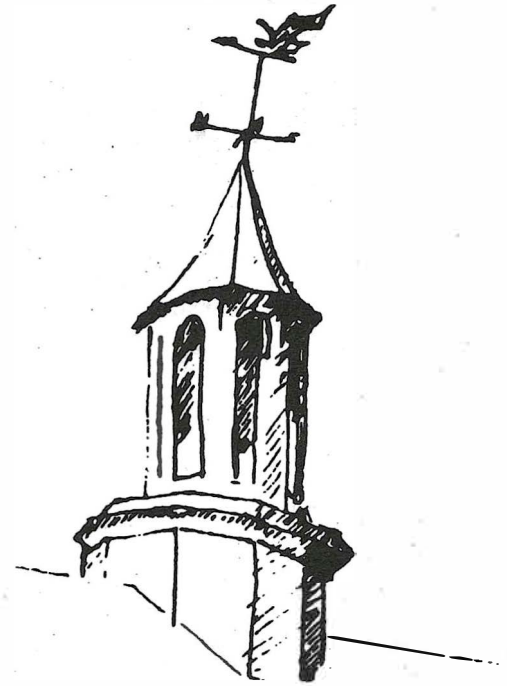


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



October, 1993

COUNCIL VOTES TO TRY TO BUY RIGHT-OF-WAY

By Gloria Levin

The council voted at its September 13 meeting to make an offer to purchase the stretch of former trolley right-of-way extending along MacArthur Blvd. from the east side of Oxford Rd. to the end of Radcliffe La. Mayor Beers reported that the council had agreed at its Aug. 9 closed session that it would purchase the property only if it could acquire the whole parcel of land intact.

It was also decided at the earlier meeting that an acquisition would be paid in cash. No specific dollar figure was set, so as to permit flexibility in any negotiations, she said.

The proposal would omit the area between Oberlin and Tulane Aves. because it was paved over by The Inn at Glen Echo, leaving no green buffer zone to be preserved. The town was not interested in the area beyond Radcliffe La. because it includes the trolley trestle, a hazard for which no one wants to be liable.

Mayor Beers warned that the sale of the property may be delayed for several months because D.C. Transit has filed a challenge to the low price paid for it. The entire stretch to the Dalecarlia Reservoir in D.C. was bought for \$42,500 at a foreclosure auction by the Riders Group, an organization of former transit riders who won a class action suit against D.C. Transit after many years of litigation. Meanwhile, the creditors' trustee, Leonard N. Bechick, is entertaining bids from interested individuals or organizations for purchase of all or part of the right-of-way.

--continued on page 3

PARK SERVICE YIELDS TO UTILITY SITE OPPOSITION

By Gloria Levin

A large sigh of relief was heard at the Sept. 13 town council meeting when it was learned that the U.S. Park Service had yielded to public opposition to a utility structure on park-owned land between Oberlin and Tulane Aves.

The successful community protest took the form of a petition drive, which drew hundreds of signatures and had the support of Rep. Connie Morella.

Audrey Calhoun, acting superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, announced that the Park Service is now considering alternative sites for the facility, which is to house Glen Echo Park's mechanical systems and be used for storage. The preferred location is the horse stables by the upper parking lot, once a PEPCO facility.

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THE ECHO

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208 12

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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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I heartily support the council's and mayor's proposal to purchase the O. Roy Chalk property that parallels MacArthur Blvd.

On the other hand, I oppose the purchase if private parking is to be allowed on this tract at each street entrance.

Furthermore, the proposed landscaping of street entrances would be a waste of monies, if the background for the landscaped areas is parked vehicles.

Bea Smith.

NOTICE

The Town of Glen Echo is accepting bids for leaf and snow removal. Please contact Kate Horwitz, 320-4041.

UTILITY BUILDING (from page 1)

Not under consideration is the present storage site because the Park Service wishes to open that area for a view over the palisades, said landscape architect Jackie Benjamin, who showed a drawing of the possible sites.

No design has been developed yet for the structure. Being part of a historic district, the building will undergo special scrutiny, Ms. Benjamin pointed out.

Funds to begin construction would not be available for at least two years.

The current plan is to maintain the Park Service's Tulane/Oberlin lot as open space, with continued use as a staging area for the folk festival. If the stable site were selected, the horse stables would be moved to Great Falls, meaning that town residents would have less access to manure for their gardens.

Mayor Beers expressed appreciation to the Park Service for taking into account the town's concerns.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (from page 1)

Mayor Beers said that if the town owned the property, it could preserve it for the good of the whole community. She said the council is interested in maintaining it in its current form and would consider entering into licensing agreements with adjacent property owners at a minimal fee for uses such as parking.

However, the mayor and council want to avoid having individuals construct permanent structures, such as fences or garages, or pave the area for additional parking, she said.

Kate Horwitz, whose front yard adjoins the right-of-way, expressed concern with this plan. While conceding that she purchased the property knowing the possibility of future uses of the right-of-way, she wanted a guarantee from current and succeeding councils that her use of the land would not be at risk.

Robin Hume objected to "my tax dollars being used to bid against me." She said that while she does not want to bid against the town, she wants assurance that the area next to her property is maintained for the benefit of birds and plants. She complained that the town had applied herbicides there and cut down raspberry bushes. Mayor Beers stated that the town would retain its right to maintain the space, including cutting back vines and bamboo.

Several residents whose properties are distant from the right-of-way countered that their tax dollars would be used with no direct benefit to them, while adjacent property owners would each gain access to thousands of square feet of space subsidized by the rest of the town.

Most of those present strongly supported the town's acquisition of the property. Several said they thought the area maintained as open space was a great asset to the town. Councilwoman Long stated that the town should make a decision that is "in the best interest of the community."

Mayor Beers voiced a fear that an adjacent property owner

--continued on page 4

TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY

Sunday, October 31

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Glen Echo Town Hall

**Trick-or-treating to follow party
Please keep your porch light on if you
welcome trick-or-treaters
Volunteers needed. Please contact Kate
Horwitz, 320-2171**

ART SHOW AT TOWN HALL IN NOVEMBER

An exhibit of paintings by students of Walt Bartman's art class will take place at the Glen Echo Town Hall, probably on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 5-7.

The exhibit is of special interest to town residents because the students painted Glen Echo views. The class was held last summer.

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Wild Bird Center

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Cabin John, MD 20818
(301) 229-3141

A half-mile past the one lane bridge

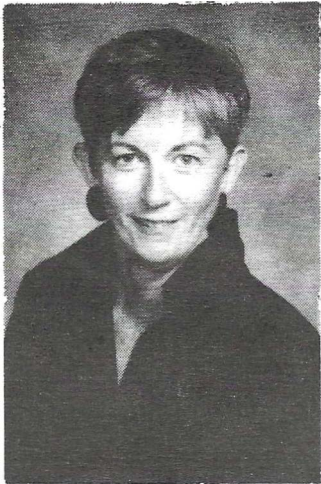
CABIN JOHN IRATE OVER TRAFFIC CONGESTION

The Cabin John community is up in arms because the onetime "sleepy little community" now has to endure "droves of commuters stalled on both sides of the bridge," according to *The Village News*. The intolerable traffic situation has been building over the years. It came about because of the narrowing of the Union Arch Bridge to one lane in 1976, the building boom of recent years and the current construction work on the Clara Barton Parkway.

In its efforts to somehow alleviate the problem, the community thinks it has persuaded the county transportation department to install a traffic light at the MacArthur Blvd. entrance to the parkway, which would be synchronized with the light at the bridge. The county has also recommended painted pedestrian crosswalks and a sidewalk at that location.

County action was based on a traffic survey done in May which revealed the following data, according to the *News*: Most cars entering MacArthur Blvd. from Persimmon Tree Rd. come from Potomac, apparently to avoid congestion on River Rd; half the cars crossing the Union Arch Bridge during morning rush hours are from Virginia; and the police have been diligent about ticketing speeders and drivers making illegal left turns onto Tomlinson Rd.

—Carlotta Anderson



Eleanor

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

907-7600
229-7990



CLASSIFIED ADS

CELEBRATE THE CHALLENGE AND JOY OF PIANO STUDY with national certified pianist/performer. **Anne Mitrison, 229-7882.**

MY MASSAGE THERAPIST has a few hours available. Specializing in deep relaxation and holistic healing. Please contact Lisa, 229-6147 or Elyah at 320-4124.

UKRAINIAN GIRL, resident in Glen Echo, art student, available to do portraits in pencil or watercolors of children, adults, dogs or cats. Under \$20. Call Christina, 229-7205, from Oct. 15.

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.

RIGHT-OF-WAY (from page 3)

could, by buying the land, have additional square footage to allow constructing structures on it. It was noted that some of those approaching Mr. Bechick had mentioned the desire to purchase the land in order to build permanent structures. Peter Garfield wondered if the town could not obtain an easement instead of buying the property. Mayor Beers said that since the original deed on the Glen Echo portion was fee simple (owned outright) and no one had established adverse possession, establishing an easement would require expensive litigation.

Some residents expressed strong opposition to Mayor Beers' suggestion that the town might consider entering into 99-year-leases at a \$1 fee with adjacent owners. One objected to the "government buying real estate for people to park on." Another said that letting owners park on the right-of-way would increase their property values, and the town should collect rent for allowing parking in order to generate income for the town.

The mayor said that the first step is for the town to attempt to purchase the property and that once that is accomplished it can discuss specific uses.

VOLLEYBALL IN OCTOBER

Several town volleyball games took place in September in the rear yard of Jim Beaubien's house at 7310 University Ave. Regardless of the level of skill of the players, they appeared to enjoy the spirit of conviviality, which culminated on each occasion with cold beverages and conversation.

The games will continue the first four Sundays in October. All town residents are invited to participate.

The games will generally start at 3 p.m. unless there is a Redskins game being broadcast in the afternoon. It is best to call Jim on Sunday mornings at 229-4982 to make sure of the time.

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

7306 University Ave.	\$427,000
32 Wellesley Circle	\$174,000

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.
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Call us: 229-4430 or 229-3314

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YOUNG UKRAINIAN ARTIST NEW TOWN RESIDENT

By Carlotta Anderson

A budding artist from Ukraine is now living with Leila Webster on Wellesley Circle, and is eager to meet "girls around my age who would like to meet me."

Although not quite 13 years old, Christina Kusch is nearly as tall as Leila, with brown hair, pale green eyes, a lovely, friendly face, and an outgoing personality. Her English is amazingly good for someone who has only been in the country for three months.

She and her parents came to Chicago from Kiev after her father, Anatoly, was invited to present a show of his sculptures at an art gallery there. The show is now at a Detroit gallery and includes fifty of Christina's pencil sketches and watercolors, primarily portraits and architecture. She just learned that six have already been sold.

Her father is currently working on a monument for a Ukrainian Church in Chicago. Christina moved to Glen Echo at the invitation of Leila in order to learn English. She attends the International Language Institute and is enrolled in Walt Bartman's art class at Glen Echo Park. She also is taking one ninth-grade general science class.

Leila, who is an industrial economist with the World Bank, specializing in Russia, is engaged to a Ukrainian/American and met the Kusch family while visiting her fiance's relatives in the Ukraine.

Christina says she loves Glen Echo because it is so "cute, peaceful, and green." She is attracted to old buildings and other old things and is interested in archeology, as well as history, fishing, swimming and reading.

Anyone who would like to meet Christina is invited to call her or Leila at 229-7205 after the middle of October.



**REAL ESTATE? Tell a friend to call JANE STEVENSON
at Coldwell Banker. (O) 654-3222 (H) 229-3578**

GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

COMING EVENTS

October 8 & 9—VIRGINIA STATE OPEN SWING DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP (Park Foundation fundraiser)

October 23—SWING DANCING WITH THE TOM CUNNINGHAM ORCHESTRA

October 30—HALLOWEEN SWING DANCE

Every Friday night—Square, contra and country dances, 8:30-11 pm, \$5

Every Sunday night—Square and contra dancing, 7:30-10:30 pm, \$5

Sunday afternoon tea dances, 3-5:30 p.m., \$8

ADVENTURE THEATRE

The Wind in the Willows

Through October 24/July 22

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

Tickets: \$4.50 Call 320-5331

THE PUPPET COMPANY

Trouble in Toyland

October 6-November 18

The Nutcracker

November 26-December 23

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

Most Saturday and Sundays, 11 a.m., 1:00 & 2:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$4. Call 320-6668

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

How to deal with panhandlers:

1. Avoid contact and/or conversations.
2. Do not give them money, but give instead to your favorite group that is working to help ALL needy people. Direct people in need to appropriate local social service agencies
3. Call the police if threatened, assaulted, battered or robbed.
5. Maryland courts have ruled that a police officer may not arrest unless a citizen/witness is the complainant and is willing to testify in court, if necessary.
6. Panhandlers, like any pedestrians, are not permitted to remain in the roadway. Call the police and report all groups in the roadway soliciting money.

—From the Montgomery County Police, Bethesda District

AT THE GALLERY

Raku Art—(Ceramics made by a centuries-old Japanese process)

October 1-31

The Gallery is open Tuesday-Sunday, noon-5 pm

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

August 1993

Spartan Sewer Raiders	\$2,335.00
F.A.R. Traffic Signs	\$ 304.00
Action Fabricators, 1st pay.	\$ 255.00
Lam's Landscaping	\$ 705.28

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

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.