

The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



June 1998

TOWN ACCEPTS COUNTY'S STORM DRAIN PLAN

By Peter Somerville

The Glen Echo Town Council voted at its May meeting to accept the county's plan to construct a new storm drain with the following route: MacArthur Blvd. down upper Bryn Mawr Ave. to University and along University to an existing pipe system (which would be rebuilt) behind houses on lower Harvard and Bryn Mawr Aves.

Residents whose yards would be dug up to construct the drain had objected to this route for several years and suggested that the county consider other paths. The final resolution of this long-standing controversy came after Mayor Debbie Beers received a letter from Betty Ann Krahne, Montgomery County Councilmember, stating that unless agreement was reached by May 14, the \$442,000 available for the work could go to other county projects.

If the town had to take over the responsibility for the maintenance of the drain, and there were a break in the line in the future, it "could bankrupt us," the mayor said.

Michael Rodemeyer, as spokesman for the group of residents whose properties will be affected by the plan, stated that the group could not allow the town to take on that burden. He said they understand that the construction must go ahead even though the compensation offered did not offset the loss of value to their properties.

—continued on page 3

BUDGET HEARING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 1, 8:00 P.M.

Residents are urged to attend the annual budget hearing which will take place at the Glen Echo Town Hall this Monday, June 1. It was re-scheduled from the previously announced date, May 21. This is an opportunity for town citizens to express their views on how the town should spend their tax dollars.

The mayor's proposed budget, which was delivered to every town house, shows no increase in taxes other than what might be expected from a small increase in the assessed value of real property in town.

It anticipates an income of \$158,208 compared to last year's figure of \$138,758. However, the town actually received over \$172,000 last year.

Proposed expenses amount to \$190,800 compared to last year's \$201,868. However, the town only spent \$101,915 last year, \$100,000 less than budgeted. This saving occurred for several reasons, among them: the right-of-way purchase (\$35,000 budgeted) was not completed; ADA renovations cost \$1,000 rather than \$15,000 because the county increased the amount of forgivable loan; \$5,000 allocated for street paving and sidewalk repair was not spent; and there was no snow and ice removal due to the warm weather.

As of May 8, the town had around \$282,000 cash in the Maryland local government investment pool, money market account, etc., \$41,000 more than last year.

THE ECHO

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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: 301-229-3748.



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TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

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20812**

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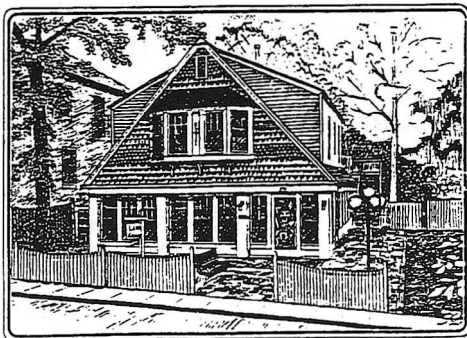
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Heather Cottage

Financial Planning

NEW HOURS AT TOWN HALL

Please note that the regular office hours at the Glen Echo Town Hall are now Monday and Thursday from 9:30-12 noon except when Monday is a Federal holiday. In that event, Clerk/Treasurer Betsy Platt will hold office hours on Tuesday instead.

FROM THE TREASURER'S REPORT

April-May 1998

Atlantic Paving (parking lot striping)	\$250.00
Knopf & Brown (legal)	\$512.05
Pepco (street lights)	\$498.48

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

STORM DRAIN (FROM PAGE 1)

He suggested that the country should be encouraged to consider small changes to minimize damage to trees along the route. Resident Eleanor Balaban was concerned about a threat to the great sycamore tree, and Councilwoman Nancy Long mentioned the danger to hemlocks which, she said, should be regarded as a town resource and not just trees in a resident's yard.

Jim Shaut, a Harvard Ave. resident whose back yard would be dug up by the construction work, stated that the county seemed to have made up its mind and was not prepared to consider alternatives. Mayor Beers replied that the affected residents had perhaps brought some of this on themselves by some ill-advised actions and letters over the five years this saga has been running.

The town will write the county encouraging flexibility to the residents' needs for minor changes, as well as its support for residents to get the best possible compensation, through the courts if needed.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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

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'S GRADUATES: LARGEST HIGH SCHOOL CLASS IN MEMORY

By Lindsey and Bonnie Whyte

Glen Echo is proud to have produced the largest class of high school graduates in memory. Five of the seven graduates were either born in town or came as small babies. Clearly, 1980 was the peak of the baby boom here in Glen Echo.

Here's proof that if "It takes a village to raise a child" we should all be proud of our accomplishments.

Scholarships were awarded to David West of Princeton Ave., who won a full scholarship to Cooper Union in New York, and Lindsey Whyte of Wellesley Cir., who received an athletic scholarship for swimming from the University of Richmond (Va.).

Here are all the graduates and the colleges and universities chosen by graduating seniors:

Bannockburn Elementary - 5th Grade

Christopher Horwitz
Mark Springuel
Stephen Swain

Pyle Middle - 8th Grade

Richard DePaolis
Victoria Hewitt
Ashley Schar

St. Alban's

St. Anselm's

Padraic Springuel - St. Michael's College (VT)

Walt Whitman

Emily Beers - Colgate University (NY)
Conor Quinn - University of Kentucky

David West - Cooper Union (NY)
Lindsey White - University of Richmond (VA)

Congratulations to all our scholars! We wish them the best of luck.

(If you have honors you would like in future issues of The Echo (i.e., college graduates/weddings/births/awards/promotions, etc.) please call 301-229-3392 or email whytehs@erols.com.)

GLEN ECHO TOWN PICNIC

**Sunday, June 28, 4:00 p.m.
Glen Echo Town Hall Lawn**

**Bring a Dish to Share. Beverages, plates
and eating utensils provided by the town**

**Clerk/Treasurer Betsy Platt would welcome
offers of help.**

Please call her at the Town Hall at 301-320-

GLEN ECHO PARK WORKING GROUP DEVELOPING RECOMMENDATIONS

County Executive Douglas Duncan has formed a Glen Echo Park Working Group, which includes representatives from the county, state, and federal governments, citizens' organizations, the Glen Echo Park Foundation, National Campaign to Save Glen Echo Park, park cooperators and the Town of Glen Echo. It is meeting frequently to develop recommendations on future management structure, program direction and building needs.

Its Management Planning Team has agreed that the most promising management structure would be non-profit organization working with the National Park Service serving as a limited site manager.

The Structural Committee suggested that programs be expanded to include reconfiguring the arcade for a new theater building to be used by Adventure Theater during daytime performances and for concerts and other performances at other times. It proposed a new arts/crafts building, rebuilt administration building with class room space, and possibly adding a gallery and/or food service. The building might extend into an unused area adjacent to the right-of-way.

Also under consideration was re-locating the Puppet Company and restoring that area as the main entrance to the Spanish Ballroom as well as opening the second floor and the west gallery on the Crystal Pool side. A new studio/classroom might be located in the old sculpture area.

At the request of Rep. Connie Morella, the time for the public review process has been extended until Sept. 1. Citizen comment is welcomed. Those interested in the park's future are urged to contact legislative officers, the National Park Service, and the Interior Dept. to express their views. The NPS expects to make a final decision regarding the management of the park in spring, 1999.

TOWN OFFICERS MEET WITH MORELLA, DUNCAN

By Peter Somerville and Carlotta Anderson

Mayor Debbie Beers and Councilwoman Nancy Long expressed the town's concerns about the future planning process for Glen Echo Park to County Executive Douglas Duncan and Rep. Connie Morella at separate meetings last month.

They emphasized that the town was basically happy with the way the National Park Service has run the park and expressed the hope that changes in future park management would not have a detrimental effect on the town. The purpose of their May 15 meeting with Rep. Morella was to investigate the possibilities of getting the funding required to enable the NPS to continue as manager of all aspects of the park.

The town council was still divided on the proposed statement calling for the park to remain under NPS management which was drafted by the town's Glen Echo Park Committee. A key element that the town council wants to see in the park management is long-term viability. They see the federal government as the entity with the best rating in that category.

But two councilmembers at the April council meeting questioned if sufficient funds would be available for a long-term self-sustaining operation by NPS.

Councilwoman Gloria Levin, who had opposed the committee's original statement, presented an alternatively worded draft that attempted to bring together the best elements of both sides. It mentioned the advantages of blending continued NPS management with increased participation by the arts cooperators. Mayor Beers indicated her preference for the wording of much of the Levin statement.

It was agreed that the committee would discuss this at their next meeting before submitting an updated statement to the council for approval. Once approved, it will be forwarded to the park service and other bodies considering the future of the park as representative of the views of the town council.

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LANDSCAPING

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Bethesda, Maryland 20816

JOHN HUGHES
301-656-3255

PET LICENSES DUE

JUNE 30th

All dogs and cats must be licensed for this year by June 30th. The license may be obtained by filling out the application attached to this copy of **The Echo**, and returning it to the Town Hall. Please make multiple copies if necessary.

The application must be accompanied with a copy of a current proof of vaccination, and the licensing fee. Until June 30th, the fee for spayed female and all male dogs and cats is \$4.00, and the fee for unspayed female dogs and cats is \$8.00. On August 1st these fees will double, and as of September 1st these fees will triple.

***Remember to include proof of vaccination with your application !!! Thank You

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO

Chartered 1904

6106 Harvard Avenue, Glen Echo, Maryland 20812

Application For Pet License

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Pet Information:	Dog	Cat
_____ Spayed Female (\$4.00)	_____ Spayed Female (\$4.00)	
_____ Unspayed Female (\$8.00)	_____ Unspayed Female (\$8.00)	
_____ Male (\$4.00)	_____ Male (\$4.00)	

Date of Last Vaccination: _____

Breed: _____

Pet's Name: _____

Date: _____ Applicant's Signature: _____

To be completed by Animal Control Officer

Tag # _____ Receipt of \$ _____ Date tag and receipt Delivered _____

WELCOME, NEWCOMER!

With most of her five daughters now living in various parts of the world, **Phyllis Fordham** decided to move from her big house in Rockville. She relocated to 6103 Princeton Ave. last October because she wanted to get away from "suburban sprawl" and also because she has long been involved in historic preservation and was attracted to Glen Echo's past. In fact, her new home had only been on the market two days when she "fell in love" with it and bought it.

Only a few months later she was planning to use its garden as the site of her daughter, Amy's, wedding on May 29. Scheduled to officiate at the vows was former county executive Charles Gilchrist, now an Episcopalian priest.

Phyllis served on the Rockville City Council from 1976-82 and then knew her current next-door neighbor, George Borsari, as mayor of Glen Echo. She is director of sales for the Charles E. Smith companies in Crystal City who are involved in commercial facilities management.

Welcome to Glen Echo, Phyllis.

GIVE PEDESTRIANS A BREAK

People everywhere are envious of communities that still have sidewalks and children, parents with strollers, and all those leery of walking in the street can safely make their way through town during these beautiful spring days and evenings.

There are still a few places in Glen Echo, however, where pedestrians must duck or step into the street to avoid rapidly encroaching plants, bushes and trees. Since many people walk directly from their front doors to their cars, they are unaware that they are causing such a problem.

It could be solved if everyone would take a short walk along the sidewalk in front of the house, equipped with clippers, and cut down all foliage that gets in the way. It would certainly be appreciated by others in the community.



Intimate Dining

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Information or Reservations ~ Call (301) 229-2280 Fax 229-2518*

PARKWAY RE-ASPHALTING SCHEDULED FOR FALL

Town residents who have been disturbed by increased roadway noise from the Clara Barton Parkway may be encouraged to hear that the portion below Glen Echo will be re-paved this year with a mixture that provides low noise levels.

The current noise is probably a combination of deteriorated asphalt as well as the new concrete deck for the cantilevered portion of the parkway, according to a letter from Audrey Calhoun, Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The repaving should lower the noise from the asphalt section but not from the concrete section, she pointed out.

Ms. Calhoun wrote in response to a complaint about the deteriorating road surface from Wellesley Circle residents Jim and Carlotta Anderson. They proposed that re-paving be done with a smoother surface texture than previously chosen by parkway engineers.

Their letter also noted that the breaking up of the road pavement coincided with "a new generation of tires...with knobby treads" which may grip better and last longer but are noisier. Clearly, the National Park Service cannot address that part of the problem.

Ms. Calhoun outlined a contract which includes rebuilding drainage structures along the parkway, culminating with paving the roadway from the Glen Echo turn-around to Interstate 495. It is scheduled to begin in fall with completion in spring, 1999.

RIGHT-OF-WAY SURVEY ERRORS SLOW PROCESS

By Peter Somerville and Carlotta Anderson

An initial survey of the former trolley right-of-way which was commissioned by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), owner of the property, is full of errors, the town council was told last month.

The survey omitted the stretch that crosses Oxford Rd. that the town wants to purchase in order to secure its claim to that road. It included the section with the trolley trestle which the town does not want because of potential liability issues.

Council members questioned what the quality of the more detailed work would be if the surveying company made errors on that scale. The town attorney will write to WMATA pointing out the inaccuracies.

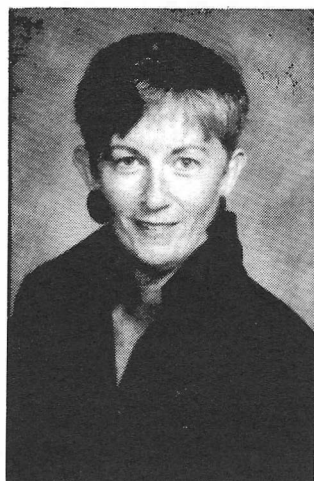
The draft survey was made on the basis of legal descriptions and not an actual field survey. After it receives a final survey, the town wishes to have its own field survey done in which stakes would be put in the ground.

PETITION AT CO-OP ASKS FOR FLASHING LIGHT

The Bethesda Co-op in Cabin John, alarmed by a rash of accidents on the stretch of Seven Locks Rd. that borders the store, is petitioning the county to install a flashing caution light before the last hill before MacArthur Blvd.

Even though Glen Echo residents are usually driving the other way, up the hill, the danger remains for the turn into the shopping center when oncoming drivers are going too fast, the Co-op points out. It asks Glen Echo residents to sign the petition at the table at the front of the store. The deadline for receiving signatures is June 14.

Recently, one car lost control and demolished the roadside fire hydrant. Another day there were three accidents. Drivers are going too fast towards MacArthur Blvd., the Co-op says, and once they crest the hill sloping down to the stop sign, it is too late to see what is happening ahead.



Eleanor

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

907-7600
229-7990



LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

*at Susan Grigsby's,
7325 University Ave.*

*Wednesday, June 10, 8:00 p.m.
Please RSVP, 301-229-7735*

MUGGINGS IN BANNOCKBURN

Two muggings have been reported in Bannockburn recently by the *Bannockburn Newsletter*. In both cases, the victim was elderly and returning home alone by car from the Glen Echo Shopping Center.

Last December Wanda Maltz was mugged in her Laverock Court driveway. In March, Leon Zitver was forced to the ground by an assailant about 8:30 p.m. and money was taken from his pocket. He conjectures that someone followed both victims home from the shopping center.

Also in March, a van was stolen from its driveway on Benalder and later found in a nearby school parking lot.

PROPERTIES ON THE MARKET

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6104 Bryn Mawr Ave.
32 Wellesley Circle (rent)

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TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

May 11 Meeting

The **National Campaign to Save Glen Echo Park** requested a waiving of the town hall rental fees for up-coming meetings. Since the meetings will be open to town residents and the organization is working for an important entity in town, the council agreed that as a special case the Campaign would be granted the privilege of free usage. Its meetings are scheduled for June 7, July 5 and 18, and August 15 and 30...

Washington Folk Festival organizers requested that they be permitted to remove the existing pole and basket at the **town basketball court** on Tulane Ave. and replace it with one that can be taken up and down as required. The work would be done at their expense to make space for the realigned tent used for a performance area. The council agreed to the request provided it was put in writing...

A decision was made about the **SLOW sign** on the exit route from the town hall parking lot that has been subject of discussion at several meetings. To keep costs down, SLOW would be painted on the pavement rather than buying a metal sign. It was hoped that speedy drivers would not have their attention diverted elsewhere and would see and conform to the painted exhortation...

—Peter Somerville

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO HAS NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

To find out the latest local town news and link up with Glen Echo Park and other useful Internet addresses, go to: <http://www.glenecho.org>.

COUNTY COUNCIL, TOWNS AT ODDS OVER TV FRANCHISE

By Peter Somerville

The county chapter of the Maryland Municipal League has asked the town not to renew its franchise agreement with the county's cable TV system at this time. It says the county seems to want to have "undue control" over cable TV fees that belong to the municipalities and asked that nothing be signed until the dispute is resolved.

There was some confusion at the May town council meeting about exactly what the refranchising of cable TV involved. Glen Echo receives about \$400 per year for the cable franchise.

The town council also received a letter from a resident who did not want the town to sign an exclusive agreement since that would preclude choice and reduce the cost benefits of competition. The resident commented that the latest increase in rates by the current cable company "is outrageous" and that a little competition might drive the prices down.

The council took no action, but rest assured that it is unlikely that our cable channels will suddenly go dark.

PROGRAMS AT CLARA BARTON COMMUNITY CENTER

The Clara Barton Senior Program will continue all summer. It meets Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. with exercise and speakers. Mondays at 10:00 Drop In Bridge. welcomes newcomers of all ages, from beginner to advanced

The Center also sells amusement park tickets for Kings Dominion, Hershey Park, Daventure World, Busch Gardens, Sesame Place, Water Country, Dorney Park and Six Flags. They have special discount days and good everyday discount prices. Call 301-229-0010 for further information.



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Mon.-Sat. 9—9, Sun. 9—7

CLASSIFIED ADS

NORTH CAROLINA GRANDMOTHER traveling north to be near married son for summer months wishes to house-sit. Even exchange. Good local references. Caring with pets and plants. Phone Mirabel, 301-320-3516 at reasonable hours.

FOR SALE. 10 gal. aquarium, stainless steel bedrails, heavy duty bed frame o.k. for waterbed. No reasonable offer refused. 301-229-5520.

NURSERY SCHOOL OPENINGS. Bannockburn Nursery School has September '98 openings for 3-year-olds in its 3-days-a-week class. If you are looking for a cooperative nursery school that offers your child a friendly and stimulating environment, call Membership Chair Hilary Joel. (H) 301-365-5783.

ACUPUNCTURIST seeking new office space. Lost lease on current space due to expansion of lessor's business. Have been in private practice for the past 14 years (last 7 in Glen Echo). Looking for my own full-time room (or suite) if possible. Please call Cherie Finkelstein, 301-229-8151.

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.

Around Town

Construction is underway on the **bridge over the C&O Canal** which will replace the earthen dike crossing just below Glen Echo now being used by pedestrians. It is being built about 100 yards west of the current crossing. It was scheduled to be finished by Apr. 30...

The town's **streets were cleaned** on Wednesday, May 20...

Twenty Cabin John citizens cleaned refuse from the **Cabin John Creek** Apr. 25 in an annual cleanup organized by the citizens' association. The Cabin John Citizens Association has also requested that the county provide for bike path repair funds in its annual budget. The informal estimate for resurfacing the path from Old Angler's Inn to the Capital Crescent Trail is \$1 million, according to *The Village News*...

Town young people **Nick and Daniel DePaolis** and **Kyle Whyte** helped set up tables for the Glass Show during the Art in Action Festival at Glen Echo Park last month....

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

Sunday, June 7, National Campaign to Save Glen Echo Park meeting.

Saturday, June 13, 8:00 p.m. Folksinger and guitarist Joe Hickerson. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington.

Sunday, June 21, 3:00-5:30 p.m. Concert and community dance for all ages. A wonderful way to introduce children to the joys of dancing. Program starts at 3:00, then everyone dances from 4:00-5:30.



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- Binoculars
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We've moved from Cabin John

ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

of Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Saturday, June 6—11 am-3 pm

Because the church is being renovated, this year's festival will be held at the Clara Barton Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd.

Freshly-picked strawberries, with homemade short-cakes or sundaes, hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas, etc. MOON BOUNCE, face-painting, games, home-baked goodies, silent auction. FUN FOR ALL!