



Village News

Volume 39 Issue 10

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Lockhouse 8 River Center Lines Up Summer Fun



© Ken Speckler

This banjo concert by resident Reed Martin was a recent River Center event.

by Judy Welles

There are a number of upcoming activities you can join at the Lockhouse 8 River Center, C&O Canal at the end of Riverside Drive in Cabin John. Parking is at Clara Barton Parkway Lock 8 pullout. All activities are free.

First up is a Fly Fishing Workshop, which will be held on Saturday, June 24, 9 am to 12 pm. Enjoy a morning of fishing instruction on the scenic Potomac River. To RSVP and if you do not have

(continued on page 10)

June Red Cross Blood Drive Gets Good Turn Out

by Karen Melchar

The Cabin John Citizens Association sponsored a Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, June 4 that procured 43 pints of whole blood. As always, the blood drive was a group effort on the parts of Burr Gray as liaison with the Red Cross and in setting up and breaking down at the Clara Barton Center, and Karen Melchar and Lisan Martin in recruiting donors. The CJCA appreciates the hard work of Andrew and David Brookes, Andrew Beers, Hannah

Duffy, Larry Heflin, and Heidi Lewis in running the registration table.

Thanks most of all to everyone who showed up to donate blood. We had 51 people scheduled and 11 people who walked in which is an excellent turnout during the start of a busy summer season. We don't list the people we sign up to donate for confidentiality reasons, but know that we truly appreciate your efforts which benefit not only our immediate community, but our much larger county and state community as well.

As always, if you are interested in giving blood or helping with the blood drive, the next CJCA sponsored drive will be held on the first Sunday in October 2006. Please email Karen Melchar (ardenroad@mac.com) if you would like to help by donating blood, assisting with publicity or working the registration table.

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Neighborly News

by Barbara Martin

Olga Long died in April at age 95. Until the last year, Olga had lived at 79th Place and MacArthur since 1949 when she moved with husband Bernie from their DC house across from the Washington Arboretum. She was the mother of Barbara Gardner and the grandmother of Tim Gardner and Richard Gardner. Olga was a faithful member of Cabin John Methodist Church, and an enthusiastic maker of quilts, pillows, and embroidered and crocheted pieces.

Helen Daniel is moving to Washington state. "Cabin John is a wonderful place to have lived for the past 22 years. I feel so fortunate. This town has certainly set a high standard for any other community to reach. I hope as many folks as possible will come to Seattle for a visit; my place will always be open." Reach Helen at 6328 42nd Avenue SW, Seattle WA 98136, 206-936-7681.

Over Memorial Day weekend, friends **Ruth Rabner** and **Robin Gurley** of 75th Street, and **Judy Brookes** of 81st Street bicycled the C&O Canal towpath. That's 192 miles in 4 days, including side trips off the path for food and lodging. Ruth reports that at the finish, they were all fine and feeling very proud, just a little tired and achy in the knees. "I did stop and fix someone's tire for him, so I got to try out my new bike maintenance skills; but he was a bit embarrassed as I patched, replaced, and pumped up his inner tube while he and his girlfriend stood and watched."

Hugh Gallagher was posthumously inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame. Hugh was honored for championing the rights of the disabled. Stricken with polio at age 19, he wrote an early civil rights law for the disabled, including most notably accessible entrances and facilities in public buildings, and played a key role in the decision to have the statue of Franklin D. Roosevelt at the FDR Memorial in Washington DC show the president in his wheelchair, known as the *Rendezvous with Destiny* statue. Hugh lived for more than 30 years on Cabin Road.

A recent issue of the Potomac Almanac featured an article about WW II veteran **Danny Harris**, and his annual project of putting flags up along MacArthur Boulevard for more than 30 years. The flags go up before Memorial Day and remain up through Labor Day. The article also recounted Danny's decades-

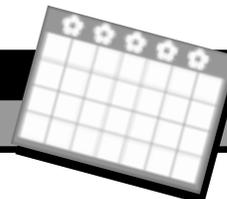
long project of collecting usable building materials and household appliances to be distributed to needy families in depressed areas of West Virginia and Maryland. Danny and his wife, **Margaret Castle**, live on Caraway Street.

The *Washington Post* carried the obituary of **Frazier Kellogg**, who moved from Tomlinson Avenue to Brooklin, Maine, 20 years ago. Frazier was an environmental advocate in forestry practices and global economics. He was also influential in Federal legislation concerning Indian Affairs and Job Corps.

Did you know that instead of paying for 411 National Directory information calls, you can call 1-800-373-3411 and get the information free. Thanks to **Forrest Minor** for the tip.

Please send news items about present or past residents to Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482 or email barbmartin@comcast.net

Community Calendar



24 Fly Fishing
Lockhouse 8 River Center
9 am - noon (see p. 1)

24 Life by the Canal
Lockhouse 8 River Center
1 - 2 pm (see p. 10)

25 Canoe Building
Lockhouse 8 River Center
3 - 4 pm (see p. 10)

8 Picnic on the Potomac
Carderock Pavilion
4 - 8 pm (see p. 10)

9 Fiddlin on the Porch
Lockhouse 8 River Center
4 - 5 pm (see p. 10)

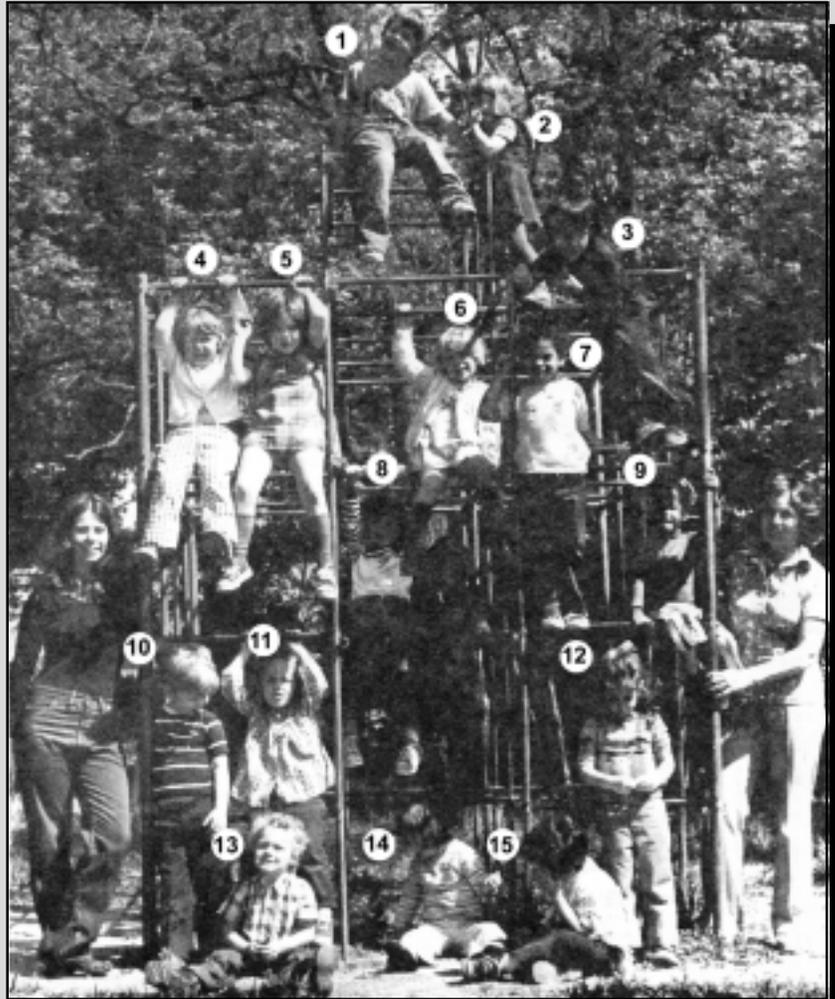
Do You Recognize These Cabin John Kids From 30 Years Ago?

Here's a photo taken from the May 1976 issue of the *Village News* that features the 4-year-old class at Clara Barton School. Teacher Annette Davis is standing at left and assistant Joann Bast is standing on the right.

We've been able to identify most of the kids. Maybe you can help us fill in the blanks.

Here's what we know:

- 1 — Billy Via
- 2 — ?
- 3 — Jon Luchs (Jon currently is studying alternative medicine at a school in the Seattle area.)
- 4 — Holly Hanes
- 5 — ?
- 6 — ?
- 7 — Antoine White
- 8 — Marc Luchs (Marc is studying acupuncture in New York City.)
- 9 — Pamela Wheeler
- 10 — Nate Patch (Nate is currently an archivist at the National Archives who specializes in naval history.)
- 11 — Mia Keefe (Mia is now a chief financial officer for an international company.)
- 12 — Liz Skillman
- 13 — Brian Kemp
- 14 — ?
- 15 — John Haas (John is vice-principal at a Montgomery County high school.)



1976 four-year-olds in the Clara Barton School playground.
This photo was taken by Linda Ford.

If you have any information or updates about any of the other children in this photo (sorry it's not the best reproduction), we'd love to hear from you. —



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Mike Roark
Service Manager

Local Artist to be Featured in One-Man Show

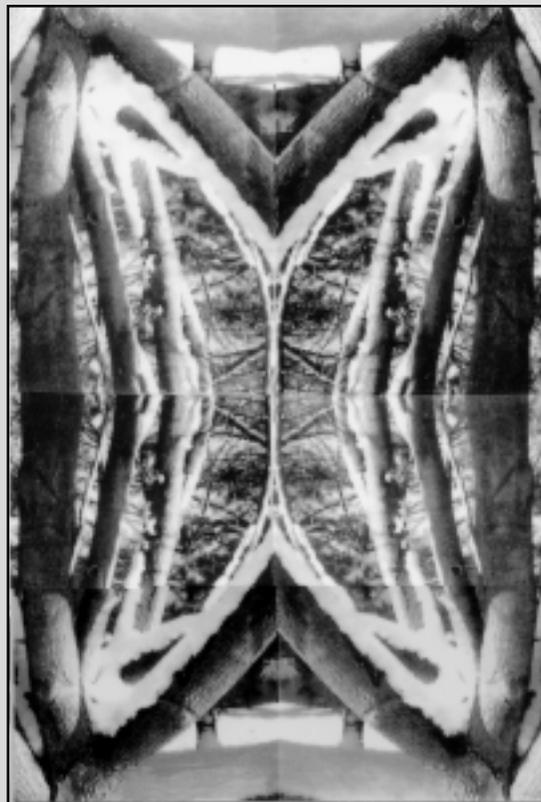
Robert Witt, long-time resident of Cabin John, is having a one-man show of his unusual compositions and assemblages of photography.

The show will be held at the Yellow Barn Studios at Glen Echo Park from noon to 5 pm on July 21-23. A reception will be on July 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

The studios are located in the Arcade Building on the third floor. The gallery is accessible by elevator or stairs.

This show is made possible in cooperation with the National Park Service and the Glen Echo Partnership for Arts & Culture.

When you visit the show, you will be able to pick up information on the many art classes offered by the Yellow Barn Studios.



"Tree" by Robert Witt.



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The Streets of Cabin John Gardens

By Barbara Martin

[Since 2006 marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the cooperatively-owned Cabin John Gardens, Inc., we thought it might be appropriate to reprint an article that first appeared in the *Village News* of December 1998.]

Ericsson, Froude, Thorne, McKay, Russell, Webb — where did those names come from? Some research has delved into their origin. When the Gardens — a public housing project — was built in the 1940's to provide homes for war workers at David Taylor Model Basin, illustrious naval engineers and architects were remembered by naming streets after them.

Admiral David Taylor (1864-1940) persuaded the Navy to build the experimental model basin which bears his name. Admiral Taylor is regarded as one of the foremost authorities on ship construction in the world. He had the unusual distinction of having been graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and the Royal College of Greenwich, England. A timely footnote: Admiral Taylor in 1912 wrote a detailed analysis titled "Lessons from the Titanic Disaster."

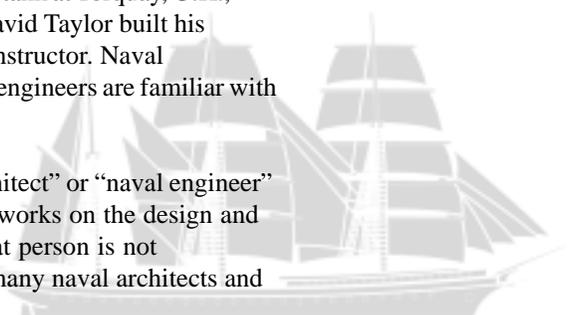
Sir William Froude's pioneering work of testing models in an experimental tank at Torquay, U.K., was the basis on which David Taylor built his achievements as naval constructor. Naval historians, architects, and engineers are familiar with the "Froude coefficient."

Note: The title "naval architect" or "naval engineer" designates someone who works on the design and construction of ships. That person is not necessarily in the Navy; many naval architects and engineers are civilians.

John Ericsson was a Swedish naval engineer, transplanted to America, who invented — among other things — the screw propeller. A statue of Mr. Ericsson stands in West Potomac Park with a plaque describing his achievements. He designed the famous ship *Merrimack*.

Donald McKay was a renowned naval architect of the American sailing-ship era who designed and built the *Sovereign of the Seas*, at the time of her launching the largest sailing vessel afloat.

(continued on page 7)



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STREET NAMES

cont. from page 5

John Russell (1808-1882), a Scot, was a civil engineer who designed and built the first seagoing battleship made entirely of iron. He studied the nature of waves and their effects on hulls. Mr. Russell wrote "Modern Systems of Naval Architecture," a 3-volume set published in England in 1865.

William Webb was a designer and builder of commercial ships—clipper ships and packet ships—in the 1800's. His very successful and prolific shipyard was in Manhattan. Named for him, the Webb Institute of Naval Architecture is located in Glen Cove, New York, on Long Island.

Robert Thorne was a sixteenth-century British expert on navigation. He was a merchant and geographical writer who accompanied the Cabots on their voyages to Newfoundland. I have no evidence that this was the person for whom Thorne Circle was named; however, he is the only Thorne I could locate having to do with ships.

From 1920 to 1938, the man in charge of the Model Basin was Captain Eggert, whose name was given to a road, not in the Gardens but off MacArthur Boulevard, directly across from the Model Basin in Carderock.

Many thanks to Lorraine Minor for the use of her volume, D.W. Taylor, published by the David Taylor Research Center, c.1990, from which much of the information in this article is taken. Information presented here about those men not identified in the publication is correct, but I'm only making educated guesses that they are the persons for whom the Gardens streets were named. If anyone has other information about naming of the streets, I would be glad to have it.



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Real Estate Activity in Cabin John May/June 2006

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

ACTIVE:	List Price	BR	FB	HB	Lvl
1 Ericsson Rd. #0	\$440,000	2	1	0	1
6512 77th St.	\$680,000	3	2	1	3
6508 Seven Locks Rd.	\$785,500	4	2	0	3
6617 81st St.	\$799,000	3	2	1	2
6418 Wishbone Ter.	\$799,000	4	3	1	3
8013 Cypress Grove Ln.	\$872,000	4	3	1	3
7909 Cypress Grove Ln.	\$975,000	5	3	1	4
10 Carver Rd.	\$1,379,000	6	4	1	4
7406 Arden Rd.	\$1,750,000	6	6	1	4
7409 Arden Rd.	\$1,895,000	5	5	1	4

UNDER CONTRACT:

7713 Tomlinson Ave.	\$1,695,000	6	6	1	4
6416 83rd St.	\$690,000	3	1	0	3
7992 Riverside Dr.	\$1,695,000	5	5	1	3
7 Thorne Rd. #7	\$430,000	2	1	0	1
6524 77th St.	\$1,699,000	6	5	1	4
7913 Cypress Grove Ln.	\$979,000	4	2	2	4
6914 Seven Locks Rd.	\$1,399,000	6	4	2	3
7870 Archbold Ter.	\$525,000	3	2	1	3

SOLD

	List Price	Sold For:
6438 Wishbone Ter.	\$815,000	\$807,500
6523 79th Pl.	\$695,000	\$650,000
6525 79th Pl.	\$1,599,000	\$1,605,000
6528 79th St.	\$1,599,000	\$1,605,000



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Looking Back in Cabin John

by Andrew E. Rice

Cabin John's Biggest Celebration

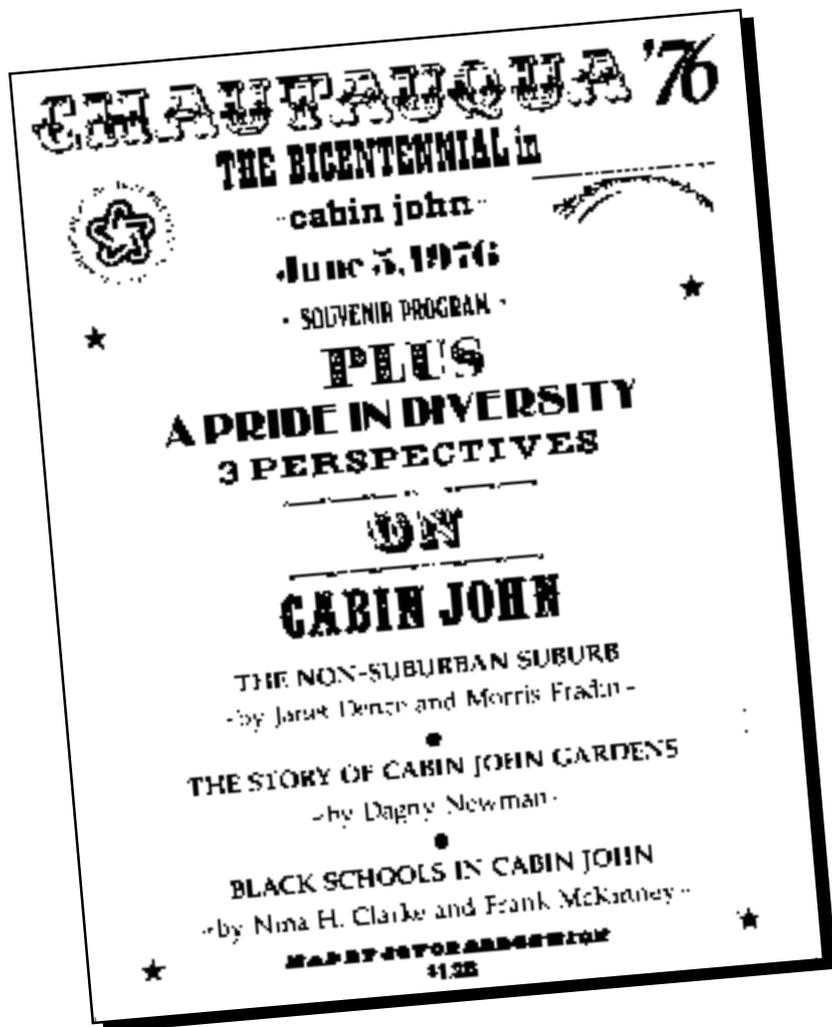
June 2006 marks the 30th anniversary of the biggest community event ever held in Cabin John: CHAUTAUQUA '76 — Cabin John's celebration of our country's bicentennial. Held on Saturday, June 5, a month before the official national celebration on the 4th of July, our town pulled out all the stops for a day-long program of indoor and outdoor activities for every taste and age group.

Consider some of the highlights:

- A bike parade opened the day's festivities, followed by a batting contest and then by a softball game between the Cabin John Volunteer Firemen and the Village News Volunteers. Ongoing activities throughout the

day included volleyball and horseshoes competitions.

- Slide shows and mini-lectures punctuated the day, dealing with aspects of Cabin John's history ("Indian Relics in Cabin John" was especially popular), accompanied by a photo exhibit of "Cabin John — Yesterday and Today" and by a special exhibit of silver and china from the old Cabin John Bridge Hotel.
- An all-Cabin John children's cast performed "Hey-ey-ey Lock," an original play based on Morris Fradin's book of the same name about the C & O Canal.
- Of music there was plenty. There was a mid-day Gospel Sing, a mid-afternoon mini-concert of revolutionary era music by a string quartet, and a performance by the Walt Whitman High School Band — not to mention a square dance in the evening.
- Of food there was also plenty — a box supper (plus snacks throughout the day) by the United Methodist Church, baked goods for sale by the AME Zion Church, and a beer garden run by the *Village News*.
- The biggest event of all was undoubtedly Old Timers Night — a wonderful evening that brought together some of our town's oldest inhabitants to reminisce. One of them, A.C. Wilkins (age 92) who had been president of the Citizens Association back in the 1920's, not only talked but sang a solo, "A Friend of Mine."



Chautauqua '76 was organized by a bicentennial committee, headed by Calvin Kytle, with Janet Dence as program coordinator. Each aspect of the day had its own subcommittee, and many dozens of volunteers and organizations were involved in putting it all together. A raffle of "Cap'n John's Treasure" — prizes contributed by local merchants — raised funds for the big event.

No question about it: Cabin John knew how to celebrate!



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—Nancy Pinto-Orton

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LOCKHOUSE
cont. from page 1

your own equipment, contact James Tilley, 301-608-1188 x213, or tilley@potomac.org.

Life by the Canal, an oral history, will be presented Saturday, June 24, 1 to 2 pm. For Montgomery County Heritage Day, people who lived next door to the lockhouse on the C&O Canal will tell what it was like to live and play by the canal and Potomac River. Contact Judy Welles, 301-608-1188 x 212 or welles@potomac.org for more information.

Would you like to learn how to build a canoe? Come to the Lockhouse on Sunday, June 25. From 3 to 4 pm, canoeist Jim Ross will explain how to build a canoe by hand and tell you the best places to paddle. For details, contact Judy Welles, 301-608-1188 x 212 or welles@potomac.org.

And don't forget the Picnic on the Potomac, Saturday, July 8, 4 to 8 pm at the Carderock Pavilion in Carderock, MD. Bring the entire family to the Potomac Conservancy's 7th annual Picnic on the Potomac. Meet other river lovers, listen to live blue grass and country music, and take part in circle and contra dancing. Admission is free. There will be hamburgers and drinks and you'll need to bring a potluck dish. For directions or more information, contact Angela Preston at preston@potomac.org.

"Fiddlin' On the Porch" is scheduled for Sunday, July 9, from 4 to 5 pm. Come listen to the folk fiddle and guitar of "Kitchen Gorilla" (Lisa Robinson and Joel Edelman) and hear old time tunes of Celtic, Appalachian and Eastern European origin. Again, please contact Judy Welles, welles@potomac.org, if you need further details.

To keep continually updated of Potomac Conservancy activities, visit www.potomac.org and sign up for *RiverUpdate*, a free monthly e-newsletter. We hope to see you soon! — 

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The next deadline is 10 am, Wednesday, Aug. 9, for the issue mailing Aug. 18.

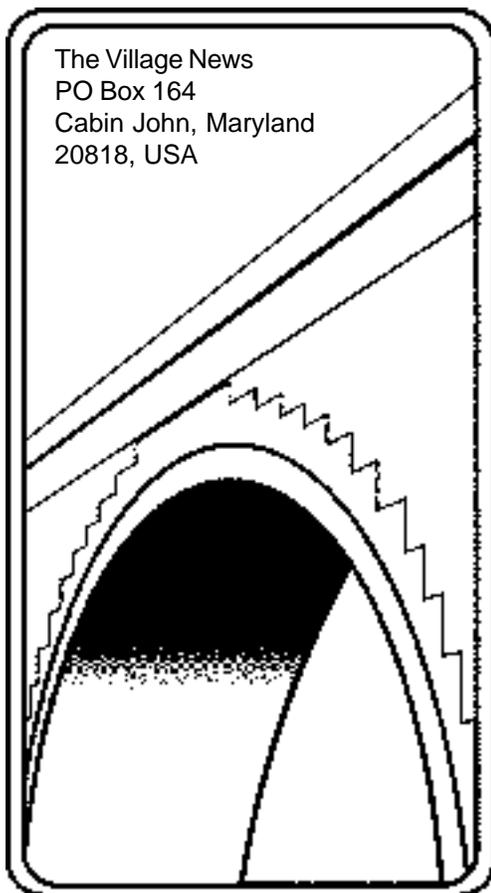
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Regular Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice, Barbara Martin.

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