

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 15, No. 6

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND

July-August 1981

CABIN JOHN IS GOING TO THE DOGS

This issue is dedicated to the dogs of Cabin John and their owners.

If the fur has flown or if your bark is as tough as their bite, try the following.

Call 279-1823 - Department of Animal Control - to report dog bites or other offenses immediately - give description of dog, owner's address and place of attack. This information will be recorded in a file, and 3 complaints from various parties is usually sufficient cause for an inspector to investigate. But you must phone in your complaints, or nothing can be done.

• Dog bites: Notify Department and the dog will be quarantined by the owner for 10 days; repeated offenses will result in a hearing and the dog

can be removed from the owner.

• Loose dog: Notify Department as to the time of day the dog runs; if found on property other than the owner's he can be picked up - impoundment fee \$15 plus \$3.75 daily boarding charge. The inspector can also write a ticket to the owner if he sees the dog at large.

• Barking dogs: Phone in complaint, then confirm with a letter to the Department (get your neighbors to write one, too.)

Be responsible for your pet - and make taking action unnecessary.

Merri van Emmerik

Listen Up , Rover--It's The Law

According to the Montgomery County Animal Control Ordinance

- It is unlawful for any person to allow his dog to run at large ...
- No animal shall damage, soil, defile or defecate on property other than the owner's ...
- No animal shall cause a disturbance by excessive barking ...
- No animal shall molest, attack or interfere with persons in the public right of way, chase vehicles, or attack other animals.

Crab Feast Starts Strong

The annual Cabin John Crab and Chicken Feast, that fabulous bacchard of good food, beer, and entertainment will be held early in September after school commences

The organizing committee needs volunteers to help for a few hours making phone calls, selling tickets; and to help on Feast day setting up tables, cooking and serving food, etc. If you are "old timers" we have your numbers and you'll be hearing from us. If you are new in town, it's a great way to meet people and participate in a real community effort. If you have any ideas for entertainment or other suggestions, please call Merri van Emmerik 229-8936 or Susan Gasch 229-3268.

Citizens Association Meeting
Clara Barton School Library
8 PM, Tuesday, June 23, 1981



**SUMMER VACATION ISSUE --
CLOSING DATE DEADLINE FOR
NEXT ISSUE AUGUST 10, 1981**

LETTERS The Continuing Saga of the Loose Dogs

Dear Editor,

At the risk of beating a subject to death, I am writing in response to last month's letter headed MAN BITES DOG, which was written in response to the previous month's letter concerning dogs running free in Cabin John. Bully for Christoph! I totally agree with his views and plan to change my practices according. Open the door! Unlatch the gate! Let my dog run free!

I have traveled all the streets of Cabin John while jogging with my semi-large dog (she has been on a leash--Oh, Lord, forgive me) and have seen most of the at-large dogs of the neighborhood. In the past year, I have encountered only three uncontrolled, unprovoked, vicious fidos. But even these are a boon--having a dog run out to the street snapping and growling has built up my confidence in the area of self-defense. After kicking and slapping my way free of these brutes, I feel I can handle any mugger.

Let's look at some more benefits of having your dog run free. What an education it will get! Like the Yorkshire puppy I saw on MacArthur Blvd. not too long ago, finding its way down the center line. If that dog

To the Editor:

In response to the letter from Mr. Christoph Syllaba on the subject of dogs at large in Cabin John, I would like to mention several problems that Mr. Syllaba seems to have overlooked. Although most dogs pose no danger toward humans, they can attack other dogs and cats. My dog has suffered serious bite wounds from loose dogs even while leashed and under my supervision.

The other problem is not as threatening but it is still very annoying and disagreeable. Loose dogs inevitably soil neighbors lawns. Dog droppings make it very hard to enjoy the lawn or even to mow it. * * * Kevin Gaffney

To the Editor:

Cabin John is a town of friendly and casual atmosphere, and most people are tolerant of their neighbors. Some dogs run loose and are never a problem to anyone; but allowing your dog to run

survives, it will really be street-wise!

And then there was the Great Dane in heat, with six suitors lined up to take their turn. Those who had to wait spent their time in vigorous, flesh-tearing argument with each other. What fun! And who cares if some of those other dogs haven't had all their proper vaccinations--yours has, hasn't he?

(Now, what was the last official guess on how often to get those Parvo shots?) Oh well. A little extra exposure can only add to your dog's level of immunity.

Another benefit of just letting the dog go: relief to those who hate to walk him. Why give up any of your precious time just because someone in your family loves that beast, or because that beast loves you?

Above all, you can win the eternal gratitude of your neighbors when your dog protects their property, fertilizes their lawn, waters their flowers, and hopefully adds a few new worms to their children's playground.

So let's hear it for those of us who want all the constant love, happy companionship, and undying loyalty that owning a dog brings us without all the responsibilities. Who says we have to love them back? * * * Judy Swan

loose is definitely infringing upon the good will of your neighbors. This is not "farm country" - we live in small homes on small lots - and should not permit our dogs to dig up our neighbors' gardens, defecate on their lawns, knock over trash or bark all night or day.

To Mr. Syllaba who believes that animals should be "free" and that these concerns are too petty to consider, I say -

"people like you have no right owning an animal because you cannot accept the adult responsibility involved."

There are dogs who chase children on bikes, chase cars, run into traffic, who attack dogs being walked on leashes on public property, and actually bite children and adults. These dogs with aggressive personalities are a menace at large, and if owners are to ignorant to put a stop to it - then we must do it; it is against the law to allow your dog to become a nuisance.

* * * Merri van Emmerik

Muse Unleashed

Enclosed please find a poem I wrote about the infamous Cabin John pooches. The three persons who disappear after the first stanza are Tom Green, a fine painter whose paintings were recently exhibited by the Guggenheim Museum in New York, in the context of their Emerging Artists overview; Toby Thompson, author and essayist whose articles appear in Esquire and Rolling Stone, and Deirdra Baldwin, poet whose recent book An Occasional Suite was published by a small but international literary press called Jazz Out of Los Angeles. An Occasional Suite is also the title of a performance tape available through the Watershed Foundation.

The three of us are Cabin John residents.

The verse came to me after walking at night, late, and noting that no one was around save these dogs. Now with the current community controversy -- I thought the verse might find a home in the newsletter.

The Dogs of Cabin John

They came out to sniff
As Green paints
And Thompson opines
And Baldwin laments

The dogs of Cabin John

All seven at night
Three docked but proud
Two cork-screw tailed
And two that growl

The dogs of Cabin John

Snort, and wide-eyed, grin
The strutting dogs
The teathy dogs
With sand-padded paws

The dogs of Cabin John

Beneath the streetlamp
Gather their pack
To guard the blacktop
Eye and scrap

The dogs of Cabin John

They come out to sniff
All seven at night
Snort, and wide-eyed, grin
Beneath the streetlamp

The dogs of Cabin John

Deirdra Baldwin

Cabin John Directory Out Soon

The new directory will be printed in Fall 1981 by the printshop at Walt Whitman High School, with some of our own teens participating in the effort. We will go door to door in September to insure that everyone is included in the directory. If you have any ideas to contribute or want to volunteer your time to help, we need people to alphabetize listings, check existing phone numbers, help staple and fold the booklets. Also, we are in need of a number of typists - please volunteer - you will not be asked to type the whole thing! Call Kay Kemp 229-2018 or Merri van Emmerik 229-8936.

Free Swimming At Palisades

Palisades Pool is again offering "Free Swim" for Cabin John children on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 11 A.M. to 1 P.M., beginning on Tuesday, June 23. All children must bring a permission note signed and dated by their parent the first time that they attend. This note is kept on file in the Pool Office. Children under 6 years old must be accompanied by an adult, and there must be one adult for every 6 children who enter, or the children will not be allowed in. The Pool management graciously allows our children to swim, asking only that we provide adequate supervision. Do not constantly send your children without ever attending yourself. We need adults to volunteer to take charge of a session - to check names as the children enter and leave the pool premises, and to remain at poolside from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. Please phone Diane Kellogg 229-7412.

New Association Officers

The following outstanding slate of officers was voted in at the May Community Association Meeting:

President - Alan van Emmerik
1st V.P. - Susan Vogt
2nd V.P. - Pat Connelly
Recording Secretary - Jean Maggio
Corresponding Secretary - Dan Costello
Treasurer - Cephas Patch

The next Association meeting in September.

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
1/12 page	\$ 6.00

EDITORS - Betsy Cheney
and Charlie Bookman
DISTRIBUTION - Veena Titus
BUSINESS - Susan Gelb
GRAPHICS - Jane Price

SIGN-UP SHEET FOLDERS * * * * *
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