SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

TIED UP IN TRAFFIC AT MACARTHUR BOULEVARD IN GLEN ECHO?

If you are one of many folks who repeatedly finds himself playing “chicken” at the intersection of the George Washington Memorial Parkway exit ramp and MacArthur Boulevard in Glen Echo, and you would like to see something done about the traffic situation, here is the name and address of the Chief of the Montgomery County Division of Traffic Engineering.

Ronald C. Welke, Chief
Division of Traffic Engineering
Room 420
6110 Executive Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850.
If you wish to call him, the number is 770-3260.

During the time it will take to seek funding for the repair of Union Arch Bridge, this problem of traffic flow will persist and perhaps worsen. During the Spring and Summer, when bicyclists abound, the problem of traffic safety at this intersection will worsen. With school buses carrying our children from Cabin John to beyond using this dangerous intersection at peak traffic hours, the danger heightens. If you are concerned, please write or call and express your feelings and ideas about this matter. The time for action is now, while the bridge is closed to vehicular traffic. Not some far off time in the future when it is re-opened — WHENEVER THAT WILL BE. Ed.

GLEN ECHO PARK LAND TRANSFERRED TO NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

It seems that Glen Echo Park will finally enjoy the status of permanency under the National Park Service. The land transfer from GSA to the Department of Interior has finally been approved by the President’s Office of Management and Budget.

In a letter to Congressman Gilbert Gude on December 5, Paul O’Neill, Acting Director of OMB said:

“[You will be] happy to learn that the Office of Management and Budget has concluded that it has no objection to the proposed transfer of the Glen Echo Park lands from the GSA to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.”

Perhaps the completion of the land transfer will now enable Glen Echo Park to forge ahead with its Master Plan and ever increase the recreational and educational services it provides the local community. Ed.

UP – CABIN JOHN. You better watch out, you better not cry. You better not pout, we’re telling you why. Santa Claus is coming to town.

He’s making a list, he’s checking it twice. He’s going to find out who’s naughty and nice. Santa Claus is coming to town.

He sees you when you’re sleeping. He knows when you’ve been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake.

You better watch out, you better not cry. You better not pout, we’re telling you why. Santa Claus is coming to town.

CABIN JOHN TRAILS

by Ed Clark

All of us in Cabin John have had occasion during the past year to be actively involved and concerned about one common problem -- how to walk or bicycle from Cabin John Park to Bannockburn and Glen Echo. I wonder how many of you have thought also about those who live in Glen Echo and Bannockburn and have been frustrated in their attempts to walk or bike into Cabin John. It actually does even beyond that scope, for the new bike trail brings hundreds of people each week in both directions along MacArthur Boulevard. (It is finally starting to come up to the standard prematurely established when it was given such a proud name).

Continued on page 2
be raised - this to protect the low-level flights of government helicopters Governor Mandel and President Ford would send to airlift supplies to our cut-off, deprived community.

(f) The sound of emergency vehicles would no longer echo through the Cabin John night as our proud rescuers couldn't get out to rescue those far-off Beltway victims. They would devote themselves entirely to the needs of our community, which are relatively few, actually. If left alone we would live relatively quiet lives, you know.

Well, I could go on - there would be almost limitless benefits to the bombing of the other bridges.

At the risk of removing all the charm from this rather choice article, may I suggest seriously that the sides of the Union Arch Bridge be raised to about 8 feet above the roadway using chain link fencing, that the bridge be lighted, the roadway repaved and the passage re-opened immediately, to be reserved hereafter, 24 hours each and every day to pedestrian and bicycle traffic only. Motor traffic can go around - people cannot. And the time for any further delay in reopening our bridge has long since past. I thank you.

ALL ALONG THE C&O CANAL

On Sunday, December 14, music will ring out across the towpath along the C&O Canal when the Potomac United Methodist Church Choir presents special Christmas music including Bicentennial anthems and invites the public to join them in a carol sing. Inside the C&O Canal Tavern Museum Room, Great Falls, Maryland at 3:00pm. For further information please call 299-3613 or 301-452-2251.

On December 20-27, a nostalgic Christmas recollection for the young and young-at-heart who enjoy memorabilia from yesteryear, called “The Teddy Bears' Christmas” will be presented. Courtesy of Mary Hamilton Moe. In the Hospitality Room, C&O Canal Tavern Museum, Great Falls, Maryland (NOT OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY) For more information, please call 299-3613.

AT LITTLE FALLS LIBRARY

On December 17th, at 7:30pm, Little Falls Library will present the film, Nutcracker. On December 20th, at 10:30 am, a Penny Theatre entitled “Plum Pudding for Christmas,” will presented (for ages 4-6). For more information, call the library at 320-4880.

LIGHTS . . . CAMERA . . . WHERE’S THE RIVER?

By Kevin Flynn

Despite rains that fell every time they got the aperture set, a hardy group of filmmakers made their way down the Potomac in October, hoping to create a new art form - a film about the river.

The filmmakers, led by independent producer Terry Tannen - the Potomac's version of Robert Altman - filmed the river for the Interstate Commission for the first time since Stuart Finley chronicled the incredible story of Mud in 1968.

Mud, along with Teamwork on the Potomac, another vintage flick, have long been distributed by the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin's public information office to schools and community organizations. Last year, more than 875 schools across the country requested the films.

ICPRB now hopes to retire the outdated films with a new look at the Potomac, based largely on the experiences of the ICPRB group that went down the river last August. Tannen interviewed people who live and work along the river, and will weave interviews into a 20 or 30 minute documentary about the Potomac today.

Although the budget is severely limited, Mr. Tannen has used a combination of penny-pinching and ingenuity to do the job.

The Communication Department of American University in Washington is supplying a student film crew and equipment in return for a chance for young filmmakers to participate in the process.

The film is funded by ICPRB and the Citizens Council for a Clean Potomac, through their “Potomac Heritage” grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is supplying a helicopter ride upriver, is among several cooperating agencies helping keep costs down.

Tannen completed shooting in November. The film should be available for screening sometime early next year.

The above is taken from the October issue of POTOMAC BASIN REPORTER with the permission of its editor.

CORRECTION

My apologies to Carlotta Anderson, Editor of THE ECHO for deleting the credit for the article, “About Rid of Agnes When Eloise Storms In,” and “Airplane Noise: Latest Developments.” The deletion of the credit was indeed, an unintentional oversight. Ed.
Dear Editor,

When we first moved to Cabin John three years ago, we were very concerned about the number of children riding bicycles and skate boards, often recklessly, in the middle of MacArthur Boulevard. Often at night our headlights would pick up a bicycle in the middle of MacArthur barely in time for us to brake and avoid it, though we were not exceeding the speed limit. We also noticed groups of young people talking at night at the edge of the road, virtually invisible until right on them.

We were relieved when the bike path was laid along MacArthur this spring. However, to our dismay we note that the bike path is frequently ignored, and bikes and skate boards still abound in MacArthur Boulevard.

Tonight we were returning home at nine PM, well after dark. As we approached the fire house, our headlights picked up two bicycles pulling a skate board and a tricycle, careening back and forth in the middle of the road just 50 feet ahead - no lights, no light clothing, no attention to traffic.

Parents, children - let’s be sure the bike path is used and that good safety is practiced in our community to avoid unnecessary tragedy. Not everybody driving on MacArthur Boulevard knows to creep along at 20 MPH looking for the unexpected.

Please,
Mary Vinton

It was suggested by a member of the Cabin John community that the following letter from the editor (Carlotta Anderson, which appeared in the November issue of THE ECHO (Glen Echo's monthly newspaper) be reprinted. I think this letter applies as well to Cabin John as it does to Glen Echo.

FROM THE EDITOR (Carlotta Anderson, THE ECHO):

One day recently my nine-year-old son was prevented from going on an errand because dogs threatened him from both directions. A large barking white dog from Pembroke Lane was positioned near the top of our driveway on one side, and up Wellesley Circle the other way was the house where a large black German shepherd had jumped over the fence and barked menacingly at us the day before.

I called up both owners, and both were pleasant, but it is nevertheless embarassing to call your neighbors to remind them of town ordinances.

Barking, menacing dogs, or just those who forage in trash cans and knock them over are nothing new in this town. The subject has been discussed, at many Town Council meetings, and it was reported at the last one that Bob Singleton had captured a dog that had bitten him and had it taken to the pound.

It is clear that the Town needs an Animal Control Officer, an office that has been vacant for several years. Dogs are lovable animals, but usually not to one's neighbors. That is why there are leash laws not only in Glen Echo, but in Montgomery County.

At the June Town Council meeting the Mayor reported that two residents had volunteered to be Animal Control Officer and that they would be contacted. Only one volunteer is still interested. At press time he has not been contacted and nothing has been done since the subject was brought up five months ago.

When are we going to have an Animal Control Officer?

The following is a letter, dated October 22, 1975 from Robert McGarry of the Corps of Engineers to Gilbert Gude, our Representative in Congress.

I am writing in response to your letter to Mr. Harry Ways, Chief, Washington Aqueduct Division, concerning lighting on Cabin John Bridge. Our present policy is to keep the bridge open to pedestrians throughout the winter months, even though it will be dark earlier in the evening. The vandalism which concerns us is not likely to occur in the early evening.

In accordance with an agreement between Mr. Gleason and me, Montgomery County has recently assumed responsibility for surface jurisdiction and maintenance on MacArthur Boulevard. For many years prior to that, however, all street lighting on MacArthur Boulevard had been provided by the County. At present, there are two poles with street lights on them at either end of the bridge. We discussed this problem with Mr. Kanz of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, suggesting that spot lights be placed on these poles to illuminate the bridge. He indicated that the County would probably be willing to undertake this project.

This seems to be the quickest and best solution and I suggest your constituents contact the County officials and make their wishes known. You may be assured of my cooperation.

We look forward to passage of the Bill you have recently introduced to relieve the Washington Aqueduct of police responsibilities on MacArthur Boulevard. When the Montgomery County Police assume jurisdiction in this area, we would consider permitting the County to establish the time of opening and closing of the bridge. In the interim, due to the limited staff and funds available to the Washington Aqueduct for police activities and the lack of lighting, we believe it is in the best interest of all concerned to continue to close the bridge at 9:30pm.

Sincerely,
Robert McGarry
Colonel, Corps of Engineers

Editor's note. Thanks to Ed Clark for making it possible to reprint this letter which was forwarded by Congressman Gude.

Mrs. Mildred B. White, wife of Bill White, 21 Carver Road, Cabin John, suddenly passed away Sunday, 23 November 1975. The kindness of the citizens of Cabin John shall never be forgotten. I thank everyone for flowers, food, cards and help given during this trying period. Thanks again.

Bill White

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES

Scotland Mt. Ame Zion and Gibson Grove Mt. Ame Zion Churches will have their Christmas service at 7:30am on Christmas morning at the Gibson Grove church. The service will be followed by breakfast.

Rev. Reverend Rieke will present a series of sermons based on the relationship of Old Testament prophecy to the birth and early life of Jesus Christ. On November 30th the sermon title was “A Virgin Will Conceive,” and on December 7 the sermon title was “Out of You, Bethlehem.” On December 14, the sermon will be “Called from Egypt,” and on December 21, “Rachel Weeping.”

On Sunday evening, December 21, beginning about 6:00pm, a group will go out from the church to sing carols around the community. Later, at about 8:00pm, a Christmas play will be presented at the church and refreshments served. On Christmas Eve we will have a traditional candle light service beginning at 7:00pm. We invite all our neighbors and friends to share these events with us. Our Advent worship will be enhanced by a new Allen Model 202 Computer Organ which many of our community friends have helped us acquire; we hope that many will come enjoy this marvelous instrument with us. Our worship service begins at 10:55am with silent meditation; we provide a nursery for small children and babies. Sunday school classes for people of all ages begins at 9:30am.
GREEN THUMB TIPS
By Franziska R. Hecht, Green Scene Staff
The coming holidays bring to mind gift lists and decorations. The Green Scene staff has developed a variety of flyers with gift and ornament ideas. Here are a few:
The "Holiday Ideas" flyer gives directions for making Christmas ornaments and gifts from dried natural materials and recycled articles.
The "Seed "laque" flyer describes how to make an attractive present. You might consider making a terrarium for giving. Another idea to brighten the winter gloom is to try your hand at forcing traditional Christmas plants: Poinsettia, spring flowering bulbs.
Many of us will give or receive the other patrons have been the late Robert Kennedy, the Guggenheims, Arthur Godfrey, Martha Roundtree, Sen. William Proxmire. Also Katherine Ann Porter, the William Randolph Hearst family, as well as the Chrysler, Hampton and May clans.
Recently, Mac restored an unusual grandfather's clock damaged in a fire. Instead of chimes, this 10-foot high clock announced the time with organ tunes. Its leather bellows, stored inside the 3½ foot wide, 20-inch deep "throat" were actuated by weights. The clock belongs to Jean Dixon, famous clairvoyant, author, and friend of Washington notables.
Besides restoring antiques for noteworthy personalities, Mac sometimes lectures to women's clubs on antiques. He also travels widely, identifying and appraising period pieces and discussing them with their owners.
Mac is no stranger to the Stephen Decatur House, the President's Guest House (Blair House), nor to the White House. He worked there in the 1930's—kept busy by the Roosevelts. Also by James Farley, the then Postmaster General, Frances Perkins, the then Secretary of Labor; J. Edgar Hoover, and Gen. "Hap" Arnold. Mac supervised the wood panelings and "fixings" of all their offices.
He also "did" the entire interiors and 10 or 12 directors' offices in the Federal Reserve Building at 24th and Constitution Avenue. Mac considers it one of the most beautiful buildings in the world, because of its imposing (and expensive!) crystal chandeliers, fountains, wood paneling, draperies and furniture.
Furniture! That's stacked, stocked and stored in Mac's shop, behind his residence. Exquisite antiques with wondrous histories. Also fragments: legs, seats, backs, and fabrics of all kinds. Also woodworking tools. And some old, white-painted shutters and doors.
"Off your home?" we ask idly. "No sir-ee!" shrills Mac. "Off the President's Palace in Washington, after the British burned it in the War of 1812. The scorched wood had been masked with white lead paint; that's how the name 'White House' originated. Here, watch..."
And he chipped off some white pigment to reveal the darkened wood beneath it: "Solid white pine. Over 200 years old."
"And what will you be doing with it?"
"Mister, I'm going to make the finest violin you ever did see out of this White House wood. And do ye know the very first tune I'm going to fiddle out of it?... Yankee Doodle!"

McGahan lived at 8126 MacArthur Blvd. He died of cancer, Thursday, November 6. Hail, old neighbor...and farewell. MF

HOLIDAY PARTY ON FRIDAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS
Come to the community party on Friday, December 19! Bring a holiday dessert and join the fun. Entertainment, singing, Santa Claus, a good time for the whole family. At the Clara Barton School, 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Sponsored by the Cabin John Citizens Association. See you on the 19th!

ANTIQUE TREASURES RESTORED IN CABIN JOHN
The following is reprinted from the March 30, 1972 issue of THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY BILL.
By Morris Fradin
Had President John F. Kennedy not been assassinated, he and his "Jackie" might often have visited their old friend and antique-restorer: Charles A. McGahan of 8126 MacArthur Boulevard, Cabin John.
This Jolly Irishman learned his trade in Scotland, so he could practice it in America on the treasures of the great, near-great and would-be-great.
His clients have included Corinne Griffith, former movie queen. She brought McGahan some roof shingles from Monticello, placed there by Thomas Jefferson in 1770. The "wood wizard" fashioned a pair of end tables from the old wood, thereby earning a chapter in Miss Griffith's book "Antiques I Have Known." Besides a fat fee, of course.
Mac's other patrons have been the late Robert Kennedy, the Guggenheims, Arthur Godfrey, Martha Roundtree, Sen. William Proxmire. Also Katherine Ann Porter, the William Randolph Hearst family, as well as the Chrysler, Hamilton and May clans.
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Beverly Sullivan, Treasurer
IN THE PARK

The following is a list of children's shows at Adventure Theatre in Glen Echo Park. Tickets are $1.50. For reservations call 320-5331 weekdays 10:00am to 2:00pm. Saturday and Sunday shows are at 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30pm. Weekday shows are at 11:00am and 1:00pm. Sponsored by the National Park Service and the Montgomery County Department of Recreation.


Registration is in progress for the winter session of Glen Echo Park's Creative Education Program classes. Day and evening classes for adults and children include: ceramics, photography, woodworking, textiles, painting, sculpture, graphics, drama, music, poetry, jewelry, enameling, stained glass, auto awareness and more. In most areas, beginning to advanced course programs are offered, and all classes are taught by professionals at moderate tuition. For brochure and registration information, call 229-5051. Classes begin the week of January 19.

You are invited to the New Year's Open House at Glen Echo Park on January 11th from 12:30 til 5:30pm. At 12:30, there is a reception and staff report (in the Park's Crafts Building) on the Park's programs and plans. From 2:00 til 4:00pm, there is an Open Studios period when you can visit the Park's resident ceramics, textiles, photography, automotive repairs, sculpture, fine arts and graphics studios, the Children's Experimental Workshop and Adventure Theatre. There will be a photo display and a slide show depicting the Park's past and present. At 4:00pm you may participate in a question-and-answer session with staff and resident artists, craftspeople and educators. You may also obtain information about the Park's winter classes.

VILLAGE NEWS

FUNDRAISING A SUCCESS!

THE VILLAGE NEWS fundraising which took place in October and November was a huge success. Nearly $500.00 was collected when Cabin John kids went door-to-door asking for contributions to the paper.

Steven Dealph won four tickets to see the Washington Caps play hockey at the Capital Center by collecting $190.74. THE VILLAGE NEWS wishes to thank Steve for his colossal effort, as well as the rest of the group for their hard work in helping to keep the paper financially sound. The group included Judy Vogt, Leland Heflin, Holly Heflin, Wayne Shaw, Billy Shaw, Walter Shaw, John Geib, John Kemp, Mitch Heflin, Brandt and Stefene Rice, and Bill White. We also wish to thank Beverly Sullivan, Diane Kellogg, Mary Geib, and Betty Yoklavich for their generous assistance in coordinating the fundraising. A special thanks goes to Wayne, Billy and Walter Shaw who contributed their 10% commission to THE VILLAGE NEWS.

Our apologies to the side of Cabin John Gardens nearest Glen Echo. Due to a misunderstanding between our collectors, Cabin John residents there were missed during the campaign. Wayne Shaw will be around to take contributions within the next week or so. Thanks to everyone in the community who contributed. Your willingness to give your financial support is encouraging.

Our monthly expenses (February-October) average as follows: printing (for 900-1,000 copies per month) $84.27; delivery $11.00; photo $8.14; typesetting $8.60; and supplies $9.60. This puts our monthly production cost at about $120. We are attempting to limit the size to 6-8 pages and lower the number of copies printed to 800 to reduce costs. With our current funds and the increased rate for commercial advertisers, THE VILLAGE NEWS will continue publication monthly. THE VILLAGE NEWS, prior to this year, had ceased publication during the summer. One of the reasons why our money ran out so quickly was our decision to print 3 issues this summer. The decision regarding publication in the summer months in 1976 has yet to be made. If you have any questions regarding the finances of THE VILLAGE NEWS, please call Mary Shaw at 229-6040. Ed.
ORGAN-Magnus' best small model purchased Fall 1974. Original price $70.00 sacrificed at $40.00. Phone 229-5286.

FOR SALE: Toro lawn mower, Sears snowblower, Sears Dehumidifier, Raleigh man's 3-speed bicycle, fishing equipment, painted child's desk and chair, wool hooked area rugs. Call 229-4366.

WANTED: Black and white tv, 19" or larger in excellent condition. Channels 20 and 26 for under $50. Call 229-3876.

FOR SALE: Twin size mattress. Call 229-4469.

FOR SALE: VILLAGE NEWS T-SHIRTS make nice presents. Some sizes in stock, both children and adults. $3.50 for adults, $3.00 for children. Can be ordered with payment of $1.75. Call 229-7530.

SEWER BAN LIFTED

By Kevin Flynn

The long-awaited lifting of the ban on expanding sewers in Prince George's and Montgomery County, Maryland, was announced by the state's Environmental Health Administration October 10th. The order opens up about five million gallons a day of sewage capacity in the counties, and could mean the construction of 10,000 homes in the area. The order affects Watts Branch, Rock Run, Cabin John Creek, Muddy Branch, Seneca Creek, Oxon Run, and part of Little Falls Branch, according to Earl Quance of the health department. The sewer moratorium has restricted growth in the counties since 1970.

The above is taken from the October issue of POTOMAC BASIN REPORTER with the permission of its editor

HANK ON THE LADDERS TO SUCCESS

By Morris Fradin

Thanksgiving Day was a joyous occasion at the Harvey N. Hooks when swimming star, movie actor, author, cartoonist-son, Harvey (Hank) Noble Hook, Jr., came home from Yale, at New Haven Connecticut, and their swimming star, cartoonist-son, David, came home from Mercersburg Academy, Pennsylvania.

"Hank," 18, and David, 15, are the grandsons of the popular oldtime Cabin Johners, Norman and Dorothy Nelson.

Tall, handsome, and happy "Hank" attended Walt Whitman High School before switching to Mercersburg Academy on a partial swimming scholarship. A member of the Literary Society there and cartoonist for the school's Mercersburg News, he was a semi-finalist for a National Merit Scholarship and graduated cum laude. He is now a sophomore at Yale, and will be traveling to Puerto Rico with the university's swimming team after New Year's Day, to train for the inter-collegiate season. Early next March, the team flies to Helsinki, Finland, then to Leningrad, USSR, to compete with one Russian swimming team, then on to Moscow to compete with a second Soviet group. Eight days in the USSR should reap several gold medals for Hank, if it doesn't go against the grain for a Cabin Johner to outswim and outsmart the Russians.

Majoring in literature (and minor-ing in rest, considering all his activities), Hank's cartoons on the contemporary scene are featured in the Yale Daily. He has been chosen to act in a Yale movie underwritten by a philanthropic organization, while completing his book, an autobiography about a teenager growing up in present-day America.

Brother David now tops his tall grandpop in height and admits he will try to meet or beat Hank's fast-as-a-fish records. A freshman at Mercersburg Academy, David is on the varsity water polo team there and is planning to work with the swim team this winter. And just like his older sibling before him, David is a crackerjack cartoonist on the staff of the Mercersburg News.

"Tis a good thing Joan and Harvey have only two sons; one more like Hank and David and they'd burst with pride—all over Montgomery County!