

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 31 No. 10

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

July 1998

NEIGHBORLY NEWS June/July 1998

by Barbara Martin

Ellen Loeb is moving to Florence, Italy, to be with her daughter and family. Ellen has lived in Cabin John for many decades, during which she played the cello in a neighborhood string quartet. She has been spending part of every year in Italy and now is making it her permanent home.

A baby girl, **Margaret Susan Duffy**, was born April 20 to Deborah and Rich Duffy. She joins siblings Hannah, 6; Joe, 4; and Caroline, 2. Rich works for EPA. The Duffys live in the Gardens.

In Martinsburg, West Virginia **Thelma Leyking Reed Morgan** has died. For many years Thelma lived on 81st Street, south of MacArthur. Thelma was close to 90. Her two daughters are Lois and Norma; Norma lives now in Summit Point West Virginia.

Blythe Leatherman won second prize in WSSC's poster contest. The subject of the contest was water conservation, and students from all over the Washington metro area competed. For her prize, Blythe received a US Savings Bond.

Kathy Andrie's three-dimensional works are on display at the Glen Echo Park Gallery. These are representations of the house where she lives on MacArthur. Hours are 12-5, Tuesday through Saturday. The show continues through June 28. Kathy's exhibit is presented in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Parks and History Association.

Olga Long has lived in her MacArthur Boulevard home for most of her life. On June 20, Olga will be 88 years young. Her beautiful garden shows where she spends much of her time.

Master stone-crafter **Ray Kemp** has built a mailbox entirely from stone—including the door, which must weigh 10 pounds. This is the latest artistic creation in Ray's ongoing beautification of his Arden Road yard.

Orange daylilies and black-eyed Susans are yours free. Call me at 301-229-3482.

If you have news of your family, neighbors, or former Cabin John residents, please call Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482. We want to know about new neighbors, births, deaths, weddings, honors, graduations, etc.

July 16th 8 p.m. Summer Lecture - "Beyond Cabin John"

Dr. Harold Williams, Dir. of the Montgomery College Planetarium, will give a 1-hour presentation at 8:00 p.m. July 16th at the Clara Barton Community Center on "The Wonders of the Universe." The Center's large room will be darkened and 80 of the most beautiful astronomical objects will be presented with explanations as to their meanings and significance. CJCA will provide refreshments before and after Dr. Williams' presentation. There will also be astronomy-related crafts for kids starting at 7:30 p.m. So come early with your children.

CHICKEN AND CRAB FEAST UPDATE Sept. 12th 2-6 pm

This year's 'Chicken and Crab Feast' will be held on Saturday, September 12 from 2 - 6pm and we are planning for a successful event. We have many activities planned including a bike parade, children's entertainment, and - new this year - an art show featuring the works of local artists.

The Crab Feast is our biggest community event of the year. It is a great way to meet neighbors, eat good food, raise money for the Citizen's Association and have fun! But..... it takes alot of work. We need your help. You can volunteer as much or as little time as you would like - either before, during, or after the feast. We will gladly welcome your assistance.

Cabin John is such a unique and special community. Come be a part of it by volunteering at the Crab Feast.

To find out more, please call Lori Rieckelman at 301-320-6299 or Nicky Wright at 301-2298258

Reminder - Palisades Pool Open to Cabin John Residents

Cabin John residents are admitted free of charge to the Palisades Pool on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1pm. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Children 8-14 who will be left by themselves will be asked to satisfy the swim test - swimming one length of the pool and treading water for one minute. Please sign in at the pool - proof of residency (such as being listed in the Cabin John Community Directory, an ID with address, or mail received at a Cabin John address) may be required. The Palisades Pool (229-9879) is located off Seven Locks Road between Carver Road and Cyprus Grove Lane.

Second story of the Clara Barton Elementary School. Is there another chapter we can write?

by Barbara Kloc, MFA

The second floor of this building has been vacant for some time, as it was designated unsafe. However, Montgomery County is about to have an architectural and engineering study done which would seek to determine costs of bringing the space up to code. This study is targeted to be completed by July 1999.


It is my understanding that there has been active community interest in this space in the past - and that there are consistent inquiries made to the Recreation Dept. from area residents regarding its potential for use.

There has been discussion amongst some neighbors I've become acquainted with about the possibility of this space providing for a neighborhood "artist in residence" program with studio/work space for local area artists, writers, etc. set up in a collective manner. Such a group would collaborate and coordinate with other local groups serving children, youth, seniors towards offering open studio and educational endeavors as well as work with special community events.

The offices of the Recreation Dept. and Betty Kranke, our Montgomery County Council Representative, have been contacted for update information and continued coordination around this issue.

Persons interested in this proposal, or with additional information, comment, or ideas, please call me at (301)320-0537. An update will be presented at a future meeting of the Cabin John Citizens Association.

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Retaining Walls • Maintenance • Hauling • Gutters




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OUR REGION.ORG A guide to clubs, groups and causes in and around Cabin John by Heidi Brown Lewis

Growing up near the C&O Canal in Williamsport Thomas Perry remembers playing and exploring along the tow path as a boy. Now a grandfather, he still walks it everyday, often bringing one of his grandchildren along.

He's staying in shape because as President of the C&O Canal Association, he wants to be ready for the '1999 Through Hike' celebrating the 45th anniversary of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas' 185-mile walk that ultimately saved the canal from being paved for a highway.

"I stress to everyone we are an organization with the full length of the canal in mind," says Mr. Perry. "We're pushing towards the restoration of the Monocacy Aqueduct and have raised over \$90,000 for that project."

The association sponsors a variety of trips, including a canoe trip through the Paw Paw Bends (near Cumberland) in September, a 5-day through bike trip in October, the Heritage Hike at the end of October, and a carol sing at the Great Falls Tavern in December.

It also publishes books and guides, including an updated edition of "A Guide To Food & Lodging Along the C & O Canal" to be issued fall '98.

Two of the most popular volunteer programs are the Level Walkers who patrol their assigned "level" at least 4 times yearly; and the VIPs (Volunteers in Parks) who work the first Saturday of each month with the National Park Service to improve the park.

C&O Canal Association
PO Box 366
Glen Echo, MD 20812-0366
yearly dues: \$15 single, \$20 family

website: www.omcdesigns.com/canal/

Quarterly Newsletter gives notices of pending legislation affecting the canal, schedules of hikes and volunteer work parties, book reviews and features about activities in canal towns (both past and present).

MacArthur MotoPhoto
\$4.00 Off Processing

35mm Color Print Film \$5.00 off for Club Members
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CJCA Minutes May 26, 1998

1. Election of officers - the following officers were elected for the school year 98-99: Burr Gray - President, Susan Roberts - Vice President, Bruce Wilmarth - Treasurer, Gary Barahard - Secretary.

2. A motion was passed to provide up to \$750 for the CJCA proposal to beautify the area around HVAC unit at the Clara Barton Community Center. (The CJCA proposal was subsequently approved by Montgomery County who has agreed to provide up to \$160 in matching funds. Helen Daniel and John Hughes will lead an effort over the summer to put up some latticework around the HVAC, plant a shade tree around the benches, and put in a flower bed along the road.

3. Sewer along the Canal - Richard Fox, Director of the Potomac Conservancy, led a presentation of their recent efforts to obtain information to build support to eliminate the smell from the so-called Dulles Interceptor sewer that follows the Canal down to the Blue Plains sewer plant south of D.C. The odor is particularly bad in the summer. The Conservancy is asking for support from the Canal communities in this effort and would like people who have experienced this unpleasant odor to write a letter detailing the negative impacts from the odor. Please send any letters to Mr. Fox, The Potomac Conservancy, 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003 (tel# 703-642-9880). This is part of the effort to convince the D.C. government, who has responsibility for maintenance of the sewer, that they need to do something. The Conservancy has also enlisted the support of the National Park Service in this effort. A motion was passed subsequent to the discussion to consider at the CJCA September meeting a donation of \$300 to the Conservancy to support this project. A motion was also passed to contact Laffy Heflin, a Cabin John resident and one of the original engineers on the project, for information and advice on the matter.

4. Zoning variance requested for 7814 MacArthur Blvd. - Following presentations concerning the pros and cons of the requested variance, which would have made the existing home on the property an "accessory" structure, the CJCA voted to send a letter to the Montgomery County Board of Appeals in opposition to the request. CJCA has traditionally supported the strict application of the zoning requirements, except in the possible instance where no neighboring party is adversely affected. In this case, almost all of the neighbors that came to the meeting were opposed to the request for a variance.

5. Future use of second floor of Clara Barton Community Center. The County apparently intends to perform an engineering/architectural review of the second floor during the next year in order to determine possible future uses. CJCA plans to form a committee to provide the County with input on what uses the local community would like to see there.

**CABIN JOHN
ART SHOW
CALL FOR ENTRIES**

A non-juried show to be held September 12 at the Cabin John Crab Feast.

Anyone, any age, may enter to show up to two works of art.

Two-dimensional work may be no larger than 30"x40", three-dimensional work is limited to 30" in all dimensions and all 2-

dimensional artwork must be framed. **Look for more information and registration forms in the next newsletter, at the Market on the Boulevard or the Bethesda Coop.**

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**REED MARTIN
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Award-winning musician, Cabin John's Reed Martin, has released a CD. He plays 37 of his favorite traditional 5-string banjo tunes. Also included is an 18-page booklet of descriptive notes. \$15. Delivered Call Reed at 301-229-3482

SKIP BROWN: ADVENTURE TO THE MAX

by Barbara Martin

Skip Brown grew up on the water. The family home in Hampton, Virginia, was at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay; the backyard ended in a dock. He was born to a sailing tradition. Nearby was a community of watermen. His father was a well-known racing sailor of large boats. When Skip was 6, he and his family sailed "from our back yard to the New York World's Fair."

"Hampton was a nice place to grow up. Like their parents, young people were focused on boating. That was our recreation all through high school."

Skip's grandfather had, in Newport News, one of the first Coca-Cola bottling franchises in the country, and Skip's dad followed into the business. But Skip had other ideas for his future. "I played the saxophone in a band and I thought I wanted to be a professional musician. At the same time, I was taking photos, even getting paid for them. When I was a high school senior, I had a job teaching beginning photography for a local arts organization."

Photography was an interest from a very early age. "My uncle, Dean Brown, was a famous photographer in New York. When I was just a kid, my aunt showed me and my cousin how to develop film. I was influenced by the famous nature photographers Ansel Adams and Edward Weston."

Skip entered a small liberal arts college in New Hampshire, as a music major. "The college had a good enough music department, and I knew New Hampshire because I had spent summers there working on my uncle's farm. But mainly I was ready to be free and independent and to get far from home."

For his junior and senior year, Skip transferred to the University of Maryland. He still took music courses, but switched his major to journalism, and also took classes in art, graphic design, and film making.

When he graduated, he worked as a part-time photographer for the University's Marine Research unit, "I was with the Sea Grant program and spent a lot of time on boats on the Chesapeake Bay with scientists and researchers."

He was playing regularly in a jazz ensemble. "In the two years I was with the Marine Research program and playing with the ensemble, I had more fun and learned more than when I was in school."

Skip already had been doing some free-lance photography and in 1981 decided to take the plunge and be his own boss. "I began to get magazine assignments from US News, the Washingtonian, and others. One of the news wire services used me to photograph politicians and diplomats; that took me to the White House, a few times."

Gradually Skip got more and better work; his field of subjects expanded so that he was doing landscapes, food displays, advertising posters, CEO portraits for trade magazines. He has a great deal of freedom. "Usually the client gives me a general assignment and I choose what to shoot."

He doesn't do his own developing any more. "The labs have technical equipment that does an excellent job. I take all my photos in color, and if a publication wants to, they have the technology to change to black and white."

Somewhere along the line, he made a painful choice. "I realized I couldn't give my all to photography and music at the same time. I believed I could become a better and more successful photographer than musician. I used to practice every day, but I stopped playing, except for my own pleasure. Still, now and then I play my saxophone or piano or keyboard. I'll always be a jazz fan and historian."

In the last 10 years, he has been able to steer his work into the area he loves best—outdoor photography, especially action sports. These assignments are usually for outdoor magazines or for sports equipment ads. He does work for the three leading kayak manufacturers and for many national magazines, among them Men's Journal, Preservation, Sail, and National Geographic Traveler. "I've done 40 to 50 covers." Right now he's working on a river in northeastern North Carolina, on assignment from Audubon Magazine.

cont. next page



ALPINE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Full Service Animal Hospital
Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 7:00 pm
Sat 8:00 am - 3 pm

7732 MacArthur Boulevard
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301/229-2400

cont. from pg 4

But Skip doesn't only take pictures of outdoor adventure; he participates in it in a big way. He is an expert at whitewater kayaking, wind-surfing, snow-boarding, sailing, mountain biking, hang gliding—all of which take a high degree of skill and a willingness to take risks. These pursuits have taken him all over the United States and to many parts of the world including Turkey, East Africa, Nepal, and Chile. Sometimes he is able to combine a photo assignment with a chance to enjoy a favorite sport.

In his kayak, he regularly runs Great Falls, a class V site. This month he competed in the annual Potomac Whitewater Festival and won first place in the Masters division. "When I run the Falls, I often have my camera along."

For 20 years Skip has lived in the Washington area. In 1991, he moved to Cabin John, first renting a house on 75th Street, then buying the house where he now lives on Arden Road, a house built in the late 20's. "I wanted to be out near the River, somewhere I could run, and be in a small town again."

Skip shares the house with Jennifer Jordan, a nurse at Georgetown University Hospital. They are already harvesting dinners from their vegetable garden, lettuce, green beans, zucchini, cauliflower. Jennifer works a flex-time schedule and is able to go with Skip on his shorter trips. Appropriately, the two met kayaking.

Other residents of the house are Jackson the cat and Skip's dog, Boo, a brown hound dog/German Shepherd. Boo has often been featured in Skip's photos, and has appeared in many magazines, sometimes as "cover dog."

Skip's mother lives in the Richmond area, not far from water. One brother, Rob Brown, is a successful jazz saxophone player in New York. Another brother lives in their childhood Hampton home. His sister lives on Long Island.

When the new Potomac Outdoors on MacArthur opens, custom-color prints of Skip's photos will be on display.

Skip is one of those rare individuals who makes his living doing what he loves most, and pursuing his many sports with high courage and ability. He is a happy man.



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Vassar Circle, Glen Echo, MD

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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.

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 Friday August 14 for the issue mailing August 21.

People who make the Village News possible:

Barbara and Ger Quinn, Barbara and Reed Martin, Heidi Lewis.

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

Dear Editor

Re: Bethesda Co-op request for a caution traffic light at Seven Locks and MacArthur

The Bethesda Co-op's push for a specific solution to the danger it sees at this intersection is premature. Surely the county's traffic experts will need to investigate the problem before deciding what, if any, corrective action is best to take. A speed hump at the bottom of Seven Locks Road, for example, might be far more effective in slowing traffic than the flashing light that the co-op proposes. Stop signs on MacArthur, where it intersects with Seven Locks, are another possibility.

Although we personally enjoy having the co-op nearby, it isn't just a local store. The co-op serves the metropolitan area and is actively seeking to enlarge its customer base. But Cabin John is residential and borders national parkland and the Potomac River. It takes a careful balancing act to accommodate traffic yet protect the natural setting.

Since the interests of the co-op and Cabin John are not necessarily the same, we may not favor the same solutions to traffic problems. We trust that the co-op will not attempt to speak for Cabin John when it petitions the county. We hope, instead, to find a solution that serves our mutual interest in safety-one that we can all sign on to.

Sincerely,

Marie and Steve France
Cabin John, MD

At The Clara Barton Community Center

- * Programs offered this summer include karate, Senior Club Day, Senior Exercise, Arts Day Plus Camp, and a Teen Center.
- * "Drop In Bridge" welcomes newcomers of all ages. From beginner to advanced we have a table for you. Mon. 10am - 12.
- * Thanks to Reed Martin for repairing our park bench, which has been vandalized twice.
- * Recently a bike was left at the center. Give us a call with a description if you are missing yours.
- * Discount priced tickets to all regional theme parks are sold at the center. Call 301-229-0010 for more information on any of our programs.

Dear Editor

In the 1950's as Dulles Airport was being designed, the question arose of what to do with the sewage that would originate at Dulles and with that polluting the Potomac from Fairfax, Loudoun, Arlington, and Montgomery counties. After much study the choice of answers was finally put to President Eisenhower who picked the choice of a Dulles (Potomac) Interceptor, a sanitary (no storm-water) sewer system to run from Dulles to the Blue Plains treatment plant just below Bolling Air Base across from Alexandria. If you flush a rose down at Dulles, it will end up at Blue Plains.

Built in the early 1960s, the pipes intercept other sewerage that would otherwise have gone into the then-badlypolluted Potomac.

The latest thinking in design then proposed an innovative method of ventilation at the top of the pipes so no acids could collect there and destroy the pipes (the top is where concrete pipes traditionally fail ... with this design they are expected to last thousands of years ... really!). Unexpectedly, perhaps in part to the long time the,er, product, took to flow through the long lines,the system stank.

The District of Columbia, owning and responsible for the system, in the late '60s was said to have put activated charcoal filters in the vents to kill the smell. As the effectiveness of the filters waned, the smell returned but the District, saving its money, has not replaced the filters.

By the time the pipe gets to Lock 8 it's picked up flow from many other lines and in increased in size to about 5 feet high inside (about 18 inches at Dulles, and big enough to drive a small car through by the time it reaches Blue Plains).

SOLUTIONS? Not my bag, but, District of Columbia, if not activated carbon filters, then what? Perhaps the filters could be put in the small vents so the 600 pound concrete vent tops would not have to be raised.

Larry Heflin



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CLASSIFIED ADS

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CONDO FOR SALE. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1 bath unit in MacArthur House, 7630 Tomlinson Avenue. 2 Parking spaces. \$126,950. For appointment call (301) 460-5073.

SENIOR GENTLEMAN seeks room and board for 1 - 3 months starting Aug 24. Will share cooking, cleaning. 301-320-2990. Charley.

GOLF CLUBS King Cobra II in excellent condition. 3-9 plus woods. \$300 obo. Scott 301-320-0918

ITEMS FOR SALE. Old tools - many antiques, steel runner sleds, Victrola in need of repairs, many other items. By appointment only. Danny Harris 301-229-7982.

HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT. Two bedroom, one bath, renovated charming house in Cabin John. Near river and canal. 301-229-4222.

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HOUSEMATE Female housemate wanted to share space in Cabin John. Call Leigh 301-320-5003.

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Join the Cabin John Citizens Association

\$10/family, \$7/individual yearly membership.

Name

Address

Phone/e-mail

Check here if you would like a copy of the 1995 Cabin John Phone Directory.)

Classified ads cost 25 cents per word. If you have questions or would like rates for display ads or for listings under Neighborhood Services, call Lorraine Minor at 301 229-3515.

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but we will print only signed
letters.**

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