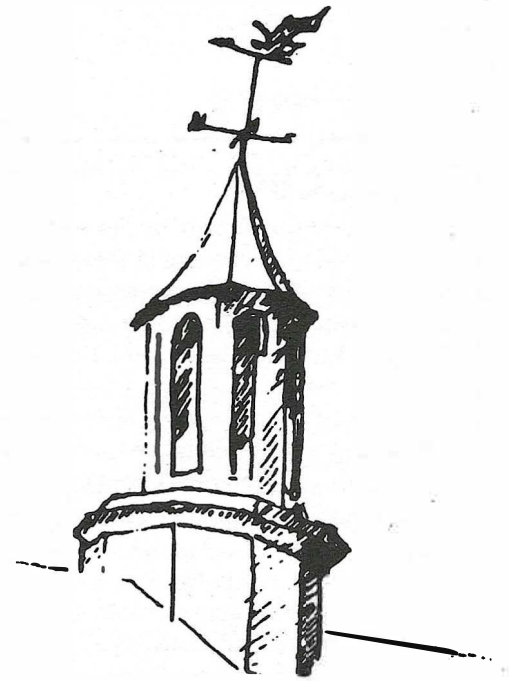


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



February 1997

BETSY PLATT TAKES CLERK/TREASURER JOB

By Bonnie Whyte

Betsy Platt, a Yale Ave. resident, was named new clerk/treasurer at the January meeting of the Glen Echo Town Council. She replaces Edie Springuel, who submitted her resignation in December, citing a lack of flexibility permitted in the regular office hours. Ms. Springuel also claimed that her hours had averaged more than the 15 hours per week originally agreed to. Her two months' notice expires Feb. 20.

The council agreed that the position is growing in responsibilities. After adding several, members approved a salary increase from \$13,500 to \$15,000 per year for a structured 20-hour a week job for the new clerk/treasurer. The town budget was adjusted by council vote.

Betsy Platt will begin the job around Feb. 20, she said. She will report to Mayor Debbie Beers and have significant financial, clerical, contracting and maintenance responsibilities, as well as working on community activities. After looking over the list of job responsibilities at the meeting, town resident Bea Smith exclaimed that the job was "a lot more work" than she had thought.

The council also approved a resolution in appreciation and gratitude to Edie Springuel for her two-and-a-half

years of dedication to Glen Echo, and in particular for her work to bring the town's records and business into the '90s. Mayor Beers commented on how vital the job was to the town and how she appreciated the professional job Edie had done. Betsy Platt said, "Edie is a hard act to follow. I hope to do nearly as good a job."

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS WORK; PARK REPLACE S BRIDGE

By Lindsey Whyte and Carlotta Anderson

Impelled by complaints from Glen Echo residents and others and an article in last month's *Echo*, an official of the C&O Canal National Historic Park came to last month's town council meeting to announce that a temporary footbridge will be installed immediately as replacement for the one swept away in the Flood of '96.

Work on the bridge began Jan. 25. It is situated slightly downstream from its previous location.

The bridge will be in the form of a simple earth berm

—continued on page 3

THE ECHO

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TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

Town Office 320-4041

6106 Harvard Avenue or Box 498, Glen Echo, MD
20812

Office Hours: Monday and Friday: 9:30 am- 12 noon
or by appointment

MAYOR
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COUNCIL MEMBERS
 Jim Anderson 229-3748
 Michael Brintnall 229-6792
 Gloria Levin 320-5068
 Nancy Long

CLERK-TREASURER
Edie Springuel 320-4041

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
Daryl Kuster 229-2070

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD
 Kathleen Horwitz 320-2171
 Barbara Odell 229-4494
 Sarah Patton 320-0037

NOTICE

There will be no office hours at the town hall the first week of February.

THANKS

Thanks to Peter Somerville and Bernie and Francois Springuel, who are making delivery of the special editions of *The Echo* with the amended charter summary possible at no expense to the town.

Peter scanned the text with his new scanner so that it could be put into *Echo* format. Bernie and Francois will be delivering the four editions as well as mailing them to all *Echo* subscribers as part of their service hours at Walt Whitman High School.

Publishing the summary in a newspaper at four week intervals is required by state law. This could have involved the town in considerable expense if it had to be done in a commercial publication.

CORRECTION

The amount given for Halloween Party expenses in last month's excerpts from the treasurer's report was incorrect. The correct expenditure was \$368.61.

Enjoy wildlife at your window



- Feeders
- Birdbaths
- Seed
- Nest Boxes
- Gifts
- Free Birdwalks

**\$2.00
Off**

any 40 lb.
bag of Wild
Bird Center
Premium
seed



Wild Bird Center
7687 MacArthur Blvd. • Cabin John
229-3141

SNOW PARKING OBEYED; CLEARING SIDEWALKS NOT

By Bonnie Whyte

Maps distributed to townspeople showing snow emergency routes and where to park worked well after a couple of inches of snow fell on Glen Echo Jan. 9. Town council members were pleased that snow plows were able to do their work efficiently because almost all residents had correctly parked their cars on the MacArthur Blvd. side of University Ave.

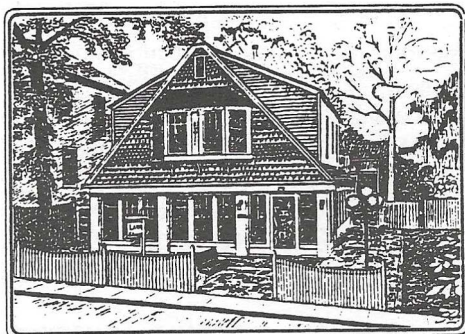
However, while many residents shoveled their walks, a significant number only shoveled from their front doors to their cars. This, Councilwoman Levin pointed out, was inconsiderate as well as against town law. She noted that she "knows who you are."

Council members noted that many children were available for snow shoveling jobs and that residents who couldn't shovel their walks had been able to hire shovelers. What was frustrating were the "able-bodied" who chose not to clear their walks.

They not only hampered pedestrian access in front of their houses, but diminished the hard work of their neighbors who did shovel, for it is less hazardous for a pedestrian to walk in the street than to try to maneuver back and forth across icy areas from cleared to non-cleared sidewalks.

Please be kind to your neighbors!

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



Heather Cottage

Financial Planning

BRIDGE WORK BEGINS (FROM P. 1)

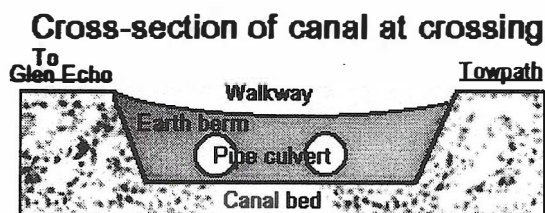
across the canal. It will rise above the canal bed nearly to towpath level, possibly with a boardwalk or steps, Kevin Brandt, Assistant Superintendent of the park, told the council. It will be covered with a clay surface of the type used on the towpath. Pipe culverts will carry what water remains in the canal through the base of the bridge

Park officials had been unaware of the footpath leading from MacArthur at the Cabin John Bridge to canalside, which is maintained by Clara Barton Parkway staff, Mr. Brandt said. After receiving complaints from townspeople because the bridge had not been replaced in a year, he inspected the trail and realized how highly used the footbridge had been and how it would alleviate crowding at Locks 8 and 10.

He was also able to confirm residents' statements that the parking area at Wilson Lane could accommodate 40-50 cars.

In addition to this interim solution, the park will continue to seek a bridge design that would meet sustainability requirements to withstand the future, inevitable flooding. The temporary bridge would then be replaced with a permanent one.

The council unanimously voted to send a letter to the park superintendent, Douglas Ferris, urging that the interim footbridge be constructed as soon as possible. The town had previously contributed \$1,000 to the C&O Canal restoration fund but was unable to earmark the money for the bridge. Council members commented how heartening it was to see all the volunteers and donations which have come forth to help rebuild the canal. Mr. Brandt agreed that the support "meant a lot to us," especially since the park service has been undergoing wrenching budget cuts.



Sketch by Peter Somerville

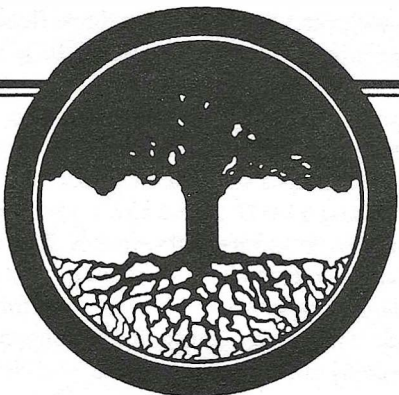
FAMILIAR VENDOR DIES

"Tony," a beloved and almost legendary figure who for more than 20 years sold produce to local residents from his truck parked in a lot at the corner of Wilson and MacArthur, died on Dec. 29 at the age of 95 at Sibley Memorial Hospital.

He manned his truck until retiring in 1995 just before vending was no longer permitted at the lot, which is owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. For a time he continued to sell his own fruits and vegetables from the driveway of his home on MacArthur Blvd. in Potomac.

Tony, whose real name was Biagio DiCarlantonio, was a native of Italy. He came to Washington in 1923, worked on the railroads, drove trolley cars, owned and operated several small restaurants and ran a construction company before opening his produce stand.

Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Beulah, a son, two stepchildren, two adopted children, 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



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COUNCIL APPROVES AMENDED TOWN CHARTER

By Bonnie Whyte and Carlotta Anderson

After much study and discussion, the town council formally approved revisions to the town charter at its Jan. 13 meeting by a vote of 3-1. The updated charter, drafted from a model by the Institute for Government Service at the University of Maryland, brings the town current with various state and county changes as well as giving form to Glen Echo's municipal government.

The town was originally chartered in 1904, and the charter has been revised infrequently.

The significant changes included allowing non-U.S. citizens to vote in town elections, providing for recall of town officials, and expanding council powers to pass not only ordinances, but resolutions, regulations and rules. The latter gives the town more enforcement options than in the previous charter.

The revised charter provides that all residents of Glen Echo who otherwise meet town and state voter qualifications, but are not U.S. citizens, will be eligible to vote in town elections. The recall provisions call for a petition signed by at least 25 percent of those eligible to vote to be followed by a vote for recall supported by two-thirds of the voters. With the new enforcement provisions, the town can, for example, assess liens against the property of those whose property abuts public ways and who fail to perform acts required by town laws, such as keeping sidewalks free from snow or other obstruction.

As before, the minimum age to serve on the town council is 25, and age 30 to be mayor. Residents may vote at age 18.

Council members Anderson, Brintnall and Levin voted to approve the charter revisions. Councilwoman Long opposed them due to the citizenship and recall language.

A summary of the charter is being published in special weekly editions of *The Echo* as required by Maryland law. The full text will be available for public inspection at the town hall until Feb. 22. A town referendum will be held to approve or reject the charter amendments if petitioned by 20 percent of qualified voters by Feb. 22. Unless rejected by referendum, the new charter will become effective Mar. 4, 1997.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 10—8:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

Around Town

We don't know how many Glen Echoans attended **inaugural balls** in Washington, but around a dozen celebrated at the one held on Monday, Jan. 20 in Glen Echo Park's Spanish Ballroom. Ball-goers, some wearing tuxedos, tails or period gowns, danced to waltzes, tangos, quadrilles and 40s' and 50s' swing music.

Seen enjoying themselves were town residents Susan Grigsby, Diana and Norman Hudson-Taylor, Peter Somerville and Debbie Lange, Ivan Dimitrov, Madeline Carter and Alex Graham, Jim and Carlotta Anderson, and Betsy and Jamie Platt, who helped organize the event.

It was sponsored by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington and the Friday Night Dancers...

Shredded mulch in handy 3 cu. ft. bags for \$4 is available from the Walt Whitman All Sports Booster Club to benefit Whitman's athletic programs. If you order 15 bags or more it will be delivered to your home free. Or pick it up at the Whitman parking lot on April 12 between 9:00 am-2:00 pm. There is a Mar. 22 order deadline for delivery of 15 or more bags. Call Dennis, 365-9250...

"Court Puts Land Deal in Limbo" was the headline of an article about the town's attempts to purchase the **old trolley right of way** which appeared in the Jan. 22 Montgomery Weekly section of the *Washington Post*. It summarized information which town residents are familiar with, noting that after three years of negotiations town officials reached a price of \$90,000 with attorneys of the Riders Fund only to learn that all the fund's assets had been turned over to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). A WMATA spokeswoman told the reporter she was not allowed to discuss the case. Attorneys for the town are confident WMATA will proceed with the deal after the transfer becomes official, the article said...

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

December 1996

Murray & Assoc. (ADA architect)	\$4,102.00
Maid Brigade	\$196.00
Allied Printing (Echo)	\$144.41

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

MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR "BILL'S WALL"

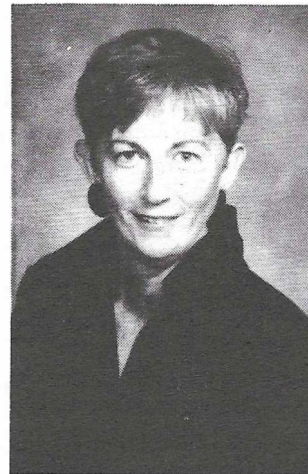
By Bonnie Whyte

The retaining wall between the former trolley right-of-way and the town hall will be named in honor of Bill Shultz, who died Dec. 6. The railroad tie wall was a pet project of Bill's during his eleven-and-a-half years as town councilmember.

The council last month approved a plaque for "Bill's Wall" to memorialize him. Since he was remembered as an "outdoors guy;" the council will also look into planting dogwoods near the wall.

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

5906 Oxford Rd.	\$399,900
22 Wellesley Circle	\$269,000



Eleanor

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

907-7600
229-7990



COLLECTIONS FROM THE GLEN ECHO POST OFFICE

By Peter Somerville

Many things are collected from the Glen Echo Post Office:

- The US Postal Service collects outgoing mail.
- The town collects 17% of its income from renting the space in the Town hall to the Post Office.

A number of more interesting collections also take place at the Post Office.

Whilst most residents have home mail delivery, there are some residents who prefer to collect their mail from a PO Box at the Post Office. There are also boxes used by individuals who simply prefer that their addresses not be publicized.

A recent search on the World Wide Web using MD 20812 as a search key revealed the variety of businesses and hobbies that are supported through the Glen Echo PO Boxes.

There are the arts, including an art gallery, a pop group, a sheet music publisher, and a postage stamp dealer.

There are organizations, including the Town of Glen Echo, an Internet Newsroom, a Democratic club, a company specializing in water treatment equipment for the Third World, the C&O Canal Association, a chapter of an association of home based businesses, a board member of an association of Gnotobiotic experts (no commonly available dictionary defini-

tion exists but you can find what it means by searching the Web). There is also a Website covering earthquakes that lists its address as a Glen Echo PO Box.

If you want to subscribe to newsletters about the conception of free thought or about finding ancestors in Russia, or if you want to comment on a draft paper entitled "Viable Ethical Standards for Business," you can reply to a Glen Echo PO Box.


Finally, you can extend the social aspects of your going to the Post Office by speaking in an Elvish tongue in the hope of meeting the PO Box subscriber who collects requests for a Tolkien periodical about reviving Elvish languages.

PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG

Some residents are taking their dogs for a walk without bringing along a plastic bag to clean up after them. When the dogs leave a mess in front of someone's house, that resident has to do the clean-up. This is an unpleasant job, and difficult for those who are elderly or disabled.

It is an easy matter to pick up after your dog by putting your hand inside a plastic bag like the one the newspaper is delivered in and then turning it inside out. It is also an act of consideration, part of showing concern for the society you live in.

Please be more thoughtful about this!



Cheese, imported and domestic ▼
▼ Organically-grown produce
Nuts, dried fruit, grains & beans sold in bulk ▼
▼ Health & bodycare, cruelty-free

Serving the community since 1975.

Bethesda Co-op

301-320-2530 6500 Seven Locks Rd., at MacArthur Blvd. Mon.-Sat. 9-9, Sun. 9-7

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to an organizational meeting of Ladies Night

*Wednesday, Feb. 12, 8:00-9:00 p.m.
16 Wellesley Circle*

It will be followed by a social hour.

R.S.V.P. Diana, 229-2163

Ladies Night needs volunteers to hostess future evenings. Please call Diana if you are available.

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

The following activities booked at the town hall are free for town residents:

Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 pm. English Country Dance. Live music. No experience or partner needed. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington

SNOW NOTICE

Remember that when snow is anticipated, please park only on the side of University Ave. nearest to MacArthur Blvd. Anyone who can park on one of the side streets is requested to do so. This will help implement the new snow emergency route and facilitate fire and rescue access.

Please also remember that a town ordinance requires residents—occupants as well as owners--to shovel snow off the sidewalks in front of their property within 24 hours after snowplows come through. It can be shoveled onto the side of the street.

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

January 13

Councilwoman Gloria Levin planned on taking both WSSC and town contractor E.E. Lyons to task over the state of the “final” repairs to town streets. She noted numerous cracks around fixed areas. WSSC work can be recognized by its logo in the asphalt work. She said she would write “impassioned” letters, throwing in comments on the MacArthur at Cornell feederline strip hole for good measure. The slurry sealing of the streets has been put off (again) until spring, when hopefully the “fixes” can be fixed...

Due to two incidents in a month of inadequate cleanup, all deposit checks for use of the town hall will be deposited promptly at the suggestion of the town auditor. Two hall users did not clean up the facilities properly and \$50 was withheld to cover cleaning costs. Not cleaning up the restrooms and emptying trash were the most frequent offenses...

Mayor Beers reported that she would be closing on the “forgivable” loan to the town (done Jan. 23) for remodeling the town hall to meet the Americans With Disabilities Act. Construction cannot begin until the town receives written notice to proceed from the county, a construction permit and clearance from the fire department regarding the back fire stairs...

Bonnie Whyte and Carlotta Anderson

Paid Advertisement

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

Jesus Christ is our Lord, Saviour and God. He still performs miracles at the Glen Echo Baptist Church. A born again fellowship. 229-4430.

Sunday Morning: PRAYER 8:00, FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30, WORSHIP AND PRAISE, 11:00. All are invited!!

Sunday Evening: 6:00 WHY WE BELIEVE THE JEWISH BIBLE, 7:00 PRAISE, TESTIMONIES, WORSHIP, SINGING.

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 PRAYER, TESTIMONIES, BIBLE QUESTIONS

Friday Morning: 10:00 COMMUNITY PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY

Collecting food and clothing for the homeless and needy.

GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, Feb. 1—Peaches O'Dell and her He-Man Orchestra

Saturday, Feb. 8—Gregg Chambers & Creole Junction

Saturday, Feb. 15—Sassparilla

Saturday, Feb. 22—Tom Cunningham Orchestra

Saturday, Mar. 1—The Sevilles

Dances every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings

ADVENTURE THEATRE

The Adventures of Brer Rabbit

January 11-February 16

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

Tickets: \$5.00 Call 320-5331

AT THE GALLERY

Quilt Designs in Fiber and Paper

February 1-23

Tuesday through Sunday, 12-5

THE PUPPET THEATRE

Tales of Beatrix Potter

Through February 9

A Midsummer Night's Dream

February 19-March 23

Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30

Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00

CLASSIFIED ADS

CHILDCARE NEEDED: Looking for someone loving and experienced to care for our 3-month-old girl starting mid-March. 3 days/wk. Live in or out. Good English. Bannockburn neighborhood. Our home or yours. 229-1058.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.75 per line of 55 characters or fewer. Display ads: \$4 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.

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.

TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

Tuesday & Friday--all trash, except heavyweight 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.

If you have any trash or recycling pick up problems call Waste Management directly at 340-0774 and ask for Dispatch.