

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 19, Number 7 *SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND*

March 1986

NEWS OF THE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION.....

...Safety on MacArthur Boulevard will be the special topic at the March 25 Citizens Association meeting at the Clara Barton School. John Thompson from the County's Traffic Engineering Department and Ralph Jordan of the Police Department will speak, and there will be discussion of such issues as potholes, condition of the bike path, inadequate crosswalks, illegally parked cars, dangers to children who are waiting for school busses, illegal turns at the entry to the Parkway, etc. Plans for a safety rally will also be presented.

...With a push from the Citizens Association, the County is now examining the possibility of combining funds, facilities and programs now planned for the new Recreation Center and the renovated Clara Barton School.

...Association membership dues have been raised for the first time in about 12 years. The new rates are \$7 for a single membership, and \$10 for a family membership, with a proviso that any resident who feels he cannot afford the standard dues may join by making any contribution. Although the CJCA cur-

Saturday, March 22 Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner at the Cabin John Methodist Church, 77th and MacArthur, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Adults, \$5.00, children (under 12) \$2.50.

Tuesday, March 25 Cabin John Citizens Association meeting, Clara Barton School, 8:00 p.m. Following business meeting, a special presentation on "Safety on MacArthur Boulevard"

Sunday, March 30 Bethesda Co-op free film series, 7:30 p.m. at the Co-op, featuring "Bringing Up Baby" with Cary Grant and Kathryn Hepburn

Wednesday, April 2 Clara Barton Center open house for its pre-kindergarten/kindergarten program. Parents interested in learning about program for 4 and 5 year olds welcome. 7:30 p.m. at the Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd.

Tuesday, April 8 Montgomery County "Senior-mobile", bringing information and services to elderly residents, visits the MacArthur Square shopping center from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

rently has about \$3860 in its account as a result of the recent door-to-door collection, another full canvass will not be made for four years, and a regular dues increase is needed to cover the Association's expanding activities.

...Will the purple martins come to Cabin John? The CJCA has approved an expenditure of up to \$50 to erect a purple martin "apartment" house on the playing field. Ray Kemp and George Petrides are chairing the project which will attract a flock of the beautiful, mosquito-eating bird.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR...

I want to thank the people of Cabin John who responded so generously to the appeal for materials to rebuild the flood-damaged towns of West Virginia. I have taken up 10 loads of food, clothes, appliances, building materials, etc. since the floods of last November.

There is still great need. We are still collecting donated items and volunteers are needed Northwood High School at West Virginia Flood Relief Headquarters. Or please call me at 229-7982 for pick-up.

Danny Harris
Caraway St.

COMMUNITY NEWS...

...Veena and Sushil Titus, who have been serving the Cabin John Methodist Church, will be returning to India in June, it has been announced. The Tituses became the parents of Sunil Mathews Titus on January 29 when he was born weighing 9 lbs., 12 oz.

...Look for changes at the Quick Food Shop at MacArthur and Tomlinson. Won Kyu Byun, a native of Korea, became the new owner on February 5. Mr. Byun says there will be changes in the store's operations, including the changing of its name to "Captain's Market".

...The Clara Barton Center is seeking substitute teachers. Also a swimming teacher is needed this summer from June 23 to August 22, about 4 hours a week. Applicants must have had some experience and a Life Saving Certificate. Call 320-4565 for further details.

...According to the March issue of the Glen Echo paper, The Echo, the planned \$750,000 renovation of Trav's tavern (to turn it into a family-style restaurant and carry-out) has been stalled because agreement has not been reached with the Town of Glen Echo to lease near-by town property for the parking lot required by the County. Negotiations are continuing.

INTRODUCING YOUR NEIGHBORS.....

Artists in Cabin John

By Judy Bekelman

Cabin John is home to art in many forms and many media. This article continues a series on the many artists who live in the community and the kind of creative work they do.

Beverly Donnenfeld, River Rock Terrace, will exhibit her art at the Foundry Gallery from April 23 to May 11 in a show titled "The New Melodrama: Passion and Humor." Beverly, who studied with the late Gene Davis at the Corcoran, uses mixed media in abstract and surrealist paintings that range from small pieces to a 7-foot-square work with iridescent colors. The vivid paintings depict the "melodrama that occurs at the distancing of emotions," says Beverly. They evoke both a quality of absurdist humor and pathos. Beverly received a Master's degree in art from American University and works out of a studio in the Adams Morgan area. In 1983, one of her pieces was called the "outstanding work" of a group show by the Washington Times. The exhibit at the Foundry will be her first major show.

Jeri Metz, Seven Locks Road, is a photographic portrait artist who hand-tints diffuse colors onto black and white portraits. She does individual and family portraits and currently works on commission. Although portrait photography is a current interest, Jeri "makes amazing drawings" according to a Washington Post review in 1982. All of her pencil or charcoal drawings are about people. Her meticulous graphite images of street people and bag ladies, particularly one showing a sleeping derelict on a marble pedestal in the style of one of Washington's many monuments, have been termed "powerful." Jeri has had two major shows at the Jane Haslem Gallery in Washington where she is represented. Her drawings of the homeless, the elderly, and the Vietnamese community are studies of social realism.

Claire Freeman, Persimmon Tree Road, discovered her artistic talent after her children had all grown and left home. Now gaining recognition for her primitive art, Claire won first prize last year in the Maryland Governor's Award for acrylic of a crabfest. Several of her pieces are on display at the Citizen's Bank in Potomac. Like other painters of primitives, she stresses family values, heritage and love of

(Continued on page 5)

The People of Cabin John

A VIEW FROM THE ISLANDS

By Barbara Martin

Whereas most of us think of the Virgin Islands as a tropical vacation paradise, Nancy and John Ogden, with their two children, have come from there to live on 78th Street in Cabin John for a 6-month "vacation".

For 14 years, the Ogdens have lived and worked on St. Croix, largest of the three U.S. Virgin Islands, where John is director of the Fairleigh Dickinson University West Indies Laboratory. Now on loan for half a year to the National Science Foundation, John spends his days reviewing proposals for the national marine laboratory competition and coordinating evaluations from over 500 reviewers. Nancy, also a biologist, is working on several projects of classifying marine algae, and goes to the Smithsonian Natural History Museum 4 days a week to use their marine botany lab.

It's quite a different life for the whole family from the one they led in St. Croix. "One big difference is the commuting," John explains. "The operation in St. Croix is all within the campus. I walk 50' from our house to the Lab. Here I spend 2 hours on Metro. But for the children it's just the opposite." On St. Croix, son Eric and daughter Lisa are picked up by a bus and driven to their school on the other end of the island, 20 miles away. "It's an hour and a half each way for them. Bannockburn and Pyle are just minutes away, a big improvement."

Eric, 13, and Lisa, 9, have never known any other home than the St. Croix Lab. This is the first winter they have ever experienced, with the exception of a visit to Nancy's parents in Washington state in 1978 where Eric played in the snow of Mt. Baker. Besides cold weather, what

has impressed the kids? "The shopping centers, the malls," Nancy responds. "There's nothing like that in the Islands. Also--the bad news--we had very little immunity to mainland bacteria and viruses, so they spent much of the first few weeks sick."

The Ogdens see their children's educational level as very similar to the schools here (their school in St. Croix is a private one), although the size is quite different--Eric has 26 eighth-grade classmates in St. Croix, 250 at Pyle. There is no gymnasium in St. Croix, but there are computer classes. "Culturally, the kids are about the same too. They have the rock music, the skateboards -- not really different, just on a smaller scale." One big difference is that at the lab compound there are no other children, and schoolmates are miles away. So brother and sister are each other's companions, and both have learned to develop their own resources creatively, without constant outside stimulation.

The West Indies Laboratory is a unique establishment. It coordinates research projects related to marine ecology, often funded by the National Science Foundation or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It also runs a teaching program for undergraduates in marine science who come for a semester, live in a dorm, and can transfer credits earned to their colleges. In addition, there are 2- and 3-week courses open to anyone who wants to experience an adventure-learning vacation. The 2-week summer courses are titled Coral Reef Natural History and Coral Reef Expedition. For part of the time participants live on a sailboat and -- by scuba -- explore underwater parks of the British Virgin Islands. It costs \$700 plus airfare, not a bad price for an off-beat vacation adventure. There is also a 3-week course every January, Introduction to Tropical Marine Biology. And the Lab is open to host visiting groups of any kind, usually for a 1-week to 10-day stay. Church groups, student groups, various organizations come to the Lab for an experience that is serious but fun. For a catalog and de-

scription of programs, write to West Indies Laboratory, Teague Bay, St. Croix, US Virgin Islands 00820.

Nancy is reassuring. "While it is not required, we will teach anyone to scuba-dive; it's a pleasurable thing to do." She recalls that she was nervous at first, but quickly lost her fears. She took several days of training and has been scuba-diving for years.

The Lab operated a submarine habitat, named the Hydrolab, for the past 7 years. It has very recently been moved from its St. Croix home and is being installed in the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, for an exhibit opening in April in the Sealife Hall. It weighs 10 tons and is the work-living area for scientists who are accepted to carry out underwater research projects. "You live 50' underwater for one week," John explains. "You can't go up, although you do go down -- on swimming excursions as deep as 150'. Sometimes your ears bother you a bit, because of the pressure changes from the waves above. And there's no bathroom; you just take a little trip outside." The Hydrolab is being replaced by a new modern facility which will be in operation by 1987.

Nancy and John arrived at their tropical island life by stages. "I was a country girl," Nancy says. "We had 6 acres north of Seattle where my father was a mink rancher." John was a small-town boy. "I grew up in Chatham, New Jersey. There were 200 students in my high school. I lived 20 miles from New York City and I probably went there five times in my life." Neither of the Ogdens were or are bright-lights people. They both studied biology for the pure love of science. Married in California, they worked in a laboratory environment -- John with insects, Nancy with bacteria. Wanting to get away from indoor work, John submitted a proposal to study fish in the tropics and as a result the Ogdens went to Panama working for the Smithsonian.

For a time they lived on the San Blas Islands off the Isthmus of Panama. From there they went to St. Croix which has been home since 1971.

John reflects: "It's a restricted life in a sense. There's a teaching staff of four, plus visiting faculty. We have up to 40 students at a time, and there are always the visiting groups. Running the Lab means running the whole compound, of course, and that means 24-hour-a-day responsibility for food, plumbing, health, emergencies, in addition to research and teaching. We don't interact much in the society of the island; our life is in the Lab."

A previous work assignment took the Ogdens to Belau in the Western Caroline Islands of Micronesia, near the Philippines. Within the next few years they would like to take another 6-month adventure, this time to a marine institute in Queensland on the northeastern coast of Australia close to the Great Barrier Reef. Do such exotic experiences and plans make Cabin John seem dull? "Oh no," Nancy says, "we love it here. I enjoy working at the Co-op; the natural foods are a treat. And being here in winter takes me back to my childhood. We're doing a lot of hiking on the canal." John is taking a series of photos from specific sites along the canal; the photos, spaced two weeks apart, will show the gradual change of seasons. "We don't have seasons in St. Croix." The Ogdens are impressed with the small-town quality of Cabin John, and are delighted to have found this community for their vacation home.

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(Continued from page 2)

country in her work. Slides of her paintings have recently been accepted into the permanent archives of National Museum of American Art.

Lisa McBriety, MacArthur Blvd., is a freelance artist and calligrapher who takes inspiration from old European manuscripts and medieval texts. She is currently working on a book of calligraphy letters of different alphabets and languages. Lisa works by commission for private firms as well as individuals. A sample of her calligraphy graces this article.

Hilda Eiber Hutchings, 79th Street, has begun a new enterprise in ceramic tile murals for homes and businesses. She paints designs and scenes on half-inch thick tiles which are ceramic glazed and fired before being set in entry halls, kitchens, or table tops. Each mural is a unique design, and Hilda, who has worked in oils and studied with area potters in the past, prefers her new "functional art" for the quality it brings to everyday living.

Myron Pauley, MacArthur Blvd., retired architect, creates leaded stained glass and class etchings for doorways and windows. He sandblasts stylized contemporary designs on clear or tinted glass to reflect the character or setting of a building. He etched liturgical scenes on stained glass windows above the choir area, baptistry, and altar of St. Bartholomews Church on River Road. Byron also works by commission.

Amy Wilson, 78th Street, is a weaver of large pictorial tapestries in the European styles as well as modern sculptured rugs. One of her rugs is on permanent display at the Textile Museum. Amy, who works by commission, apprenticed as a weaver in Germany. She spins her own thick wool yarn three-quarters of an inch in diameter and uses natural colors in her rugs. Some of her weaving has been purchased by libraries and banks.

NEW ADVERTISING RATES

The best way to reach the Cabin John community is to advertise in the Village News. Display ad rates for camera ready copy will be as follows starting in April:

Full page	\$60
Two-thirds page	45
Half-page	35
One-third page	25
One-sixth page	15
One-twelfth page	10

A one-page advertising insert can be included at a flat fee of \$50. The advertiser provides the inserts.



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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!

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Waterbed - Queen size, includes heater, 2 liners, frame and mattress. \$195. 229-1799.

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

* * * *
SWIM CLUB seeks Manager/Coach, Assistant, and life guards. Send resume to Bannockburn Swim Club, 6515 E. Halbert Rd., Bethesda, MD 20817, or phone 229-3274.

* * * *
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.

* * * *
SOFA/STUDIO BED for sale. Custom bolsters and covers. Excellent condition. \$85. Call 229-3274.

* * * *
WRITER, respon., refs., seeks apt. or small house to rent as of May or June. No pets, non-smoker, good tenant, neighbor. Call 540-0373.

* * * *
PIANO TEACHER: Highly qualified professional. Call 229-3274 for interview.

* * * *
YOGA NEAR YOU: AMAR STUDIO, 6504 80th St., Tel. 320-2065, Ileana DeGeyndt, director. This studio is an affiliate of the prestigious Himalayan Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy. Classes are ongoing, September through June. Each session is a mind, body and breath workshop, with everyone working at his or her own pace stretching and gaining flexibility through the release of tension and through relaxation rather than through exertion. Yoga, taught in this manner, leads us to understand the art of letting go. Ileana is a certified Yoga teacher with 16 years of experience. System of tickets: booklet of 10 for \$60. One ticket per class attended. By appointment: Multimethod relaxation therapeutic massage. \$25. One hour session.

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