MAYOR, 3 COUNCIL SEATS UP FOR ELECTION NEXT MONTH

The biennial Glen Echo election will be held Monday, May 4 from 5 pm to 9 pm in the council chambers of the town hall. This election will be for three council positions and a fourth position as mayor. Terms of office are generally four years, but one council position will be for only a two year term to fill out the uncompleted term of Robin Kogelnik, who has moved from town.

Incumbents Eve Arber and Steve Matney have indicated to The Echo that they intend to run for the seats they currently occupy. Dan Macy and Jim McGunagle have said they intend to run for the two year term.

Deborah Beers has filed her intent to run for the mayoral position.

The declaration of intent to run must be filed by April 14 (20 days prior to the election), so more candidates may declare before the election. 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.

Candidacy letters should be delivered to Susan Grigsby, Supervisor, Board of Elections, 7325 University Ave.

Candidates who wish to submit a statement for inclusion in the May issue of The Echo should get it to the editor no later than April 24.

New voters may register with either the town Clerk Treasurer, Cathy Polack during regular office hours at the town hall or with Chief Judge Susan Grigsby, 301-229-7735. Absentee ballots may be picked up from the Clerk Treasurer or the chief judge. Votes may not be faxed or emailed because of issues of privacy.

COUNTY CONSIDERING SAT. CUTBACK OF BUS ROUTE 29

The county is considering discontinuing Saturday service of Ride On Rt. 29 (Friendship Heights to Glen Echo and back). This would mean that there would be no Saturday public transportation to Glen Echo or Glen Echo Park from Bethesda.

The county held a hearing on this and other possible changes in service on Mar. 24. The comment period ends on Mar. 31.

Mayor Beers wrote to the county that the Town of Glen Echo “is strongly opposed to the discontinuance or reduction of this route, which serves the Town of Glen Echo, neighboring communities, and Glen Echo Park, all of which

---continued on page 2
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 of any councilmember. Volunteer reporters are always needed. Call the Editor at 301-229-3748.

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COUNCIL MEMBERS
Eve Arber 301-263-0016
Nancy Long 301-332-3823
Steve Matney 301-320-2059

CLERK-TREASURER
Cathie Polak 301-320-4041

TOWN WEBSITE ADDRESS:
http://www.glenecho.org

RIDE ON BUS CHANGE? (FROM PAGE 1)

would be adversely affected by this proposal.”

She added that it was important to Glen Echo and surrounding communities that car traffic and parking problems be reduced to a minimum during periods of peak usage.

After the comment period ends, all comments and testimonies will be reviewed and when a final decision is made, it will be posted on the county’s transit division website and on Ride On buses. Individuals who submitted comments or testimonies will receive a reply with the final decision, according to Carolyn A. Jones, Manager of Ride On Transit’s Customer and Community Relations Unit.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, April 13.
Glen Echo Town Hall
Contact the clerk-treasurer to add an item to the agenda

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
6201 Dunrobin Drive at MacArthur Boulevard
Bethesda, Maryland 20816
301.229.3770 • office.redeemer@verizon.net
www.redeemerbethesda.org

Holy Week & Easter at
REDEEMER

• PALM SUNDAY - April 5
Blessing of Palms, Procession & Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.
Blessing of Palms, Procession & Choral Eucharist 10:30 a.m.

• MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9
Simple Supper 6:30 p.m.
Choral Eucharist 7:30 p.m.

• GOOD FRIDAY - April 10
Stations of the Cross 12:00 noon
The Solemn Liturgy 7:30 p.m.

• EASTER EVE - April 11
The Great Vigil of Easter 8:30 p.m.

• EASTER SUNDAY - April 12
The Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.
Festal Eucharist 10:30 a.m.
Hot Cross Buns & Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 noon
The town enjoyed a nice snowfall on Monday, March 2. It was a snow day for the children, and, as is the custom, lower Yale was not plowed. It was perfect for sledding. Julia Wilson hosted a townwide afternoon snow party which she announced on the town’s Yahoo website, and the guests contributed the edibles and beverages.

WSSC announced that it sampled water from both the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers and their water filtration plants and found the presence of “extremely small amounts” of three contaminants: atrazine, a herbicide; carbamazepine, an anti-epileptic drug; and sulfamethoxazole, and antibacterial antibiotic. WSSC concluded that because of the extremely low levels found in its drinking water, its drinking water is safe to consume.

Officials of the DC Water and Sewer Authority (DCWASA) on Mar. 24 gave an update to representatives from various local neighborhood groups on the progress/status of the agency’s efforts to control the stink by the C&O Canal that emanates from the Potomac Interceptor, a sewer that runs underground next to the canal. This sewer line has a number of vents along the way to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant that become the source of the odor. WASA began a plan to correct this in 1999. According to an article by Virginia Douglas in The Village News, it is now expected that bids for the construction of six buildings housing odor control equipment will be solicited in 2010, with construction completed by March 2012.

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is considering preparing several lockhouses so that visitors could stay in them overnight and experience what canal life was like long ago, The Gazette reports.. The hope is to have Lockhouses 6, 22 and 49 open to visitors by Memorial Day, with two more lockhouses to follow later.

--Dave Chitwood

RECYCLING NEWS

A group of “Green Neighbors” from Cabin John, Carderock Springs, and some other Potomac River communities have been meeting in recent months to encourage local businesses and residents to use reusable shopping bags instead of disposable plastic and paper bags.

One of the purposes is to increase awareness about the connection between plastic trash in the local waterways and the growing problems downstream in our oceans, according to The Village News. The group has contracted with a small business in New Hampshire to make shopping bags from 100% recycled plastic bottles. They have received the support of the Carderock Springs Citizens’ Association, the Bethesda Coop, and American Plant to help manage the costs of producing these bags, and are presenting their initiative to the Cabin John Citizen’s Association.

Through a petition by Green Neighbors and the successful ongoing scrap metal recycling collection from the blue bin at the Bethesda Coop, the county has agreed to regular county pick-ups of small scrap metals from the Coop bin. Councilmember Roger Berliner and the Cabin John Citizens Association were also instrumental to achieving this.
THEFTS FROM CARS, MURders UP IN YEAR-END CRIME STATISTICS

For the second year in a row, the number of larcenies in Montgomery County increased measurably in 2008, driven by thefts from vehicles or theft of vehicle parts (from 9,047 in 2007 to 10,602 in 2008 for a 17.2% increase). Crime statistics announced by Police Chief J. Thomas Manger indicated that other larceny categories, such as shoplifting and thefts from buildings, showed minimal change.

This increase is mostly due to thefts of items left in vehicles. Chief Manger attributed the increase to the consistent growth in ownership of personal technology items such as wireless phones, iPods, laptops, and GPS devices. Consequently, opportunity for theft of these smaller items also increases. GPS units continued to be extremely popular targets, he said.

The preliminary numbers showed over 900 GPS units being stolen in 2007 compared to over 2,400 in 2008. This translates to an approximate 150% increase. Furthermore, the analysis showed that about 25% of these events were reported to have occurred when the vehicle was left unlocked or with windows down.

The increase in the murder rate was due to the fact that there were 21 murders in 2008, compared to 19 the year before.

RESIDENTS ENJOY "SPRING FLING" AT ST. PAT’S DINNER

Devoted ex-resident Kate Horwitz, who does her utmost to keep in touch with her old Glen Echo neighbors, hosted another of her annual St. Patrick’s Day parties for Glen Echo residents at the town hall on Saturday, March 21.

Kate and her husband, Jim, who now live in Bannockburn, arranged a lively evening of live music, singing, and a treasure hunt for the children. The town provided the corned beef (which Jim cooked) and "libations," and guests brought beans, asparagus, potatoes, bread and dessert. The meal was finished off with a cup of steaming Irish coffee.

Regular musician for these affairs, Anthony Hyatt, fiddled energetically away and inspired the singing for “McNamara’s Band,” “When Irish Eyes Were Smiling,” Molly Malone,” and lesser-known songs.

Kate was assisted by Cathy Polak, who made copies of the song sheet, Jan Shaut and Raya Bodnarchuk, who helped with the set-up and all the guests who stayed to clean up after the party.

Treasurer’s Report
February 2009

A. Morton Thomas (street project) $5,640.00
Highway & Safety Services (speed bumps) $2,195.60
Hibb, Rogol & Hobbs (clerk bond) $300.00

Alicia’s
Stretch & Tone Yoga
Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 10:00 am
with optional half hour for additional stretching
Carderock Swim and Tennis Club

Join any time!
First five-week session free

Certified Instructor
Yoga Alliance Registered Teacher
Call 301-770-7994 or 301-412-5432
alexercise@comcast.net
BE AWARE OF HEARING IMPAIRMENT
By Pam Mason

The month of May is Better Hearing and Speech Month! During this month of awareness is a good time to think about your own hearing and determine if you are one of the estimated 28 million Americans who have a hearing loss that can be treated. You may have a hearing loss if you:

- frequently ask people to repeat themselves
- often turn your ear toward a sound to hear it better
- understand people better when you wear your glasses or look directly at their faces
- lose your place in group conversations
- keep the volume on your radio or TV at a level that others say is too loud
- have pain or ringing in your ears

If you see yourself in these statements you should see an audiologist for a hearing test. You may find out that you do have some hearing loss that is treatable. The audiologist will be able to guide you through the process.

Audiologists are professionals expert in assessment and treatment of hearing and balance disorders. They hold a master’s or doctoral degree and are certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association as well as by the state.

During the month of May a table with hearing information will be located just outside the town offices. Please stop by the table and pick up patient information on a wide variety of topics related to communication disorders. There will also be fun activity sheets to educate children on the improtance of hearing and speech.

Since 1927, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has been celebrating Better Hearing and Speech Month each May. For more information on speech, language, hearing or balance disorders or to locate a speech-language pathologist or audiologist near by please visit www.ashal.org.

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WELCOME NEWCOMERS

The Dipman family, who moved to 6108 Princeton Ave late last year, are an athletic group. Grant, who manages the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Georgetown, is an avid bicyclist; sometimes biking to work via the MacArthur Blvd. bike path and the Capital Crescent Trail.. He is also an enthusiastic kayaker and runner.

Silvia bikes, jogs, swims, and kayaks and completed several triathalons when they lived in Henderson, Nevada.

Madison, 15, a 10th grader at Walt Whitman High School, is contemplating joining the high school track team and plays the cello in the school orchestra. Her sister, Mackenzie, 12, a 7th grader at Pyle Intermediate School plays lacrosse, and, like the other members of the family, bikes.

Also part of the family are Mailie, 8, a female Bernese Mountain dog, and Keoki, a 4-year old male Golden Retriever.

Buying the house here was by no means a new experience for the Dipmans. Because of Grant’s frequent transfers, they have moved 15 times and bought 10 houses in the past 22 years. They spent the last two years in Wayne, Pa, where Grant was manager of the Philadelphia Ritz Carlton. Madison has attended nine schools and Mackenzie six.

Silvia, who hopes “to be here more than two years,” has done a lot of renovating each time they move and considers herself an experienced “handyman,” capable of carrying out all sorts of remodeling chores. In the process she has also become a good enough designer to be hired for that purpose, and can also refurbish furniture. Some years ago she taught middle school in Florida, and has done occasional substitute teaching since then.

Silvia comes from Atlanta, Ga., where her father was a psychologist and took the family to Puerto Rico to set up a counseling program for the Peace Corps. Grant spent his childhood in Falls Church, but moved to Atlanta, where he met his wife.

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Cabin John Organizing
Melanie Patt-Corner
301-263-9482
www.cabinjohnorganizing.com

"Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful." William Morris
TOWN COUNCIL NOTES


March 9

Debbie Lange pointed out that she had been unsuccessful in getting Pepco to replace a burned-out light bulb at the intersection of Wellesley Circle and upper Cornell Avenue. Clerk-Treasurer Cathie Polak indicated that she would contact Pepco if Ms. Lange provided her the information. [Ed. Note: Ms. Lange later reported that the bulb had been replaced, and that Pepco said it never got the report from Montgomery County and the county said it had sent the report long ago.]

Mayor Beers said that she had asked the street repair consulting firm for copies of the final proposals to perform the long awaited street repair project, but the bids have not been forthcoming. Because of a likely delay between awarding the project and its implementation, she stated that she wants them immediately. She added that the proposals would include the possibility of adding or subtracting from the scope of work, but that additions would be unlikely unless something obviously needed was missing.

About half of the noise suppressive tiles have been installed in the town hall, according to the mayor.

Councilwoman Nancy Long described a request from the son of a former town resident to rent the town hall at a reduced rate for a wedding reception. Although stating she was sympathetic to the request, Mayor Beers described the $50 fee for Town Hall rental to nonresidents as "a steal" in comparison to other reception venues. After some additional discussion about this specific situation and whether a general policy should be created, Ms. Long was instructed to deny the request.

The town has received a letter reminding that it has not participated in the annual Maryland Municipal League meeting in Ocean City for two years. The consensus was that it had actually been several years since someone representing the town had attended. After Councilmembers Arber and Long declined the opportunity to attend, Councilmember Matney stated that he would check his schedule and report back soon on his availability.

As announced at last month’s council meeting, Nancy Long will be one of the four honorees at the annual Glen Echo Park Gala to be held in the Spanish Ballroom on May 19. Mayor Beers stated that the Council had agreed to purchase a table at the Gala, and Councilmember Long will invite guests to sit at the table. Ms. Long noted that those invited will be mainly Town residents.

Councilmember Robin Kogelnik announced that she has formally moved from the Town, thereby creating a vacant seat on the council. Mayor Beers asked for a formal motion to hold a special election to fill the remaining two years of Ms. Kogelnik’s term, to coincide with the general election on May 4. Councilmember Matney so moved, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dave Chitwood

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

You are invited to a Ladies Night
at
Maire Hewitt's
56 Wellesley Circle
Thursday, April 16, 8:00 p.m.
Please RSVP 301-229-2962

Glen Echo Baptist Church
Serving Glen Echo families since 1939
Dr. Ed Curtis, Th.D., Pastor
Bringing God's Truth to Life

Sunday School ...........9:30 am
Sunday Services ...........11:00 am
Wednesday Activities .......7:00 pm
Mid-Week Bible Study..... Vassar Circle
TOWN MAY REQUIRE USERS’ INSURANCE TO RENT TOWN HALL

By Dave Chitwood

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) has sent information to the town about the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT), an organization founded by the MML and the Maryland Association of Counties to assist municipalities and counties in securing affordable insurance.

The insurance of specific interest pertains to liability issues involving use of the town hall. Although the town’s insurance covers liability arising during town-sponsored events, other individual events are often held without any insurance. In such cases, the town hall renter could purchase Tenant Users Liability Insurance; moreover, the town would be automatically notified when the tenant purchased such insurance.

Councilmembers questioned at the last council meeting whether well established organizations renting the hall possessed insurance. Town resident Eleanor Balaban commented that her quilting guild had to purchase insurance in excess of $250 annually to meet at a library after a quilter suffered a leg injury caused by a collapsing table.

Mayor Debbie Beers suggested that the town could make the purchase of such insurance optional, with renters merely being informed of the possibility. Several councilmembers offered to examine the various options available on the insurance website. They suggested that in the future, the town may require proof of insurance to rent the hall, either through LGIT or other means.

KIDS CAN BECOME JR. RANGERS IN MAY AT CLARA BARTON, PARK

Children ages 7-12 are invited to become Junior Rangers at Clara Barton National Historic Site and/or Glen Echo Park on Saturday, May 2 from 1:00-6:00 p.m. They can visit both sites, complete an activity book, and earn a Jr. Ranger badge for each site. Jr. Ranger Day awards will be given out.

The Clara Barton House will hold its spring Open House at the same time.

NEED AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE?

LOCAL RESIDENT PROVIDES QUALITY WORK D exploration work, weekends, no extra charges OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE—ALL MODELS ALL NECESSARY LICENSES AND INSURANCE PLENTY OF REFERENCES

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Excellent Babysitter/Housekeeper available for evenings and weekend work. My nanny is FANTASTIC with our 8-month old and keeps our house neat and clean. She is looking for extra hours and is available in the evenings and on Saturdays. I can give a full reference. If you are interested in meeting her please call me, Julie McCaffrey, 202-486-3059.

Are you looking for a way to get your dog exercised while you're busy working? I would love to walk your dog! I work from home in Glen Echo (21 Wellesley Circle) so my hours are flexible. My rate for a single dog on a 30 minute walk is: $15. Or, we can work out whatever arrangement suits your needs — group walk, etc. Please contact me, Lyndi Scott-Stowe, via email: lyndiess@gmail.com or via phone: #301-229-2589.

Small family daycare in Cabin John near the Bethesda Co-op has full-time and part-time openings. Licensed by Maryland State Department of Education since January 1991, CPR and First Aid certified. References available. Interested please call Siew at (301)320-4280.

House cleaner looking for work. Juana Esteban has worked for us for 3 years, and we have been very pleased with her. She is looking for additional work any time on Tuesday or Wednesday, or on Thursday mornings. She also does babysitting. She speaks English and works for several other Glen Echo families. Juana can be reached at either 301434-5120 or 240-423-3728. Jim and Sally McGunnigie.

Classified ads are free to Glen Echo residents. Fee to non-residents: $75 per line of 20 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.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

7306 University Ave. (under contract) $847,000

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KENWOOD SUNOCO CENTER
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BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816
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James Spicer
OWNER

Dick Spicer
SERVICE MANAGER

AUTO REPAIR • FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC FACTORY SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE
CANDIDATE’S STATEMENT

My candidacy for a two year seat on the Glen Echo Town Council
James W. McGunnigle
15 Vassar Circle

I have strong feelings about the inherent value of small communities. That sentiment is probably the principal reason that Sally and I decided to move to Glen Echo in 2005. As a retired Foreign Service Officer I have lived in essentially small foreign communities in Portugal, Ecuador, Thailand, Chile, Pakistan, India, Egypt and France. In addition, we both lived in a small rural community in the Philippines where we were Peace Corps volunteers. We have, however, given up our nomadic life and expect to remain in Glen Echo for a very long time.

In Colombo (where I worked for Congressman Van Hollen’s father), Islamabad (where I supervised the rebuilding of a large Embassy that had been burned down by a mob in 1979), New Delhi, Cairo (at that time the largest US Embassy in the world), and Paris, I was in charge, as Minister Counselor, of security, communications, finance, personnel, and facilities.

I have served on many community boards including International School Boards in Quito, New Delhi, Islamabad and Santiago, where I was the board president. At all my overseas posts I was active on community and employee association boards and committees. I have even taken classes on how to be effective on volunteer boards, and think that I have a keen understanding of how boards work, and how to avoid the pitfalls that some fall into.

I do not believe in setting out an agenda as a candidate, as I am certain the incumbent board works extremely well. I prefer to take a seat and do a lot of listening and then participate in what I expect would be good decisions. Since I am an energetic retiree I am prepared to give the town and the council as much as is asked, and hope to serve the community with whatever talents I can offer.

I should point out that my wife and I will be away for April and May on a long vacation that we planned and paid for many months ago. After our return we have no other long-term vacation plans on the horizon.

SUMMER ATTRACTIONS AT RIVER CENTER (LOCKHOUSE 8)

SPRING WILDFLOWER WALK—Sunday, April 5, 10–12 pm
Join Marijke Gate as we stroll along the towpath and explore the banks of the canal and river in search of Spring beauties, Virginia bluebells, Dutchman’s breeches and other common and unusual spring wildflowers. Learn how these plants interact with other organisms to form a wonderful and complex ecosystem.

BUG WALK—On Sunday, Apr. 19, from 1:00-2:00 p.m. naturalist Deborah Lands will lead a group on a walking journey along the C&O Canal to discover the variety of bugs that live along the Potomac River and perhaps in your own backyard.

The expedition will begin at the River Center at Lockhouse 8 and is sponsored by the Potomac Conservancy. No reservations are needed.

MIGRATORY BIRD WALK—Sunday, May 3rd, 7:30-10:00 am. Join American Bird Conservancy’s Paul Hagen for a morning bird walk along the C&O Canal during migration season to catch a glimpse of returning summer residents and spring migrants for International Migratory Bird Day.

VOICES OF THE RIVER: KENSINGTON STATION—
Sunday, May 3, 10:30 am. Kensington Station is a Maryland folk trio with its roots going back to the “folk scare” of the early 60’s. The group has a repertoire of traditional and 60’s folk standards. They are also known to throw in a lively mix of Irish, Old Time, and contemporary tunes.

For additional information, visit www.potomac.org. River Center is at Lockhouse 8, C&O Canal National Historical Park, 7906 Riverside Ave., Cabin John, MD 20818

PARK NEWS

New Glen Echo Park Site Manager Polly Angelakis told the town council last month that there is hope some of the NPS funds in the stimulus package would be used for the planned geothermal systems at the Clara Barton House, but that no one would know for sure until a formal announcement was made about the specific use of the funds. She said she did not know if the playground resurfacing project would be completed before summer. She said she will provide an answer at the next council meeting.

She also promised that she would tell the council later if a landscaping plan has been created for the newly repaired retaining wall near the Caretaker’s Cottage.

Councilmember Steve Matney described to her a recent incident when someone drove a vehicle eastbound along the bike path from the upper parking lot nearly to the Irish Inn. He suggested that a single pole could be erected on the bike path near the parking lot. Ms. Angelakis thanked him for bringing this to her attention.

Digital Handyman, Inc.
Personal Computer Solutions
240-447-6535

Andy Malmgren
Glen Echo, MD

On-site computer installation and repair
Virus removal
Maintenance
Upgrades
Networks
Training
Security