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HAPPY NEW YEAR, LOCH RAVEN VILLAGE!

Letter from the President

I hope you enjoyed the holiday season and that 2013 is off to a good start for you and your families. This year, there are some developments in our community that I am very excited about and hope that you are too!

- Board member Leslie Vallade has spearheaded the formation of the non-profit Fireworks Foundation. This group will take responsibility for organizing the annual fireworks display.
- We're moving into the 21st century, and I hope you will join us. If you haven't already, "like" us on Facebook, visit our website regularly, and pay your dues with PayPal!

If you're someone who makes New Year's resolutions, I invite you to make a community-related one. Can you spare an hour or two each month? There are things you could do to help our community. You could:

- Volunteer with our Citizens on Patrol (COP) and patrol your area of the Village. For more information, e-mail John Kelly at LRVillageCOP@aol.com.
- Write an article for the Crier and submit it to lrvcriereditor@gmail.com.
- Attend a monthly Associates of Loch Raven Village (ALRV) board meeting.
 We gather the second Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Loch Raven Center (see Events calendar inside for upcoming dates).
- Get to know your neighbors and help those who may need it. Lend a hand and enjoy friendly conversation on a regular basis.

I look forward to another wonderful year in Loch Raven Village and hope to see you at a board meeting soon!

Gretchen Sarkin President

Save the Date for the Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 9 and plan to attend the ALRV Annual meeting at 7 p.m. at Babcock Church (in Fellowship Hall). Stay tuned to the Loch Raven Village website, Facebook page, and the next issue of the Crier for details.

Holiday Decorating Contest Winners Announced!

Thank you to all the LRV residents who showed their holiday spirit by decorating their homes and yards in December. You really make the Village a beautiful place to live. Board members toured the neighborhood and selected nine winners. The judges noted that there were "many beautiful and creative yards in LRV."

The winning addresses below received gift cards.

8522 Pleasant Plains - Lighted Bow Perfection 1508 Glen Keith - Traditional Yuletide Spirit 1843 Loch Shiel - Santa's Sleigh 1725 Glen Keith - A Very Raven Christmas 8163/8165 Pleasant Plains - Dual Holiday Decor 1526 Glen Keith - Red, Green and White DeLight 1831 Pleasant Plains - Holiday Joy Door 1618 Feldbrook - Where are Santa's Boots, Deer

> March/April Crier Submissions Deadline: February 14, 2013

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Gretchen Sarkin 410-828-8952

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Wade Barnes

lrvmembership@gmail.com

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Marketing – Open

Membership – Wade Barnes lrvmembership@gmail.com

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RealEstate-Leslea Knauff 410-823-0648

CONTACTS

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David Marks

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council5@baltimorecountymd.gov

Towson Times LRV Columnist -

Sue Van Essen 410-665-2899

 $\textbf{Towson University} \ (\text{off-campus resident}$

complaints) -

Ryan Kane or Pat Frawley 410-704-2057

Baltimore County Code Enforcement-410-887-3375

Pet Locator -

Darrell Krushenskv 410-823-6330

Police - 911 or 410-887-2222

Sixth Precinct Significant Event

Information -

http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/ Agencies/police/pc06/index.html

COMMITTEES- It takes a Village!

 ${\bf The \, Village \, Crier \, Editor - Kristin \, Mears}$

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Thea Mussman, Dawn Korzi & Tracy Barr

 ${\bf Kids'\ Crier\ Reporter}-{\rm Lexie\ Hagen}$

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Block Captains –

Leslea Knauff 410-823-0648

Bv-laws - Leslie Vallade

Citizens on Patrol - John Kelly

LRVVillageCOP@aol.com

Commercial Development – Open

Community Events - Open



ALRY MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month

7 p.m., Room 102

Loch Raven Center

1801 Glen Keith Boulevard.

Residents are encouraged to attend, and to help in our ongoing work "to protect, maintain, and enhance the property values of Loch Raven Village homes, and the quality of life of Loch Raven Village residents."

Getting to Know You

This feature shines the spotlight on Village residents who make a difference in our community. Do you know someone worthy of being featured? E-mail lrvcriereditor@gmail.com.

This issue of the Crier shines the spotlight on board member **Leslie Vallade**. If you have had the privilege of watching beautiful fireworks in Loch Raven Village on the 4th of July, you have Leslie to thank!

How long have you lived in Loch Raven Village?

Thirteen years.

What do you do for a living?

I'm a service coordinator/patient advocate for Johns Hopkins Hospital. I also am a recovery specialist for a local eye and tissue bank.

Is there anything about you for which you are known among friends and neighbors?

I'm a huge advocate for organ and tissue donation. Most would say I'm a busy body. I'm a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. I've worked hard to keep the 4th of July Fireworks in the Village.

If you didn't live in Loch Raven Village, where do you think you would live?

I would move back to New York City.

Loch Raven Academy Food Pantry

For the second year in a row, Loch Raven Academy is working in conjunction with the Maryland Food Bank to offer food pantry services during the school year. The pantry was given life by school Principal Stacey Johnson and is managed by two of the school's guidance counselors, Ms. Jessica Deshields and Ms. Andrea Telford. Last year the school helped approximately 60 families.

The school's goal is to give back to the community by helping those who need assistance. The pantry is open on dates that coincide with holidays, such as Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is staffed by volunteers made up of staff, PTSA members, students, family, and friends. Ms. Johnson hopes to meet the needs of as many families as possible this year. In addition to the food supplied by the Maryland Food Bank, many teachers donate frozen turkeys. Anyone wishing to make a contribution of cash or a frozen turkey may bring it to the school office.

The pantry will be open again on March 23 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

COP Crime Prevention Tip

Did you get a new bike for Christmas? Do you already own one? Make note of the following crime prevention tips to ensure you don't lose it!

- Record the make, model, and serial number and keep this information in a safe place. The serial number can be found on the underside of the pedal crankshaft.
- Store your bike inside your house or in a locked shed.
- Lock your bike to a sturdy structure when you arrive at your destination.
 A free-standing bike, even if left unattended for a few minutes, is an invitation for someone to take it for a permanent ride!

If your bike disappears, call Precinct 6 at 410-887-2361 and ask to speak to Office Kathy Kraemer. If recovered by police, your bike will be logged by its serial number and kept for 30 days. Submitted by LRV COP

Thank you, Santa!

On behalf of the residents of Loch Raven Village, the ALRV board members would like to send a special thank you to Santa, who visited our community on Saturday, December 15. Santa was greeted by well-wishers, pets, children, and adults as he rode through the Village! We can't wait to see you again next year, Santa!

In this photo, Turner Ambrose, Maya Barr, and Riley Barr tell Santa what is on their wish list!



Will There Be Snow This Winter?

Could this be a snowy winter? Kids love snow because schools often close. Adults tend to dislike the shoveling and tenuous driving conditions that result from it. Whether or not we'll have a snowy winter is anyone's



guess. The best plan is to be prepared. Are you "shovel ready" for winter 2013?

Residents are reminded that public sidewalks adjacent to their property are required to be shoveled as soon as possible after a snowfall. This is a county regulation (and much appreciated by pedestrians!). If you have a neighbor who could use a helping hand, your assistance is greatly appreciated.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Loch Raven Village has a Facebook page! Find us, "Like" us, and tell your neighbors to do the same! You can find the page directly by going to www.facebook.com/LochRavenVillage.



KIDS' CRIER

Attention Loch Raven Village youth! Kids' Crier is your page in the Village Crier. I'm your "hostess," Lexie Hagen, a seventh grader at Loch Raven Academy, and I want to give you the opportunity to share your voice with the Village! Have a great story idea or article you would like to share? E-mail it to me at Irvcriereditor@gmail.com.



Tutti Fruiti is a Village Beauty!

I think that Tutti Fruiti, located at 8600 LaSalle Road, is absolutely delicious. It is well organized and the perfect place to go for dessert or an after-school snack. I went there with a couple of my friends and we loved it!

When you first enter Tutti Fruiti, you are greeted with colorful walls, seats, tables, and signs; everything is appealing to the eye. You grab a cup (whatever size you want – large or larger!) and check out the available flavors. The flavors are always changing too, which is why it's the perfect place to go for any occasion.

You get a variety of tastes and flavors. Some you might not like and some you might just fall in love with! (I love the mango flavor but don't really like the coconut.) Two flavors always available are chocolate and vanilla, which are really good too.

After you have picked out your flavor, there is a whole counter filled with toppings. There are many different fruits, sauces, gummies, sprinkles, cookies, cereals, candies... whatever you want!

When you are finished choosing your flavors and toppings, a very polite staff member weighs your cup on the scale and out comes a price. You pay by the ounce. Finally, you pick out whatever spoon color you want and enjoy!

Pleasant Plains Students Give Back in an Artistic Way



Over the last month, first and third grade students at Pleasant Plains Elementary designed shell artwork to benefit the victims of Hurricane Sandy. Under the direction of art teacher Ann Valuntis, the students created beautiful magnets, pins, and ornaments using shell-like materials. They proceeded to showcase and sell their works during the school's annual winter concert on December 12. The students' sales totaled \$100, all of which will be donated to the Hurricane Sandy New Jersey Relief Fund. This local effort was part of a national project called "Shells for NJ Shores." For more information visit http://shellsfornjshores.weebly.com.

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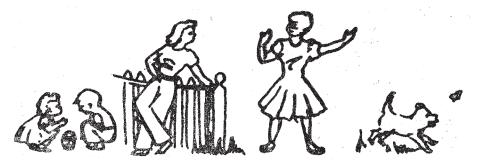


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OVER THE FENCE



Share your news with the Village Crier – welcome a new neighbor, wish someone a happy birthday, announce the birth of a child! Over the Fence is your opportunity to tell others what is going on in your part of the Village. E-mail lrvcriereditor@gmail.com

Congratulations to Village resident Chris Cuccuzzella for leading Loyola Blakefield's Varsity Cross Country team to an MIAA championship.

Congratulations to Calvert Hall College High School for their victory in the 93rd annual Turkey Bowl on Thanksgiving Day at M&T Bank Stadium. This game continues the longest running Catholic high school rivalry in America.

The **Jenkins** family sends belated birthday greetings to **Cody Jenkins**, who celebrated his **18th birthday** in December. Cody also was inducted into the National Honor Society at Calvert Hall this past fall.

Happy birthday to Villager Kristin Hucht, January 14.

Happy birthday to Loch Raven Village Community Association board member Wade Barnes, February 28.

Belated happy birthday wishes to Loch Ness residents Kristin Bailey, December 20, and Christopher Zysk, December 21.

Congratulations to Jane Walkinshaw of Feldbrook who took fifth place in the annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest! the five place holders and 20 honorable mentions, chosen from over 2,000 Baltimore County elementary student entries, were celebrated at an awards ceremony in December. A monetary award, certificate, and goodie bags were presented to all. Representatives from the Board of Education and two local fire departments were in attendance. WOW!

Production of "Big Bad" a Success at LRA

The Wishing Star Theatre at Loch Raven Academy hosted a dinner theatre production of *Big Bad* in December. In this whimsical show, a "big bad" wolf is put on trial for her crimes against the many fairy tale characters of the Enchanted Forest. The cast served a delicious spaghetti dinner to the audience prior to the show. While dessert was served, audience members cast their vote on the guilt or innocence of the big bad wolf. Congratulations to the cast and crew on a job well done!

Submitted by Antoinette O'Donnell

EVENTS CALENDAR JANUARY - MARCH 2013

ALRV Board Meetings

February 12 March 12 7 p.m., Room 102, Loch Raven Center Contact: Gretchen Sarkin 410-828-8952

Willow Grove Nature Education Center **Activities**

For cost, times and details. call 410-887-2503 or visit cromwellvallevpark.org January 26: Catch Those Dreams! Make your own dream catcher. February 2: Who's Been Here? See who's been out and about in the middle of winter.

February 3: Build a Model Tree

February 16: Great Backyard Bird Count

St. Pius X Lights Up the January Sky

January 27, 7 p.m., following 5:30

Forge Field, behind St. Pius X School

Kick off Catholic Schools Week and celebrate St. Pius's 50th year. For more information, call 410 427-7500, or e-mail Lisa Ross at

PTA Movie Night

lross@stpius10.org.

January 18, 7-9 p.m. Pleasant Plains Elementary No charge; call 410-887-3549 for information

Valentine Dance & PTA Auction

February 15, 6-8 p.m. Pleasant Plains Elementary \$1 for students/\$2 for adults: call 410-887-3549 for information

Calling All Stay-at-Home Parents!

Are you a Village resident who stavs at home with vour children? Why not mix parenting with pleasure! Join in a growing circle of new friends. all of whom are looking for a way to connect with others. The group plans to arrange playdates, stroller exercise groups, babysitting, and more. All parents are welcome! Please e-mail your interests or ideas to kelly.beninghove@gmail.com.

Submitted by Kelly Beninghove

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Most homes in Loch Raven Village/Manor are NOT selling, but those that hire Tim Hodgin ARE selling. Community sales experience matters.



"Tim found the buyer of our house before we even had to list it & sold it in Aug. 2012 in 1 day. He got 100% of our asking price." -The Sartor Family

"Tim & his team sold our home this July 2012 on Doxbury Rd. in 8 days for full asking price, \$230,000. He is amazing." - The Lochte Family

"Tim's team sold our home this June 2012, on Drumwood Rd. in just 22 days for 100% of our asking price \$230,000." - The Wagner Family

"Tim sold our Glen Keith Blvd. home in April 2012 for 100% of our asking price of \$220,000." - Dina G & Lori W

Crunchy Delight: Two Village Restaurants Offer Premium Fried Chicken

By Brendan Bailey

Residents of Loch Raven Village surely have found their mouths watering as they drive up the Boulevard. The aroma of fried chicken permeates the air and induces seemingly limitless pangs of hunger for crispy poultry. The culprits are Hip Hop Fried Chicken and Chicken Paul, just a few blocks away from one another. For the Villager in search of that perfect poultry, which location do you choose? This inquiring reviewer sought to discover who offered the best chicken in the Village. It was a challenge worth the calories.

An inauspicious store front with only one or two spots to sit down, Chicken Paul is more unassuming than its competitor. It earned its credibility in 2011 when Baltimore Magazine named it Baltimore's Best Fried Chicken, Chicken Paul offers waffles, a small variety of fish. and orders of buffalo wings to go. They also offer two French fry varietals. This reviewer preferred the Western style, which were crispy on the outside with a soft, hot interior. But this review is not about spuds; it is about the chicken, and Chicken Paul delivers in a big way. Chicken Paul keeps little chicken waiting on its hot racks, and for good reason. Their chicken is generally fried in small batches so it sits out for minimal time and is hot and juicy when you order it. The thin layer of batter is almost flaky, but it packs a savory seasoned flavor. The wings were small and the dark meat selections were a little dryer than I might prefer, but the breasts were huge and incredibly juicy, seemingly capturing the perfect balance of moist and crunchy. The friendly staff was courteous and kind, and offered a variety of seasonings and sauces for me to choose from after I paid. Chicken Paul offers good chicken at a reasonable price, but they aren't the only chicken slinger in town.

Just south of their quiet shop, **Hip Hop** Fried Chicken is always packed with customers. Their parking lot is nearly impossible to enter on any given evening, and the line to order is usually 4 or 5 customers deep. No matter; the short wait is worth it once the crispy delight they offer finds its way onto your plate. Hip Hop offers a more extensive menu, particularly in terms of fish varietals. They also offer a bevy of side orders such as veggies, beans, fries, and macaroni, but this reviewer highly recommends the corn nuggets, which are fried pockets of corn and creamy cheese. The star of the show is of course the chicken. Hip Hop's legs were meaty, moist, and tender. Their wings were gigantic and covered in a thick coating of crispy batter. The breasts were a bit dry, but their chicken tenders were massive and very flavorful. Hip Hop's unique seasoning blend, applied right after the chicken is removed from the fryer, offers a sweet but piquant touch to the bird that is always fried to order. guaranteeing that is it is fresh, sizzling, and ready to be savored. Hip Hop trumps Chicken Paul in price as well, offering incredible discounts on trays ranging from 20 to 100 pieces.

Overall, both restaurants offer savory, delectable delight to those in search of crispy poultry paradise, but Hip Hop's pricing, menu, and quality of chicken trump their competitor in subtle ways. Chicken Paul may have been "Best in Baltimore," but this reviewer gives Hip Hop "Best in the Village."

Hip Hop Fish & Chicken 912 Taylor Avenue

Chicken Paul 8626 Loch Raven Boulevard

"Paperless Classroom" to Pilot at Loch Raven Academy

Students enrolled in the law and finance magnet program at Loch Raven Technical Academy will start 2013 with new technology. The Baltimore County school board approved funding for a pilot "paperless classroom" program in November. Seventy students will be assigned tablets for use in school and at home, the content of which will be managed by teachers. The incorporation of tablet technology in the classroom will better reflect the contemporary digital world and is the first of its kind in a Maryland county school. The students are excited about the start of the program and Principal Stacey Johnson is hopeful that it ultimately will be replicated for use by the entire student body.

Pet Locator Reunites Lost Dog with Owner

Have you seen the listing for the Pet Locator on Page 2 of the Crier? Have you wondered what the Pet Locator does or if this person ever has any luck helping owners find their lost pets? Recently, this system worked for one Village resident!

Board member Leslea Knauff was recently contacted by a resident who found a lost Yorkie. The resident reached out to the Pet Locator to supply the necessary information about the dog, as did the dog's owners. Within a matter of hours, the dog and its owners were happily reunited!

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New Year, New Dues!

The Associates of Loch Raven Village will kick off the 2013 dues drive this month. Payments can be made online via PayPal or they can be mailed the old-fashioned way. Your dues payment will help keep Loch Raven Village clean, safe, and fun! Annual dues are \$40 (\$30 for seniors) and provide financial support for a number of community endeavors, such as:

- Providing supplemental funding for special projects in our neighborhood schools
- Maintaining and increasing our property values through the support of our Architectural Review and Covenants committee
- Funding the maintenance of our website and the design and printing of the Village Crier
- Promoting community engagement through events such as Santa's Ride and holiday decorating contests

To pay by check, please send your payment (payable to "The ALRV") to:

P.O. Box 9721 Baltimore, MD 21284

Remember to include your name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

Visit lochravenvillage.com to pay online. Click "Pay Dues" in the top right corner of the home page. Scroll down to the bottom where you will be prompted to pay. Please be sure to enter your address in the "Ship To" parameters within PayPal so that your residence will be credited for payment.

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Rates are as follows:

Classified Ads: \$5.00 per 25 words, 50 word max.

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Note: Availability is limited.

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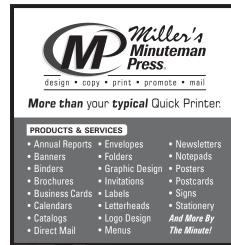
in advance of publication.

Oops! Crier Correction

The November/December issue of the Crier incorrectly listed the winning address of "Halloween Night Lights!" as 1823 Greenway. No such address exists. The correct address is 8423 Greenway. Congratulations and apologies for the misprint!

CANINE MYSTERY BEAUTY

Loch Raven Village is full of fourlegged friends, and you probably see many of them regularly. But do you know them? In this segment, we will feature a picture of a Village canine mystery beauty for you to identify. If you know the name of the featured pet, be sure to enter to win a prize!





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Correct guesses for last issue's beauty were submitted by many readers (Mia Clare Cucuzzella, Barbara Carden, and Nicholas Dance, to name a few!). The featured beauty was Minnie, a Dachshund owned by COP leader John Kelly. Congratulations to Sam Cucuzzella whose name was randomly drawn from all the correct guesses.

Do you know the mystery beauties pictured here? Submit your guess to lrvcriereditor@gmail.com by Friday, January 25. All correct guesses will be entered into a random drawing for a \$10 Panera gift card. The beauties and their owner(s) will be revealed in the next issue of the Crier

