

# The Echo

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



**December, 1986**

## **LA HAUTE CUISINE SALE IMMINENT Catering May Be Replaced by Offices**

A local realty company is planning to purchase La Haute Cuisine and use the building for offices and an insurance company if the County zoning department permits.

The structure, which housed the DGS grocery store for many years before it was converted to a catering service, has already been approved for use as an office building, according to Dorothy Kennedy, Use and Occupancy Coordinator of the Department of Environmental Protection. In order to meet the requirements for an occupancy permit, however, the new owners must show that they have sufficient parking for the number of cars the new businesses would generate.

Simmons Realty, Inc., which is presently located at the Glen Echo Shopping Center, reportedly contemplates setting up four or five offices downstairs, with 10 to 15 employees. Mrs. Barbara Simmons, owner of the company, told Mayor Fred Kuster she calculated there would be room for 12 cars in the rear by the garages, and four to five cars in the front lot adjacent to the building.

(continued on page 3)

## **TOWN HOLIDAY PARTY**

It's time to toast your neighbors and friends at Glen Echo's annual holiday party. The town's dressiest event of the year starts at 5 p.m. on December 14th, with a sit-down pot-luck dinner planned for 6 p.m.

Bring the whole family. Santa's sure to drop by to visit the littlest residents sometime early in the evening.

# The Echo

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## TOWN OFFICIALS (Town Office: 320-4041)

**MAYOR**  
Fred Kuster 229-2070

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
Debbie Beers 229-7308  
Nancy Long 334-2865 or 229-0196  
Harry Odell 229-4494  
Bill Shultz 229-1269

**CLERK-TREASURER**  
Lois Carroll 229-3780

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER**  
Barbara McCoy 320-4322

**ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD**  
Nancy Helmig 229-0893  
Jane Eldredge 229-4110  
Renny Springuel 320-2699  
Mary Masula, alternate 229-6521

## SHORT TAKES

The damaged elm tree on Harvard Avenue will be treated by trimming and feeding for a cost of \$465, one-third to be paid by the town and the remainder divided by the two adjacent property owners.

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Sand for icy streets will be added to the barrels before winter sets in, according to the Mayor.

\* \* \* \* \*

Town streets will be swept clear of leaves by machine in the early part of December. The cost will be \$500, the Mayor said.

## TOWN CONSIDERS ERECTING CHILD-AT-PLAY SIGNS

Councilman Odell, noting the increase in the number of children in town and the attractiveness of some of the inclined streets to children with bikes, tricycles, and skateboards, suggested that the town purchase Child-at-Play signs to erect.

The other Councilmembers thought this was a good idea. Councilman Odell will speak to the Mayor about it.

--Don Dworsky

## RESTAURANT PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO VEX COUNCIL

By Don Dworsky

The owner of a Tulane Avenue house complained to the Town Council at its November 10 meeting about numerous problems engendered by the Glen Echo Station restaurant next door.

George L. Ford, Jr. charged that frequently patrons of the restaurant were parked in front of his tenants' driveway, that cars parked on the street sometimes obstructed the garbage truck from making its rounds, that patrons hung around the parking lot after hours drinking, that litter had increased around and on the town's basketball court, and that, worst of all, stormwater was running off the paved parking lot of the restaurant and onto his property due to a curb installed during renovation of the restaurant.

He also cited boxes, cartons and trash thrown out the rear door on weekends, which he called a health and fire hazard.

He summed up his feelings in an earlier letter to the Council: "The establishment may have changed hands, but it's still a bar, just a little richer clientele!"

The Council was incredulous that restaurant patrons would park on the basketball court and generally was surprised at the amount of

--continued on page 4

### OFFICES MAY REPLACE CATERERS (from page 1)

"I told her we have no objection to a real estate person coming in, and no objection to your leasing," Mayor Kuster told The Echo, "but if you submit something [to the zoning department] we consider dangerous or out of character with the neighborhood, you'll get opposition from the town."

No occupancy permit can be issued until the premises is physically set up as offices and it can be investigated with all remnants of the catering business removed, according to Ms. Kennedy. "We can't approve it for offices when there are no offices there," she said.

The occupancy permit currently in use by La Haute Cuising is only valid if a new owner runs the same type of business.

The asking price of the business was \$300,000, according to Mayor Kuster. He said Mrs. Simmons was interested in the possibility

of the building qualifying as a historic house and inquired what the town's philosophy on that designation would be.

Under local commercial zoning, real estate is one of the types of businesses permitted, the Mayor said. Sycamore Store, also on MacArthur Boulevard and also for sale, is a non-conforming use, however, and must be retained as a convenience store and home of the owners.

Tony Tannouse, owner of La Haute Cuisine, has plans to open a seafood restaurant on the marina in Deale, Maryland. He said he has done very good business while in Glen Echo, too good, in fact. "I was so busy it was getting on my nerves," he said. He has always enjoyed working in the Glen Echo community, however, he said.

--Carlotta Anderson

## ILLEGAL PARKING TROUBLES TULANE RESIDENTS (from page 3)

business being done by the restaurant. Councilwoman Long suggested they make a nocturnal visit to the area to see the problems first hand. Councilman Shultz volunteered to pick up the trash that had accumulated in the basketball court area and Councilwoman Long suggested that the trashcan on the court be removed as a disincentive to people to dispose of trash there.

Councilman Odell offered to make yellow paint available so the tenants could paint the curbs by their driveway in hopes that it would prevent parking there. He suggested that since there is no town constable to ticket illegally parked cars, the tenants might call the County police.

Town attorney Tom Craven reported that he had written the restaurant, as directed by the Town Council, expressing concerns about the drainage from the parking lot. Unhappy with the view of the County's inspector that the problem was a "borderline" infraction, Councilman Shultz planned to meet with County officials to discuss the situation further. He expressed concern that the town might be liable if any accident occurred due to the increased flow of water running off the parking lot.

Councilmembers Shultz and Beers volunteered to meet with the restaurant owners to discuss the problems.

### *Holiday Show at Gallery*

The annual holiday show of fine arts and crafts will open at the Glen Echo Gallery on Saturday, December 6.

There will be gifts available for purchase in a variety of media: pottery, fabric, woods, jewelry, paintings, Christmas decorations, cards, wreaths and more. The work is handmade by local artists.

The show will continue through the month. The Gallery is open every day from noon to 5 p.m.




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### EXCERPTS FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT --October 1986

Steven Hoppel (Town Hall painting) .....	\$680.00
Craig Sealing & Blacktop (street work) .....	\$4,022.00
Reston Farm Market (pumpkins, Halloween party) ..	\$59.25

### ***Echos Now At Post Office***

A few extra copies of The Echo will henceforth be available at the Glen Echo Post Office as well as at the front counter of the Glen Echo Pharmacy.

Just ask a clerk for one.

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### **RECENT POWER OUTAGES UNCONNECTED, SAYS PEPCO**

To lose power four times in a month might be taken for granted in some developing country, but it surprised and perplexed area residents recently. Pepco says the frequency of blackouts was coincidental.

The one-and-a-half hour evening outage on October 6 was caused when a tree limb came down on Goldsboro Road. It caused two wires to touch each other, shorting the circuit and cutting off electricity, according to Pepco spokesman Tom Welle.

On October 9, a private construction crew cut a cable when digging on Tomlinson Court.

On October 17, a wire came down on Anchorage Drive in the Carderock area.

A tree on Wissioming Road in Glen Echo Heights fell on November 6, around 7:15 p.m., taking wires with it and leaving residents without power until around 8:45 p.m. This outage may have been caused by storms, which tend to weaken trees and cause them to fall, according to Mr. Welle.

He said the circuit bringing electricity to Glen Echo is above ground, which makes power in this area especially susceptible to tree problems.

--Carlotta Anderson

### **ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD REJECTS RESIDENT'S REQUEST FOR REFUND OF LATE FEE**

The Animal Control Board met last month at the request of resident Kathryn Hoyer, of Wellesley Circle, who protested that the Board had been remiss in announcing the wrong date of a rabies clinic and she wanted a refund for the \$3 it cost to get her dog inoculated privately.

She also asked for return of the \$4 late fee she paid for not getting her pet licensed until November. Fees were doubled for all residents who failed to license their animals by the August 31 deadline.

Board chairperson Nancy Helmig told Mrs. Hoyer they regretted the clinic date mix-up but that the town was under no obligation to offer free rabies vaccinations. She said that the town had bent over backwards to inform residents of the deadline for getting licenses in order to avoid having the fee doubled.

The Board decided that town ordinances did not allow it to reduce or refund fees.

Registered letters had been sent to Mrs. Hoyer and other residents whose pets were unlicensed as of last month. The seven who have ignored the letters will have their fees tripled as of December 1 and will be sent a letter informing them that after December 15 more severe action will be taken.

### **ADVENTURE THEATRE**

A Christmas Carol

November 15 to December 28

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.  
For reservations call 320-5331

## FOUNDATION SUBMITS PROPOSAL FOR GLEN ECHO PARK

The Glen Echo Park Foundation, whose Board of Directors includes six town residents, submitted its five year proposal for citizen involvement in the preservation and enhancement of the Park to the National Park Service on October 20.

Its fundamental objective is to raise \$3 million over the next five years as capital improvement funds. The fund-raising efforts will be aimed at individuals,

---continued on page 7

## TOWN OBTAINS NEW STREET SIGNS

The town's order of replacement street signs has arrived, but the Council was unhappy that some contain only the names of the street and not whether it is an avenue, road or circle.

The town has already spent \$600 for the signs. Since they were ordered from Arlington Sign Display Company, however, Councilman Odell found a number of the older style of signs. The new ones are no longer in script, a result, according to the Mayor, of an informal poll in which Council members felt it was important to have signs which were more legible and in conformity to the types used in other jurisdictions.

The new signs will be put in place as the older ones become damaged or are stolen, the Mayor said. The town had two made for each signpost.

--Don Dworsky and Carlotta  
Anderson

## Letter to Editor

To the Town of Glen Echo,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation in the re-decorating of your post office.

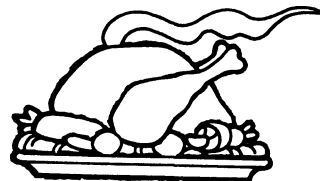
I realize we did have a few problems in the beginning, but I feel that most of the problems were lack of communication. Shortly after I took office, Mr. Kuster came in and we discussed things that needed to be done to complete the town's responsibilities to the post office. Mr. Kuster has been more than fair with us and had an excellent attitude at the same time.

Incidentally, while I am writing this letter, may I tell you how pleased we (post office staff) are with your selection of Mr. Odell as our contact for any maintenance problems at the post office. He is truly conscientious and always pleasant to deal with. If, at any time, he is going to be away, or not available, he makes a point of leaving someone that we can contact, in case of an emergency. Also, we have never had to call more than one time to get the job done as soon as possible.

What I am trying to say is, we as your post office are pleased to be of service to you, and thank you for your service to us.

Sincerely,

Ellen Nash  
Postmaster,  
Glen Echo, Md.



## Laureen Kunz MacNeil

Laureen MacNeil, who moved to 6106 Bryn Mawr Avenue in 1979, died of cancer October 27 at Georgetown University Hospital. She leaves daughters Deirdre, Catherine Elizabeth, Maurya and Tara, and son Lachlan Murdoch.

Laureen was born in Springfield, Illinois, attended the Connecticut College for Women and graduated from Northwestern University. She moved to the Washington area about 1956 and worked briefly for the Central Intelligence Agency and the public relations department of the National Broadcasting Corp. She had worked for Corroon & Black since 1984. Her marriage to Neil MacNeil ended in divorce.

Laureen generously helped type The Echo before it was professionally typed and contributed to town projects both in deed and spirit. She will be missed.

She was buried in Parklawn Memorial Park.



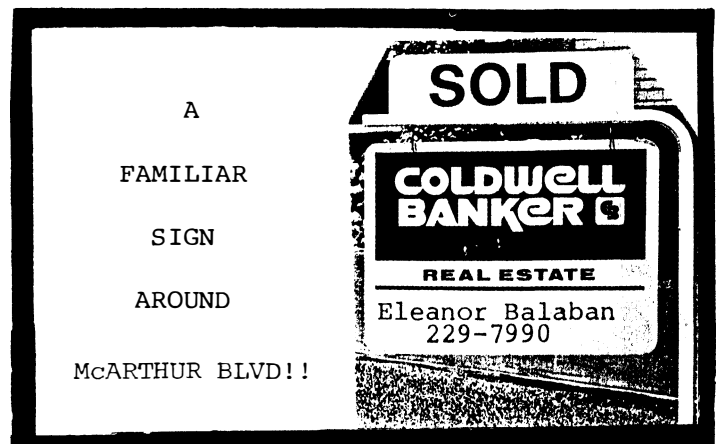
### *Park Proposal (from page 6)*

small local businesses and associations, various grants, and earned income.

It also plans to provide whatever other support is required in its partnership with the Park Service, the proposal stated.

The goals laid out include preservation of the scenic and environmental values of the Park and its surroundings; preservation and restoration of the historic structures; fostering the use of the Park for a broad spectrum of cultural, educational and recreational programs; and the development of long-term plans for maintaining and improving the Park.

Under the terms of the proposed agreement, which would be for a term of 30 years, the Park Service would maintain close consultations with the citizen group and take into consideration any recommendations made by it.



The Park Service would also agree to continue to operate the Park at the present, or a greater level, of operations and not lease, sell, alter or destroy any facilities except as provided in the 1984 Management Program.

It is expected to be some time before the Park Service responds to the proposed agreement.

## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATED WITH TWO TOWN PARTIES

Town children and adults celebrated Halloween this year with two parties taking place back to back at the Town Hall on November 1.

### Afternoon Children's Party

By Stephanie Rhein

Starting out with a pumpkin face contest and ending with casual fun and games--like mazes to decipher--the whole thing was quite a varied set of amusements. The most exciting was the Halloween costume contest when everyone won a prize.

There was a Statue of Liberty, quite an original creation, at the head of the marching line of contestants. She was followed by an elephant, a bat, a magician, two black cats, a teenage star, a werewolf, two pumpkin people, an ice hockey player and numerous other fabulous inventions. Prizes for the funniest, the most creative, the scariest and the most mythical were given out.

The food was delicious--cupcakes for the kids and some great cream puffs and chocolate treats made by La Haute Cuisine for the adults.

Like every year for the past two decades, it was a success and the kids had a good opportunity to meet their neighbors and make new friends.

The party was organized by the Community Affairs Committee, consisting of Kathleen Horwitz, Edie Springuel and Kathy Polak, assisted by Lynn Dworsky and Robin Sproul.

Judges were Nancy Long, Jessica Damen, Tom Wolff and Fred Kuster.

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The evening costume party was privately sponsored but circulars were distributed throughout town inviting all residents to attend.

They appeared in innovative costumes and brought contributions toward a buffet dinner. Mayor Fred Kuster provided his "artillery punch" and served as punchmaster.

The music was exceedingly danceable and at times almost all the 60-70 guests were on the dance floor.

Sponsors of the party were: Holly Shimizu, Mary Masulla, Jane Stevenson, Barbara McCoy, Ruth Laughlin and Carlotta Anderson.

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### MANATOS CASE HEARD

The town's appeal of a Board of Appeals decision that there was no proof of the existence of two separate apartments at 6006 Bryn Mawr Avenue was heard November 21.

The town maintains that the dwelling is a two-family house, which is illegal under R-60 zoning.

Judge James McCauliffe of the Montgomery County Circuit Court took the case under advisement. No ruling is expected before the first of next year, according to Town Attorney Tom Craven.

## MIKULSKI CONCERNED ABOUT AIRCRAFT NOISE

Newly elected Senator Barbara Mikulski considers reducing the aircraft noise problem a "very high priority" item, she told Congress recently.

The current situation often prevents Maryland residents "from having neighborhoods where they can get any peace and quiet" because of the constant roar of flights from National Airport, she said. She also mentioned the adverse effect on property values.

She was particularly troubled because proposed legislation authorizing the transfer of National and Dulles Airports from the Federal Government to a regional authority could mean less chance of defense against some kind of court challenge.

Currently, the Federal Aviation Administration is often failing to enforce the high-density rule at National, she told Congress on October 15.

She said the State of Maryland has negotiated in good faith on the transfer legislation and "the citizens of Maryland deserve relief from the burden they bear from National's aircraft noise."



## Town Council Highlights

November 10

Councilwoman Long asked the Town Attorney, Tom Craven, to redraft the town's traffic control law so that it would prohibit the parking of vehicles, as well as other obstructions, such as garbage cans, on the sidewalks...

The Council examined some purchase order forms that were provided by the Mayor as an aid to routinize and account for town purchases over \$25. Councilman Shultz stated that what was needed was not a set of forms, but a purchase policy so people could understand the process, including who could authorize purchases and where copies of bills and other papers should go...

Both the new furnace and the air conditioning at the Town Hall appear to be working fine, according to Councilman Odell...

--Don Dworsky



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

George Petrides  
Owner

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

## SHORT TAKES

Daryl Kuster is recuperating at home from an operation and everyone is invited to stop by to say hello. She will be away from work until the beginning of 1987 and is walking with the aid of a cane loaned by Brockie Stevenson.

\* \* \* \* \*

Barbara McCoy had the first showing of her original jewelry at Bloomingdales, Tysons Corner, last month. She and two co-designers are the creators of "Buttonique"--pins, earrings and necklaces using antique buttons. Barbara, who also serves as town Animal Control Officer has been an abstract painter, window designer and got a post-graduate degree in biology and illustration from Tulane University.

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George Borsari of 6107 Princeton Avenue was granted a zoning variance to build an addition to a garage that is considered a "non-conforming structure" because of its location on the lot.

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## NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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

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

## CLASSIFIED

YOUNG COUPLE (grad student & social worker) seeks small house/apt. to rent in Glen Echo. Prefer quiet, trees. Willing to exchange work for lower rent. For January or sooner. 333-4442.

\* \* \* \* \*

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.50 per line of 30 spaces or fewer. Display ads, \$2 per column inch. Ads may be left with Carolyn Reptsik, 7309 University Avenue, Glen Echo, or mailed to The Echo, P.O. Box 598, Glen Echo, MD 20812 (stamp required). Make checks payable to "The Town of Glen Echo." PLEASE DO NOT PHONE ADS TO EDITOR. Ad Deadline: 24th of each month.

## TOWN AUDIT COMPLETED

An audit of the town's finances was completed in October. It indicated that as of June 30 the town had over \$24 thousand in Chevy Chase Savings & Loan, nearly \$63 thousand in the Calvert Group T-Bill Extra Account, \$815 in savings for the Arbor Day Fund, over \$7 thousand in an Open Space Fund and over \$6 thousand in a checking account.

Clerk-Treasurer Lois Carroll questioned whether the investment by the Calvert Group in a bank in Victoria, Texas, was a good idea, since Texas has had troubles related in the decline in oil prices.

Councilman Shultz questioned how investment decisions are made and suggested that the town could use a financial planner. Councilwoman Long asked each council member to suggest investment possibilities to the Mayor.