Cabin John Village News

Vol. 7 No. 5 February, 1974

February Calendar of Events

6 Navy Quartet - 7:30 p.m.
Little Falls Library
9 TB Skin Test 10 to 12
Cabin John Fire House
11 TB Skin Test Reading 4 to 6
Cabin John Fire House
11 "Mrs. Piggle Wiggle" 4 p.m.
Little Falls Library
16 Children's Film 10:30
Little Falls Library
23 Chicken Dinner 1 to 3
21 Carver Rd.
27 Citizens Association 8 p.m.
Clara Barton School

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION NEWS

A lot of areas were covered in the last meeting of the Cabin John Citizens Association on the 23rd of January. I am simply lifting highlights from the meeting to report to you from the minutes, so you can see the diversity of areas that are being worked upon; maybe pick out your area to help in.

Bill Green of the Potomac Valley League reported the good news that in the case of the Pollinger property, the Maryland Court of Appeals (Maryland's highest court) has vacated the special exception formerly granted to build a high-rise structure along MacArthur Boulevard, stating that the applicant had not given enough proof of sewer capacity and that the administrative agency which granted the special exception (the Board of Appeals) had failed to explain its decision. This is a landmark decision in that it requires future controversial decisions of administrative agencies to be accompanied by an explanation of why they made the decision as they did. Bill Green said that the Pollinger tract is the most litigated piece of property in Montgomery County. It is still owned by Pollinger or a Pollinger subsidiary. He stated in answer to question that the Potomac Valley League has no objection to a Senior Citizens home in our area, if there is no location problem.

Tom Brown of the Community development Office reported that the Maryland National Park and Planning Board passed favorably on all the recommendations contained in the Cabin John Plan as expressed in last fall's public hearing, except that Tomlinson Avenue has been recommended to be a subdivision road (as opposed to a collector road as scheduled in the original BCC Master Plan) rather than the no-thru street this community had asked for. Quite soon the Planning Board will be submitting to the County Council the sectional map amendment (calling for downzoning of commercial properties along MacArthur) along with the appropriate elements of the Cabin John Plan. At that time, we will be welcome to make a presentation to the Council.

$20,000 has been appropriated by the Council to upgrade the parking lot at Glen Echo for fringe parking for the Metro bus system.

MacArthur Boulevard is scheduled to be resurfaced and slightly widened in April or May of this year. This will be a joint project of the Army Corps of Engineers and Montgomery County and will probably include a bike path on the south side of the road, reaching from the D.C. line to Anglers Inn. Proposals for landscaping along MacArthur are being solicited.

Regarding the future Seven Locks Road Park, final negotiations for acquisition of the Harris tract are now in progress. This is a 10 acre parcel of land, adjacent to the Palisades Swimming Pool. Improvements on this proposed park are tentatively scheduled for 1976.

A committee of citizens from communities along Seven Locks Road are meeting as an advisory body to the county for the improvement of Seven Locks Road. Our representatives are Janet Hutchinson and Frank McKinney. It has been urged to make this a 24' rather than a 36' roadway, and to include a bike path all along it. Construction may start in 1976; budget hearings should be announced within the next two months.

Following a joint meeting of representatives from the Carderock Springs Citizens Association and Cabin John, the Carderock Springs people came around to our point of view regarding a bike trail through the valley of the Cabin John Creek. They then submitted a letter to the county reversing their former position and urging that a trail in that territory be limited to foot traffic.

Tom Brown reported that as of now the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission favors a hiker-biker trail, and that we should write to both the county executive and the county council stating our position, which is that we want only a footpath through the woods along the Cabin John Creek, with a separate bike trail along Tomlinson, Seven Locks and the Cabin John freeway.

Lights on the tennis courts are now operational, with coin operated mechanisms at the rate of 25¢ for half an hour.

The county fire chief has not yet received specifications for the Cabin John silent alarm system from Chief ED Gotthardt.

Regarding the Burgess tract purchase by Montgomery County, the Housing Site Fund has now been legally established and approved by the County Council. As soon as test borings are favorably reported out, the purchase will proceed.

We will write to the George Washington Parkway superintendent asking for strong fencing at the bottom of 79th Street, blocking pedestrian traffic across the Parkway.

This has been the site of numerous accidents and near accidents and the death of several pets. The chainlink fencing at the bottom of 81st Street has been trampled down. We will ask that this be repaired and will suggest the planting of multiflora rose-bushes alongside the fencing.

Judy Toth is president of the Civic Federation this year. She reported that the Federation has recommended Darnestown as the site of an advanced waste treatment plant, rather than Dickerson. She further reported that the proposed Metro station to be built at Friendship Heights has caused developer pressure for highrise buildings in that area. This would increase traffic and intensify highway development and therefore the Federation is joining in the fight against such development.

Judy reported that the sewer situation in Montgomery County is still far from acceptable. Violations of the moratorium continue. She suggested that since the county is not doing a responsible job in this case, we should write to the federal agency responsible for sewer/water management. This would be the Environmental Protection Agency in Philadelphia, Robert Blanco, Director. We should request that the EPA investigate the situation and force the county to act for the protection of the citizens and the environment, specifically, to hold a hearing on the sewer situation in Montgomery County.

Next meeting of the Cabin John Citizens Association will be on February 27, 8 p.m.

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As you know, the Vogt's and the Richardson's are spending the winter in Maine and in Colorado. This month, we are lucky enough to have word from both families and will share with you what we have heard.

REPORT FROM MAINE

It's dusk, the light is fading fast, and it's a windy 8 degrees outside. We've had snow all day and it shows no sign of letting up. This morning the flakes were so fine, and seemed to be falling so slowly, that it looked more like fog blowing in off the water than like snow. As I drove Andrew to nursery school, the air and the pavement were so cold that the new snow shifted and blew around in the wake of the car in front of me like talcum powder. By this afternoon the flakes were bigger and were hitting the window with their perfect design intact. They looked just the way they're drawn in books, and just the way I've always wanted to cut them out of folded paper. As I sit here looking out, the remaining light is unreal with all the reflected whiteness of new snow. The snow flakes are swirling and tumbling around with no particular direction. It reminds me of one of those water-filled toys you can shake madly and watch the snow fall on the village below.

One reason I feel so cozy just now is the warm glow of our kitchen wood stove. It is devouring the wooden Methodist church steps (they got new cement ones) which Peter has split and cut to just the right size. In return, the stove keeps the kitchen toasty warm, is simmering a big pot of lamb and barley soup for dinner, and even produces lots of ashes for pottery glazes. Peter made the soup this morning (it's his week to cook) and the closer it gets to dinnertime, the better it smells!

We've become pretty professional clam diggers since we've been up here. Aside from the fact that we all love to eat them, it helps to lower our grocery bill if we "catch" a meal every now and then. Peter bought a pair of hip boots for 50¢ at the local antique (!) store, and with a little adhesive tape repair, they're as good as new. He went clamming a couple of days ago, although it was well below freezing outside and there was hard old snow on the ground. He said he didn't get cold at all even though his hands were wet for an hour. The salt water temperature was a good deal warmer than the air! What impressed Peter the most, though was the absolute silence of the day. Except for the sucking slurp of his boots as he moved through the muddy clam flat, and the gravely scrape of the clam rake through the wet sand, there wasn't another sound. There were no birds, no cars, no people, no wind, and even no waves at dead low tide. The crunch of his boots on the snow going back to the car was deafening!

We've been having lots of fun skating on Owls Head's "fire pond" about a 3 minute walk from our house. All of us have skates - even Andrew has a hand-me-down pair of figure skates - and after last winter's mild temperatures, we're all very rusty. But we're improving, and our black and blue marks are turning yellow and green! Everyone here skates from the time they learn to walk. There are several 4 and 5 year olds weilding 6 foot hockey sticks with ease! Our favorite time to skate has been at night after dinner. With Owls Head's one street light nearby, plus an ever-present bonfire, there's plenty of light and an almost party atmosphere.

- Susan Vogt, January, 1974

REPORT FROM COLORADO

Our trip from my sister Jane's in Iowa was something to remember. We anticipated bad weather so left with Jane the middle of the afternoon; we had packed the car hurridly once the decision to leave was made. We were packed in like sardines. For public relations, Henry sat in front with Burtt, and Jane, Kathy, and I huddled under two sleeping bags and a wool army blanket trying to keep warm. We had two night stops on the road, and just missed a couple of very bad storms. We arrived in Ouray after dark. Driving into town was beautiful; it is nestled in a valley surrounded by spectacular mountains. There was snow everywhere, including the streets. There seemed to be no energy crisis here; every telephone pole had a pretty lighted wreath and Christmas Bell. We felt we were entering a different world. Jane's presence was invaluable, helping us find the road up the mountain. Had she not been with us, we never would have made it up, to say nothing of finding the cabin. At the edge of of town she said, "Put it in low, and give it the gas." He did, and she kept saying "give it more gas. Don't stall - come on Burtt, give it the gas ----." When we looked out

our side the scene was just like taking off in an airplane with the town lights glittering below. The next day in daylight we came back down and had a fantastic view.

Our cabin is a real log cabin; kitchen and bath off one side of living room and two bedrooms off the other side. The living room is very homey, and we have a fire from the waking hour until bedtime. Wood is all around to be cut and a ton of coal was already in as well as two tanks of propane gas for a small furnace.

The cabin is about a half-mile from the road; the night we arrived there was three inches of new snow, but we were still able to drive up the drive about half way to the cabin, since it had been plowed early that day. From there we had to use our snowshoes to reach the cabin; the next day we unloaded our jeep onto the toboggan several times and pulled everything up to the cabin. So many times we have thanked our lucky stars that our drive was plowed that night. It has snowed and snowed and snowed ad infinatum and the drive hasn't been plowed since. The poor road crew can't keep the regular road plowed out, they plow from the bridge up five miles to Camp Bird Mine; we hear that the farther up one goes, the wilder the road gets. The last few days there have been slides up higher and the miners and school bus have been having trouble getting through.

The school bus, a 4 wheel GMC, goes up and back twice a day for one child; our children are picked up at the end of the drive. Since it is quite a walk, Burtt and I take turns each morning, cooking breakfast and walking the kids to the bus stop. The other stays behind and does the dishes, and general cabin clean-up so that we can start reading by 9 o'clock. The arrival of the "bus" is quite flexible - from 10 of 8 to 8:35, depending on road conditions-which is another factor in our going down with them.

Henry likes school very much, especially industrial arts. Kathy is doing O.K.; she isn't homesick for her friends and is adjusting quickly to the new school.

Even though we are only two and a half miles from town, we feel very isolated because there are no houses until we reach the edge of town. We have speaking acquaintances with the grocery store personnel, post office, drug store, variety store and garage. The owners of the liquor store are friends of Jane and Neil and subsequently are our friends. They're very interesting and neat people; have two daughters close in age to Kathy and a charming three year old son.

We walk to town about every other day for mail and little items to carry up on our backs. Our major staple shopping is done in a town 40 miles away - we have gone in twice - both times to pick up someone at the bus.

Neil, Jane's husband came from Iowa by bus - quite a trip through a big storm. Jane and I met him, bought enough groceries for three weeks and did all the Christmas shopping as well. We went dressed for cabin climate and snow. Montrose, the town, is at the edge of the desert and it was quite warm and no snow. We had lots of laughs about looking like the country hicks.

Now, I have to mention the weather because it is remarkable. We were told that it would snow and then the sun would shine and the temperature would be in the 30's. So far we have had two sunny days - one of them, the temperature stayed at -2 degrees. However, we have had snow and more snow and more snow, in fact, it has snowed every day since the first of January and we didn't keep records before that! The record fall was 30" Christmas eve day. We are averaging four inches daily (24 hours). It is a light, fluffy snow, nothing like the East Coast snow. It seems to have no moisture at all.

We use our snowshoes to pack out the trail to the road and the wood shed. We have tried to pack out a toboggan slide but it snows so much that it is almost a losing battle.

While Jane and Neil were here I learned how to bake bread. The recipe, which is my grandmother's, is made of Oatmeal and honey, as well as unbleached flour and is delicious. It is so neat to start the bread, sit by the fire, read, talk, and tend the bread. The house smells so good while it is baking, and the whole family stops everything to have a slice as soon as it comes out of the oven. It sure beats carrying Wonder up from town on our backs!

We are all enjoying the scenery, the beauty of living isolated, as a family unit, the snow, and for Burtt and me, establishing a schedule of reading, mid-day activities, and afternoon "work" i.e., fireplace wood gathering or toboggan slide building.

- Gladys Richardson, January, 1974

EDUCATIONAL FAIR

Members of the local community of Cabin John are invited to an Open House at St. Bartholomew School on March 9th from 1 to 3p.m. or on March 10th from 9:15a.m. to 2p.m.

There will be an opportunity for you to observe the projects of the students and ask questions about the school. At present, there are openings in grades one through eight. St. Bartholomew's School is at 6900 River Rd.

LITTLE FALLS LIBRARY NOTES

The Navy Quartet will present Music for the Family at 7:30 on 6 February. At 4p.m. on 11 February the Whitman Players will present "Mrs. Piggle Wiggle." Space is limited so reservations are required to assure a seat. A film for children from 4 to 6 will be shown at 10:30 on 16 February.

RECYCLING CENTER

The Tysons Corner recycling center in the GEM parking lot is closed.

TB SKIN TEST

From 10 to 12 on 9 February the TB skin test for persons with a negative reading will be available at the Cabin John Volunteer Fire Department. The reading of the test is from 4 to 6 on 11 February.

WHAT IS A GRANDMA?
Written by a 3rd Grader

"A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes other peoples little girls. A grandfather is a man grandmother. He goes for walks with the boys and they talk about fishing and tractors and like that.

Grandmas don't have to do anything except be there. They are old, so they shouldn't play hard or run. It is enough if they drive us to the market where the pretend horse is and have lots of dimes ready for us. Or if they take us for walks, they should slow down past things like pretty leaves or caterpillars. they should never say "Hurry Up."

Usually they are fat, but not too fat to tie kids shoes. They wear glasses and funny underware. They can take their teeth and gums off.

It is better if they don't typewrite, or play cards except with us. They don't have to be smart, only answer questions like, why dogs hate cats and how come God isn't married. They don't talk baby talk like visitors do because it is hard to understand. When they read to us they don't skip or mind if it is the same story again.

Everybody should try to have one, especially if they don't have a television because grandmas are the only grownups who have got time."

From the Courier-Gazette, Rockland, Me.
November '73
Contributed to the Village News by the Vogts.

WANT ADDS

Adds to form car pools to help the nergy crisis will be run free in the ext issue.

BABY SITTER WANTED: In my home from 3 to 5 Monday through Friday. Three well behaved children. Call Ellen or Wayne at 229-3857.

BABY SITTING: Will baby sit in my home, full or part time. No evenings. Mrs. Butt 229-3944.

FOR SALE: A large number of various sizes of wooden storm windows and several doors. Windows suitable for regular use or excellent for plant cold frames. Two 9x15 summer rugs and one boy's bike and small girl's bike, reasonable. J.F. Phillips 7702 Tomlinson Ave.

Village News Staff:
Mary Anne Wilson - Editor
P.O. Box 186, 229-3397

Janet Dence - News
6503 76th St. 229-7394

Joann Bast, mailing
229-8789

Concord School - Collating

CABIN JOHN CHICKEN DINNER

On Saturday 23 February from 1 to 3 fried chicken dinner with all the trimmings includin dessert and soft drinks will be available at

21 Carver Road, the home of Bill White. The dinner will benefit the Senior Choir of the Gibson Grove AME Zion Church. The price is $2.00. For delivery call 229-5363.

RECIPE FILE
Peter Vogt's Cole Slaw - Serves 8 well.

6 Cups Cabbage - chopped or grated
3/4 Cup Sour Cream
2/3 Cup Mayonnaise
1/4 Cup Cider Vinegar
1 tsp. Poultry seasoning
1/2 ts. Celery Salt
1/2 tsp. Salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
3 Tbsp. Confectioner's Sugar

Mix all together and sprinkle paprika on top.

SCHOOL TIME CHANGE

On 11 February Clara Barton will return to regular school hours. School will start at 8:15.

QUICK FOOD SHOP
Mon. thru Sat.
6:30 am - 6 pm
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WALT WHITMAN PTSA NOTES

The continuing series "What's going on at Walt Whitman" presents a program panel of students discussing their experiences at Walt Whitman, Thursday, the 19th of February at 8:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

WELCOME TO THE RIEKES

Cabin John welcomes Pat and Allyn Rieke. Allyn, the new Methodist Church minister, and his wife Pat come from Waynesboro, Va., where they lived for six years and where Allyn was a research chemist for Dupont. The family also includes two new students at Pyle, Allyn Jr., 14, and Diana, 12½; and two new students at Clara Barton, Barbara, 11, and Lisa, 8; and one 3 year old, JoAnn. Pat, by the way, is eager to meet some bridge players.

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Village News Rip-Off

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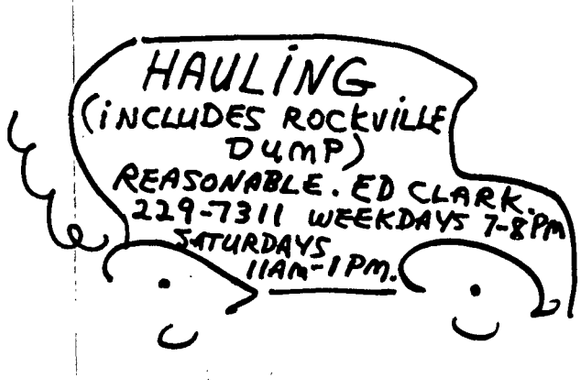
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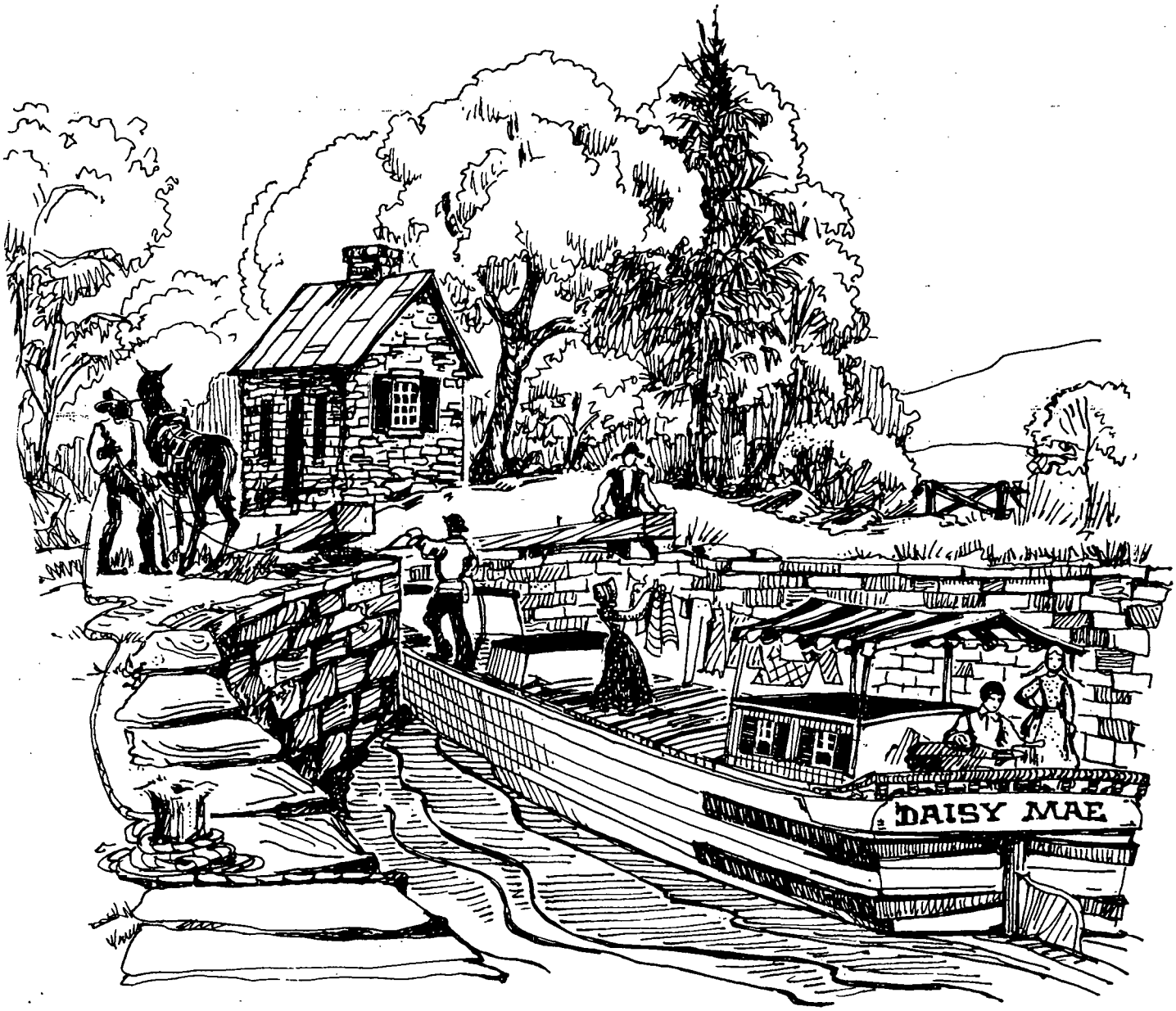
Send Your Ads to
Mary Anne Wilson, Editor
Cabin John Village News
P.O. Box 186
Cabin John, Md., 20731

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I'm still trying to get that information promised you last month on WSSC, and PEPCO plans for the Potomac. Will try harder next month. Also upcoming (maybe) Some news concerning the future of Clara Barton Elementary.



HEY-EY-EY, LOCK!

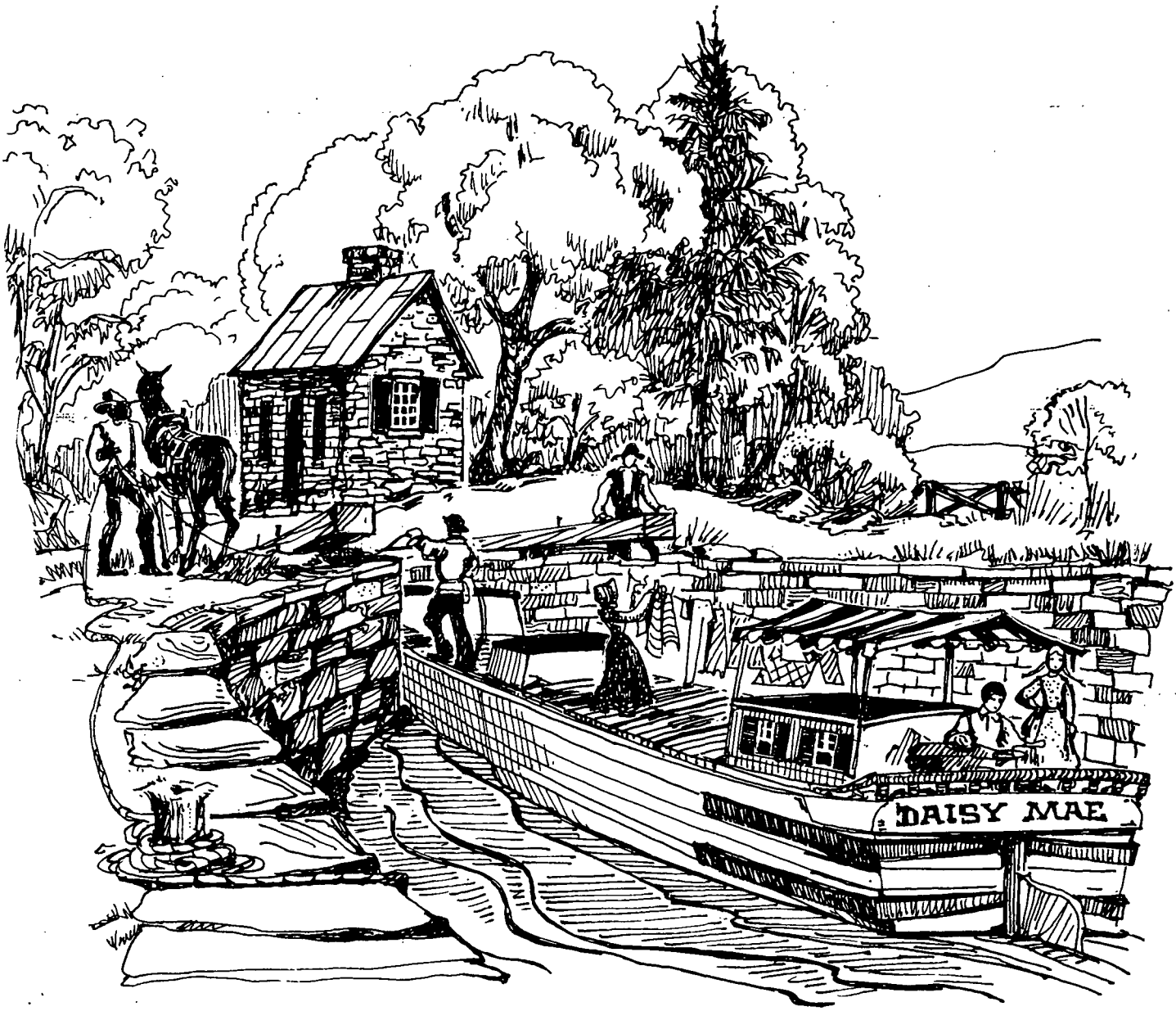


Adventure on The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal

BY MORRIS FRADIN

PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE

HEY-EY-EY, LOCK!



Adventure on The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal

BY MORRIS FRADIN

PLEASE SEE OTHER SIDE