

The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



October 2011

SEPTEMBER TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

By Jim McGunnigle

Baptist Church Transfer of Great Interest to Town

At a well-attended September Town Council meeting, the council and citizens heard more about the transfer of the real estate holdings of the Glen Echo Baptist Church to the National Community Church (NCC), an event that had been communicated to the council via email prior to the September meeting. The Baptist Church was represented by Deacon Tom Meeks, who was accompanied by Mark Batterson, Lead Pastor of (NCC). Meeks told the Council that the Baptist Church owners recently voted to transfer the Church property on Vassar Circle to the NCC. According to Mr. Meeks, the

Church is owned by the 15 members who have actively participated in services for the past six months, a requirement of ownership listed in the Church's by-laws. The vote to transfer the property was 11-2 with another two members absent, or not voting. The Church considered other alternatives but decided that the NCC mission would be most compatible with the Town of Glen Echo. The NCC is a multi-site church with 2000 members whose primary activities are based in the District of Columbia. NCC's website shows services are also provided in theaters in Georgetown, Alexandria, and Arlington as well as on Capitol Hill. Among NCC's stated objectives, is the goal of determining how to serve the interests of each community in which NCC is located. Their activities have included the establishment of a coffee house/

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THE ECHO

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Next Town Council Meeting:

October 10, 2011 at 8 pm

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TREASURER'S REPORT

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Waste Management of MD	\$3818
Washington Gas Energy Services	\$470

TOWN COUNCIL continued

community center on Capitol Hill and a movie theater. They also help the homeless in the District and raise funds to aid those in other countries.

During the Council meeting, an animated discussion ensued with Town residents who expressed disappointment that they had not had an opportunity to discuss, with the Church, the decision about the property before it was offered to the NCC. Among other ideas, NCC had suggested that a coffee house could be established in the church. Residents voiced concern about that use and the possibility of increased traffic. They were also concerned that the building might be used for commercial purposes that would not be in keeping with the residential character of the Town. In a follow up email to The Echo, Mark Batterson stated that there are no plans right now for a coffee house. He further stated that their goal is "to find unique ways to serve the needs that the community has." In his correspondence, he mentioned the possibility of a playground for children.

Tom Meeks added that the Glen Echo Baptist Church members will continue to use the church even after it has been turned over to the NCC. The current plan is for the Baptist congregation to continue meeting at least until the end of 2011, when renovations could begin to improve efficiency and aesthetics. No plans are set right now, stated Meeks in an email to The Echo, saying "NCC is involved in another big project at the moment. So, I would not expect them to begin turning their attention to the Glen Echo facilities until later in the year."

TOWN COUNCIL continued

The Baptist Annex

Mr. Meeks said that the Church is now focused on their "intention that the Annex be sold as a residence and the proceeds of that sale, no matter which entity concludes the sale, will go to NCC to put into renovating and starting the ministry in Vassar Circle."

According to Meeks, there is interest in the property, which has been appraised at \$400,000. Interested parties, so far, have "stated their intentions to keep the building true to its current size and character." Certain issues have to be worked out regarding ownership on parcels within the property on which the annex is situated. Mr. Meeks gave no potential date for sale of the property. He indicated that stabilization of the building would occur before it is sold.

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**Glen Echo
Baptist Church**

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Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Services 11:00 am
Wednesday Activities 7:00 pm
Mid-Week Bible Study Vassar Circle

TOWN COUNCIL continued

Next Steps

At the Council meeting, many questions regarding the use of the buildings on Vassar Circle were unanswered since the NCC has not formulated definite plans for use or even a firm timetable. Mr. Bassinger reiterated, in an email, that the NCC plans to provide services that will be desired by the Town. Mayor Beers suggested that a town meeting with the NCC and residents might be useful and she plans to schedule one in the near future.

Glen Echo Park Report

Site Manager **Polly Angelakis** reported on Glen Echo Park activities. The Park’s Labor Day Art Show was highly successful, as was the Clara Barton Blood Drive. No storm damage occurred as a result of the heavy rains in September. The Park Service met with Montgomery County officials to discuss the disposition of trees when work begins on the restoration of the Park trestle and the planned bicycle path.

Concert at Redeemer Church

A concert, “Vienna Redux” will be held at the Redeemer Church on October 9, 2011 at 5PM. Performed by the Inscape Chamber Orchestra. Donations accepted.

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Andrea Bassing Matney’s Amazing Odyssey

Town Resident Andrea Matney wrote a charming description of her second quest to complete this international bike race within the time allotted.

My Paris-Brest-Paris endurance bike ride in August was a success -- this year! I did 1240 Kilometers (765 miles) in 81:32 hours (or 3 1/3 days). The ride had it all; nervous energy, torrential rainstorm with thunder and lightning, the tragedy of a killed club mate, wonderful pastries, hypothermia, gorgeous cobblestoned towns, debilitating knee pain, old friends and new, rough chip-seal roads, sunshine, leg cramps, miniature horses, determination, children and elderly spectators cheering at all times

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Police Report

In August, 67 citations or warnings were issued by Montgomery County off-duty police officers to drivers at the corner of University and Oxford Road. Two shifts were added to weekday afternoons in response to the day camps at the Park. The Town underwrites the cost of the officers since the County does not provide regular police monitoring at this location.

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MATNEY continued

of the day and night, bubble bath with pasta and beer, awe-inspiring cathedrals, houses and gardens filled with flowers, and so much more!

From the outskirts of Paris we started at 5 AM Monday, rocketing along with friends and a tail-wind, on mostly dry roads. But after about 100 miles, we were barraged by a series of ugly thunderstorms for 180 miles. We were doing fine until the last 30, when we slowed for my riding partner's hypothermia. Separated from friends, we arrived at 4 in the morning. Our relief over getting out of the cold and wet was replaced by anguish when we heard that a rider was hit by a truck and killed. We later learned that it was our club mate Thai Pham.

After 3 hours of hotel sleep we did the next hilly, chilly and partially dry 207 miles pretty easily to

CONTINUED next column

MATNEY continued

Brest and climbed back over the bumpy roads. The next 4-hour sleep break was fitful as I woke from knee pain during a much-needed sleep, but I was re-charged for the next leg of the race. Our last sleep of 2 hours ended and we rolled out at 2 AM, aiming for a 5:25 AM deadline for this stage. We had to do a fast 55 miles of hills in the dark in order to make the time cutoff. I made it with less than 5 minutes to spare. Then, gratefully the 137 miles back to Paris were along relatively gentle hills with friends. Still, the ride seemed torturously slow due to the knee pain. Joyfully, I finished well under the cut-off time to welcome hugs from my husband Steve! Photos are available at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/andrea-b-matney/sets/72157627627334540/>.



Andrea and her fellow DC Randonneurs



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Blood Drive at Cabin John

The Cabin John Citizens Association will host a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, October 2nd from 10AM to 4PM at the Clara Barton Center in Cabin John. Donors will be assigned on the quarter hour (10AM, 10:15, 10:30, 10:45, etc.) so reply to this email address, ardenroad@me.com, with a time that works for you. The busiest times are first thing in the morning.

Potomac Conservancy

Since 1993, Potomac Conservancy has safeguarded the Potomac River and its tributaries and connected people to this national treasure. As the Voice of the Nation's River, the Conservancy's primary focus is to restore water quality by advocating sound policy and promoting thoughtful land management. The Conservancy protects and restores Potomac landscapes by enhancing a network of rivers, forests, and natural areas. Since healthy lands and rivers reflect the quality of life in our communities, the Conservancy promotes enjoyment of the river in ways that foster a genuine conservation ethic.

Events at the River Center at Lock 8

The River Center is open Saturdays and Sundays through October, from 10 AM until 2 PM for tours of the lock house and interactive exhibits. Visitors are guided by Potomac Conservancy's volunteer River Center Guides who lead tours, answer questions, and discuss the historical and cultural significance of the C&O Canal and the Potomac River to the regional economy and local quality of life. For additional information about the River Center at Lock 8, including directions, visit www.potomac.org/site/discover-rc1h8/.

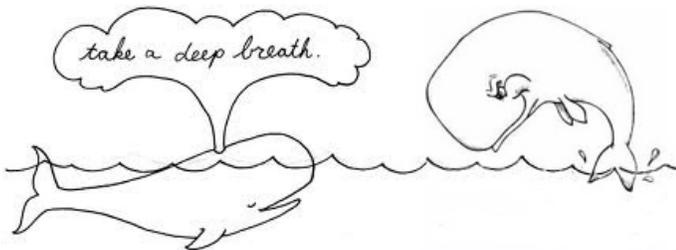
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AROUND TOWN

A memorial service was held at Town Hall for **Betty Briggs** on Friday, September 9, 2011. Town residents who attended heard excerpts from an oral history taken by Norman Hudson-Taylor and recounted by Norman and Diana Hudson Taylor. Two chairs with plaques on them were donated to the Town to be situated on the lawn in front of Town Hall, near Brockie Stevenson's memorial bench.

Eleanor Balaban recently visited Svalbard, a group of islands north of Finland in the Arctic Circle, with National Geographic. She has long wanted to see a walrus in the wild and she saw hundreds. Other highlights of this excursion into nature included the sighting of two blue whales, ten polar bears, millions of murrets and other seabirds. Her ship traveled to a latitude of 80.28., close to the North Pole. We are sure that Eleanor has photos!



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GLEN ECHO TOWN HALL EVENTS

Town Hall Events Free to All Residents

Town Yard Sale, Saturday, Oct. 1,
9am to 1 pm.

English Country Dance, every
Wednesday, 7 – 11 p.m. Free to
residents.

Film Fest, Town Hall, Saturday,
Oct. 8 at 8 pm.

Town Council Meeting, Monday,
Oct. 10 at 8 pm.

Folklore Society of Greater Wash-
ington Concert, Saturday, Oct. 15,
6pm to 11 pm.

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LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

Ladies Night

Wednesday,

October 19, 8 p.m.

At the home of

Ellen Leary

32 Wellesley Circle

r.s.v.p. 301-910-2436

POTOMAC CONSERVANCY continued

4th Annual Potomac River Jam *Sunday, October 16, 10 AM-4 PM*

A full-day celebration of the natural beauty, culture, and history of the Potomac River and C&O Canal. The morning will begin with a sampling of this summer's most popular nature walks at Lock 8, followed in the afternoon by the melodies of local musicians. Local painters will display their river-inspired work; canoe trips will be offered to Minnie's Island; kids will enjoy face painting, games, and crafts. A free event open to all ages.

Canal Stewards at the River Center at Lock 8 *Sunday, October 30, 9-10:30 AM*

Help the Conservancy clean up and beautify the land and water surrounding Lock 8, and along miles 8 and 9 of the C&O Canal towpath. This monthly cleanup day is open to all ages, and is part of the Canal Stewards program, engaging volunteers in a long-term relationship in which they become the caretakers of a designated site within the C&O Canal National Historical Park. Cleanup activities include picking up trash, pruning vegetation along trails, and repairing the towpath and trails. Wear clothes that can get dirty- we'll provide all the necessary tools and equipment.

VOR: River Stories with Hayden Mathews

Sunday, October 30, 10:30-11:30 AM

Hayden Mathews, regional historian, lecturer, and tour guide, will help you appreciate how the non-living environment (the land, water, atmosphere and climate) and the living, biological community (the flora and fauna) have influenced each other

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VOR continued

over time and in particular, the changes that have occurred since the arrival of humans in the Potomac Valley 15,000 years ago. The program provides a broad perspective from which to appreciate the treasures that are the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay watershed and to evaluate the choices we can make regarding their future.

Outdoor Safety 101: Baby, It's Cold Outside!

Sunday, October 30, 12-2 PM.

Potomac Conservancy and The Center for Wilderness Safety invite all outdoor enthusiasts to join them for a FREE outdoor safety seminar. Receive practical information and get hands-on experience to better prepare for the unexpected problems that can arise in the great outdoors. Topics will include treating cold weather injuries and creating a wilderness first aid kit. Please bring your own first aid kits with you.





October 2011 at REDEEMER

- SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Adult Education Forum	9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care	10:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist	10:30 a.m.
Church School	10:30 a.m.
- UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 2, 12:30 p.m.
The Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 9, 5:00 p.m.
Inscape Chamber Orchestra: "Vienna Redux II"

Sunday, November 6, 5:00 p.m.
Choral Evensong for the Sunday after All Saints' Day

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Join our Listservs!

We have two town listservs for keeping you up to date—townhall@glenecho.org for general town news and reminders, and glenecho@yahoo.com where you can post items of interest. Join the first by sending email to the town office. Join the Yahoo group by sending email to dan@macy.com.

October at Glen Echo Park

Photoworks 5th Annual Master Dark-room Student Exhibition

September 28 – October 30

Saturdays, 1 PM - 4 PM.; Sundays & Mondays, 1 PM - 8 PM. Artist’s reception: October 21, 6 PM - 8 PM. No charge.

Children's Programs and Theater

Living Classrooms Children’s Museum Weekend Nature Programs.

Open to the general public on Saturdays and Sundays, 10 AM- 3 PM. Members/children under 2: Free; Non-members: \$5.

Adventure Theatre

“Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse”

September 23 – October 31

Adventure Theatre presents “Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse.” starring Helen Hayes award winner Felicia Curry. Saturdays 11 AM, 2 PM, 4:30 PM, Sundays 11AM, 2 PM, Tuesdays through Fridays, 10:30 Am plus additional shows. Appropriate for all ages. Tickets \$17. See www.adventuretheatre.org.

The Puppet Co. Playhouse

“Tales of Beatrix Potter”

September 16 – October 9

The Puppet Co. presents “Tales of Beatrix Potter” by Applause Unlimited. Recommended pre-K – grade 4. Running time: 45 minutes. Performances: Fridays, 10 AM and 11:30 AM., Saturdays & Sundays, 11:30 AM. and 1 PM. Tickets \$10. See www.thepuppetco.org.

National Park Service Programs Saturday & Sunday - Ongoing

FILMS: “Glen Echo on the Potomac.” A 60-minute documentary highlights the Park’s 115-year history from a National Chautauqua Assembly to a premiere amusement park to a vibrant arts and humanities center. Visitor’s Center, 4 PM. “Carousel of Memories.” is a 25-minute documentary that features six individuals who have been pivotal in the history of the carousel at Glen Echo Park.

Carousel tours begin at 3:30 PM. (Oct 1 – April 29). Park tours begin at 2 PM in the Arcade Building. No charge.

A full list of events and details can be found at www.glenechopark.org.



Halloween Party at the Town Hall

October 31, 2011 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Trick or Treat from 6:30 to 9:00 pm

Volunteers Needed: Call Nicole at 301-320-4041 or email TownHall@glenecho.org