THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 17, Number 9 *SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CABIN JOHN AND BEYOND* May 1984

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(If you want your event listed in this calendar, please call Susan Luchs, 320-3401. Next deadline is June 15. The calendar is open to all community groups.)

Tuesday, May 22 Cabin John Citizens Association meeting, Washington International Clara Barton School. 8:00 p.m. (see story this issue)

Wednesday, May 23 Bethesda Co-op Board of Directors meeting, at the store. 9:00 p.m. These meetings, held every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, are open to the public.

Saturday, June 2 (rain date June 3) First Annual Cabin John Community Flea Market and Festival, Washington International School playground, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (see story this issue)

Sunday, June 17 (rain date June 24) "Sunday Stroll" down Seven Locks Road. 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (see story this issue)

COMMUNITY CELEBRATES SEVEN LOCKS SUCCESS:

By Edward Clark

You and your family are invited to participate on Sunday, June 17, Father's Day, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in a "Sunday Stroll". The "Stroll", sponsored by the Cabin John Citizens Association, will celebrate the successful 15-year struggle by our community to achieve construction of a widened and straightened Seven Locks Road along a course that would best protect the properties of our citizens along the road,while increasing safety to drivers and pedestrians alike.

The roadway will be closed from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Ceremonies will start at the Gibson Grove AME Zion Church just north of the Beltway overpass with Montgomery County Executive Charles Gilchrist, Delegate Judy Toth, former Delegate Robin Ficker and other officials participating in a multiple ribbon-cutting. We're expecting bagpipe playing and choral singing. Then the "Stroll" will start as we move down Seven Locks Road visiting several residential sites along the way to personally see the vast improvements which have taken place. (Continued on page 2)

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Reed Martin, chair of the 1984 Cabin John Citizens Association Nominating Committee, has announced the following nominees for 1984-85 officers:

President: Betsy Lawrence;

1st Vice Pres: Harley Balzer;

2nd Vice Pres: Walter Cramer;

Secretarial Committee: Wanda Veraska, Jean Maggio, Kay Kemp;

Treasurer: George Lichtblau.

The Secretarial Committee will share the secretary's duties, each member taking minutes at some meetings, writing some letters, etc. Wanda Veraska will coordinate.

Elections will take place at the next Citizens Association meeting on Tuesday, May 22, at 8 p.m. at the Washington International School. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

TENANTS SOUGHT FOR CABIN JOHN FIREHOUSE

The expected new owner of the firehouse at MacArthur and Seven Locks Road is Cabin John Associates, Inc. The firm has a contract on the property which will become final as soon as the Volun-

(Continued on page 5)

NEW TEE-SHIRT CONTEST

In response to many requests, a new Cabin John tee-shirt design competition has been announced with a $100 prize for the winning design. Entries should be submitted to Betsy Lawrence (7629 Cabin Rd, 229-6706) no later than June 30.

There are still a few remaining tee-shirts of older designs for sale at the Quick Food Shop, the Bethesda Co-op, Glen Echo Hardware and Glen Echo Pharmacy. The proceeds from shirt sales go to support the Village News.

THE VILLAGE NEWS

is published monthly (except in summer) and is distributed free to all Cabin John residents. Subscription for others is $5 a year. Advertising rates on request. Send all communications to the News at P.O. Box 164, Cabin John, 20818.

Volunteer staff for this issue: Jeanne Casamento, Susan Gelb, Kay Kemp, Susan Luchs, Andy Rice, and the great folding and mailing crew.

NO JOB TOO SMALL OR TOO LARGE

Danny Saling

CONTRACTOR 320-5623

(Continued from page 1)

The "Stroll" will proceed to the sanctuary of the Cabin John Methodist Church for brief speeches from community and county leaders followed by refreshments in the church's social center. It sounds like fun for the entire family and we should be able to use the new bike path at last. See you there!

(P.S. We plan to carry on unless there is a heavy downpour, in which case the following Sunday, June 24, becomes the date of the event. If you will help with preparation or serving of refreshments or serve as a roadway monitor along the road, please call 229-1195 (days) or 229-7311 (evenings). We need volunteer help.)

TEACHER WANTED FOR 3-4 YEAR OLD SCHOOL

The Cabin John 3-and-4-Year-Old School is looking for a teacher beginning in the fall of 1984. The nursery school offers a 5-day a week morning program. Qualified interested persons should contact Annette Davis at 229-0754 or Carla Wilkins at 320-5804. Applications for enrollment of children in the fall are now also being taken at the same numbers.



TRASH CONTEST WINNERS

Brian, age 9, and Julie, age 7, of 7816 Tomlinson Ave., scored an impressive victory in the May 12 Cabin John Trash Pick-Up Contest by filling 8 30-lb trash bags and 2 20-lb trash cans. A sampling of the items found included scores of bottles and cans, a $10 bill, a hub cap, shoes, cardboard boxes, and an aggressive baby bird. Many thanks to Brian and Julie Marquardt for your hard work in beautifying Cabin John.

ED CLARK & SON

ABC TRUCKING

•moving
•hauling
•yard work

reasonable

229-7311

SAFETY POSTER AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Walter Cramer, on behalf of the Cabin John Citizens Association, has announced the winners of the contest for the best poster on safety on MacArthur Boulevard. Children through age 12 were eligible to compete.

First prize has gone to Jami Casamento, 6421 78th St, who will receive $30. The second place winner was Danny Green, 6613 80th Place, whose prize is $10.

The winning poster will be reproduced in the next issue of the Village News, and both posters will be on display in the community.

The People of Cabin John

FRANK D. McKINNEY: MY HEART IS IN CABIN JOHN

By Barbara Martin

Frank D. McKinney says Cabin John has always been his home. Although he has lived other places, his connections with Cabin John have stayed strong and his heart has always been here.

As a child Frank lived near River Road and Wilson Lane and attended Gibson Grove Church. For many years, Black children in the area had been attending school in the church building. Frank's own mother went there. And when he started first grade in 1921, it became his school as well as his church. "A different building from today's church, but near the sane location," Frank recalls. "And Mrs. Dorsey was the teacher for all seven grades."

Frank's father, a miner, took the family to West Virginia and Pennsylvania for two years and when they returned to this area, the Black school had closed. When his mother and other neighbors (including the Joneses who lived on Seven Locks Road) went to Rockville to ask for a school for their children, the Montgomery County school board opened a school for Blacks in the building called Moses Hall. Moses Hall -- located behind Gibson Grove Church-- was torn down four years ago when the Evergree development was built. It was a two-story building; the school was on the first floor and the Lodge meeting hall was upstairs.

Frank's teacher at Moses Hall was Mrs. Wood, who taught at Clara Barton in later years after Maryland's school system was integrated. Mrs. Wood taught all seven grades. Frank was the only one in his grade, "so when I graduated from grammar school, I was the class valedictorian."

Mrs. Wood presented Frank with a four-volume encyclopedia as a graduation present. "I was so proud. I don't remember ever owning more than one or two books in my life until then. I felt like I had a whole library."

The nearest secondary schools for Blacks were in Rockville and that was out of the picture for Cabin John children. There were no buses or streetcars that went there, and very few families had cars. So Frank went to Francis Junior High School in Washington, at 25th and M. Because his stepfather was an employee of Capital Transit, he was able to attend the DC schools free.

"There weren't any libraries in Montgomery County that I can recall. I used to go to the library at 8th and K, and later I went to the Library of Congress."

He left Armstrong High School to marry, go to work for the Census Bureau and become a father. He and his family rented--for $10 a month--a house in Rock Spring, a community between Glen Echo and Brookmont.

"It was a block past Sycamore Store, on top of the hill. A man named Frank Bock owned about 40 acres in that area and rented houses. I think he owned all the houses in the Rock Spring community. On MacArthur Boulevard was a roadhouse called Sunset Hall. There was dancing and hillbilly music. I used to sit up on the hill and listen. Johnson's store and Lewis' store were in that neighborhood too. All those places are gone now."

The Census Bureau moved to Suitland and Frank made the long trip every day by bus and streetcar. "People didn't have cars so much then. Only one family in Rock Spring had a car." Frank's job was supervising a card-punch unit. "There were 35 women working for me, and I was younger than a lot of them. At first I was afraid I couldn't manage, but I guess I did all right. We got good production."

It was 1943, wartime, and after two years of commuting to Suitland, Frank transferred to the Army Map Service in Brookmont--much closer to home--where as a freight rate specialist he supervised the shipping of maps all over the world. "We were sending maps to General Patton's forces and we couldn't keep up with him. He was always ahead of us."

(Continued on Page 4)

In 1943 Frank moved his family to the house where he still lives. Although the Carver Road houses, like the Cabin John Gardens, were built for employees of Carderock Model Basin, there were a few units empty and Frank got one because he was a government employee. "I paid $28 a month rent. Later I bought the house."

In 1950, when he was 34, Frank decided to finish high school, and he graduated from Cardozo night school. Then he studied business administration at American University.

"I was in the Inactive Reserve, but it wasn't inactive enough because during the Korean War, even though I had six children by then, I was called back into the Army. I was at Camp Pickett VA and Indiantown Gap PA." When he finished that stint, Frank returned to work at Army Map and stayed there until he retired in 1981.

For the past 15 years Frank has been very active in the community. He served as Vice-president of the Citizens Association, and as Transportation Chairman during the early days of the Seven Locks Road improvement project, coordinating efforts with the Carderock South community and the County. He has helped with every membership campaign of the Citizens Association, and each year has been a mainstay of the Crab Feast. In 1983 he sold a record 85 tickets to that event.

Gibson Grove AME Zion Church is a big part of Frank's life. In 1925 when he was nine years old, he watched the laying of the cornerstone for the present building. At Gibson Grove, he is a trustee, a steward, president of the Lay Council, and a member of the Ushers Board. "Nobody should have that many jobs, but we're a small congregation-- just 53-- and maybe 30 of those are active members. So I do several jobs."

Frank is also custodian for the church, and keeps the building and grounds in tip-top condition. Two years ago on the front lawn he planted a flower garden in the shape of a cross. As church sexton he rings the bell each Sunday to summon the congregation to worship.

In his van, he likes to take groups from the church to conferences and programs, across town and as far away as Pitteburgh. "I can carry as many people as you could get in three cars, and they all have a good time together. Sometimes I fix a meal and they can eat as we drive." His van is feeling aches and pains, and he's thinking of getting a new one.

Frank is also active in the NAACP where he is a life member and a Golden Heritage member. Through that organization he is helping this election year at the polls.

"I remember when I first registered to vote. It was in Scott's store, and that was also the Post Office. That's the house at 77th and MacArthur, right across from the Methodist Church. I felt so proud being a voter; I'll never forget it."

Four children are located in Prince George's County, and his oldest daughter lives in Italy. There are 27 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. A brother lives in Scotland off Seven Locks Road, and a niece is his neighbor on Carver Road. Family loyalty is important to Frank. Until his death two years ago, Frank's father lived with him. An elderly aunt also made her home with him for several years.

Every year he attends the family reunion of the McKinney clan. It has been held in Freehold NJ, Norfolk, Detroit, Nashville, New Orleans. This year it will be in Florida.

In his future plans are the writing of a family history. "I want the young ones to know how it used to be. Weekends in Cabin John were times for the families to be together. After church, everybody would spend Sunday pitching horseshoes, eating a big dinner. The kids would swim in Cabin John Creek. Sometimes the youngsters would go down to the Potomac to swim; that was in the 30s and early 40s when the water was cleaner.

"When the old folks dies, a lot of the memories and history are lost. I want to write down now what I remember and who all the relatives are. That's something I can do that will last."

(Continued from page 1)
teer Fire Department moves to its new station on River Road, probably in October.

Key figure in the company is G. Richard Dunnells, a Bethesda attorney. The firm is prepared to remodel the station to suit the needs of tenants who qualify under the C-1 zoning classification. Already several restaurant operators have looked over the facility, and other types of community-oriented service establishments are being sought as tenants.

Coldwell Bankers realtors are handling the property. For information, call Mike Gorsage at 457-5700.

HOUSES FOR SALE

Residents of Cabin John are often asked if they know of houses available in the community. As a convenience, the Village News lists below the houses known to be for sale as of May 12:

* 6513 75th St, rambler, 4 BR, 2 BA, $119,500
* 6509 79th St, colonial, 3 BR 2-1/2 BA, $169,990
*66505 Persimmon Tree Rd, Cape Cod, 5 BR, 2-1/2 BA, $167,500
* 15 Russell Rd, rambler, 3 BR 1 BA, $99,000
* 3 Webb Rd, rambler, 2 BR, 1 BA, $82,500

(Information contributed by Cindy Offterdinger, 897-8048 or 654-3222.)

Expert Alterations
CUSTOM SEWING
Call Theresa
229-1404

COMMUNITY ISSUES ENGAGE ASSOCIATION ATTENTION

Transportation issues remain high on the agenda of the Cabin John Citizens Association, and will be topics of discussion at the next CJCA meeting on Tuesday, May 22, at 8 p.m. at the Washington International School. Other topics will be land use, recreation, and airplane noise.

The Association has received word of forthcoming much stricter enforcement of the load limit on MacArthur Boulevard. At the April meeting, there was considerable discussion of the inconvenience this could cause to some Cabin John residents, and there will be further reports on this matter at the May meeting.

Association President Susan Vogt has informed the Village News that, following the March meeting, she had been in touch with county authorities about flooding at the MacArthur/Seven Locks intersection. She was advised that a contractor error was at fault and that the contractor would be required to re-do the work at his expense . She was also told that the contractor was not "out of money", as some rumors had it, and that landscaping was now running ahead of schedule and could be finished even before the June 29 deadline.

It is understood that a traffic survey of MacArthur Boulevard will be taken to help in determining where cross-walks should be put.

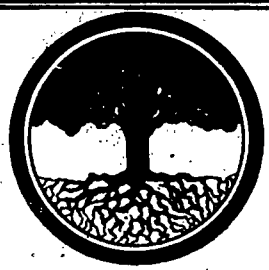
Citizens Association meetings are open to all Cabin Johners and provide an opportunity to raise any issue of community concern.

FLEA MARKET AND FESTIVAL

Just finished your spring cleaning? Well, then, gather up all those no-longer-used items, join with a group of friends and neighbors, and rent table space ($2.00) at the first Annual Cabin John Community Flea Market and Festival to be held at the Clara Barton School playground on Saturday, June 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (rain date: June 3rd). Your rummage may be someone else's treasure! Crafts welcome as well.

In addition to the rummage sale, the event will feature activities for children and food (hot dogs, drinks, baked goods and popcorn) for sale. Come and bring the family. You can buy lunch and picnic in the park.

The event will benefit the Clara Barton Center for Children and the Cabin John Three and Four Year Old Program. Call 320-4565 or 320-3097 for information.


LANDSCAPING
in harmony with your taste & budget
Unusual Design • Wood Decks
Brick & Stone Patios • R.R. Ties
Unique & Beautiful Plantings
Mark Willcher and Company
320-2040

MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR FORMER RESIDENT

A memorial service was held recently at the Gibson Grove AME Zion Church for Patricia Badgley. Wife of Dr. John Badgley, Mrs. Badgley had lived in Cabin John before moving to Missoula,Montana, where she resided at the time of her death.

The service was organized by Nathaniel White. Margaret V. Coleman was leader of the service. Bernice Dove sang "Last Mile of the Way", with Barbara Martin at the piano. Tributes were given by Constance Rice and Frank McKinney. Prayers were offered by the pastor, Rev. Robert L. White, and the choir sang.

QUICK FOOD SHOP
PASTRIES•MEATS•CARRY-OUT
GROCERIES•BREAKFAST•LUNCH
MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
6.30 am to 6:00 pm

CLASSIFIED

(Classified ads should be sent to P.O. Box 164, Cabin John 20818. Next deadline: June 15,1984. The rate is 50¢ per line.)

BABYSITTER WANTED: Exper. person to care for 6-month old girl, 5 days week. Call 229-9557.

* * * *

CLARA BARTON CENTER is looking for someone qualified to teach swimming to 4, 5 and 6-year olds approx. 8 hours per week June 18 -Aug.17. If interested call 320-4565.

* * * *

FOR SALE. 16" mini stingray boys bike. Two Intellevision video games(Mousetrap and Donkey Kong). Call 229-3351.

* * * *

LaLECHE LEAGUE: Breastfeeding information and support group monthly meetings. For more information call Wendy Jarmuth 424-0042.

* * * *

LEARNING POWER: the TUTORING SERVICE with the computer option. Offering SAT Basics, for intensive, small-group instruction in SAT math & verbal skills. For students in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. REMEDIAL TUTORING in reading and writing skills also available to students in grades 1-12. Ask for the special plans for computerized learning. Call Judy Priven, a certified reading specialist and published author, at 320-2829.

* * * *

1980 BUICK CENTURY WAGON for sale. Owners leaving country. Factory recommended maintenance schedule followed. Excellent condition. $5200. Call after 6:30 p.m. 320-3401.

THE VILLAGE NEWS
P.O. Box 164 Cabin John Maryland 20818

Bulk Rate
U.S.Postage Paid
Cabin John,Md.
20818
Permit 4210

Resident
6517 80th Street
Cabin John, MD 20818


BE NEAT
CROSS
STREET
FELY
MacArthor Blvd.
JAMI CASAMENTO


LETS BE
AND CR
THE ST
SAFEL