

THE VILLAGE NEWS

VOL. 9, NO. 4

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND

JAN. '76



UNION ARCH REPORT OFFERED

Steve Magnuson

At long last, a comprehensive document entitled *Restoration of Cabin John Aqueduct Bridge* has been made available to us by the Army Corps of Engineers. It was prepared in cooperation with S.Z. Lewin, Professor of Chemistry, New York University, and Divers Brothers, Consulting Engineers of Baltimore. It deals with the history of the bridge, its existing condition, feasible corrective measures, and recommendations. The document itself is both lengthy and somewhat technical. THE VILLAGE NEWS now has a copy, complete with working drawings, which is available, on loan, to all interested parties.

The general condition of the bridge is characterized as quite passable, except for the projecting sandstone ledge which has now been removed after a 700 lb. chunk of it came crashing down onto Cabin John Parkway last winter. Since that time, the bridge has been closed to vehicular traffic altogether and closed to pedestrians and bicycles between the hours of 9PM and 6AM. The bridge maintains every semblance of structural integrity, save for some surface deterioration.

In this report, the consulting engineers have proposed three separate "schemes" for the repair of the structure. Scheme 1 envisions closing the bridge to all but pedestrians, bicycles and emergency vehicular traffic at a cost of \$749,000. Under Scheme 2 all pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic under six tons would be permitted to use the bridge at a cost of \$731,000. Scheme 3 prohibits all vehicular traffic, permitting only pede-

strians and bicycles at a cost of \$583,000. The report recommends that Scheme 1 be adopted.

YOUNG ACTORS SOUGHT FOR CABIN JOHN PLAY ABOUT THE C&O CANAL

As part of the bicentennial celebration in Cabin John, tentatively scheduled for May of this year, there will be a special play about the C&O Canal in which you could star!

If you are interested in participating in this play, contact Diane Kellogg at 229-8163.

RUNNING THE CANAL

Kevin Flynn

In what may be a record equalled only by the hardest mule-drivers of the past century, an 18-year old student of Montgomery Community College has won a foot race along the entire C&O Canal from Washington, D.C. to Cumberland, Maryland - in the total time of 47 hours, 51 minutes and 52 seconds. Bob Stack was first in a field of eight competitors, running 100 kilometers (62 miles) each day for three days. The race was an effort to introduce the popular European sport of "super-marathoning" to the U.S. One of the runners said the race was "the most beautiful run of my life," according to the Cumberland NEWS. The runner-up, Vasilios Traintos, used the event as a mere warm-up for a 1,000 mile run through Greece next year.

The above was taken from the November-December issue of POTOMAC BASIN REPORTER with the gracious permission of its editor.

GLEN ECHO APPOINTS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

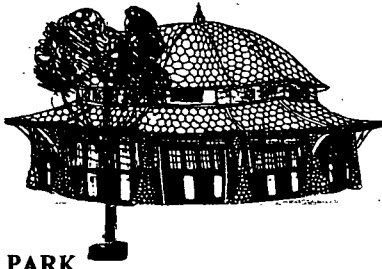
The Town of Glen Echo has recently appointed Robert Singleton as Glen Echo's Animal Control Officer. He will be making frequent town-wide tours of animal surveillance. He will be reporting all violations of the Animal Control Ordinance. In order to be fair to individual dog owners and to enforce the Animal Control Ordinance, the Mayor and Town Council of Glen Echo are encouraging dog owners to comply with the ordinance and residents are to report violations to Mr. Singleton. Residents of Cabin John are advised to comply also with the ordinance which is county-wide. Dogs are not to run free. If you think your dog may have been reported loose in Glen Echo, you may contact Mr. Singleton at 320-5519.

C&O CANAL ART EXHIBIT

Artists find the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park and its serene setting fascinating to paint and, through their work, the historical canal is recorded for posterity.

The October 1975 Outdoor Art Show (to be held again in October 1976) at Great Falls, Maryland, sponsored by the Rockville Art League, Montgomery County Art Association and the National Park Service, produced a wide variety of styles and media on the canal theme.

Through the month of January, the prize winning art from that show will be exhibited in the Parlor Room of the C&O Canal Tavern Museum, Great Falls, Maryland, 9AM to 5PM Saturday and Sunday; 1PM to 5PM Wednesday through Friday. For more information call 299-8613.



IN THE PARK

Registration is now in progress for Glen Echo Park's day and evening classes for adults and children in arts, crafts and performing arts. The winter session begins January 19th, with complete course offerings in jewelry, ceramics, textiles, sculpture, auto mechanics, photography, graphics and fine arts. New courses include: songwriting and arranging, clowning, women's poetry workshop, wood-working, stained glass and marionette construction. For information, call 229-3031. Classes are sponsored by the National Park Service at Glen Echo Park on MacArthur Boulevard in Glen Echo, Maryland.

ADVENTURE THEATRE PRESENTS NEW BICENTENNIAL PLAY AT GLEN ECHO PARK

Adventure Theatre, in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Montgomery County Department of Recreation, presents *YANKEE DOODLE* by Aurand Harris at their theater in Glen Echo Park, on Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 and 3:30PM from January 31st through February 22nd. Tickets are \$1.50 and reservations may be made by calling 320-5331 weekdays between 10AM and 2PM.

THE VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly in Cabin John, Maryland. Subscriptions are \$3.00 per year for non-residents and free to Cabin John residents. Mail all articles, inquiries, suggestions, complaints, letters and subscriptions (with payment) to:

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THE CHANGING SCENE AT GLEN ECHO PARK

History is repeated, Glen Echo Park has changed hands again. Hopefully it will soon be receiving a face lifting as well. In December the National Park Service was given the title transfer from the federal government making Glen Echo Park formally a part of the National Park System. With this new ownership comes numerous responsibilities and possibilities for change and uses of the area.

Dick Ring, Site Manager, spoke to a good number of interested people at the Park's recent Open House held January 11th. He mentioned two main areas of concern. The first dealt with a project using Solar Energy. A grant will soon be submitted asking for monies to develop and set up methods of using and demonstrating alternative heating and air conditioning systems utilizing the sun's energy. This project is ideally suited for the Yurt Village and the Sculpture Studios. Secondly, and most important, Ring discussed how this change in ownership might affect the park. What changes can and should be made to accomodate the local public? It was interesting that he did not speak of enlarging the present art program.

Introduced was Bob Allen, spokesperson/interpreter for the planning team laying out some proposed changes for the park. He and his staff from the Denver Service Center for the National Park Service together with park personnel and interested local citizens have recently completed and will shortly submit an extensive "Management Use and Development Plan for the Clara Barton/Glen Echo Park" area. Basically, it appears that they hope to recycle many of the existing buildings while giving special importance to historically significant structures. Dick Ring added that he lists three priority structures that he would like to get immediate attention. They are the Chautauqua Tower, the Dodg'em, and removal of the Jungle Land facade making the Ballroom area more accessible.

In future issues of THE VILLAGE NEWS this column will present what the existing art programs include, summaries of the proposals offered in the "Management/Development Plan," and other topics relevant to the park. The alternatives suggested by the "Plan" are by no means the only possible ones that can or should take place at Glen Echo. You may well have worthwhile ideas for altering, adding to, or re-opening parts of the park. Should you wish to voice your suggestions, please submit your ideas to Dick Ring.

Deborah Hollander

NOTICE:

Babs Rabner of 6519 75th Place would like to announce that she is now associated with ROBERT L. GRUEN, INC., REALTOR. She will be happy to give you consultations and personalized service in buying and selling your home. Her phone number is 229-0683 or 229-2300.

GUDE TO STEP DOWN

Steve Magnuson

Rep. Gilbert Gude (R-Md) announced January 12 in a press release, to the surprise of almost everyone, that he will not seek a sixth term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Gude, 52, was first elected to represent Maryland's Eighth Congressional District in 1966 and has retained that seat ever since. This is no mean feat for any Republican in a heavily Democratic congressional district like the Eighth, which includes almost all of Montgomery County.

Ostensibly, Gude is stepping down in order to devote more time and energy toward his family. The field of speculation is wide open, however, as to the possibility of Rep. Gude seeking public office in the future (Perhaps the U.S. Senate next time?).

The news of Gude's imminent departure has drawn a flotilla of would-be congressmen out of the political woodwork. Gude, due to his overwhelming personal popularity, had been expected to be a shoo-in this year against Larry Davis, 29, the only announced Democratic candidate, but now several hopefuls, both Democrats and Republicans will probably express vigorous interest in this seat. Among the names being mentioned are Sidney Kramer, whom Gude defeated in the 1974 contest, Del. Charles A. Doctor (D-Montgomery), and even State Senator Victor L. Crawford, who is an announced candidate in the upcoming Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate. State Senator Newton Spears, Jr. (R-Montgomery) and Neal Potter of the Montgomery County Council are also being mentioned.

Gilbert Gude has demonstrated a sympathetic interest in the reconstruction and restoration of Union Arch, the general ecology of the Potomac River, and the continued existence of Glen Echo Park as a federal entity. Most recently, he sponsored legislation making the C&O Canal part of the national park system.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

POTOMAC EXHIBIT

Kevin Flynn

A new exhibit about the environment of the Potomac opened in Washington in November, at the Smithsonian Institution's Natural History Museum. The exhibit focuses on land use of the banks of the Potomac near Washington in four time periods - 10,000 years ago; at 1608 when Captain John Smith sailed up the river; at 1776, when Georgetown was a major tobacco port; and at 1976, when the urban environment dominates. "Our Changing Land" is the museum's bicentennial exhibit, and features four murals of life in the Potomac Valley.

The above was taken from the November-December issue of POTOMAC BASIN REPORTER with the gracious permission of its editor.

EDITORIAL

Well, neighbors, it's been over a year since that 700 pound capstone fell from the Union Arch Bridge onto Cabin John Parkway. Little did we know what problem had fallen in the collective lap of Cabin John and neighboring communities.

As Congressman Gilbert Gude said in his testimony before the D.C. Appropriations Committee on December 19, 1975, "... the bridge is engulfed in a maze of red tape, primarily because it is one of the most complex bureaucratic situations I have ever heard of." The government agencies concerned include the Corps of Engineer's Washington Aqueduct Division, the State of Maryland, Montgomery County, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and finally the District of Columbia government, because the aqueduct is a vital part of the D.C. water supply system. The D.C. government would obviously not see any of their budget allocated to repairing an aqueduct which lies in Montgomery County. That is why they refused Congressman Gude's plea that they "see fit to view this action [repair of the Union Arch Bridge] not as a D.C. Budget item, but as a Federal expenditure which must be appropriated through the D.C. budget, because of the unique administrative situation of this structure."

Of all the agencies involved in the solution of this problem, none has been very responsive in the acquisition of funding for the repair of the bridge. The burden it appears is on Cabin John. We are the ones paying the cost of time and money and inconvenience and we pay daily. It is our school children who are bussed the extra miles around the bridge, through a hairpin turn at Glen Echo that is not fit for school bus traffic at peak rush hours. It is all of us who are detoured daily around a structure which provided for the growth of the local communities since it was first used as a roadway in 1920.

What now? Well, perhaps some legal action against the government agencies who are failing to respond to the needs and rights of the Cabin John community. The same agencies who refuse to recognize our right of access to that bridge. Perhaps a suit against one or all of these agencies is in order. That seems to be the American Way of settling disputes over responsibility.

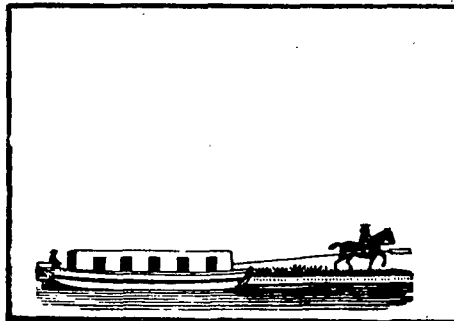
Joseph Warren said during the American Revolution, "Use every means in your power to secure your rights." I think the communities which have grown around the roadway which the Bridge has provided for 50 years have a right of access to Union Arch. Bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists all have the right. No less solution than providing access to that bridge for pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic will be fair and just. Please attend the Citizens Association meeting on Tuesday, January 27th, and help formulate the priorities concerning the repair of the Union Arch Bridge. Ed.



EXCERPTS FROM THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

THE VILLAGE NEWS thanks Souder and Associates of Bethesda for its cooperation and support in the production of the January issue.



ALL ALONG THE C&O CANAL

On Sunday, January 18, hear about the exciting but tragic days of the Civil War when swift raids and historic battles made the canal a no-man's land. This talk and slide show, entitled "Mules and Muskets," scheduled for an hour, begins at 2PM at the Museum at Great Falls, Maryland. For information call 299-Maryland.

On Saturday, January 24, "Mules and Muskets" will be repeated, same time.

On Sunday, January 25, learn about the building of the C&O Canal, its operation through the years, and the various types of structures which made the canal a great transportation and engineering marvel in our nation's history. This one-hour slide program and talk, entitled "A Towpath through Time," begins at 2PM at the Museum at Great Falls.

On Saturday, January 31, "A Towpath through Time" will be repeated, same time.

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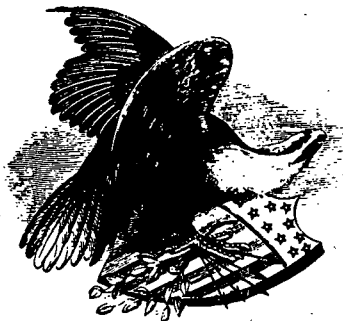
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THE VILLAGE NEWS DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATES:

Full page	\$40.00
2/3 page	\$30.00
1/2 page	\$25.00
1/3 page	\$15.00
1/6 page	\$10.00
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CABIN JOHN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27TH
CLARA BARTON SCHOOL AUDITORIUM AT 8PM
 Topic: UNION ARCH BRIDGE



Harry Ways, Chief of the Washington Aqueduct Division of the Corps of Engineers and Keith Schizik of Congressman Gude's office will attend. Come hear them and other interested parties discuss Union Arch Bridge. Come and voice your opinion.

The time has come to step up action in pursuit of Cabin John's right of access to the bridge. We must do everything in our power to secure that right. Please attend.

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY ANNUAL REPORT OFFERED

The Office of Information of the Montgomery County Government has recently published the 1975 Annual Report on Activities of the Montgomery County Government including a comprehensive guide to the various services offered by that government. If you wish to obtain a copy, free of charge, call the Office of Information at 279-1211.

AT LITTLE FALLS LIBRARY

On January 21 at 4PM there will be two films for children, ages 7-12: *99 Days to Survival* and *Solo*. At 7:30PM there will be two films for adults: *Station* and *Steam Threshermen*.

On January 31 at 10:30AM, there will be a Penny Theatre for children, ages 4-6, entitled "Too Much Noise."

For information, call the library at 320-4880.

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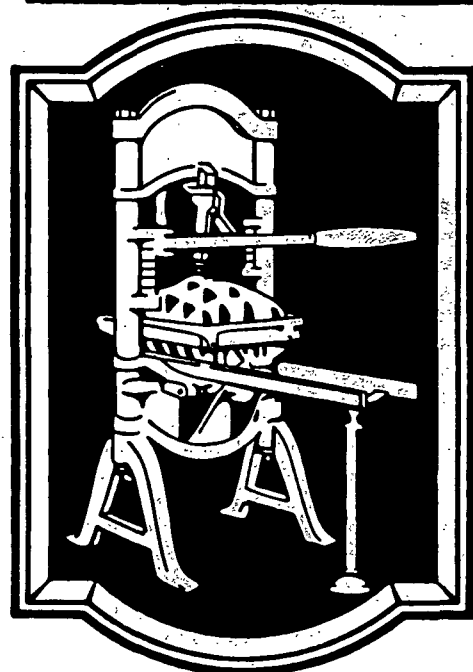
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LOST: 2 dogs, Arden Road vicinity. Names, Lilly-Poo and Benji. Lilly-Poo is black, brown and grey mix with red collar. No lic., hair over eyes, part Airedale. Benji is black with white chest, beard and 3 white paws, coarse coat. Call 229-6223. Reward.

FOR SALE: Typewriter, ROYAL, Std., Pica, EC COND. THO OLD, \$35. 229-1338.

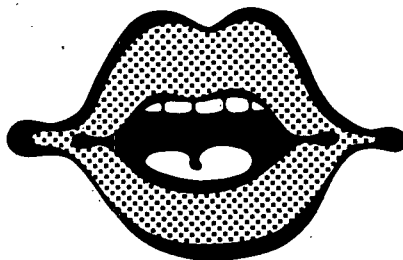
"MORE THAN ENOUGH IS TOO MUCH..."



... and were it left to me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate to prefer the latter.

--Thomas Jefferson

graphically speaking



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