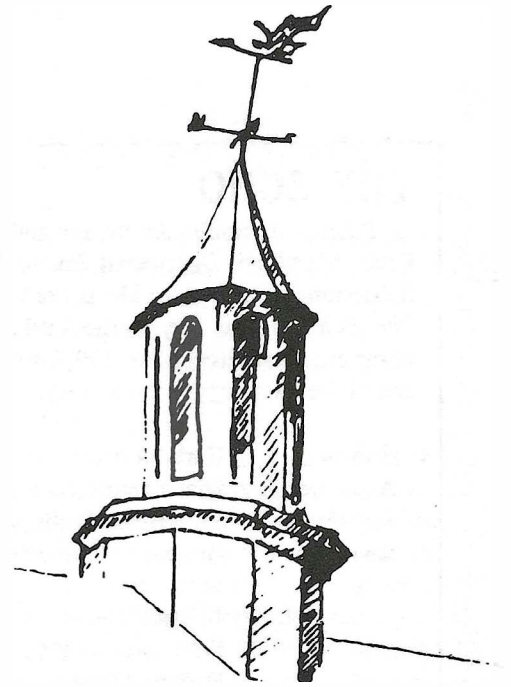


# The Echo

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



January 1997

## CLERK/TREASURER RESIGNS

By Carlotta Anderson

Clerk/treasurer Edie Springuel resigned her office on Dec. 20 citing irreconcilable differences with the mayor and council over the demands of her job. In particular, she cited a lack of flexibility permitted in her regular office hours, which she needed to “meet the needs of my family, particularly my disabled children.” She has six children.

She stated in a Dec. 27 resignation letter to Mayor Debbie Beers that insistence that she find temporary baby-sitting in order to maintain the advertised office hours is “reneging” on an agreement made with town officials when she was hired two-and-a-half years ago.

She wrote that “the need for this type of ‘dedication’” was never stated in her initial interview with the mayor and council.

She also claimed that her hours have averaged more than the 15 hours per week originally agreed to and that she has had the most office hours of any clerk/treasurer.

She has attempted to discuss the “reality of the needs of the position” with the mayor and council several times, she wrote, the last time in May, 1996, when the issue was tabled until September but never took place. She said that at the May meeting council members agreed to make on more of the town work “but few have followed through with this promise.”

She has given two months’ notice, effective Dec. 20. The town is currently seeking a replacement for the position (see **help wanted notice, p.3**).

Mayor Beers said that while in her view the letter contained many mis-statements, she chose not to comment further on it.

### 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.

## THE ECHO

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<b>ASSISTANT</b>	Diana Hudson-Taylor	
<b>REPORTERS</b>	John Bruce Wells	
<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Brockie and Jane Stevenson	
	Sara Hewitt	
	Jillian Horwitz	
	Sally Law	
	Barbara Odell	
<b>CIRCULATION</b>	Susan Grigsby	

**Next Deadline January 24**

**Printed by Allied Printing, Bethesda**

Letters to the Editor are welcomed. They must be signed. 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.

## TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

Town Office 320-4041

6101 Harvard Avenue or Box 498, Glen Echo, MD  
20812

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

**MAYOR**  
Debbie Beers 229-7308

**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

## LETTER TO TOWN RESIDENTS

It is with regret that I inform you that I have resigned as the Clerk/Treasurer for the town. Circumstances that I can no longer tolerate have forced this decision upon me.

I would like to state that I have enjoyed the type of work I have performed for the town knowing that my hard work and dedication have benefitted not only myself as a town resident but all of you. With few exceptions, you, the residents of Glen Echo have been most gracious and considerate with not only myself but my family. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deep appreciation and thanks to you all.

**Edie Springuel**

### 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.

### 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.

## RESIDENTS FLIP OVER PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The holiday pancake breakfast on Dec. 21 at the town hall was a huge success. At least 55 residents of all ages joined in a community meal of two kinds of pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee. They were entertained by Erik Hoffman, a fiddler from Oakland, Calif., who was visiting Betsy and Jamie Platt and had been the caller at the Friday night contra dance.

Many of those present volunteered as helpers on the spot, helping set up, flipping pancakes, working behind the counter or cleaning up. The event was organized by Sarah Patton. Helpers included Michele Wells, Meris and Mark Steele, Debbie Sachs, Julia Wilson, Dorrit Green, Edie Springuel, Betsy and Jamie Platt, Leo and Freddy Mondale, Raya Bodnarchuk, Gillian Horwitz, Jim Anderson, Reed Martin, and others who labored unrecorded.

### CLERK/TREASURER JOB OPEN

Anyone interested in the position of Clerk/Treasurer for the Town of Glen Echo should contact Mayor Debbie Beers at 229-7308. The part-time position will be available in February or before.

The work involved takes an estimated 15-20 hours per week.

### NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, January 13—8:00 p.m.  
Glen Echo Town Hall  
Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda


## WEB SITE UP AND RUNNING

Glen Echo's own web site—a truly awesome creation—can now be seen by all interested viewers from Tulane Ave. to Timbuktu. Those with internet access need only call up <http://www.glenecho.com>. Anyone else may call John Wells, who set up the site and is happy to give demonstrations at his Bryn Mawr Ave. home. His number is 229-4503.

Raya Bodnarchuk is the first featured resident of the town. Those online can click to see a gallery of her sculptures, including one in her back yard, and also learn about her artistic life. There is a feature about the history of Glen Echo and the park researched and written by Debbie Lange. Coming events in town are listed, as well as extensive information about town government, elections, ordinances, real estate for sale and businesses located in and near Glen Echo. There are an almost infinite number of links luring the viewer to other web sites in the county, the nation, and the world.

To the disappointment of those at the town's pancake breakfast, John was unable to debut the site then by hooking up a laptop computer at the town hall. Unfortunately, there was a power problem and neither his nor a quickly-borrowed laptop would function. At the time, the web site was still available only through the server of his company, Potomac River Media. But now it's on the world wide web and anyone with access to a computer can visit it.

If you've never been on the web before, or if you can hardly tear yourself off it, now's the time to visit your town in virtual reality!



**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**

## NO DECISION BY PARK ON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

By Carlotta Anderson

No decision has been made on when or how to replace the footbridge over the C&O Canal below Glen Echo that was destroyed in the flood of January, 1996. Not replacing it at all is included in the range of alternatives being considered, according to Kevin Brandt, Assistant Superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historic Park.

Whatever the final decision, the bridge is not a high priority item.

Mr. Brandt says he has received "a fair number of calls" from people who want it replaced, but park officials have a number of concerns. First is sustainability—can a bridge be designed that would withstand the inevitable future floods? Second is safety—he has heard from rangers that people have parked on the grassy verge of the Clara Barton Parkway by the bridge where no parking is allowed and that others have walked across the parkway although there is no crosswalk.

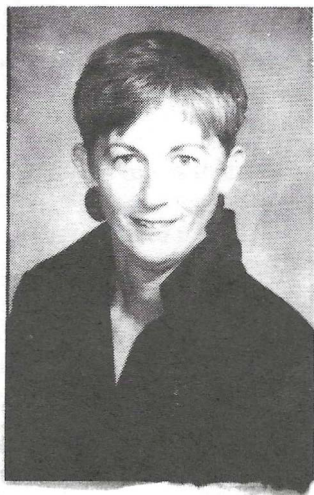
He admitted that he was also originally unaware that there is a trail leading to the bridge site from the Union Arch Bridge and, when he learned of it, thought there was only very limited parking available there.

All repairs of the canal and towpath are "moving more slowly than we would like," he said, and will not be completed for a couple more years. The second flood in September, 1996, contributed to the delay. Currently, the park is concentrating on repairs to the towpath between Georgetown and Lock 5 so that the canal boat tours can resume in the spring. Only then will repairs begin from Lock 5 to Anglers' Inn.

Several months ago the Potomac Conservancy asked for approval to immediately put in a temporary floating bridge made up of metal sections which was available on long-term loan from a Virginia park authority. They were turned down, said Mr. Brandt, because of "the paperwork component," the question of how to get down to a "floating" bridge when there was no water in the canal, and the fact that the park hoped to do de-silting of the canal bed in that area. The de-silting was not begun because of a wet fall, he said.

Paul Rosa of the Potomac Conservancy said he unsuccessfully tried to persuade the park to use the \$1,000 canal repair money contributed by the Town of Glen Echo for anchoring the temporary bridge, since it would directly benefit the citizens of Glen Echo.

"If we don't make ourselves a priority, the park service isn't going to. They have a lot of competing projects," said Mr. Rosa. Mr. Brandt also commented that it would not be a bad idea for community associations to send letters urging quick replacement of the bridge. "It never hurts for a community to express its thoughts," he said.



*Eleanor*

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

907-7600  
229-7990



### CORRECTION

If you thought some of the election figures listed in last month's *Echo* for local voting on Question E (county-wide fire department) were strange, you were right. Here are the correct numbers, provided by Madeline Sigel, Democratic Precinct Chair. The first number is for our precinct, the second for the county as a whole. Numbers are in percentages:

<b>FOR:</b>	27.4	36.8
<b>AGAINST:</b>	72.5	66.1

## WILLIAM D. (BILL) SHULTZ AUGUST 11, 1942-DECEMBER 6, 1996

Bill Shultz, a resident of Glen Echo for 17 years and a Town Councilman from May, 1983 to September, 1994, died on December 6 at Holy Cross Hospital after a long illness.

Many Glen Echo residents attended his memorial service on December 11 at All Saints Episcopal Church in Chevy Chase.

He left a daughter, Kristen (Kris) Wright of Baltimore, a son, Russell (Rusty), who resides at their Wellesley Circle home, a mother, Myrla Shultz and a sister, Beverly Luckey.

*His next door neighbor, Jim Anderson, read the following tribute to Bill at the December meeting of the Glen Echo Town Council:*

“Bill was a member of the town council for about 10 years. That’s remarkable, but even more unusual is the fact that he was not a property owner, but a renter, only the second one to serve on the council. Yet he considered Glen Echo his own town and cared very much for it. He was offended by residents who didn’t.

His roots went back to his birth just across the bridge in Cabin John and his education in local schools, including, finally, the University of Maryland.

As councilman, he handled street and town maintenance affairs in an efficient and typically energetic way. In emergencies, he sometimes called his cousin Mark Peyton in Cabin John to clear the streets or do other rush jobs.

He was a devoted town official who spent a lot of his own time at it. He was a great father to Kris and Rusty. He was a wonderful neighbor—fastidious about maintaining his yard and his home. He was a good friend to me and my family.

The last time he appeared before the town council he came to defend me when he thought I had been unfairly treated by some other town residents. He had a deeply held sense of justice.

When faced with a rare form of cancer he took a calculated risk to try to beat it, rather than have the cancer beat him down little by little. He lost, but he went down fighting.

We were fortunate to have known him. We will miss him.”

### FROM THE TREASURER’S REPORT

**November 1996**

James Brandon (audit. acct.)	\$2,500.00
Halloween party	846.74
Journal Newspapers (ADA ads)	352.80

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

### FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

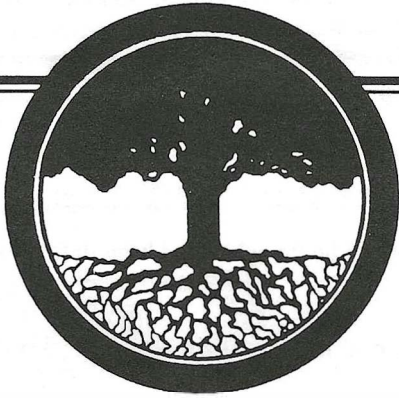
**Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 pm.** English Country Dance. Live music. No experience or partner needed. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR RENT:** Historic stone house, 42 Wellesley Circle, 3 BR, 1 bath, 2 fireplaces, eat-in kitchen, large LR, den stone patio, adjoins parkland, no pets. \$1,400/mo. 229-6435.

**CLERK/TREASURER POSITION OPEN**—The Town of Glen Echo is looking for a part-time clerk/treasurer. Candidates should live in close proximity to Glen Echo or in the town itself. Please contact Mayor Debbie Beers, 229-7308, if interested.

*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. For deadline see date listed on page 2.*



## LANDSCAPING

*in harmony with your  
taste & budget*

Washingtonian Award Winner  
Unusual Design • Wood Decks •  
Brick & Stone Patios • Railroad  
Ties • Waterfalls & Pools •  
Unique & Beautiful Plantings

**Mark Willcher & Co.**  
**(301) 320-2040**

MD 13305

DC 726

## STREET WORK UNDERWAY; SLURRY SEALING DELAYED

By Carlotta Anderson and John Wells

Town officials were annoyed at the delay in street repairs, which were pushed precariously close to possible snowfall and may create problems in plowing excavated roads.

The contractor, E.E. Lyons, signed a contract on Oct. 31 of last year indicating work would start immediately. No work began until mid-December, the mayor said, calling it "an unreasonable delay."

After Christmas, workers were still digging up more holes. Councilwoman Levin was contacting the company almost daily and there was concern that ground temperatures would be lowered to the point where new asphalt application might be ill-advised. Town officials were also worried that additional damage could be done by water freezing in the holes, as well as questioning whether streets with four-inch holes could be plowed without damaging equipment.

Lyons officials said they were delayed in the final push because their asphalt plant closed for Christmas. But they appeared to have met their goal of completing the work by the end of the year.

The projected slurry sealing of the streets will not begin until April, since the contractor has already put the equipment away for the winter. Therefore, residents do not need to move their cars off the streets, as an earlier advisory had indicated.



## Enjoy wildlife at your window

- Feeders      • Nest Boxes
- Birdbaths   • Gifts
- Seed         • 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**

## APPRECIATION TO GLEN ECHO'S 1996 VOLUNTEERS

With the exception of one paid employee and the hiring of contractors for specific jobs, all Glen Echo town functions are performed by volunteers. They contribute time, energy, ideas and expertise. The town spirit depends on them. Here is an alphabetical list of last year's volunteers who are known to *The Echo*. If we have left anyone out, please let us know.

Anderson, Jim and Carlotta  
 Andry, Michael  
 Balaban, Eleanor  
 Barrett, John  
 Beers, Debbie  
 Bernhardt, Norman and Deborah  
 Bodlander, Jerry  
 Bodnarchuk, Raya  
 Brintnall, Michael  
 Grant-Suttie, Francis and Carolyn  
 Green, Dorrit  
 Grigsby, Susan  
 Hertz, Leah  
 Hewitt, Sarah  
 Horwitz, Kate and Jillian  
 Hudson-Taylor, Diana  
 Kenney, Tom  
 Kuster, Daryl  
 Laughlin, Ruth  
 Lange, Debbie  
 Law, Sally  
 Lee, John  
 Levenson, Marc  
 Levin, Gloria  
 Lewis, Anne  
 Long, Nancy  
 McDonnell, Elizabeth  
 McNoldy, Tillie  
 Mondale, Leo and Freddy  
 Murray, JoAnn  
 Odell, Harry and Barbara  
 Patton, Sarah  
 Platt, Betsy and Jamie  
 Polak, Cathie and family  
 Quinn, Jake and Tina  
 Rhein, Maryse  
 Sachs, Debbie

Shaut, Jim  
 Smith, Bea  
 Springuel, Renny, Edie and family  
 Sproul, David  
 Steele, Mark and Meris  
 Stevenson, Brockie and Jane  
 Strong, Shirley  
 Wells, John and Michele  
 Whyte, Kirby  
 Wilson, Julia

### Around Town

Welcome to the New World to **Ivan Dimitrov** from Plovdiv, Bulgaria, who moved to Glen Echo on Labor Day. Director of a Bulgarian dance troupe, HEM, he will be living indefinitely with the Platt family on Yale Ave. and is hoping to bring his wife and two children to this country. He is eager to do temporary jobs, such as painting, carpentry, yardwork, plastering or as general handyman. Any interested town resident should call the Platts at 320-7099.

**Eleanor Balaban** returned last month from a strenuous three week AARP trip to Bali, Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangladesh and Beijing. Her greatest thrill was the Great Wall of China—"it's been on my list for the last 30 years."

In the introduction to the new Glen Echo Park brochure, **Jamie and Betsy Platt** tell of their meeting on the dance floor of the Spanish Ballroom and how after they married they drove from Capitol Hill to the dances almost every weekend. When they decided to move after their daughter was born, they write, "we decided the only place we would be happy was Glen Echo." Now, when they aren't organizing or participating in park events, "we are at home in the town of Glen Echo and that in itself is a treat."

## ADA HALL RENOVATIONS TO START THIS MONTH

By John Wells and Carlotta Anderson

Parking in the rear of the post office will be unavailable for about a week in January while contractors install a concrete footing where the fuel tanks are. After this first stage of the Americans With Disabilities (ADA) work is completed, renovations will begin inside the town hall.

It will be staged to avoid disruption and loss of use of the hall. At worst, the kitchen upstairs will be unavailable for one week while the cabinets are replaced, according to JoAnne Murray, who has been coordinating the project for the town.

The town council at its December meeting reviewed contractors' bids, which ranged from \$74,000-\$115,000. Included in the work will be construction of a bathroom on the upper floor and installing a hydraulic lift elevator to reach that floor. There will also be two extra projects: replacing the kitchen cabinets and constructing new storage cabinets in the clerk-treasurer's office. The council decided not to fund a third project, replacing the metal fire stairs in the rear of the building, since Ms. Murray explained that informal talks with the Fire Marshal indicated that the existing stairs will probably be acceptable.

The council accepted the low bidder, Golden Construction, which was recommended by Ms. Murray, who has considerable professional experience with government construction and renovation through her work with Montgomery County Schools. She mentioned that since Golden had completed a similar renovation at Woodland Elementary School, involving installation of the same type of hydraulic lift, its understanding of the requirements was stronger. Most importantly, it offered the best price.

### TRASH, RECYCLING PICKUP PROBLEMS?

Call Waste Management directly at 340-0774. Ask for Dispatch

### PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

5906 Oxford Rd.	\$414,000
22 Wellesley Circle	\$269,000

## TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

November 11

Kate Horwitz has investigated the potential purchase of **decorative streetlight covers** in "Victorian" style cast iron, which are attached above the light bulbs. The cost, as quoted by Pemco Lighting, would be \$47 per street light, with installation extra; Glen Echo has 45 street lights. One resident questioned the wisdom of spending town money on an unnecessary item in the face of more pressing priorities. The town council seemed sympathetic to this point of view.

Pemco Lighting also suggested that the town consider replacing its incandescent light bulbs with more energy efficient high-pressure sodium light bulbs. This reporter offered to investigate and quantify these savings in hopes of generating sufficient cost reductions to pay for the decorative shades...

Repairs to the **storm drain catch basin** behind the town hall parking lot have been completed. They cost \$4,100...

The council postponed until January its line-by-line review of the final draft of the **proposed charter**. After final changes are made and approved by the town council, the proposed charter must be published for public review. After the charter is adopted, the council will ask the Institute for Government Studies of the University of Maryland to prepare a first draft of revised ordinances...

The town's attorney has sent a letter to Leonard Bechick asking him to provide official proof that he has the authority to complete the sale of the former trolley **right-of-way**...

Councilwoman Long suggested that the town consider negotiating to receive a **percentage of gross attendance fees** from events in the town hall such as the Folklore Society's community dances. She was surprised to read a report in *The Echo* that only the first 10 Glen Echo residents could attend such an event for free, as this limit is inconsistent with town policy...

--John Bruce Wells

# GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

## COMING EVENTS

**Saturday, January 18**—Big Joe and the Dynafloes. Swing Dancing. \$8. Dancing 9 pm-midnight. Workshop at 8 pm.

**Monday, January 20**—**INAUGURAL BALL.** Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington & the Friday Night Dancers. Band: Waltz on a Dime. Caller: Robbin Schaffer. (Waltzes, couple dances, contras). \$12. Fund-raiser to benefit the Spanish Ballroom and the Bumper Car Pavilion. Grand March: 8 pm. Lesson: 7-8 pm.

Dances every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings.

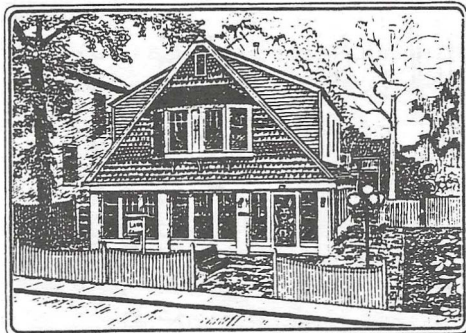
## ADVENTURE THEATRE

**The Adventures of Brer Rabbit**  
**January 11-February 16**  
 Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30  
 Tickets: \$5.00 Call 320-5331

## THE PUPPET THEATRE

**Tales of Beatrix Potter**  
 January 8-February 9  
 Wednesday through Friday, 10:00 & 11:30  
 Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 & 1:00  
 Tickets: \$5 Call 320-6668

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



*Heather Cottage*

*Financial Planning*

## 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.

The map on the following page was updated by Debbie Lange from a 1966 version.

