March 2006

Village News

Volume 39 Issue 6 — Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Feb. 25 Fundraiser Dance Still Needs Volunteers

On February 25, 2006 (7:30 – 11 pm), Dagmar and the Seductones will come to the Clara Barton Community Center in Cabin John to play some great music (R&B, vintage rock n' roll, rockabilly, etc.) and blow the winter blues away! Check out the band on *www.theseductones.com*. This is a wonderful opportunity to do some serious dancing, mingling, eating of hors d'oeuvres and partying close to home. Net proceeds from the sale of tickets will be used to support our local community center. This is the third year that the Friends of the CBCC have organized this event in cooperation with the County Recreation Department.

Tickets are $20/person. You must be 21 or over to purchase tickets and attend. The doors and bar open at 7:30 pm, with the music starting around 8:15 until 11 pm. Desserts and hors d'oeuvres are included in the ticket price, and a cash bar will be available for beer, wine and soda/water. Please make checks payable to Friends of the CBCC, and send them to Trudi Bick, 6713 Tomlinson Terrace, Cabin John, MD 20818. Make absolutely sure to include your e-mail address and telephone number to allow Trudi to confirm your purchase and to contact you if any other questions arise. Any questions concerning tickets should be directed to *trudibick@comcast.net* or by calling her at 229-5929. Please consider making a donation even if you can't attend the festivities.

This event is being organized by Friends of the Clara Barton Community Center, who are interested in dancing, hearing good music, and the continued success of activities and programs held at the Clara Barton Community Center. If you are interested in helping out with this event (decorations, setup, stage set-up, food serving, cleanup, etc), please contact Lori Rieckelman at (301) 320-6299 or *rieckell@aol.com*. In particular, we can use volunteers who might be willing to form the cleanup committee in return for free entrance to the event. This will entail working for about an hour after the music stops.

Update on MacArthur Boulevard Bike/Walk Path

by Susan Roberts

As you may know, the Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation's Engineering Division is working on a preliminary design for creating safer and more user-friendly bicycling and walking areas along MacArthur Blvd. The plan includes an 8 ft-wide hiker-biker path, separated from the road by a 5 ft-wide green space and a 3 ft-wide "on-road" bike lane on each side of the roadway. The path will remain on the south side of MacArthur. The preliminary design covers the area between I-495 and Oberlin Ave. in Glen Echo. A couple of major engineering challenges have caused this phase (Phase II) to be behind schedule. The County will schedule a public meeting for late spring or early summer. It is estimated that 35% of the design will be completed and presented for funding to the County Council in the fall of 2006.

Mr. John Digiovanni, head of Highway Services Maintenance (240-777-7633) was contacted about numerous issues relating to the existing path and its maintenance needs and on January 30th they began addressing some of these. They are currently trimming overhanging vines and dead limbs and are expected to replace broken flex poles and the broken curbing around the circle in Glen Echo. They have indicated that they will be sweeping the path and clearing away trash and debris over the next several weeks.

Regarding the water drainage issues along MacArthur Blvd., Mr. Louis Machetto, of the Bethesda Department of Highway Services, is now fully aware of some of the more critical areas, such as the standing water at 77th and MacArthur. He has promised to do what he can as soon as possible. Any additional concerns can be addressed by calling 240-777-6000.

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Neighborly News

by Barbara Martin

Eileen Martha Federing entered the world in January. She is the daughter of **Eric and Daphne Federing** and sister of 3-year-old **Julia Sarah**. The Federings live on 77th Street.

Several long-time Cabin Johners have died recently. **Loretta Tuohey Hall** died in Centreville MD at age 90. Loretta, the last of the Tuoheys, was born in the family home in Cabin John (our house on 79th Street!) and grew up here. Her family ran Tuohey's Tavern where the shopping center is now. The Tuohey family donated the land for the Cabin John firehouse and Loretta started the Ladies Auxiliary of the CJ Volunteer Fire Department. Before she moved to Centreville, Loretta lived for many years in Garrett Park. She was the sister of **Gordon, Norman,** and **Kenneth Tuohey**, and **Ruth Tuohey Shuff** (all of whom are deceased), and the mother of **Ruth Hall** and **Jesse Crook** (who was also born in the same house). Jesse used to deliver *The Washington Post* to all of Cabin John, and he worked with Pete Prather in Dickenson's Grocery (now Captain's Market). He lives in Denton MD where he runs a bed and breakfast.

Ralph Titus died last month. Ralph was a third generation Cabin Johner. He grew up on 78th Street., and was a sheet metal worker. Ralph lived for many years in Salisbury on the Eastern Shore with his wife, **Sarah Davis Titus**. His parents were **Genevieve and Ralph Titus**, his sisters are **Millie Ransome** of Roanoke, and **Linda Johnson** of Gaithersburg. His daughter **Jennifer Titus** is in Gaithersburg; his son **James Titus** is in Augusta, WV. He had three grandchildren.

Another lifetime resident of Cabin John, **Albert Shoemaker** of 76th Street has died. Albert was a Navy veteran who was stationed for part of his military service in Antarctica. He worked as a painter. His brothers are **Norman (Buck) Shoemaker** of Cabin John, **Marvin Shoemaker** of Brookmont, and the late **Jesse Shoemaker**. His parents were **Nannie and Jesse Shoemaker**.

Mara Clawson, 12, daughter of **Michelle Marks and Lance Clawson**, was profiled in the February issue of *BabagaNewz*, a national classroom magazine for Jewish students. Born with a genetic disorder which makes it difficult for her to express herself in words, Mara decided for her bat mitzvah to express her d'var torah in pastel drawings. She is now selling her drawings to raise funds for FD Hope, an organization dedicated to finding treatment for Familial Dysautonomia. The Clawsons live on 75th Street.

Marjie Craig, who lived on Arden Road for over 50 years, has moved to Asbury Methodist community in Gaithersburg. Marjie and her late husband, **Jim Craig**, raised six children here and were active in the community, including the Clara Barton PTA.

How about writing a letter to the editor of *Village News*? Let us know what you like (or don't) about your paper. Does anybody read it? Or give us your opinion about what's going on in town. The people who produce the *Village News* 10 months a year as a gift to Cabin John could use some feedback.

There will be no Neighborly News for the next issue because I'll be away. But please send any news items to me by email (barbmartin@comcast.net) and they will be published in a later issue.

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Community Calendar

FEB

22 ..... Parent Encouragement Lecture
Clara Barton Center
7:30 pm (see p. 11)

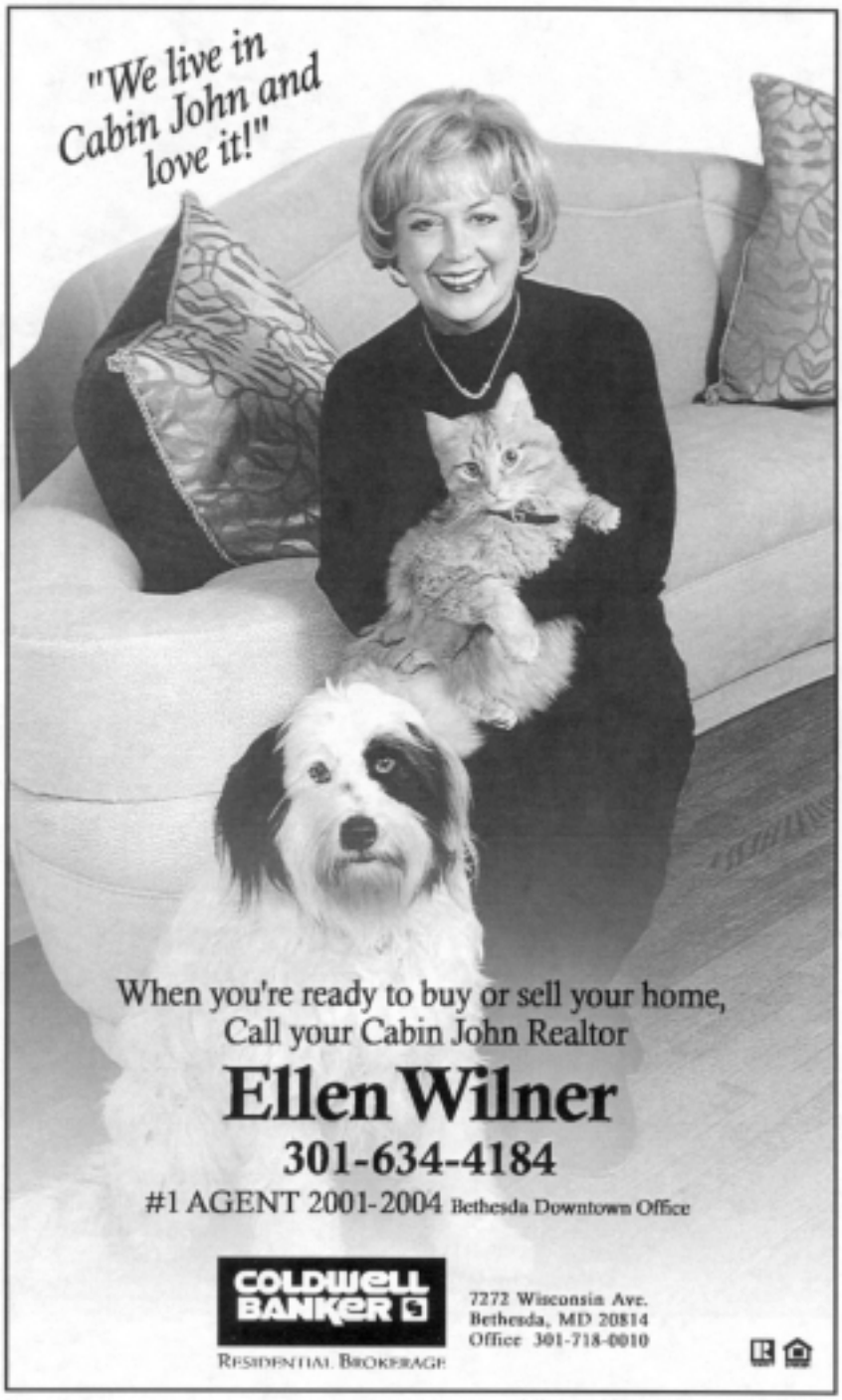
25 ..... Community Dance
Clara Barton Center
7:30 - 11 pm (see p. 1 and 6)

28 ..... CJCA meeting
Clara Barton Center
7:30 pm (see p. 4)

MAR

1 ..... Parent Encouragement Lecture
Clara Barton Center
7:30 pm (see p. 11)

8 ..... River Friendly Living Lecture
Clara Barton Center
7 pm (see p. 7)



Letter to the editor

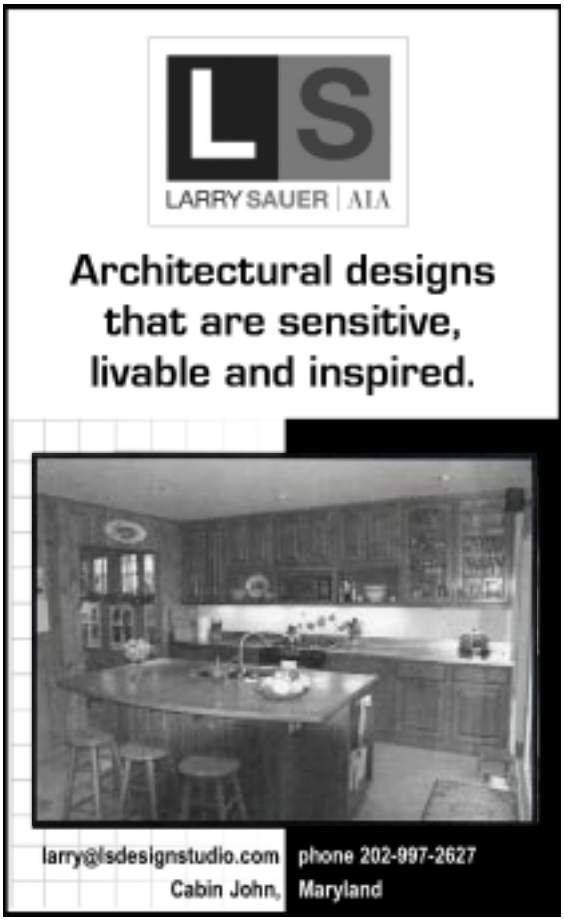
Dear Editor,

I always enjoy reading the life stories of the many interesting people who live in Cabin John, and that was certainly true of the piece about Cherry Doyle in the last issue, particularly when I found out that she and I had attended the same school in Geneva, Switzerland (although at different times).

But the author, Tina Rouse, didn't mention one important fact about Cherry's relationship with Cabin John. For many years in the 1980's Cherry served as the volunteer Production Manager of the *Village News*, perhaps not as glamorous a job as some that she held, but vitally important to the appearance of this newsletter. I was editor for much of this time and once a month I would bring to her house the articles for the coming issue, laboriously typed out on an IBM Selectric typewriter. From that point on, laying out the paper and getting it to the printer was in her hands and what a great job she did. Cabin John certainly owes you a vote of warm thanks, Cherry.

—Andy Rice





CJCA News

by Burr Gray

The next meeting of the CJCA will be Feb. 28, 7:30 pm at the Clara Barton Community Center.

Next CJCA Meeting Agenda—1) CJCA participation in effort by Glen Echo Heights to develop/promote "tree save" legislation, 2) development of official CJCA position on proposed expansion of I-95 Beltway, and 3) possible co-sponsoring of community wine tasting event with Bethesda Co-op.

Summary of January 24, 2006 CJCA Meeting—1) The attendees discussed briefly various ways in which to recognize Diane Leatherman's contributions to the community and agreed to ask Diane's family for their thoughts first. 2) CJ resident Steve Cash gave a presentation on the draft request for information to go to companies regarding wireless internet access in CJ. The attendees approved sending out the request recognizing that the actual vote on whether to pursue such a system would take place in the future. Attendees expressed their desire that any such system not involve obvious/ugly antennae. 3) CJ resident Susan Roberts gave a presentation on the status of the County's efforts to improve the shared use/bike path along MacArthur Blvd. See the description elsewhere in this edition. 4) A motion was passed unanimously to recognize the contributions that CJ resident Andy Rice (our community's historian) has made to the CJ community.

Results of Cabin John's Bingo Night—The Bingo Night held at the Clara Barton Community Center (CBCC) in January was a big hit, in part because it had been a couple years since Bingo was last seen officially in Cabin John. The event netted $200 to support programs at CBCC, but more importantly everyone came away a winner. No, really, everyone won something. The last game of the evening in particular required that the entire card be crossed out. The game kept going until everyone was done and had come up to the prize table to get something. The idea was implemented by the Bingo numbers caller extraordinaire Roger Berliner (who also happens to be a declared Democratic candidate to represent our district on the County Council). The numbers caller for the first half of the evening was Carlotta Anderson, editor of the Glen Echo newsletter. The prizes for kids came with a Mardi Gras theme; the adults chose from an assortment of wines and items that were donated by various Cabin Johners, including Patricia Ammerman, Donna Zeigfinger, and others. Other volunteers included Dominique Maggio (Bingo card seller), Marcy Harrison, Bruce Wilmarth (money guy), Leslie Barden, Missy Rabner & Terry Fuller (food/drinks table), the Rabners who provided the sound system/loudspeaker for the event, and Trudy Nicholson. Also, many thanks to the CBCC staff who helped: Maura, Alexandra, Ben, Dave, Felicia, and Frank.

Results of Feb 5, 2006 Cabin John Blood Drive—Once again, Cabin John and other local communities responded to the urgent need for blood donors. We made the 50-pint goal/level right on the nose, thanks to the 61 people (mostly Cabin Johners) who showed up and signed in. We don't list the donors for privacy reasons, but we do thank the volunteers: Karen Melchar and Lisan Cash lined up the donors, who by and large signed up on their own electronically once notified of the blood drive. Other volunteers who staffed the sign-in table included Judy, Andrew & David Brookes, Deborah and Andrew Beers, Benno Schmidt, and Heidi Brown Lewis. Burr Gray obtained refreshments, lunch for the Red Cross personnel, and way too many reading materials. Donors walked away more knowledgeable in esoteric areas as a result of their reading along with a free Red Cross tote bag. With this effort, the CJ blood drives, which were begun five years ago, crossed the 600-pint level in terms of blood collected. Once again, many thanks to those who continue to respond to this important of civic responsibility.

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Kathleen Black — Seriously Fun

By Oona Stieglitz

When I talked with Kathleen Black at her home on 75th Street on a starry January evening, her sons were about to go upstairs to hear their dad read another chapter of *Treasure Island*. Their dog Angus Black observed the interview between bites of a chew toy.

Before going upstairs, Charlie (11) and Liam (8) each made a point of asking their mom about her hockey event. She had been to the MCI Center on a last minute invitation to an autograph session with the Caps team. Kathleen is more than a fan. She plays ice hockey twice a week on teams under the nickname of "Q." Rinks are sometimes in Reston and Fairfax City. Her sons think it is cool.

Perhaps being born in Iowa and spending a childhood in Toronto influenced her choice of sport. But the self-described "corporate brat" lived other places too, including Texas and DC while a student at George Washington University. She studied business and Russian. Kathleen pointed out a recent episode where this geographically diverse childhood came in handy. At the office of Congressman Sam Johnson where she works on tax, social security, and pension issues, the receptionist slot is now empty. All staff answer all phones for the time being. Having spent some time there, Kathleen can quickly pick up the phone and switch to "Texas talk," making any constituent feel right at home. Her retired parents live in Congressman Johnson's district.

Cabin John has been the Black family home for almost ten years. They lived in a townhouse in SW DC for six years. But they felt that their neighbors there were "garage door people"—opening garages to let themselves in and out but staying isolated from the community. They had three different sets of friends in Cabin John, including Liam's godparents Karen Melchar and Benno Schmidt, when they started to look for a new home. It just made sense to find a house near where their friends were clustered, so she and husband Tom looked for any house for sale within walking distance for about a year before they bought. Since then, they've recruited other friends to the neighborhood.

Kathleen spoke appreciatively about the sense of community here in CJ. On a pretty day it can take her a half hour to walk around the block—so many folks to chat with. Recently her visiting mother accompanied her on this route and concluded "Who DON'T you know here?" Kathleen values CJ as a place where the community sticks together in good and bad times and people step up to make things happen. She was especially thankful for the many kind, creative and unselfish gestures during her goddaughter Clare Schmidt's battle with cancer. "It is remarkable that we've got such a great small town inside the DC beltway."



© Kathleen Black

Kathleen Black

Her commitment to CJ is reflected in her real estate plan: she saw her 75th Street home as a "carry out" house (i.e. she will stay until they carry her out to a nursing home). This didn't exactly come to pass. On the same day they received the architect's plans for expanding their home, neighbors two doors down announced that they were putting their home on the market. The decision was rather easy...live through construction or move to a bigger house with a basement and creek views. It was even on the same school bus stop! So instead of #6524, #6528 is the carry out house.

Either piece of real estate has more elbow room than the Winnebago where Kathleen met her husband Tom on a long weekend trip to Kentucky 19 years ago. Their son Charlie is named for the friend who organized the trip.

Finally, "Q" spoke about how her hockey playing helps her as a Mom. It's fun, it's exercise and it helps to role model for their sons' sports. You fall down, you goof up—it happens to all of us. Just get up and try again.

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February 25, 2006

7:30 - 11:00 p.m.

Adults Only (21 and over)

Clara Barton Community Center

Tickets are $20/person. Desserts and Hors d'oeuvres are included.
Cash bar – Beer, Wine, Soda and Water

Please make checks payable to Friends of CBCC and send to Trudi Bick, 6713 Tomlinson Terrace, Cabin John, MD 20818. You must include your e-mail address and/or telephone number for confirmation purposes.
Questions about tickets should be directed to: trudibick@comcast.net, 301.229.5929. Interested in helping out with the event? Please contact Lori Rieckelman at rieckell@aol.com, 301.320.6299

Please consider making a donation even if you cannot attend this year's event!

March 8 River-Friendly Living Presentation

Join the Potomac Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy for an evening lecture to learn about the simple and inexpensive "Good Neighbor" practices you can adopt to ensure a healthier and more natural Potomac River. Topics to be covered at the presentation will include landscaping with native plants, creating a wildlife habitat, and fertilizing your lawn in a river-friendly manner.

The free event will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 7 pm at the Clara Barton Community Center. All topics discussed during the presentation are covered in the *Good Neighbor Handbook: Tips and Tools for River-Friendly Living in the Middle Potomac Region*, a joint publication of the Potomac Conservancy and The Nature Conservancy. To download a free PDF of this 42-page, full-color handbook, visit the websites of the Potomac Conservancy (*www.potomac.org/action/education/goodneighbor.html*) or The Nature Conservancy (*www.nature.org/goodneighbor*).



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Looking Back in Cabin John

by Andrew E. Rice

Cabin John: Always an Active Community

As regular readers know, from time to time I like to refresh my memory by going to the back issues of the *Village News* and reminding myself of what was happening in our town in milestone years past.

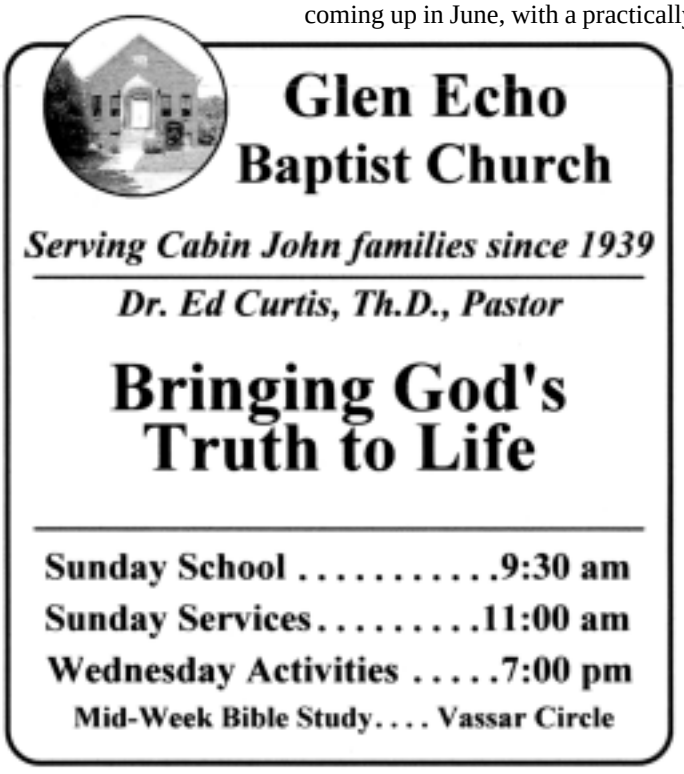
For instance, 35 years ago in March 1971, Cabin Johners were deeply engaged in developing a community plan for the future development of Cabin John. A questionnaire had been developed by a Citizens Association committee—on what kind of facilities and services were desired—and was coming up for discussion at a town meeting on March 2. The process of community involvement continued for several months thereafter—some 234 families responded to the questionnaire—and the outcome was the community plan which in fact has guided our community's development ever since and is enshrined in the County's master plan for the Bethesda/Chevy Chase region. The active participation by citizens in shaping this plan for future community development has often been cited as an example of the democratic process at its best.

Five years later, in March 1976, the town was beginning to plan for what turned out to be the largest event in the community's history—the all-day celebration of our country's Bicentennial coming up in June, with a practically continuous schedule of indoor and outdoor activities for young and old. But agitating citizens more immediately was the continued blockage of the Union Arch Bridge which had been closed to traffic for more than a year as various jurisdictions fought over who would pay for its repair after one of the facing stones fell off and crashed on the parkway below the previous year. A representative of Congressman Gilbert Gude's office, speaking at a citizens meeting in late January, declared it "the most bureaucratic tangle I've ever seen." (It was not until December 1976 that the bridge finally re-opened.)

A glance at the news 20 years ago shows a varied agenda. Some of it seems very familiar; the Citizens Association meeting was to be devoted to safety on MacArthur Boulevard, with discussion on potholes, condition of the bike path, inadequate crosswalks, illegally parked cars, and dangers to children waiting for school busses. But many changes were reported too. One was the fundraising campaign for the Linda Billings memorial bench which sits today the entrance to the Union Arch Bridge. (Linda was a community leader who had been murdered by a thief in her government office while she was working late on Thanksgiving eve.) Another item was the report that the Quick Food Shop (known for many preceding years as the "Good 'n' Quick") had been sold and would henceforth be known as the Captain's Market. A report from Glen Echo revealed that the remodeling of Trav's tavern—long a popular nearby beer joint which had been sold earlier to become a family style restaurant (and is now the Irish Inn at Glen Echo) — was being held up by a dispute with the Town of Glen Echo about the leasing of town land to become the restaurant's parking lot.

In March 1991 our community was involved in negotiations with the owners of the MacArthur Square Shopping Center regarding a second building they wanted to build and which the Bethesda Co-op, then located adjacent to the Post Office, wanted to occupy. Citizens were particularly concerned that the new structure conform with the community plan and that no variances be allowed when a building permit was issued. And 10 years ago, a major topic was community support for the rebuilding of the C & O Canal towpath that had been severely damaged by heavy flooding in January.

Different concerns at different times but one thing is evident from this brief review: Cabin John has always been an active community. That's one of the reasons why it's such a great place to live. —



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Real Estate Activity in Cabin John Jan/Feb 2006

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

ACTIVE:		Br	Fb	Hb	Lvl	Fpl	Gar	Acres
7864 Archbold Ter. (rent)	$ 1,795	3	1	1	3	0	0	0.04
6421 83rd Pl.	$ 899,000	4	3	1	3	1	1	0.09
8013 Cypress Grove Ln.	$1,050,000	4	3	1	3	1	2	0.34
7833 Macarthur Blvd.	$1,444,000	6	6	0	3	1	2	0.37
6525 79th Pl.	$1,599,000	5	4	1	4	1	2	0.31
6528 79th St.	$1,599,000	6	4	1	4	1	2	0.41
7713 Tomlinson Av	$1,695,000	5	4	1	4	1	2	0.29
UNDER CONTRACT:								
6522 77th St.	$1,725,000	6	5	1	4	1	2	0.28
7605 Arden Rd.	$ 660,000	4	2	0	2	2	2	0.15
19 Ericsson Rd.	$ 469,000	3	1	0	1	0	0	
SOLD:								
6629 81st St.	$1,575,000	6	5	1	4	1	2	0.19
7903 Woodrow Pl.	$ 845,000	3	2	1	3	2	0	0.22

Young Creative Spirit Spring & Summer Fine Arts Camps at Glen Echo Park

It's that time of the year to start planning for summer fun in the Arts in your own "backyard." The Young Creative Spirit Children's program is located in the historic Crystal Pool First Aid Station. The program is in its 12th year and offers a variety of 10 affordable weekly camps from 9:00 - 3:00 for ages 6 to 12.

Longtime resident artists and Cabin John residents Cathie Nelsen and Katherine Andrle teach these popular camps. With a student/ teacher ration of 7:1 your child will receive much individual attention. In addition to the summer camps, there are after-school courses and weekend family workshops offered throughout the year.

Registration began Feb 4 so be sure to sign up soon for a great summer experience. Online catalog is at *www.glenechopark.org* or call the registrar at 301-634-2222. For camp dates or content call 301-229-5282 or 301-320-6704 or email *andrle@youngcreative spirit.org*.



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Clara Barton Center for Children Parent Education Program

Three lecture series by the Parent Encouragement Program(PEP) will be held at the Clara Barton Community Center/Center for Children in February and March. The PEP classes and workshops teach practical parenting skills geared to each stage of your child's development, whether you're looking for new parenting techniques or faced with serious parenting concerns. The lectures are: 1) Why Don't My Kids Listen to Me? (February 15), 2) Managing Your (Parents') Anger (February 22), and 3) Sibling Rivalry (March 1).

People may attend any one lecture or the entire series. The fee for individuals is $10 per lecture or $25 for the series. The fee for couples is $15 per lecture or $40 for the series. Each program will run from 7:30 to 8:30 pm at the Clara Barton Center. Please pre-register using the form below, and make checks payable to CBCC. Mail checks to CBCC, 7425 MacArthur Blvd, Cabin John, MD 20818. Baby-sitting will be provided by Cece Flores, Puffins Teacher, for $10 per family per evening.

Name(s): _____

____ (#) will be attending:
____ February 15 ____ February 22 ____ March 1

Baby-sitting: ____ February 15 ____ February 22 ____ March 1

Check enclosed payable to CBCC for $_____

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Drop in any time to a **Vinyasa Flow Yoga Class** with Neva (E.R.Y.T.500), every Monday from 9:30 -10:45 am, The Church of The Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobbin Drive (MacArthur & Goldsboro), Bethesda, MD 20816. Neva brings the wisdom and compassion of 25 years experience teaching yoga and dance to this fluid, empowering and relaxing style of Hatha Yoga emphasizing deep breathing and mindfulness. All ages and levels are welcome. Drop in for $15. Neva also offers private yoga, massage therapy and Jin Shin Jyutsu sessions and sells home-practice instructional yoga and yoga/dance CDs. Contact: *nevafusion@earthlink.net*, 301-263-0105, *www.nevafusionyoga.com*.

HELP WANTED: Bethesda Co-op seeks mature, reliable employee for p/t morning cashier shifts, 7:30-2:30. Retirees, local parents welcome. Dependable, friendly, interested in working at your pleasant community supermarket? Call Helen @ 301-320-2530/2531, or just stop by.

VOLUNTEERS! Bethesda Co-op wants you! We need dedicated, computer-savvy folks to assist with membership, data entry, mailings, web site design & maintenance. Retirees and local parents welcome. Earn up to a 20% Discount! Call Helen or Karen at 301-320-2530/2531, or just stop by.

Youth Bedroom Furniture For Sale. Used but in excellent condition. Contemporary. White. Twin platform bed with full trundle; nightstand, 6' book case, cabinet/dresser, desk with freestanding book hutch, wheeled chair. Price per item; $200 for all. Contact: *marcyharrison@earthlink.net*, 301-229-5405.

Furniture Sale: Four bookcases of white composite board, adjustable shelving, 5 1/2 feet tall, 2 1/2 feet wide, 1 foot deep-$25/bookcase. Call 301-229-7430.

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 heidiblewis@earthlink.net]

The next deadline is 10 am, Wednesday, Mar. 15, for the issue mailing Mar. 23.

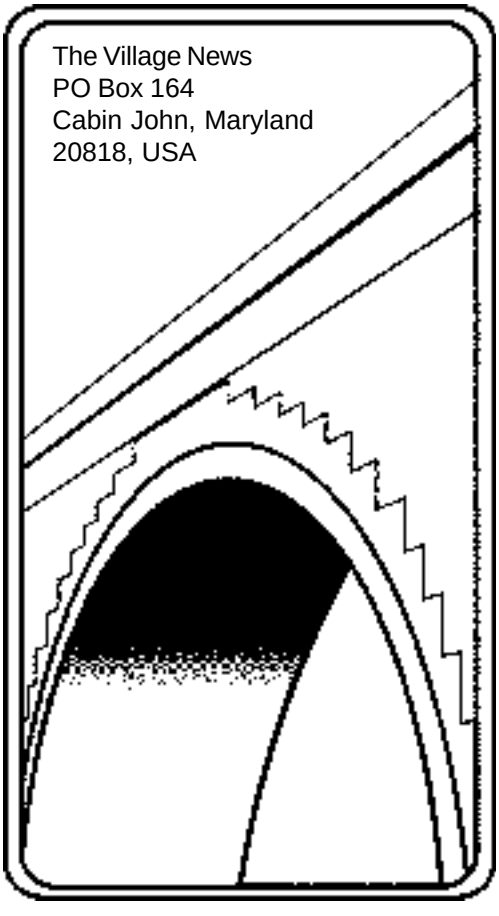
Volunteers who make the Village News possible: Heidi Brown Lewis–editor, Barbara and Reed Martin–distribution & proofreading, Lorraine Minor–business manager, Tim Weedlun–layout editor.

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

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

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

Features/News: 301-320-0918 or heidiblewis@earthlink.net



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