

# Volunteers Honored for Their Service

LMS began the new year by honoring its dedicated volunteers at a reception on Jan. 27, generously hosted by **Nicole Curtis** of Fedora's Nice-N-EZ Café. More than 50 volunteers enjoyed a buffet luncheon at the Café along with complimentary music by **John Dodd** and **Carm Marranco** of the popular local band **The Tone Rangers**.

"We are here today to celebrate each and every volunteer who gives time, energy, and talent to the Main Street Program," said LMS Executive Director **Carla Cheifetz**. "Our volunteers are the lifeline of this organization. In 2007, volunteers clocked 8,223 hours at 26 events attended by nearly 15,000 guests.

Translated into dollars based on tasks and skills, the volunteer hours value \$197,620."

Cheifetz then presented appreciation awards to four outstanding volunteers selected by the LMS Executive Committee. The awardees for 2007 are **Jim Alexander**, **Devin Cheifetz**, **Madeline "Maddy" Monheit**, and **Art Schonheiter**.

In presenting the first award, Cheifetz referred to Schonheiter as her "fairy godfather." Schonheiter served as interim director from Nov. 2006 to Jan. 2007, when Cheifetz joined LMS. "Art never stops giving to Main Street. He has worked countless hours chairing two committees and supervising countless volunteers. He knows the 'inner workings' of the organization and was a wonderful mentor to me."

Next, Cheifetz thanked Alexander, who was not able to receive his award in person. "Some people come into our lives for different reasons," remarked Cheifetz. She had hired Alexander of JimQuest Communications to redesign the LMS website. "Our contract was for a limited number of hours," continued Cheifetz, "but what we received in return was a dedicated volunteer with a genuine interest in the image of the Village." Alexander now shares his professional expertise as a volunteer.

The third honoree was Monheit, for her important role in LMS public relations. "Whenever we read about LMS in our newsletter or local press, see an advertisement, or receive a flyer or brochure, chances are that Maddy wrote or edited it."



From left to right: Executive Director **Carla Cheifetz**, Vice President **Mario Mangone**, Board member **Patty Moran**, awardees **Devin Cheifetz**, **Madeline Monheit**, and **Art Schonheiter**, and Board members **Ken Weingarten** and **Andrea Rabitz**.

She also works on grant proposals to secure funding for Main Street activities. "Words may accomplish magic," observed Cheifetz, "but writing effectively is not quick or easy." Monheit also sits on several committees and volunteers at many events.

The fourth awardee was Devin Cheifetz, who volunteered at every LMS event in 2007. "You may have seen him up on ladders, carrying boxes, painting the office, moving road horses, setting up those not so easy to pop-up tents, swinging bails of hay, and hanging snowflakes." Just 11 years old, Devin already possesses the true spirit of volunteerism. Although he has a busy schedule of school, hockey practice, and social activities, Devin always manages to find the time to help.

In appreciation for their service to LMS, each awardee received a certificate and an honorary brick on Main Street. Cheifetz thanked **June Hansen**, who has been coordinating the brick program.

## CALENDAR

### March

13 Eat n' Greet Chamber Networking Event

### April

6 Spring Clean Up

27 Annual Jubilee

### May

4 Lawrenceville School Big Red Race

15 Restaurant Crawl Chamber Networking Event

20 Annual Meeting

24 Township Memorial Day Parade

### June

8 Lawrenceville Farmers Market

11 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Honors Dinner for LHS Students

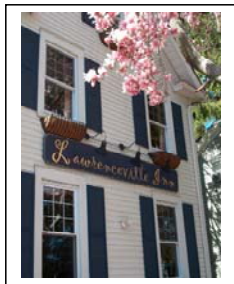
For a complete list of events visit [www.lawrencevillemainstreet.com](http://www.lawrencevillemainstreet.com).

## Village Business Round-Up

LMS welcomes **HEEREN VAN DE DAM**, a new interior design business at 30 Gordon Ave. Lawrenceville resident **Gert van Manen**, in



partnership with Jan-Willem Toering of the Netherlands, combine European, Asian, and Scandinavian styles, periods and objects to create luxury interiors for private homes and businesses. For more information, go to [www.Heervandadam.com](http://www.Heervandadam.com).



While the **LAWRENCEVILLE INN** at 2691 Main St. no longer serves a daily a la carte restaurant menu, you still can make reservations for special meals: Sunday buffet brunch, including Easter; Saturday 8-course tasting dinners, Saturday morning high tea; and Monday night home cooking. For details, call 609-219-1900 or see [www.lawrencevilleinn.com](http://www.lawrencevilleinn.com).

Located at 22 Gordon Ave., **VILLAGE COUNSELING SERVICES (VCS)** is pleased to introduce LEAP, a nationally recognized program for teens and young adults that teaches participants to make better choices, build self-confidence, and develop stronger relationships. A professional group of licensed psychotherapists, VCS has been providing client-centered counseling to the greater Lawrenceville community since 1996. For more information, call 609-844-0452 or visit [www.vcsnj.info](http://www.vcsnj.info).



Pasty Chef **Karen Child**, owner of the **VILLAGE BAKERY**, will offer Tuesday night baking classes from Apr. 1-22 from 6-9 p.m. at Ezekiel's Table (974 Mercer Rd. in



Princeton). Students will learn the art of preparing tarts, *pate a choux*, creams, mousse, ganache along with cake decorating techniques. Classes are \$85 each or \$300 for the entire series. Register at [www.EzekielsTable.com](http://www.EzekielsTable.com).



on display at the new **ROSECLIFF INFORMATION CENTER** at 32 Gordon Ave. Call 609-895-0708 to set up an appointment to visit.

A site model of the senior community to be constructed at the intersection of Rte. 206 and Franklin Corner Rd. is

Monday night cooking classes are back. Join **CHAMBERS WALK CAFÉ** chefs for fun-filled evenings of education and entertainment.



Classes, held at the café, located at 2667 Main St., are \$40 per person. To register, call 609-896-5995.



Representing people with disabilities and their families since 1974, **HINKLE, FINGLES & PRIOR** have doubled their office space at 2651 Main St. by taking over the store formerly occupied by Four Star Video. Their Lawrenceville staff has grown to six attorneys.

LMS welcomes **FUSION EMPLOYER SERVICES, LLC** to 11 Gordon Ave. Fusion provides payroll, human resources, workers compensation, benefits, and retirement plan services to small business owners. For more information go to [www.fusionemployerservices.com](http://www.fusionemployerservices.com) or call 866-FES-4978.



Congratulations to **SERENITY AT MAIN STREET** for winning the 2007 LMS Design Committee Exterior Appearance Award. Owner **Nancy Cuadra** will receive a grant of up to \$500 to subsidize her plans to add awnings to the door and two side windows of her boutique. Located at 2685 Main St., Serenity sells home accents, jewelry, troll beads, webkins, candles, baby and children's gifts, and much more. Call Nancy at 609-896-1133 for more information.



LMS bids a fond farewell to **MAIDENHEAD STUDIO**, formerly located at 11 Gordon Ave. Owner **Ruthann Perry**, who began teaching art almost 15 years ago, decided to close her business to concentrate on her own artwork. Ms. Perry will continue to offer private and small group classes at her Lawrenceville home. For details, email Ruthann at [perryprops@yahoo.com](mailto:perryprops@yahoo.com).



# LMS Website Gets a New Look

If you haven't visited the website [www.lawrencevillemainstreet.com](http://www.lawrencevillemainstreet.com) in a while, you're in for a very pleasant surprise. The site has fresh new look, updated features including a Google search and menu system, three virtual tours, hundreds of new photos, and up-to-date information on more than 50 Main Street businesses.

Under the leadership of LMS Executive Director **Carla Cheifetz**, our website redesign was conceived and executed by Lawrenceville residents

**Jim Alexander** of JimQuest Communications in collaboration with **Kirk LeCompte** of Castle Haven Creative. The project involved revamping the 60 main pages of the original site to reflect current information and to improve appearance and usability.

Equally important, the new website incorporates the vision of the LMS community. For Alexander, one of the most exiting aspects of the project was meeting with local leaders to find out what makes living in Lawrenceville so



special. The outcome of the brainstorming session was the website's new masthead slogan: "A Community for Fine Living, Dining and Visiting."

## LMS Partners with Isles

In the spirit of mutual support, LMS and Isles, Inc. have formed a partnership to help achieve our organizational missions. Although we serve different populations, we share similar origins and a common goal—to build and improve sustainable communities.

Isles was founded in 1981 by Princeton University student Martin Johnson to address urban problems by fostering "more self-reliant families in healthy sustainable communities." Similarly, a group of Lawrenceville citizens, dismayed by the deterioration of Lawrenceville's three-block commercial district, formed a revitalization team in 1995 that became LMS.

**Dan Leibowitz**, project coordinator of Isles' YouthBuild Institute, leads a crew of 10 to 15 young people who devote time each week to sprucing up our Village. The Isles YouthBuild Institute provides a tough, but caring, peer-based setting for young adults (ages 16-24) seeking education, training, career counseling, and job and higher education placement.



Vidalia owner **Salvatore Scarlata** prepares his famous sauce for hungry guests at the 2007 LMS Jubilee. (Photo by Christy Garrison.)

## Jubilee Set for April 27

Save the date for the 10th annual LMS Jubilee on Sunday, Apr. 27, 12-4 p.m. Last year, more than 6,000 guests attended our old-fashioned street fair and enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of live music, great food, rides, games, and activities for children of all ages.

## Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville Helps Out in Haiti

Congratulations to Minister **Jeffrey Vamos** and the six members of his congregation who recently returned from a six-day medical mission to the Rev. Luc Deratus' Harmony Ministries in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The group, which included two physicians, brought medicine and vitamins to the impoverished community in Thoman, where they conducted a medical clinic for 366 families. The January trip to Haiti is the congregation's fifth medical mission since the Presbyterian Church, under former minister the **Rev. H. Dana Fearon III** and Harmony Ministries formed an alliance in 1991. Because of unrest and violence, Haiti still is not safe for travel. The group repaired bullet holes in the Rev. Deratus' church roof and walls.

## Weather Doesn't Dampen Holiday Spirit

Santa arrived in Lawrenceville on Dec. 2 along with the first snow of the season. The inclement weather caused LMS to go to Plan B, moving its annual Holidays in the Village event from Weeden Park to the Lawrence Fire Company on Gordon Avenue. "Sliding down the fire pole is more fun than coming through a sooty old chimney," remarked Santa with a "Ho, ho ho."

The nasty weather didn't dampen

spirits as township families enjoyed seasonal music by the Tone Rangers, caroling by The Lawrenceville School choir, and soup, chili, hot chocolate, and desserts from **Fedora's Nice-NEZ Cafe**. It was a great opportunity to purchase Christmas trees and wreaths from **Carol's Tree Farm** as well as hand-made gifts from local artisans. Kids had fun doing arts and crafts and visiting with Santa, Care Bear and other cartoon celebrities.



**Justin and Thomas Monsport** pose with Santa at the LMS Holidays in the Village celebration on Dec. 2. (Photo by Christy Garrison.)

# Lawrenceville's Village a Great Place to Live

by **Vince Peloso**

Not long ago, we moved to Lawrenceville from Maryland. Caroline had retired a few years earlier, and after forty years of university teaching, I believed I had fulfilled my obligations to academia. Once I decided to retire, we had to choose where our home base should be.

Over the years, we had traveled to Europe, to the homes of our families and ancestors in Germany and Italy. We also spent time in several Latin American countries—Mexico, Guatemala, Peru—following my research pathways. Our time abroad whet our appetites for more.

The decision to move to Lawrenceville was not hard since our children and grandchildren live in New Jersey. We would be able to see the younger generations often when we weren't globe-trotting. The plan called for us to unpack our few remaining belongings (cut to the bone by big yard sales a.k.a. giveaways), spend a few days with the grandchildren, and take off. Here we come China, Japan, Africa.

Only one little detail had to be worked

out. We knew we would live near our children, but where exactly? Caroline and I had lived in Washington, DC most of our married lives. We had grown accustomed to the museums, theaters, the Kennedy Center, the shops, and the restaurants, especially the neighborhood ethnic eateries. We also wanted to be within reach of libraries, music, theater, galleries, and all the other perks of a fulfilling retired life. Would we be comfortable in a small town?

Lawrenceville offered us a couple of immediate attractions. First of all, it is strategically located about equidistant from the children and their families. (No need to provoke sibling rivalry.) We found a duplex near the heart of the Village that suited us just fine. It had all the requisite rooms, a garage, and lots of light. Several years in the southwest had given us an appreciation for light, and the south side of this place had big windows and sliding glass doors.

Little did we realize that we had found more than a convenient luggage drop; we had struck gold! Lawrenceville

turned out to have everything we wanted from a town and more. It has a buzz all its own, one loud and steady enough to make us think twice about the extensive travel we had planned. The Lawrenceville adventure is turning out to be a marvelous journey of discovery with all sorts of promise for the future.

## ***LMS Annual Appeal***

Thank you to the many families who already have responded to the annual appeal letter sent to 12,000 Lawrenceville households in January. We hope that the rest of you will decide to support LMS with a donation so that we can continue to promote and enhance business and community life.

We appreciate all gifts, both large and small. Please send your check to Lawrenceville Main Street, 17 Phillips Ave, Lawrenceville, NJ, 08648 or donate online by credit card at [lawrencevillemainstreet.com](http://lawrencevillemainstreet.com). Special thanks to Harwill Express Press for quickly processing our appeal letter order.



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