



The VILLAGE CRIER



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MARCH/APRIL 2020

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JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING - APRIL 8th

Board Notes

Dear Neighbors –

I have said it many times before, but Loch Raven Village really is a great place to call home. I purchased my house in Loch Raven Village in May, 1994, and ultimately settled-in completely by November of that same year. It has been home ever since. The joke is that I really haven't come very far because I graduated from Calvert Hall as well; I am okay with that. Our community has stood the test of time for over 70 years, and it is my sincere hope that it will continue to do so for at least the next 70 years.

This year's Annual Meeting of the Associates of Loch Raven Village (ALRV) is slated to take place on Wednesday, April 8, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Loch Raven Center – i.e., the former Loch Raven Elementary School – located at 1801 Glen Keith Boulevard. This is great opportunity for you to come out, meet your neighbors and elected officials, and ask questions and glean information regarding those issues that are important to you personally. Perhaps you might consider offering a bit of your time and talent for the betterment of Loch Raven Village as well. Your Board of Directors is ever-expanding and improving, but it does take a Village!

Do you know that Loch Raven Village has a thriving presence online both with the Associates' and residents' Facebook pages as well as through the Associates' official website, which may be found at <http://www.lochravenvillage.com/>? One of our newer Board members, Derek Krueger, has taken the lead in overhauling the Associates' official website in an effort to keep it relevant and useful as we begin the new decade. Thank you, Derek, for all of your hard work!

During the coming months, you will be given a variety of opportunities to pay your annual dues, either by using PayPal

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**ALRV ANNUAL
APRIL MEETING
Wednesday, April 8th**

7:00 p.m.
Loch Raven Center
1801 Glen Keith Blvd.

County Council
representatives
have been invited.

May/June Crier Submissions
Deadline: April 13, 2020
lrvcriereditor@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President – Peter Moulder
alrvpresident@gmail.com
Vice-President – Nick Linehan
lochravenvillagegreen@gmail.com
Treasurer – OPEN
Secretary – Susan Redpath
sredpath402@comcast.net

The Village Crier
Editor – Mary Noy
lrvcriereditor@gmail.com
Layout & Printing – Strategic Factory
Advertising – lrvcriereditor@gmail.com
Distribution – Lois Herty loisherty@msn.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Colleen Carr mayercm06@yahoo.com
John Fiastro jcfiastro@hotmail.com
Jason Garber lrvcommittee@gmail.com
Gary Herwig garysherwig@hotmail.com
Bruce Knauff 410-823-0648
Derek Krueger DKrue09@gmail.com
Antoinette O'Donnell
odonnell.lrv@outlook.com
Sue O'Neill sueannoneill01@gmail.com
Gretchen Sarkin gsarkin1@gmail.com
Kate Walkinshaw
snairwell@hotmail.com

COMMITTEES - *It takes a Village!*

Architectural Review Committee –
LochRavenVillageCovenants@gmail.com
Block Captains – Lori Cullinan
lrvblockcaptain@gmail.com
Block Party Grants –
Antoinette O'Donnell
Citizens on Patrol – John Kelly
LRVillageCOP@aol.com
Community Events – Susan Redpath,
Antoinette O'Donnell
Gardens – Nick Linehan,
Gretchan Sarkin
Marketing – Kate Walkinshaw
Membership – Peter Moulder,
Colleen Carr
Real Estate – OPEN
Planning/Zoning Development –
Nick Linehan, Peter Moulder
Welcome – Sue O'Neill
School Liason – Colleen Carr

LRV Website – snairwell@hotmail.com
LRV Facebook – odonnell.lrv@outlook.com

CONTACTS

Baltimore County Code Enforcement – 410-887-3351
District 5 County Councilman –
David Marks 410-887-3384
council5@baltimorecountymd.gov
District 6 County Councilwoman –
Cathy Bevins 410-887-3388
council6@baltimorecountymd.gov
County Executive's Office Contact –
District 5: Amanda Carr 410-887-8412
acarr@baltimorecountymd.gov
Pet Locator – Darrell Krushensky
410-823-6330
Police – 911 or 410-887-2222
Sixth Precinct Significant Event Information – baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/police/pc06
Solid Waste Management –
410-887-2000
Towson University
(off-campus resident complaints)
Richard Goldschein at 410-704-2057



ALRV MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the
second Wednesday of each month
7:00pm, Loch Raven Center
1801 Glen Keith Boulevard, Room 102
unless otherwise noted in events
calendar; no meeting in August

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.”

— continued from page 1

or Venmo, responding to advertisements in The Village Crier, or responding to the Associates' official mailing. The Associates cannot remain viable without funding, so please consider paying your annual dues. I for one find the option of paying my annual dues online using PayPal to be a marked improvement over other methods of payment.

As winter transitions into spring and the weather, well, doesn't change that much, at least not this year, please remember that the Associates offers grants of \$50.00 each to residents who sponsor block parties in Loch Raven Village. Block parties traditionally have been warmly received and well-attended. What better way to enjoy the temperate spring weather and to get to know your neighbors than by having a block party? Also, the revitalization of the Loch Raven

Boulevard / Joppa Road commercial district and the Pleasant Plains Elementary School (PPES) boundary study continue to be hot issues, so please keep an eye out for ways that you can get involved.

There is a lot more that I could say, but these Notes address only a few of the many issues to which the Associates currently directs its attention. I have a pretty active Facebook presence, though, so feel free to reach out to me directly with questions, concerns, comments, or whatever has your attention at the moment. I welcome the contact and the feedback. Look for the next Board Notes sometime in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary S. Herwig

MULLIONS / MUNTINS / GRIDS - The clear window choice for LRV homes.

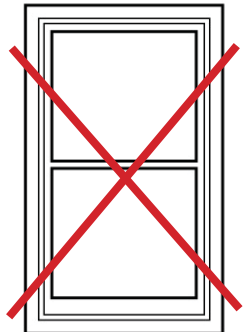
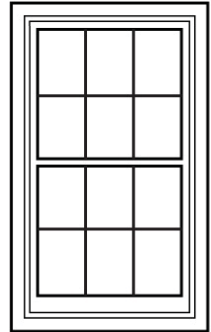
One of many reasons we choose to call Loch Raven Village home is the uniform architecture. Our Georgian style brick homes were designed with double hung, white, 6-paned windows – modeled after 18th century English manor homes. Thanks King George!

Replacement windows are often constructed of one large window pane with a “grid” attached to create the original look. Some owners or contractors have not installed the “grids” which has led to many homes falling out of uniformity and covenant compliance.

The LRV Covenant Guidelines state “3. Must include traditional six over six muntins (mullions) in standard windows”.

If you're currently out of compliance, don't despair. Many home improvement stores offer an easy to install “snap-in grid” to place over existing bare windows. One online source that you may find helpful: newpanes.com.

As always, any questions may be directed to the Building Restrictions Committee for ALRV. Contact information and Covenant Guidelines can be found on the LRV website: www.lochravenvillage.com.



PPES Boundary Study Update

As you may have heard, Pleasant Plains Elementary School is one of the most overcrowded elementary schools in Baltimore County. Generally, since 2014, the BCPS's projected enrollments for PPES have projected significant increases in enrollment. In fact, the enrollment has far exceeded the projections. PPES has met the legal definition of an "overcrowded school," that is, a school with enrollment over 115% of capacity, since at least 2014. The school now has a state-rated capacity of 545 students, factoring in the trailers on the property.

BCPS just released its 2019-2020 Student Count and once again, PPES is projected to be considerably overcrowded (in excess of 700 students) for each year over the next decade. Moreover, BCPS' records focus on actual enrollment as of September 30 of each year, but that number does not remain static throughout the year. For example, the September 30, 2019 full-time student count was 680, but PPES's enrollment has been as high as 710 since October 1, leaving PPES at 130% capacity. PPES's enrollment has increased during the school year each year for the past several years.

Due to the Herculean efforts of the PPES PTA leadership and membership, as well as community volunteers over the past two years, BCPS and the County Board of Education have been made more than aware of the problems caused by the overcrowding. In general, overcrowding is even more problematic at PPES because the common space areas are too small to facilitate activities such as assemblies and lunch, as well as creating difficulty at dismissal. The class sizes are too big and PPES has been understaffed.

These deficiencies have a notable detrimental impact on the children and staff at the school.

To provide at least a short-term solution, BCPS began a boundary study process in late 2019 to examine redistricting options involving PPES and Hampton Elementary School. Neighboring elementary schools in the Towson/Parkville area were excluded from the study because they are also overcrowded or have the magnet program (Cromwell Valley). The special committee has recommended a redistricting plan that would redistrict approximately 100 students from PPES to Hampton. While the recommended plan does not fully resolve the overcrowding problems at PPES specifically, or the Central Planning Area generally, it is an option to provide immediate relief and mitigate the overcrowding effects.

On March 10th the Board of Education voted in favor of the recommended plan which will take effect in August. This will provide some relief to the overcrowding at Pleasant Plains. The work continues, however, to provide real, lasting relief and improvement to the facilities at our neighborhood school. The school administrators, the PTA, parents, and concerned community members will strive to make the needs of PPES known to the school board in order to continue advocating for the school and the children who deserve to learn in a safe environment.



— SCHOOL NEWS —

Pleasant Plains Elementary

Spring is just around the corner! Follow Pleasant Plains Elementary PTA on Facebook for information about our upcoming plant sale in April!

Looking to take a night off from cooking guilt-free? Check out the following Spirit Nights for PPES:

Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night Thursday
March 19 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Noodles & Company Thursday, April 4.

*A portion of proceeds from each night goes directly to support PTA programs at PPES.

Our next PTA Meeting is Monday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars! Game night is back on Friday, May 15!

Stop – It’s the Law!

There have been a number of incidents of drivers in the neighborhood passing school buses when children are getting on or off the bus. This not only against the law, but it is very dangerous for the children. Many people do not realize that you must stop at an intersection for the bus even if there is no posted stop sign (see image). According to an August, 2018 issue of Forbes magazine, on a single day during the 2017-18 school year, 108,623 school bus drivers across the country reported that 83,944 vehicles passed their buses illegally -- that’s more than 15 million violations by motorists on U.S. roads in a typical 180-day school year. Let’s keep our kids safe as they venture to and from school by remembering the rules of the road.

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410-252-2111 (office)
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 Timonium MD 21093



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 8516 Loch Raven Blvd.
 Towson, MD 21286
 410-825-7905

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 Email: holycross_director@comcast.net

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2012/51

Celebrating 15 Years of the LRV Book Club

In 2005, Leslea Knauff, a LRV Board member and local realtor, proposed the start of a neighborhood book club for Loch Raven Village Residents. Since then, her original proposal evolved as an open-door to all adults regardless of residence. There are no strict rules for LRV book club meetings. Casual and friendly, participants share interesting and thoughtful ideas about the books they have read. At the August meeting, participants recommend nine books. Then beginning with September, each book selected is assigned to a month. The month of April is set aside for poetry readings. There is no meeting in December.

Two future book selections include the following:

The Masterpiece by Fiona Davis for May
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead for July.

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Panera's at Towson Place. For further information, contact Rita at 410-825-0002.

From Babcock Church...

Thank you neighbors for all of your contributions of canned goods and clothing! Through the Babcock Presbyterian blessing boxes for the past three years we have been able to provide 20,000 meals to our neighbors as well as gently used clothing. Together we are making a difference right here in Loch Raven Village! Thank you again and look for another food drive coming soon.

Join us for worship on Easter Sunday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m. when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. All are welcome!

Easter Services

Babcock Presbyterian

Maundy Thursday: 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday: 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 10:00 a.m.



Loch Raven United Methodist

Chicken & Fish Fry: 4/3 2-6 p.m.

Family Movie Night: 4/3 7-9 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Last Supper:
4/7 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday Service: 4/8 7 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt: 4/11 10:30 a.m.

Sunrise Service: 4/12 6:00 a.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary

Holy Thursday: 7:30 p.m.

(Adoration following Mass in the
Convent Chapel.)

Good Friday: 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – Blessing of
Food

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil – 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday Masses: 7:30 a.m.,

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

A. HEATH'S AWNING SERVICES

awning@comcast.net

410-343-0081

COMPETITIVE PRICES

FREE ESTIMATES:

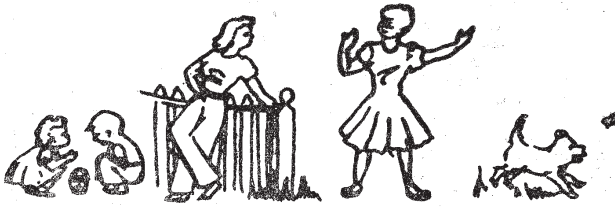
***NEW FRAMES**

***NEW FABRIC COVERS**

***FRAME REMOVAL/
REPAIR***

***SERVICE QUOTES**

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. Email lrvcriereditor@gmail.com.

Thank you and a big “Wow!” to **Megan McFadden**, first grade teacher at Pleasant Plains Elementary School and her Go Green Club for making great headway in clearing out the school garden of weeds, laying landscaping fabric, moving mulch, painting raised flower beds, and more. The garden is a small parcel of land that requires a huge amount of work. Many thanks to the parents, children and other staff members who have been helping

Ms. McFadden with this effort. The community appreciates your efforts!

Congrats to the **Loch Raven Rec Wrestlers** who made the state tournament in Damascus! Way to go wrestlers!

Well done to **Michael Guntzel** of Clyde Bank Rd. who received all A's on his 2nd quarter report card in high school. Keep studying Michael!



“Well Biff, I just paid my dues and it feels great! It’s important for us all to pitch in and help our neighborhood!” Don’t forget to pay YOUR dues. Send your \$40 check (\$30 for seniors) to Associates of Loch Raven Village P.O. Box 9721, Loch Raven, MD 21284-9721 or go to LochRavenVillage.com to use PayPal.

COP News

Miscellaneous security tips:

- Craigslist – when selling or buying online, never meet someone alone. Take someone with you and meet during the day in plain sight. Be cautious if you bring cash for a transaction if buying; if selling it would be better to accept cash than a check. If something seems too good to be true be cautious.
- Transient Crime – each spring transient scam artists present themselves as legitimate contractors and frequently prey on seniors, but all citizens should learn to recognize these scammers. They show up at your house, frequently in pairs, unannounced offering different kinds of improvement work. They may tell you they've been doing work in the area, have left over material they can provide at reduced cost. Examples of repairs are roof repairs, exterior painting, brick repair, and free inspections. Best not to let them in your home as one may keep you busy while the other does things that make you think you need work done. E.g. one may spray water in an out of sight place to make you think there is a leak. Always check references like the Better Business Bureau, and never give them up front money.
- Package Delivery Theft – from time to time we hear of incidents when a package is delivered and left on the front porch only to never have been received by the homeowner. Thieves sometimes keep track of the various delivery services and take a package once left on a porch. Some things you may do to avoid theft are: Ask for a tracking number and follow delivery progress on-line. The process will tell you when the item will be delivered. Or request a “signature option” if you are going to be home and avoid having the package left on the porch. If your work place agrees, have the package delivered to the work place. In a close-quarters neighborhood like ours, a neighbor would be a good resource for package receipt. Partial source: BCoPD

As always - IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING - promptly call 9-1-1.

ALRV Treasurer Needed

As some of you may be aware, our ALRV Treasurer, Leslea Knauff, suffered a serious stroke. She is recuperating but will not be able to resume her role as Treasurer for our community organization. We are looking for someone, hopefully with some accounting skills, to take over the role. In this capacity, the Treasurer is a member of the Board of Directors and in addition to managing the financial aspects of the organization he or she must attend our regularly scheduled monthly Board meetings. If you are interested in serving, or know someone who is, please contact Peter Moulder at alrvpresident@gmail.com. We want to express our deepest appreciation to Leslea for her many years of service to the ALRV as a member of its Board of Directors and most recently her years as its Treasurer.

Yard and Garden Help

Flower and Vegetable Gardens

- *new or expansion
- *spring maintenance
- *annual/perennial planting

Bushes, Hedges and Trees

- *planting
- *pruning and trimming
- *mulching

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Call Larry Bearden
Village Resident
@443-465-9606

Events Calendar March – April

The Events Calendar provides a snapshot of upcoming activities in and around our community. For a complete list of activities at all Baltimore County libraries visit bcpl.info/events-and-programs.. For more information on events at Cromwell Park visit info@cromwellvalleypark.org.

ALRV Board Meetings

March 11

April 8

May 13

7:00 p.m., Loch Raven Center

Contact: Peter Moulder

pmoulder49@gmail.com

Please note that the board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month.

Loch Raven Village Book Club

March 19

April 16 (please call for information)

Panera's at Towson Place 6:30 p.m.

Contact Rita 410-825-0002

TOWSON LIBRARY EVENTS

Toddler Story Time:

Wiggles and Fun

Encourage language development and early literacy through interactive stories, songs, rhymes and movement. Designed for children who are newly mobile and active; siblings and all abilities welcome. Limited seating available; first come, first served.

Mondays & Thursdays

10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

LGBTQ & Teen Meetup

Middle school- and high school-age members of the LGBTQ+ community are welcome to join us for discussion, socializing and engaging DIY activities. Snacks provided. Sponsored by the Friends of the Towson Library.

March 17 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Remarkable Women of Maryland

Take a virtual field trip with the Maryland Historical Society and learn about Maryland women who played a pivotal role in history. As part of the cyber-tour, hear from Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Bonaparte, Margaret Brent and others, view artifacts from the museum's collection and participate in discussion with MDHS staff.

March 19 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Paws to Read

Shy or reluctant readers can read to a lovable dog from Pets on Wheels. They are friendly, nonjudgmental and good listeners.
April 4 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

TOWSON UNIVERSITY EVENTS

Lecture: Mr. Trash Wheel and the Baltimore Inner Harbor

Mr. Trash Wheel, part of the Waterfront Partnership's "Healthy Harbor Plan," is a beloved Baltimore icon and star of Twitter. The googly-eyed trash inceptor removes debris from the Jones Falls as it empties into the Inner Harbor. In the last five years, it has removed over 1,200 tons of garbage.

April 23 6:30 p.m.

Art Lecture Hall, CA 2032

Family Arts Day

Experience the joy of being an artist at TU Community Art Center's Family Arts Day. Drop in for a day of interactive art activities, dance workshops, and gallery tours inspired by the current art exhibitions. All ages welcome.

March 28 12:00 p.m. -- 4:00 p.m.

Center for the Arts Atrium

CROMWELL PARK EVENTS

SATURDAY MORNING BIRD WALKS

Join a Park volunteer for bird walks

EVERY SATURDAY, March 28

through May 30. FREE! Reservations

NOT required. Meet at the sign at the

Willow Grove Farm Gravel Parking Lot.

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED.

March 28 – May 30 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Night Out With Nature: "Native People of the Chesapeake"

with Brina Doyle – Adults only. The first people to live in what is now the state of Maryland arrived before the Chesapeake Bay even existed. Who are they? What did their traditional way of life look like? And where does our information about their history come from? Learn about the Native people who populated our tidewater region from prehistory to colonial times. \$10 per person. Sherwood House. Registration required.

April 10 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Cemetery Lots: 2 graves side-by-side in section F at Moreland Memorial on Taylor Ave. Originally \$3,600 per grave -- sell both \$2,500. Call Pat 410-879-6627.

Cleanup Date

The next neighborhood cleanup day is **March 28th**. Ambassadors and neighbors interested in helping to maintain a tidy LRV please mark your calendars! Of course if you are unavailable to assist with litter pickup on that day, no worries – you can pick a time that's good for you! Thanks to all who are participating in this worthwhile effort.

Loch Raven Library Repairs

The Loch Raven Branch of the Baltimore County Public Library system will be closed from early March through late May. The branch at 1046 Taylor Avenue needs to be closed for HVAC, ceiling and lighting replacement projects. Although this will be an inconvenience for many in the community, this is an older building that definitely needs upgrades. During the rehab period keep in mind that the Parkville and Towson branches are only a few minutes away!

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
OF THE VILLAGE CRIER
ON MAY 9TH



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"We used Tim Hodgkin's Guarantee Program to sell our home & he sold it. The level of attention and service was so high, we felt like we were his only client." - *The Damareck Family*



"Tim sold our home on Pleasant Plains Rd. for 98% of the asking price & using one of his Guaranteed Home Sale programs." - *The O'Donnell Family*

Average Sold Price in Loch Raven Village 2018
\$217,136 (all homes, all Realtors)
\$221,300 (when listed & sold by Tim Hodgkin)

Sold Price Compared to Original List Price 2018
96.80% (all homes, all Realtors)
98.88% (when listed & sold by Tim Hodgkin)

*conditions apply. Seller & Tim must agree upon time of possession & price.



TO PLACE AN AD:

Submit your ad via email (pdf) to
lrvcrierads@gmail.com.

Send a printed copy with payment to:

The Village Crier

P.O. Box 9721

Baltimore, MD 21284.

No ads will be taken by phone.

RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Classified ads:

\$5.00 per 25 words, 50 word max.

Professional Service ads:

\$25.00 per ad, 50 word max.

Display ads: \$75.00 per ad.

NOTE: The Crier has limited availability!

All Ads must be paid

in advance of publication.

Make checks payable to:

Associates of Loch Raven Village, Inc.

