (non-residents of Glen Echo also welcome).

Glen Echo T-shirts (designed by our own Raya Bodnarchuk) will again be available, along with the usual refreshments.

We will also be having a bake sale. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods should contact Lynn Dworsky at 229-9615 after 6 PM or on weekends. A list of ingredients on donated baked goods would be appreciated in consideration of individuals on special diets and with allergies.

This year the proceeds will be divided between Bethesda Help, a group assisting the elderly, and the Glen Echo Arbor Day Committee.

The annual flea market is a good opportunity for your "junk" to become your neighbor's "treasure." Any item not sold can be left at the park for the "treasure man" (alias garbage man) to pick up later in the week.

So get started on the big clean up for clean up week. (Maybe you can "clean up" at the flea market as well!!)

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## **Town Hall Office Hours**

Clerk-Treasurer Lois Carroll is now holding regular office hours at the Town Hall on Mondays from 9-3; usually on Tuesday afternoon from 1-4; and sometimes on Friday morning, she said.

## Town Council Highlights

March 10

Sixteen Town residents gathered in Town Council chambers to hear the decision of the Council on leasing Town land to the new owners of Trav's. Although the meeting opened at 8 p.m., no votes were taken until Councilwoman Beers arrived at 8:30 to make a quorum, Councilman Shultz being out of town.

Audrey Calhoun of Glen Echo Park has told Councilwoman Long that the Park claims Oxford Road is Federal property, although "we have always maintained it is town property." Reaching a compromise, the two parties agreed that the Town will have its own boundary survey done and then compare it to that of the Park before any other decision is reached...

Municipal liability is still a hot issue. Utica Mutual will no longer write liability insurance for the Town, despite the fact that the Town hasn't had a claim since 1913, when the Mayor and Sheriff got in a gunfight. This does not affect public official liability which is written by another company. Mayor Kuster will meet with a broker to arrange a new coverage...

The Town has been invited by the Bethesda Silver Spring Jaycees to participate in the First Annual Bethesda Chevy Chase Heritage Celebration Parade to be held along Arlington Road in Bethesda on May 4 from 12 to 3 p.m...

The Council has been requested to support the actions of the Citizens in support of Public Safety Helicopter Program in their efforts to get two helicopters for rescue efforts (not surveillance) in Montgomery County. This will be done in the form of filling out a questionnaire...

---Julia Anderson and Julie Milstein

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 14 -- 8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall

All residents encouraged to attend

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



7687 MacArthur Boulevard  
Cabin John, MD 20818  
301-229-3141

George Petrides  
Owner

Bird feeders and seed for America's fastest growing hobby.

### EXCERPTS FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT—February 1986

Montgomery County Govt. (street signs) ...	\$ 658.77
Craig Blacktop Sealing (street work) .....	5,500.00
Langan Construction Co. (street work) ....	1,100.00

## At GLEN ECHO PARK

May 3: Park Opens, Carousel Opens

May 3 & 4: Dancefest

May 18: Children's Day, free puppet show, group sculpture, storytelling, singing, dancing

May 25: Irish Folk Festival, noon to 5:00 p.m.

May 31 and June 1: Washington Folk Festival

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Friday Night Square Dancing begins April 4 at 8:30 p.m.

Sunday Night Folk Dancing begins April 6 at 8 p.m.

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### At the CLARA BARTON SITE

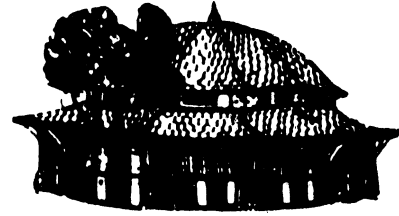
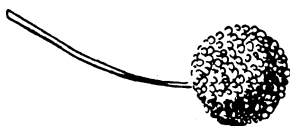
"Victorian Stereoviews of Our National Parks"  
April 27, 1-5 p.m.

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### RESEARCHER TO SURVEY RESIDENTS

Robert Haynes, a resident of Brookmont, is a doctoral student at the University of Maryland. In order to fulfill the requirements for a doctors degree in Human Development he has developed a research project, and will be inviting residents of Glen Echo to participate in this study, which will look at how factors as life style, work, family life, attitudes and self-concept are related to the quality of the lives of adults.

Participation consists of filling out a few short questionnaires, which takes most people 20 to 25 minutes. Mr. Haynes will be writing households in the area asking them to participate in his study.



### Adventure Theatre

"The Velveteen Rabbit," April 26 through June 8, weekends at 1:30 and 3:30, \$4

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### SHORT TAKES

The Kuster family is wondering who absconded with the U. S. flag attached to the front porch of their home at 7306 University Ave. It measured three by five feet, had been hanging there a year and was taken March 2 between 7:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Daryl Kuster found it "sort of weird."

\* \* \* \* \*

The Quick Food Shop at MacArthur and Tomlinson in Cabin John will soon be known as the "Captain's Market," according to the March issue of The Village News. The new owner of the store, Won Kyu Byun, a native of Korea, says there will be changes in the store's operations as well.

\* \* \* \* \*

The special exception for an accessory apartment at 6001 Yale Avenue has been removed because the owner failed to file for the required permits. It is no longer legal to have an apartment at that location, according to Mayor Kuster.

\* \* \* \* \*

The County Board of Appeals has approved a maximum 22-unit town house development on a 4-1/2 acre site south of MacArthur Blvd. at Sangamore Road in Bethesda. The area is zoned for 18 single-family houses but neighbors in the area supported the town house development.

## Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Hoover canister vacuum, \$40; Girl's 26" coaster brake bike, \$20. Both like new. 229-6468.

\* \* \* \* \*

MISSING: One set of keys to the Town Hall. Taken from the Clerk-Treasurer's doorknob March 21. Please return to Clerk-Treasurer or put in mail drop at Town Hall.

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED: Someone who has or has access to a computer capable of making headlines for The Echo and is willing to do this volunteer job once a month.

\* \* \* \* \*

WANTED: Large Room or Small Apt. With private entrance for jeweler's studio in Glen Echo or nearby. Call Steve (275-8289) or Gail (965-6066) weekdays.

\* \* \* \* \*

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.

## Short Takes

In response to a correction Councilman Odell made at the last Town Council meeting, the Community Affairs Committee states that although the Committee is comprised of three members, as provided by town ordinance, it also includes two new assistants. Councilman Odell did not want town residents misled by an Echo article into thinking the committee had been officially expanded.

He also stated that the amount budgeted for the Committee is \$400, not \$200, and that it is required to submit a written report to Mayor and Council no later than the second Council meeting following each activity.

---Julie Milstien

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