

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 19, Number 6 **SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND**

February 1986

## MEMORIAL PLANNED

### TO LINDA BILLINGS

The Cabin John Citizens Association is sponsoring a memorial to Linda Billings. Linda will long be remembered for her cheerful, generous attitude, the countless hours she donated to community activities such as the Crab Feast, and her commitment to preserving the natural environment of Cabin John.

The Association is planning to plant several trees, flowering bushes, or perennial flowers in Linda's memory. Locations suggested for planting have included the entrance to the Union Arch Bridge or the site of the new recreation center. Mark Willcher has offered to purchase plantings at nursery costs.

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send a check payable to the Cabin John Citizens Association, P.O. Box 31, Cabin John 20818, marking the check "For the Linda Billings Fund". In next month's Village News we'll report on how much money was collected and how plans have progressed. If you have questions or suggestions, please call me at 229-6479.

-- Susan Vogt

## MONEY MATTERS CONFRONT CITIZENS ASSOCIATION...

The next meeting of the Cabin John Citizens Association will take place at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, at the Clara Barton School. Among the items on the agenda are recommendations of the Executive Committee on several financial matters:

-- a proposed increase in dues, effective September 1986, to \$10 for family membership and \$7 for individual membership.

-- a proposed increase in the contribution of the Association in support of the Village News from the current \$40 a month to \$100 a month (the News costs about \$200 a month to produce and mail), or \$1000 for the ten issues per year.

-- authorization to contract for preparing the final copy for the 1986 Cabin John Directory. Canvassers have now collected all the information and the material is ready for typing. It is hoped that a volunteer (or volunteers) can be found to word process 700 name-address-phone entries and 16 pages of community information. If you can offer your services, please call Barbara Martin at 229-3482. (Also if you have or can take any photographs of Cabin John for the Directory, please call Cherry Doyle at 320-4171)

All Cabin John residents are welcome at the membership meeting on the 25th. Please come and express your views.

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## NEWS OF THE COMMUNITY..

...Bethesda HELP has sent a letter of thanks to the community for the contributions of food and money collected at the annual Cabin John holiday party last December.

...A program to aid victims of last November's devastating floods in West Virginia, originated by VFW Post #2562, is still going strong, according to Danny Harris, of Caraway Street, who is handling pick-ups of donated goods. Harris reports that furniture, kitchenware, building materials, plumbing supplies (but not clothing) are still badly needed. Call him at 229-7982 to arrange for a pick-up of your donation.

...George Lichtblau, Citizens Association treasurer, reports that as of January 29 there were 83 single memberships and 245 family memberships paid up for 1985-86.

...If you want to advertise in the forthcoming Cabin John Directory, please call Judie Mopsik at 320-2111. Camera-ready copy is needed by March 15. The page size is 5½ by 8½ and rates are \$150 for a full page, \$90 for a half page, \$50 for a quarter page, and \$30 for an eighth page.



## INTRODUCING YOUR NEIGHBORS.....

By Judy Bekelman


Cabin John has become a center for art and artists of growing reputation in the Washington area. The community is home to sculptors, painters, weavers, and carvers whose art graces galleries and museums as well as homes and commercial buildings. Their talents emerge on canvas, wood, stone, clay, fiber, stained glass, paper, and entire rooms. Because of the large number of artists in our community and the special nature of their work, the Village News will devote a series of articles to them beginning with this issue.

After his one-man show of paintings at the Middendorf Gallery last fall, Tom Green, Tom+linsin Avenue, was described by the Washington Times as "a matruue artists of formidable talent and singularly impressive vision" and the Washington Post's Paul Richard wrote that Green was "painting pictures worth a thousand words." Tom uses acrylics in large paintings that depict "the human condition approached from a surrealist point of view." The works have both drama and abstraction with flat images outlined in black and with bold primary colors. One reviewer described them as filled with symbols and with a touch of the late Paul Klee while another termed them "mysterious" with clues to a story. Although his works have an enigmatic quality, they leave a strong visual impact that is, as one reviewer wrote, "hard to shake and slow to fade". Tom, who teaches at the Corcoran School of Art, has had numerous shows and been represented in several Washington galleries.

Maxine Cable, Buxton Terrace, is known for the art form of assemblage and installation in which objects are assembled and glued in different ways into a display that can create or fill an entire room. A founder of Gallery 10 at 1519 Connecticut Avenue, Maxine has exhibited in the Washington area for nearly 20 years. One of her largest assemblages, "Persian Garden," which opened at Gallery 10 last fall is now on display in Phoenix, Arizona. This room-size sculpture and assemblage includes the scent of roses as well as the sound of a fountain and the textures of silk and velvet to create a harem garden. Among the jewels, rugs and pillows are menacing sculptures of snakes and lizards suggesting the contradictions of such a garden in the lives of the women who inhabited them. The Washington Times review last September called her work "original and absorbing" and wrote that it "addresses issues of scope and depth with elegance."

James Hilleary, Osage Lane, is a painter, an architect, and a jazz pianist. Called a "colorist of formidable ability" by the Washington Times last December, Jim paints large room-size abstracts in diffuse, almost liquid colors. A well-known painter of the Gene Davis school of color artists, he has worked his art beyond the hard edges and stripes of earlier years to soft, sweeping, multi-layered pigments which change tonality in different light. He works and reworks his paintings through a series of drawings and canvasses. "Each work grows out of what went before," he says, as he strives to "express an emotion, a mood, a feeling." Although many of his paintings are reminiscent of French impressionists, the movement and strength of his colors are his alone, created in part by painting on a wet canvas. He has been represented in Washington by the Henri Gallery and Gallery 10 among others and in New York by the A.M.Sachs Gallery. In addition to his painting, he is currently designing large commercial buildings in the Annapolis area.

Constance Bergfors' wood sculptures are currently on exhibit at the Plum Gallery through the end of February. The show includes her nearly five-foot tall "Two Generations" and almost eight-foot "Single Twist" in addition to smaller carvings. The walnut sculptures are remarkable for their grace and use of space. Connie sees her work as a metaphor for how we see and understand, in fragments and bits and pieces. Her sculptures frequently represent "delicate relationships that are easily broken," says Connie who turned to stone and wood sculpture after many years as a painter. Connie, who lives on 81st St. with husband Andy Rice, was trained both at the Corcoran Art School and the Academia in Rome, Italy. A quality of African arts resonates in her work perhaps in part because she lived in Africa for three years. Also a founding member of Gallery 10, Connie has taught art in the area and is a member of the Washington Sculptors Group.



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## NEWS FROM NEAR-BY.....

...Trav's Inn in Glen Echo has been sold and the new owners are re-modelling it, according to The Echo, the town's newspaper. It will re-open probably in April with a "totally different look" as a family restaurant, says Alex Stylos, the manager hired by the Harvey Construction Company which bought the business. Trav's has been a tavern since 1933.

...Bannockburn Cooperative Nursery School announces an open house on Saturday, March 15, and is accepting applications for 2-to-4-year old enrollments for the 1986-87 year. For information, call Cathy McInturff, 229-5108.

...The Potomac Valley League is concerned about a proposed town house development at MacArthur and Sangamore. It would require a text amendment to the Bethesda/Chevy Chase Master Plan which could affect other locations all along the river.

## APPLAUSE FOR SUSAN GELB!

For seven years Susan Gelb has handled the business side of the Village News. It has been an incredible performance. Now Clare Amoruso has taken over as Treasurer and Reed Martin as Circulation Manager. Welcome to them -- and enormous thanks to Susan.

Barbara Martin's ever-popular "The People of Cabin John" will re-appear in the next issue.

**THE VILLAGE NEWS**

is published monthly except in summer. Our address is P.O. Box 164, Cabin John 20818. Free to all Cabin John residents; \$5 a year for all others.

Volunteer staff for this issue: Clare Amoruso, Cherry Doyle, Reed Martin, Fred Mopsik, Andy Rice, and the mailing crew!

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WANTED: LARGE ROOM or small apt. with private entrance for jeweler's studio in Cabin John or nearby. Call Steve (275-8289) or Gail (965-6066) weekdays. \* \* \* \*

HOUSE OR LOT wanted in Cabin John. Call John, 320-3562. \* \* \* \*

RENTAL HOUSE available in Cabin John Gardens as of March 1. 20 Froude Circle. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. \$575 per month. Douglas Jimerson, Pres., Cabin John Gardens, Inc.

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WOULD ANYONE KNOW about childcare/playgroup in Cabin John/Bannockburn area for 16-month old boy 2½ hours in the morning from April 24 - June 18 1986? Against payment or exchange of services. Please contact Ihi Beckman, 229-1315. \* \* \* \*

SOUP, SALAD, and cherry pie dinner. Cabin John Methodist Church, Saturday, February 22, 5 - 7 pm. Adults \$3.00 Children (under 12) \$2.00. (Coming March 22, corned beef and cabbage dinner)

INTRODUCING YOUR NEIGHBORS.....

Coming in the March issue...absurdist humor in art, primitive painting, calligraphy, art photography, ceramic art, and stained glass work by Cabin John artists.

Village News  
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