April 2015

the Village News

Volume 48 Issue 7 Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

Grant Project To Study CJ Creek Watershed Runoff

by Burr Gray

Cabin John Quarry to Reopen
(see story on p. 8)



© Judy Welles

The Cabin John Creek is a valuable and beloved resource that is enjoyed by residents of surrounding communities and is home to wildlife. In recent years, the Cabin John Creek Watershed has experienced tremendous growth and construction. The increase in the number of homes and larger homes with bigger roofs is likely a contributing factor to the frequency of flooding (roofs of single-family homes are the largest type of impervious surface in the watershed). Montgomery County encourages homeowners to capture some of the precipitation that falls on their roofs in order to slow the flow of surface water runoff and erosion and has named Cabin John as a priority Rainscapes Neighborhood in the watershed.

The Friends of Cabin John Creek (FOCJC), in collaboration with the West Bradley Citizens Association, the Cabin John Citizens Association, Cabin John Gardens Cooperative, the Riverhill Homeowners Association, and the Potomac District for Boy Scouts, have been awarded a two-year grant for $42,000 from Montgomery County to help address these issues. The grant project is intended to reduce stormwater runoff in the watershed, to improve water quality in Cabin John Creek and contribute to county and state efforts to clean up the Chesapeake Bay. Reducing runoff will also reduce or stop flooding of yards and homes in the watershed.

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Come to the March 29 Egg Hunt!

by Ollie Soria

The 17th annual Cabin John Spring Egg Hunt will be held this year on Sunday, March 29 at 4 pm, rain or shine. Kids and their parents are asked to gather at the Cabin John playground just below the tennis courts. We will provide plastic eggs filled with goodies. Please bring a basket of your own to collect the eggs.

The annual event is co-sponsored by Cabin John Citizens Association and a good time is had by all. Please RSVP Ollie Soria (301-229-4292) with the number of children attending.

See you there! —

Neighborly News

by Judy Brookes

Stephen Jay Flynn, respected trial lawyer and beloved husband, father, brother, and friend, passed away in his sleep on February 20, 2015. He lived on Carver Road. He is survived by very many people who adored him, especially his wife, Patte Flynn, his daughters Nora Flynn Hébert, Nell Quest, and Sheila Rose Patton, his brother Mark Flynn, sister Rosalind Hinton, step-son Rob Healy, sons-in-and-out-of-law Thomas Hébert, Dylan Quest, and Rickie Patton, grandchildren Tristan Hébert, Maureen Hébert, Denis Patton and Mary Kathleen Patton, and many friends, including Roger Eddleman and Lew Morris. He will be remembered every time we laugh, read a good story, hear choral music, watch sports, walk along canals, eat cake, or have interesting conversations with strangers.

Nikki and Shelly Layser of Archbold Terrace are happy to announce the birth of their son, **Brinton Henry Layser** born on January 6, 2015. He was 7lbs 9ozs, 21 ¼". Brinton is named after both of their grandfathers.

Bill Denell, of 75th Place, lost a courageous battle with lung cancer on March 8, 2015, with his family by his side. The Denell's are a CJ institution and the *Village News* did a story on the family in the November 1996 issue noting Bill's ancestors who lived in one of the Lock Houses along the Canal way back in the day. Bill was a wonderful guy who always lent a hand to anyone who needed it. He is survived by his wife **Dawn**; his son **Brian** of Cabin John; his daughter **Kara Williams** of Hampstead, NC, and four granddaughters.

Bobby Hook passed away in early March. He lived with his family on 79th Street for decades and raised five daughters there. He sold fire engines and equipment and was closely connected to the CJ Fire Department, as were his mother and sister.

Please send news about your family and/or Cabin John residents (present, past or future!) to Judy Brookes at judy@brookes.com or call 301.537.4165. Births, deaths, moves, graduations, accomplishments, ongoing club meetings, etc!



Community Calendar

MAR

22 .....Stormwater Presentation
Carderock Clubhouse
8200 Hamilton Spring Court
7 pm (see p. 9)

25 .....CJCA Meeting
Clara Barton Center
7:30 pm (see p. 6)

29 .....CJ Spring Egg Hunt
CJ Playground
4 pm (see p. 1)

APR

25 ..... CJ Creek Cleanup
CJ Playground
9:30 am to noon (see p. 6)

Ken Speckler: From Menswear to Mercedes-Benz

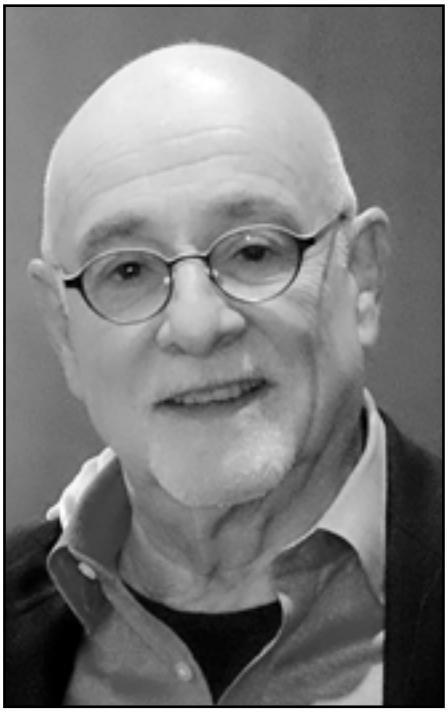
by Larry Massett

If you're walking down 79th Street towards the canal you might happen to notice the last mailbox on the right: number 6412. It stands on the corner just before the road jogs right, then left, to burrow under the Clara Barton parkway. Chances are you'll overlook the house itself. It's a conspicuous, one-of-a kind house, modern, in a striking shade of charcoal, yet connected to 79th Street only by an astonishingly long driveway, so that it lies more or less tucked away from view. You're more likely to notice it if you make the right turn and keep walking. The road now is called Riverside Drive, and the house at this point is close to the road. Your eye tells you it belongs on Riverside Drive; the mailbox and driveway insist on 79th Street, however.

The house—wherever it is—is the home of Ken Speckler. If you didn't know that you might guess it by the Mercedes-Benz parked in front, Ken being the person in Cabin John most likely to own a Benz. He's been selling them at EuroMotorcars in Betheda for almost three decades.

Ken was born in Baltimore, where he and his sisters and parents lived with grandparents. When he was 12 his family moved to DC. Ken went

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© Ken Speckler

Ken Speckler



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Time Again to Sign Up for CSA Pickups in Cabin John

by Sarah Cahill

It's time once again to register for your CSA (community supported agriculture) deliveries of farm fresh food. This biodynamic produce is truly organic food primarily from Kimbarton Farm with supplements provided by other participating farms.

Not all organic food is the same. It's important to know who grows your food and how. In a CSA we support small local farmers and are part of a community with a shared purpose—to heal the earth and ensure health and security for all.



© Sarah Cahill



© Sarah Cahill

Each weekly share is full of garden fresh greens and vegetables plus other staples such as bread, rice, cheese, lentils, fruit, and other healthy items. Cost of a full share is $40 and you can sign up for a 6-month program or yearly, either pre-paid or in installments. You can also elect to receive bi-weekly shares or split a share with a friend or neighbor.

The Spiritual Foods CSA has a 16-year track record of education and service and offers great volunteer opportunities for the whole family.

With CSA members pre-paying for a farmer's harvests, it's a win-win arrangement that pioneers a new community where giving & receiving become one. Since Spiritual Foods CSA provides biodynamic food, we feel we are also nourishing at a level deeper than the physical. You can read more online about biodynamic farming, developed in the 1920s by Rudolph Steiner.

To sign up or learn more about the program, please contact Sarah Cahill at 301-580-4088 or *sarah@serenitycircleyoga.com*

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SPECKLER
cont. from page 3

to Paul Jr. High and Coolidge High School. He still remembers taking a bus and a streetcar to Glen Echo Park.

"My dad was in the menswear business," he says. "He and a partner eventually acquired six or seven stores. The first was in downtown DC, then another on 14th Street at Columbia Road, and two stores on H Street NE. There were also stores in Atlantic City, Coral Gables, Florida, and eventually in Bethesda." As a young teenager Ken worked at his father's stores on Saturdays, and later on when home from college. He graduated from Shepherd College in West Virginia with a degree in business administration. Afterwards, in l961 or '62, he moved to Coral Gables to run the newly opened store on Miracle Mile. Here he met the girl who would become his first wife.

"I was in my middle twenties," Ken recalls, " I noticed that all my friends were married. So I got married to a woman I'd met in Florida. It lasted seventeen years." There are two children. The son, Larry, is 50 years old, lives in Huntington Beach, California, with two children, and works in the cellular phone industry. The daughter, Michelle, is 47 and also lives in California, in Santa Barbara, doing computer graphics.

Eventually the menswear business became difficult. "In the early '70's," says Ken, "the big stores were beginning to squeeze out the little retailers. So I started looking for another line of work." He'd always liked cars and had done some racing. "I had a l971 Datsun 240Z. I did a lot of autocross, and sometimes I went to the track at Summit Point in West Virginia." So he took a job at a Honda dealership. In l993 a friend at EuroMotorcars invited him to work there. And that is where he's been, for twenty-seven years so far.

Ken divorced around l981. He stayed single the next seventeen years. For a long time he lived in an apartment in Rockville. In 1988 he moved to a small house in Cabin John on 81st Street. "I was having a good time," he says, "and making decent money." Then one day Marlene Beckman walked into EuroMotorcars to look at a new Saab convertible. "She put me through six months of grief before she finally bought the car," Ken remembers.

Marlene is an attorney at the Justice Department, working for the Inspector General now. Ken describes himself as "sort of semi-retired." He's still selling cars, but not looking for new customers. "I come and go as I want at the dealership. I enjoy that. There's time to travel now." In recent years Ken and Marlene have been to Patagonia, the Galapagos, and South Africa. In April this year they're going to California, and to Alaska in June.

"We love it here," he says. "I love the canal, and the nature. I like bicycling and I'm thinking of taking up golf. I'm into exercise." Ken has a personal trainer who comes once a week (a 70th birthday present from his wife). He does a weights regime three days a week and aerobics on other days. And then there are all those books he acquired but never had time for. "I have lots of books I haven't gotten around to reading yet," he says. " We're staying here." —

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CJCA News

by Burr Gray

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

PLEASE NOTE: Citizen Association meetings have now moved from the 4th Tuesday of each month to the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Next CJCA Meeting Agenda —1) Discussion of upcoming Cabin John Directory and any desirable changes.

Minutes of CJCA Feb 25, 2015 Meeting:
1) **Donation to the *Village News***—CJ resident Mike Miller made a presentation on behalf of the *Village News* explaining their funding request of up to $3,500 for 2015. Their overall expenses are $11,000+; advertising sales do not cover all of that. Mike explained that last year the *Village News* made a request of $3000, but used only $2600 and returned the rest to CJCA. Because of increases in costs, especially postage, this year the VN is asking for $3500, with the caveat that any unused funds will be returned to CJCA. The attendees approved the request unanimously.

How to Keep Trucks and Cars off of the New Grassy Median Strip Along MacArthur Blvd— CJ resident Walt Dence made a presentation and recommendation for some signs on the new grassy median strips that now exist between the road and the shared use path. The signs would read "Soft Soil – Do Not Drive or Park." The signs would go into the ground at turns and other locations where the tracks seem to occur most often, and could be removed in a year when the ground has gotten harder. Some discussion occurred as to whether more significant and durable measures were needed (such as thin metal poles along MacArthur Blvd). The decision was made to try the effort with the signs first and see how that proceeds.



© Burr Gray

Clare Amoruso (CJCA Treasurer) and CJCA President Burr Gray present to FOCJC Secretary Peter Bross the check that CJ residents wrote to FOCJC this year (amounting to $895 so far) as part of the most recent dues paying effort.

Egg Hunt—The 17th annual Cabin John Spring Egg Hunt will be held Sunday, March 29 at 4 pm. See p. 1 for details. Please RSVP - Ollie Soria (301-229-4292) with number of children attending.

Donation to Friends of Cabin John Creek—CJ resident Peter Bross (Secretary, Friends of Cabin John Creek (FOCJC)) shared with CJCA the news that FOCJC has been awarded a $42K grant from Montgomery County over a two year period to work with certain local communities and the Boy Scouts to raise awareness of watershed protection. (See article on p. 1). FOCJC intends to advertise for, and hire, an outreach coordinator with the funds to work part time to initiate the effort. The work will involve demo projects to better control storm water runoff. All present agreed that CJCA and Cabin John residents should be proud and pleased with progress of the organization which CJCA has been supporting.



Reward for Finding the Location of the Hermit's Cabin in Cabin John Creek Valley—CJ resident Peter Vogt mentioned an image (shown above) that he has of an outcropping of the Hermit's cabin in the Cabin John Creek valley. He thought it would be fun to find the location of the former alleged cabin and the location from where the image was taken. The attendees approved a motion for Peter to publish his proposed contest in the *Village News* and that the winner would be given two tickets to the Crab Feast and a CJ hat.

Annual Cabin John Creek Cleanup—This year's cleanup is scheduled for April 25, 2015, from 9:30 am til noon. Meet at the childrens' playground at the west side of the Cabin John Bridge (one lane bridge). —❧

Highlights of the February 27 Bingo Night



© Burr Gray



© Burr Gray

Top left: Councilmember Roger Berliner calls numbers for the Bingo players. At right: Noa Kamiya writes down Bingo numbers. Bottom left: CJ resident Neda Shirzad and her friend Noa Kamiya pose with District 16 Delegate Marc Korman, one of the celebrity Bingo callers.



© Burr Gray

Lisan Martin Therapy

Lisan Martin, MSW, a psychotherapist with over twenty-five years of experience, provides counseling to individuals, couples and families. A Cabin John resident, Lisan sees clients at her offices in Cabin John and Woodley Park, DC.



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Opportunity to Recognize Carl Essl
Manager - Glen Echo Hardware

Carl passed away very unexpectedly in February. He was in his early 50's. Carl was a long time supporter of various CJCA events and projects, always donating gift certificates for the Holiday Party, advertising in the CJ directory, and assisting CJCA in other ways. Please take a moment to read the note below that is on flyers on the counter at Glen Echo Hardware:

> Carl worked hard to support his children's Catholic school and college educations. Unfortunately, he left his family before the job was done. Donna and Carl's youngest son, Will, also an employee of Glen Echo hardware, is scheduled to begin college this fall. The family would proudly accept any and all contributions to Will's college fund in memory of Carl.
>
> Please write the check to William Essl Scholarship Fund and send it to:
>
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> c/o Robert Harris, Administrator
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>
> Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
>
> *—The Essl Family*

Then and Now

by Judy Welles

A Quarry in Cabin John

There once was at least one quarry, and possibly two, near "Main Street" in Cabin John. That Main Street is today 81st Street. Walking where 81st turns into 82nd Place, to the end, brings you to the remains of the Bucolston Quarry. Evan Mater, who lives in the house where the owner of the Quarry once lived, has the sign that proves it.



© Judy Welles

April Fools! Our page 1 photo features a sign that Evan Mater, who lives in the house once owned by the owner of the now defunct quarry, found buried in a closet corner.

Between 1929 and 1943, the Bucolston Quarry operated on the 24 acres between 80th Street, Caraway Street and Buxton Terrace. The owner was Hugh White, a federal government lawyer for the Commerce Department, who appears to have decided to try his hand at a more outdoor business while still working for the government. He employed about a dozen men, including a quarry manager, to continue the quarry operation. The quarry stone, of highest quality and beautifully colored, was used to build the Calvert Street Bridge in Washington, D.C., and also an underpass in Silver Spring, MD, among other sites. But the quarry couldn't be sustained and had to close because only small loads of stone could be delivered when exiting onto MacArthur Boulevard.

With the conduit for the Washington Aqueduct underneath the road, MacArthur Boulevard had a two-ton limit for trucks. That gave competing quarries on River Road and alongside State Road (now Seven Locks Road) an advantage. Besides, Cabin John residents complained about the noise from blasting.

The presence of the quarry may also have been a factor in the slow sales of lots for Section 2 of Cabin John Park, the development started by J.S Tomlinson. Later, in the 1950s, the abandoned quarry became a place for adventuresome Cabin John teens to explore and for a few, like Evan Mater, a place to have some fun junking a broken down car. The quarry which sits in a valley between Cabin John and south Carderock Springs has since been reclaimed. The area today is still a place to explore, albeit carefully given overgrowth and fallen trees. —

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Stormwater Presentation at Carderock

by Burr Gray

The Carderock community asked us to get the word out on the County presentation as described below. Cabin John has certainly seen the stormwater issues rise in recent years, so I hope that people will consider attending the presentation. It is looking like the solution to neighborhood stormwater issues will be on a house-by-house basis.

The presentation will be 7 pm, Sunday, March 22, at the Carderock Clubhouse, 8200 Hamilton Spring Court. The workshop will look at practical solutions for storm water problems.

Pamela Rowe from the county RainScapes program will talk about very practical steps we can take to slow down flooding and erosion. These techniques include Rain Gardens and conservation planting. (Both may be eligible for county rebates)

Handouts will be available with contact information for landscape architects and other landscape professionals who have completed the county's training in storm water management and have completed RainScape projects. There will also be handouts for you listing plants, for both shade and sun, that do the best job absorbing water.

Background: After the torrential rainstorms last May, many Carderock homeowners met and reported very serious flooding on their properties, with longstanding pools of water, flooding in garages and lower levels of homes as well as significant erosion in yards. Rains were so intense that gutters and downspouts were overwhelmed. Water raced down streets flooding neighbors, especially those at lower ends of hills.

We may not be able to cure the problem, but there is a lot we can do to handle these torrential rains better and absorb more of the water so that it does not flood us or our downhill neighbors.

If you plan to attend, please e-mail *dembskisa@yahoo.com.*—

Advertisers for CJ Phone Directory

If we missed anyone who wishes to place an ad in the 2015 Cabin John phone directory, please contact Susan Roberts at 301-320-4451 or *susanroberts487@gmail.com.*

GRANT

cont. from page 1

Key activities of the grant project include:

- Hiring a part-time Outreach and Capacity Building Coordinator.
- Conducting a technical assessment of stormwater runoff problems in the four participating neighborhoods in the southern part of the watershed.
- Increasing homeowner participation by recruiting and assisting homeowners to implement RainScapes projects.
- Understanding and increasing awareness of watershed issues through a survey of residents and homeowners.
- Installing a certain number of rain barrels by Boy Scouts, with grant funds covering the cost of the barrels and installation hardware.
- Creating a Watershed Keeper group for Booze Creek.

Volunteers will be needed to participate in all of these activities. For more information on the how you can help, please go to the the COCJC website—*www.cabinjohn.org/focjc/.* —

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Frosty, the Postman



© Peter Vogt

The Postman's Creed ("Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.") was in evidence in Cabin John on 76th Street on March 5 when a snowstorm dumped about a half foot of snow on the community.

Keep Current with the Cabin John Listservs

There are two Cabin John Listservs that support our community. The informal "Marketplace Listserv" is moderated by resident Ghina Siddiqui and serves as forum for community chatter such as lost pets, vendor recommendations, local questions etc. The "Official News Listserv" is the mouthpiece for the Cabin John Citizens Association. Both listservs have relatively low traffic (only a few messages per week) and are a handy way to get up-to-date information that pertains to our community, but many residents aren't aware how they can join.

It's very simple. On the righthand side of the main page of the Cabin John website (www.cabinjohn.org) is a link that reads "Join the CJCA listserv." That will take you to a page where you can join either or both lists.

You can also join the informal Cabin John marketplace listserv, by sending an e-mail to *cabinjohn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com* with a request to be added.

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Holy Eucharist	8:00 a.m.
Adult Forum and Bible Study	9:15 a.m.
Nursery Care	10:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist	10:30 a.m.
Church School for All Ages	10:30 a.m.

■ UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Fridays in Lent (beginning February 20), at 7:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross

Mondays in Lent (beginning February 23), at 7:30 p.m.
Contemplative Service in the Style of Taizé

Sunday, March 15, at 5:00 p.m.
Inscape Chamber Orchestra in Concert: *American Aggregate*

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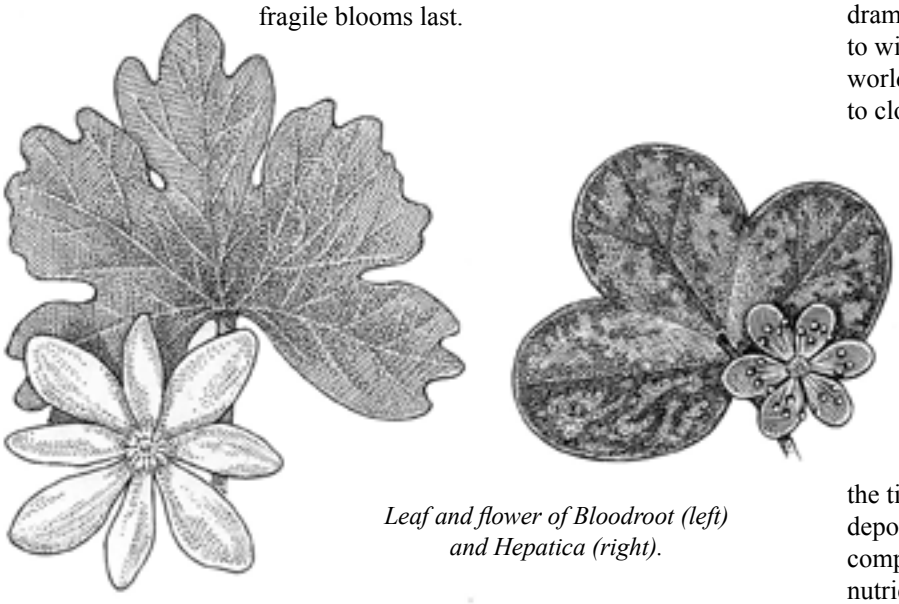
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Local Nature

by Eric Dinerstein

Ants in Our Plants

Henry David Thoreau, perhaps America's most gifted chronicler of the seasons, was said to be able to pinpoint the day of the year by the emergence of a wildflower or some other woodland event—thereby creating his own natural calendar. In his journal entry on April 21st, 1861, he noted, "very handsome tufts of Hepatica triloba at Melrose, and the bloodroot out also there." In Cabin John, we are far enough south of Thoreau's Walden Pond to find blooming bloodroot and Hepatica right about now, in the first days of Spring. And it is well worth the effort to go search them for the few days that the fragile blooms last.



© Trudy Nicholson

Leaf and flower of Bloodroot (left) and Hepatica (right).

Among the most elegant of wildflowers, Bloodroot sends up a flowering stalk holding a white flower with eight long petals surrounded by a single odd-shaped leaf that unfolds like a webbed foot. Hepatica flowers, in contrast, are a shade of blue so rich and vibrant that they defy our English-language ability to come up with an adequate descriptor. Lying somewhere on the painter's palette between periwinkle and hyacinth, Hepatica's vibrant blossoms are among the most anticipated sightings in spring.

Bloodroot and Hepatica are unrelated: the first is in the poppy family and the second in the buttercup family, but they have a lot else in common. Both are reputed to have important healing properties. Bloodroot was used as medicine and dyes by Native Americans; the unusual reddish-orange sap that oozes out of the cut leaf or stem seems fitting for a family whose distillations give us opium, morphine, and heroin. Hepatica triloba, so named because the prostrate leaves and their three lobes resemble the liver in shape and sometimes in color, was once used to treat ailments associated with this vital organ.

Both species attract cold-hardy flies and bees to spread their pollen about—nothing too original here. But the mode in which these plants spread their seeds around, or what scientists term seed dispersal, rises to the height of evolutionary drama and demands that we bend down in awe to witness one of the great marvels of the natural world—animal-plant mutualisms. The term applies to close relationships in which animals and plants co-evolve to provide benefits that increase the fitness of the other partner. In this case, our two delicate wildflower species rely on one of the most dogged, reliable, and abundant dispersal agents—ants that survive the winter in our woods. Attached to both bloodroot and Hepatica seeds is a minute fleshy tissue—called an elaiosome, or 'oily body' in Greek— whose fat and protein draw in the ants. The ants carry off the ripe seeds to their underground colonies where the tissue is eaten and the ballast—the seed—is deposited, unharmed in what amounts to an ant compost pile. The seeds germinate in a safe, nutrient-rich spot, and as important, far from the parent where there is less chance of competition for light and nutrients with other infant bloodroot and Hepatica seedlings. Some studies show that the foraging ants may offer further benefits by lubricating the seeds brought into the nest with anti-microbial fluids from specialized glands they possess, reducing the chances that the seeds will be attacked and killed by fungi.

As astute a naturalist as Thoreau was, there is nothing in his journals that indicates he detected seed dispersal by ants. He wrote about seed dispersal by squirrels and birds but ants seemed to have escaped his close gaze, just as they did most early naturalists. Then, 36 years after Thoreau's journal entry, in 1897, Charles Robertson discovered ant dispersal of bloodroot. For some unknown reason, however, little was written about seed dispersal by ants in the scientific

literature until 1940 when Burton Gates reported ants carrying the seeds of large flowered Trillium. The 19th century naturalists' oversight is even more striking because so many of the early spring wildflowers in the Eastern U.S. rely on ants to move seeds: trout lilies (which cover the hillsides bordering Cabin John Creek for a solid week), wild bleeding hearts, many species of trillium, wild ginger, almost all violets, spring beauty, and Corydalis. The most beautiful of all ant-dispersed plants grows in dense colonies on nearby Plummers Island—twinleaf, the wildflower named after our third President (Jeffersonia). In early Spring, there is relatively little food around for the ants to gather to take back to their nests so the lipid and protein-rich packets of these species are highly sought after. Once summer arises there is plenty of food so the plants that flower and fruit at this time rely upon other dispersers like birds and mammals and don't produce elaisosomes.

The phenomenon of ant-plant interactions extends far beyond Cabin John and Walden Pond. Worldwide, there are estimated to be between 11,000-25,000 species of plants spread among 55 different plant families that rely on ants to move seeds around. Mutualism of this kind is a case of convergent evolution, in which independently, plants as different as orchids and violets and wild ginger entice ants, each evolving or "converging" on a similar recipe for a tasty elaiosome to reward hungry ants in exchange for improved dispersal services. Ant-plants, as they are called, are particularly common in Australia and other habitats where fire is a common factor in shaping communities. The seeds of fire-adapted species would never survive the hot burns that scorch the earth above ground but, thanks to ants in their plants, these species have their seeds safely germinating in the ground below the flames.

Dispersal of our local early-flowering plants by neighboring ants is just one of the many examples of mutualisms that can be found in the Potomac wilderness—where nature offers us a model of how unrelated species can work for the benefit of each other. —

Editor's Note: If you have any questions about local wildlife or ideas for future topics, you can contact Eric at ericdinerstein@gmail.com.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Dinerstein,

I had just finished re-reading your December article on woodpeckers when I looked out the window and was treated to a visit from a pair of pileated woodpeckers. What a thrill. I've never had one come to a feeder before!


© Warren Goodell

We're new to Cabin John this summer and have been really enjoying the wild life. I'm still waiting to see a sapsucker and have been disappointed not to have any Hairy Woodpeckers grace our feeders. Guess I'll just have to make do with the Pileated.

Thank you for sharing your expertise with the *Village News*. It has made a difference!

—Warren E. Goodell



MICKIE SIMPSON

If you are thinking about selling your home, either soon or in the future, let's talk. I have a resident's understanding of the unique Cabin John market.

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6635 81st St	$1,075,000	4	3	1	4	1	0
6511 78th St	$1,849,000	6	6	1	4	1	2
6513 76th Pl	$2,199,900	6	6	1	3	2	3
UNDER CONTRACT:							
1 Carver Rd	$565,000	2	2	1	3	0	0
6512 81st St	$799,000	3	2	1	3	1	0
6529 77th St	$860,000	3	3	0	3	1	1

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Answers On Water Levels in the Canal

by Larry Heflin

Last fall I spoke with Kevin Brandt, Superintendent of the C&O Canal National Historical Park about fluctuating canal water levels in the Cabin John, Lock 8 area. I brought up the topic in a recent Email to him and his reply I think is of interest to us all:

Hello Larry,

Your question is familiar because it is periodically asked. It came up again as we held meetings to discuss the proposed entrance fee increase. The short answer is we do not let the canal go dry by choice. The infrastructure of the canal requires constant maintenance. When the canal develops a leak we attempt to make repairs.

For many years we had enough annual operating funds to make temporary repairs to canal structures but in recent years as our budget was reduced, we no longer have sufficient funds to make even temporary repairs. We have prepared designs for a number of repair projects that would allow us to re-water the canal from level 14 down to lock 5. The cost of these projects is above $6 million. We have requested funds from within the NPS but to date have not gotten on the list of funded projects.

More recently, by proposing the fee increase, we were hopeful we could use the additional revenue to match a State of Maryland Transportation Alternatives Program grant which would allow us to undertake the work. Without the match, however, we can't qualify for the grant. We are looking to develop other alternative funding scenarios but at the present time do not have one. Until some other opportunity presents itself we will continue to seek funds from within the NPS.

I hope this answers your questions. If I've omitted something or have been unclear please let me know and I'll elaborate further.

Thanks for writing.

—Kevin

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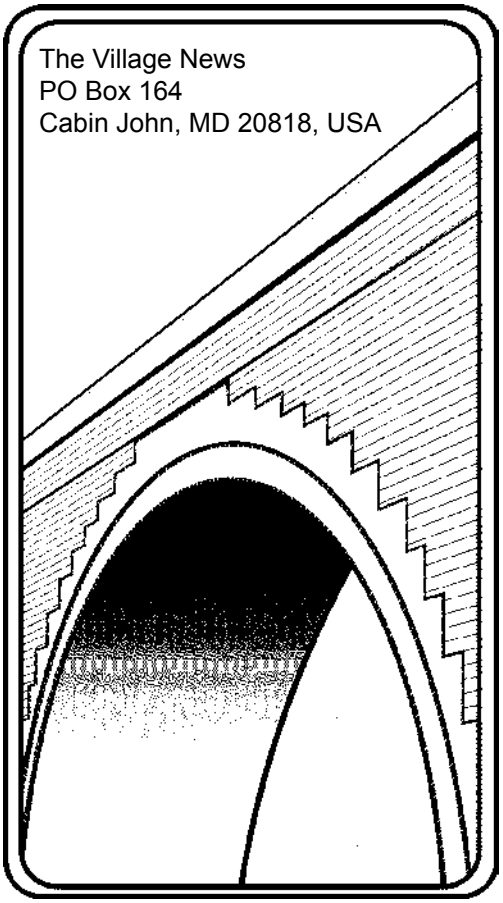
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PSYCHOTHERAPY IN CABIN JOHN: Lisan Martin, MSW provides individual, couples and family therapy at her Cabin John office, as well as in Woodley Park, D.C. More about Lisan can be found on her website, *www.lisanmartintherapy.com*, or contact her at 202-537-6614.

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ROOM NEEDED FOR SUMMER INTERNS. Two sisters who will be interning at the Naval Facility at Carderock need a room to rent from May 26th to August 15th. Contact Elizabeth McGlothen, 503-369-5596, *lizmcglothen@gmail.com*

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.

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The next deadline is 10 am, Wednesday, Apr. 8, for the issue mailing Apr. 18, 2014.

Volunteers who make the *Village News* possible: Mike Miller and Tim Weedlun–editors, Lorraine Minor–business manager.

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