

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 16, No. 3

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND

November 1982

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(If you want your event listed in this calendar, please call Susan Luchs, 320-3401, by the 10th of the month.)

Thursday, October 28 Candidates forum. Somerset Elementary School (See story, this issue)
Tuesday, November 2 General election. Polls open, Clara Barton School, 7 am to 8 pm
Tuesday, November 9 Bannockburn Book Fair, Bannockburn Elementary School, 7 pm to 9 pm
Wednesday - Friday, November 10 - 12 Bannockburn School Book Fair, 9 am to 3:30 pm
Friday - Saturday, November 19 - 20 Ping-pong Tournament. United Methodist Church. 4 pm.
All ages welcome, attractive prizes. Call 229-9525.

Getting to Know the People of Cabin John

HARD WORK AND CIDER

By Barbara Martin

His name is Biagio Carlantonio. But to the hundreds of people who stop by Wilson and MacArthur to buy his vegetables and pass the time of day, he is "Tony."

Tony has been an institution on the Cabin John scene for eight years, selling fruit, vegetables, bread, cheese, and the famous apple cider from his yellow pickup truck. The tailgate of the truck serves as his cash register, while the truck bed, hood, and roof hold the colorful produce and jars of honey.

A constant stream of cars brings people who fill their market bags and introduce Tony to their friends and family members. Customers tell Tony about their activities and their troubles, invite him to their weddings. He jokes with them, and with Ol World gallantry calls the women "my dear lady," the men, "my dear boy."

Born 81 years ago in Italy, north of Rome, Tony grew up on his family's 200-acre farm and dairy. He sold milk door-to-door, and therein lies the tale of how he came to the United States. One of his dairy customers was a town official. Arriving one day at the man's office to collect his money, Tony found a crowd of people applying for emigration to the United States. He

(Continued on Page 2)

YOU SHOULD HAVE IT NOW!

By now you should have received the 1982 Cabin John Directory which has been distributed door-to-door by a team of civic-minded Cabin Johners organized by Barbara Martin and Susan Vogt. If for some reason, you didn't get one, call Barbara (229-3482) or Susan (229-6479).

The free community directory is one of the services provided by the Cabin John Citizens Association, and the volunteer distributors have also been inviting each household to become Citizen Association members. The fee is \$5 per family, or \$3 per individual.

Orders have also been taken for the new Cabin John Tee-shirts (\$6.50 each), popular as gifts for all ages. Proceeds from the Tee-shirt sales support the Village News.

Citizen Association dues, Tee-shirt orders, and Village News contributions can all be sent to P.O. Box 164, Cabin John, Md. 20818.

POST OFFICE LOOKS FOR NEW SPACE

The U.S. Postal Service has announced that it is looking for new space to lease for the Cabin John Post Office. For further information, call the Eastern Region office in Philadelphia, phone (215) 496-6007. Bids are due by 5 p.m., Monday, October 25.

Continued

put in an application too and then forgot about it. But in the fall of 1923, as he was planting wheat in the field, his sister ran out waving a telegram -- he had been approved for emigration.

He arrived in this country with only a little money and his violin. (He still has the violin.) Jobs for musicians were scarce, and Tony earned his living by laying track on the railroad, working in an iron shop, and then for the streetcar company -- Capitol Transit. He worked 23 years for the transit company, retiring in 1953.

He began building houses and doing general home repair work. Some famous customers include Evan Scholl (of the cafeteria chain) and Mamie Eisenhower's brother. At one time Tony was in the restaurant business, managing three restaurants.

In the late '50s Tony bought two acres on MacArthur Boulevard between Cabin John and Anglers Inn, built his house, and planted a garden. He grew more than he and his wife could eat or even give away. So when he turned 70 and decided to retire from the building business, he opened his "truck store."

Tony estimates he has 200 customers a day, some of them coming over from Virginia, but most of them local people who stop at the Union Arch Bridge site on their way to work or errands. Open Tuesday through Sunday, he operates year-round, staying home only when there is deep snow on the ground. Hours are 11 to 6, but Tony's day starts much earlier. At 4 am, he is up, heading for the market. Some days he goes to the Florida Avenue Market, other days to suppliers "up in the country." Most of what he sells is his own produce -- planted, tended and harvested by his wife, with Tony as first assistant.

His son, an electronics engineer who lives in Potomac, has made him a grandfather eight times. And two years ago Tony and his wife took into their home a young nephew.

How long does Tony intend to keep working? "As long as I'm in good health, why should I quit?" A testament to honest hard work and love of life, Tony is a joy to the community, a Cabin John treasure.

New Bus Routes Planned

A plan for new bus routes, to take effect in 1984 when the Wisconsin Avenue Metro stations are opened, was presented by Ed Kelly of the Transportation Committee at the Sept. 28 Citizens Association meeting. The proposal being put forward by Metro is to discontinue the N4 and N5 bus routes and to substitute mini-bus service from the Bethesda Metro station (Wis. Ave. and East-West Highway) which would come down Wilson Lane to MacArthur, along MacArthur to Persimmon Tree Road, and then return. There would be service only in the rush hour at 30 minute intervals. (The C1 service from Glen Echo to Friendship Heights would be continued.)

The Citizens Association voted to send a letter expressing appreciation for the plan to provide bus service to Cabin John but also expressing concern that the size of the vehicles and the limited schedule would not be adequate and asking that increased service be provided.

Duff Marquardt reported at the meeting that there had been a decrease in playground damage at the Clara Barton School since the Association's June meeting which had focused on vandalism. Marquardt is gathering ideas on replacing the burned recreation center near Union Arch Bridge. If you have any ideas to contribute, call him at 229-1604.

Maureen Willoughby, chairman of the Land Use Committee, is preparing testimony regarding the proposed development of the Lemm property which is on high ground along MacArthur between Persimmon Tree and the Beltway.

ANNUAL SCHOOL BOOK FAIR SCHEDULED NOV. 9-12

year on the evening of November 9 and all day November 10, 11, and 12.

Many Cabin John parents are cooperating in the Book Fair at the Bannockburn Elementary School (6520 Dalroy Lane) which will be held this

Books for children and adults, UNICEF items, calendars, records, tapes and "surprises" will be available for sale.

CABIN JOHN'S MARVELLOUS VEGETABLES!

(Editor's Note: The Village News' occasional reporter, "C.J. Roving Eyes," submitted a piece bemoaning her lack of success in growing vegetables. We decided to skip that part of her report and publish only a couple of the success stories which she also relates.)

Charles Towler lives on 75th Place. His garden is still churning out green peppers, tomatoes, swiss chard, three kinds of squash, raspberries (the second crop), and lima beans. Mr. Towler has planted a vegetable garden every year for over 20 years. He starts his garden every fall with a leaf mulch. Chopped up leaves are better than whole leaves and Mr. Towler can usually get them from the County. After the first frost, Mr. Towler rototills the garden and then -- as he put it -- "You go to sleep for the winter and Jack Frost puts the garden to sleep for the winter."

"C.J. Roving Eyes" also talked with Steve Clark on 79th Street. Steve uses no chemical fertilizers or pesticides and his garden is going like crazy producing yellow, zucchini, and butternut squash, kale, collard greens, carrots, green peppers, swiss chard, and spinach. The first year he planted his garden, Steve wanted to enrich the soil, so he went down to the Blue Plains sewage treatment plant and was given free dehydrated sewage sludge. Steve says it doesn't smell a bit...Other tips from Steve are that tilling right before you plant is the clue to successful sprouting and that planting much closer than the seed packages recommend doesn't affect the harvest one bit. For would-be organic gardeners, Steve recommends planting buckwheat or rye seeds in the fall and rototilling them in the spring. He also advises ordering earthworms from a mail order catalogue and letting them wiggle their way through the soil all summer.

LOOKING BACKWARDS....
Eight Years Ago: A big meeting was held Oct. 30, 1974, to make community recommendations on the use of Clara Barton School building.
Five Years Ago: It was Cabin John Clean-Up Week from Oct. 31 to Nov. 5 1977. Every family was encouraged to call United Disposal, under contract to the County, for a special trash pick-up that week, thus cleaning up a lot of accumulated junk over a 5-day period.



Expert Alterations
 CUSTOM SEWING
 Call Theresa
 229-1404

PERSONAL NOTES.....
 Just Married: Ken Ohashi and Nancy Cooke, 6524 75th Street, honeymooning in Greece!
 Farewell to Becky and Dan Costello who have

NO JOB TOO SMALL
 OR TOO LARGE



CONTRACTOR 320-5623

**THE VILLAGE NEWS
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moved away from their house at 6514 75th St. Dan has been a community leader in fighting excessive aircraft noise. Welcome to Mary Gordon who is now living at that address.

CLASSIFIED 50¢/line

If anyone has flowers or plants that you're throwing out, I would be happy to have them for my yard. Barbara Martin. 229-3482.

+ + + + +

NEEDED: Home care, light housekeeping, 5 days a week, 8:30 am - 6:30 pm or 2 pm - 6 pm. 229-0945.

+ + + + +

(Village News classified ads bring results! Send them to the News at P.O. Box 164, Cabin John, Md. 20818. The rate is 50¢ per line.)

+ + + + +

PART-TIME, experienced and mature secretary needs employment. Glen Echo area. Call 229-0945.

+ + + + +

JOB WANTED: 9-year old boy will take care of dogs, cats or fish while you're away. Alex, 229-7394.

+ + + + +

BABYSITTING, leafraking, etc. Call Mike Luchs, 320-3401.

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION SPONSORS CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for county office in the November 2 election will be presented at a Candidates Forum on Thursday, October 28, jointly sponsored by the Cabin John, Glen Echo, Carderock and other area civic associations. The forum will take the place of the regular October Citizens Association meeting.

Issues important to Cabin John, such as road improvement, zoning, safety and recreational facilities, will be discussed by candidates at the forum which will take place at Somerset Elementary School, 5811 Warwick Place. Take River Road towards town, then left on Dorset Avenue, and then left on Warwick. The meeting will start at 8 pm.

(Another forum, for candidates for state office, will be held on Sunday, October 24, from 4 to 6 pm, at the Glen Echo Town Hall.) By Linda Billings

VILLAGE NEWS
P.O. BOX 164
CABIN JOHN,
MARYLAND 20731

RENOVATED BANNOCKBURN CLUBHOUSE AVAILABLE

The Bannockburn "Clubhouse", maintained by Bannockburn residents as a small-scale community center, has just been renovated. The building, located at 6314 Bannockburn Drive, is now back in full operation, and Bannockburn would like to invite Cabin John residents to share in its use.

Bannockburners typically rent the building for exercise classes, discussion groups, dance practices, parties and even weddings. The building is not elaborate -- but neither are the fees. For information call Carol Kimbrough, 229-8287, evenings.

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