



Village News

Volume 38 Issue 7

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Two Spring Egg Hunts Scheduled for March 26

Join your neighbors at the egg hunt festivities on Saturday March 26 at the lower Cabin John playground (below the tennis courts).

The CJCA will provide eggs filled with candy/goodies, but kids should bring a basket in which to collect them.

Hunt starts at 11 am SHARP! In years past the actual hunting has lasted about 6.5 minutes so please be on time if you hope to find any. There will be 2 "waves" of the hunt, one for younger kids and one for older, to help avoid any accidental squashings – of kids OR eggs.

Please RSVP Ruth Rabner by Friday, March 25 at rabneroo@comcast.net with number of children attending and last name. Many thanks to Ruth for originating and organizing this event for several years, even before the CJCA came in to help support it.

Sherry Ly: A Newshound From the Start

By Tina Rouse

Few eight-year olds know what they want to be when they grow up. Sure, they tell you they want to be a firefighter, a doctor, or a school teacher, but those dreams usually change over the years.

Sherry Ly was different. She knew at that early age she wanted to be a television reporter. It's hard to know the exact moment she decided her future career path. She remembers being fascinated by the coverage of the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan, and soon after realized telling people about world affairs was her destiny. She followed her dream to the nation's capitol. Two years ago, our

Clara Barton Center Auction on April 9th!

Get great deals on weekend getaways, sporting events, dinner at local restaurants, and much more . . . Eat, drink and be merry with the Cabin John and Clara Barton Center community. The proceeds will be used to support the renovation of the Community Center playground, which is used by and open to all members of the Cabin John community. Please join us for the auction on Saturday, April 9, at 7 pm at the Center. Silent auction begins at 7 pm; live auction begins at 8:30 pm. Don't miss this night of fabulous deals, great food, and wonderful company—all for a great cause! Tickets are on sale now at the Clara Barton Center for Children from 8 am - 6 pm, and absentee bid books are available. For more information, contact Elisa Long at 301-320-4565 or elisa_ann_long@yahoo.com.

Cabin John neighbor came to Washington, DC, where you may see her reporting for FOX 5 News at Ten on WTTG, Channel 5.

Sherry grew up in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, with her parents, older brother Cuong and her twin sister Kerri, who, she will remind you, is the younger by nine minutes. Her parents, Ly Thi Le and Robert Lewis, met while her father was serving in the Air Force in Vietnam. After the war, the family was stationed in Okinawa, Japan, where Sherry and her sister were born. For the next two years, Sherry and her family spent time in South Carolina and Guam, before settling in Florida.

Sherry had an unusually stable military childhood, growing up in the same town through high school. When her father was transferred to England, the rest of the family stayed behind so the children could attend American schools. On his return, her father was stationed at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, DC. Her parents divorced and Sherry remained in Florida. In her sophomore year, Sherry and her sister moved to Virginia to live with her father in Burke. She attended Lake Braddock High

(continued on page 7)

INSIDE

Neighborhood News	2
Local CJ Artists	3
Volunteer Opportunities	3
CJCA News	4
Dogs of Lock 8	5
Cabin John Memory Book	10
Neighborhood Services	13



Neighborly News

by Barbara Martin

Renee Kotz reports that collection boxes for Tsunami Aid at the Bethesda Co-op and The Market brought in \$690.89. A check in that amount was sent on behalf of Cabin John residents to the American Red Cross on February 22, 2005.

Scott Lewis was recently promoted to Group Vice President at Gartner, an information technology

market research and consulting firm. Scott has managed Gartner's D.C. consulting practice since moving to MacArthur

Bldv. in 1997. Scott and his wife **Heidi** are active in Cabin John civic life through the Cub Scouts and the *Village News*, helped by their three kids **Riley**, **Lennon** and **Daisy**.

Cabin John has had House Tours in 1997 and 1983. These events have strengthened our community bonds while raising money for the *Village News* and the Citizen's Association. This year's event will be on Saturday, June 4, 10-2. We need volunteer house "monitors" to assist at each home on the tour. Please contact Susan Roberts at seroberts05@yahoo.com or (320-4451) if you are willing to be a monitor for an hour or two.

Call Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482 or email (barbmartin@comcast.net) with news about Cabin John residents—present or past. New neighbors on your block, new babies, families who are moving elsewhere, deaths, marriages—let me know.

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Holy Week & Easter 2005

Palm Sunday — The Sunday of the Passion, March 20
 The Holy Eucharist 8 and 10 am. Music by David Mells and Johannes Brahms (at 10)

Mundy Thursday, March 24
 6:00 pm Simple Supper of soup, bread and cheese
 7:30 pm The Holy Eucharist. Music by Nicholas de Grigny, Maurice Duruflé and William Byrd
 8:30 pm Prayer Vigil through the night. Watch with me for one hour.

Good Friday, March 25
 12:00 am Stations of the Cross.
 1:00 pm The Good Friday Liturgy with Holy Communion from the Reserved Sacrament. Music by Theodore Dubois and Giovanni Battista Pergolesi.
 7:30 pm Tenebrae

Easter Even, March 26
 7:30 pm The Great Vigil of Easter. First Eucharist of Easter. Music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, George Frideric Handel, William Harris and Charles-Marie Widor.

Easter Day — The Sunday of the Resurrection, March 27
 The Holy Eucharist 8 and 10 am.
 Music by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, Charles Wood, George Frideric Handel, William Harris and Charles-Marie Widor (at 10)
 11:45 am Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn.

We invite you to worship with us!

Community Calendar

MAR	22	CJCA Meeting Clara Barton Center 7:30 pm (see p. 4)
	26	Spring Egg Hunt Lower CJ Playground 11 am (see p. 1)
	2	C&O Canal Clean-up Lockhouse 8 9 am - noon (see p. 3)
	9	Spring Wildflower Walk C&O Towpath 2 - 3:30 pm (see p. 3)
APR	9	Clara Barton Center Auction Clara Barton Center 7:30 pm (see p. 1)
	14	Middle School Events Meeting Clara Barton Center 7:30 pm (see p. 6)
	23	Annual Cabin John Creek Clean-up Lower CJ Playground 9:30 am (see p. 3)

The Artists of Cabin John — Part 3

by Judy Welles

Turn a corner in Cabin John and you will probably find an artist. On 80th Street lives Amanda Ford, a fiber artist, whose intricate quilt hangings, torah covers, and other Judaic textile works have the appearance of paintings. The jewel-tone colors of the sewn fabrics, mostly hand-dyed, and the sewing itself make it hard to believe that the art was sewn, not painted in oils. It's also hard to believe that her kindergarten teacher said she couldn't draw so she didn't try until her own children were nearly grown.

She has always enjoyed sewing and began quilting after a class at G Street Fabrics. She progressed to drawing and abstract painting classes at the Corcoran Art Institute. She participates in quilting design classes near Chicago every year.

Her work became noticed twelve years ago when Temple Beth El in Bethesda commissioned torah covers. Since then, her Judaic fiber art has been commissioned by synagogues in New York City; Greensboro, NC; Newport News, VA, and Wichita, KS to name a few. Her works appear in the Yeshiva Museum and Jewish Tehological Siminary in New York, Charles E. Smith Day School in Maryland, and have also been shown at the Maryland Arts Place and McLean Arts Place. A 10'x6' quilt hanging she made adorns a cemetery chapel near Chicago.

Ford savors what she creates, calling it a passion. "To see a piece I made used in a spiritual way is my reward and sometimes it's overwhelming," she said.

She does her art in a large studio in her home, where she has 5 sewing machines and large 4' x 7' tables where she can spread out her fabric designs. Currently she exhibits with "New Image," a group of professional quilters. While Judaic art has been her focus, she wants to



This 48"x 24" fabric creation by Amanda Ford is entitled "Bait Hamikdash."

© Robert Epstein

Join Activities, Clean-up at CJ Locations

The Potomac Conservancy has free outdoor activities planned for April at the C&O Canal Lock 8 while completing restoration at Lockhouse 8. Come out and see what is going on at the Lockhouse as it becomes a Learning Center.

April 2, 9 am–noon, C&O Canal Clean-up Between Lock 8 and Lock 10

Sponsored by the Potomac Conservancy and the Alice Ferguson Foundation, the Potomac Watershed clean-up will take place at various sites. Burr Gray (burr.gray@alum.dartmouth.org, 703-607-2740) is site leader for the Canal clean-up in Cabin John, which will organize at Lockhouse 8. Volunteers are needed, including those with canoes or boats to deliver items 200 yards downstream to Minnie's Island. Supplies will be provided but bring boots and gloves.

April 9, 2–3:30 pm, Spring Wildflower Walk

Naturalist Marijke Gate, Potomac Conservancy volunteer, will lead a walk on the towpath to identify early spring flowers. Contact Judy Welles at welles@potomac.org for details.

April 23, 9:30 am, Cabin John Creek Clean-up

Volunteers for the annual Cabin John Creek Clean-up will meet at the playground next to the Union Arch Bridge. Bring your own gloves if you have them and prepare to get a bit wet. Refreshments will be provided. More info to follow.

The Lockhouse will be opened to the public as a River Center on weekends starting May 14 with educational displays and outdoor activities.

Volunteers are needed to complete the interior painting and to serve as docents once a month during the spring and summer. Training is provided. Contact Judy Welles, Lockhouse Director, at welles@potomac.org (301-229-8110) if you would like to volunteer.

(continued on page 8)



CJCA News

by Burr Gray

Next CJCA Meeting—March 22 at 7:30 pm at the Clara Barton Community Center. No specific subjects currently scheduled. CJCA will send an e-mail out and post a notice in front of the Center regarding topics.

Advance notice is given that at the April 26 CJCA meeting, the state personnel will make a presentation on the proposal to create/add toll lanes to the Beltway. If you live on Cypress Grove Lane or other locations next to the Beltway, you will want to attend this meeting.

The next meeting of the CJCA will be Mar. 22, 7:30 pm at the Clara Barton Community Center.

Summary of the February 22 CJCA Meeting—The attendance did not constitute a quorum so the action of the evening was mostly in the form of discussion. 1) The discussion involved an evaluation of the need and interest of the community in having programs and events at the Clara Barton Community Center geared toward the 6-8 grade level. The consensus was to move ahead with planning for some events and for the Center to hold a meeting on April 14 (7:30 pm) to hear from the County personnel who organize teen programs. 2) A discussion occurred regarding the desire of the new owners of the Sycamore Store on MacArthur Blvd. to have a type of zoning that would allow them to run their architectural business out of the store. The owners plan to (or possibly already have) made improvements to the inside of the store. Concern was expressed that approval of such a zoning request on the part of the County might lead

to similar requests and treatment at other locations along MacArthur Blvd. The consensus was to alert the County to the community's concerns.

Summary of Dues Paying for 2004-05—We had the best ever year as far as dues-paying goes. As of the date of this printing, 322 households paid dues/contributions totaling \$6303. This compares with 258 dues-payers contributing \$4450 in FY 04. (In the next *Village News* issue, we plan to thank those families/individuals who have paid their dues at least four of the last six years.)

This year, we asked CJ residents to think about kicking

in an additional \$5 to assist with the acquisition of Cabin John memorabilia that might become available and the response generated over \$600 (included in the figure listed above). CJCA used a portion of that fund to buy the Bobbing silver bowl seen in a previous *Village News* as well as obtaining and framing a previously unseen old photo of the Cabin John Bridge. CJCA thanks the following families that contributed above and beyond the usual dues level (note that we only mention a household once, even if the adults have different last names). In some cases, families contributed even more than the suggested \$5. If for some reason we have left anyone off who belongs on the list, please contact Burr Gray (burr.gray@alum.dartmouth.org) and we'll correct the omission: Ackerman, Alexander, Anderson/Lacurto family, Arbetman/Stieglitz, Austin/Lazarus, Avery, Baxt, Beardsley/Jasnow, Belotte, Bergen/Lehr, Betz, Bick, Biegel, Bord/Smolover, Brehm, Burke, Cahill, Cash, Chang, Cheney, Clark, Clawson/Marks, Cohen/Liebman, Crossman, Dahreddine, Davenport, Dean (Virginia), Dellinger, Dence, Doser, Downey/Miller, Dreilinger/Ford, Duffield/Kramer, Erger/Seidenstein, Esposito/Di Sciuillo, Feierstein, Ferrer/Peralta-Ramos, Fiegel, Finley, Fitzgerald, Flaisher, Fobe, Fortune, Fryer, Gappa-Norris/Norris, Geiger, Giannasi, Goddard, Grant/Krahe, Gray, Griffin, Griggs, Gruner, Gude, Gueits-Bonilla/Simon, Harper, Harris (Helen & Clive), Hatch, Heesen/Kincaid, Heflin, Heller, Herscowitz/Strassburger, Hii/Yiu, Hopkins, Hornauer, Hsu/Robertson, Humphrey, Jennings, Kearney/Todd, King (John & Rachel, many thanks), Kirk/Zeigfinger, Lewis, Lindsay, Lisimaque, Lucy, Lystad, Manion, Mannle, Martin (Reed & Barbara), Mason, McCabe, McConnell, McEwan, McGaw, Mee/Moore, Meyers, Miller (Ben & Carolyn), Mulrone, Murray/Rouse, Nicholson/Suber, Orme, Palein, Palmer, Parlin, Patch (Robert & Kate), Pearce, Pinto/Pinto-Orton, Pittman, Powell, Purtell, Qassem, Ravin, Reutemann, Risk (many thanks), Rixey, Roark, Roberts (Bill & Donna, many thanks), Rogers, Rotter, Russell (Dan), Schmitt, Schreiber, Schwartz/Wermiel, Scott, Semjen/Seder, Shipp, Siefken, Silverman, Smith/Schaper, Smith (Mary), Soria, Stahl, Steward, Stewart, Thoburn, Thompson (Dick & Judy), Toder, Townsend/Clayton-Townsend, Veidenheimer, Vogt/Zilly, Wainright (many thanks), Walsh, Ward (Bob & Nadja, many thanks), Wei/Yang, Weingarten, Wilkoff, Wilmarth, Wilner, and Wine.

Updating of the CJCA E-mail List Serve—please contact Gary Barnhard at barnhard@barnhard.com by March 31 if you wish to receive the occasional e-mails sent out by CJCA. We average about 3-4 per month. The subject is always either upcoming CJCA events, safety issues, or other local items of interest. We have about 300 homes on the CJCA list but would like to include even more CJ residents. If you already

(continued on page 6)



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The Dogs of Lock Eight

By Renee Kotz

I rarely noticed dogs during my runs along the towpath until I got one of my own. There is a whole dog culture on the C&O Canal and you're inducted the moment you and your dog venture along the Potomac. My mother, visiting from Oregon, was astounded when she took our brindle Irish Setter mix, **Callie**, out for a walk on the canal. She said joggers, walkers, and strolling couples all greeted our newly-rescued pup by name. "It was as if the canal belonged to Callie!"

That makes perfect sense to me. I quickly learned the names of every child in my daughter's nursery class by the end of the first week of school, and yet I still struggle with the names of their parents well into the school year. The classroom is about its kids, just as the canal is about the dogs, at least to me. I don't run 365 days of the year because I'm a fitness freak. I do it because I'm a dog lover.

Typically, the local dogs—the ones who live walking distance from the canal—are the die-hard walkers in the early mornings. The dogs that are chauffeured usually arrive later in the day and en masse on the weekends. Of course, the constellation of dogs on the canal changes over time but, by and large, the early weekday mornings belong to a handful of locals.

One icon of the canal is **Rocky** of Riverside, the rescued Collie mix who is fortunate enough to have the 184-mile canal as his own backyard (not to mention a little get-away at Deep Creek Lake). Rocky's neighbor, **Bonnie**, is a black and white Bluetick Coon Hound. Bonnie was actually a wild dog near Old Rag before she was rescued, but nothing about her demeanor would reveal a troubled past. Once I saw Bonnie's owner sipping a full cup of hot coffee while walking her on leash—now, that's a calm dog. And everyone headed to Lock 8 must also pass the house of **Blaze**, the Great Dane with impeccable manners.

There are a few dogs that trek from the vicinity of 81st Street to exercise on the canal. The earliest riser is **Bugsie**, the handsome 80-pound Shepherd mix, who runs along side his alternately biking/jogging dad. They are never far apart; it's not entirely clear who sets the pace for whom. About an hour later **Bella**, a Golden Retriever and faithful jogging companion, can be spotted heading to the canal with her dad as they've done everyday for the past five years. If you're not fully awake by the time you encounter **Stella**, the energetic speckled Australian

Shepherd, she will provide a jolt for your senses. She likes to show off her keen herding instincts by chasing down your dog. She doesn't mean any harm and, like Callie, I imagine most dogs know this about her by now.

There are also pairs of dogs. There's the set of large Golden Retrievers, **Jack** and **Bunny**, who remind me of a gracefully aging couple thoroughly enjoying their golden years together. There's also the rescued pair of Black and Chocolate Labrador Retrievers, **Pecos** and **Greta** respectively. They enter the canal at the one-lane bridge every morning at 6:15 a.m., even in the darkness of winter. Once in a while, they'll bring a friend along, **Jasper**, a black Flat Coated Retriever.

Naturally, I identify most with the early morning female runners/walkers and their canine companions. A fixture in this category is **Eeyore**, a small black Labrador mix that frolics around his mom. If we time it right, we run with **Riley** a rambunctious black Standard Poodle who never seems to tire. And I always look forward to an enthusiastic greeting from the creamy Golden Retriever with the fancy Italian name to match her movie-star looks, **Contessa**—**Tessa** for short.

On a sunny weekend, the canal is a kaleidoscope of breeds. There's **Crystal**, the Boxer from the Gardens, **Petra** the Weimeraner and **Jasper** the high-energy Golden Doodle pup, both from 83rd Street. I've even encountered a Bernese Mountain Dog and a Newfoundland—the size of a small pony—loping along side his master. Many visitors come from points beyond Cabin John like **Rocky** the energetic Toy Poodle from Potomac; **Meling**, the regal third-generation Collie from Burning Tree; and **Jessup** from Bannockburn who's a little bit of everything (mostly Shepherd).

In contrast to the early-morning weekday dogs that show up like clockwork, finding a particular dog on the weekend is a hit-or-miss situation. When she's lucky, Callie loves to romp around the fringes of the Potomac with her best friend **Sophie**, the frisky Black Labrador Retriever pup from 75th Place. If she misses that opportunity, the Dogs of Woodrow—**Lucy**, **Gypsie**, **Sandy**, **Ivy** and **Griffin**—are all good for a spontaneous play date on their own turf.

It's the rare owner that must drag his dog out to the canal for a walk, but there are a few. On most days, **Stella** the "mix of pedigree"—who may be the only dog actually listed in the Cabin John Community Directory—would rather sleep in than jog with her early-rising parents who have to "pull her like a wagon." Her reluctance may be due to a recent

(continued on page 13)



CJCA NEWS
cont. from page 4

sent such an e-mail and are not receiving the CJCA e-mails, please send it again in the next week.

New Officers—CJCA is looking for new officers for the next year (starting June 5). If you are interested, please contact Bruce Wilmarth (CJCA Treasurer) 229-8528. We are very much interested in having a change of administration, so please think about investing some time in your community. The term is for one year.

April 14 Meeting on Creating Community Center Activities/Programs for 6th – 8th Graders—The Montgomery County Recreation Department, in conjunction with the Friends of Clara Barton Community Center, will be holding a meeting at the Community Center on April 14 at 7:30 pm to discuss developing programs and activities at the Center for the 6th – 8th grade kids. The Center has events/programs that are working well at the elementary school level, but there is agreement on the need to create more programs for the middle-school group. If you have a child of that age, or one about to enter Pyle, please consider attending this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Modestine Snead – Community Center Director (301-229-0010).

Sign-up Time for Spring Session of Elementary School Homework Club—The Clara Barton Community Center is currently accepting requests to join the Homework Club, which meets at the Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 6 pm. (The immediate past session was the first session and about 20 kids participated. The program was viewed by all as very successful and

the decision was made to continue with it.) The next session will start April 5 and will run for eight weeks. The program helps the elementary school children with their homework, with a focus on math and English, but also allows for some play time as well. A county-certified teacher supervises the class, along with one or two assistants. The total cost per

child is \$80 (\$60 for the Montgomery County Recreation Dept. and \$20 paid separately to FCBCC for refreshments/incidentals) for the entire session. Please contact Modestine Snead, Center Director, (301-229-0010) or bring her the two checks if you are interested in having your child participate in this program.

Deanna Bogart Fundraiser Summary—To go immediately to the bottom line, the event netted about \$2500 to be used by the Friends of Clara Barton Community Center (FCBCC) to help with programs and needs at the Community Center. This would not have been possible without the generous help of local merchants and businesses including: Montgomery County Recreation Department (many thanks for donating the room and the stage (key items)), Level Fitness, Sharon’s Bouquet, KanPai Sushi, Market on the Boulevard, Karen Thibeau - Long & Foster, Bethesda Co-Op, Christopher’s Glen Echo Hardware, Sumner Fitness, Clara Barton Center for Children, and Abeille & Associates at Coldwell Banker Residential. We had some hardworking volunteers to pull it off as well, including the members of the Dance Committee: Lori Rieckelman, Judy Brookes, Trudi Bick, Bruce Wilmarth, and Burr Gray, and the rest of the crew that made the Community Center shine and seem like the center of the universe for one night (and then made it magically disappear at midnight) including Leslie Strauss, Linc Brookes (unofficial photographer), Patty Seiber, Linda Green, Jackie Hoglund, Cynthia Palmer, Barbara Wilmarth, Meredith Griggs, Lisa Gappa-Norris, Ghina Siddiqui, Margi Arnold, and the folks at the Community Center – Modestine Snead and Frank Rans.

We also want to thank in particular the 44 Mosh Pit members who paid a bit more for their tickets to help with the finances, the 150-plus other attendees who supported the event and filled the social hall, and finally those folk who made a donation but weren’t able to make it to the party. And what a party it was! The music, as always with Deanna Bogart and her band, was outstanding whether one listened or danced. Only things missing were the bright green tux jacket and the high-water brightly colored pants that Ritch Kepler wore last year to the event. (Well, the other thing missing was the power outage that occurred the day of the event in 2004 when a squirrel bit though wiring in the transformer outside the Center. That was really a test of “the show must go on” maxim.)

New Bikepath/Sidewalk—Montgomery County Public Works and Transportation has determined to proceed with the installation of an asphalt bikepath/sidewalk along the west side of Persimmon Tree Road from Holly Leaf Lane (Avenel) to MacArthur Blvd. This is good news for folk who like to use that stretch for walking or bicycling since Persimmon Tree road is pretty narrow and winding on that stretch. —



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SHERRI LY
cont. from page 1

School, but soon missed the warm weather and beaches. She returned to Florida, while her sister finished high school in Virginia. The girls remained close, but the separation allowed the twins an opportunity to explore individual interests and forge their own identities.

After her pivotal introduction to world events, Sherri's burgeoning interest was encouraged by a third-grade teacher who suggested she read the newspaper daily. Sherri, her sister Kerri, and two friends began a newsletter for her third-grade classmates at Oakland Heights Elementary. A few years later, Sherri would also become editor of her sixth grade newspaper. Her junior high and high schools did not have a newspaper, let alone any television programs, so Sherri became editor of the yearbook at both schools.

At the University of Miami, she finally got the opportunity to stretch her reporting wings and work on television. She spent a year covering track and field for the campus newspaper, Miami Hurricane, but by her junior year, she followed her heart to the campus television station. She co-anchored the launch of a half-hour newscast on UMTV, hosted a health and fitness program, and

(continued on page 11)



Let's Talk!

Eleanor Balaban
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LOCAL ARTISTS
cont. from page 3

© Stephen Hay



Stephen Hay's oil painting, "Potomac River," depicts a scene familiar to Cabin Johners who've strolled along the C&O towpath.

create "things that have to be expressed." Her goal is to develop a body of non-religious art for a show of her own, and her recent work has been in abstract design.

On the other side of Cabin John, Stephen Hay is an oil painter who describes his work as "hyper realism," bringing the bustling activity of urban settings and Times Square to life on canvas. In his basement studio, he creates large paintings that often show the movement of people. He also does house portraits on commission and has painted old town scenes as well as new homes. With a love for Cabin John, he says, he finds a "sort of communion" with the river and can be found at time on the tow path, painting "plein air" as the impressionists did. Hay has exhibited at the Discovery Gallery in Bethesda. Examples of his work can be seen on his Web site, www.gallerysteve.com.

Also in Cabin John, Jeff Kirk has been working with clay since college and began teaching classes at Glen Echo Pottery in 1975. He has exhibited in many local and national shows and his work can be found in many private collections through the United States and Europe. His most recent public commission was a ceramic mural for the Amazonian Building at the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoo in Washington, D.C. Now executive director of Glen



© Jeff Kirk

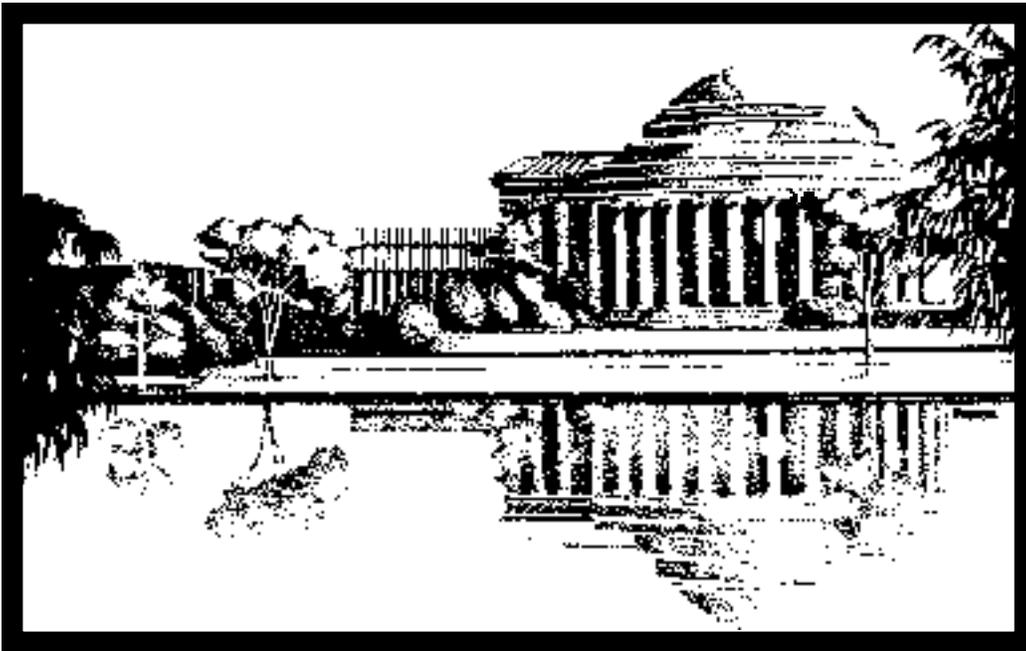
This ceramic is from Jeff Kirk's "Canyon Vessel" series, inspired by petroglyphs and pictographs he saw on a trip to southwest Utah.

Echo Pottery, he continues to teach classes for adults and youth year-round. The studio is housed in three Mongolian yurts at Glen Echo Park. Pictures of the pottery and the kiln can be found at www.glenechopottery.com. On his Web site, Jeff states, "Just as our pottery brings us in touch with the basic elements, earth, fire, water, and air, it brings us in touch with ourselves."

Steve Magnuson, with a fine arts degree from the Rhode Island School of Design, has lived in Cabin John for 32 years. A commercial artist, he

draws line art illustrations for newspapers and magazines in his home studio. He remembers chickens in the yard across the street. — 

If you know of other artists who live in Cabin John, let us know.



© Steve Magnuson

This pen and ink rendering of the Jefferson Memorial is the work of Steve Magnuson.



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Looking Back in Cabin John

by Andrew E. Rice

A Cabin John Memory Book

Good news: *Time Was: A Cabin John Memory Book* is back in print.

Nearly thirty years ago Elizabeth Kytle, then a Cabin John resident, interviewed 18 "old-timers" — people in their seventies and eighties and nineties who had long lived in our town and gave her their memories of what it was like to be here in the first half of the last century.

There was Lena Brown, then 93, who was born and raised on a farm where Carver Road now stands, and who was widely known as a master baker of pies. There was Matilda Bowles, just turned 91, who worked for many a year in the ice cream parlor and the laundry room of the Cabin John Bridge Hotel.

Otho Swain, born on a canal boat in 1901, speaks vividly of his life on the C & O Canal in the days when the waterway was busy with dozens of boats. Norman Tuohey, whose grandfather ran the general store and post office, tells of his boyhood days around 1910, when gasoline sold for 5 cents a gallon.

Ralph Springmann moved to Cabin John in the 1920's when lots were going for \$200 a half acre. Isabelle Redden

came a bit earlier; her childhood memories included the tavern at Great Falls, of which her mother was manager, where Sunday dinners went for \$1.25.

The Bobinger brothers, Harry and William, recall the glory days of the hotel with its remarkable gardens, music and wine cellar. Mrs. Isaac Marshall remembers how the volunteer fire department got started and the role it played in community life, including the refuge it provided in the great Potomac flood of 1936.

And there are ten more, each telling of times when life moved a bit more slowly than it does today. Not that it was all easy; the tales of the days of the Great Depression of the 1930s make that clear. The interviews go up to the 1950s when a real estate developer sought — unsuccessfully — to buy up Cabin John properties for a high-rise development.

Editor's Note: As this issue of The Village News was going to press, word was received that the initial reprinting of Time Was had sold out. Another reprinting is being ordered, at a price not yet determined. If you are interested in being notified when copies are available, please let Andy Rice know by e-mail at arice@comcast.net or by regular mail at 6517 80th Street.



PATRICIA AMMERMAN

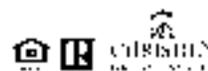
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SHERRI LY
cont. from page 7

reported for the campus station. Working at UMTV, Sherri realized that the immediacy of television, going out on the streets, and doing face-to-face interviews on daily deadlines appealed to her. She has never been the type to sit in an office. Reporting allows her to get out and meet people, one of the reasons she enjoys her work so much.

While honing her skills in college and throughout her broadcast career, Sherri has been fortunate to have Jim Heller's support along the way. She met Jim at the University of Miami, where he was an electrical engineering major, and two years older. They were married soon after Sherri graduated, and will have been married ten years this May.

After graduation, Sherri worked as an associate producer at TV stations in Miami and sent out hundreds of videotaped samples of her reporting, in the hope of landing her first professional on-air job. She accepted a job as a reporter at a satellite bureau for a small North Carolina station, WCTI, an ABC affiliate that ranked 113th in market size out of about 200 broadcast markets in the country.

Sherri's assignment was in a bureau located along the coast. Commercial fishing was one of the area's biggest industries, and during her time there she did more than her share of fishing stories. Summer months were spent on hurricane watch. Months after starting her first job, Sherri found herself in the middle of Hurricane Bertha, the first hurricane to hit North Carolina in many years. Her windblown reports from the beach earned her the reputation as "the girl in the yellow slicker." Her personal favorite story from North Carolina is a story about an Asian delicacy, green clams. Due to a bacterial infection, some clams can turn green, and the bacteria impart a delicate flavor to the clams which is prized by Japanese sushi gourmets. She couldn't pass up the opportunity to try one for the camera, and can now attest to the unique and relatively mild taste.

Just getting her foot in the door was no small feat. Competition for a job, even at a small station, means beating out hundreds of people. So when Sherri got the job in North Carolina, Jim and Sherri set up long-distance housekeeping, with Jim staying in South Florida. They took turns commuting back and forth every other weekend. It was a challenge for the newlyweds, and after two years, they decided to head west together: Jim accepted a job offer he couldn't refuse, and Sherri decided to try her luck in the hypercompetitive Los Angeles area.



© WTTG/Fox 5 News

Sherri Ly behind the anchor desk at WTTG/Fox 5 TV studios.

She worked first as an associate producer, then producer of the Orange County News Channel, a 24-hour cable news station. She worked her way back on air, first as a reporter, then as weekend anchor for the station. After several years, the station fell on hard times. Four days before September 11th, the news channel shut down. Post-9/11 television stations, hit by the economic slowdown, cut back on spending, laid off employees, and froze job openings, leaving few opportunities for Sherri. But persistence paid off, and, after six months without a phone call, she began to get offers. She landed a full-time freelance job as a reporter at the NBC station in San Francisco.

Jim and Sherri considered relocating to the Bay Area when the San Francisco station offered her a staff position, but she had a competing offer to come back east to WTTG/FOX 5, here in Washington, DC. They decided to take the offer, in part to be closer to family. Sherri's father has a farm in rural Virginia, and actually spends the week with Sherri and Jim to avoid the long commute. Jim's parents lived in New Jersey, just 2 ½ hours away.

Sherri's workday at WTTG begins at 3 pm and ends each night when she signs off on the 10 pm news. On many days, getting that story on the air is like a pressure cooker. She and her cameraman/editor often have just a few hours to shoot their interviews, get video, and write and edit the stories for air. The edited package is fed by microwave

(continued on page 12)

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SHERRI LY
cont. from page 11

back to the station minutes before the newscast, ready for Sherri to go live at ten.

Sherri kept up her work while pregnant, filing her last report at 10 pm, 24 hours before going into labor with baby Alicia last summer. After taking three months off for maternity leave, she's now back on the air, reporting on a wide range of topics as she always has. Jim has been working in sales from home, and helps fill in with childcare during some of the unusual hours Sherri keeps.

While reporting, Sherri has found herself the point person on a number of topics. She is often the person to turn to regarding the gang situation in the DC area, having done several stories and in-depth reports on the subject. Sherri has also covered many of the battles to bring baseball back to DC. In 2002, shortly after starting at FOX 5, Sherri found herself in the middle of the sniper shootings. As the shootings escalated, she and her crew kept bulletproof vests on hand, in case the situation ever got too dangerous. A year later, she spent more than a month on assignment in Chesapeake, Virginia, covering the trial and conviction of sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo. Down the road Sherri's career offers many different opportunities: anchoring, network reporting, and teaching journalism are all possibilities.

Outside of work, you will often see Sherri and Jim enjoying jogs along the C & O Canal, with Alicia in tow. They fell in love with Cabin John when they first started house hunting. The first house they saw wasn't right for them, but a few months later they found the gem they were looking for on the very same street. They moved to 78th Street almost two years ago. The convenience of the commute, the friendly neighbors, outdoor lifestyle of the Potomac and the C & O Canal, and the community charm make Cabin John a place where they feel right at home. —

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Mike Roark
Service Manager

DOGS
cont. from page 5

illness but, happily, she has proven to be a dog with nine lives. Sweet little **Rosie**, as her name implies, is the delicate Cavalier King Charles Spaniel on 79th Street who is always happy to run with her mom—toward their house, that is. It's the outbound trip she loathes. Rosie has a few other unexplainable quirks which may or may not be related to the fact that her parents are psychotherapists.

As for our friends that have passed away—all of whom were rescued from being unwanted and unloved—like my dear **Casey**, a Husky-Shepard mix; **Weezi**, my neighbor's Hound-mix; and "Crazy **Chaco**", the Chocolate Lab, we can find solace knowing that we gave our companions a daily glimpse of dog heaven—right here between Locks Fourteen and Seven. —

Apologies to the notable dogs I've missed. All comments can be addressed to the author at kotzrenee@aol.com

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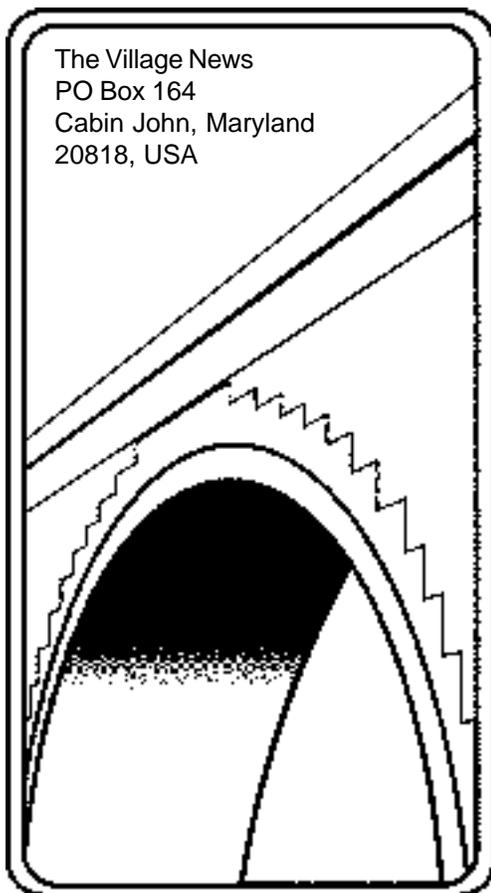
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