December Town Council Notes
By Debi Sacks

At the Council Meeting on December 12, 2011, the following issues were discussed.

Water Problem at Tulane and Oberlin

The National Park Service, on November 16th, contacted the Town regarding storm runoff from Tulane and Oberlin Avenues. The runoff goes to a drain and out a pipe on the hill above Clara Barton Parkway. The Park contends that improvements made to the curbs in the area are causing even more water than before to be funneled into the drain and they would like the Town to modify the curbs.

Mayor Beers reminded Park site manager Polly Angelakis that the County had determined that the Park owned a portion of that section and that the drain was on Park property. The thought that the curbs, which have recently been built higher to meet code, should be taken down again is “not an option” according to Mayor Beers.

A group from the Town Council along with Ms. Angelakis and an engineer will go to the site to look into the problem.

Lake Whiffenpoof

Regarding more water problems; Nancy Long reported a spot “at the uppermost part of Yale Avenue where the pavement stops and the right of way begins where water collects and stays quite a while.” She humorously suggested naming it Lake Whiffenpoof since it was on Yale Avenue. She continued that it seemed a better idea to ask Mark Peyton to fill in the depression so that water does not pool. The Council agreed.

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THE ECHO

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CIRCULATION

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Letters to the Editor are welcome. They must be signed. Articles for publication are also solicited. Please send comments about The Echo to the Editor, the Mayor, or any council member. Volunteer reporters are always needed. Call the Assistant Editor at 301-229-2163.

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Town Supports Maryland Municipal League.

Money has been cut from State Highway User Funds, in which Glen Echo and other communities share. The Maryland Municipal League is attempting to have these funds fully restored. The town of Glen Echo is supporting the League in its efforts.

Abandoned Vehicles

The issue with abandoned or unregistered vehicles is ongoing. While cars are no longer on the streets, the Town Ordinance states that it is unlawful even to have an unregistered vehicle in a driveway. A warning letter will be sent to the owner of a business on Oberlin Avenue and the landlord for that property, calling attention to noncompliance with the law.

National Community Church

The meeting with the National Community Church previously scheduled for December has been rescheduled for January 5th at 7 pm at the Town Hall. Residents are invited to listen to any plans the Church may have for the Baptist property on Vassar Circle and to express their opinions on the plans.

Accident at Oxford and MacArthur

On the Friday after Thanksgiving Mayor Beers was made aware of an accident at the top of Oxford Road by her grandson’s shouting “SIRENS! SIRENS!” Four cyclists had been hit by a FedEx truck. The driver apparently did not see them. All four were taken to the hospital with minor to serious injuries. Reports of what happened are conflicting and the town is trying to get more information on this accident and how it happened.

Glen Echo Park Report

Special Events

Polly Angelakis reported to the Council that the Victorian Greeting Card Workshops, the Blood Drive at the Spanish Ballroom and the Winter’s Eve event, during which artists’ studios and the Popcorn Gallery were open, were well attended. The Holiday Art Show and Sale will continue until January 8.

Clara Barton House Testing

The core sampling to test the feasibility of installing a geothermal system at the Clara Barton House was scheduled for the week of December 11th. The test well, a 4” bore, was scheduled to be drilled on the flat lawn in front of the house where overflow parking is directed.

Environmental Assessment Statement

The Environmental Assessment Statement for the shared use path that will go through Glen Echo Park is still being written. When completed, the EAS will be available for citizen review and comment.

Dottie Marshall To Retire

Nancy Long will be attending the party for Dottie Marshall, retiring Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway. Glen Echo Park and the Clara Barton National Historic Site are both under the jurisdiction of the George Washington Memorial Parkway; therefore, the Town has worked with Ms. Marshall over the years. Ms. Long will represent Glen Echo and convey our best wishes.

Real Estate News

6010 Princeton Ave. $789,000
Welcome to Newcomers on Vassar Circle

By Sally McGunnigle

There are several new residents in town. We will feature each one of them over the next few editions. An upcoming interview will also focus on why people like to remain in Glen Echo. This month, Sally McGunnigle interviewed a family who recently moved to Vassar Circle.

Anna and Cris White arrived in November with their daughter Eliza, 2 years old, son Max, 7 months, and a large white dog, MawMaw. They have come from Connecticut, having previously lived in New York City. This is really a homecoming for Cris; many of his family members live in this area. In fact, he attended Landon School for 8 years before moving on to Princeton.

Anna and Cris met while living in New York City. Standing on the same street corner, each waiting for a lunch partner, they exchanged jokes about being stood up (an accidental meeting). Amazingly, a few days later they met again, on a commuter train going home after work (kismet in play). When we consider that there are at least 20 commuter train lines in New York, a city of over 8 million people, we believe the White’s destiny was overseen by some unusual force and wonder if the same force set them down in Glen Echo.

For their part, they are pleased to be here and look forward to all the Washington area has to offer. Our location, near to the canal appeals to them since they like to hike and kayak. Cris has been able to bike to work on the towpath a few times. He works for a commercial real estate company in Georgetown. Anna worked as a fundraiser for a non-profit organization while in New York, but right now finds that the children take up all her time. Glen Echo is just the kind of town they were looking for—close to the city, but with the aura of a small friendly community. We extend a warm welcome to them all.

New Pathway to Health

A holistic approach to health and FOOD!

It is not a diet!!
Call for a free consultation.

Contact: Wendy Martens
301.602.9286
wendy.martens@newpathwaytohealth.com

Police Report

Police officers issued 44 citations or warnings to drivers at the corner of University and Oxford Rd. They also looked into the issue of abandoned cars on Oberlin Avenue.
Local Events

C&O Canal Association
New Year’s Day hike! Begins at 10:30 am at the mule statue in front of the NPS Visitor Center in Cumberland. Contact: Mary Huebner at 301-777-0545 or marybrd22@gmail.com. For more information on Association activities see www.candocanal.org.

Church of Redeemer
A Candlelight Concert: “Bach for the New Year” on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 5pm. Join acclaimed vocalists Hillary Ryon Park, Chris Dudley, Matthew Smith, and Benjamin Park for an evening of seasonal music by J.S. Bach. The program will feature portions of The Christmas Oratorio, as well as instrumental works performed by members of the Inscape.

Washington Conservatory of Music
Alexander Paley, Piano will present an all-Tchaikovsky program on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 8pm. Selections include The Seasons, Op 37bis and Grand Sonata in G, Op. 37. Donation. Westmoreland Congregational UCC Church. For information: call 301-320-2770

Police Advisory Committee Seeks Member
There is an opening for a Glen Echo representative to the Montgomery County Police Citizens Advisory Committee. The duties include attending a one-hour monthly meeting. The member will review news related to crime and MC Police’s efforts to prevent crime. The representative keeps the Echo and the Mayor aware of significant crime in the immediate area, as well as any news related to the MC Police that will affect Glen Echo. The committee usually doesn’t meet for three summer months, so the commitment is really for nine meetings a year. Please call the Town Hall or Mayor Debbie Beers to express your interest in this volunteer position.
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CLASSIFIED ADS

Create a New You. Do something fun for yourself this year. Drop in for belly dance classes every Wed. 6:30pm at the Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John. $10/hr. For more info: email dawnoftheflower@yahoo.com

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 6103 Princeton Ave, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Make checks payable to: Town of Glen Echo. Deadline: 24th of each month.

LADIES OF GLEN ECHO
Ladies Night
on Wednesday,
January 18, at 8 pm.
At the home of Wendy Martens
7316 University Ave.
RSVP: 301-320-9095

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GLEN ECHO TOWN
HALL EVENTS

The Following Events Are Free to All Town Residents

English Country Dance,
every Wednesday, 8pm-10:30pm

Meeting with Citizens and National
Community Church,
January 5, 7pm-9pm

Folklore Society Greater
Washington Family Dance,
January 8, 2pm-5pm

Town Council Meeting,
January 9, 8pm

AROUND TOWN

Born, to Laura Beers and Lawrence Black a son, Gabriel Beers Black. Gabriel was born in Exeter, England on December 8, 2011. He weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz. at birth. Laura is the daughter of Debbie and Don Beers of Wellesley Circle. His grandmother was able to be in England for the birth and will return there with other members of the Beers family for Christmas. The Town wishes good health for the new baby and great happiness to his parents and grandparents as they watch him grow.

Norman Hudson Taylor will step down from his position as Glen Echo’s representative on the Police Citizen Advisory Committee because of a scheduling conflict. Mr. Hudson Taylor served many years on the Committee and the Mayor has expressed her appreciation for his dedicated service. His participation and service, for more than ten years, has provided an important connection between the Town and the Montgomery County Police Department.

Pam Mason provided 25 radio and TV interviews in the three weeks leading up to Christmas. You may have heard her on WTOP during the drive home time period or on Channel 9 at 6:15 in the morning. If you have any concerns about hearing or hearing loss, Pam is available to answer questions. Please feel free to contact her at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at pmason@asha.org.

Our Advertisers

We want to welcome our newest advertiser, Sunrise Senior Living at Foxhill. We suggest that all of our residents look into using any of the goods and services our advertisers provide. These businesses and organizations are community-minded and will appreciate your business. And, we wish a happy and prosperous New Year to all, advertisers and readers alike.
Holiday Brunch

Almost 100 people of various ages attended the Holiday Brunch, held in Town Hall on Saturday, December 17. The time of the brunch was telling. Changes in Town population have brought more families with young children than we had 10 years ago. Brunch used to start later in the day, as residents slept through the early hours of the morning. This year we began at 9am, an earlier hour than in years past. Little creatures that go to bed reluctantly but rise early were anxious to see their friends and enjoy waffles with gooey toppings. Then there were the gingerbread houses, designed and constructed by young Glen Echo attendees. Parents and other adults attempted to stick with omelets and coffee. Many residents were overheard to express their delight with the change in demographics.

As usual, volunteers helped to make the event a success. Jane Stevenson, Cathie Polak, Dawn Fox, Emily Siegal, Steve and Andrea Matney and Brent Agnew all helped with setup and cleanup. Anna and Gabi Bayer were the official photographers. The Town is grateful to all who assisted with this event.

Decorating gingerbread houses is a big attraction.

Artists at work

Many decorating candies to choose from

Adults meet new neighbors and talk with long-standing friends.
Omelettes made to order and waffles with fruits and syrups are served.

Glen Echo mayor and Echo photographer in the holiday spirit

Gingerbread house building progresses.

Christmas time is reindeer time.

This artistic creation is ready to go home.

This one is on its way home where it will be admired and enjoyed.
Glen Echo Park Activities

Adventure Theatre
The Snowy Day
January 20 – February 12, 2012
All Ages
Tickets $17.
See www.adventuretheatre.org.

The Puppet Co. Playhouse
Peter and the Wolf
January 13 – February 19

Holiday Art Show & Sale
Until January 8. Exhibition featuring works by resident artists, instructors and invited artists that will include glass, ceramics, jewelry, photographs, paintings, and more. In the Popcorn Gallery. Saturdays and Sundays from 11am to 6pm.

Our Favorite Books

We asked readers to name their favorite books and tell us why. If you would like to nominate a favorite, please write to TheEchoEditor@gmail.com

Beth Rockwell likes A Confederacy of Dunces by John Kennedy Tolle, which she describes as “bizarre and hilarious with a main character that is at the same time engaging and revolting, and with the strangest cast of characters I’ve ever run across.”

Rex Rhein recommends An Enlightened Life, an Autobiography of Adam Smith by Nicholas Phillipson. Rex commented, “The book fills in gaps in my knowledge of Smith, a most important philosopher who is the founder of modern economics. How nations get rich will always be an intriguing question.”

Yours Truly: Figurative Paintings in Encaustic and Mixed Media
by Marcie Wolf Hubbard at the Popcorn Gallery from January 14 to 29, Saturdays and Sundays, from 12pm to 6pm and by appointment. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, January 15, from 3pm to 5:30pm.

Encore Chorale of the Washington Conservatory of Music
For those over-55 choristers. Conducted by Jeanne Kelly. Thursday, January 19, 2012 1:30 to 3:00 pm. 15 weeks. Tuition. For more information, email Jeanne.kelly@encorecreativity.org. To register, call 301-320-2770.

There’s No Place Like Home

Shortly before leaving Glen Echo, then resident Tim Maloy advertised an internet project called “The Global Hometown.” In an email, Tim suggested that viewers “go to the site and you can immortalize your hometown and share experiences with the world.” Resident Michelle Brafman took Tim up on his invitation with an article entitled “My Cousin’s Funeral.” Michelle’s hometown is Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. Her poignant recollection demonstrates the value of a few reflective moments in familiar places that are almost—but never quite—forgotten. Go to www.globalhometown.com/hometown.php?aid=67 to read Michelle’s experience. To post your own story, go to www.Globalhometown.com or send your story to Tim at TKMaloy@gmail.com.