

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 31 No. 2

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

September 1997

## NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Thanks to **Susan Roberts** and **Reed Martin** for buying and assembling the two benches now outside the Community Center. Money for the benches was given by the Citizens Association.

Another baby for Cabin John. **Tom and Kathleen Black**, together with big brother **Charlie**, last month welcomed **Liam Thomas**. The Blacks live on 75th Street.

**Pat and Laura Anderson** are new residents of 80th Street, with their children, **Ellen**, 8; **Wynne**, 6, **Cody**, 2. Pat has a video production company located in the Glen Echo shopping center. The Andersons moved here from Bannockburn.

**Chris and John Davison** and their four children had as their guest this summer, **Gavin McCaully**, a young Irish boy. Gavin, the fifth of eight children, spent 6 weeks with the Davisons as part of Project Children, an organization which for the past 20 years has been bringing 300-600 Protestant and Catholic kids each summer to the US from Northern Ireland. The Davisons also hosted a Japanese teenager for most of the summer. John runs Georgetown Youth Activities and Capitol Kids.

**Stuart Culbertson** died last month. He was a psychologist and teacher at Georgetown Medical School. His wife **Renee** and daughter **Caitlin** live on 77th Street.

**Grace Mazzi** of 81st Street died this summer. Grace had lived in Cabin John for 60 years and was surely one of the town's earliest residents. Her son **Paul** and his family also live on 81st Street.

**Eva Stolwein** and husband **Daniel Alper** have moved from the Gardens into the house on 78th Street that formerly belonged to the Reeves.

**Bill Roberts** was elected president of the Treatment and Learning Center's Board of Trustees. **Bill** and **Donna** live on 79th Place.

**Celeste Swedenberg** scared us last month, going into the hospital with what was at first thought to be a stroke. She now is home and feeling much better.

**Noriko Hoge** of Macarthur Boulevard was invited to show her artwork at Frederick County's Autumn Fest. Noriko's reputation as a potter is growing!

**Dane Trembath**, the town's nature boy, is working at Animal Hut until he leaves for Australia in March to attend college in his family's homeland. Of course, his major field will be zoology.

In Macarthur Park, four homes are for sale, those of the **Rhodes**, **Goodrich**, **Shields**, and **Jensen-Previn**.

A recent New York Times Home section featured an article by **Toby Thompson**. Toby wrote about his log cabin boyhood home on Riverside Drive and the gatehouse where he lives now.

**Bob Norris**, 76th Place has been named Executive Director of the Tuition Exchange, Inc., a national scholarship exchange program for institutions of higher education.

**Joseph Robert Norris**, son of **Lisa & Bob**, will celebrate his 2nd birthday October 4th.

*This column appears each month. If you have news about your family, your neighbors, or former Cabin John residents, please call Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482.*

## Citizens Association Meeting

Tuesday, September 23 at 7:30 at the Clara Barton Community Center

### ON THE AGENDA:

- 1) Presentation by C&O Canal Preservation Coalition on their efforts over the past several months to bring water back to the Canal and to focus attention on needed repairs in Brookmont/Cabin John area;
- 2) Summary of Crab Feast held September 6th;
- 3) Pending Montgomery County Council Legislation ZTA97019 - affecting homeowner's ability to construct additions/revisions;
- 4) Discussion of upcoming events/proposals.

## Looking Backward in Cabin John

Andrew E. Rice

### CABIN JOHN AND THE C & O CANAL

The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal has been a part of the life of Cabin John since shortly after its construction began in 1828, heading westward up the Potomac from Georgetown. Some of the workers who built the canal settled in the Cabin John area, which up to that time had been almost entirely an area of large farms.

(At almost the same moment, construction began on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, heading west from Baltimore. Nearly 100 years later, in 1924, when the last commercial canal boat disappeared from the canal, the railroad had won the competition between these two rival means of freight transportation.)

By 1850 the canal was in full operation along the 184.5 miles from Washington to Cumberland. Edith Martin Armstrong, in her "Brief History of Cabin John Park," gives an interesting account of what living by the side of the canal was like in those days:

"The canal was as fascinating as it was annoying . . . Many a night, residents of the neighborhood were awakened by a boatman warning the locktender of his approach. There was a bell system between the locks, but at night it often failed to arouse the locktender. Consequently a weird "Hoo wee" or a lusty "Hey lock" or a few notes or a tune on a horn broke the silence of the night. Lights from swinging lanterns were visible. Then there was an impatient yell at the mules as the water rushed to fill or empty the lock.

"On summer evenings many watched the boats locked through and marveled at the homey scenes that represented life on a canal boat. Often a mother rocked and sang to her baby, the wash hanging from a pulley line above the boat. Children romped about the boat tied to a rope and occasionally one hung over the side, crying lustily to be pulled back on deck. Sometimes the woman aboard handled the rudder, which taxed even a man's strength to keep the boat from hitting the bank. Usually the men drove the mules along the towpath, either walking beside them or riding on their backs. The again, a youngster or perhaps the woman aboard would take a turn. Two mules enjoyed stable life aboard the boat, while two, three or four trudged the towpath. "The boats were flat bottom, 97 feet long by 14 feet

wide and 6 feet deep, with a capacity of 125 tons. The stable was at the bow, the hayhouse amidship, and living quarters at the stern. Boats were generally painted white and decorated to suit the owner. Names of birds, flowers, stars or people would be across the stern.

"The boatmen were governed by a 60-page book of regulations, one being that the speed must not exceed 4 miles per hour. This was often violated. Old boatmen have told of racing as a pastime, with the result that mules were often killed and boats damaged."

For those who would like a colorful tale of life on the canal, there is no better source than the 1973 volume called "Hey-ey-ey, Lock." Written by Morris Fradin, then a long-time resident and unofficial historian of Cabin John, the book appeals to both children and adults and tells the story of a family trip up the canal. The daily life along the way, memorable sights, and exciting experiences give a vivid picture of the canal in its heyday,

(If you can't find the book at the library, give this columnist a call at 301-229-3503 and I shall be glad to lend you a copy.)

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Please cut out and send with check to  
CJCA, P.O. Box 31, Cabin John, MD 20818.

Check here \_\_\_\_\_ if you would like a free copy of the 1995 Cabin John Directory.

The VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly except in July and December and is sent free to every household in Cabin John. Others may subscribe for \$5 per year. Send news, advertisements, letters, and subscriptions to:

The Village News  
PO Box 164  
Cabin John, Maryland 20818

The next deadline is 10 AM  
Saturday October 18 for the issue  
mailing October 24.

People who make the Village News possible:

Barbara and Ger Quinn, Barbara  
and Reed Martin

Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice,  
Lorraine Minor and Barbara  
Martin.



Gavin McCaully, a visitor from Northern Ireland, is pictured surrounded by the Davison children. Gavin visited the Davison family for six weeks this summer.

**CABIN JOHN AMERICAN-  
CHINESE UM CHURCH**  
at 77th & MacArthur Boulevard

will hold a

**FLEA MARKET**

September 27th  
from 10am to 3pm.

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## Village News Welcomes the Competition

As many residents may have noticed, another monthly publication—not the *Village News*—has begun showing up uninvited in our mailboxes. A magazine called *Worth*, published by Capital Publishing Limited Partnership is mailed to all residences in Cabin John and to 249 other communities. The lucky recipient communities were chosen for their high degree of taste and sophistication. These just *happen* to be the *exact* same criteria for selection of the Village News subscription list. *Worth* also bases its circulation on average home price in the ZIP code, and Cabin John is among the 250 priciest towns in America. We are the *only* town to also make the presti-

geous Kar Kraft Magazine list, "Best Places to Find Restorable Junkers". The *Village News* wishes to alert readers that despite the similarities in appearance and editorial philosophy, *Worth* is not a supplement to, or a subsidiary of the *Village News*. Do not be confused. Coupons from *Worth* are *not valid* at most Cabin John merchants. Another sure way to tell if you are reading *Worth* or *The Village News*: Is the term "worth" used to denote assets of a financial nature, or to describe the focus of a dilemma (i.e. "I can't decide if it's *worth* it, Harv, whether the Econo-groove Retreads are *worth* it, or if it's *worth* trying to make it through the winter with the cord showin' like that.").



### ALPINE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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### The Glen Echo Baptist Church

Vassar Circle, Glen Echo, MD

Jesus Christ is our Lord, Saviour and God. He still performs miracles at the Glen Echo Baptist Church. A born again Fellowship. 229-4430.

**Sunday Morning:** Prayer 8:00, Family Sunday School 9:30, Worship and Praise, 11:00.  
 All are invited!!

**Sunday Evening:** 6:00 Why we believe the Jewish Bible, 7:00 Praise, Testimonies, Worship, Singing.

**Wednesday Evening:** 7:00 Prayer, Testimonies, Bible questions

**Friday Morning:** 10:00 Community prayer and Bible study

Collecting food and clothing for the homeless and needy.

Thanks to John Ryan for producing the August issue of the *Village News*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
CABIN JOHN VILLAGE NEWS**

September 1, 1996 to August 31, 1997

Beginning Checkbook Balance (9/1/96) \$351.70

**INCOME**

Display Advertising	\$4,504.95
Classified Advertising	371.25
Donations	1,200.50
Subscriptions	105.00
Checkbook adjustment (8/16/96)	2.19

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Total \$6,183.89

**EXPENSES**

Printing Expense	\$4,298.70
Mailing Expenses:	
Monthly Mailing	971.17
Bulkrate Fee	85.00
Labels	204.75
P.O. Box Rental	40.00
Postage	32.00
House Tour Flyers	47.25
Bank Fees	20.00

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Total \$5,698.87

TOTAL OF INCOME MINUS EXPENSES \$485.02

ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE (8/31/97) \$836.72

Submitted by:  
Lorraine Minor  
Business Manager, CJVN  
10 September 1997

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**DISCOVER THE OCEAN** during "off season". Enjoy the uninhabited beaches and bird migrations. Partake of excellent fishing and wildlife adventures. Treat yourself to a weekend or week in a lovely Chincoteague home. Specifically furnished to period, this lovely fisherman's cottage sleeps 4. Children need supervision. Weekend Rates - Fri & Sat or Sat & Sun \$120. Weekly rates \$310. Very flexible check-in and check-out times. For more info. call Gale or Tonette Beckwith. 301-229-8650.

**AFTER-SCHOOL CARE NEEDED** for two boys, eight and nine. Hours 4:00 - 8:00 pm, Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting in October. Perfect job for responsible High School or College person who is looking for part-time work. Duties include walking or driving to local soccer practice, feeding dinner, and helping with homework. Pay is competitive and negotiable. Please call Juliet 301-229-2390.

**SALE:** Excellent condition: twin mattress and box spring, metal frame - \$75; queen sleep sofa, beige. 301-320-3840.

**LEAF MULCHER**, practically new, double SLEEPER SOFA, used very little. Call after six. 301-229-3357.

**HOUSE DESIRED.** Two responsible, non-smoking, professional women (current Bannockburn residents) looking to rent 2+ bedroom house beginning Dec/Jan long-term situation preferred. Please call Julie 301 320 9169.

**FOR SALE:** Twin Bed, solid maple with under-bed storage and bookshelf/head storage, includes mattress in good condition, \$150. 301 229 8030

To place an ad in the Village News classifieds send us your ad before the first Saturday of the month The cost is 25 cents per word.

If you have questions, call Lorraine Minor at 301 229 3515

**Cabin John American-Chinese  
United Methodist Church**

7703 MacArthur Boulevard

Mixed cultural and traditional backgrounds, Chinese and American, united in worshipping and serving God together. Residents of Cabin John and surrounding areas: you are warmly invited to share with us every Sunday morning. Come and experience the Blessings!!! Come and taste a piece of Heaven!!!

Chinese service 11:00 AM

English service 9:30 AM

Any questions, please call Rev. Ang @ 301 229 8233



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### MUSIC LESSONS

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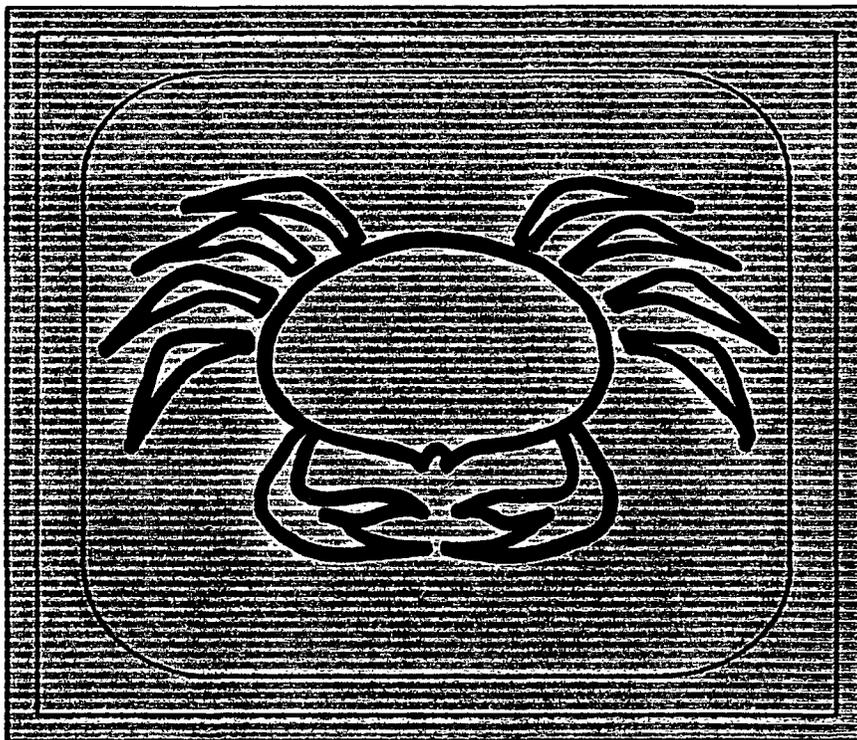
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# CRAB FEAST BIKE PARADE

Saturday, September 6, 1997  
1:30-2:00PM

PRIZES!

Meet at the corner of  
79th Street and MacArthur.  
Travel to Clara Barton School.

FUN!

Decorate your bikes, strollers,  
wagons, scooters, roller blades

Be There!



Info (301)229-8606