

The Echo

The Town of
GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND
Chartered, 1904



September, 1993

PETITION PROTEST VERY SUCCESSFUL

By Carlotta Anderson

A drive to collect signatures of citizens opposed to the construction of a utility structure below The Inn at Glen Echo has been very gratifying to Glen Echo resident Eleanor Balaban, its organizer.

She had received 147 signatures by Aug. 27 in response to a mailing sent out in July. The petitions are being forwarded to the office of Rep. Connie Morella, who has indicated that she will not work to obtain funds for construction of the utility facility unless it has the approval of local residents.

Several hundred signatures have also been collected by The Inn at Glen Echo and Sally Law's office on Tulane Ave.

Construction of a structure on land owned by the park service between Tulane and Oberlin Aves. was proposed by the National Park Service in March.

Ms. Balaban has also carried out a phone campaign and said she was amazed at how upset over the plans some of the people she contacted were. There was a general feeling that the park should stay within its own confines and not attempt to expand into what is commonly perceived as the town, she said.

As one opponent put it, "I consider this construction a plain case of the camel trying to get his nose under the tent."

SHOULD GLEN ECHO BUY THE RIGHT-OF-WAY?

Townspople should be aware that an important issue will be decided at the next town council meeting and their presence is encouraged.

The question to be discussed is whether the town of Glen Echo should make a bid to purchase the entire length of the former trolley right-of-way which abuts the town, and if so, what price should be offered.

The issue was discussed at a closed session of the town council which followed its regular meeting on Aug. 9. There has been no final decision on the matter and the council welcomes input from all interested townspople at its next meeting.

Please be present at the town hall on Monday, Sept. 13 at 8 p.m. if you wish to give your views.

SAVE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30 FOR THE TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY

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

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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.

COUNCIL HOLDS CLOSED SESSION

By David Sproul

The town council held an executive (closed) session after its regular meeting last month in order to discuss a strategy regarding the possible purchase of parts of the trolley right-of-way.

Councilman Anderson objected to the use of an executive session, saying that confusion, suspicion and trouble usually result.

Mayor Beers countered that purchases of real estate usually require privacy to preserve bargaining positions and that this is one of the acceptable uses of executive sessions under state "sunshine" laws.

The council voted 3-1 to hold the closed session, with Councilman Anderson opposing.

CORRECTION

The name of the firm which will be replacing the storm drain line behind the town hall and its bid for the job was stated incorrectly in last month's issue. The work will be done by Spartan Sewer Raider, Inc. at a cost of \$4.670.



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

SLIMY GREEN CANAL TO DISAPPEAR SOON

By Carlotta Anderson

Stagnant water and a covering of green algae has described the appearance of the C&O Canal below Glen Echo for the past few months. This unattractive condition resulted from a stopping of the water flow by the National Park Service in order to undertake major repairs at milepost 11.1. (Glen Echo is just above milepost 7.3).

The work should be completed by the end of September and the canal re-watered then, according to Patrick Toops, Chief of Natural Resources of the C&O Canal National Historical Park.

Washing out of the towpath at the site has been a re-occurring problem over the years, he said, and repairs have been made before.

Once the waters were lowered, a hydrologist was able to determine the cause of the continuing problem. Seepage from three separate springs and the resulting erosion turned out to be partly responsible.

The latest damage was caused by floods in March and April. It was feared that in the event of a record flood, this weak point could fail and an entire section of berm might be lost.

The new permanent repair will involve installing "gabion baskets," which are filled with rocks and surrounded by piping so that water can seep through them without eroding adjacent soil, Mr. Toops said.

UTILITY STRUCTURE PLANS DELAYED

By Carlotta Anderson

The location and design of the proposed new utility facility for Glen Echo Park will probably not be decided for several months, according to park site manager Frank Cucurullo. The proposal was sent "back to the drawing board" after the town and local citizens objected to its placement on park land between Oberlin and Tulane Aves.

Park service officials sent a series of recommendations for design changes to the park service's Denver construction division, which returned the draft with comments. It goes next to an architectural engineering firm in Baltimore, which will make a new set of drawings, Mr. Cucurullo said.

It will then go to the regional director of the park service for his comments before the new plans are made public, he said.

AUTOMOBILE COMPLAINTS PRODUCE RESULTS

By David Sproul

Three cars and a motorcycle which were in violation of town ordinances have been removed from a Vassar Circle address where notices had been sent, Councilman Anderson reported at the last town council meeting. He said one vehicle remains in question because it could not readily be determined if it had a valid license.

He also has received complaints about vehicles on Oxford Rd. and is proceeding with paperwork on these violations.

Town residents wishing to have an abandoned vehicle towed can get forms for this from Councilman Anderson, who functions as vehicle control officer.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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	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.

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GRAFFITI, FALSE ALARMS STILL PROBLEMS FOR POLICE

By David Sproul

County Police Captain Fred Ailes said that the county-wide **graffiti problem** may be cresting because police have begun entering homes of violators to seize spray paint and other evidence. He predicted that swift repair of damage, meaningful punishment for violators and informational campaigns in schools will eventually stem the problem...

Funding for **renovating the Bethesda police headquarters** is still uncertain, although work on the heating and air-conditioning systems can begin...

Capt. Ailes said that **false alarms from security systems** continue to be an enormous drain on police resources. Penalties for false alarms will soon rise as a result of new legislation. The law will also sharply limit which companies may sell and install systems. Some business systems are electronically monitored by firms in other states which are slow to alert local police to robberies underway...

The **fake I.D. industry** is growing with the advent of computer programs designed to produce convincing phony documents, including Maryland drivers' licenses, Capt. Ailes said...

The representative from Friendship Heights said his community will probably **fund an additional county police officer's salary** in return for more comprehensive patrolling of their neighborhood...

David Sproul is a member of the county police citizens' advisory board.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Be on guard against strangers coming to your door offering to do home improvement work or trying to distract your attention so they can enter your house.

So-called "Gypsy" burglars struck more than 20 times in the Bethesda Police District in the past weeks, with a total property loss of more than \$81,700.

Some crimes involved entering a citizen's home; others were "home improvement" scams. The average age of the victims was 68 years of age.

—**Neighborhood Watch Warning, Montgomery County Police, Bethesda District.**

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

August 9

Mayor Beers said that she has received one proposal for surveying the condition of the town hall on which to base changes needed for compliance with the **Americans With Disabilities Act**. She will wait to receive at least one more proposal...

Councilwoman Long reported that the Springfield Garden Club, a monthly user of the town hall, will contribute up to \$300 toward the installation of **light-blocking window shades** to make it easier to show movies and slides during the daytime...

The **vines along the trolley right-of-way** are again gaining a foothold on the trees and should be cut back before they become an expensive project. Councilman Shultz reported. Mayor Beers said that Lam's Landscaping should tackle the job unless their contract omits this type of work...

Town resident Bea Smith was sworn in by Mayor Beers as the new **animal control officer**...

Mayor Beers asked the council to approve moving \$500 from the budget for new chairs to cover **unexpectedly high costs** from the town's rabies vaccination program. One of the veterinarians involved was charging the town for examinations, she said...

—David Sproul

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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

CLASSIFIED ADS

WRITER looking for quiet one or two bedroom house or apartment. Must be aesthetically pleasing. Partial to Glen Echo, Cabin John or Palisades area. Can provide excellent references. 1-703-364-3606.

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.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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



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Unusual Design • Wood Decks
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HALFWAY HOUSE FOR SQUIRRELS

By Carlotta Anderson

The discovery of a three week old squirrel lying helpless on Wellesley Circle led this reporter to the home of wildlife rehabilitator Christine Montuori, whose Potomac residence harbors scores of wild animal babies who have lost their mothers. she also cares for wounded mature animals.

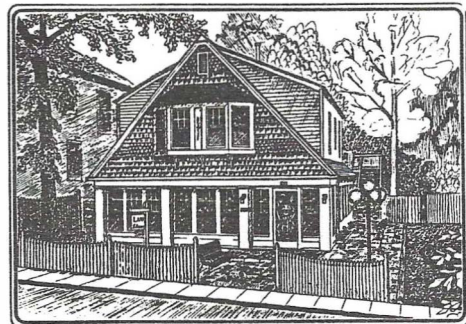
After our dog discovered the hungry and thirsty baby squirrel one evening, we gave it sugar water with an eye dropper. It promptly curled up in a shoe box and went to sleep. Wondering how to care for it, we called the D.C. Humane Society the next morning and were told that even if it reached maturity in our care, it could not safely be returned to the wild because other squirrels would kill it. They recommended we bring it to Ms. Montuori, who has taken needy wild creatures into her home for the past five years.

Her house is filled with cages of birds, geese, and ducks which the Humane Society or individuals who find them bring to her. An unpaid volunteer, she operates entirely on the basis of contributions, which pay for the food and equipment used, but not her time. For the past eight years, she has also been a volunteer with the Chesapeake Wildlife Sanctuary in Bowie, Md.

Ms. Montuori planned to turn the squirrel over to another rehabilitator who raises squirrels together, so they may learn squirrel, rather than human, behavior and be returned to the wild as a group. She said squirrels make very poor pets.

Anyone who finds a wild animal in need of care may call Ms. Montuori at 301-983-9145.

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Heather Cottage

**Financial Planning
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POST OFFICE FENCE TO BE REPAIRED

The town's insurance does not cover damage recently inflicted on the wrought iron fence around the post office front yard, Mayor Beers told the council last month.

She said the fence was probably hit sometime during the Memorial Day weekend. Postal officials deny that the mail truck driver was at fault.

The council voted to accept the low bid of \$765 from Action Fabricators for repairing the fence.

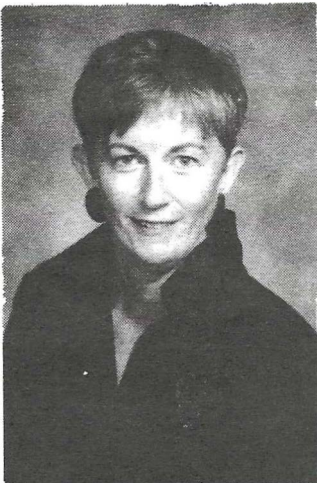
—David Sproul

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our household misses little Corky. My free spirited Corky left us in July.

He was lovable, yapping, feisty, headstrong and mischievous. All of these was my Corky.

Bea Smith



Eleanor

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

907-7600
229-7990



BRIEFLY NOTED

Several town pets owners still have not licensed their animals. Please contact Clerk-Treasurer Kate Horwitz at 320-2171 immediately in order to **license your pets...**

Glen Echo Seafood has moved from the Glen Echo shopping center to the shopping center in Cabin John at 7945 MacArthur Blvd. Its new name is The Market on the Boulevard. In addition to seafood, it is now offering sandwiches, coffee, steaks, rotisserie chicken and beer and wine. It will hold an opening celebration on Sept. 11 from 11 am-3 pm.

Scenes for "The Pelican Brief," starring Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington, were filmed on July 22 around **Bonfield's Texaco station on MacArthur Blvd. near Brookmont...**

CANAL, RIVER TOURS

Historic C&O Canal Locks Tour—Sept. 17, 11 am-2 pm., Ages 16-Adult. Tour the historic C&O Canal Lock system and hear the tales of the life of a canal boat captain in the 1800s. Pack a picnic lunch.

Meet: Angler's Inn Parking Lot.

Fee: \$10

Potomac River Canoe Tour—Sept. 22, 9 am-12:30 pm. Join a naturalist for a tour between historic White's Ferry and Edward's Ferry on the Potomac River. Participants must be able to swim and have proficient canoeing experience.

Meet: White's Ferry Parking Lot.

Fee: \$10.50

—Montgomery County Department of Parks

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

July 1993

Maryland Municipal League	\$370.81
Kunnert Assoc. (ins. & bonding, 1st payment)	\$1,047.75
Alpine Veterinary (rabies, 2nd payment)	\$87.00

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

THE KEYHOLE

By Tillie McNoldy

Congratulations to **Thelma** and **David Fessenden** of University Ave., upon becoming great-grandparents for the second time. **Joanne Nicole Caw** was born July 26 and weighed in at 7 lbs., 13 oz. Her parents are **Linda** and **James Caw**, Linda being the daughter of **David (Copy) Fessenden II**. At home, waiting for his future playmate, is a three-year-old brother...

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to **Paul Alban**, who is once again a patient at Suburban Hospital...

Our best wishes also to **Ruth Corder** who, with her husband **Frank**, resided on Bryn Mawr Ave. for many years. Ruth has been seriously ill and has only recently showed noticeable improvement. Frank, who was one of our former mayors, is now playing the role of housekeeper and doing a capable job. Just what I would expect of him...

(Spare Tillie the embarrassment of peering through your keyhole. Leave your news at her front door at 6100 Princeton Ave. or phone her at 229-4119)

CRAB FEAST IN CABIN JOHN

Cabin John will be hosting its 24th annual crab and chicken feast on Saturday, Sept. 11, from 2-6 pm. It will take place at the Clara Barton Community Center, 75th St. and MacArthur Blvd.

Advance tickets are \$6 and \$7; at the door, \$1 more. Funds raised will benefit the Cabin John Citizens Association and the Cabin John Village News.

For more information call 229-7412.

OPENINGS AT LOCAL NURSERY SCHOOL

Bannockburn Nursery School has openings for 3-year-olds for this fall. For more information, call 320-3331 or 320-4252.

You may meet the teachers and sign up for 1994-95 at the Open House on November 13, 10 am-noon. The school is located at 6314 Bannockburn Dr.

PARK NEWS

● When an **underground gasoline tank** for the park police vehicles at Glen Echo Park was dug up and removed last month because water was leaking into the fuel, it was found that gasoline was also leaking into the soil.

Since the ground there is full of clay which acted as a sealer, there was little damage, according to site manager Frank Cucurullo. Nevertheless, the park service removed several tons of soil.

EPA officials were called in to determine the level of contamination and found that the gasoline had spread only several inches from the tank, Mr. Cucurullo said.

Another gasoline tank was removed last October from a site near the yellow barn.

● After examination by a structural engineer and a safety officer, it was determined that the **bumper car pavilion** will have to be closed. "It is not safe and in good conscience we must close it off," Mr. Cucurullo said. The final status of the building is not decided yet...

● Kitty Roberts has left her position as Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway to become Assistant Director of the National Park Service for Congressional and Legislative Affairs. She began the new job on Aug. 23. Hillard Ratliff will serve as acting superintendent until her replacement is named.

--**Carlotta Anderson**

PAVING PLANS ADVANCE

The town streets have been surveyed by a representative of the A.B. Viers paving company, Councilman Shultz reported last month. Mayor Beers suggested that HMF Paving be invited to bid as well, since it has done paving work for the town in the past.

Councilman Anderson encouraged the town to notify residents in advance when paving work is to begin in case they want to arrange spinoff work on private property.

--**David Sproul**

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

7306 University Ave.	\$427,000
32 Wellesley Circle	\$197,000

GLEN ECHO PARK ACTIVITIES

PARK EVENTS

September 19

CHILDREN'S CHAUTAUQUA DAY

Noon-5 pm

Storytellers, performers. Free.

WEEKEND DANCES AT THE PARK

Sept. 18—The Cathy Ponton King Band

Swingin' Blues & Rock 'n' Roll, \$7

Sept. 25—The Vocal Groups

Music of the Andrew Sisters, Pied Pipers, Modernaires and others performed by **The Tom Cunningham Orchestra**. \$8

Dances every Friday (squares and contras, \$5-\$6); Saturday (usually swing, \$7-\$10); and Sunday (squares and contras, \$7) evenings. Sunday afternoon tea dances (\$8) 3-5:30 pm.

Workshops 8-9; Dances 9-midnight.

ADVENTURE THÉATRE

Wind in the Willows

September 18-October 24

Weekends at 1:30 and 3:30

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

THE PUPPET COMPANY

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

September 1-October 3

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

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

Tickets: \$4. Call 320-6668

AT THE GALLERY

Glass and Anvil—a Three Person Show

September 2-26

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

STUDIO SPACES AVAILABLE

The National Park Service is seeking competitive proposals from qualified groups or individuals to fill two artist-in-residence positions at Glen Echo Park. Artists selected will operate a studio at the park for a period not to exceed three years.

The available spaces are currently operating as a woodwork-ing shop and a ceramics studio.

For further information call 492-6266. Proposals must be postmarked no later than Friday, Oct. 15, 1993.

ATTIC TREASURES WANTED

Donations of antiques, artwork, crafts, jewelry, books, toys and what-have-you are needed for a silent auction and sale to benefit the restoration of the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park.

The donation deadline is Monday, Sept. 27 at 9 pm. The sale will take place on Saturday, Oct. 2, from 10 am-4 pm.

For assistance in making your delivery or for weekend delivery, call 320-2330./

