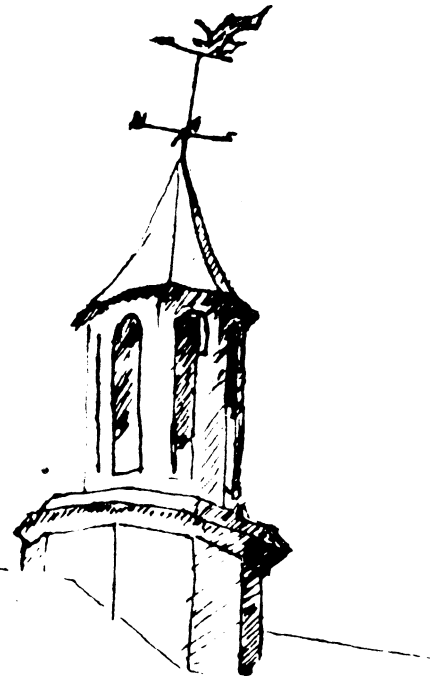


The Echo

The Town of
GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND
Chartered, 1904



February 1988

TOWN WILL NOT BILL INDIVIDUALS FOR CLEAN-UP

By Eric Anderson

In the wake of a \$5,417 clean-up bill from Peyton's Tree Service, the Glen Echo Town Council debated at the January 11 meeting whether it could bill residents for the cutting back of vegetation originating on their property that had been allowed to grow over town property.

Individual billing of residents for 1987 clean-up was impossible because Peyton's bill was not itemized, said Mayor Fred Kuster. "I would have to decide how much each (cleanup) cost," he said. "When there is one twig hanging over the curb do I make (the resident) pay for that?"

Also, the process of "back-billing" residents for work done last year would be difficult, Mayor Kuster said.

It is the town's responsibility to keep all sidewalks clear and all signs visible, the council agreed.

Councilmember Renny Springuel said he realized how, "administratively, it is impossible to break (the bill) up," but complained that the mayor had told him that he would make residents pay for certain removals. He said, "In the future I'm opposed to the town having to do something when people let the vegetation grow over the walks."

--- Continued on page 3

COUNTY TO MOVE BUS TERMINAL

By Bonnie Whyte

The County now intends to move the Glen Echo bus stop terminal to the service road in front of the shopping center. The relief for bus riders could come following extensive road work this summer. The decision was made by County Executive Sidney Kramer following a December site visit.

--- Continued on page 3

The Echo

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Carlotta Anderson **Editor**
229-3748

Bonnie Whyte **Assistant Editor**

Jennifer Hoppel **Typist**

Ruth Laughlin **Headlines**

Tilly McNoldy **Subscriptions**

Brockie Stevenson, **Distribution**
Jan Shaut, Barbara Odell,
Dottit Green, Justin &
Christopher Rodemeyer

Eric Anderson **Reporters**

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TOWN OFFICIALS

Town Office: 320-4041
Hours: Monday: 9 am - 1 pm
Saturday: 8-11:30 am

MAYOR

Fred Kuster 229-2070

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Long 334-2865 or 229-0196

Harry Odell 229-4494

Bill Shultz 229-1269

Renny Springuel 320-2699

CLERK TREASURER

Peter Godfrey 229-7075

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Barbara McCoy 320-4322

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

Jane Eldredge 229-4110

Mary Masulla 229-6521

Daryl Kuster 229-2070

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NAMED

Daryl Kuster is the new member of the Animal Control Board. She resigned her seat on the Social Affairs Committee. Mayor Kuster is still looking for an alternate member of the board.

Debbie Beers, Don Dworsky and Bea Smith will be appointed to the Open Space Committee at the February council meeting, the mayor said. Although he is looking for a couple of additional members, he said the committee can now start its work in time for springtime planting.

CORRECTION

Chris Anderson was responsible for the headlines in last month's issue, not the mail subscriptions. Tillie McNoldy, one of the trustiest members of the Echo staff, mailed the 40 or so subscriptions, as she has since the fifth issue in August, 1974.

Classified Ads

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, or mailed to *The Echo*, P.O. Box 598, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Deadline: 24th of each month.

Clean-up (from page 1)

Councilmember Bill Shultz said the issue "gets back to the purpose of our government, what we're willing to shoulder." He cited examples where vegetation grows over the walks in front of the houses of residents not healthy enough to do anything about it.

Shultz complimented the work done by Peyton's company. He mentioned the "miraculous reemergence of the bottom of Cornell Avenue" and other areas that "hadn't been seen in decades." Councilmember Springuel noted that nevertheless some sidewalks remain impassable.

Mayor Kuster said that when Peyton's comes back for spring cleanup, he will bill residents individually in cases where they have allowed vegetation to overhang town sidewalks or roadways.

BUS TERMINAL (from page 1)

Mayor Kuster describes the \$120,000 estimate as "a travesty." The original 1985 estimate was \$67,000 for the site serving 130 daily riders. The three-bus terminal and turnaround will require changing the traffic patterns on MacArthur Boulevard and the service road.

The Mayor and town council requested additional traffic studies of the morning and afternoon rush hour traffic, which will be completed by March. Their concern is that a stop light at the entrance to the shopping center may be necessary due to the confusing and heavy traffic.

The turnaround area on MacArthur at Oxford Road will be extended and reinforced onto National Park property. The Park Service has given its approval pending plans to relandscape and retree the area.

TOWNSPEOPLE MAY HAVE TO SEPARATE GLASS, METAL IN FUTURE TRASH COLLECTION

Because of an expanded recycling program proposed by County Executive Sidney Kramer, Glen Echo residents may be required to separate glass and metal, as well as newspapers from their other trash in the future.

The program, which Mayor Fred Kuster was told will probably be approved, is related to problems the county has in finding landfill sites. As proposed by Kramer, it would increase county recycling from the current rate of 13.1% to 22%. The newspaper, glass and metal, which would be in separate containers from the regular trash, would be sold for recycling.

More importantly, they would not be taken to the overloaded dump sites.

If the program is approved, Glen Echo will have no real choice but to follow the county example, the mayor said. "I can't imagine not going along with it," he said. "The county wouldn't accept our trash and we'd have to ship it to Virginia or Frederick.

"People in New York and New Jersey have been separating trash for years. I expect you get used to it."

The mayor agreed that the county would have "massive problems" without some such solution. He said that because of rapid growth the dump sites available would soon be filled and no one wanted a new landfill in their location.

The county is also considering additional leaf waste collection as well as the composting of grass and brush.

---Carlotta Anderson

CHURCH OPPOSES RESTORING BASKETBALL HOOP IN LOT

The Baptist Church does not want to restore the basketball equipment in its parking lot, Rev. Cole told Mayor Kuster last month. The town had suggested that a basketball hoop once located there be re-erected.

Rev. Cole said the church has been having vandalism problems and did not want to create any more areas for children to congregate, according to the mayor.

Mayor Kuster said he intends to propose another location to the Town Council. "I don't favor the other side of town," he said, "and it can't be in the town park." The deed in which the Houghton family gave the town the property on Princeton Avenue now used as a town park specified that the land could only be used for a library or a park and not for a playground, the mayor said.

Councilmember Odell suggested rehabilitating the basketball hoops on Tulane Avenue (which the mayor referred to as "the other side of town") at the January council meeting but councilmembers Long and Shultz questioned whether that location would be a safe place for children to play.

---Carlotta Anderson and Eric Anderson

Next Town Council Meeting

Monday, February 8 -- 8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the Mayor if you want to add an item to the agenda.

SOLD

COLDWELL BANKER

REAL ESTATE

Eleanor Balaban
229-7990

Let's talk about what's happening
up and down MacArthur Blvd.

Call 229-7990

Eleanor

RESIDENT RECEIVES DEGREE

The University of Maryland awarded Tracie L. Hoyer a Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Journalism. Tracie, a lifelong resident of 50 Wellesley Circle, is the daughter of Kathryn Hoyer. A December graduate, she is currently looking for a job in advertising, media research or media buying.

EDITORIAL

Snow on Sidewalks

After the January snowfall, many good citizens quickly went to work and shoveled off the sidewalks bordering their property. Some of these people were well advanced in years and had to clear the vast expanse of sidewalks that confronts those with corner lots.

Other residents did nothing except clear enough space for them to get to their cars. Some of these had only a short segment of sidewalks to contend with. The editor was one of the lucky ones with no sidewalk at all.

The result was: The sidewalks were impassable and pedestrians had to walk on often icy streets. Some residents may not be aware of the generally accepted obligation of the property owner to shovel his sidewalks. These same people must not have read the article about this responsibility in the December Echo. In it, the mayor called for any resident not having the resources to clear snow off the sidewalk to inform him so that other arrangements could be made.

Some town officials also bear responsibility for the problem, however. They did not have the snow cleared from the sidewalks bordering the town park nor did a couple of them clear their own sidewalks.

The fact is, there is no town ordinance that requires residents to do this job. Other jurisdictions have laws requiring the shoveling of sidewalks within eight hours of the time the snow stops falling. In Washington, the fine for non-compliance is \$25.

This is a town that has spent a lot of money to have sidewalks. What is the point of sidewalks that cannot be used for weeks at a time? It seems appropriate for the town to consider adding an ordinance requiring the clearing of snow off sidewalks and to enforce it.

However, an alternative would be for the town to have all sidewalks cleared in conjunction with the plowing of the streets. This would have the advantage of equalizing the costs among all residents, regardless of whether they happen to live adjacent to a sidewalk. It would also spare many residents a lot of work.

This option was tried last year. Unfortunately, some residents objected to town taxes being spent in this manner, and the town decided against it this winter.

The Town Council should make clear whose responsibility sidewalk clearing is going to be--the property owner's or the town's. This still does not seem to be resolved regarding vegetation growing over sidewalks. It certainly should be clarified before the snow season ends.

---Carlotta Anderson

FORMER RESIDENT DIES

Karl Halverson, 62, who lived many years at 34 Wellesley Circle, died in Glenwood, Minnesota on December 31, according to an obituary in The Washington Post. Cause of death was leukemia, the paper reported.

Mr. Halverson was a musician, organist and conductor with All Souls Unitarian Church and Adas Israel Congregation.

In 1979, he moved from Glen Echo to Montana where his mother and sister live. A brother lives in Minnesota, where Mr. Halverson entered a nursing home last fall.

The Mayor and Town Council

GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND

A Message from the Mayor about the Town Hall

During the past twenty months we have made extensive renovations at the Town Hall. The heating and cooling systems have been replaced with modern equipment, the electrical and plumbing systems expanded and improved, the interior and part of the exterior painted, new fire doors installed, floor tiles relaid, draperies cleaned, fencing erected, shutters hung, and surface drainage around the building much improved. Storage space has been cleaned and organized; volunteers have enhanced the appearance of the grounds with flowers and plants.

There are things still to do, but I think we can all be proud of our Hall and glad that we have a fine building for official use and for the personal enjoyment of Town Residents.

Not everyone realizes that we do not have a custodial staff at the Town Hall. Routine maintenance is performed by a Council Member who calls on professionals only when needed. The Town pays for a monthly cleaning, and from time to time pays extra for such specialized work as floor polishing. Anything beyond this "basic housekeeping" would cause budgetary problems, and it is important that Residents who exercise their privilege of using the Hall for private functions treat the facilities with care, and clean up meticulously when their Party is over.

If clean up work is neglected or poorly done, the Hall gets untidy very quickly. Twice in the past year Council members and the Town Clerk found it necessary to clean the Hall themselves to make it presentable for the next scheduled function.

We have prepared a check list of "do's" and "don't's" for Residents who use the Hall for their private functions. It is not a formidable list, and mostly common sense.

The general rule is simple:

"Treat the Hall as you would your Home, and when your Party is over, leave the Hall for the next user in the shape you would like to find it."

Frederick J. Kuster
Mayor

January 21, 1988

COUNCIL DISCUSSES HAZARDS OF SNOW REMOVAL CHEMICALS

By Eric Anderson

At the January 11 Town Council meeting, Councilmember Nancy Long suggested that the salt and chemicals that the town's snow removal contractor uses damage vegetation. "The run-off comes down the hills to the parkway and beyond," she said, and is bad for residents' yards.

Councilmember Harry Odell cited a D.C./Maryland/Virginia agreement concerning protection of the Chesapeake Bay. He queried whether salting streets was mentioned in that agreement. Since the Potomac River flows into the Chesapeake Bay, it is possible that the salt or chemicals could contaminate the bay.

The council agreed that the snow removal so far had been well done.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

January 11

Repair of some areas on town streets has been delayed because it is not asphalt season, Councilman Shultz reported ...

The cover on a manhole in front of 7311 University Avenue has been knocked off again by snow plows. The council discussed whether the town would be liable if someone stepped into the hole ... (Editor's Note: The cover had not been replaced by Echo press time nor had a warning barrier been placed there.)

The council again discussed the drainage problem on Oberlin Avenue where the water flow is tearing up the roadway. Councilman Shultz said in the "worst scenario," the repairs there might cost \$20,000-\$30,000. Members of the council expressed a wish that the Glen Echo Station restaurant would share in the costs, since construction of the restaurant parking lot had contributed to the problem ...

All members of the council were present. Mayor Kuster left early because of a health problem.

---Eric Anderson

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ELLIE MILLER

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

During the Christmas holidays we had the pleasure of finding at our door an attractive Glen Echo calendar for the year 1988, each page illustrated with a black and white drawing of a house or scene in Glen Echo with drawings by Glen Echo artist Brockie Stevenson. The calendar was circulated by realtor Jane Stevenson, who had it made under the auspices of Shannon & Luchs. I am sure that other town residents join me in commending the Stevensons for this artistic contribution. The six different illustrations in the 1988 calendar present an excellent cross-section of the local character of the town of Glen Echo, old and new. The calendar broadens the scene opened up in a similar calendar the Stevensons distributed to town residents for the previous year, 1987. It is hoped that they will continue to regale us with pictorial annual calendars with Glen Echo scenes in future years. In addition to the artistic merit of these calendars, they represent now and for future years a valuable illustrated record of Glen Echo town history. Copies have been placed in the Glen Echo town archives. Congratulations to Brockie and Jane Stevenson.

J. Manuel Espinosa



BIRDS NEED TO KEEP WARM TOO


During the cold winter months, birds need plenty of food to stay warm. The best way to help the birds is to keep them well-supplied with plenty of good quality birdseed. Foods with high oil content--sunflower seed, suet, and peanut hearts--are best in cold weather. The Audubon Naturalist Society offers some tips for feeding birds that will attract the birds to your yard and help them get their needed sources of energy.

--Use the best birdseed available. Black oil sunflower seed is the seed most eagerly taken by the greatest variety of birds. The Audubon Naturalist Society suggests purchasing sunflower seeds and millet separately or a high-quality mix.

--Put some seed on the ground. Juncos, sparrows, cardinals, mourning doves and other local species all prefer to feed off the ground. If you don't put down more seed than they can consume in one day, you won't be attracting rodents.


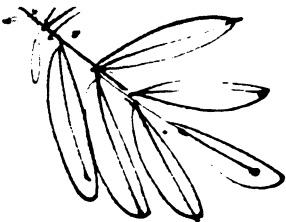
--Continue feeding until late April. Warm weather may come in March, but the birds' natural food supply such as insects and vegetation won't increase until much later.

--Make your own banquet for the birds. Melt 2 cups suet, mix with 2 cups corn meal and 2 cups peanut butter, and cook several minutes. Pour mixture into containers and store in refrigerator or freezer. After mixture is cooled and hardened, hang it in a mesh bag such as an onion bag or a special suet feeder.



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301-229-3141

**SIBLEY OFFERS HEALTH GROUP
FOR THOSE OVER 60 YEARS**

Sibley Hospital is offering a Senior association which provides a variety of health care services for those 60 years or older. Included are annual health screening programs, walk-in blood pressure screening, a pharmacy hotline, a luncheon club and consultation on insurance benefits, diet and nutrition and long-term care needs.

The membership fee is \$50 for an annual individual membership and \$75 for couples.

For further information call the program manager at 364-7602 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Adventure Theatre

Many Moons

January 16-February 21

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Admission: \$4 320-5331

GLEN ECHO PROPERTY SALES

5 Radcliffe Lane \$150,000
to Anthony R. Wilder

36 Wellesley Circle \$330,000
to Martin Goldberg

SHORT TAKES

Alberta Bartkus has returned to her home at 7311 University Avenue and would welcome visitors.

* * * * *

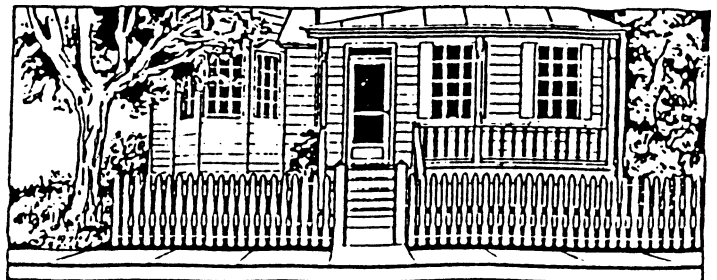
The Glen Echo Station restaurant is temporarily closed for renovations. The kitchen is being enlarged and the front bar will be converted to a raw bar.

* * * * *

The mayor is still in the process of negotiating a new lease for the post office.

* * * * *

As soon as he can find a date convenient for all participants, the mayor will call a public meeting to discuss the possibility of Glen Echo being designated a historic district. The mayor wants representatives from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the county Historic Preservation Commission to be present.



**REAL ESTATE? Tell a friend to call JANE STEVENSON
at Shannon & Luchs. (O) 986-9292 (H) 229-3578**

EXCERPTS FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT -- DECEMBER 1987

Halloween party supplies	\$170.97
Holiday party supplies	\$188.16
Peyton's Tree Service (tree removal 36 Wellesley (1/2 reimbursed))	\$825.00