



Village News

Volume 39 Issue 8

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Local Historian Andy Rice Feted at March 31 Celebration for His Global Community Work

On March 31, 2006, long time Cabin John resident Andy Rice was celebrated at a large event in downtown Washington, DC for his extensive work in the area of international cooperation. The event was attended by many people from all parts of Andy's life, including his family and fans of Andy's from Cabin John. Andy has been a lifelong proponent of the importance of bringing together the international community. Among other accomplishments, Andy helped establish the Society for International Development, of which he served as chief operating officer for nearly twenty years, and the International Development Conference of which he later became president and chairman. Andy also served as chairman of the board of the Worldwatch Institute, president of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, and an active founding member of America's Impact Steering Committee. As the program notes indicated, Andy is recognized as an expert in development education and hailed as a writer, an editor, a mentor, a leader, and a friend. It was clear to those of us who attended that Andy was held in

huge esteem in the world of those people interested in enlarging citizen awareness of global interdependency.

Letters of accolades, including one from the United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, were read at the event. A portion of the following note of appreciation was also read at the event:

"Andy Rice is Cabin John's historian. There is no officially designated "historian" in our community association by-laws, but everyone recognizes that Andy has that role. In his typical straightforward but understated fashion, Andy reminds us every month through a column in our local newsletter, *The Village News*, of what was happening in our community 10, 20, even 30 or more years ago. It is clear that he very much enjoys providing this perspective and enlightening his neighbors. When asked, he has presented our community's history in person to an audience as seen by the events at Lockhouse 8 and the local Community Center these past two summers.

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Friends of CBCC Announce Cabin John Cookbook

Do you have a great recipe you want to share with your community? Want a resource to find out your neighbor's great recipes? Want to be part of a fun Clara Barton Community Center fundraiser? The Friends of the Clara Barton Community Center is excited to announce the creation of the Cabin John Cookbook!

We will also be collecting children's artwork for insertion into the cookbook so be sure to alert your children to this exciting opportunity. The artwork can be food related, Cabin John related, Clara Barton related or just anything they want to draw! At the same time, we will be collecting photos or adult drawings of Cabin John places/people/animals for use in the cookbook.

Also, if you would like to include a sentence or two with your thoughts about, and memories of, Cabin John we will be incorporating those into the cookbook as well.

For submission requests, please:

1. Title your recipe.
2. List your ingredients in the order in which they are used in the recipe,
3. Give the number of servings or guesstimate if possible.

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Neighborly News

by Barbara Martin

The Carter family has expanded ranks. **Veronica Marietta Carter** was born in February to **Diana** and **Adi Carter** of Riverside Drive. Veronica joins brother **Joshua** (4), sister **Gesina** (2), and great-grandmother **Johanna van Heeckeren**. Dad Adi is a research physicist with the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

From San Francisco comes news of a baby boy for **Joanie Schrof** and **David Fisher**, and for big brother **Noah**. The family lived for several years on 79th Street. David works for Google.

Former Wishbone Terrace residents **Myra** and **Barry Polsky** have moved to Williamsburg. Myra, an artist, most recently helped with the posters for our Cabin John House Tour.

Pat Busi died in March. Pat had lived on McKay Circle in the Gardens for many years. Her son **Edward**, his wife **Gay**, and their children live in the Gardens.

Danny Harris is Montgomery County's representative for the Interfaith Consortium, a very fine organization that collects furniture, appliances, building materials from individuals and businesses, and makes them available to needy families in the Cumberland area. You may have given things to Danny to be taken to the Cumberland center. But the Consortium is faced with closing very soon, unless money can be found to continue. Even though most of the work is done by volunteers, there are administrative costs which must be met. While donations of goods are still coming in, what is needed at this point is money. If you want to help in the effort to keep the Consortium's work going, your check would be most welcome. Make it out to the Interfaith Consortium and send it to Danny Harris at 8207 Caraway Street.

The Herderschee family has moved from 83rd Place to Woodrow Place. **Han Herderschee**, **Gabrielle Herderschee-Hunter**, and **Aidan** (10) now have new neighbors and playmates, but don't have to change their zip code. Han is an economist with the International Monetary Fund.

John Rabner, our hometown neighbor on 75th Street, and owner of First Choice company, now has his pilot's license. Don't let life get hum-drum.

HelenKay Dimon who lives on Archbold Terrace and is a divorce lawyer by day, writes romance fiction. Her latest is a novella in an anthology titled *When Good Things Happen To Bad Boys*, now available at Borders and Amazon.

Lesley Trembath who lived for many years on Wishbone, has now returned to her native Australia. I visited her last month at her beautiful condo on Sydney Harbor. Son **Dane**, who you may remember as the turtle and snake fanatic who spent every free minute on the canal, is now in Darwin starting his PhD studies and has become greatly in demand to collect and identify the snakes of the Outback. Lesley says "I miss Cabin John—all my good friends, neighbors, and their dogs. It broke my heart to leave." Email her at ltrembath@maglobe.net

Send your news items to me by calling 301-229-3482 or emailing barbmartin@comcast.net

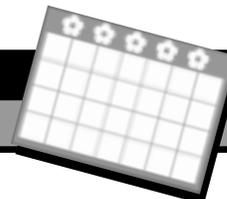
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Community Calendar



- 22** Painting Day
Clara Barton Center
9 am - noon (see p. 4)
- 22** Cabin John Creek Cleanup
MacArthur Tennis Courts Playground
9:30 am - noon (see p. 4)
- 25** CJCA meeting
Clara Barton Center
7:30 pm (see p. 4)
- 29** Glen Echo Walking Tour
Glen Echo Town Hall
10 am (see p. 8)
- 13** Flea Market/Yard Sale
Clara Barton Center
10 am - 3 pm (see p. 4)

MAY APR

Annual CJ Spring Egg Hunt Report

45 kids came out to search for eggs on a sunny April afternoon in the CJ playground at the 8th Annual Cabin John Spring Egg Hunt. We'd like to send a BIG THANK YOU to the following people who helped to stuff, count &/or hide the 960 eggs and run games for the children: Linn Bumpers; Chris Couste & Joanne Carl; the Lewis family (for the great parachute!); Kyra McKinna; John Morabito; Nate, Cassie & John Rabner; and Phoebe Schmidt.

See you all again next year!

—Ruth Rabner, Event Organizer



Letter to the editor



To the Staff of the Village News

Elisa and I have lived with our three children in Cabin John since 1999. We love it. I grew up in Bethesda in the neighborhood behind the Naval Hospital in the 60's and 70's. Elisa grew up in Reno, Nevada. We both really appreciate the eclectic nature of the folks who live in this neighborhood. This is a much more interesting neighborhood than the one I grew up in. We both really enjoy the sense of community that exists here. With the days getting longer we are out most evenings talking with neighbors, riding bikes with the kids or just walking Rocky our black lab. He's a big fan of the Cabin John Creek and the trail through the woods..... he would swim all day if we let him.

Since we moved in we have been reading the Village News. Your labor of love is really appreciated. I especially like reading about the history of the neighborhood and in particular about the individuals who lived here long ago. That thread to the past enriches the experience of living here in CJ. Great work!

Thanks,
Eric Libre and Elisa De Angelis (with Christina, Michael and Matthew)

[Editor's note: Thanks for your encouraging words, Eric. Cabin John IS a unique place, and it remains that way because of our desire to get out and help each other and our community. Two excellent opportunities to do that happen this Saturday (April 22)—painting at the community center from 9 to noon, and the Creek Clean-up from 9:30 to noon. We particularly encourage people new to Cabin John to come out and enjoy a couple of hours of fellowship, fresh air, and fulfilling work.]



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CJCA News

by Burr Gray

The next meeting of the CJCA will be Apr. 25, 7:30 pm at the Clara Barton Community Center.

Next CJCA Meeting Agenda — Additional information to answer questions raised at March 28 meeting concerning development of approximately three-acre property located across MacArthur Blvd from the shopping center.

Summary of Results of CJCA Meeting of March 28, 2004 — Gary Barnhard and his architect gave a presentation on the plans for developing the approximately three-acre property located on MacArthur Blvd across the road from the MacArthur Plaza shopping center. Plans consist of creation of six approximately half-acre lots for a total of six houses. The meeting was very well attended. Gary agreed to obtain

additional information concerning certain questions that were raised.

Spring Flea Market & Yard Sale at Clara Barton Community Center — If you're looking for a way to clean out your attic or shop for a hidden treasure, this is the event for you. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 13 (10 am to 3 pm). See the insert in this issue for further details.

New Officers — The Cabin John Citizens Association is looking for new officers for the next year (starting June 2006). If you are interested, please contact CJCA Treasurer Bruce Wilmarth at 301-229-8528. The term is for one year. —

Volunteers Still Needed for April 22 Cleanup Events



Two April 22 Earth Day events still could use a lot of support from the community. Painting Day at the Clara Barton Community Center begins at 9 am until noon. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Cabin John resident Mac Thornton (301-229-7430) if you can help with this important effort. Paint and brushes will be provided.

The Annual Cabin John Creek Cleanup, also scheduled for April 22 will commence at 9:30 am and also last until about noon. Volunteers will meet at the usual place – playground/swing set next the Cabin John Bridge.



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Al Vecchione: Life Begins (Again) at 65

by Ginny Dean

In 1996, at the age of 65, Al Vecchione, settling happily into retirement after a noteworthy career in television production, took up the clarinet.

Although a bit embarrassed shuffling into the Levine School of Music for lessons—alongside pint-sized pupils—and alarmed by the initial honks and tweets the instrument produced, he went back. And he continued to go back. Ten years later, he still takes lessons with Lora Ferguson, the assistant principal clarinetist with the Washington Opera Orchestra, and now plays in many chamber-music concerts each year. “If there is any story to tell about me,” he says modestly, “it’s that.”

Al’s late-in-life love affair with the clarinet is, in many respects, representative of his life so far—a course navigated with generous supplies of skill, luck, personality and risk-taking. In retirement, he has a wonderfully simple and simply wonderful philosophy about how he wants to live: He does things that he deems to be either worthwhile to society or fun. But that’s getting ahead of the story.

The youngest of his parents’ seven kids, Al Vecchione (pronounced veck-ee-yone) was born

(continued on page 6)



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VECCHIONE

cont. from page 5

during the Great Depression in Queens, New York. Because there wasn't enough money for college, young Al became a house painter, going to school at night. During the height of the Korean War, he was drafted. Of the 100 men in his basic training company, 97 were sent to Korea; Al and two others to Europe. Within a year, half of the Korea-bound contingent had died.

When his tour in Germany was over, he continued his night school education, now courtesy of the GI Bill, and went in search of a job, courtesy of the New York subway system. He exited at the 50th Street station because there were tall buildings there. Where there are tall buildings, he reasoned, there must be job opportunities. He applied for them all, including one with NBC. Soon Al was the newest mail boy at NBC, a job he maintains was the best he's ever had. "It paid well—\$32 a week. I worked with real nice people whom I became good friends with. And moving around those hallways, in that glamorous environment, was great fun for a young man. It beat house painting, hands down." These were the early days of TV, when Milton Berle, Dave Garroway, Arturo Toscanini and Eddie Fisher roamed NBC's hallowed halls.

Being an extroverted mail boy enabled him to meet a lot of people. One was Elizabeth Leitner. "She had a fancy job in radio network sales—there was carpeting on the floor of her office. And she was real cute!" he says, the gleam in his eye still visible. "I made a pass and struck out cold." She obviously gave him a second chance. In September, Al and Liz celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and have four wonderful children and eight "even better" grandchildren.

On his rounds, he also met the folks in Personnel, who knew about job openings. Soon he was working in Network Operations, which introduced him to the world of TV production. From there it was onward and upward, moving from the Operations Department to Unit Managing and traveling the world. When he left NBC 20 years and 10 zillion frequent-flyer miles later, he was East Coast Production Manager.

In his travels, he'd met and become friends with Robin MacNeil, who was working as a reporter for BBC London. MacNeil told him he had signed on as a correspondent with the National Public Affairs Center for Television (NPACT), a media organization in Washington, and invited Al to come with him. Always a risk-taker, Al accepted, initially as Director of Production for the start-up company that would

(continued on page 10)

Real Estate Activity in Cabin John Mar/Apr 2006

Courtesy of Patricia Ammerman, cell 301-787-8989, office 301-320-8606.

ACTIVE:	List Price	BR	FB	HB	Lvl	Acres
7713 Tomlinson Av	\$1,695,000	6	6	1	4	0.29
6525 79th Pl	\$1,645,000	5	5	0	4	0.305
6416 83rd St	\$799,000	3	1	0	3	0.14
6703 Tomlinson Ter	\$1,319,000	5	4	0	3	0.42
8013 Cypress Grv Ln	\$899,999	4	3	1	3	0.34
7909 Cypress Grv Ln	\$1,200,000	5	3	1	4	0.51
7 Thorne Rd #7	\$430,000	2	1	0	1	
6438 Wishbone Ter	\$815,000	4	3	1	3	0.11
1 Ericsson Rd #0	\$440,000	2	1	0	1	
6512 77th St	\$745,000	3	2	1	3	0.21
6523 79th Pl	\$695,000	4	2	0	2	0.321

UNDER CONTRACT:

6528 79th St	\$1,599,000	6	4	1	4	0.41
6522 77th St	\$1,725,000	6	5	1	4	0.28
7992 Riverside Dr	\$1,695,000	5	5	1	3	1.04
6401 81st St	\$925,000	4	3	0	3	0.41
7833 Macarthur Blvd	\$1,299,999	6	6	0	3	0.37

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List Price	Sold For:
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Do You Have a Cabin John T-Shirt?

In a forthcoming issue of the *Village News* we plan to do a photographic display of the various t-shirts that have featured Cabin John over the years. We have four on hand with the following designs:

- the Union Arch Bridge with the moon and stars in the night sky
- a large crab with the “Cabin John Crab Feast” legend
- the Cabin John Hotel, pictured circa 1880
- a squirrel on a pine branch with the legend “Free to be Cabin John”

We know that there is one more with the words:”Cabin John: My Place in the Sun” and there may be others. If you have the “My Place in the Sun” t-shirt or any others not listed above and would be willing to lend it/them to be photographed (and then returned to you), please let Andy Rice know, preferably by e-mail (aerice@comcast.net). Thank you.



COOKBOOK

cont. from page 1

4. Write a comment about the recipe if you would like, especially if there is a story associated with it.
5. Include your name.
6. If you are sending artwork, please put a post it note on the back of the piece with the name of the artist/photographer and/or information about the picture. If the artwork is connected with a certain recipe, put the name of the recipe on the post it note also. Do not staple or paper clip the information to the picture.
7. Send all submissions and pictures by e-mail to Judy Brookes (judy@brookes.com) or Rachelle Cherol (Rlc7910@aol.com) by June 1, 2006. You can mail or drop off the recipes and/or pictures and photos also (Judy Brookes, 6509 81st Street, CJ MD 20818 or Rachelle Cherol, 7910 Longridge Court, CJ MD 20818).

This is going to be a fun and interesting project and we look forward to receiving all your wonderful recipes, comments and pictures for our first Cabin John Cookbook! Thanks! If you have any further questions, please contact Judy Brookes or Rachelle Cherol at the Email addresses above.



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Walking Tour Planned for Glen Echo

Over the years Cabin John has had a close relationship with its downriver neighbor, Glen Echo. Now there's an opportunity to get to know Glen Echo better through a 2½ hour walking tour led by the town's historian, Carlotta Anderson, on Saturday morning, April 29. You'll learn about the town's history, hear about some of its interesting residents, and see some of its noteworthy houses. The tour is being organized through the Montgomery County Historical Society and reservations (at \$6, or \$4 for MCHS members) should be made by calling the Society at 301-240-2825. The group will assemble at the Glen Echo Town Hall, 6101 Harvard Avenue, at 10 am.



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**Mark Your Calendars: June 16–18
For Cabin John Dumpster Days**

Here's your opportunity to clean out your garage, basement or attic. Dumpster Days offers you the chance to dispose of trash, recyclables, paint cans and hazardous materials (Note: hazardous materials will be collected only until noon on Saturday). We are only accepting residential stuff from Cabin John households; no commercial vehicles. Dumpsters will be provided by the CJCA at the Clara Barton Community Center. More details will be announced in next month's *Village News*, but for now, we need to gather the volunteers for such tasks as:

- Creating and posting signs
- Directing traffic flow the days of the event
- Providing assistance unloading cars, sorting materials, and loading dumpsters
- Mixing latex paints with cat litter in preparation for disposal
- Visiting homes of the elderly or disabled who need help getting disposables out of their houses

For planning purposes we would especially like to hear as soon as possible from individuals who have trucks and are willing to offer any amount of time. Trucks will be used to pick up from the homes of the elderly/disabled and also for shuttling some materials (such as paints, batteries, etc) to a nearby drop site located at Westland Middle School.

To help in any way or for any amount of time please contact Werner Schumann at 301-229-8543 (w), 301-229-3196 (h), or Michaela Palumbo at 301-320-9423 (h) or Email at cjdumpsterday@aol.com.



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RICE
cont. from page 1

Andy has invested a great deal of time in our community. He served as editor of *The Village News* from the mid-80's to the early 90's. In Andy's words, 'I saw the *Village News* as a way to strengthen the community. The paper wasn't exclusively a voice for the Citizens Association; all news and opinions were welcome. I enjoyed it.' Andy also served as president of the Cabin John Citizens Association during the 1975-76 term, a period when zoning laws were being developed that affected Cabin John. Andy guided the discussion firmly and reasonably to an acceptable resolution, which said a great deal about his managerial skill and social values.

We should also note that our community owes a large debt to Andy's wife, Connie, who pushed for the planning effort that led to the Community Plan, finalized in 1973, that established the direction on how Cabin John should evolve, including a central shopping area. The County respected this effort and implemented it.

On behalf of the Cabin John Citizens Association and the Cabin John community, we thank Andy and his wife Connie many times over for their efforts to strengthen our community and make it a better place these past few decades."
—Burton Gray, CJCA President



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Mike Roark
 Service Manager



VECCHIONE
cont. from page 6

produce and distribute a wide range of public affairs programs, and later as its general manager. He and Liz packed up their growing family and headed south. At NPACT, he got to know and like another correspondent, Jim Lehrer.

When the company folded four years later, he became a TV advisor for the Democratic National Committee and producer of the 1976 convention at Madison Square Garden. His work there introduced him to Jody Powell and others in Jimmy Carter's inner circle and he was hired as Governor Carter's television advisor for the general election. If the Georgia governor won, a job in the Carter Administration seemed likely.

But by the election, his old friend Robin MacNeil had come calling again, this time inviting Al to join him and Lehrer and become executive producer for an unconventional new show that would focus on one story a night for 30 minutes. He liked the concept that they proposed and signed on to what would become the MacNeil/Lehrer Report. Friends thought he was "nuts," especially with Carter now elected. But, he says with a laugh, 30 years later, the show is still there and Jimmy Carter is back in Georgia.

Having moved to D.C. for NPACT, he was reluctant to relocate to New York, where most of the MacNeil/Lehrer staff was housed. So he began an up-and-back weekly commute that was to last 20 years, during which time the program doubled in length to become the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour and he became president of MacNeil/Lehrer Productions. He retired 10 years ago this June, ready to try something new.

Asked what he's proudest of in his career, he puts NPACT's persuading a reluctant PBS to air the Select Committee hearings that Senator Sam Ervin ran during Watergate at the top of his list. The move forced the major networks to follow suit, but Al's group outsmarted the majors by re-running the hearings every night in prime time to a mesmerized audience. Their successful struggle to get it on the air, he believes, altered the course of history.

The imprint that the MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour made on TV news also makes the cut for work of which he's especially proud. They started from scratch and built a show that was of consistently high quality, as well as politically and socially influential. There was also a five-part series that ran on NBC on the health care crisis in America that was well ahead of its time and won an Emmy for best documentary series. Awards matter little to Al, although he's received many, but he

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is under-standably proud of the standard of quality to which he always held himself in his work.

In retirement, Al remains extremely busy and engaged. One focus is his concern over the corruption of television. Eight years ago, he wrote, "In the roughly 50 years since it was introduced, television has evolved as a menace to our society's mental and even physical health. [Its] influence...may surpass that of our religious institutions; its capacity to mold public policy may be greater than our political institutions; its reach into our children's minds may be stronger than our educational system." Powerful and ironic words from a career TV news man. Until recently, he served on the board of TV-Free America.

His service on several boards, political activism against the war, and participation in creating the first summer stock theater at Rehoboth Beach are just some of the ways he meets his worthwhile-efforts test. They're all done pro bono in what he calls give-back time.

On the fun side, there are the six months Al and Liz spend at their house on the Eastern shore, tennis, travel and the theater. And then there's the clarinet, where the two criteria come together, making beautiful music for appreciative audiences and having fun doing it with a new circle of artistic friends.

"I didn't think it was possible to become competent enough to perform," he says. "I can't describe the satisfaction. It's made for a whole new life." One in which he's enjoying every minute. — 



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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.

THE VILLAGE NEWS is published monthly except in July and December 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 [or heidblewis@earthlink.net]

The next deadline is 10 am, Wednesday, May 10, for the issue mailing May 19.

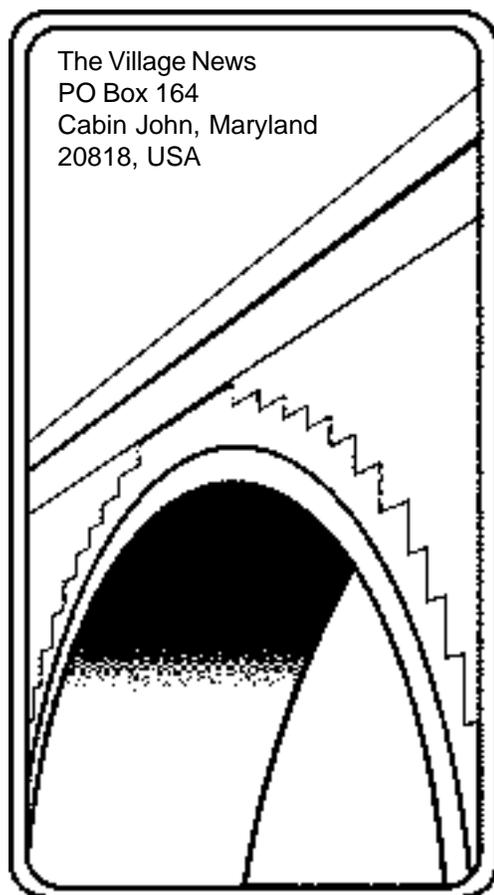
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Regular Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice, Barbara Martin.

Ads: 301-229-3515 or mail to *Village News* at above address

Neighorly News: 301-229-3482 or barbmartin@comcast.net

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