



PUBLISHED SINCE 1948 FOR THE TOWN OF GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND ~ CHARTERED IN 1904 ~ SEPTEMBER 2015

## TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

The Mayor and three Council Members were present at the Town Council meeting held on August 10, 2015. Council Member Matney was absent. The Mayor presided over most of the evening then left after turning the meeting over to Council Member Long who conducted the last of the items on the agenda. While the Mayor was there, representatives from Pepco attended to answer questions about frequent outages and the owner of 2 Vassar Circle addressed redevelopment of the property.

### Glen Echo Park Report

National Park Service (NPS) Representative Aaron LaRocca reported that the required environmental impact statement has been signed and construction is now being contracted for renovation of the Clara Barton House. Bids are due on August 18, and work should begin in late September. There will be no visitor tours of the site for two years while construction is ongoing. The building will be closed during that time.

A meeting is scheduled

to discuss the status of the agreement between the NPS and Montgomery County regarding management of Glen Echo Park. The current agreement ends on October 17, 2015. There will be public outreach to involve the community. The Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway is interested in increasing programs throughout the Parkway expanse. The Mayor reminded Mr. LaRocca that the Town wants to be informed of progress on this agreement.

The Chesapeake Bay Dis-

covery Center, aka the Glen Echo Park Aquarium, will open in mid-September and will be located in the former barn area of the park. NPS staff will work with the center to create a pollinator garden outside of the aquarium.



The cooperater will operate the aquarium for a 15-year term. The facility will house fish and focus on education about the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

### Pepco

Jerry Pasternak, regional Vice President of Pepco and three technical Pepco staff members appeared at the Mayor's request to explain frequent outages in Glen Echo, even in the absence of storms. Mr.

Pasternak explained that Pepco categorizes outages as momentary (less than five minutes) and sustained (over five minutes). Pepco has been engaged in equipment improvement to create more reliability for both types of outages. In part, the installation of equipment upgrades themselves created some of the recent outages. For instance, while Pepco was working on the substation serving Glen Echo in Woodacres, a mobile substation took over, but on July 24, there was a relay issue and power transmission was interrupted for some time. That construction is complete and further outages due to construction will not happen again. As for other possible outages, the substation is monitored 24/7 to catch problems early on.

When asked by Mayor Beers if Glen Echo residents are last in line to have power restored after a storm, Pasternak explained the

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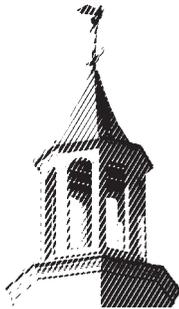
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Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be signed.

Articles for publication are also solicited. Please send comments about *The Echo* to the editor, the Mayor, or any Council Member. Volunteer reporters are always needed.



## TOWN OF GLEN ECHO

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Next Town Council Meeting: Sept. 14, 2015, 8 PM

priority sequence in which power is restored, that is, public safety, fire stations, and health providers. After that, restoration efforts are prioritized by the number of customers affected by each break or problem.

Mr. Pasternak was asked about benefits the potential merger with Exelon will bring to Pepco customers. He spoke of more opportunity for sustainable/renewable energy and greater access to neighboring repair crews after storms by calling on BG&E, Philadelphia Electric, and Delmarva Power, who will be sister companies.

The Mayor asked Mr. Pasternak to notify the Town if there are going to be scheduled outages. He agreed that Pepco should do that and should be able to provide three to five days advance notice.

### 2 Vassar Circle

Aaron Hirsch, owner of 2 Vassar Circle, presented a new concept that would allow for widening the public right of way to provide accommodation for emergency vehicles using the roadway. He was presenting this information to the Council for purposes of negotiation, not as a fait accompli. Residents who live on the circle had a number of comments. It was difficult for anyone to judge, from the new drawings presented by Mr. Hirsch, exactly what was different than earlier plans.

In effect, the developer explained that he will provide an additional foot of his property around the circle to satisfy the Fire Marshall and the Town. Residents spoke of the increased traffic on the circle which the planned development will create. Mr. Hirsch continued to answer questions that concentrated on the impact of the development on neighboring houses. No comment or action was taken by the Council, but the Mayor made it clear she wanted to see progress made in the development of the property.

### Other Town Business

The Council awarded a contract to D.H. Construction for curb striping which will be undertaken in September. The cost will be \$3,347.

There was discussion of a procurement effort for resurfacing the parking lot surrounding Town Hall. Since there was only one bid, Council Member Stiglitz asked the Town Clerk to solicit additional bids. Ms. Long provided one suggestion of another bidder we have used before. The Council will make a decision about this matter at the September meeting.

### Town Expenses

In July, the Town paid \$4,257 to Waste Management of Maryland, \$2,116 to Local Government Insurance Trust, and \$1,258 to Chapel Valley Landscaping. —PHYLLIS FORDHAM

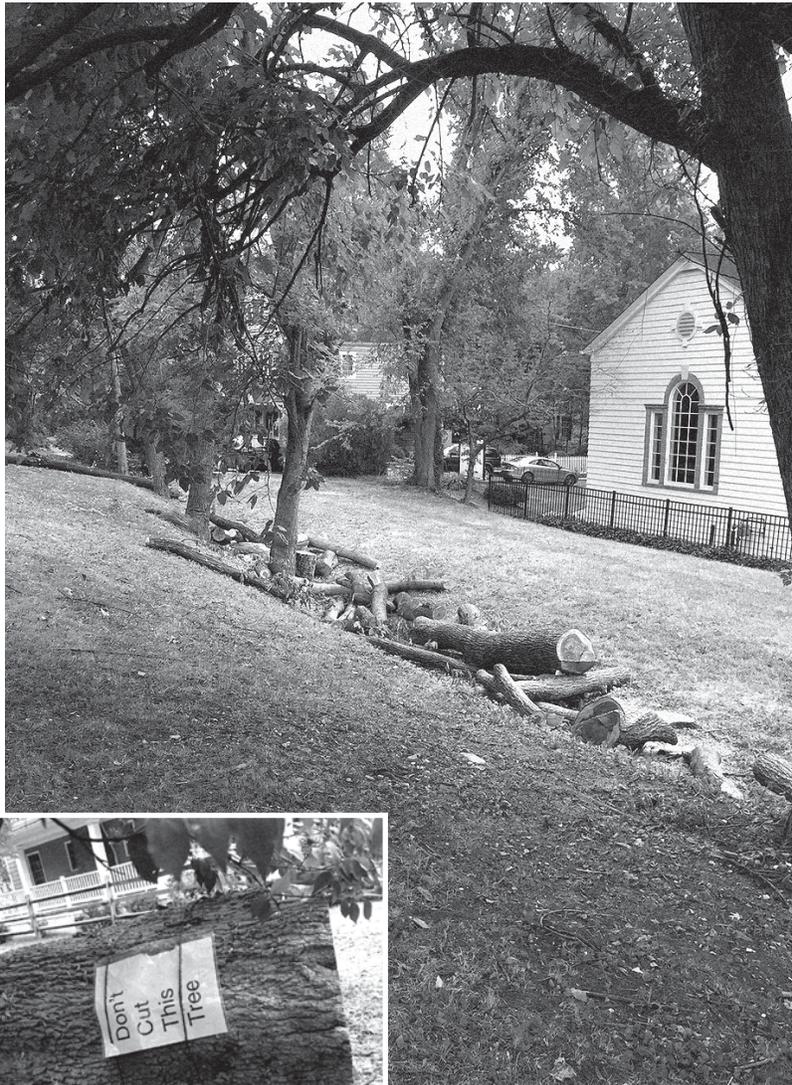
# A MASSACRE ON MACARTHUR

Many town residents were dismayed to return from work or vacation in August to see that dozens of trees along the MacArthur Boulevard right-of-way had been “pruned”—in most cases, cut down entirely.

Mayor Debbie Beers told *The Echo* that the trees had been marked for removal a year ago, when Pepco was flooded with complaints of repeated power outages. Pepco embarked on an aggressive tree pruning operation that, according to Mayor Beers, was long overdue.

Many of the trees had been allowed to grow unchecked for 30 or 40 years and had begun to interfere with Pepco wires.

“Pepco made a professional



judgment,” said Mayor Beers. “We can’t argue about the

cutting of trees and also complain about the unreliability of electricity. You have to lose a few trees to get a more reliable electrical system.”

Most of the Glen Echo trees were box elders and black walnuts, though a mature cherry tree was also removed. Signs posted by residents declaring, “don’t cut this tree” were disregarded. The work was done by Asplundh, a Maryland-based company contracted by Pepco to conduct tree pruning near electrical lines and along rights-of-ways.

Mayor Beers is planning to talk to Pepco about providing replacement trees that will not grow to interfere with electrical lines and removing the many trunks and limbs still littering the right-of-way at the time of writing.

—ANGELA HIRSCH

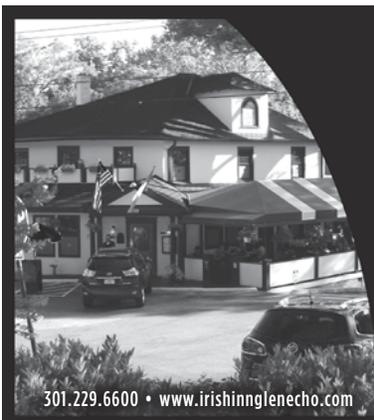


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## A GLEN ECHOAN ABROAD

In July 2007 when I was just 10 years old, I flew from Poland, my birth country, to the U.S. with my adoptive parents. At the time, I didn't know my new parents very well, I didn't know much about the U.S., and I didn't know any English. I was very nervous and scared. Today, I am a typical American teenager, going to Kent State University this fall as a freshman and looking forward to what's to come. This summer, I applied and was accepted for the Teaching English in Poland (TEIP) program, because I wanted to help some Polish students in their attempts to speak English, knowing that I once had the same problems. The program is run through The Kosciuszko Foundation (TKF), a Polish-American cultural organization with chapters around the United States.

Last summer, I enjoyed a Polish language class at the D.C. chapter of TKF. I found that most of the Polish I had forgotten from my childhood was actually still there, hibernating in the back of my mind! I am thankful to TKF for choosing me to travel this July with an amazing group to Siennica to meet and teach students with our Polish counterparts. The whole experience was more than what I had hoped for. I was so glad for the chance to see my birth country again but through a new perspective as a young adult. From the food,

to the sightseeing excursions, to the children, this experience has left me with a great appreciation for Poland.

When I was little, I had no prior knowledge of English when moving to the States. It was a difficult time. I couldn't communicate my thoughts and ideas while adjusting to my new life in a new country. (Although I was always able to speak with my younger brother, who had been adopted with me at the same time.) When I finally began learning English, I found that I was incredibly shy and embarrassed to try out my newly learned language.

Just how I felt years ago, this is what the kids felt like when we first met them in Poland. They were shy, many have never met loud Americans before, and they rarely tried out English verbally. We were there to change that. As we came up with lesson plans, ways to entertain them and share our culture, we became close. As we grew friendships, we let the kids practice their English casually. Most of the members of the TEIP did not know Polish, so English was the only form of communication with these students. To my amazement, I watched the students each day speak up and share their thoughts without hesitation. On this teaching trip,



*Ola with her brother Arek after the Whitman graduation ceremony*

I received the gift of watching a young mind learn right before my eyes.

The food we were given was just how I'd remembered it. For me, almost nothing I enjoy in the States can compare to the cuisine in Poland, and I savored every bite. I was so satisfied with each meal, I made it my quest to purchase a Polish cookbook in Warsaw, and try out a few recipes when I returned home. So far, all the *Golabki* have come out of the oven burned, but I am still trying.

We stayed at a pretty rustic campground community near the school where we went for the kids' camp during the days. I shared a bunkhouse with three other TEIP women, and we had very basic facilities for sleeping and bathrooms. Since "wifi" or any other sort of connectivity was not readily available, my time there

was a chance to unplug from technology. Our American group had a lot of time to just talk instead of texting! But we didn't just spend quality time with each other, because teaching with us at the school were Polish staff, and we had a lot of opportunities to see them outside of the camp hours. It was great to go to dinner at people's houses and just hang out and talk with young Polish people not much older than me.

Before flying home, we had a couple of days to spend in Warsaw and see a lot of sights there, which was a nice ending for my trip. The relaxing nights we spent strolling the streets and taking time to sit and talk in the restaurants left a positive impression on all of us as we marveled at the experience we had just shared.

In fact, I realized that I would love to return to Poland to teach another summer of English to students. I know I can help them make progress in the language and learn more about America in general, and at the same time have a wonderful experience myself through making new friends and learning more about the culture of the country where I was born. —**ALEKSANDRA "OLA" SIMPSON**  
*(Ola lives at 22 Wellesley Circle with her brother and parents Dave and Mickie Simpson.)*

# LET'S GET PHYSICAL

The kids may be back to school, but it's not all pumpkin spice and tweed just yet. Calendar aside, September still feels a lot like summer and there are plenty of things to do that take advantage of the warm days and sunshine.

The Library of Congress **National Book Festival** is September 5. The festival moved last year from the National Mall to the Washington Convention Center—a controversial move, but it's sticking to the indoor location again this year. Dozens of authors will read from their works, and new this year is a pavilion devoted to romance novels. Steamy!

Music lovers will want to check out the **DC Blues Festival** on September 5 at Carter Barron Amphitheater. This free annual festival features live blues by outstanding local and national acts. More music awaits at the **Takoma Park Folk Festival** on September 20, which features six stages of performers and artisans from the D.C. region.

Go for one final ride on the Dentzel carousel at Glen Echo Park's **Then and Wow! Festival** on September 27. The festival brings back some of the old midway vibe of the park, with magic shows, juggling, and arcade games. Then on October 3, **Taste of Bethesda** brings out more than 50 restaurants

and five stages of entertainment to Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle.

Everyone knows it's too hot for armor and velvet cloaks in the middle of summer, so the **Maryland Renaissance Festival** is appropriately timed for cooler weather. The long-running festival is open weekends through October 25, in Crownsville, Maryland, near Annapolis.

Montgomery County's fair was in August, but don't despair; you still have plenty of opportunities to enjoy fried dough, prize heifers, and attractive produce. In fact, you could go to a different Maryland county fair nearly every weekend in September, if that's your thing. The **Prince George's County Fair** is Sept. 10–13 in Upper Marlboro; **Anne Arundel County Fair** is Sept. 16–20 in Crownsville; **Charles County Fair** is Sept. 17–20 in La Plata; Great Frederick Fair is Sept. 18–26 in Frederick; and **Calvert County Fair** is Sept. 30–Oct. 4 in Prince Frederick.

**WalkingTown DC** takes place September 19–27, offering dozens of walking tours around the city. These tours go way beyond the basics: One tour leaves the crowds of M Street behind and explores Herring Hill and the working-class neighborhoods and alleys around Georgetown. Another tour goes deep into

the Capitol grounds, looking at Frederick Law Olmsted's designs and the Capitol's plants, terraces, brick summerhouse, stone and ironwork, views, and circulation paths. Tours vary in length and rigor; check the website and find a tour that fits.

Finally, there's the **Bannockburn Family Film**

**Fest** at the Bannockburn Clubhouse (date not set at press time, watch the list-serv). Outdoor short films under the stars, an epic bake sale, food trucks, and a raffle, and you can walk home. Always a fun night and proceeds benefit Bannockburn Nursery School.  
—ANGELA HIRSCH

## THE DISH

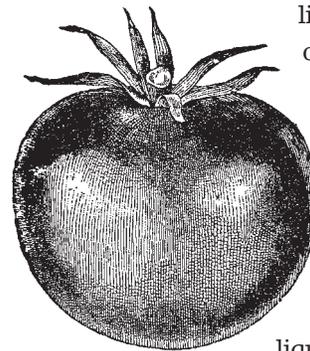


Before the arrival of fall, with its soups and braises, head to the farmers market for this simple celebration of the tomato. You'll need to pick up about five big tomatoes, some onions, and some bacon for an end-of-summer **tomato pie**.

Start by thickly slicing those tomatoes and layering them in a bowl with salt. Thinly slice 2 medium onions and saute them in butter and olive oil with some oregano for a few minutes, until they are cooked but still crunchy. Grate about 3 cups of any type of cheese—I like cheddar or mozzarella or swiss and fontina—and prep some fresh basil if you have it.

It's now time to layer those pies. Oil two pie pans and fill the bottoms with a 1/2 cup of bread crumbs each. Pour off any liquid from the salted tomatoes and then use half of them for your first layers. Follow up with the basil and half of the onions and cheese. Then again, tomatoes, onions, cheese. Top each pie with two beaten eggs, a dusting of bread crumbs, salt and pepper, and about four pieces of uncooked bacon, cut to fit draped across the top of the pie. Bake it for 45 minutes at 325 degrees and then turn it up to 350 degrees for 15 more.

Great summer pies, but somehow even better when you know they are your last. —EMILY PARSONS



As the days get shorter, I am reminded that it is time to order my fall and winter bulbs. I usually plant bulbs in November and forget about them. Then when they bloom it is a true delight to enjoy their beauty. I also have started buying Amaryllis (now called Hippeastrum) bulbs to force and give as Christmas or winter gifts. This year, I am buying bulbs online from my friends at Brent and Becky's bulbs. Their place is located on Daffodil Lane in Gloucester, Virginia.

Shopping online rather than from a catalogue is so much easier because you can put in your requirements and then those are the only bulbs that will be listed. You can even go straight for the "pest proof bulbs" or select a certain color or time of year for bloom. If a catalogue is preferred, they are happy to send one.

*Allium schubertii*



I can never resist the ornamental onions because they look like lollypops appearing in the garden. In particular, I love the *Allium schubertii* because of the

## HOLLY IN THE IVY

huge heads, as large as a soccer ball, with little star-like lavender flowers on the round ball. The flower skeleton that forms after blooming is as beautiful as the flower in peak bloom.

*Dracunculus vulgaris*



If it is bizarre you are after this can be found as well. The dragon plant or voodoo lily (*Dracunculus vulgaris*) has a three foot maroon/purple/black flower spike surrounded by a fleshy sheath of the same color. But watch out where you plant it, because the flowers smell like rotting meat in order to attract the flies that are needed to pollinate it.

Or if elegant is the look you are after, I suggest the Fritillaria. My favorite is the *Fritillaria meleagris* whose flower heads bow down and

*Fritillaria meleagris*



*Erythronium revolutum*



look like delicate painted eggs. Another smallish, elegant native bulb I adore is the trout lily (*Erythronium revolutum*) with its statuesque nodding flowers, great for the naturalized garden.

*Eremurus*



For a taller spiky flower, I will go for the stunning Cleopatra foxtail lily (*Eremurus*). These luscious orange

*Lilium "pink perfection"*



spikes add a sense of architecture to the garden when in bloom. For fragrance, I am forever planting lilies (*Lilium sp.*), and they come

back as perennials quite well as long as they have decent drainage. Two that are on the list this year are *Lilium* "Pink Perfection," because it is easy to grow, very tall (five to six feet), and intensely fragrant, and the regal lily (*Lilium regale*) reaching around four feet with large trumpet-shaped flowers that look amazing in a garden.

The forcing of Hippeastrum (Amaryllis) bulbs for winter flowers is not difficult. I pot the plants up according to directions and place them on a sunny windowsill and they usually bloom right around the holidays. For the darkest red color, "Royal Velvet" is quite striking, or on a lighter note, "Ambiance" has white and red flowers with feathered markings.

*Hippeastrum "ambiance"*



No doubt, if you decide to plant bulbs you will discover their unique qualities as garden plants or as winter flowers. Their attributes offer an entire range of distinctive colors, shapes, sizes, and surprises. For the joy of looking and imagining alone go to: [brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://brentandbeckysbulbs.com). —HOLLY SHIMIZU

# HAVE YOU HEARD?

**B**y mid-August, **75 gas lines** had been installed in Glen Echo. At that time, eight meter sets were still pending. Washington Gas will be working with the homeowners of those outstanding meters to wrap up the installation project.



*A new gas line*

According to the utility, all service requests under the agreement with the Town are now complete.

.....

**Joci Khalifa** has become a 200-hour registered yoga teacher with a specialization in children and families. She will be teaching a children's

yoga class this fall at Simon Says Yoga at the Sangamore shopping center, Wednesdays at 4 PM for ages 5-8. She says she's open to teaching a family yoga class at the Town Hall if there's enough interest. Sign us up!

.....

The **Glen Echo Park Aquarium** will have its Grand Opening on September 19. Open weekends until then, it is now charging a \$3.00 entry fee. Attractions include a water table where you can touch some Chesapeake Bay wildlife, several fish tanks, a table of shells, and a skipjack tree house.

.....

The owners of **Old Angler's Inn** are planning to make the charming restaurant's name a reality. They hope to break ground in 2016 on four cottages for overnight guests and a banquet hall for parties and weddings. The new structures will be far enough back on the property to leave the restau-

rant essentially unchanged. Owners Mark and Sara Reges are hoping to get support from the community for the project and are happy to talk to anyone interested in hearing more about it. To sign the petition in favor or get more information go to [www.oldanglersinn.com](http://www.oldanglersinn.com).

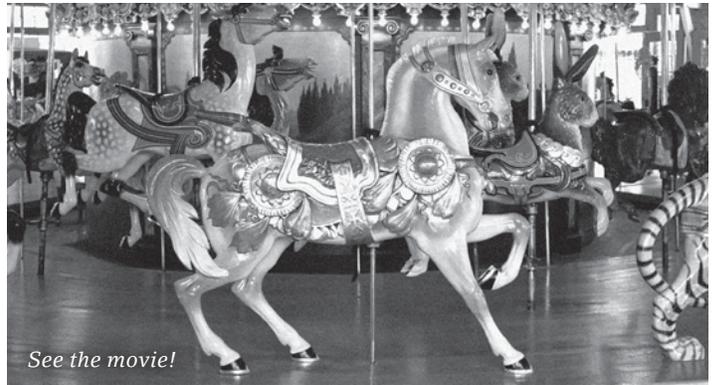
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**Carousel of Memories**, a half-hour documentary from local filmmaker Cintia Cabib, explores the fascinating history of Glen Echo Park's antique Dentzel carousel. There will be a free screening of the film on September 14 at noon at The George Washington University Museum/The Textile Museum located at 701 21st St., NW, in D.C. Among the people

featured in the film are the late Irene Hurley and her son Max, who operated the carousel for many years, the late Maryland State Senator Gwendolyn Britt, who protested the park's segregation policy in 1960, Town of Glen Echo Council Member Nancy Long, who led the efforts to keep the carousel at Glen Echo Park, restoration artist Rosa Ragan, and several families who recall their happy rides.

## Real Estate Report

Carlotta Anderson's house at 38 Wellesley Circle remains on the market at \$870,000. Jim Ford and Beth Rockwell's home at 7300 University Avenue has sold for \$1,139,000.



*See the movie!*

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# TOWN YARD SALE 101

The annual Town-wide yard sale is October 3. The Town handles advertising; You provide the goods!

**1. Start getting ready today.** You've got a whole month to get all your salable items together. Get the whole family involved. Anything goes—tools, toys, furniture, books, clothes, etc.

**2. The location of the sale:** Your yard. If you don't think you'll have much foot traffic or have a limited number of items, set up a table at the Town park (at University & Princeton). In the case of rain, the Town Hall will be open for use.

**3. Timing.** The sale is advertised from 9-2 but

beware, serious yard salers are cruising the streets ready to buy usually by 8 AM.

**4. Pricing suggestions?** Obviously, it depends on how badly you want to sell the item, but 10-20% of retail price leaves space for bargaining (especially at the end of the day!).

**5. Be safe.** You do not need to allow strangers in your house. You can direct them to Town Hall or Glen Echo Park for restroom requests.

**6. Have fun!** Treasures, lemonade stands, meet your neighbors, clear the house, all while making some pocket money! —DIANA HUDSON-TAYLOR

## THEY SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

Sept. 1, **Mads Anderson**, 2  
 Sept. 18, **Hayes Polak**, 2  
 Sept. 23, **Alexander Vincent**, 9  
 Sept. 28, **PG Parsons Amdur**, 2

Send your children's names and birth dates (up to age 14) to [TheEchoEditor@gmail.com](mailto:TheEchoEditor@gmail.com).



## CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents and \$1.50 per line for non-residents. Send your ad to [TheEchoEditor@gmail.com](mailto:TheEchoEditor@gmail.com).

The Echo seeks meticulous, responsible high school student for an **editorial internship**. The main job will be fact check-

ing, but there will be writing and photography opportunities as well. If interested, please email [TheEchoEditor@gmail.com](mailto:TheEchoEditor@gmail.com).

**Bicycle wheels** wanted for sculpture. Drop them off at 7308 University Ave. to be part of something fun.

## GOINGS ON

### Glen Echo Town Hall Events

FSGW English Country Dance  
 Wednesdays, **Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** 8-10:30 PM  
 free to town residents



### Local Events

**Sept. 19** 10 AM-2 PM, Open house at the River Center at Lock 8

### Glen Echo Park Activities

**August 7** 6-8 PM, Free Art Walk in the Park,

**Sept. 4** 7-9 PM, and **Sept. 5-7** 12-6 PM, 45th Annual Labor Day Art Show at the Spanish Ballroom; admission is free

**Sept. 5** 12-4 PM, Open house for classes happening throughout the park

**Sept. 5 and 7** 1-6 PM, Irish Music and Dance Showcase at the Bumper Car Pavillion

**Sept. 19** The grand opening of the aquarium, or the Chesapeake Bay Discovery Center

**Sept. 27** Then and Wow! Enjoy rides and games and the last day of the carousel's 95th season

### The Puppet Co.

[www.thepuppetco.org](http://www.thepuppetco.org); 301-634-5380

**The Velveteen Rabbit**, Sept. 18-Oct. 18

**Tiny Tots**, select Weds, Sats, and Sundays at 10AM

### Adventure Theater MTC

[www.adventuretheater-mtc.org](http://www.adventuretheater-mtc.org); 301-634-2270

**Caps For Sale, The Musical**, Sept. 11-27

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, AT 8 PM



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*O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.*

■ SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Adult Forum	9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care	10:15 a.m.
Holy Eucharist	10:30 a.m.
Church School for All Ages	10:30 a.m.

■ UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, September 13, Homecoming Sunday  
Ice Cream Social, 12:15 p.m.  
Time & Talent Fair, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 28, 5:00 p.m.  
Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert

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