April Town Council Meeting
By Rex Rhein

Polly Angelakis, the National Park Service’s representative to Glen Echo, reported on the proposed MacArthur Boulevard Bikeway. The NPS tried to change the route the county wanted through the upper parking area, for safety, but said it would cost $450,000 which is beyond their budget.

Councilmember Steve Matney said the bicycle “commuter route is very dangerous” at present.

Mayor Debbie Beers said the C&O canal is a “mess” after the recent snowstorms, with downed trees, a degraded towpath, and little or no water in the canal, which is choked with brush and algae. The canal should be considered a “national treasure” eligible for stimulus money. Mr. Matney said “a lot of work has been done” to clear the towpath after the winter storms, but more is needed. Councilmember Don Macy suggested that we invite our Congressional Representative Van Hollen and Kevin Brandt, the superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historic Park, to walk the towpath near Glen Echo with town officials.

 Appearing at the meeting was National Park Service police officer Steven Wood, who told the Council that he should be contacted in matters concerning Glen Echo Park, the Clara Barton house, and the C&O Canal. The police station phone number is 703-285-1000. For emergencies, call 202-610-7500, or dial 911. He noted that the Clara Barton parking lot is a “24-hour beat”. Councilmember Nancy Long asked him about establishing a small police substation at the park -- per-

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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 are on file at Little Falls Library. Also provided online at www.glenecho.org. Total circulation: 190. Distributed the first weekend of the month.

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Next Deadline: Tuesday, May 25

Printed by: Allied Printing, Bethesda

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 Assistant Editor at 301-229-2163

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AROUND TOWN

Beginner Belly Dancing Classes - all ages, all sizes
Clara Barton Community Center
Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm, $10.00 per class
May 4 thru June 22
For more information or to sign up, contact
dawnoftheflower@yahoo.com.

REAL ESTATE

Houses for sale
9 Vassar Circle - $589,000
11 Vassar Circle - $499,000

Apartment for Rent
6112 Oberlin Ave., 1 BR apt. For Rent for
$1,500 per month

Digital Handyman, Inc.
Personal Computer Solutions

240-447-6535
On-site computer repair
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- Repair
- Virus/Spamware
- Gadgets

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

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
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Welcome Newcomers!

Holly and George Atallah moved to 6102 Bryn Mawr Avenue from Queens, New York, a few months ago. George is a senior manager with the National Football League Players Association. Holly is expecting their first child in August.

Holly is originally from Buffalo and received her college degree from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a researcher and financial consultant. George was born in Lebanon but grew up in New York and received his undergraduate degree from Boston College and his MBA from George Washington University. From 2003 to 2005 he worked for Seeds of Peace, an organization dedicated to bringing children together from different and sometimes conflicting countries.

Holly spent her summers at the original Chautauqua in upstate New York, and was in part drawn to Glen Echo for that reason. She finds some of our older homes reminiscent of her happy childhood days. Both Holly and George were well aware of the excellent schools in Bethesda which helped them to decide to choose Glen Echo for their first home. They look forward to meeting more neighbors and to happy days in Glen Echo.

Glad to have them here.

My Adventure in Paris

By Debbie Beers

I was scheduled to present a paper at an international forum to be held in Paris, France on Friday, April 16, 2010. I boarded a plane on the evening of April 14, and arrived in Paris early the next morning. Until I spoke with my husband later that day, I had no idea that an ash cloud from an Icelandic volcano was threatening to halt all air travel to and from Europe for the better part of five days. However, on Saturday, April 17, I learned that my Sunday flight to Dulles had been cancelled, and that the next available flight on which I could be booked would not take off until Friday, April 23. Instead of being in Paris for three days, I would be there for eight!

After a good bit of time spent obsessively watching English-language coverage of the ash cloud from my hotel room, I decided to make the most of my enforced residence in Paris by taking advantage of the considerable attractions of the city. I visited museums, walked to the Eiffel Tower, rode on the Seine boats, lit candles in lots of cathedrals, and ate a lot of good food. The weather in Paris cooperated by remaining perfect for the entire week, despite the loom- ing and invisible ash cloud that was keeping me there.

On the last night of my stay, I walked around Paris for over two hours, knowing that I probably would not return for a long time. I reflected on what a beautiful city Paris is, and how most people would consider my detention a vacation. Nevertheless, on the day that I was finally scheduled to leave, I got to the airport six hours early, and did not breathe easy until I was seated on the plane. I was never so glad to see Glen Echo as I was when the taxi pulled up to 29 Wellesley Circle and - finally - I was home.
BETTER HEARING AND SPEECH MONTH

By Pam Mason

Each May since the 1920's The American Speech Language Hearing Association has celebrated Better Hearing and Speech Month. This annual event provides me an opportunity to raise awareness in the Town of Glen Echo about protecting hearing from loud noise damage.

Loud noise can affect the sense of hearing. When you are exposed to sounds louder than 85 decibels (dB), you run the risk of noise induced hearing loss (NIHL). This type of hearing loss creeps up slowly over time without much notice until it is too late. NIHL is a permanent hearing loss. Prevention of this type of hearing loss is especially important for children. It is critical that they have the best possible hearing because they are still developing language, academic and social skills. Even a mild loss in children can have negative consequences.

Today, we can carry hours of music in small MP3 players such as the iPod. The convenience, sound quality and overall popularity of these devices has created a need for public education that focuses on prevention. Well meaning parents and grandparents have given these devices to children without realizing they may be contributing to the risk of NIHL.

How can families balance safe listening and the wonderful new digital music technology?

- Educate yourself on the potential damage that can occur from loud noise. Practice safe listening yourself.
- Educate your children. www.listenjoyourbuds.org is a great place to begin. This web site is designed for young children.
- Lower the volume...turn down the music! iPods on full volume can reach 102 decibels.
- Limit listening time...give your ears a quiet break.

A variety of educational handouts on speech, language and hearing will be available outside the Town office during the month of May.

A friendly reminder regarding...

TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION TIMES

Monday—GARDEN REFUSE, cut into four-foot lengths and tied, placed in compostable leaf/grass bags, or in a large trash container labeled “Recycling” and used only for yard waste.

Tuesday & Friday—ALL TRASH, except heavyweight objects.

Tuesday—RECYCLABLES, including plastic, metal and glass, and all paper. Newspapers tied or in paper grocery bags. Mixed paper except hardback books in paper bags or small cardboard boxes. Large cardboard boxes flattened to fit in narrow side bins of recycling truck.

Last Friday of the month—BULK PICKUP—heavy or large quantity of discardables. There are no more special pick-ups. All large quantities of trash and heavy trash are picked up at this time.

If you have any trash or recycling pick up problems call Waste Management directly at 301-340-0774 and ask for Dispatch.
April Town Council Meeting

happens in a trailer. Officer Wood agreed to raise the matter with his superiors.

Michael Bobbitt, the Glen Echo Park's Adventure Theater Director, came to the meeting to ask for a monetary donation from the Town. Attendance is steadily rising, with an average of 9,000 people attending each of the five to eight shows the theater puts on each year. But because of the recession, with fewer foundation grants, there has been a "significant deficit" in the theater's $1.4-million budget. (For example, the theater lacks a security system, which would cost $20,000.) The Council unanimously approved giving the Theater $1,500. In return, Mr. Bobbitt promised to provide four theater tickets, free, to each Town household.

Town resident John Barrett brought up the issue of skateboarding. Mr. Barrett noted that skateboarding by some youngsters had caused damage to a few Town properties. Moreover, they do not always provide space for vehicles to pass safely. Some council members suggested that the County Police be called to report illegal skateboarding. Mayor Beers noted that "we've had some problems having the County enforce laws in Glen Echo."

Snow removal cost the Town over $11,000 this fiscal year compared to just $2,000 budgeted, reported Clerk-Treasurer Cathie Polak. So far, street repairs have cost $358,000, out of $490,000 budgeted. The speed bump at Oxford Road and University Avenue has failed to slow traffic, according to Mayor Beers. However, the cost to correct the existing speed bump and replace the speed bump on lower Oxford Road has risen by 20% because equipment, which had been withdrawn from the Town, must be returned to make the changes. Also, a drainage problem at upper Cornell and Wellesley Circle Avenue will be corrected, Mayor Beers said.

The budget for the next fiscal year, which begins June 1, will be distributed by May 10. The budget hearing will be held May 24, beginning at 8:00 pm, immediately followed by a formal council meeting to vote on the budget. One item that might be included in next year's budget is a new refrigerator for the Town Hall.

Ms. Polak said she had one bid for painting street curbs yellow -- $1 per linear foot -- and perhaps the Town could do better by hiring a "college student with a paint brush". The council was told that Case Handyman could do it for $85 an hour.

After the end of the open meeting, the council met in closed Executive Session to discuss the Town's response to the January 6, 2010 National Park Service letter concerning the ownership of Oxford Road.

At the council's January 11, 2010 meeting, Mayor Beers said the letter had been forwarded to the Town attorney, Norman Knopf, and she wanted his response before the Council discusses it, or takes any action on it. No Council meeting was held in February, and the letter was not discussed at its March meeting.

Executive sessions are authorized under the Town Charter by reference to the Maryland Code, Article 23A Corporations -- Municipal, paragraph 8 (Meetings of municipal legislative bodies to be public), which states: "Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prevent any such body from holding an executive session from which the public is excluded but no ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation shall be finally adopted at such an executive session."
UPCOMING EVENTS

Glen Echo Park

Glen Echo Pottery presents “2010: Variations in Clay”
Glen Echo Pottery and the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture present “2010: Variations in Clay.” The exhibition, curated by Glen Echo Pottery artistic director Jeff Kirk, features work by the program’s instructors and advanced students. The exhibition will run from May 1 – 31 in Glen Echo Park’s Popcorn Gallery. An opening reception will be held on May 1, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Popcorn Gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., and by special arrangement. On Monday, May 31, the gallery will be open from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. for the Memorial Day holiday.

Family Day - May 1
Family Day will celebrate the opening of the Park’s historic Denzel Carousel for the 2010 season and highlight the full range of activities offered at the Park. Families will enjoy art demonstrations, magic shows, family dancing, Irish dance performances and instruction, tours by National Park Service rangers and $1.25 carousel rides. The festivities begin at 11 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. Admission is free. Call (301) 634-2222 or visit gleacechopark.org for additional details.

“Hot Jazz & Cool Blues” Gala in the Park 2010 - May 15
The Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture’s annual Gala in the Park is a wonderful way to support the Park’s programs and facilities! Honorees include Montgomery County Executive Irish Leggett and the Washington Folk Festival produced by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Cokie and Steve Roberts serve as Honorary Chairs and Rob Bamberger of WMAL is Master of Ceremonies. All proceeds benefit the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture. 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Tickets, $175 per person. Call (301) 634-2230 or email drumcell@glenechpark.org for additional details.

Wolf Kahn at the Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery - May 21
A rare opportunity to meet a legend in the field! Master artist Wolf Kahn leads a lively presentation of his life’s work. This world-renowned landscape painter will show examples of his oils and pastels while he delights his audience with stories of his life and career. In the Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets, $50 Yellow Barn members/$70 non-members. Call (301) 371-5593 or visit yellowbarnstudio.com.

Philadelphia Orchestra Simulcast, presented by Washington Conservatory of Music - June 6, 2 p.m.
Conductor S. Dutro presents music of Mozart and Strauss. For more information, visit washingtonconservatory.org.

Town Hall

May 2 – Jewelry Show and Sale—jewelry handcrafted & designed by Lynn Dworsky. Plus decorative pottery by Corrine Siahutz. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. For further information call Lynn Dworsky at 301-233-1305

May 8 – Glen Echo Movie Night

May 10 – Town Council Meeting, 8 p.m.

May 15, at 8:00 pm Magic Foot Concert. Sponsored by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Magic Foot is Colin Lindsay on fiddle and concertina, Christian Stevens on button Accordion, Brendan Taaffe on guitar and vocals and Stefan Amidon on percussion and mandolin. Magic foot plays Irish music marked by the tight melodic interplay of fiddle and accordion with guitar, trap set and Irish music and harmony vocals. Admission: $15 for EWG members, $18 for the general public, free for residents of the Town of Glen Echo.

May 17, 8:00 pm Shape-note Singing School with Tim Eriksen. Sponsored by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Learn to sing “shape-note” music from the Sacred Harp tunebook in a workshop taught by one of the most acclaimed singing instructors. This workshop, addressed to absolute beginners and more experienced singers alike, begins with the basics of the human voice and group singing and includes an introduction to reading shape note music, notes on important aspects of traditional practice, and lots of full-voiced singing. No prior experience required. Bring copies of the Original Sacred Harp (1991) if you have them. Loaner books will be available. Admission - Free-will donation to pay rent and the singing master.

Every Wednesday – English Country Dancing, 8 to 10 pm.

Church of the Redeemer

Friday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m. The Choir of Men & Boys of St. Paul’s Parish, K Street. One of the nation’s premiere ensembles of its kind, the Choir of Men & Boys of St. Paul’s Parish (Robin McCormick, Director of Music; John Bradford Behl, Assistant Director of Music) makes a rare concert appearance at Redeemer. Free-will offering. Reception to follow.
The Next Town Council Meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be on Monday, May 10, at 8 p.m.
Contact the clerk-treasurer to add an item to the agenda.

REPORTERS NEEDED!!

The Town Council needs reporters to cover the monthly Town Council Meetings. Reporters are only asked to report on these meetings once or twice a year.
If you are willing (and able) to become involved in the workings of Glen Echo, contact Diana Hudson-Taylor at 301-229-2163 to put your name on the roster.

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO

Thursday, May 20, 2010
At the home of Debbie Beers
29 Wellesley Circle 8 p.m.
t.s.v.p. 301-229-7308

CLASSIFIED ADS

Jewelry Show and Sale — Jewelry handcrafted by Lynn Dworsky will be shown in two locations during this month.
May 2, Glen Echo Town Hall, 9 am - 6 pm
May 8, Salon Jean, 7945 MacArthur Blvd., (corner of Seven Locks Rd.)
For more information call Lynn Dworsky at 301-223-1305

Hay available to use for mulch in your garden!
Cost - $2.00 per bale. Call Henry Barrow at 301-229-2213 to arrange for delivery.

Adopt a Puppy!!
I have a friend with a puppy for adoption. The puppy is a white female dog who was born in December. Please contact Stephanie Rhein at StephanieRhein@aol.com if interested.

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 15 Fassar Circle, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Make checks payable to: Town of Glen Echo. Deadline: 24th of each month.

CENSUS INFO

Here are the latest census numbers as of April 16th.
National: 68%
MD: 71%
CJ tract: (includes CJ, Glen Echo, Brookmont, Mohican Hills, Glen Echo Heights, Tulip Hills): 83%
Town of Glen Echo: 81% within that tract.

Our tract is beginning to approach our mail-in level from 10 years ago (87%) but it is quite likely that the last few percentage points will be the toughest ones. For example, Glen Echo seems to be staying at 81%, which means that 1 out of every 5 households has still not mailed in their census form. Remember—don’t be the last one! Return your census form now!

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