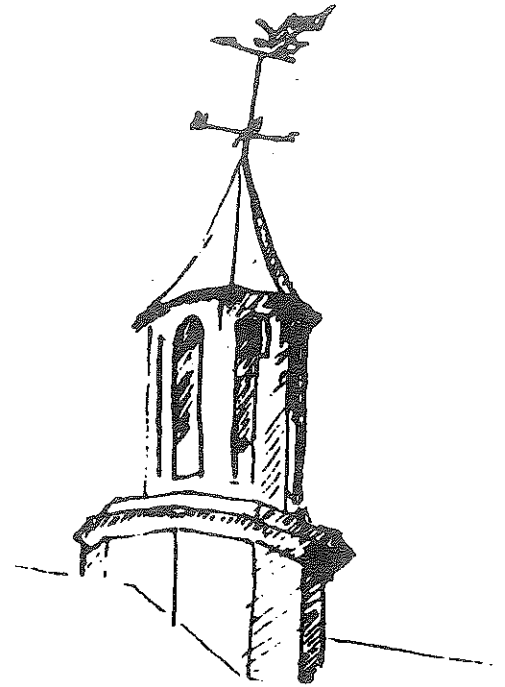


The Echo

The Town of GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND Chartered, 1904



July 2005

COUNCIL LOWERS REAL PROPERTY TAX RATE

By Rex Rhein

At its June 6 meeting, the town council unanimously voted to lower the real property tax rate from \$0.13 per \$100 to \$0.12 per \$100 property value.

Mayor Debbie Beers explained that, because of higher assessments on Glen Echo houses, the amount of property tax revenues is expected to remain relatively stable in the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. The amount of real estate income collected by the town through May 15 was \$49,327, and the amount forecast for the next fiscal year is \$49,734.

"I wanted to give a small amount of relief because I know assessments have gone up," Mayor Beers said. "On the other hand, it's a lot easier to lower taxes than to raise them," she said. "If we do everything we say here, we will be running into a deficit next year."

Total income expected by the town is \$191,659, and total expenses will be \$305,400, producing a projected deficit of \$113,741. However, since the '04-'05 fiscal year's budget is expected to show a surplus of approximately the same amount, the two-year budgets are essentially "revenue neutral," noted Councilmember Dan Macy.

On the revenue side for the coming year, the state contribution (\$55,000), state highway fund (\$19,497), and county revenue sharing (\$15,000) account for the largest pay-

—continued on page 4

COUNCIL DISCUSSES POSSIBLE NO CRUISING ORDINANCE

By Alan Carter

A large group of Glen Echo residents attended the June 13 Town Council meeting to discuss what the town could do about a man who has been driving through portions of town for more than a month on the same circuit approximately every 15 minutes from early morning until late at night.

In the absence of any explanation of this obsessive behavior, townspeople expressed general concerns about whether he might be likely to engage in harmful, illegal, or malicious acts.

The police have been notified many times about citizen concerns and have found that the individual has no criminal record. Police have stopped him and talked to him, but the behavior continued after that.

Some residents suggested that the town enact a no-cruising ordinance. Mayor Debbie Beers said that under current law, the driver of interest is breaking no laws. If the town should implement a valid no-cruising law, everyone would be potentially affected by it. It would need to be enacted in an enforceable way, including ticketing any residents who violate it.

The mayor said that enacting an ordinance usually takes 30 days. Ticketing the driver would result in another 30 days, meaning that it would be at least 60 days before any action would be taken if the town enacted a no cruise ordinance.

—continued on page 3

THE ECHO

Published unofficially by, for and in the Town of Glen Echo, Maryland. Distributed free to Glen Echo residents. Subscriptions for non-residents: \$12 per year (to subscribe call Susan Grigsby, 301-229-7735). Copies of *The Echo* on file at Little Falls and Rockville libraries. Total circulation: 190. Distributed the first weekend of the month.

EDITOR Carlotta Anderson 301-229-3748
email: Carlotta.ra@verizon.net

ASST. EDITOR Diana Hudson-Taylor

REPORTERS Alan Carter

DISTRIBUTION Brockie and Jane Stevenson

Charlie Wells

Maire Hewitt

Isabelle Umpleby

Leland Schwartz

CIRCULATION Susan Grigsby

Next Deadline July 22

Printed by Allied Printing,

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*

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, noon-3:00 p.m. and Friday,
9:00 a.m.- noon or 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

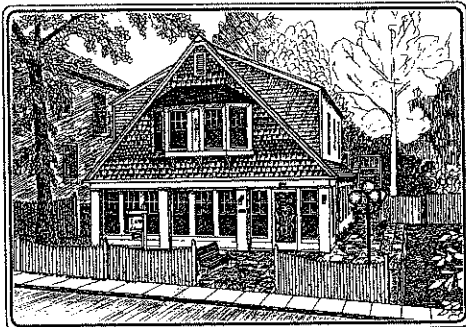
CLERK-TREASURER

Cathie Polak 301-320-4041

TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:

<http://www.glenecho.org>

LAW & ASSOCIATES, INC.
(301) 229-8500



Heather Cottage

Financial Planning



Eleanor Balaban

MacArthur Blvd. Corridor Specialist

Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.

Main: 301-907-7600 Direct: 301-215-6875

www.EleanorBalaban.com

“Let’s talk about
real estate along
MacArthur Blvd.”



CONCERNS ABOUT DRIVER'S CIRCUITS THROUGH TOWN (FROM PAGE 1)

She pointed out that the town would have to have someone monitor all cars in the neighborhood.

It was pointed out that the main problem with the "no cruising law" is that it might simply move him to another street. Other ideas about loitering enforcement, neighborhood stickers, etc. were mentioned, but deemed not feasible

Another option discussed was a temporary block of Harvard St. A resident stated he tried to set up a street block and the driver had moved the barriers twice. Other residents said that much of the time the driver does not stop at the stop sign and that he stops at the post office sometimes, perhaps having a box there.

A third suggestion was that the town communicate with him in a nice way by letter to suggest he change his behavior. A draft of this letter was read to the group. Suggestions ranged from it being a good idea to it being a mistake and conveying vulnerability.

Another suggestion was that the town keep digging into his background for information on past records or behavior.

The mayor was asked if the town could pass an ordinance aimed at a specific individual. She responded that this was not a feasible solution because of constitutional protections, especially as he is breaking no laws.

The idea of involving a social services person was brought up. Proposals to at least determine the nature of his behavior were discussed as well as various ideas on background checks, including getting a private investigator.

The general point was that at this time, since he has minimal violations other than running stop signs, it would be difficult to enforce any particular sanctions against him.


There were also questions about how interested the police would be in actually enforcing a no cruising ordinance.. What would spur them to sit in Glen Echo and actually clock the man, since there is little to no police presence currently? Discussions continued around ticketing him at the stop sign, but everyone agreed he would simply modify his behavior in the presence of the police.

The conclusion was that the council would discuss the possibility of a no cruising ordinance with the town attorney and attempt to get social services interested in the problem. In addition, the town would explore the idea of a private investigator.

Paid Advertisement

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

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



Glen Echo Baptist Church

Serving Glen Echo families since 1939

Dr. Ed Curtis, Th.D., Pastor

Bringing God's Truth to Life

Sunday School9:30 am
 Sunday Services.....11:00 am
 Wednesday Activities7:00 pm
 Mid-Week Bible Study.... Vassar Circle



KEPLER FRAMING
 Ritch Kepler
 Certified,
 Professional Picture Framers Association

25 Years in Business
 Framing for Home & Office
 All Major Credit Cards

Cabin John, MD
 320-0248

TOWN INCREASES BUDGET FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (FROM PAGE 1)

which has not increased since last year, and anticipated interest on savings (\$5,500). As of April 30, the town had \$436,954 in savings invested in Maryland's local government investment pool, another \$29,123 in money market funds, and \$21,440 in a checking account with Sun Trust Bank.

During the '04-'05 fiscal year, the town had budgeted \$239,190 but actually spent just \$118,097 as of May 15. The bulk of the unspent funds -- \$59,498 -- had been earmarked for capital improvements, including street paving, sidewalk repairs, town hall improvements and other capital improvements. Another major unspent budget item was \$15,000 for long-range planning survey of public space, where nothing was spent.

The new budget adds even more for capital improvements: \$80,000 for street paving (including a \$5,000 speed bump on Oxford Rd and a \$10,000 stone entryway at the Harvard Avenue entrance), \$15,000 for sidewalk repairs, \$20,000 for town hall improvements (including a sound control system and a new furnace), and \$10,000 for other capital improvements. The \$15,000 budget for survey of public space is unchanged.

The survey would be an essential step towards purchasing sections of the former trolley right-of-way along MacArthur Boulevard. There was some discussion of the pros and cons of purchasing the piece of the right-of-way now used by the Irish Inn as part of its parking lot, which the restaurant's owner has insisted is his property by "adverse possession" (although Kym Elder, Glen Echo Park's site manager, says the parcel is definitely owned by WMATA).

"I don't see the advantages of owning that particular piece of property," Mayor Beer said. "The inn is going to use it as a parking lot whether we own it or they own it." But Councilmember Nancy Long said the real issue is what might happen in the future there. "I would view it...as a protection for the town. We don't know that that's always going to be a restaurant."

The recreation budget is increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000 (including \$1,500 for a projector), even though only

\$803 was spent for recreation last fiscal year. The salary for the town's clerk-treasurer, Cathy Polak, is to be increased 5%, from \$18,570 to \$19,500. *The Echo* is budgeted for \$2,900, an increase of \$200 (although advertisements and outside subscriptions to *The Echo* are expected to generate \$1,400 in income).

Although Glen Echo's Centennial is now past, the council agreed to include \$3,000 for a continuing lecture series in the new fiscal year (\$10,000 had been budgeted for the Centennial lectures but only \$3,558 was spent).

Other than this reporter, no town resident was present.

THINGS TO REMEMBER!

End-of-the-month pickup of heavy or large quantity of discardables is the last Friday of each month.

Each resident is entitled to three free uses of the Glen Echo Town Hall each year.

For problems with Echo delivery, contact Jane Stevenson, 301-229-3578

Extra Echos are available at the Glen Echo Post Office

The Echo is available online at www.glenecho.org

The Town Council meeting is held the second Monday of each month at the town hall at 8:00 p.m.

Burned-out streetlights should be reported to Pepco at 202-833-7500

Sidewalks should be kept free of all foliage for the benefit of pedestrians



Cheese, imported and domestic ▼
 ▼ Organically-grown produce
 Nuts, dried fruit, grains & beans sold in bulk ▼
 ▼ Health & bodycare, cruelty-free

Serving the community since 1975.

Bethesda Co-op

301-320-2530

6500 Seven Locks Rd., at MacArthur Blvd.

Mon.-Sat. 9-9, Sun. 9-7

AROUND TOWN

Looking for good, **cheap mulch**? You can get it from the Takoma Park Public Works Dept. 31 Osego Ave., Silver Spring MD 20910 301-891-7633. It costs \$105 for 7 cubic yards, delivered to your door...

The current **Adventure Theatre** production of "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" is a superb, witty show, made especially lively by the proficient dancing of its cast. Creator of its clever choreography is Glen Echo's Michael Bobbitt, a Wellesley Circle resident...

An article in "John Kelly's Washington" profiled **Kym Elder**, Glen Echo Park's new site manager. Ms. Elder, 38, is a native Washingtonian, whose mother was also a park ranger at Glen Echo Park in 1977. Her son, Aaron is attending an arts and crafts camp at Glen Echo this summer, and her older son, Alan, is volunteering at the park...

The Wilson children of University Ave., Allegra, 10, Bram, 7, and Miles, 5, made \$72 running a **lemonade stand** on the MacArthur Blvd. bike path last month. They were raising money for "Cows for Kids," an organization run by a local teacher who is from the Masai tribe and goes back there every summer. He buys healthy cows for the tribe...

Sixteen people attended the screening of "All the President's Men" at the town film festival presentation on June 25. Among them was Wellesley Circle resident John Barrett, who, as a D.C. police officer in June, 1972, was one of those who arrested the **Watergate burglars**. He later served as a technical advisor for the film makers...

GLEN ECHO POP-UP EVENT A GREAT SUCCESS

At least **50** people turned out to admire Carol Barton's fascinating pop-up scenes of Glen Echo at the June 26 Chautauqua event at the town hall. They were also treated to a slide show tracing the history of pop-up art from the **1500s** to the present.

The scenes are featured in the July issue of *National Geographic Magazine* and everyone attending was given a free copy of the magazine. Five representatives of *National Geographic* were also present.

Carol Barton, a long-time resident of Yale Ave., showed slides of 16th century books that had pages with rotating wheels and early medical texts of human and animal bodies with lift-up flaps showing inner organs or skeletons. There were navigational guides with rotating wheels, tunnel books where the viewer looked inside to view a layered landscape scene, pull-tab books with moving figures, and "metamorphosis" books with overlay flaps that allowed creatures to morph from one image to another.

The first true pop-up books, where a scene popped up when the page was opened, were made in the 1800s.

Carol, who was on the staff at Glen Echo Park for 18 years, made her first book in the late 1970s at The Writer's Center when it was located at the park.

She did the four pop-up scenes of Glen Echo when the *National Geographic* suggested she illustrate a zip code area with three-dimensional illustrations. Glen Echo's 20812 zip seemed a natural. Her scenes depict two views of Glen Echo Park, one of Harvard Ave., and one on University Ave. Several town residents and dogs, park instructors, and students are included. The scenes were photographed for publication in the magazine.

Carol's book, "The Pocket Paper Engineer," was available for sale at the town hall event and may also be obtained from Carol at 301-229-2213 or by emailing her through her web site, www.popularkinetics.com. Color versions of the Glen Echo town hall pop-up and carousel pop-up can also be downloaded from her website.

Digital Handyman, Inc.

Personal Computer Solutions

240.447.6535

Andy Malmgren
Glen Echo, MD

Microsoft
CERTIFIED
Professional

CompTIA
A+ Certified

On-site
computer
installation and
repair

Virus removal
Maintenance
Upgrades
Networks
Training
Security

NEED AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE ?

LOCAL RESIDENT PROVIDES QUALITY WORK
DAYS, EVENINGS, WEEKENDS, NO EXTRA CHARGES
OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE--ALL MODELS
ALL NECESSARY LICENSES AND INSURANCE
PLENTY OF REFERENCES

CALL ANYTIME 301-365-2155

SAM OSLER
7105 GARMON ROAD, BETHESDA, MD

WSSC #20215

MARYLAND HVAC #16047

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night

*at Julia Wilson's
6003 Bryn Mawr Ave.*

Tuesday, July 12, 8:00 p.m.

Please RSVP 301-320-2331

PROPERTIES SOLD

7311 University Ave.	\$1,154,600
7326 University Ave.	\$651,000
6010 Princeton Ave.	\$829,000
12 Wellesley Circle (under contract)	\$575,000

Discover

**the hidden
world in
your
backyard.**

We are your backyard
birding resource, providing
top-quality birdseed, feeders,
bird houses, birdbaths, and
binoculars, plus
practical,
friendly advice.

*Free birdwalks
and newsletter*



Free

1 pound of
Black Oil
Sunflower



Wild Bird Center

Bonfield's Garage Historic Site
6124 MacArthur Blvd. • Bethesda
(301) 229-2600

CLASSIFIED ADS

COLLEGE STUDENT LOOKING FOR PART-TIME JOBS. Willing to babysit, housesit, pet-sit, garden, or drive kids etc. References upon request. Please call Jillian Horwitz 240-426-5500 or e-mail me at jfh315@students.jwu.edu.

FOR SALE: "Dauntless" 14' Boston Whaler, Load Rite Trailer and 60hp Mercury Engine \$11,500 call 301-229-2163

WANTED: Someone to trim ivy on the front of our house several times a year. \$25 each time. Anderson, 301-229-3748.

WANTED: PHOTOS OF THE DGS (District Grocery Store), TRAV'S, or other scenes of Glen Echo of the past. I need them for the history of Glen Echo. Please call Car-lotta, 301-229-3748.

BANISH HOUSEHOLD CLUTTER & SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE. Call Melanie Patt-Corner at "A Place for Everything" Household Organizing Service. 301-263-9482. Member National Association of Professional Organizers.

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.

FREE HALL EVENTS FOR GLEN ECHO RESIDENTS

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

Sunday, July 10, 8:00 p.m.—TOWN PICNIC

Monday, July 11, 8:00 p.m.—TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Saturday, July 30, 8:00 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.

DECORATIVE STREET LAMPS?

PEPCO has advised the town that it now has available for installation decorative, energy-saving street lamps.

The town will look into the cost for replacing the entire light fixtures, as well as replacing just the bulbs.

Based on figures provided by PEPCO, replacing all of the bulbs may potentially save the Town \$1,000 per year in electricity costs.

--Tom Helf

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2005

Premier Lifts (elevator service contract)	\$960.00
Chapel Valley (landscaping)	\$1,210.00
Pepco (streetlights)	\$547.95

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

ANNUAL TOWN PICNIC—Sunday July 10

MOVIE AND ADULT HALLOWEEN PARTY—Sunday,
October 30

HALLOWEEN PARTY—Monday, October 31

HOLIDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST--Saturday, Decem
ber 10.

POSTAL INQUIRIES?

It is no longer possible to get postal information by calling one's local post office.

For information by phone call toll-free number 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777) for all postal inquiries.

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

June 6

There was a resident request regarding the stop at Oxford (going south) and University Aves. How can we enforce people running this sign? Can residents write tickets? The mayor subsequently mentioned the issue to the town attorney who suggested that the town hire off-duty county or Chevy Chase Village police to issue tickets...

Speed bump installation and painting of the crosswalk at Oxford Rd. are in progress...

The council will try to re-draft the contract for use of the town hall to provide for proper insurance for liability during events not sponsored by the town or town residents as well as to clarify responsibility when residents sponsor events. It was suggested that town residents do not "sponsor" events for others. During resident use, the resident must attend and is responsible for clean-up, facilities, etc...

The council discussed getting a long range planning report. The main focus was to address the town's basis for capital reserves. It was suggested possibly using Home Tech or someone like them to do a building survey, if necessary. For the streets, the consensus was to utilize civil engineers...

Excavation is underway to solve the storm drain problems at The Irish Inn at Glen Echo. Excavation has already revealed a network of tree roots, further complicating the situation. The on-going storm drain repairs should have a positive impact on the current debris and mud flow problems at that location...

--Alan Carter




1st Choice

**Professional Painting &
Home Improvements**

301-229-9100
www.go1stchoice.com

MHIC 39468 Insured

*Landscape Design • Installation • Decks
Retaining Walls • Maintenance • Hauling • Gutters*



HUGHES
LANDSCAPING

P.O. Box 498
Cabin John, Maryland 20818
John Hughes
301-589-6040

EVENTS AT GLEN ECHO PARK

THE PUPPET CO. LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD AND THE 3 LITTLE PIGS. THROUGH JULY 17. W, TH, F, 10:00 & 11:30; SAT AND SUN, 11:30 & 1:00. \$7. 301-320-6668.

ADVENTURE THEATRE. Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. Through July 17. Sat & Sun, 1:30 & 3:30. \$7. 301-320-5331.

DISCOVERY CREEK. Sat. & Sun. 10:00-3:00. \$5

YELLOW BARN ART SHOW. Sat. & Sun. noon-5:00. Free.

DANCES—Th., F, Sat, Sun p.m., Sun eve. Different bands, different prices.

JULY SPECIAL EVENT AT LOCKHOUSE 8 RIVER CENTER

Sunday, July 24, 5 p.m. Potomac River Stories and Eco-History.

Hayden Mathews, an "eco-historian" will tell about the forces and events that shaped the Potomac River and the people who lived on its banks for the past 12,000 years.

LOCKHOUSE DOCENTS NEEDED

Do you appreciate history, nature, and sharing your passion with others? Become a **Docent** and greet and guide visitors at the Potomac Conservancy's Lockhouse 8 River Center! A minimum of one weekend day a month from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (May through September) is required. If you are interested, please contact Judy Welles, welles@potomac.org.

BE A CANAL BOAT VOLUNTEER

Have fun sitting on the Canal Clipper at Great Falls boat answering questions about the canal, canal boats and mules on "good weather" Saturdays and Sundays throughout the summer.

Make your own hours, two hours or more is good. Interested? Contact joreynolds@mris.com 301-983-1375.

PARK REPORT

A steering committee including county, federal and state representatives has allocated the remaining \$3.7M in funds for the park construction project, Kym Elder, Glen Echo Park Site Manager told the town council at its June 13 meeting. The proposal is for \$1.5M for the South Arcade, \$1.4M for the Yellow Barn, and \$.528 for the Stone Tower Roof...

Work on the Adventure Theater is set to begin June 20th...

There was some discussion about inadequate security and possible use of surveillance solutions cameras. However, no budget currently exists for this issue...

Deborah Beers announced her term as Town of Glen Echo representative with the park governing board is up on July 1 and she has interest in serving again. The town council approved her serving in that position for another term...

--Alan Carter

ATTENTION, BUSINESS OWNERS

If you wish to have your business listed on the Glen Echo website (www.glenecho.org), please notify clerk/treasurer Cathie Polak at 301-320-4041 or via email at townhall@glenecho.org.

Businesses listed will have a link on the town's website to the business website. It will be possible to have the name/address/phone number listed instead of a website link.

The listing will be free of charge but limited to businesses of Glen Echo town residents.

Mobil®



KENWOOD MOBIL CENTER

5201 RIVER ROAD
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816
PH: (301) 652-9527 FAX: (301) 652-1138

Michael Carrick
OWNER

Dick Spicer
SERVICE MANAGER

AUTO REPAIR - FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC
FACTORY SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE