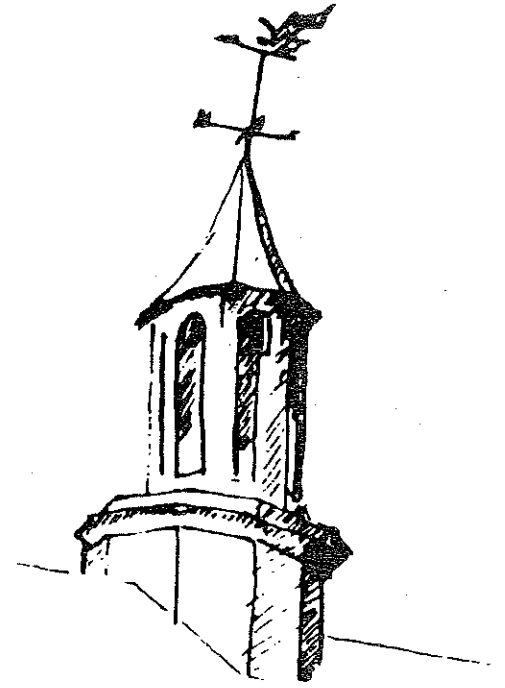


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



April 2006

RESIDENT OFFERS RESIDENTS CONCERT IN HER HOME

Phyllis Daen, a new resident at 6000 Harvard Ave., is hosting a concert in her home on Thursday, April 6, at 8:00 p.m. All Glen Echo residents are invited to attend.

Ms. Daen, a psychologist, is also a pianist, and performs with various chamber music groups that are part of the Friday Morning Music Club. She is also the mother of longtime Glen Echo resident Meris Steele of Bryn Mawr Ave.

At the April 6 concert she will be joined by Al Vecchione, clarinetist, Beth Lawrence, soprano, and Marion Richter, violist.

The program will be as follows:

Mozart—Trio in E flat major (498)

Schubert—two songs: Romanze,

The Shepherd on the Rock

Meyerbeer—Hirtenlied

Robert Maxwell--Ebbtide

Zina Goldrich—Taylor, the Latke

Boy

Refreshments will be served.

MEETING ON OXFORD ROAD DRAWS TOWN RESIDENTS

By Rex Rhein

At least 17 town residents showed up at a public meeting Mar. 23 to discuss two alternatives to the current traffic pattern from Oxford Road in and out of the Glen Echo Park parking lot. At the informal meeting, National Park Service personnel said comments received by Mar. 31 would be reviewed early in April and the town council would subsequently be notified of the NPS's recommendations. However, they said it is unlikely that any changes will be made until ownership of Oxford Rd. is finally established, which could be as early as next year.

Maps displayed at the meeting showed the current traffic pattern and the two suggested alternatives. In each case, traffic would both enter and exit from the upper parking lot access road on Oxford Rd. instead of, as now, entering by the Clara Barton House and exiting from the upper parking lot access road. The current access road would be divided into two lanes, one for entrance, one for exit. Under both schemes, only vehicles bound for the Clara Barton House would proceed down Oxford past University Ave.

Park personnel said there have been complaints that cars heading to the current park entrance not only exceed the town's posted speed limit but also ignore the stop sign at the University Ave. intersection. The proposed changes are de-

—continued on page 3

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.

⊕ *Printed on recycled paper*

SWIM CLUB MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE IN BANNOCKBURN

If you are a new neighbor in Bannockburn, Glen Echo, or Cabin John, you may be entitled to a permanent membership in the Bannockburn Swimming Club. There are also seasonal memberships available.

Bannockburn Swimming Club is located at the end of Laverock Lane (a block from the Bannockburn Club House) and offers a heated 25-meter pool with a one meter board, an adjacent non-swimmer's "Ell" and a separate baby pool. The swim team is very active, there are swim lessons, and we have biweekly potluck dinners. The swimming season starts on the Memorial Day weekend and ends a few weeks after Labor Day.

For details, please contact the membership chair, Hans Engler, email: h.engler@verizon.net, telephone: 301.229.0156.

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO MARYLAND

20812

Town Office: 301-320-4041

Town Office Fax: 301-320-3639

E-Mail: townhall@glenecho.org

**6106 Harvard Avenue or Box 598, Glen Echo, MD
20812**

**Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-3:30
and by appointment**

MAYOR

Debbie Beers 301-229-7308

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Eve Arber 301-263-0016

Steve Matney 301-320-2059

Dan Macy 301-229-2122

Nancy Long 301-332-3823

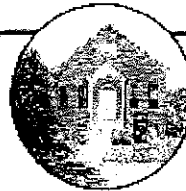
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Sunday Services 11:00 am

Wednesday Activities 7:00 pm

Mid-Week Bible Study Vassar Circle

OXFORD ROAD MEETING (FROM PAGE 1)

signed to fix that problem, as well as to improve safety for pedestrians and reduce the volume of traffic in the neighborhood.

Under one scenario, favored by Garth Shull, the NPS architect, Oxford would be curved and narrowed at the intersection with the upper access road, both to guide cars into the access road and to slow other traffic proceeding to the Clara Barton house. New curbs would be required on Oxford Rd. (town side) and at the entrance of the upper access road (river side) for this purpose.

The second alternative would also provide a new curb on the upper parking lot access road (to narrow it) but not on Oxford Rd. Instead, Oxford traffic past this intersection would have to be controlled by a NPS employee with a mobile barrier, which would be practicable only during festivals, Mr. Shull said.

Under both alternatives, the existing stop sign at the intersection with University Ave. would be removed. Even without the stop sign, both plans include a raised crosswalk across Oxford Rd. just below University to provide safer pedestrian access to the park at that point.

Several attendees noted that a major unmet need is for a sidewalk from MacArthur Blvd. down Oxford (on the park side), as well as a sidewalk along the length of the upper parking lot access road, since this is the route taken by many people who leave their cars along MacArthur Blvd. or who take the bus to Glen Echo. This and other suggestions will be taken into consideration before a final recommendation is made, Mr. Shull said.

Whether the town or the NPS owns Oxford Rd. has long been unclear and both entities are currently researching the subject. However, the park service has indicated that even if the town owns the road, it is willing to implement its proposed changes and pay for them.

Comment forms were made available to those who attended the two-hour meeting. For those who did not attend, comments can be mailed to Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, c/o Turkey Run Park, McLean, VA 22101.

--Carlotta Anderson contributed to this report.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 10—8:00 p.m.
Glen Echo Town Hall
Contact the mayor to add an item to the agenda

NATURE LOVER BEAUTIFIES BRIDGE APPROACHES

By Carlotta Anderson

When Kevin Kearney wants to improve the environment he doesn't join an organization or petition the government. He just does it himself. And he tends to find people to help him.

For the past five years, the Cabin John Gardens resident has been developing a garden in the dirt next to the Cabin John side of the one-lane bridge. When he saw Dept. of Transportation people working nearby with heavy equipment, he asked if they would use it to break up the soil. He must have asked very nicely because they complied.


He improved the soil by persuading Christopher's Hardware, where he is a frequent customer, to give him ripped-up bags of mulch that they wouldn't be able to sell. Residents of Cabin John Gardens contributed plants. His wife, Joel Todd, helped with maintenance.

The plot, which he named Cabin John Garden, now has several large pussy willows bushes which he bought on sale for \$5 each, and many perennial plants which will soon come into bloom.

Now Mr. Kearney is developing a similar plot on the Glen Echo side of the bridge, which, predictably, he named Glen Echo Garden. He wants to grade the whole entrance area around the path which leads to the canal and has signs up requesting dirt, mulch and plants. What he would like are perennial shade plants. Of course, if those who contribute them would also plant them, he would be especially grateful.

If you would like to take part in the Glen Echo Garden beautification effort, you can just bring supplies to the spot and dig in some plants, or call him at 301-229-8820 to find out how you can help.

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CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF TRASH AND RECYCLABLES

**For the Town of Glen Echo
Bids Accepted until April 10**

TIME AND MANNER OF COLLECTION

Household Trash. Household trash shall be removed by the contractor twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Fridays, from curbside or driveways of residents (which need not be located at the street address of the property); provided, however that trash collected from the Town Hall/Post Office at 6106 Harvard Avenue shall be collected from the rear of the building.

Recyclable Yard Waste Collection. The Contractor shall also remove Recyclable Yard Waste once weekly, on Wednesdays, or on such other day as is agreed upon by the Town and the Contractor. The Contractor shall dispose of grass clippings and leaves placed in biodegradable bags in a County composting facility and undertake to dispose of other Recyclable Yard Waste in such facility or other comparable facility whenever practicable. Christmas trees shall be collected weekly during the month of January and disposed of as provided by the County. The Montgomery County Council has enacted a ban on yard waste at the County landfill effective January 1993. The Contractor shall, at all times, dispose of Recyclable Yard Waste in accordance with County requirements.

Heavy and Special Trash Collection. The Contractor shall provide complete neighborhood Heavy Trash collections once per month, on the last Friday of the month, or on such other day as is agreed upon by the Town and the Contractor. Any Special Collections shall be the responsibility of the private homeowner to arrange.

Metal Goods. The Contractor shall provide Metal Goods collection upon request, on such dates and at such times as are mutually agreed upon by the Contractor and the Town. All freon must be removed by the resident prior to collection, and each item must bear a tag stating that the freon has been removed.

All Special Trash, Recyclable Yard Waste, and Metal Goods shall be placed by the occupant (other than the Town Hall/Post-Office) on a curb or driveway area (which need not be located at the street address of the property) adjacent to the occupant's property for collection. Special Trash, Recyclable Yard Waste, and Metal Goods of the Town Hall/Post Office shall be collected from the rear of the building.

Other Requirements

All bids must be accompanied with a copy of Maryland license and insurance certificate.

Bid Submission

Bids shall be submitted to the Clerk, Town of Glen Echo, either by FAX (301-320-3639) or by postal mail:
Clerk, Town of Glen Echo
P.O. Box 598
Glen Echo, Maryland 20812

AROUND TOWN

Maryland Lt. Governor Michael Steele's visit to Glen Echo, originally planned for Mar. 23, will be rescheduled. Mayor Beers said the visit would be part of Lt. Gov. Steele's pledge to visit every municipality as part of his campaign for the U.S. Senate.

She said the cancellation of the original date appears to have resulted from a misunderstanding. While she told Steele's campaign that she could not attend the meeting, other town officials could have.

Construction is continuing at Glen Echo Park. Park Site Manager Kym Elder says **neon lights** have now been chosen for the tower at the south end of the arcade.

A book on the **history of Glen Echo** is coming soon. The book must be finished by the end of June so the town doesn't lose a matching grant of \$2,500 from the county's Historic Preservation Grant Program.

The book, written by Carlotta Anderson and currently being edited, is expected to run about 150 pages. The town plan to have 200 copies printed initially, with each household getting one.

The county Dept. of Public Works and Transportation's Engineering Division expects to present the preliminary design for a new **bicycle/pedestrian path** along MacArthur Blvd. at a public meeting in late spring or early summer, *The Village News* reports. It is estimated that 35 percent of the design will be presented for funding to the County Council in the fall.

The performance of "Crash," which was presented Mar. 25 as part of the Glen Echo **Movie Series** was well attended. The monthly movies take place at the town hall and are free. Popcorn is served.

IRISH INN TO PAY MORE RENT FOR PARKING

By Jerry Bodlander

The Town Council voted last month to raise the cost for the Irish Inn at Glen Echo's use of town land to \$300 a month. This represents a 20 percent increase. The Inn uses the land for parking.

The agreement also calls for the town to provide restaurant owner Chris Hughes a year's notice of any plan to terminate the lease.

Mr. Hughes said he had no problem with the cost increase, but preferred a longer license term, which is currently 60 days. He also expressed an interest in buying the land should the town ever decide to put it up for sale.

Mayor Debbie Beers replied that it is not something the town is even considering. Mr. Hughes said that should it ever happen, he'd like to have the right of first refusal.

PROPERTIES FOR SALE	
6005 Princeton Ave.	\$699,000
6105 Yale Ave.	\$899,000

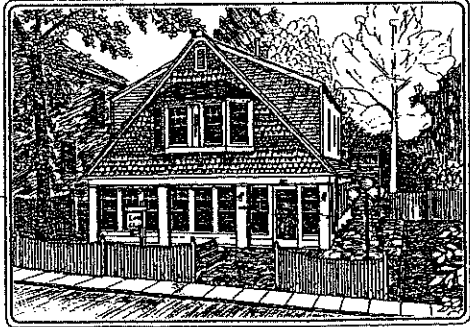
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Heather Cottage

Financial Planning

SPRING IN GLEN ECHO

The cherries are out in Glen Echo:
The myrtle and daffodils, too.
And there on the corner I think I can
see

A hyacinth's heavenly blue.
The robins are flocking together;
I just heard a song sparrow sing
To tell us that winter is over and
done

And it's now unmistakably spring!

Louise Smith

March, 2006

(Louise Smith is a resident of Bannockburn who enjoys strolling in Glen Echo.)

COUNCILWOMAN LONG RECEIVES AWARD

Councilwoman Nancy Long has been awarded the William O. Douglas Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to the C&O Canal National Historical Park Advisory Commission and presidency of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Association.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

That was a wonderful article on Chevy Chase Section 3. We think the tree planting program and snow removal plan should be something we should incorporate into our town.

Jane and Brockie Steverson

BIDDING ORDINANCE TO BE RE-WORDED

By Jerry Bodlander

Mayor Beers told the town council at its March meeting that she plans to rework the wording of the competitive bidding ordinance. She said the goal is to make sure it doesn't affect contracts subject to annual or periodic renewal or automatic renewal.

The council agreed that any contract costing more than \$1,000 would have to receive its approval. However, competitive bidding would only be necessary when a contract is over \$5,000.

The mayor said she's doing the rewriting of the ordinance as quickly as possible because it is "paramount" for the ordinance to be finalized.

She left open the option of an emergency meeting of the council to approve the changes.

If any town resident needs a 'No Parking' sign or a street sign is down, please contact the town hall at 301-320-4041.



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GLEN ECHO FAMILY with two boys (10 and 12) is looking for a high school or college student to watch them 2 or 3 afternoons a week. If you are interested or know someone -- please contact me. Ainsley 302/229-6001 or aperien@mintzgroup.com

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Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: \$.75 per line of 50 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.



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LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

*at Phyllis Fordham's
6103 Princeton Ave.*

Wednesday, April 19, 8:00 p.m.

Please RSVP 301-263-0552

LIVELY GATHERING AT ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

The joint was jumping at the town's annual St. Patrick's Day party on Mar. 18 as Peter Somerville, Osamu Shimizu, Susan Grigsby, and other guests spontaneously starting dancing an Irish jig to the infectious fiddle playing of Anthony Hyatt.

There was also much laughter during readings of 11 limericks composed by those attending. The evening got more lively as the evening wore on, especially after the excellent Irish coffee prepared by sponsors Kate and Jim Horwitz was served. It was made with turbinado sugar, whipped cream and Irish whisky.

Jim Horwitz cooked the traditional corned beef. The attendees brought potatoes, cabbage, green beans, salad, and Irish soda bread.

Raya Bodnarchuk helped decorate the hall, Dan Macy printed a song sheet, Jan Shaut brought libations, and Nancy Long and Cathie Polak helped where needed. Everyone present helped clean up.

The town provided the corned beef and beverages.

Notable about this gathering, the town's fourth consecutive St. Pat's dinner, is that organizers Kate and Jim Horwitz moved from town several years ago, yet return to put on the party.

The winning limerick by Carlotta Anderson pays tribute to this contribution:

*There's a red-headed lady named Kate
Who picked a Jim as her mate.
She honors St. Pat
With corned beef without fat
And what she does for the town is just great.*

PILATES CLASSES TO BE HELD AT TOWN HALL

By Jerry Bodlander

The town council approved the use of the town hall for 10 Pilates classes, which will begin on Apr. 6. They will run until June and cost \$20 per session.

Resident Debbie Lange, who is helping to organize the classes, is hoping that town residents who participate will donate their right as residents to have a free event at the town hall. That would mean that the organizers would not have to pay for that evening's use of the facility.

Mayor Beers expressed some concern at the decision, saying it sets a bad precedent when other groups are rejected for similar, multiple uses of the facility.

Although voting for the use of town hall for the classes, Councilman Dan Macy said that he felt the organizers are looking to take advantage of the privilege residents have of being able to use the town hall for free.

In response to a question from Councilwoman Long, Debbie Lange said there had been no plans to give residents who contributed a use of the hall a lower fee for the classes.

Council members expressed the hope that this can be quickly worked out, but stressed that organizers are responsible for covering the hall rental cost.

DO YOU WANT TO GET TOWN NOTICES BY EMAIL?

The town clerk/treasurer now has a list of email addresses for approximately 43 Glen Echo households. She can use this list to immediately contact residents with information about such things as changes in dates of events, signing up for parties, what movie will be shown at the regular film festival evenings, etc.

If you wish to have your address included in this list, please email the town office at town-hall@glenecho.org.

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DISPLAY CASE FOR HALL CONSIDERED BY COUNCIL

By Jerry Bodlander

The town council is considering having a display case made for the lobby of the town hall. It would be used to exhibit the pop-ups of the town made by Carol Barton, which were featured in an issue of *National Geographic* magazine. It would also be available for other exhibits.

The estimated cost, installed, would be \$1,613.

The council has not yet decided if the case should be opened from the top or have sliding doors on the front. If a top opening were chosen, the case would need an acrylic bottom. This would cost an additional \$296.

Another option, estimated to cost \$412, would be a clear polycarbonate guard that would be attached to the wall and railing above the display case. It would protect the case from anything that was thrown or dropped from the stairs.

A decision was tabled because the council is still finalizing the wording of the competitive bidding ordinance that must be approved before such a purchase can be made.

FURNACE PROBLEMS STILL NOT SOLVED

The town plans to contact some local architects about the best way to deal with the town hall's furnace situation. Contractors have not shown much interest in the job of replacing the furnace.

Resident Gloria Levin, who has been helping in the effort to find a company to replace the furnace, said several who have looked at the heating setup in the town hall say it is "Rube Goldbergish."

There is also some disagreement as to whether the job requires a commercial or residential grade furnace. With winter over, there is now some extra time to deal with the situation. The council wants to see what the architects suggest and hopes to get several bids.

--Jerry Bodlander

TRASH, RECYCLING PICKUP PROBLEMS?

Call Waste Management directly at 301-340-0774.
Ask for Customer Service

SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT CLARA BARTON CENTER

The Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John needs camp counselors this summer. Minimum age is 16 years. Staff will be selected based on activity skills, enthusiasm and ability to work with children. For more information please contact Modestine Snead, 301-229-0010

COMMUNITY CENTER TO HOLD FLEA MARKET & YARD SALE

The Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John will be holding its annual spring flea market and community yard sale on Saturday, May 13, from 10:00-3:00. Six-foot tables may be rented for \$5 each. Spaces measuring 7'x7' will be \$25. The sale will be held in the social hall at 7425 MacArthur Blvd. Call 301-229-0010 for more information.

JAZZ MASS CONCERT AT REDEEMER CHURCH

A Jazz Mass composed by Dr. William E. Smith will be performed at the Church of the Redeemer on Sunday, Apr. 30 at 5:00 p.m. This concert setting of the Ordinary of the Mass blends sacred text with a traditionally secular musical style.

Dr. Smith is Assistant Professor of Music at American University. Everyone is invited to attend. The Church is located on Benalder Rd. adjacent to the Glen Echo Shopping Center.

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

- The following activities booked at the town hall are free for town residents:
- Sunday, April 2, noon-5:00 p.m.—C&O CANAL ASSN. BOARD MEETING**
- Monday, April 10, 8:00 p.m.—TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**
- Saturday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.—GLEN ECHO FILM FESTIVAL**

Every Wednesday, 8:00-10:30 p.m. English Country Dance. Live music. No experience or partner needed. Sponsored by Folklore Society of Greater Washington.

DISCOVERY CREEK PLANS TO BUILD NEW STRUCTURE

By Jerry Bodlander

The Glen Echo Park Partnership voted to allow Discovery Creek to draw up plans to use the area behind the Crystal Pool sign for an enclosed structure. Mayor Debbie Beers told the town council last month. She said the vote doesn't necessarily imply approval of those plans, although it appears to be tantamount to approval.

She said she was one of only two votes against the proposal. As a representative of Glen Echo on the partnership board, she said one of the main reasons for opposing the partnership idea is because it could result in added development of the park.

Councilwoman Nancy Long said the proposal envisions a structure behind the Crystal Pool façade and that an initial drawing is taller than the historic remnant of the pool. She said the larger issue is that the agreement the partnership signed with the county allows it to decide where buildings go. No public hearings are required, unlike if the National Park Service was doing a project.

Both Mayor Beers and Councilmember Long expressed concern that a private entity (Discovery Creek) is being allowed to build in the park with no public comment required.

They noted that the group's area is often closed, and requires an entrance fee when it is open. This reduces the amount of the park available to the general public. They also voiced concern that as development increases, open space at the park decreases.

Mayor Beers said she expects this will occur again as the partnership looks for ways to raise money. One way is to rent space. This in turn could increase the number of visitors, ultimately impacting the town adversely.

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DOCENTS NEEDED FOR RIVER CENTER

If you are interested in history or nature and enjoy talking with people, you might consider becoming a docent at the River Center at Lockhouse 8 this summer. The River Center is located in the historic lockhouse, restored and operated by the Potomac Conservancy, at Lock 8 on the C&O Canal in Cabin John.

Docents dedicate three to four hours once a month, on a Saturday or Sunday, to greet River Center visitors and answer their questions. Docents must be at least 18 years old and must attend an orientation meeting, which will be held on Saturday, April 22, at 2 pm at the River Center.

Sign up for the orientation at the lockhouse during Earth Day celebration on April 22 or by contacting Judy Welles in advance at welles@potomac.org or 301-229-8110.



This photo of a group of Tundra Swans, soon to leave for the Arctic tundra, was taken by resident Frank Powers on March 19. He photographed the swans from the junction of Cabin John Creek with the Potomac River.

WALKING TOUR OF GLEN ECHO SATURDAY, APR. 29, 10-12:30

Carlotta Anderson will lead a Walking Tour of the Town of Glen Echo on Saturday, Apr. 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It is being sponsored by the Montgomery County Historical Society. The cost is \$6.

For reservations and more information, call 301-340-2825. Participants will meet at the Glen Echo Town Hall.

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION AT LOCKHOUSE 8 CENTER

The Potomac Conservancy will host an Earth Day celebration at the River Center at Lockhouse 8 on Saturday, Apr. 22, from 10:00-2:00. For children there will be a nature scavenger hunt, a plant-your-own-wildflower project and an up-close look at reptiles and birds of prey in a program offered by the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources naturalists.

For adults there will be an in-depth spring wildflower walk along the C&O Canal and the opportunity to ask master gardeners all of their landscaping questions.

APR. 29 FAMILY DAY FESTIVAL FEATURES HULA HOOPING

The historic Dentzel carousel will begin operating again on Family Day at Glen Echo Park on Saturday, Apr. 29. Hula-hooping by Evolution DC, dancing by the Culkin School of Traditional Irish Dance, and many other performances and outdoor activities will be highlights of the festival. It will take place from 11:00-6:00.

That evening, a Strauss Ball will be held in the Spanish Ballroom.

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