

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 10, Number 1 SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND

January 1977

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Tuesday, Jan. 18, Walt Whitman PTSA, English and Math Departments (8 PM)
Thursday, Jan. 20, NO SCHOOL - Inauguration Day
Tuesday, Jan. 25, 8 PM Cabin John Citizen's Assoc., Methodist Church
at the corner of MacArthur Blvd. and 77th Street
Jan. 25, 8 PM Walt Whitman PTSA, Social Studies and Science Depts.
Wednesday, Jan. 26, NO SCHOOL - Professional Day
Saturday, Jan. 29, 8:30 PM, Buddy Rich and Band, Walt Whitman Field House
(Admission \$3.50 in advance, \$4.50 at the door)
Tuesday, Feb. 1, 8 PM Bannockburn-Carderock PISA meeting at Bannockburn
Dr. Alan Dodd, new Assistant Superintendent for
Area I will speak on "New Directions in Education
in Montgomery County"
Tuesday, Feb. 8, Executive Committee, Cabin John Citizen's Assoc. (8 PM)

UNION ARCH BRIDGE REOPENS WITH FANFARE

Our final bicentennial blast was the joyful reopening of the Union Arch Bridge on Saturday, Dec. 4, hosted by the Army Corps of Engineers, complete with Civil War soldiers in costume and a host of local dignitaries, all anxious to get a piece of the credit. (Where were you guys when we needed you??) It was a very chilly day, which prompted Rev. Allyn Rieke to comment "They said it would be a cold day in Hell before we got the bridge reopened, and I guess they were right."

Rep. Gilbert Gude cut the ribbon which formally reopened the bridge to one lane vehicular traffic plus a pedestrian and bicycle path. Also on the speaker's platform were representatives from Congress, the Montgomery County Council, the Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Historic Trust, WSSC, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Cabin John community, and Glen Echo. Frank McKinney, Vice President of the Cabin John Park Citizens' Association and Minda Wetzel, Transportation Chairman of the Citizens' Association represented our community. About 300 local residents turned out to celebrate.

Included in the introductions were members of the Army Engineer Corps crew who performed the \$75,000 repairs (originally estimated at \$850,000 when it was planned to reconstruct the whole top of the bridge). There was also a \$70,000 expenditure by the State for removing the original sandstones so that the State Highway beneath could be reopened to traffic. The County spent approximately \$8,000 to install traffic lights to control traffic.

Members of the 1st North-South Brigade from Ft. Ward, Alexandria, in civil war uniforms, added a touch of historic color for the TV cameras of Channels 7 and 9. The units marched across the bridge with flags flying as similar troops may have done in the bridge's earlier days. Of course, Cabin John's Volunteer Fire Department was also on hand, and drove across the bridge after the lead car, driven by Minda Wetzel, head of Cabin John's Union

Arch Bridge Committee, who was frantically delivering donuts to the all-purpose room at Clara Barton School where her committee hosted the dignitaries and hardy citizens who braved the cold to celebrate.

Our special vote of thanks goes to Rep. Gilbert Gude and his staff, who really came up with the solutions to a nightmare of bureaucratic red tape.

And thank you Cabin John residents, for keeping your tempers and helping so constructively at those critical moments.

CHANGES AT CLARA BARTON

Once again it looks as though things are changing at Clara Barton. Since it closed as an elementary school in 1974, Clara Barton has housed the administrative offices of the Montgomery County school system's Title I program. In addition, adult education courses have been offered there, the Cabin John Four Year Old School has continued to operate out of the old kindergarten room, the Post Office has moved into renovated space in the north section of the building, and, in the fall of 1975, the Clara Barton Center for Children opened its Daycare program. This center now serves 42 children ages 2 to 6, most of them Cabin John residents.

Thus, although we lost Clara Barton as a school, in many ways it has continued to provide needed services to the children and adults of this community.

Now, however, the Montgomery County school system is eager to relieve itself of the financial responsibility of administering the building.

Utility costs run about \$15,000 a year. Current plans, therefore, are to move the Title I offices elsewhere after the 1977-78 school year, offer the adult education programs out of other schools, and transfer ownership of the building to the office of the County Executive at that time.

Assuming all this takes place by July 1, 1978, every effort is already being made by the County Executive's staff in the Office of Planning and Capital Programming to attract public and/or private groups to lease the remaining vacant space in the building. Ideally, the rental money this would bring in would pay for the cost of keeping Clara Barton open.

Clearly, it is to this community's advantage that Clara Barton stay open and that, in addition to the Post Office, the Daycare Center and Four Year old school continue to serve our children. County officials have assured representatives of the community that the above mentioned programs will be given priority in retaining their present space. So, we need your help in finding other groups or individuals whose businesses or programs would fit well into our community and who would be interested in leasing available space in Clara Barton.

If you know any architects, lawyers, dance groups, etc., or have any other ideas, please contact (or have the interested parties contact):

Richard Miller or Bett Lewis 279-1241
County Office of Planning and Capital Programming

or
Ann Segal or Aimee Nover 229-9834 or 320-4565
Clara Barton Center for Children

or
Cappie Morgan 320-3269
Cabin John Four Year Old Program



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SEVEN LOCKS ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Disheartening news came from the Department of Transportation this week when we learned that the Seven Locks Road reconstruction from River Road to MacArthur Blvd., reported to begin in 1977-78 by Mr. Anthony Kanz, Deputy Director of D.O.T. when he spoke to our Citizens' Association last March, will not even begin for another two years. The public hearing on the plans is now scheduled for July 1977. Sooooo -- Drive defensively, use Wilson Lane when it's slippery, and lets fight city hall to speed up the project.

CURRENT STATUS OF THE NOVEMBER HEARING ON DOWNZONING

The Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission held a public hearing at Clara Barton School and has now recommended rezoning all the properties in question to commercial (C-1) (Quick Food, Alpine Veterinary Hospital) except for the Wilner property on the corner of 77th Street and MacArthur Blvd., which they recommended should remain downzoned (residential) when its current commercial usage is terminated.

Dorothy Helens

BEAUTY SALON

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9:00 am to 5:00 pm

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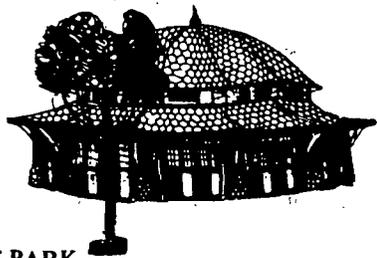
229-1361 or 229-9811

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IN THE PARK

21 Jan, Fri. PHOTOGRAPHY AT GLEN ECHO: Join an artist at Glen Echo's photography studio for a film and discussion on photography and techniques. Free 8 PM.

Sun. 16 Jan. ALONG THE TOWPATH -- Meet a park ranger in the Great Falls Hospitality Room at 1 PM for a 1 hour walk along the towpath discussing the early history, including the Civil War, of the C&O Canal in this area.

17 thru 23 Jan. INAUGURAL WEEK AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: During this week, the Kennedy Center will open its doors to visitors from 9 AM until midnight each day. This years inauguration will be saluted thru a host of special events and activities free to the public and covering the span of the entire week. In addition, the America on Stage exhibit on the Roof Terrace level of the Kennedy Center will have extended hours of 9 AM to 9 PM until it closes Jan.23.

CONVALESCENT NOTE

The pleasant and popular Mrs. Ruby Grishkot, 6505 75th Place, (229-6382), is now convalescing at home and would welcome neighborly messages, visits, and phone calls.

WORSHAMS CELEBRATE 60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

The Lewis E. Worshams, Sr. of 7910 MacArthur Blvd. celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 2, following Mr. Worsham's 90th birthday celebration this last November. Watch the Feb. Village News for an article on the Worshams.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Village News has a new editor, Minda Wetzel, a new post office box number, Box 164, Cabin John, and a new phone number to report news: Margaret Stream 229-1821. A special vote of thanks to Shelly Keller, our Village News editor for the past several years, for the incredible time, effort, and love she (and her staff) put into our community newspaper.

THE VILLAGE NEWS PEOPLE

- Minda Wetzel, editor
Margaret Stream, telephone news - 229-1821.
- Janet Dence, treasurer
- Cappi Morgan, distribution
- Harry Schnipper, Photography Editor
- Andy Rice, Citizens' Assoc. News
- Bev Sullivan, School news
- Barbara Clark
- Susan Vogt
- Judy Vogt, Kids corner

The VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly in Cabin John, Maryland. Subscriptions are \$4.00 per year for non-residents and free to Cabin John residents. Mail all articles, inquiries, suggestions, letters and subscriptions (with payment) to:

*The Editor
THE VILLAGE NEWS
Post Office Box 164
Cabin John, Maryland 20731*

NEWCOMERS!

Copies of the CABIN JOHN COMMUNITY PLAN and the CABIN JOHN COMMUNITY DIRECTORY can be obtained by calling Cappie Morgan at 320-3269.

SAVE YOUR RUMMAGE !

Once again, the Cabin John Four Year Old Program is beginning to work towards its late April or early May Benefit and Rummage Sale. Please start your New Year by saving for us your rejects from '76. As we get organized, we'll figure a way to pick up your donations. In the meantime, if you have anything urgent or unique call: Cappi Morgan - 320-3269.

THE VILLAGE NEWS NEEDS MONEY DESPARATELY to tide us over 'till warmer weather when we will brave a house to house fund drive. The coffers are empty and paper and printers and deliverers cost \$\$\$\$\$. If LOTS of people would send \$2.00 checks to The Village News, Box 164, February will look warmer!

Jacquie Fyock is one of the community representatives for the Bannockburn School. She will try to answer any questions you may have involving the school. Her number is: 229-0755.

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229-5685

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