All members of the Council were present with Mayor Beers presiding at the March 13 meeting. A dozen or so Town residents were also in attendance.

Glen Echo Park
Council Member Costello requested we recommend better marking of the chain that is at the west side of the Glen Echo Park lawn adjacent to Oxford Road. Several people have recently tripped on it.

Council Member Long mentioned that there will be a special art show featuring artists of Glen Echo in the Stone Tower this spring. The Mayor noted that the Glen Echo Park Partnership Gala will be May 20 and the Town of Glen Echo will be an honoree.

Aaron LaRocca, our National Park Service representative, was absent due to a vacation. Here are highlights from his written report. At the Clara Barton House, the first phase of the rehabilitation project, the construction to replace the roof, is complete. The contractor for the second phase, the fire suppression system, is proceeding with upgrading the fire detection and alarm. The WSSC permit issue has not been resolved. NPS Visitor Service staff have developed interpretive programs to educate the public about the site during the closure.

The Park and Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture are working to address treatment options for the mural on top of the Bumper Car Pavilion. Once proper treatment is determined, the project will need to be reviewed, ensuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and National Environmental Policy Act.

In early February, the NPS received a draft of the Cooperative Management Agreement from Montgomery County. The draft is being reviewed by Regional Office and Park staff. The Park and the County will be working on an extension of the current agreement to allow for ongoing negotiations for the Cooperative Management Agreement. The Superintendent is committed to some type of public involvement in the process.

Town Election
Susan Grigsby, Supervisor of the Town’s Board of Elections, requested the opportunity to remind everyone of the upcoming Town Council election. Vacancies include the mayorship and two Council Member seats. The election will occur on
May 1 with a deadline to file to run on April 10. Susan was concerned that, to date, no one had filed their candidacy with her. Council Member Stiglitz handed her a note shortly thereafter declaring his intent to run for re-election.

**Police Report**

Mr. Stiglitz reported on the recent Police Advisory board meeting. The robbery at the Glen Echo 7-Eleven was reviewed, including the fact that the perpetrator was apprehended. Police reported a variety of crimes including at several 24-hour establishments around the County. Residential burglaries are also up. Mr. Stiglitz said that most were rear-entry events, so people are urged to lock doors, be vigilant, and report any suspicious activities. The police station will be moving in July to a new building on Rugby Road at the northern end of Bethesda. New equipment for monitoring traffic issues is being installed around the County.

Mr. Stiglitz asked for a better solution to the crosswalk on MacArthur Boulevard at Princeton Avenue. A new software program called Nextdoor is being used by nearby communities, and the police will be looking to using this. We may consider joining it as a way to share information about community issues.

**Town Business**

Work continues on the replacement of broken sidewalk squares with approximately 50% completed. The Mayor and Council Members have walked the streets and marked where replacements are needed. The contractor requests that residents avoid writing too deeply on the wet cement as this can require a rework of the project.

Washington Gas has requested a renewal of their franchise agreement with the Town. Other communities have done it. The Council will review the amended agreement and announce to the Town via flyer. Residents
may review the agreement in the Town offices.

Matt McFarland presented the survey of the right-of-way at the top of Wellesley Circle. There are three homeowners at the upper end of Wellesley Circle who will need to sign a license agreement (and pay a one-time fee) to use a portion of the right-of-way. This will need to be submitted to the County as it impacts the property deed. Matt also asked to remove a dead tree and an unsightly walnut tree from the property and possibly replace with new trees. The Mayor said that sounded fine.

The Council is reviewing vendor proposals from two trash service providers: Waste Management of Maryland (our current provider) and Unity. Each will be invited to attend an upcoming Council meeting. Mayor Beers reminded Town residents to please remove empty trashcans from the sidewalks and streets.

**Town Flag**

Members of the flag committee (Aaron Hirsch, Renny Springuel, and Pete Epanchin) were present to inform the Council that they have five entries in the contest to select a Town flag, with voting to occur during the month of March via Survey Monkey or paper ballot. The winner will be announced April 1. After that, the Town Council will decide if they want to make the flag official.

**Town Expenses**

In February, the Town paid $9,000 to Charles Cooley Stonework, $4,202 to Waste Management of Maryland, and $1,416 to Bolt Legal.

—MARThA SHANNON

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**ELECTION NOTICE**

The election for the seats of two Town Council Members, currently held by Steve Matney and Matt Stiglitz, and the Mayorship, currently held by Debbie Beers, will be Monday, May 1, 2017, from 5 PM to 9 PM at the Town Hall. All seats will be for a four-year term. Candidates must be registered Glen Echo voters who have resided in the Town at least one year prior to the election and be at least 25 years of age. They are not required to be U.S. citizens.

Anyone who would like to run for these offices must file a written declaration of candidacy no later than 20 days prior to the election, which is April 11, 2017. Candidacy letters should be delivered to Susan Grigsby, Supervisor, Board of Elections, 7325 University Avenue, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Absentee ballots will be provided to those requesting them, in writing, prior to the election, likewise through the Supervisor of the Board of Elections.

*The Echo* would like to offer space in the May issue for statements from any candidates running. The deadline for those statements to be delivered to TheEchoEditor@gmail.com (or in writing to 6001 Bryn Mawr Avenue) is April 15. Candidates can write 100–200 words and should include a headshot. If you are planning on running, please let *The Echo* know as soon as possible!
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‘Doggone Dependable Since 1898’
The key ingredients necessary for a productive vegetable garden in Glen Echo are: full sun; rich, well-drained soil; an irrigation system or a nearby hose; and a weed-free growing area. My advice is to dream big but start small! If this is going to be your first venture into vegetable gardening, you will learn quickly that it takes time and energy. I recommend that you choose vegetables that are happy in this climate and will be productive without a need for toxic chemicals. Remember, using chemicals can result in killing pollinators as well as diminishing the number of birds that will inhabit your garden.

Choose a location that will integrate well with the remainder of your garden. Consider the big picture – the position of pathways, views, and materials are important factors in keeping your garden a special place where you want to spend time. Before you begin, examine the soil and determine how water drains after a big rain. If drainage problems exist, perhaps raised beds would be a good solution. A raised bed has other benefits such as improvement of the soil. The most beautiful raised beds are made with stone. If you are not doing a raised bed, then it is essential that you enhance your soil adding leaf mold and compost with a digging fork. Remove all weeds (and their roots) and then level out the soil with a heavy metal rake as this will help to break up any clumps.

Try some cool weather vegetables that can endure a frost. Our area’s predicted last frost date is somewhere between April 15 and May 1. But please note that frost dates can vary even in our Town of Glen Echo due to wind, elevation, and proximity to buildings and water. If you choose frost-tender plants prior to the last frost date, be sure to protect them if a freeze is predicted.

If you wish to plant your vegetables in rows, lay out string to make sure you plant in straight lines. A potager, a French term for a beautiful food garden, is an attractive way to grow vegetables that can include edible flowers and herbs. It is important to create pathways for easy harvesting of your vegetables. Alternatively, most vegetables grow well in containers and can be grown singly or in combination.

Sowing seeds is the most economical way to start your plants. Seeds that work well are arugula, lettuce, cilantro, squash, pumpkins, peas, fennel, and beans. Plants that I generally buy as plants are tomatoes, basil, and peppers, both sweet and hot.

It’s a good idea to do some research on your potential choices as there are so many new varieties. For example, I plan to grow a cherry tomato called “Sun Gold” that has been recommended as easy-to-grow, delicious, and perfect for a container.

And look for plants that encourage bees, butterflies, and birds. Their pollination services will increase the productivity of all our food plants. Good luck! —HOLLY SHIMIZU

Our spring weather in February resulted in many garden plants growing and even blooming early. Magnolias, forsythia, and cherries were blooming way ahead of their normal season.

Then, boom, Mother Nature hit us with frigid temperatures and icy snow. Where a few days earlier we were looking at magnolia blossoms, suddenly we saw dark white bags hanging from star magnolias. Fortunately, most of the plants with emerging buds will be fine and will eventually be in full bloom.

Cold damage results in leaves curling or drooping due to cell damage. It is this cell damage that causes leaves to lose their rigidity. While the damage will cause some leaves and flowers to die, most plants are quite resilient and will bounce back. As the weather warms, the plants will rebound. Chances are that the plants will fully recover by summer. Any leaves and branches that are dead should be removed. —H.S.
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After biking, strolling, and running past the C&O Canal’s lockhouses for years, I had the chance to spend the night in one last month.

Before you decry the Echo editorial team for accepting lavish gifts from the big lockhouse industry in exchange for positive media coverage, let me be clear—you can do this too! The C&O Canal Trust operates six lockhouses as guest houses, which offer various levels of rusticity and isolation. After one night, I can’t wait to plan my next lockhouse trip.

We stayed at Lock 6 near Brookmont, which has two bedrooms and is decorated in 1950s style. There are no linens provided, but it’s otherwise comparable to a pretty decent Airbnb. For being two miles from home, it really did feel like a little vacation: We played board games, strolled down to the kayak slalom course (which was deserted on a chilly March weekend), and drank tea and cocktails on the porch. I especially loved the books and photos that illustrated the history of the area. I hadn’t known that Brookmont, like Glen Echo, used to extend all the way down to the canal, and that the lock keepers and their families were integrated into our communities. Lockhouse 6 is very close to Canal Road, but the traffic wasn’t terribly noticeable. Dogs aren’t allowed, but it’s five minutes from home if Fido needs a comfort break!

The house at Lock 10 in Cabin John seems downright luxe, with a screened-in porch, central heat and air conditioning, and 1930s-era kitchen and bathroom. (Before kicking out your houseguests, check the online calendar—that one is booked on most weekends through the end of the year.) Others are more rustic, and have a lot more availability: Lockhouse 22 has no electricity or running water (there’s a water pump three miles down the canal); and lockhouse 28 is a half-mile from the nearest parking area. The descriptions of each lockhouse on the Canal Trust website are fascinating. Each one represents a different piece of the canal’s history or the engineering challenges it faced in different spots.

Once our family’s littlest cyclists are steadier on two wheels, I look forward to a manageable overnight trip on the canal to lockhouse 25, located a few miles from Poolesville. Completed in 1830, it interprets the canal’s history during the Civil War years (and has a fire ring). We’ll drive bedding and supplies out, come home, return on bikes, and come back the next day to retrieve our overnight supplies. It seems a little inelegant to drive out twice for the sake of not driving, until you remember that it’s only a 40-minute drive on River Road. It’s a 23-mile ride on the canal. We’ll be sure to pack plenty of s’more supplies. —Angela Hirsch

The votes are in, but not in time for the printing of this issue of The Echo. There were five submissions, pictured above. The flag on the cover of this issue? Relax, that was an April Fool’s joke! The results of the Town survey are due to be announced … on April 1. Apologies if you are reading this long after that date has come and gone.

Disclaimer: No dogs were harmed in the writing of this April Fool’s spoof!
Our one solitary snow day, which, face it, was a little underwhelming, was further disappointing when Yale Avenue, which is traditionally left snowy for our Town’s sledgers, was plowed. When reached for comment about whether this was a change in policy or just an unfortunate accident, Town Clerk, Stacey Malmgren, replied that it was due to the icy nature of the storm. Until next year then!

Good Neighbors

Around 9 PM on March 4, the 7-Eleven in Glen Echo Center reported an armed robbery. Police investigation revealed that the suspect, a 27-year old Bethesda man, entered the store, pointed a handgun at the clerk, and demanded money. The man then ordered the store clerk to place cash from the registers in a store bag before fleeing with the cash. The images on the security camera connected the suspect to a car-jacking in Rockville several days prior. On March 6, the suspect was arrested for crimes committed in Howard County, after which he was quickly identified as the culprit of the Montgomery County crimes. He has been charged with armed robbery in the 7-Eleven stick up.

The Glen Echo Park Aquarium is now open on Fridays from 10 AM to 3 PM. Starting in June, it will be open Wednesday through Sunday.

Our newest neighbors, at 15 Vassar Circle, are Jessica (Jess) Valner and David Flohr. Efforts to interview them for the Newcomer column were upended when David was “summoned” for hip replacement surgery. Jess promises that her “2 knee/2 hip bionic husband” will be interviewable in time for the May Echo.

Volunteers are needed for the annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup on Saturday, April 8, from 9 AM to 12 PM. Help is needed at six sites: Carderock, Old Anglers Inn, Swains Lock, Pennyfield Lock, Violette's Lock, and Riley's Lock. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. If interested, contact the day’s coordinator Jim Heins at vip@candocanal.org.

For its fourth consecutive year, Adventure Theatre MTC Academy will award over $25,000 in scholarships to young per-
forming arts students in the Montgomery County and Washington, D.C. area for its Summer Musical Theater Training Program and Summer Musical Theater Camp. These scholarships are designed to encourage and support outstanding performing arts students who have the work ethic and commitment to succeed on the stage regardless of their ability to pay. Scholarship auditions will be held on Friday, April 21 and Saturday, May 13. Scholarship award winners will be announced by May 17, 2017. Interested students should register for an audition by visiting http://www.adventuretheatre-mtc.org/camps/summermusicaltheater.html or calling 301-251-5766.

**Real Estate Report**
6010 Princeton Avenue (home to Missy Gibbons and Jordan Lieberman), a property you didn’t even know was for sale, sold in March for $1,050,000.

5806 Oxford Road is on the market with an asking price of $949,000. The Feldbaum/Fraser rental at 5808 Oxford Road will be available starting in June. Any interested parties can email Nicole at nfraser01@gmail.com.

**Glen Echo Town Hall Events**
FSGW English Country Dance, Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26, 8–10:30 PM, free to Town residents

April 9 1 PM, C&O Canal Association board meeting, open to the public

**Local Events**
April 2 2 PM, screening of the documentary Beautiful Swimmers Revisited about crabs in the Chesapeake Bay at the Clara Barton Center, free

April 8 9 AM–12 PM, Potomac River Watershed Cleanup

**Glen Echo Park Activities**
April 29 11 AM–4 PM, Family Day, the Dentzel Carousel opens for its 97TH SEASON!

April 5 and 19 11 AM–12 PM, animal story time at the Aquarium, for ages 2–5

April 9 3–5 PM, The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents a Family Dance in the Spanish Ballroom’s back room, $5

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**The Three Billy Goats Gruff** through April 30

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

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**Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp** April 7–May 21
SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.
Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care 9:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays: Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m.; Eucharist at Noon

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

April 9, Palm Sunday (see above schedule)
April 10-15, 7:30 pm each evening. Holy Eucharist, Compline, Tenebrae, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Great Vigil of Easter

April 16, Easter Sunday services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Call the church office for more information.

MUSIC AT REDEEMER

Sunday, April 2, 5:00 p.m. Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert
Sunday Services are available on our website!
http://www.redeemerbethesda.org/worship/service-recordings/

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