

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 36 Issue 1

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Sep 2002

## NEIGHBORLY NEWS

by Barbara Martin

**Eva Sofia Esposito** was born in July. Her parents are **Vivienne and Giuseppi Esposito** of Macarthur Boulevard. Vivienne has been working as a research analyst for ISS. Giuseppi is a nuclear medicine physician; he works for Johns Hopkins and for NIH.

**Neil Helm** of Riverside Drive received the Aerospace Communications Award from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The award is for leadership in development of mobile and emergency satellite communications and their application to disaster management. It recognizes Neil's work at Comsat Laboratories in the 70's in bringing to fruition the first small, mobile satellite ground terminals. He applied this to communications in situations of large natural disasters, a system that is used today by all international disaster relief teams.

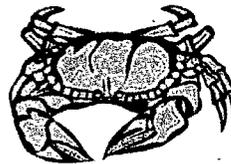
Twin girls were born to **Lee Arbetman and Oona Stieglitz** in April. Two months later, **Amy Renee and Gwendolyn Eve** had doubled their birth weight and came home to 78th Street. Oona was a preschool teacher, now a stay-home mom. Lee writes law books for children.

Handwriting Without Tears, Inc., a small family-owned business has moved into the building at 8001 Macarthur Boulevard—the big grey building across 78th Street from the shopping center. The company publishes curriculum and workbooks used to teach elementary school children handwriting. Founded by **Jan Olsen**, the curriculum has been adopted in 11 of the 22 states that have a state-wide program. Jan's son **Eric** and his wife **Kirsten** are part of the company, and they bring along their young daughter **Meagan**. For more information, go to [www.hwtears.com](http://www.hwtears.com) on the web or stop by and say hello.

**Diane Leatherman** is happy to announce that her second book, a chapter book for 8 to 12-year-olds based on the real childhood of a Maryland woman, is getting off the ground (and out of her garage!) **Rebecca, A Maryland Farm Girl** is set in the 1920s and 30s in the Frederick County area and tells the Depression era story of how Rebecca is put out to work at age ten. Diane will be reading at the Rockville Barnes & Noble on Friday evening, September 20th 7:30pm, and in Frederick at Borders, 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21st.

## Next CJCA Meeting will be September 24th

Agenda for next CJCA Meeting - 7:30 p.m. Sept (not August) 24, 2002 at the Clara Barton Community Center: (1) Presentation by MNCPPC and DNR personnel on rules that apply to cutting trees on private property, (2) Access and restoration of old cemetery near Gibson Grove Church, (3) vote on motion to make the Village News part of the Citizens Association.



## Crab Feast Time Again

The 33rd annual Cabin John Crab and Chicken Feast will be held at the Clara Barton Community Center on September 14th from 2 - 6 pm

see page 3 for details



What will thou do when the summer is shed?

Algernon Charles Swinburne 1837-1909

Shop at the Co-op and be thee well fed.

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## Summary of July 14, 2002 Blood Drive

At a time of a declared Blood Emergency, residents of Cabin John and surrounding communities answered the call last month. We generated 46 pints of blood (against a goal of 50 pints) and made the Red Cross very happy. (Most blood drives right now are not coming anywhere near their goals.) In fact, we made the Red Cross so happy, that they want us to do this three times a year. CJCA is considering their request but are hesitant to agree unless we feel that we can get the other communities to be equal partners in these efforts. This last time around, Cabin John residents made up about 40% of the donors, so we are getting somewhat closer to our goal of sharing the responsibility. We're told by the health professionals that it is not appropriate to name blood donors so we will simply say "Thank you" to those who gave their time and blood for the benefit of others. We can, however, note those Cabin Johners who helped with set-up and manning the sign-in table: Lori Rieckelman, Ned Goddard, Scott Lewis, Linda Reinisch, Barbara Martin, and Werner Schumann. Thanks.

## Summary of July 21, 2002 Cabin John Canoe Trip

- What can be said is that while there was definitely some swimming that went on, and that truthfully always goes on, everyone emerged unscathed. We had a slightly smaller group this year (approx. 50 people and 25 canoes & kayaks) than the previous years, which made getting down the river and through the two stretches of white water go more quickly. We did have to wait out an unexpected rain shower during lunchtime, but the timing was perfect since we ate lunch (watermelon provided courtesy of CJCA) and took shelter in the cabin leased by Potomac Outdoors on Offutt Island. Offutt is the first big island that you come to after heading downstream from Old Anglers. Yellow Falls proved to be quite tricky this year, as you had to enter the top section of the whitewater at an angle in order to emerge pointing straight down stream. Stubblefield Falls (the whitewater that you can see upriver from the Beltway Bridge) was straightforward as usual and folks enjoyed the waves without actually swimming in them. We do have video footage of everyone coming through both sections, whether in or out of their canoe, and expect to show it at the October CJCA meeting. Cabin John participants included the following individuals/families: Gray, Hornauer/Cook, Fiegel, Bender, Meyers, Bruestle, Despard/Chandler, Giammatteo, Lewis, Martin, Alexander, Bick, Hanna, Patch, Polski, Kallman/Grinberg, Heflin, Smith, Daniel, Helm, Murphy, and probably a few others who escaped detection.

John citizens and their friends a rather large favor by assisting with this event each year. He never charges for his time and always puts the canoe rentals (which are reduced for this trip to begin with) toward the cost of the guides. Each year we get a really friendly group of guides, who are often familiar faces from previous outings. Each year, it is through Dave's efforts that some Cabin Johners get out on the river for the first time and see what a unique and wonderful resource is in our back yard.

## Flag Replacements & One Year Anniversary of 9/11 -

The one-year anniversary of the events of 9/11/01 is nearing. Our community has kept the 35 flags along MacArthur Blvd up for the entire year. As a result of exposure to the elements, the flags have become worn. CJCA plans to replace all of the flags during the evening of 9/11/02 (a Wednesday) and invites interested Cabin John residents to participate in recognition of the events of last Sept. Our plan is to meet at the MacArthur Plaza Shopping Center grassy area at 7:00 p.m., have a few refreshments and a brief remembrance of those lost, then break into small groups to do the replacing of the old flags with the new ones. We expect to take the new flags down the following week. Please let Cabin John resident Danny Harris (229-7982) know if you plan to help with the flag replacing and if you can bring a step ladder (we'll need these).

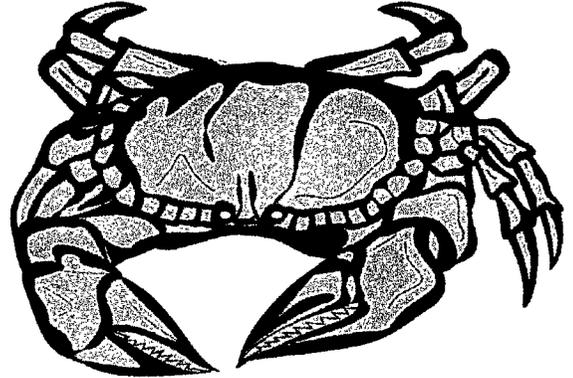
Danny has been responsible for the flags, loaned to us by VFW Post 5633, and is leading the effort to obtain new flags/poles at a cost of \$15/flag. If you are interested in helping to fund this effort, please send a check for \$15 payable to the Cabin John Citizens Association to CJCA, P.O. Box 31, Cabin John, MD 20818. So far, we have received 4 flags for free from Christopher's Hardware in Glen Echo, and another \$310 from various Cabin John residents and friends for this project. So we only need another 20 or so families/individuals to participate. Hope you can help. If we get more money than is needed for the flags, CJCA will put those funds to other vital Cabin John community needs.

*Burr Gray*

Dave Smith, owner of Potomac Outdoors, does the Cabin

# 33rd Annual Cabin John Crab & Chicken Feast September 14th, 2 - 6 pm

Ladies and gentlemen, mark your calendars because Cabin Johns 33rd Annual Cabin John Crab & Chicken Feast is slated for Saturday September 14, from 2-6 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Center.



Features include:

**Delicious food and refreshments;**

Childrens bike parade to feast;

**Live Jazz music** and vocals provided by Cabin John resident Doug Hall, and Eddie; CJ tee-shirts for sale,

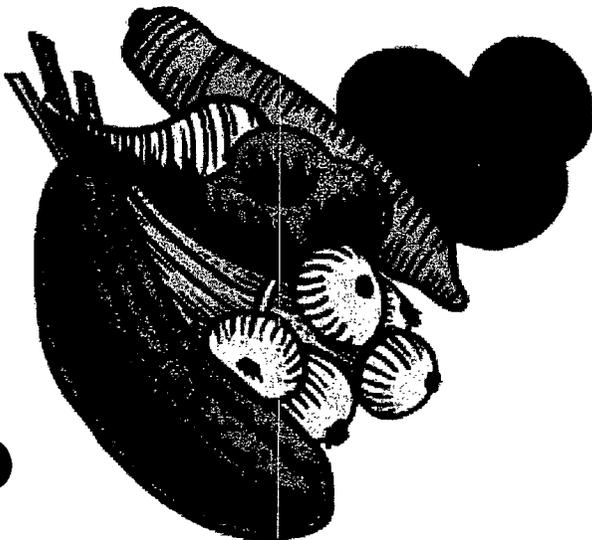
Childrens entertainment, including **a magician and balloon maker.**

Local businesses, including the Market on the Boulevard, Bethesda Natural Food Co-op, and the Cabin John Pizza Hut contribute to the smorgasbord of fine food. The Cabin John/ Brookmont Children's Nursery will sell scrumptious desserts to raise funds for their non-profit program. CJ resident Bob Epstein makes fresh popcorn, while CJ resident David Murphy brews homemade lemonade. Beer and wine will be available.

The **children's bike parade** starts at 2:00 p.m., and prizes will be awarded to all children who participate. Meet at the corner of 79th Street & Macarthur Blvd. (across from Market on the Boulevard), and ride to the Crab Feast at the Clara Barton Community Center.

**Volunteers are needed** to help prepare the vegetables ahead of time, and to help on the day of the event in a variety of capacities (chicken cooking, crab cooking, drink-sellers and servers, set-up and clean up). Volunteering is a great way to meet neighbors. It's fun and really necessary to make this event go well.

All proceeds go towards assisting the Cabin John Citizens Associations efforts to enhance the quality of life for local residents, and towards publishing the Cabin John Village Newsletter, which brings you unique local interest information.



**Tickets are available for \$9 at the door, and \$8 if bought in advance.**

Volunteers should call Lori Rieckelman 301-320-6299, or Nicki Wright 301-229-8258  
For Advance Tickets, call: Clare Amoruso-301-320-2685  
For Bike Parade questions, call: Ruth Rabner (301) 229-0019

*Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter*

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## THE HOME ADVISER

by John Rabner

This month I want to share some tips from a local electrical contractor that may be just what you need to avoid an all too common home improvement pitfall. Many homeowners perform their own electrical work improperly and sometimes cause dangerous situations to occur. A basic understanding of wiring and safety precautions will go a long way toward enabling you to successfully complete several types of electrical projects on your own. First, purchase a reference book on basic wiring so that you can approach the project with confidence and competence. The next step is to make a plan and ensure that you have all the tools and materials at hand before you start. Its also a good idea, when possible to consult with a qualified electrician to ensure that your plan is sound and that you are prepared to complete the job once under way.

So now that you are ready to get started, where do you begin? Some of you, undoubtedly, will want to change light fixtures. This is one of the easiest and more visually dramatic upgrades you can make. Basic wiring of plugs, fixtures, bath fans, and other small projects are just the ticket for the do-it-yourself homeowner. Another easy upgrade is replacing older wall receptacles and switches. And the list goes on and on! Only your imagination and desire stand in the way of building the knowledge and competency to perform wiring projects throughout your home.

On the outside of your home, security lights, lawn lights and other ornamental lighting can be a challenging, but satisfying improvement to consider. When burying cables in the ground be sure to follow recommendations to the letter.

And finally, a word of caution: Working with breakers in the electrical panel is not the place where an unlicensed electrician should be. Call a qualified electrician to perform these and other complex jobs. When it comes to electrical work, a conservative approach about your abilities will greatly increase your safety and the integrity of your home.

Next month, well talk about common fall projects, and tips on preparing for winter.

Contributed by local resident John Rabner, owner of 1st Choice Painting and Home Improvements. To ask questions and/or make contributions to this column, call 301-229-9100 or e-mail [jraber@erols.com](mailto:jrabner@erols.com). For a complete copy of the Home Advisor, go to [www.go1stchoice.com](http://www.go1stchoice.com)

### NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

**DOG WALKING:** Day time walks for your canine companions. To arrange a walking schedule for your furry friends, please call Cabin John Dog Walks at 301-229-7123

**CABIN JOHN AMERICAN-CHINESE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** 7703 MacArthur Boulevard. Mixed cultural and traditional background, American and Chinese united in worshiping and serving God together. Residents of Cabin John and surrounding areas: you are warmly invited to share with us. Come and experience the Blessings!!!! English service 10:00 AM, Chinese service 11:15 AM on Sundays. Fellowship groups meet on Fridays at 8:00 PM for youth, young professionals, families and children. Call church office at 301-229-8233.

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## LOOKING BACKWARD IN CABIN JOHN

By Andrew E. Rice

"Rebecca, A Maryland Farm Girl"

[Strictly speaking, the paragraphs below do not deal with Cabin John history, but to me they fit well in this regular "Looking Backward" column. They're about a book written by a Cabin John author and published in Cabin John that illuminates life in rural Maryland not too far west of us during the years before the Second World War.]

With the publication of "Rebecca: A Maryland Farm Girl," Diane Leatherman has done it again! Which means that she has kept up the promise of her first book ("Crossing Kansas") with a highly readable story of what it was like to grow up on a farm in western Maryland during the 1920's and 1930's. Although written primarily for young people, it can be enjoyed by young and old alike.

Diane, who's been a positive force in the Cabin John community for more than 30 years, says that she wrote the account because she wanted to help today's children know that growing up on a farm in the Maryland countryside a couple of generations ago was a very different experience from what they experience today. "Suppose," she says, "that you had to carry every drop of water that anyone in your family used, up a hill and into your house. Consider how it would be to milk a cow, feed the chickens, and carry in the wood and water before you walk several miles to the school bus. Rebecca . . . did just that."

The book is based on people and incidents from Rebecca's life, as recalled by her in her 70's as she talked with Diane at the kitchen table. Diane has added some events and characters from her own imagination, so she calls her book a "work of fiction," but in its essentials it's a true story.

Although it's not a long book (66 pages), the reader quickly gets a sense of what farm and family life was like as seen from the perspective of a child. There are good times and there are bad times, but the book closes on an optimistic note. And in fact, in an epilogue, Diane tells the reader that "in spite of all that happened to her, Rebecca grew up to be an intelligent, positive, caring person, and we can rejoice in her

victory."

"Rebecca, A Maryland Farm Girl" (with illustrations by Glen Echo artist Raya Bodnarchuk) is available from Diane at P.O.Box 315, Cabin John, MD 20818. The price is \$7.95. The book will also be available at the Rockville Barnes & Noble and at The Writer's Center in Bethesda after September 1.

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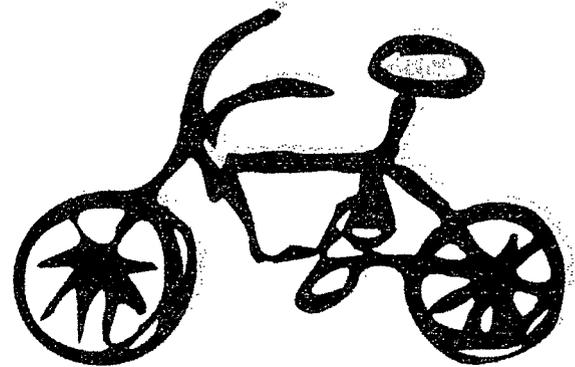
To place an ad in the Village News classifieds, send us your ad and payment of \$0.25 per word by the deadline. If you have questions, call Lorraine Minor at (301) 229-3515.

# CABIN JOHN BIKE PARADE to the CRAB FEAST!

KIDS --- Got Wheels? Decorate your bikes, trikes, scooters, wagons, strollers, etc. & join us in the CJ Bike Parade to the Annual Crab Feast.

Saturday, September 14th at 2:00 p.m.  
Meet at the corner of 79th Street & MacArthur Blvd. (across from Market on the Blvd) and ride to the Crab Feast at Clara Barton Community Center. Prizes will be awarded to all children participating in the parade!

Questions: Call Ruth Rabner (301)229-0019.



## Objet d'Heart

7945 MacArthur Boulevard  
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Please send to Editor, PO Box 164  
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*Ellen Wilner*

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**Help Needed!**

The Cabin John Crab Feast is the only CJCA fund-raiser and the biggest community event of the year. Proceeds help pay for the Village News, the Holiday Party, the Canoe trip, the Cabin John Directory and more.

We still need ticket sellers for the following streets:

- Cypress Grove Lane
- Little Leigh Court
- MacArthur Boulevard
- 79th Street above MacArthur Boulevard
- Wishbone Terrace
- Tomlinson Avenue (off Persimmon Tree Road)
- Osage Lane
- Barkwater Court
- Buxton Terrace
- Endicott Court
- Persimmon Court

This should only take an hour or two of your time.

Be a part of this great Cabin John event! Call Clare Amoruso (320-2685) or Lisa Landsman (229-1747) to volunteer. Thanks!

THE VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly except in July and January and is sent free to all 800+ homes in Cabin John. Others may subscribe for \$5 per year. Send news, ads, letters, and subscriptions to:

The Village News  
PO Box 164  
Cabin John, MD 20818

The next deadline is 10 AM Wednesday Sept 11th for the issue mailing Sept 20th.

People who make the village news possible: Barbara and Reed Martin, Lorraine Minor, Heidi Brown Lewis.

Regular Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice, and Barbara Martin.  
Ads - 301-229-3515. Neighborly News - 301-229-3482,  
Features/news - 301-320-0918.



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