

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 36 Issue 4

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Dec 2002

NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Dec 2002

by Barbara Martin

Mac Thornton and Molly Carr of Wishbone Terrace recently returned from Russia with their second adopted child, **Andre**. Fourteen months old, Andre is a smart, cheerful lad who has been walking since midsummer. You will often see him and his big sister Elena, age 2, with Mom and Dad on the towpath, or the river bank on foot around Locks 8 and 10.

Leslie Baldwin and Ken Eng, also residents of Wishbone Terrace, were recently married in what has to be a one-of-a-kind wedding. They took an Alaskan cruise on the inside passage, then hopped a helicopter to a glacier where the ceremony was performed. Leslie works for EPA; Ken is a contractor for the U.S. Weather Service.

Matthew McGuire and Sarah Craven are new neighbors on 81st Street. With daughter **Anna**, 3, they moved here from Washington, D.C. Matthew is assistant general counsel at Freddie Mac; Sarah works for the United Nations.

Danielle Grant and Bob Krahe moved to Cabin Road from Colesville. Bob is a program manager for Lockheed Martin, and Danielle is in the field of international development, focusing on women's public health issues in Africa.

Next door on Cabin Road, are new residents **Clay Risk** and sons **David**, 13, and **Matthew**, 10. The family has been in the Bethesda/Potomac area for 10 years, and Clay grew up in Wood Acres, so the Risks feel very much at home in Cabin John. Clay is chair of the anesthesiology department at Holy Cross Hospital.

Lucy Coleman recently received a commendation for her work with the National Science Foundation Child Development Center. Lucy has the Number One GSA managed building and child care center in the country.

Call Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482 with any items of news about present or past Cabin John residents. Or drop a note if it's easier.

Next CJCA Meeting - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday Nov 26th, 2002 at the Clara Barton Community Center:

AGENDA: (1) "Thrills & Chills" - Large projection viewing of 30-minute video of 2002 Cabin John Canoe Trip, (2) Introduction of Community Center Managers - Danielle Deane & Modestine Snead, update on formation of Clara Barton Community Center nonprofit support group, and (3) Dec 15th Holiday Party. Minutes from CJCA meeting of Oct 22, 2002 - turnout was low and no formal actions were taken.

Burr Gray

The Cabin John Citizens Association needs volunteers to run the December 15th Cabin John Holiday Party and the Jan 12, 2003 Blood Drive!!! Please contact Burr Gray (703-607-2740 (w) burr.gray@alum.dartmouth.org) if you can help or are willing to take charge of one of these events.

The usual suspects have been doing this for a long time and we hope to get some participation by new people.

"Holiday Gifts & Entertaining" - a cooking lecture and demonstration **Dec. 15th** at the Bethesda Coop Natural Food Store. -- pg. 3

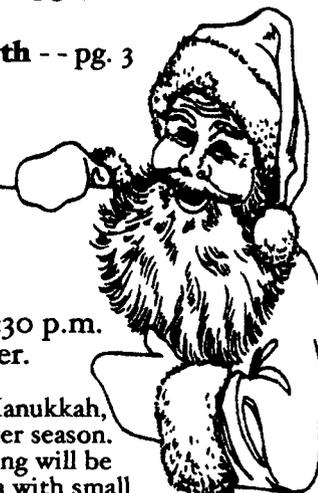
Next Blood Drive Jan 12th -- pg. 3

Cabin John Annual Holiday Party

Dec. 15th from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
at the Clara Barton Center.

Come celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and the festive winter season. Singing, eating and story-telling will be followed by a visit from Santa with small gifts for each child.

Feel free to bring a plate of cookies or other treats to share, though this is NOT required. as there always seems to be plenty.



CABIN JOHN WENT NUTS! -

On October 12, Cabin Johners and others combed the area for nuts from trees that are needed by the state nurseries. Well, there were fewer walnuts to be had this time around compared to last year, but it was a banner year for acorns. The following members of the Cabin John community looked in their own back yard, and their neighbor's, to come up with the goods: Mark & Blythe Leatherman (white oak acorns), Lesley Trembath & Susan Stewart (walnuts), Janeen Reutemann & neighbor's kids - Kyra & Kyle McKenna plus Riley (walnuts), Terri Strassburger & Rob Herscowitz (pin oak acorns), John Gelb (Paw Paw seeds, walnuts, willow oak & white oak acorns), Phil Bernburg (walnuts), Marcia Rucker (walnuts), Tom and Gabriella Rojas (walnuts & white oak acorns), Riley and Lennon Lewis (walnuts). John Gelb and Tom Rojas provided some needed assistance with tree identification, and Mark Leatherman drove the assorted array in his truck to the regional collection site just across the river in Virginia. Those folk were quite happy to see Mark, noting while they took his picture that the Cabin John contribution tripled the amount of nuts & acorns assembled at that site. Others took their nuts to the Cabin John Reg. Park collection site. This event will repeat itself each year so give some thought as to what trees you have on your property, and maybe next year you can collect a few acorns, etc.

Despite the rain, on October 30th, we had 12 folks who participated in

SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD DAY IV

an event that is growing in other communities as a way to raise safety awareness both in drivers and pedestrians. Most posted signs (pre-fab and home-made) on their streets, a few held signs while on the bus stops with their children, and the Martins (faithful SND supporters that they are!) placed their bull beside MacArthur Blvd for the event, too! In all, there were about 50 signs all over Cabin John for the day! As usual, while posting and removing the signs, we watched numerous cars running stop signs and driving on the bike path. (On that note, see the short article elsewhere in this edition on the status of the bike path safety features.)

A big thank you goes out to the following Cabin John residents for participating in the 4th semi-annual CJ Safe Neighborhood Day: Deborah Duffy, John Gelb, Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter, Lynn Hopkins, Reed & Barbara Martin (& their bull!), Meredith McGuire, Karen Melchar, Maris Myles, Ruth & John Rabner, and Lori Rieckelman. All posted signs throughout Cabin John reminding drivers and pedestrians to be cautious & careful while

A Very Scary Cabin John Halloween Party.

The first recent community Halloween party proved to be a draw for about 50 very scary kids and 50 very scary, yet intriguing, parents. The general amnesty that was decreed during the evening prevents further description of the parents' costumes. The effort was jointly organized by the Clara Barton Center for Children, the Clara Barton Community Center (excellent effort by the new managers there, Modestine Snead and Danielle Deane), and CJCA. The party went strong for about one hour and made for a really good warm-up to the real work of on-street trick-or-treating. While the impetus for the party came from the unique circumstances of events of the fall, it is quite possible that we will do this again. The party seems to fit reasonably well in the lull just before the kids head out on the streets.

Anyway, there were a number of people that helped with the project. Pam Zilly and Nicole Marine helped set up the room along with Maura Dillon and Liz Clark. Lorena Clark, Jessica Stahl, Katie Barnhard, Rachel D'elia, Kathleen Morrison and some other friends dropped in to decorate the room on the preceding Wed. afternoon. Jessica, Lorena, Maura and Liz also set up the Haunted House. Ruth Rabner helped with the setup, and brought some activities; Nicole also ran the apple game which was the hit of the evening. All of the kids tried it! Liz ran a craft table that involved painting your own miniature pumpkin that had been donated by the Bethesda Coop. Danielle Dean, Modestine Snead, and George from the Recreation Dept helped set up and run the games, and helped with the clean up. Kathleen Black helped with some of the games as well. In addition to donating the tiny pumpkins, Helen Atkocius and the Bethesda Coop contributed a large box of apples for the games. CJCA donated two of the six foot subs from Glen Echo so no one went back on the street hungry.

Interest by Bank of America - Bank of America has expressed a possible interest in moving into the space in the shopping center where BB&T used to be located. If there is a need for CJCA input on this matter over the next two months, we will use the CJCA e-mail system.

Bike Path Safety Progress -

At a November 1st meeting along the bike path in Cabin John, the County personnel (Pat Bradley) presented the County's proposal to keep cars from driving or turning onto the bike path. Susan Roberts (CJCA Bike Path contact), Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter, Barbara & Reed Martin, Ruth Rabner, and Burr Gray attended the meeting. This is the single biggest safety issue and risk to Cabin John residents regarding the bike path.

The proposal (as shown in some computer-generated schematics which reflected serious consideration by the County) is to install small rubber curb-like devices with vertical poles along the bike path between the path and MacArthur Blvd leading up to certain intersections. The County's plans addressed the Persimmon Tree Road intersection and the area generally between Seven Locks Road and 80th Street. Gaps would occur between the devices to accommodate private driveways and side streets. There will also be a 2-3 ft space between the road and the devices to accommodate east-bound cyclists on MacArthur.

We reminded Pat Bradley to also focus on the intersection near the Clara Barton Community Center, and provided him again with the other concerns that we have presented to the County regarding the bike path and other traffic-related issues in Cabin John. The County expects to install the safety devices in the spring. In the meanwhile, there is not much distinction between the road and the bike path, so please be alert when you are on the bike path.

Burr Gray

Jan 12, 2003 Blood Drive -

The need for blood continues to be urgent and the holidays are particularly tough on blood collection. This year, Cabin John Citizens Association, in conjunction with the surrounding communities, will be sponsoring three blood drives.

The first is on January 12, 2003 (10:00 - 4:00 p.m.) at the Clara Barton Community Center. If you are eligible and interested in donating blood, please get a time slot from Larry Heflin (301-229-4674 (h), lhheflin@juno.com). The entire donation process (from check-in to donation to eating refreshments) takes about 1 hr. We also need 5 or 6 volunteers to man the sign-in desk for a one-hour period each. Please let Larry know if you can help with the front desk. This is the last Village News edition that will come out before the Blood Drive, so please contact Larry now even if you are not certain of your availability on the 12th.

Eligibility - You've seen this before but here we go. People who can donate are, in general: people in good health, 17 years or older, and weighing at least 110 lbs. People who can't donate are: (1) people who received a tattoo one year prior to the date of donation, (2) most people taking antibiotics, (3) most people taking blood thinners, (4) most people who are not feeling well, have a cold, or sore throat, (5) people who have a temperature at the time of donation, (6) people who have been in England for a total combined period of 3 months from Jan. 1, 1980 to the present, and (7) people who have been in Eastern or Western Europe for a total combined time of 6 months or more since Jan 1, 1980. Call 1-800-448-5433 if you have any questions regarding eligibility. Please read carefully the above tougher new restrictions affecting those people who have spent a fair amount of time in Europe. Better to find out ahead of time if you are eligible to give than to get to the event and be disqualified.

Burr Gray

"Holiday Gifts & Entertaining" - a cooking lecture and demonstration at the Bethesda Coop Natural Food Store. December 15th, 8:30 - 10:00 am. Learn to make elegant gifts from your kitchen, plus appetizers and desserts (including gingerbread cookies). Pre-registration required - sign up at the Coop or call instructor Mimi Clark - the Veggie Gourmet - at 703-643-2713. cost: \$25 per person



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DIANA CARTER AND THE BABY CLUB

by Barbara Martin

Cabin John has book clubs, a garden club, a hiking club, and now a Baby Club. The Baby Club's coordinator is Diana Carter of Riverside Avenue.

Diana Carr grew up in Orange County, Southern California, in a suburban neighborhood 4 miles from Newport Beach. She is #6 in a family of two boys and six girls, four of whom still live in California. When Diana was 16, her father's job (software engineer) took them to Tokyo, Japan, for one year, an experience that she says greatly influenced her life. After finishing her bachelor's degree in psychology from University of California at Irvine, she joined her family in Pittsburgh where her father had just taken a new job.

Setting her sights on a career in physical therapy, Diana enrolled for some prerequisite classes at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Mellon University. One of her classes was physics, and the teaching assistant was Adriaan Carter—Adi—a Cabin John boy who had grown up in houses on Macarthur Boulevard and 81st Street. Adi was at Carnegie Mellon getting his Ph.D. in physics.

Friendship and romance bloomed. But Adi finished his degree and returned to Maryland for post-doctoral work at the Naval Research Lab. Diana stayed in Pittsburgh for another year to complete her course work, and came to Cabin John in May 1996. Adi then got a job at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the summer of 1997.

Diana entered graduate school at the University of Maryland in a 2-year Master's program in speech language pathology, then worked for Montgomery County Public Schools as a speech pathologist.

Diana and Adi lived with Adi's grandmother in her old house on Riverside Avenue for a while. Then they decided to buy the house from Adi's grandmother, raze it, and build a new one on the site. During construction, all the family lived together in the 81st Street house that had belonged to Adi's parents, Cynthia and Forrest Carter.

With a rented bulldozer, a minimum of instructions, and the help of good friends and Adi's brothers, Aymar and Evert, the house and garage were knocked down in 1 day. "But then it took us a week to pick up all the debris," Di-

ana remembers. With a Tom Manion design, Adi did most of the general contracting, and the house was ready in the fall of 2000. Grandma Van Heeckeren lives with them. And in November the family was joined by baby Joshua. Diana took maternity leave, then finished the school year working part-time while a neighbor watched Josh.

Shortly after Josh was born, Diana was walking with him and met another baby-walking mother, Monica Pittman with her son, Taylor. Monica was just organizing a club for new mothers and the group started with five women who had given birth in November—and defying all statistical probability—within 8 days of each other.

"We met once a week to encourage each other. Sleeping and eating were our big subjects." As the original moms met other women with new babies, the group expanded. When Monica Pittman returned to work, Diana became the group's coordinator. The Baby Club now has 16 members, 12 of them Cabin John residents. "At any meeting, we usually have 6 or 7 moms with their babies. Sometimes we meet in a park. We've also gone to the Reston zoo, and once we met at Barnes & Noble. We take turns planning what we're going to do."

All of the original 5 mothers are still active members. Six of the 16 work part-time. The babies range from 3 to 18 months. Once in a while an older sibling may come along on an outing, although all but three of the members are first-time mothers. Within the group, a baby-sitting coop has been formed, coordinated by club member Shannon Turkewitz.

"It has been a wonderful experience for all of us," says Diana. "I've met good neighbors who have become good friends, and with this network of other mothers around, I never feel lonely during the day." The Baby Club is a welcome part of Cabin John's life.

Looking for a life changing experience?

Come to **Glen Echo Baptist Church** at 2 Vassar Circle, where you will be educated as to what God's Word means. All teaching is straight from the Bible.

Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Services 11:00am and 6:00pm

Wed nite service at 7:00pm.
Wed, children 6-10yrs at the Annex
(University & Harvard Sts) 7:00pm.



Let's Talk!

Eleanor Balaban

229-7990

Last Call!

The Cabin John Community Directory is almost ready to go to the press. We have the information returned on forms published in the Village News last spring and submitted from canvassers who went house to house in the summer and fall.

If you did not return a form, were not contacted by a canvasser or your family's information has changed, we need to hear from you immediately.

We also need to hear from you if you would like your services listed in the directory and you have not already provided the information.

Contact Forrest and Lorraine Minor at 301-229-3515.

The Home Advisor

By John Rabner

Leaves are falling everywhere this time of year and that age-old ritual of moving them to the road is in full swing. Soon that white stuff may be falling too!

Being a guy who loves machines and such, I did something the other day that has changed leaf-raking forever... I bought a leaf blower! No, not one of those wimpy hand one's, but a big push behind monster! You've seen them, the one the 'other guy' has and you wish you had!

So, I knew that I would be the envy of my block to have one and thought why not spread the joy. Several of us co-op'd a snow blower a couple of years ago (when we had real snow) so why not a leaf blower too! Now, our corner is the proud owner of a 5 hp Little Wonder push behind blower. My yard-raking project, which normally takes 3-4 hrs, was completed in less than 1 hour! And even better, my kids wanted to help!! I haven't been this excited since I installed my new sump pump-

And now for those other blowers, one of which is in my garage, there are some great uses this time of year for them too. Gutter cleaning can be a real blast by using that hand blower to clear them. You will want to clean your gutters *before* doing the yard. One final note, remind your kids that playing in leaf piles by the road can be dangerous due to cars not seeing them.

Now, some of you may be thinking that I'm some kind of machine maniac (or worse!) Next month we will feature the opinion and ideas that remove *gas power* from the yard maintenance picture. A lot of folks prefer raking and shoveling - so if you're one and you want your thoughts included, get them in by Dec. 1.

As an update to the last column, the CJCA has decided to sponsor the next "dumpster Day" clean up for spring 2003. Our last events were an overflowing success and predict the same for our next. And remember, you have two opportunities each year to call the county for special pick-ups. Don't be shy about using them!

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

DECEMBER 15

Treats for Children!
musical program!



annual
Cabin John
Citizens
Association

Coffee and dessert!

entertainment!

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15th

4:30 - 6:00 P.M.

Caroling!



ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

⇒ AT THE CLARA BARTON CENTER ←
guest appearance by Santa Claus

- Drinks provided. Please bring cookies to share.
- Supported by local merchants.
- Co-sponsored by the Cabin John Citizens Association and the Clara Barton Community Center.

LOOKING BACKWARD IN CABIN JOHN

By Andrew E. Rice

(Every year I pick a month and read through the back copies of The Village News for that month. This year it's November. What was happening in Cabin John in past Novembers? Here are a few items.)

"Career Day a Triumph" was the headline on a story in November 1971 reporting that the Career Day held at the Clara Barton School was a "first for Montgomery County." Some 40 adults came to the school to talk about their careers, almost all from the Cabin John community. As the story put it, "the boys and girls were delighted to have their neighbors introducing them to the mysteries of stethoscopes, acetylene torches, and quantity cooking. The kids climbed on the fire engine, tried on handcuffs, ran an adding machine, danced ballet routines, had a ball and learned."

The same issue of the paper reported on the results of a survey of community opinion on future development of Cabin John. One of the topics was what to do with the commercially zoned area (which is now the MacArthur Square shopping center, but was then occupied by Tuohey's tavern/restaurant). Of the 269 respondents to the questionnaire (about 55% of the 505 circulated), "a small tastefully designed shopping center had a large number of supporters." Sixty responses favored a bank, 73 a gas station, and 53 a co-op store, with many other possibilities mentioned. People also saw the site as a good place for some community facilities. There were 98 votes for a library, 41 for a community center, and 25 for a day care center.

The big news in November 1976 was the forthcoming reopening of the Union Arch after its long closure following the crash of one of its stones on the parkway below. But even as this change for the better was being hailed, another story in the paper told of the end of public transportation in Cabin John with the shutdown of the N-8 bus line which ran from Sibley Hospital to our town. [It was not until 1984, with the coming of Metrorail service to Bethesda and the establishment of subsidized "Ride-On" service in Montgomery County that buses again ran in Cabin John.]

A November 1978 headline proclaimed: "Cabin John Site Rejected for Sewage Plant." A site along the stream bed of Cabin John Creek had been one of the possibilities for a new country sewage treatment plant. However, said County Executive James Gleason, "the public hearing testimony convinced me that the adverse environmental and community impact of development of a sewage treatment plant at this location is too great to accept." Added The Village News: "This victory for Cabin John could not have been achieved without timely and concerted community action."

In 1985, the paper announced that the Wild Bird Center would be establishing itself in December at 7687 MacArthur Boulevard [where Potomac Outdoors is now located]. The flourishing of this initial store -- dedicated to "products, gifts and antiques concerning birds and nature" -- led its owner, George Petrides, eventually to build on his Cabin John base to develop additional stores, so that now there exists a chain of Wild Bird Centers in various parts of the country.

Clara Barton National Historic Site features tours and exhibits highlighting the recent discovery of Clara Barton's Office to Locate Missing Soldiers

The public is cordially invited to attend ranger and volunteer-conducted tours at Clara Barton National Historic Site, 5801 Oxford Road, Glen Echo, from 10 am to 4 pm daily. Tours are free, open to all ages and begin promptly on the hour. During December, the National Park Service highlights the 1997 discovery of Clara Barton's 1861-1868, Office to Locate Missing Soldiers, on 7th Street in Washington City during the Civil War. What was uncovered here? What new light has been shed on this aspect of Civil War history? Join us in December and learn about this exciting new window on the past. For additional information, visit the Clara Barton NHS web site at www.nps.gov/clba or call 301-492-6245.

Lorraine Minor

CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR SALE: Two Snow Tires. Vredestein Snow+, radial steel tubeless, 185 SR 1490 Q M & S. One light season's use, can't tell from new. From Radial Tire. \$50/pair. Bob 301-320-3946 / 202-285-0855.

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HOLIDAY SERVICE. The Hermon Presbyterian Church located at 7801 Persimmon Tree Lane was established in 1874 and is listed on the Historical Register of Montgomery County. Hermon will be celebrating the holiday season with its annual Christmas Vespers Service on Sunday, December 22nd at 7:00 PM. Come join us. All denominations are welcome.

MOVING SALE. Piano, 1946 Baldwin Spinnet, \$900 or best offer. Also walnut China Cabinet, Large solid oak entertainment center with pocket doors, sturdy oak pedestal table with leaf (41" extends to 60"). Please call 301-320-9478.

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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.

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You Can Help a Child In Need

The Cabin John Citizens Association and the Clara Barton Center for Children are sponsoring a Holiday Drive for Kids! This will benefit the Children's Law Center, a local group that helps abandoned, abused and neglected children. These kids need everything. Please help. Items can be dropped off at the Community Center at any time during the Holiday party.

Some items needed:

(all items should be new or *gently* used)

- winter clothes
- toys and games
- mittens, hats, gloves
- books
- non-perishable food items
- shoes, socks
- jackets, winter coats

The Children's Law Center helps abandoned, abused and neglected children in D.C. find safe, permanent homes and the education, health and social services they need by providing comprehensive, free legal services to children, their families, and foster and kinship caregivers. The Center helps more than 400 children and families each year.

Any questions, call Maria Whiteaker at 301-320-9798.

AN OPEN APPEAL FOR THE RETURN OF TREASURED ITEM

Halloween evening I put a large bowl full of candy on our stoop in front of our front door. Sometime between 8:15 and 9:50, someone decided that candy was not enough...or they just got here too late for candy. That someone stole my bowl. I want that bowl returned. It came from my deceased brother's kitchen. It has great sentimental value to me. The bowl is approximately 12" wide by 6" tall, round, glossy white with a large blue band on the inside near the top. Made in Italy.

If any household discovers a recent, unaccountable addition to your cupboard that resembles this description, its return would be appreciated. You can return it to the front door from where it was stolen. Thanking you in advance.

Bob Epstein
7509 Arden Road

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Bethesda Co-op

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 [or heidi@alumni.vanderbilt.edu]

**The next deadline is 10 AM
 Wednesday Jan 15th for the
 issue mailing Jan 23rd.**

People who make the village news possible. Barbara and Reed Martin, Lorraine Minor, Heidi Brown Lewis. Regular Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice, Barbara Martin, John Rabner.
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