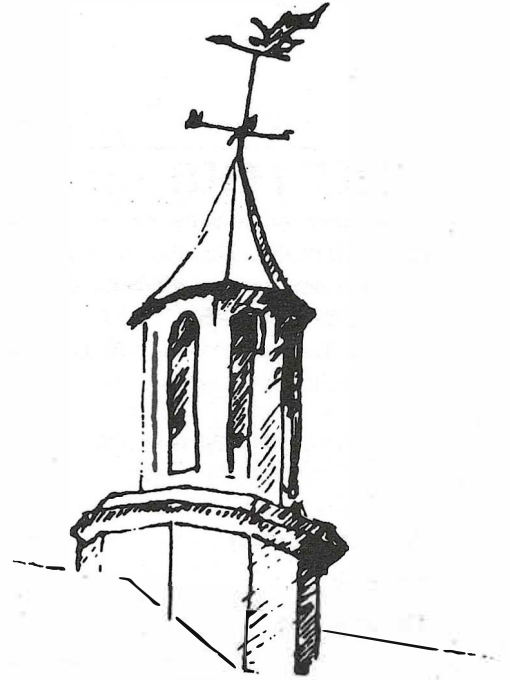


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



August, 1993

LIVELY INTEREST IN BUYING RIGHT-OF-WAY SECTIONS

By Carlotta Anderson

The town has authorized its attorney, Tom Craven, to look into the possibility of its acquiring all or part of the former trolley right-of-way alongside Glen Echo, according to Mayor Debbie Beers. The property was foreclosed at auction last month because its owner, D.C. Transit System, defaulted on a note scheduled to be paid to a group of transit riders who won a class action suit against it.

In addition, at least four Glen Echo property owners have expressed interest in buying sections of the property which abut their lots, according to Leonard N. Bebchick, trustee for the riders group. They cited a desire to extend their yards, pave over for car parking, construct a garage or other structure, or create a better barrier against MacArthur Blvd. traffic.

Half a dozen environmental groups have approached Mr. Bebchick with an eye to making a hiker-biker trail, but "we are looking for more money" than they could offer, he said.

Mr. Bebchick said he wanted to solicit the widest number of proposals from interested people because he was looking for the maximum possible return for his clients. He asked that any prospective buyer contact him at 6321 Lenox Rd., Bethesda, MD 20817, and said he will contact every person who writes him.

If he gets enough expression of interest for the Glen Echo portions of the land he will move quickly to have a survey done of the desired sections, he said, and get an appraiser to set a fair price, which must be approved by the U.S. Court of Appeal. However, the earliest the property could be sold to a new owner would be in fall, he said. He hopes the sale will be completed by the beginning of spring, 1994, at the latest.

He said the Glen Echo section is severable from the rest of the right-of-way, which extends to the Dalecarlia Reservoir in

--continued on page 3

UTILITY STRUCTURE PLANS "BACK TO DRAWING BOARD"

By David Sproul and Carlotta Anderson

The National Park Service has gone "back to the drawing board" in its plan to build a utilities structure on park land located between Oberlin and Tulane Aves., Glen Echo Park site manager Frank Cucurullo told the town council last month.

The two distinct roles for the facility—housing both mobile maintenance equipment and fixed utilities structures—may still be combined in one building or they may be separated, he said. He promised to promptly forward to the council any decisions made, especially concerning its location.

Mayor Beers restated the town's position that no new

--continued on page 2

THE ECHO

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TOWN OF GLEN ECHO

MARYLAND

20812

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6106 Harvard Avenue or Box 498, Glen Echo, MD.

20812

Office Hours: Call to arrange an appointment.

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Bill Shultz 229-1269

CLERK-TREASURER

Kate Horwitz 320-2171

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

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Susan Shultz 229-1269

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Articles for publication are also solicited. Any comments about *The Echo* may be addressed to the editor, the mayor or any councilmember. Volunteer reporters are always needed. Call the editor at 229-3748.

UTILITY FACILITY (from page 1)

construction should be allowed to interfere with any existing residential area and that all possible sites should be considered.

Only one-third of the funds requested for upgrading the park's utility system have been appropriated by Congress. They represent only the planning phase of the work, according to Sandy Zimmet, an aide to Cong. Connie Morella. Ms. Zimmet said that Cong. Morella wants to make sure that the plan has the approval of local citizens before she works to obtain the remaining funds.

Two people with businesses in town have written Cong. Morella opposing the proposed location of the structure between Tulane and Oberlin. Several petitions in opposition have been received at the town hall in response to a mailing by resident Eleanor Balaban. They are being forwarded to Cong. Morella's office at her request.

GLEN ECHO Pharmacy

7311 MacArthur Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20816

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PACKAGES HERE

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Fax: (301) 229-3036

TWO LONG-TERM RESIDENTS AND AN ANCIENT TREE DIE

By Carlotta Anderson

July was a month to mourn the passing of two old-time Glen Echoans who figured prominently in its history as well as a mammoth oak which probably sprouted as long ago as the mid-1800s.

Ronald H. (Ronnie) Vine, who died Saturday, July 10, arrived in Glen Echo in 1919, a nine-year-old from Southhampton, England, whose mother had married a "Yank" after Ronnie's father died in a shipping accident. The family lived at 9 Vassar Circle until 1930, when they bought the house at 6010 Princeton Ave. Soon afterwards, Ronnie married and had a child, Ronald F. (Fred), who was born in 1931. Ronnie acquired tuberculosis and was in and out of sanitoriums for several years, then worked for the Navy Dept. during World War II. In the late 50s, he moved back to Glen Echo to live with his mother and Fred, who had been living with his grandmother after Ronnie's divorced wife, Margaret, died. Ronnie was working as a salesman for McGregor Printing in D.C. when he retired in 1975.

A few years later, Ronnie began writing an imaginative series of reminiscences of Glen Echo in the 20s for *The Echo*. Titled "The Irresistible Mr. Weems," it recounted his conversations with Mr. Weems, a ghost. Ronnie and Mr. Weems talked about old-time Glen Echo in fourteen installments between 1978-79. In "Walking the Towpath...with Ronnie Vine," Ronnie mused on the canal and its history in six articles from 1983-84. From March, 1980-May, 1981, he was a town councilmember. He moved to Fairfax, Va. with his son in 1984.

Ethel D. Hartman, who died on July 10 at the age of 97, was a resident of the Clara Barton House from 1968 until 1988, when she moved to the Methodist Home of Washington. When she first lived in the Red Cross founder's house, 56 years after Ms. Barton's death, it was divided into seven or more apartments.

In 1963, Mrs. Hartman helped organize the Friends of Clara Barton, Inc. and served as its secretary and volunteers administrator until 1979. Her fund-raising activities helped raise more than \$100,000 for the acquisition and restoration of the house. It was the Friends of Clara Barton who salvaged the site and presented it to the U.S. Park Service.

A graduate of Vassar College, Mrs. Hartman arrived in the area in the late 1920s. Her husband, George B. Hartman, died in 1968. She had no immediate survivors.

While living in the Clara Barton house, Mrs. Hartman served as its caretaker. Before the park service took over the property in 1975, she served as primary tour guide, assisted by the late Ruth Bonzer and Ms. Bonzer's nephew, Dean Guernsey.

A lordly **oak tree**, more than 100 feet high, ended its reign of a century-and-a-half in mid-July when it was felled for safety's sake by the Sommers' Tree Service. The tree, which towered over the stone house at 42 Wellesley Circle, had many dead branches and was clearly dying.

Pruned last year in an effort to save it, the oak had begun leaning toward the house and the trunk was less than an inch from the gutters, endangering the structure. It was impossible to count the rings after it was cut down because much of the tree center was mushy and had been eaten by insects.

However, Rick Sommers, owner of the tree firm, estimated that it was probably contemporaneous with the construction of the house because the trunk grew nearly against the walls, an inappropriate spot to plant an oak.

The house, where Councilman Bill Shultz and his family reside, was built in 1853 and served as the cookhouse/slave quarters for the next door plantation house, now the home of Councilman Michael Brintnall and his family.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (from page 1)

D.C. He viewed the logical purchaser for the rest of the line as the National Park Service, which might want to widen access lanes of the Clara Barton Parkway or the parkway itself.

Questioned as to whether the property has a clear title, he replied that all sales would be in the form of a quit claim, or the transfer only of whatever rights exist. He said he has been advised that the deeds of the properties alongside Glen Echo all appear to have fee simple title, meaning outright ownership as opposed to an easement for the use of a trolley line. "No one has made claim of adverse possession under Maryland law," he said. Parking a car on the property would not qualify, he said.

He recommended that the town consider whether it was more advantageous for it to have the land for environmental purposes and lose the tax revenue, or to have it privately purchased and possibly increase the town tax base.

ROCKS THROWN FROM TOWN ONTO PARKWAY

By Carlotta Anderson

Rocks were thrown onto the Clara Barton Parkway from a spot near the lower end of Cornell Ave. around 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13. The incident was reported to the U.S. Park Police by a motorist.

Park police officers checked the woods above the spot and found an area being used by young children as a meeting place. They went to the home of some children, who denied they were involved in the rock-throwing.

Some old furniture and other items that had been set up for a kind of clubhouse were removed by National Park Service personnel. Several windows had been broken in the rear of an empty house at 32 Wellesley Circle, which is now for sale, and the back door was open, according to Lt. David Stover of the U.S. Park Police, Glen Echo substation. This information was turned over to county police.

Lt. Stover said that neighbors have been asked to keep their eyes open and to report any children hanging around that area.

STREET PAVING STRATEGY CONSIDERED

Mayor Beers would like to have the town's streets surveyed with an eye to removing the existing top layers and having a new overall layer applied, she told the council last month. She thought this was preferable to the continuing piecemeal repairs that have been performed for many years.

The town could save considerably by arranging to be included in the county's paving schedule, Clerk Treasurer Kate Horwitz suggested.

In the absence of a quorum, the council was unable to make any decisions regarding street repairs at its July meeting. Councilmembers Brintnall and Shultz were absent.

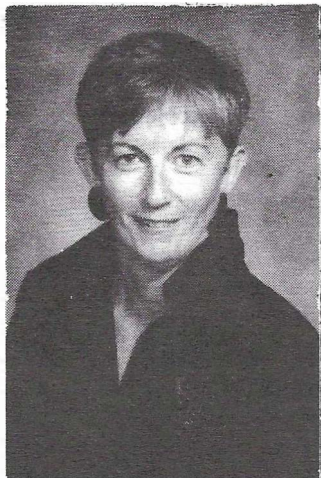
--David Sproul

SIDEWALK, STREET REPAIRS NEEDED?

Mayor Debbie Beers welcomes input from Glen Echo residents regarding street and sidewalk damage or deterioration that they think requires immediate attention.

Although the town is commissioning a professional survey of needed repairs, the mayor wants to prioritize the repairs based on citizen complaints.

If you wish to report what you believe is a serious problem, please call the mayor at 229-7308 or Clerk Treasurer Kate Horwitz at 320-2171.



Eleanor

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

907-7600
229-7990



**If bird feeding is your favorite hobby,
we'll be your favorite store.**



**10% Off Any
Purchase W/This Ad**

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Wild Bird Center

7687 MacArthur Blvd.
Cabin John, MD 20818
(301) 229-3141

A half-mile past the one lane bridge

HOW TO RECYCLE APPLIANCES CONTAINING REFRIGERANTS

The Federal Clean Air Act prohibits the venting or release of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) in refrigerant gases when appliances are disposed of or recycled. Here's how you can properly handle this problem:

- If the appliance is still working, consider donating it. Call the Recycling Hotline (590-0046), M-F, 1-4 p.m., for a list of organizations that accept used appliances.
- Bring the appliance to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station at the intersection of Shady Grove Rd. and Rt. 355. There is no charge.
- Arrange for a pickup by the appliance dealer from whom you purchased your new appliance.
- Take your appliance to a scrap metal dealer. Make sure they have equipment for removing refrigerants from the unit.

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

July 12

Mayor Beers asked residents **not to permanently leave trash containers at the curbside pickup location**. She said several townspeople have stopped taking cans in between pickup days...

Glen Echo Park site manager Frank Cucurullo wanted to remind townspeople that **rollerblading is not permitted in the parking lot...**

The mayor said that **Waste Management has refused to accept large items containing freon** on the last Wednesday of the month pickup unless they are certified as having the freon removed and bear a tag confirming this. (Until such time as the town resolves this problem, residents should know that they have the options for recycling such appliances listed in adjoining column.)

The town will be getting a **facsimile (fax) machine** for use in the town's office.

—David Sproul

CLASSIFIED ADS

WILLING TO DO any chores appropriate for a 10-year-old. If you need chores done please contact Catherine Sproul, 320-2665.

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE. Share our loving sitter at my home in Glen Echo with my two-year-old daughter on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00-2:30 and Fridays from 9:00-12:30. Possibility of extended hours (9:00-6:00) Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Ideal arrangement for part-time working mother or student. Call Ann at (301) 229-1338.

TYPING, transcribing, word processing. FAX services. Experienced, good references. Call Jennifer, 229-9121.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.75 per line. Display ads, \$3 per column inch. Ads may be left with or mailed to the editor at 38 Wellesley Circle, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Make checks payable to: Town of Glen Echo. Deadline: 24th of each month.

LAW & ASSOCIATES, INC.
(301) 229-8500



Heather Cottage

**Financial Planning
Investments
Insurance**

LANDSCAPING VIOLATION NOTICES SENT

Fewer than 10 violations of the ordinance prohibiting overgrowth of plant materials onto town streets and sidewalks were discovered by the mayor and some council members on a town survey on July 18.

Mayor Beers announced that she was pleased that many previous violators had heeded announcements that they should cut back the overgrowth.

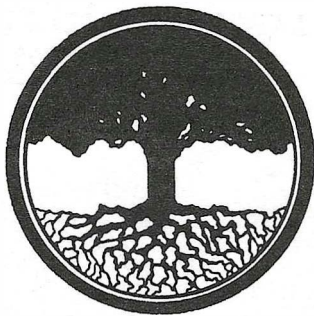
Ten-day deadline notices were sent on July 21 to those still in violation. After the deadline expired at the end of July, Lam's Landscaping was to perform any work needed and keep itemized bills so the town could bill violators.

—David Sproul

EXTRA ECHOS AVAILABLE

If you didn't get your copy of *The Echo* or would like an extra one, there are a few left each month at the Glen Echo post office.

Just ask a clerk for one.



LANDSCAPING

*in harmony with your
taste & budget*

WASHINGTONIAN
AWARD WINNER

Unusual Design • Wood Decks
Brick & Stone Patios • R.R. Ties
Unique & Beautiful Plantings

Mark Willcher
and Company
320-2040

MANY PETS STILL NEED LICENSES

Fifteen town pets have obtained free rabies inoculations provided by the town for residents at Alpine Veterinary Hospital and MacArthur Animal Hospital and have been licensed.

However, many pets still lack the annual licenses required by Glen Echo town ordinances. Proof of rabies inoculation is necessary in order to obtain a license.

The deadline for obtaining licenses was June 30. Fees have now doubled. The cost for a male or spayed female dog or cat is \$8; for an unspayed animal, \$16.

Licenses may be obtained by contacting Clerk-Treasurer Kate Horwitz at 320-2171.

VEHICLE CONTROL NOTICES SENT

By David Sproul

A notice of violation of the town vehicle control ordinances for four cars was sent to a Vassar Circle address last month.

Three other violations of the ordinance were noted on Oxford Rd. during a recent tour of town and initial 30-day notices were to be sent to their owners, Councilman Jim Anderson told the council last month.

Asked about the disposition of a boat on Columbia Rd., Councilman Anderson said that no complaints had been received, so he planned to take no action.



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

BRIEFLY NOTED

Summer Sights—a dozen children congregating on Harvard Ave. one evening, seeing who can jump longest. The jumprope was being tirelessly turned by **Jan Shaut** and **Osamu Shimizu**...

Town auditors are charging Glen Echo \$2,000 less than last years because the town now has a computerized program, according to Clerk-Treasurer Kate Horwitz. "The computer has almost paid for itself," she said...

Glen Echo's former elected representative on the Conduit Road Fire Board, **Fred Kuster**, was sentenced last month by Montgomery County Circuit Judge Peter J. Messitte to three years in jail with all but six months suspended for embezzling more than \$29,000 in fire department funds while serving as its treasurer. He was ordered to pay back the funds to the bonding company which reimbursed the fire department...

"Proust: A Writer's Life," an hour-long film documentary on the life of Marcel Proust, will be shown in the East Building of the National Gallery of Art on Aug. 4-7 at 12:30 and Aug. 8 at 12:00. The film was made by **Sarah Patton** of University Ave., and her sister-in-law, **Sarah Mondale**.

STORM DRAIN LINE TO BE REPLACED

The town council approved a bid for \$1,385 to replace a storm drain line in the parking lot behind the town hall at a special session on Friday, July 16.

Warner plumbing company will be replacing 12 feet of pipe. It had previously been determined that the existing drain was blocked by a tree root, causing flooding, and that removing the root could cost up to \$1,000.

It was necessary to call the special session because of lack of a quorum at the regular July 12 meeting.

—**Carlotta Anderson**

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

June 1993

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Alpine Veterinary Hosp. (rabies) | \$363.00 |
| Moon Bounce (town picnic) | \$120.00 |
| Lam's Landscaping | \$2,319.63 |
| FAR Traffic Signs | \$737.00 |
| Lynott & Craven (legal) | \$1,125.00 |

(A full accounting of all bills paid and payments received is available as part of the town council minutes.)

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

THE GLEN ECHO BAPTIST CHURCH VASSAR CIRCLE, GLEN ECHO, MD.

SERVICES

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday | BIBLE SCHOOL | 9:30 a.m. |
| | MORNING WORSHIP | 11:00 a.m. |
| | OPEN BIBLE FORUM | 6:00 p.m. |
| | EVENING SERVICE | 7:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday | PRAYER TIME | 7:00 p.m. |
| Friday | COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY AT ANNEX | 10:00 a.m. |

- Pastors: David L. Cole and Roger Arnold
- Over fifty years of crisis counseling and referral.
- Collection center of food and clothing for the homeless and needy.

Call us: 229-4430 or 229-3314

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PROBLEM OF LIFE AND DEATH!**

TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

Tuesday & Friday—all trash, except heavy-weight objects.

Tuesday—recyclables, including plastic, metal and glass. Newspapers tied or in paper grocery bags. Garden refuse, cut into four-foot lengths and tied, placed in compostable leaf/grass bags, or in a large trash container labeled "Recycling" and used only for yard waste.

Last Wednesday of the month—heavy or large quantity of discardables.

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 6108 Princeton Ave. | \$379,000 |
| 32 Wellesley Circle | \$197,000 |

GLEN ECHO PARK

WEEKEND DANCES AT THE PARK

AUG. 1, 8, 22, 29--NEW COLUMBIA SWING ORCHESTRA

Aug. 1 & 8 (Swing)

Aug. 22 & 29 (Waltz-Tango)

Lessons, 2-3 p.m.; Dance, 3-6 p.m.

Dance: \$8, Lesson: \$3; Both, \$10

AUG. 7--STEVE RILEY AND THE MAMOU PLAYBOYS (Cajun/Zydeco)

AUG. 14--Swing Dance with NEW COLUMBIA SWING ORCHESTRA

AUG. 21--Good time boogie with LOADED ROLLER

AUG. 28--TOM CUNNINGHAM (big band)

Workshops 8-9; Dances 9-midnight.

Every Friday and Sunday, squares and contras.

ADVENTURE THEATRE

The Fabulous Fable Factory

Through September 5

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

Tickets: \$4..50 Call 320-5331

THE PUPPET COMPANY

Through August 29:

Jack and the Beanstalk

Every Wednesday and Thursday, 10 & 11:30 a.m.

Saturday and Sundays, 11 a.m.,

AT THE GALLERY

CHAUTAUQUA ARTISTS--Recent work by summer resident artists at Glen Echo Park..

Gallery hours, Tuesday through Sunday, noon-5 pm.

BIRD CENTER OFFERS WORKSHOPS FOR KIDS

The Wild Bird Center of Cabin John is offering area children workshops related to wild birds this summer. The programs, aimed at different ages, will last approximately an hour and a half and begin at 10:30 a.m.

Each program will include a short presentation using birds' nests, taped bird songs, and pictures. It will be following by a craft or project related to the subject. The fee for each workshop covers the materials to be used.

Class size is limited. Call the center at 229-3141 to reserve a place.

Aug. 4, **Our Summer Birds: Migration.** Ages 7 and up. \$6.

Aug. 11, **Bird House Building.** Ages 7 and up. \$10

Aug. 18, **Storytime.** Ages 4 and up. \$3

Aug. 25, **Birds of Prey.** Ages 5 and up. \$3

Sept. 1, **Bats in Our Neighborhood.** Ages 4 and up. \$3

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 9--8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the mayor if you wish to add an item to the agenda

USE OF THE TOWN HALL

All residents are entitled to use the Town Hall on payment of a \$50 deposit, which is returned if the hall and grounds are left in a clean and undamaged condition.

Non-profit organizations may apply to use the hall with a \$50 deposit, which is returned on the basis of the above qualifications.

Other groups may rent the hall for \$400, with a \$50 refund if hall and grounds are left in a clean and undamaged condition.

For all other information and reservations for use of the hall, please contact Councilwomn Nancy Long, 229-1369 (evenings and weekends).