

Velvet Valley * Velvet Ridge Neighborhood Association Newsletter

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Association Officers:

President:

Paul Brickman

Vice Presidents:

Grant Cleverley &

Harlan Zinn

Treasurer:

Stuart Denrich

Secretary:

Claudio Levin

Hello neighbors! We hope this finds you well. This newsletter will keep you updated on what is happening within our community. The Neighborhood Association board has been busy working on several new initiatives and programs to serve our residents. Happy reading!



Quick Updates

UPDATE / ADD YOUR EMAIL: Update or add your email addresses to assure getting urgent notices, planned events, lost/found pets and other news; contact us at: velvet.na@gmail.com . The Association keeps email addresses confidential.

Visit our new Neighborhood Association Website at www.VVVRNA.org

Security System & Burglary

Our security camera system continues to prove its effectiveness and value. There was a recent burglary in our community of an unoccupied, rehabbed home just placed For Sale on the market. Its lock-box was broken into and appliances stolen. Police advised this was part of a series of similar break-ins of For Sale homes as far away as White Marsh.

Our security surveillance camera videos were provided to the police, enabling them to identify and pursue the specific vehicle captured on camera video. Once again, this rare occurrence proves the value of deterrence and follow-through that our cameras provide to Members. YOUR participation as a Neighborhood Association Member enables the Association to maintain and operate the security system to provide protection for you and your home.

The police also have asked us to remind neighbors to **LOCK YOUR CARS**, even in your driveways. Our security company related that, of 30 recent car thefts in Pikesville, 29 were of vehicles that were left unlocked!

Group Fuel Oil Discount Program

We have been in touch with several local heating oil companies since the Association's recent e-survey of all residents on whether they use fuel oil to heat their homes and if they would be interested in a Neighborhood Association-led group-buy discount program. The companies all are eager to work with the Association to provide a discounted rate, and they have asked us to approach them in August, when their winter contract rates are better defined. We will keep you posted. Meanwhile, you should **NOT commit** to a new fuel oil contract with your oil company until you're able to compare rates that we will negotiate for Neighborhood Association Members. We already have a similar program for propane purchases.

MDSHA will be paving Rte. 129 (Park Heights Ave) from Greenspring Valley Rd to Caves Rd, starting about May 29 until late July. It'll require temporary daytime lane closures and flagging. Your patience and safe driving are appreciated.

KATE, THANK YOU!

The Neighborhood Association extends sincere thanks to Kate Eglseder, a resident neighbor, who has dedicated much timely assistance creating and editing this newsletter and also helped in other programs.

COMMUNITY NAME AND SIGNS

The Neighborhood Association board plans to install a beautiful, classy sign with our neighborhood name at each of our three entrances, with the objectives of increasing awareness, and enhancing both perceived value and a sense of community to current and prospective residents and real estate agents. A formal, nice-sounding name for our whole community has not been previously created. There are three name options being considered which will be surveyed among residents by email. Each has "Velvet" in the name to leverage existing awareness and cachet.

- **Velvet Valley**
- **Velvet Woods** in Greenspring Valley
- **Velvet Valley * Ridge**

Residents who have shared their email addresses with the Neighborhood Association will be sent an email with a link to an online survey of their preference. **PLEASE VOTE!** The name selected will be designed by a graphic artist into a classy sign, either wood or stone, depending on costs.

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Over the last half-year or so, many new neighbors moved into our community. Please help welcome them-- and let us know when someone new moves in near you so that our Neighborhood Association can warmly welcome them. Email us at velvet.na@gmail.com.

- **Cheree & Steffan Johnson, 15 Bucksway** (settling 5/31/18)
- **April & Jay Parks, 5 Celadon**
- **Aquan Manigault, 2 Cliffside**
- **Carmen & Rey Guzman, 6 Cliffside**
- **Rose & Kirk Seaman, 2329 Velvet Ridge**
- **Michelle Brandenburg & Evan Roberts, 2412 Velvet Valley Way**
- **Dr. Allen Missoi, 2422 Velvet Valley Way**

REAL ESTATE REPORT

NEW & REVISED HOMES FOR SALE:

- 8 Bucksway, \$499,500; 5 BR, 3BA, 2 HBA, 0.83 acres
- 2305 Velvet Ridge, \$475,000; 5 BR, 3 BA, 0.79 acres
- 4 Grenadier, \$1,849,000; 4 BR, 3 BA, 2 HBA, 3.75 acres
- 2505 Caves Forest; \$735,000, 4 BR, 3 BA, 1 HBA, 2 acres
- 2502 Velvet Valley Way, \$879,000; 4 BR, 2 BA, 1 HBA, 2.08 acres
- 2509 Velvet Valley Way, \$700,000; 4,498 sq ft, 5 BR, 4 BA, 1 HBA, 2.96 acres

UNDER CONTRACT:

- 11 Bucksway, \$550,000; 4,180 sq ft, 5 BR, 3 BA, 1 HBA, 0.73 acres
- 15 Bucksway, \$775,000; 5,627 sq ft, 5 BR, 4 BA, 2 HBA, 1.53 acres

SOLD:

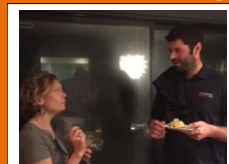
- 2404 Velvet Ridge, \$699,900; 5,082 sq ft, 5 BR, 4 BA, 1 HBA, 1.81 acres
- 2 Cliffside Ct, \$490,000; 3,252 sq ft, 5 BR, 3 BA, 1 HBA, 0.73 acres

LYME DISEASE IS IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

At least one neighbor we know of and another's two dogs unfortunately have been infected with Lyme Disease. When outdoors, please assure your family is protected with repellent and long socks that have pant cuffs tucked in them. And make sure your dog is vaccinated; today's vaccines are now more effective.

Paul Brickman
 Barry Berman
 Grant Cleverley
 Scott Culliner
 Stuart Denrich
 Kate Eglseder
 Todd Ehrlich
 Lester Guthorn
 Brooks Klepper
 Claudio Levin
 Jon Myers
 Randy Morrison
 Daniel Sarubin
 Ronnie Silverstein
 Ellwood Sinsky
 Paulette Smith
 Erin Sher Smyth
 Dana Stein
 Lynn Tomlinson
 Ulku Ulgur
 Mandy Vitek
 Irv Walker
 Harlan Zinn
 Stanford Zinn

Adult Happy Hour
 Nov. 2017
 (See more photos
 at
www.VVVRNA.org)



NEIGHBOR RESOURCE LIST

The Neighborhood Association will be conducting a survey of all residents for recommendations of excellent service people they have used for various tasks on the outside of their home. The aggregated referral data will be posted on the Association’s website when complete, at www.VVVRNA.org. When contacted, YOUR RESPONSE is much appreciated to make this directory a valuable resource, in addition to NextDoor Caves Valley referrals (<https://nextdoor.com>)

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS & EVENTS

Babysitting

Grant Cleverley’s two daughters, Peyton (17) and Eliza (14) are available for babysitting, have lots of experience, and live in our neighborhood; contact them thru Grant at 410.532.8847 or email: grant@tensilestystems.com

Jane’s Expecting!

Jane and Paul Brickman, of Velvet Valley Way, are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Emmy, their new 4-legged daughter, born May 2nd. Although she’ll never replace their beloved Zoe, Emmy will start tails wagging again! She will be arriving at their home on June 30th, at 8-weeks of age, and you’ll see her walking Velvet Valley Way!

BGE TREE-CUTTING & CLEAN-UP

As you’re probably aware, BGE has implemented aggressive tree-cutting on streets where powerlines are threatened by overhanging limbs. Last summer and this spring, there were a number of large trees cut down and left in unsightly piles along Park Heights. Your Neighborhood Association contacted State authorities and the BGE tree contractor numerous times, and we finally succeeded in having the contractor take away these piles.

SPRING DUMPSTER EVENT

The Neighborhood Association is planning to have a “Dumpster Day” within our neighborhood soon, to enable all resident Association Members to dispose of appropriate refuse. We will advise you of the place, date and types of trash that will be acceptable. We anticipate that a resident volunteer will make his pick-up truck available to help you bring larger items. Volunteers will be needed to help in different aspects, so please offer to help, at: velvet.na@gmail.org. Stay tuned, and make sure we have your email address to assure you’re plugged-in for timely communication.

BALTIMORE COUNTY LIBRARY RESOURCES & EVENTS

The Baltimore County Public Library System provides a free monthly e-newsletter and includes news not only about new books, but also speaker events and programs geared for adults and children scheduled at various branches. Take advantage of these free resources and subscribe to their newsletter. Their general website is www.bcpl.info, and the Events Listings link is: <https://www.bcpl.info/events-and-programs/list.html#!/>
 May’s newsletter is at: https://mailchi.mp/bcpl/be-all-in_march2018-951145?e=46de2bb962

Adult Happy Hour – Friday, June 15th

Due to the well-attended, enjoyable two adult happy hours that the Association has had for residents, we will sponsor another **adult** happy hour on **Friday, June 15th** at Monique and Grant Cleverley’s home, 10800 Baronet Rd (at the cul-de-sac end), from 6:00 – 9:00PM. Please RSVP to Dana Stein’s Evite invitations already sent to residents who have shared their email addresses (kept confidential) with the Neighborhood Association. If you don’t receive our emails contact us at: velvet.na@gmail.com, or call Paul at 410-598-6036.

If you would like to volunteer for some of the events being planned by the Association, please let us know!

We would love to hear from you!

Committees:

Kids Events
Adult Events
Annual Picnic
Newsletter
Welcoming
Resource List
Website Updates
And more...

We will take as much or as little assistance as you can provide!

Email us at:
Velvet.na@gmail.com

Once again, your Neighborhood Association is planning a game-and-ice cream social event for kids this summer, likely at Jemicy School's Lower Campus. We'll keep you posted of date and details. Make sure we have your current email address—which we keep confidential.

Check out below pictures from our last kid's event – Halloween Trunk or Treat! **More photos are on our website, www.VVVRNA.org**



JEMICY SCHOOL REPORTS

From: Bonnie Wasserman, Director, Publications & Communications
(The Jemicy School is an important, helpful and valued neighbor within our community and often reaches out to help the Neighborhood Association with events and use of their great playground.)

JEMICY DANCE TEAM PERFORMS AT DISNEY

On April 27, the Jemicy Middle School Varsity Dance Team performed before a packed audience of hundreds in Disney Springs, Orlando, FL. The 48-MEMBER team of girl and boy dancers from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades were truly spectacular in a half-hour performance. One student exclaimed, "I'm pretty sure this was the best night of my life!" and another had never been on an airplane, or to Disney, or performed on a worldwide stage!

JEMICY THESPIANS EARN CAPIES NOMINATION

In its first year of participation, Jemicy received 4 Cappies nominations for student performances in the Upper School's October production of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing!* The Cappies is a U.S. and Canada writing and acting program that trains high school theatre and journalism students to be expert writers, critical thinkers, and leaders.

Nominations for roles in a Play include:

- Nicholle D'Anna (senior), Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role
- Ethan Lifson-Book (freshman), Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role
- Chloë Wendler (junior), Outstanding Performance by a Comic Actress
- Andrew Spriggs (sophomore), Outstanding Performance by a Comic Actor

At the end of the season, an awards celebration occurs at Baltimore's Hippodrome Theatre.

JEMICY MARKS 45 YEARS OF EMPOWERING BRIGHT STUDENTS WHO LEARN DIFFERENTLY WITH TWO EVENTS:

Auction & Gala

On April 21, nearly 500 current and past students, teachers, and parents, as well as friends of Jemicy School gathered for the *Sapphire & Champagne* Gala and Auction to celebrate 45 years of empowering bright students who learn differently. The event proceeds will benefit Jemicy's Teacher Endowment Fund supporting development of its specially trained teachers; and enhance the science, technology, theatre, and athletic programs

Spirit Day & Color Run

On May 1, Jemicy families showed their love for Jemicy by joining together for School Spirit Day & Color Run. Attendees enjoyed Middle and Upper School lacrosse games, a color run with slides and obstacles, a foam bubble station, DJ, face painting, carnival food and treats, and lots more.