

UPDATE and CONTACT US!

Please email us at Velvet.NA@gmail.com to correct or add a spouse's email address or about new folks moving in near you so we can welcome them to our neighborhood. And check out our website www.VelvetValley.org --Thanks!

SEPT. 10TH ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

Wow! Attended by about 150 adults, kids and a few pups, everyone raved about the food trucks Pasta La Vista, Baby! (custom pizzas, meatballs, Caprese and green salads), and ice cream from Reisterstown's The Cow! We also had government representatives Izzy Patoka, Jon Cardin and reps from County Exec Johnny O, and Dana Stein. A new VVNA board was voted in.



Little Library at 10807

Baronet Rd, under the pines, it's red. A birthday present for Marina, they are big readers, and often give away books. Everyone's welcome to check it out regularly to take and also contribute your own books.



FIREWOOD EXCHANGE

There's opportunity for a neighborhood firewood exchange, coordinating contact of folks who have cut down trees and left in piles with residents seeking firewood. If you have wood to contribute, email us to share what you have and contact info. Velvet.na@gmail.com

OCT. 29 KIDS' HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT

The annual Kids' Halloween Trunk or Treat party was a big, happy event, with over 40 kids, 40 grown-ups, and a bunch of puppies all having a good time, with happy faces and costumes aghast! The popular vote winner for best-decorated vehicle was # 6, with a "Paw Patrol" theme. (There were a lot of young voters!) THANK YOUs: especially to committee chair Christan McNulty, helped by Julie Tasher, Marianna Lacanfora, Lauren Hankla, Erin Sher Smyth, Mollie Caplis, Kate Eglseder, Mike Lugo and others.



COVID TEST KITS AND MASKS AVAILABLE

We have more KN95 face masks and home test kits, FREE to members. Contact Paul for a convenient pick-up time.

Velvet.na@gmail.com

BEAUTIFICATION OF CORNERS

Both "Velvet Valley" corner entrance signs were just refreshed with new staining, thanks to resident Jennifer Landon. Velvet Ridge was landscaped with new plants (thanks, Erin Sher Smyth). Velvet Valley Way has new electric lights that look great at night, with others to be added at Velvet Ridge (thanks, Grant Cleverley).

STREET SPEED SAFETY UPDATE

VVNA's board has been working with Balt. County traffic engineers and other officials for several years on how to reduce speeding through our neighborhood. Options discussed have included speed radar readers, new STOP signs, speed humps. Residents will be posted on what's feasible and approvals solicited.

OUR WEBSITE

Check out past event photos, prior newsletters, govt. resources, and more at www.VelvetValley.org

ASSOCIATION BOARD DIRECTORS SEPT. 2022 - AUG. 23

At the annual picnic and meeting, members voted in the new board directors. At their first meeting, the board selected its officers and volunteers for various programs. During the year, volunteers, including all residents, help share the work of our many activities. Many thanks to our board directors and residents for your help!

Officers

Pres.: Paul Brickman

VP: Grant Cleverley

Treas.: Katelyn Rhee

Secy.: Christan McNulty

Other Directors

Beverly Brown

Marcia Castleman

Angela Daniller

Stuart Dankner

Ed Dreiband

Ina Dreiband

Joan Kinsey Goddard

Lauren Hankla

Marianna Lacanfora

Jennifer Landon

Katie Miller

Randy Morrison

Joe Schnitzer

Erin Sher Smyth

Julie Tasher

Leslie Walker

AUGUST 23 ICE CREAM KIDS SOCIAL

VVNA's third annual Kids Ice Cream Social, held at the Jemicy School, brought about 35 kids with fun and frozen treats from the Kona Ice Cream truck. Many new friends were made. The event was led by Children's Committee co-chairs Julie Tasher and Katie Miller.



NOV. 4TH HAPPY HOUR at Lynne, Jeanne, Tom & Reed

This fall's event was another wonderful community get-together of over 62 neighbors. Our GREAT hosts, Lynne Cummings, Reed Little, Jeanne and Tom Phizacklea, had a can't-beat huge home that comfortably accommodated everyone, and warm weather enabled almost half of attendees to sit outside, enjoy the pool and patio area, and make s'mores over the fire pit. Huge thanks to Lynne, Jeanne, Tom and Reed for all their work and friendly hosting! And a grateful thank you to the volunteers who set up and cleaned up, as well as David Chkhartishvili's wine from his family's [Royal Iberian](#), and Suzanne Kassel's yummy pastry platter from [The Mondel Broad Bakery](#).



GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY WORKS!

Sometimes issues arise with our neighbors. VVNA greatly encourages direct, positive dialog with our neighbors to sensitize and resolve problems and establish constructive communication that endures. VVNA does not serve as neighborhood policeman. And neighbors, *please* be sensitive to your home's maintenance and appearance on the whole neighborhood. Debris, overgrown weeds, accumulated tree limbs, and trash negatively impact our beautiful community. Thank you!

CHILDREN'S EYE SAFETY TIPS FOR THE HOLIDAYS,

by Stuart R. Dankner, MD, Retired Pediatric Ophthalmologist

In the classic movie, "A Christmas Story" the son says: "I want an official Red Ryder, carbine action 200 shot model air rifle." And the famous reply was: "No, you'll shoot your eye out!" As funny as this was meant to be in the movie, injuries like this during the holiday season are a real threat to a child's precious eyesight. It's SO important to carefully inspect toys when selecting them for children.

Eye injuries from unsafe toys can damage any part of the eye and even cause permanent vision loss! Here are some useful tips to avoid serious eye injuries this holiday season:

- * Avoid toys with sharp or pointed edges.
- * Avoid projectile toys (i.e. even a Nerf ball shot too close to the eyes can cause serious injury).
- * Avoid remote controlled flying objects like helicopters and drones with propellers.
- * Use only shatterproof ornaments on Christmas trees.
- * Do not hold lit Chanukah candles too close to the eyes.

If an eye injury occurs, immediately contact your eye doctor, pediatrician or go to your local emergency room. The good news is that eye injuries can often be prevented when proper precautions are taken. So have a happy and "Eye Safe" holiday season!

Your Content Here! The VVNA is always looking for items for the newsletter. If you have news for the next newsletter, please email Velvet.NA@gmail.com

RESIDENTS' RECO's and

REVIEWS New feature, inviting residents to review and recommend new experiences: restaurants, museums, hikes, daytrips, etc.

RESTAURANT: Johnny's Downstairs Restaurant has become a favorite, with diverse, good value, wonderfully-prepared foods in a warm ambiance. 4800 Roland Ave, Roland Park

MUSEUM: Rubell Museum DC, 65 I Street, SW, DC, just-opened Oct. 2022 and reported "wonderful" by a resident cognoscente, current exhibit of over 190 works by 50 artists responding to social and political issues that affect society.

HIKING: Mason-Dixon Line
A fun, historic, easy, low-traffic hike about 1.5 miles from Freeland, MD parking into PA. I-83 N to Exit 36, York Rd, turn left (west) onto Freeland Rd., 2 mi. to parking. Water & restroom. Nice casual lunch at nearby StoneBridge Grille.

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS!

Our neighborhood has had a lot of new families move in, many with children. Please reach out and say hello and help them feel a welcome part of our community. VVNA tries to meet and welcome each new family, so let us know if you see new move-ins.

- **15 Bucksway**, Cierra & Thad Payton (formerly Johnson)
- **2419 Velvet Ridge**, Helen & Adrian Stanger (formerly Benhamou)
- **10535 Park Heights Ave**, Wendy Tand & Mark Epstein
- **2306 Velvet Ridge**, Terri & Bill Wright (formerly Nathans)

RESIDENT NEWS & RESOURCES:

BABYSITTING, PET & PLANT CARE:

- Grant Cleverley's daughter Eliza (17), contact Grant, cell: 410-532-8847
- Millicent Brigman, (14) on Velvet Valley Way, 443-635-8438
- Mollie Caplis' son Samuel (10) dog walking after school & weekend; text Mollie at 410.292.0449.

CAKES & MONDEL BREAD: Celadon's Suzanne Kassel *IS...* themondelbroad.com. Trays available for delivery. Call 443-280-0378 or email themondelbroad@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTARY: Ester Klug from her Velvet Valley Way home; contact: esterklug@gmail.com

LOST or FOUND PETS: Text or call Paul for lost or found untagged pet (410) 598-6036; he'll email neighbors with pet description and your photo. Make sure your pet wears a tag with your name & cell.

SERVICE RECO'S: we have a list of services residents have reco'd, such as tree cutting, landscape & lawn mowing, snowplowing, electricians, plumbers, painters, and more for members.

TREE-CUTTING: VVNA is negotiating discounts for half- and full-day rates for members; we'll keep you posted

TREES FALLEN ACROSS ROAD: 410-887-2222, or 410-887-3560 or 410-887-2961

COUNTY CODES & ZONING: search codes and zone reg's at baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/law/county-code

COUNTY EVENTS WEBSITE: a wonderful listing of events, places to visit, and fun and food ideas. See: www.EnjoyBaltimoreCounty.com

Volunteers Vivian & Drew assembling VVNA newsletters and flyers for distribution >



Many Thanks to **Kate Eglseder** for great editing and layout!

REAL ESTATE REPORT (MLS data provided by Board director **Angela Daniller**. **Note:** The Association's "**Velvet Valley Features & Benefits**" flyer helps home sellers and their agents with visiting prospects; contact us for a copy.

STATUS	Address	PRICE	SQFT	BR	BA	ACRES	Sold Date
Active	2415 Velvet Valley Way	\$1,875,000	9,546	6	5/3	1.88	
Pending	11016 Park Heights Ave	\$ 724,900	4,806	4	4/1	1.01	
Pending	10910 Park Heights Ave	\$ 649,900	-	-	-	10	
Closed	2306 Velvet Ridge Dr.	\$1,050,000	3,506	5	3/1	0.93	8/19/2022
Closed	15 Bucksway Rd	\$ 1,079,000	5,627	5	4/2	1.53	8/25/2022
Closed	2502 Velvet Valley Way	\$ 800,000	5,324	4	2/1	2.08	7/22/2022
Closed	2419 Velvet Ridge Dr	\$ 875,000	6,654	6	4/1	1.45	8/9/2022
Closed	11022 Park Heights Ave	\$ 567,500	1,911	4	2/0	3.00	6/10/2022
Closed	11105 Verdant	\$ 858,000	4,304	5	4/1	2.07	5/5/2022

JEMICY SCHOOL REPORT – FALL 2022. Thanks to Bonnie Wasserman, Dir. Comm. & Public.

The first trimester of the school year has flown by, and it has been wonderful to have a full slate of activities on the calendar once again. Student athletes have enthusiastically engaged in interscholastic competition, audiences have delighted in performances of *A Trip to the Moon* and *Dear Edwina JR*, field trips have taken place, and students have been able to connect with their unique interests through club participation. Literally hundreds of grandparents came to the Lower & Middle School Campus to observe their grandchildren in class on Grandfriends' Day, and there have been numerous parent socials and alumni events that have united and engaged the extended school community. Yes, school is back to pre-pandemic normal! Looking ahead into the new year, we are once again able to offer a spring break, international travel opportunity to our upper school students. This year's destination is Cuba and enthusiasm for the trip is high, as available spaces are filling up quickly. Shortly after will come the highlight of our year-long 50th anniversary celebration, **Jemicy Jubilee**, on April 15, when we hope to bring together generations of alumni, parents, faculty, and friends of the school community to mark this impressive milestone. There is much to be excited about in the months ahead. Jemicy School extends warm wishes to its Velvet Valley / Velvet Ridge neighbors for a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

Best-Ever Potato Latkes By Niki Russ Federman (Thanks, Julie Tasher) www.foodandwine.com/recipes/best-ever-potato-latkes

Active Time: 35 mins, **Total Time:** 50 mins

Ingredients

- 2 1/2 pounds baking potatoes, peeled & coarsely shredded on a box grater
- 1 medium onion, coarsely shredded on a box grater
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup finely chopped scallions
- 1/4 cup matzo meal
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted and cooled slightly
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- Vegetable oil, for frying
- Applesauce, sour cream, smoked salmon and salmon roe, for serving

Directions: In a colander set over a large bowl, toss the potatoes with the onion and squeeze dry. Let the potatoes and onion drain for 2 to 3 minutes, then pour off the liquid in the bowl, leaving the starchy paste at the bottom. Add the potatoes and onion, along with the eggs, scallions, matzo meal, butter, salt, pepper and baking powder; mix well.

In a large skillet, heat an 1/8-inch layer of oil until shimmering. Spoon 1/4-cup mounds of the latke batter into the skillet about 2 inches apart and flatten slightly with a spatula. Fry the latkes over moderately high heat, turning once, until golden and crisp, 5 to 7 minutes. Transfer the latkes to paper towels to drain, then transfer to a platter. Repeat to make the remaining latkes, adding more oil to the skillet as needed. Serve with applesauce, sour cream, smoked salmon and salmon roe.

Make Ahead The latkes can be fried early in the day; re crisp on a baking sheet in a 350° oven.

ODE TO A LOST PET from Ester Klug, author unknown.
Zoey was only 7, now missed in our household and by Jemicy students, where she went daily to provide love to everyone.

Lend Me A Pup

I will lend to you for awhile a puppy, God said,
For you to love him while he lives
and to mourn for him when he is gone.

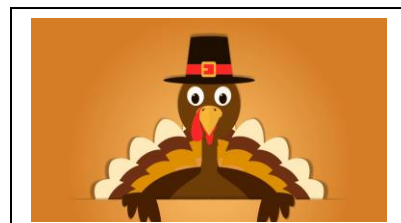
Maybe for 12 or 14 years, or maybe for 2 or 3
But will you, till I call him back
take care of him for me?

He'll bring his charms to gladden you and
(should his stay be brief)
you'll always have his memories
as solace for your grief.
I cannot promise that he will stay
since all from Earth return,
But there are lessons taught below
I want this pup to learn.

I've looked the whole world over
in search of teachers true,
And from the fold that crowd life's land
I have chosen you.
Now will you give him all your love
Nor think the labor vain,
nor hate me when I come to take
my pup back again?

I fancied that I heard them say,
"Dear Lord, They Will Be Done,"
For all the joys this pup will bring
the risk of grief you'll run.
Will you shelter him with tenderness,
Will you love him while you may?
And for the happiness you'll know
forever grateful stay?

But should I call him back
much sooner than you've planned,
please brave the bitter grief that comes
and try to understand.
If, by your love, you've managed
my wishes to achieve,
In memory of him that you've loved,
cherish every moment with your faithful bundle,
and know he loved you too.



Wishing all a wonderful Thanksgiving and Holiday Season!