

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 24, Number 7

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND

March 1991

## HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEETING

Many issues of community concern were discussed at the February 26 meeting of the Citizens Association:

- Garrett and Smith, owners of the MacArthur Square Shopping Center, are now seeking to build a smaller second building on the property; their first application having been turned down after strong community opposition. Paul Reuther, representing the Bethesda Co-op, said that the Co-op was prepared to sign a lease for space in the new building. It cannot expand in its present space (4200 square feet) and with sales growing at 5 to 10% a year, it will need 6700 square feet when its current lease expires on November 1, 1993.

- The reduction of traffic on MacArthur Boulevard, due to the closing of the Cabin John Gardens bridge over the Parkway for repairs, as well as the general economic recession, have caused the Captain's Market to put on the back burner its proposal to add a dry-cleaning plant on its property. An active citizens committee is keeping an eye on the situation.

- Contrary to rumor, the property now leased and occupied by the Wild Bird Center is not for sale. Jim Wilner, the property owner, gave this assurance to the meeting.

## COUNCILMEMBER KRAHNKE MEETS WITH CITIZEN ASSOCIATION LEADERS AND DEVELOPERS ON MACARTHUR SQUARE DEVELOPMENT

By Taffy Kingscott

A meeting was held on March 15 at the MacArthur Square Shopping Center between the division director of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection; a representative of the County Department of Transportation; Betty Ann Krahnke, who represents the Cabin John area on the County Council; Taffy Kingscott and Bob Wilkoff representing the Citizens Association; Jeri Metz, representing the contiguous landowners; and Garrett & Smith, the Center's owners.

The group was brought together by Mrs. Krahnke at the Citizens Association's request in an effort to provide to the County the broadest possible knowledge of all the issues involved in this site before the County makes final decisions regarding a building permit. The community is tremendously grateful to Mrs. Krahnke for her interest and guidance in this issue. Without her personal involvement, such a review would have been impossible to obtain.

(Continued on page 2)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CABIN JOHN...

§ For the second year, the Bethesda Co-op will be handing out free tree seedlings. The distribution will take place late in March or early in April. About 1000 white pine, sawtooth oak and tulip poplar seedlings, ranging in height from 18 inches to three feet, will be distributed, in cooperation with the Maryland State Forestry Service.

The Co-op sees the distribution as an educational means of dramatizing the role of trees in removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Carbon dioxide is the principal "greenhouse" gas responsible for global warming. In addition, trees around a house can significantly cut energy use by reducing the need for air

conditioning, and can cut heating costs in winter when they serve as a windbreak.

§ Mario Finelli, a real estate professional in Cabin John, reports that, according to figures compiled by the MCAR, there were 18 houses sold in Cabin John during 1990, with prices ranging from \$118,000 to \$750,000. Recent sales have included a new Victorian on Caraway Street at \$688,000; a 100-year-old Victorian on MacArthur Boulevard at \$340,000; a 40-year-old "Cape Cod" on Persimmon Tree at \$260,000, and another, 58 years old, on 81st Street at \$225,000; and a 47-year-old rambler on 79th Place at \$251,000.

§ New aerobic classes will soon be starting at the Clara Barton Community Center. A Monday/Wednesday morning

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 1)



**LANDSCAPING**  
*in harmony with your  
 taste & budget*

WASHINGTONIAN  
 AWARD WINNER

Unusual Design • Wood Decks  
 Brick & Stone Patios • R.R. Ties  
 Unique & Beautiful Plantings

**Mark Willcher  
 and Company**  
 320-2040




**LONG &  
 FOSTER®**  
 REALTORS®

*Let's Talk!*

**Eleanor Balaban**  
 229-7990

The Citizens Association presented its recommendations and the developers discussed their concerns. The most important points made by the CJCA were that 1) any building permitted must be consistent with current zoning regulations and purpose clause of C-1 zoning; no exceptions or variances should be granted; and 2) the required setback should be consistent with the substantial setbacks currently existing along Seven Locks Road; the minimum acceptable is 25 feet.

The outcome of the meeting was that the county asked us to work with the developers to find some reasonable middle ground. Both parties agreed to try this approach in an effort to avoid a lawsuit.

The issue will be discussed further at the upcoming Citizens Association meeting on Tuesday evening, March 26, at 8 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Center. Please come and express your views.

**CHIROPRACTIC WORKS!**

AUTO ACCIDENTS, WORK INJURIES

BACK & NECK PAIN


ARM & LEG PAIN

SCOLIOSIS & CHILDHOOD INJURIES

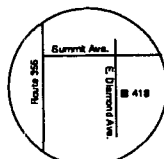
SPORTS INJURIES

24 HOUR EMERGENCY AVAILABILTY

COVERED BY MEDICARE & MOST INSURANCES





**Dr. Steven E. Clark**  
 "I promise you honest, effective, individualized treatment."



In Olde Towne Gaithersburg,  
 near Ben Franklin

Clark Chiropractic Center  
 Offers you a Free  
 Consultation & Exam  
 A \$90 value with this coupon.

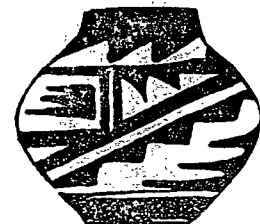
926-1500

**An Insider's Tour of  
 SANTA FE  
 TAOS**

**May 2nd - 6th**

229-7412



SPONSORED BY

COLLEGE OF SANTA FE

**Food for People • Not for Profit**  
 Worker Owned • Worker Managed

**Bethesda Co-op**


Teas, Herb & Spices • Health Care Products •  
 Fresh Produce • Vitamins • Imported & Domestic Cheeses •  
 Bulk Grains • Nuts • Dried Fruits • Foods for Macrobiotic &  
 Special Diets • Books on Cooking & Nutrition •  
 Alternative Dairy Products

**OPEN 9-8 Mon.-Sat., Sun. 11-6**  
 7945 MacArthur Blvd. • 320-2530



**Remodeling Therapy:** (n) The process of successfully augmenting your living space by engaging the services of an experienced contractor. (see Lightworks Construction, Inc., a Design/Build Firm), "The product is the process." (301)652-0515

**Be a Backyard Bird Expert**




for \$8.95 with  
**The Expert's Guide to Backyard Bird Feeding**  
 by Wild Bird Company's  
 Heidi Hughes

**Wild Bird**  
 C-O-M-P-A-N-Y  
 617 Hungerford Dr.  
 Rockville  
 (next to Hechinger's)  
 279-0079

Meet Heidi Hughes, the author of a shoppers guide to feeders, houses, seeds, poles, baths & baffles, at the Rockville Store

© 1991 AWBC, Inc.



**D. G. Liphart Builders, Inc.**  
 5513 Norbeck Road  
 Rockville, MD 20853  
 871-9112

**Creative Construction**  
 TO MEET YOUR EXPANDING & REMODELING NEEDS

- RESIDENTIAL & LIGHT COMMERCIAL
- CUSTOM DESIGN SERVICE
- ALL TYPES OF HOME IMPROVEMENTS

MHIC #9210 "Del" Serving Maryland

Landscape Design • Installation • Decks  
 Retaining Walls • Maintenance • Hauling • Gutters



**HUGHES**  
 LANDSCAPING

7810 WOODROW PLACE  
 CABIN JOHN, MARYLAND 20818

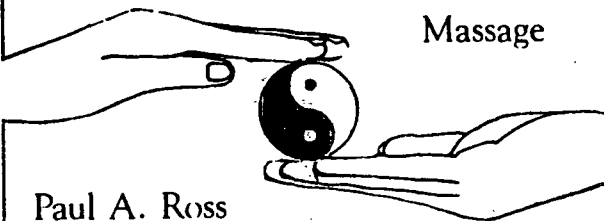
JOHN HUGHES  
 229-5111

**CABIN JOHN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

9:45 Sunday School:  
 Children through Adults

11:00 Worship (child care provided)  
 Fellowship time after worship service

Pastor J. David Roberts



Massage



Paul A. Ross  
 301-229-2453

**MARIO T. FINELLI**

**YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIALIST  
 A CABIN JOHN RESIDENT**

301-229-1308  
 301-652-0001

When it's time to buy or sell a home,  
 call a Professional!

The Prudential Preferred Properties  MCAR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CLUB 

The People of Cabin John**PETE HUNTER: A LIFETIME IN CABIN JOHN**

By Barbara Martin

Pete Hunter has lived in eight houses in his life and all of them are in or near Cabin John. When he was born in 1932, his family lived on a farm at Seven Locks and Bradley Boulevard. While he was still a baby, they moved to what is now 78th Street. "That was right next to where the Parkway is now; there was no Parkway then." Then they moved back to a farm on River Road, near where Whitman High School is today.

"My dad was a farmer--he raised corn, potatoes, and beans to sell--and he was a landscaper and that included cutting wood. I helped him as soon as I was old enough to hold one end of a crosscut saw. He used to cut, split, deliver, and carry the wood in --and all for \$12 a cord."

When they lived on River Road, on a 64-acre farm, young Pete had a produce stand from which he sold vegetables to people going to Burning Tree Country Club. "There were Senators and Congressmen, even some Presidents. I was probably about 8. Part of the farm backed on Bannockburn Country Club, and we would get golf balls out of the cow pasture. The players were scared to go after them, so we would sell them back at five cents a ball."

When his family moved again, this time to a house at 76th and Cabin Road, most of his eight brothers and two sisters (Pete's the baby) were grown and gone. Pete was 13. "I had been going to Clara Barton all along. Even when we were on River Road it was the only grade school nearby."

Junior high meant Leland. Pyle wasn't built yet. "Where Pyle is now, where the land dips down, we called Goat Hollow. An old guy lived there on 5 or 6 acres and raised goats."

While still in their teens, Pete and Jane got married, and Pete started on a work career that included Columbia Fuel Oil and Air Conditioning (on Bradley across from the present Safeway), Talbot's Ice Service (then on Wisconsin Avenue), and Bethesda Country Club where Pete took care of the 18-hole golf course and did general maintenance. The Hunters had been living with Pete's father but then moved into a house right on the grounds of the Country Club. When Pete changed jobs and went to work for an excavating contractor, they moved to the north side of 79th Street in a

house they rented from Lilly Stone, then to a house on the south side of 79th Street.

By then Pete and Jane had two sons and needed more room. Pete built their present home on Arden Road, mostly by himself, with some help from relatives. "I learned carpentry from my two oldest brothers and my grandpappy, and I had a cousin who was an electrician. The foundation, roof, there wasn't much I didn't do myself. It took me a year."

In 1953, Pete became a volunteer fireman, a step that would figure heavily in his life for the next 20 years. After 6 years as a volunteer, he became a professional fireman. "But I was still a volunteer too. So when I was off duty, I was often on duty, you might say. That's the story for a lot of men. You donate your time, materials, skills, if something needs to be done at the firehouse, for instance. For a while I was even chief but when the second Cabin John station was built in Potomac, it got to be too much. I retired in 1973."

"Retired" meant that he spent even more time working on the cars and trucks and other machines that had been a passion since boyhood. The garage that he built 15 years ago is his shop, and the driveway an extension of his shop. At any time, several vehicles and a couple of engines will be in the process of rejuvenation. There are people all around the county who wouldn't trust anybody but Pete to take care of their brakes or vehicle innards. I asked him when and how he became a mechanic. "From the time I was old enough to get under a Model T Ford. I learned from watching and helping my dad and brothers."

His sons have followed in their dad's footsteps. Robert, who lives in Poolesville, is a lieutenant in the fire department and in charge of the station there. Lee, an engineer at the Model Basin, is a volunteer fireman. Both of them are mechanically inclined and share Pete's enthusiasm for working on cars. Daughter Penny lives in Fairfax and works as a computer supervisor for AARP. All three are married, and Jane and Pete have three grandsons, two of whom live right around the corner.

The Hunters have been mainstays of the Cabin John Methodist Church for decades. All three offspring were baptized and went to Sunday School there. Whenever there's a party, a rummage sale, or a soup and salad supper, you'll find Jane managing things and Pete helping with whatever needs to be done.

Although he was born Reuben Hunter, he never remembers being called that. "All of us

(Continued from page 4)

had nicknames; I'm not sure where they came from. If anybody said 'Reuben' I wouldn't know who he was talking to."

Pete remembers that the Potomac River and the Canal were favorite spots when he was growing up. "We fished there, we swam. Up by Lock 10 was a favorite place. You could walk out 200-300 yards and just be up to your waist. We got great bass and perch. All the kids in Cabin John spent summers down by the water. It was still that way when my kids were little--clean and safe."

For a while Pete was big on deer hunting. "We hunted up by Seneca, sometimes we'd go as far as western Maryland. I got four deer in 6 years, and I figured I'd stop with that record."

Many of the Cabin John families that Pete has known in half a century of living here are still around, although most of his friends from early years have moved away. He talks vaguely of moving to Florida, but somehow you know he wouldn't do it. Neighbor Susan Gelb says his friends and neighbors wouldn't let him leave because whenever they need help they can depend on Pete to give it. This is a man whose local roots are strong and many. He belongs to this town.

(Continued from page 1)

group (9:30 to 10:30) will begin on April 8 and run for 10 weeks. On April 9 the first class of the Tuesday/Thursday evening (6:15 p.m.) series will meet and will run for 9 weeks. Details from the Center at 229-0010.

Hours for the Fitness Room at the Center are now set for 1:30 to 9:00 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 1:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Fridays; and 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. on Saturdays. There is a \$10 membership fee for six months' use of the room.

§ The Cabin John United Methodist Church has announced the following schedule of events:

- Mar. 28 Holy Thursday service at 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 30 Easter Egg Hunt for children at 1 p.m. (For reservations call 229-8233 by March 24)
- Mar. 31 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service, 5:30 a.m.
- April 17 Hymn Sing, 7:30 p.m.
- April 21 At the regular 11 a.m. worship service, Mrs. Electa Williams of the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries' Women's Division will speak on the United Nations and Missions. All are welcome at this special service.
- April 26 (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) and April 27 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) semi-annual rummage sale. To donate items, please call Jane Hunter at 229-3930 or Betty Peck at 831-3912.

## THE VILLAGE NEWS

News, subscriptions, and ads should be sent to The Village News, Box 164, Cabin John 20818. The next deadline is Saturday, April 13, at 10 a.m.



BARBARA ABEILLE  
MCBR Multi-Million Member  
Licensed in MD & DC

## MOVING?

You'll need an excellent, bilingual agent who knows the market, has experience, and who can respond quickly to your needs whether buying, selling or renting.

Please give me a call.

**BARBARA ABEILLE**

(H) 301-320-5391

(O) 202-362-5800

5028 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016

**P A R D O E**  
REAL ESTATE, INC.



**CLASSIFIED**

(Classified ads should be sent to P.O. Box 164, Cabin John 20818. Next deadline: 10 a.m., Saturday, April 13, 1991. The rate is 50¢ per line (figure 7 words to a line). Please send check payable to "Village News" with ad.)



**If bird feeding is your favorite hobby, we'll be your favorite store@.**



7687 MacArthur Blvd.  
Cabin John, Md.  
229-3141

Open 7 Days  
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

10% off with this ad. (Cash or check)

TYPING/WORD PROCESSING/FAX SERVICES: Call Jennifer, 229-9121. Experienced, good references.

BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT. Dewey Beach, Del. Ocean block. Sleeps 10. Washer, dryer, heat, AC. Large screened porch. Weekly rates vary by month. August is filled. Martin, 229-3482.

LOGS AVAILABLE FOR SPLITTING. If you haul it, you can have it. Evenings, 229-1623.

EXPERIENCED BABYSITTERS AVAILABLE. Call 229-0815.

ELLEN'S

**AEROBICS****PLUS!**

STARTS APRIL 8th!

CLARA BARTON COMMUNITY CENTER  
7425 MacArthur Boulevard  
Mon/Wed 9:30-10:30 a.m.

10 weeks (20 classes) - \$68.00  
BABYSITTING AVAILABLE (for a fee)

Call Montgomery County Rec. Dept. 217-6880 for registration info.  
For info regarding babysitting and other locations...Call:

Ellen 229-9161 or Sharon 340-2003

Village News  
P.O. Box 164  
Cabin John, Maryland 20818

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Cabin John, MD  
20818  
Permit 4210

Resident  
6517 80th Street  
Cabin John, MD 20818