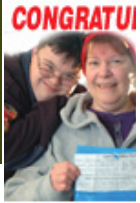


MET Maryland Ensemble Theatre 2007 - 08
Call for Tickets 301-694-4744

MAIN STAGE COMEDY PIGS ENSEMBLE SCHOOL FUN COMPANY

Gazette.Net

Maryland Community Newspapers Online

Now 41° Sat 50°/46° Sun 60°/39° 5-day forecast Traffic

Montgomery | Prince George's | Frederick | Carroll | Sports | Politics | Business | Entertainment | Speak Out | Jobs | Auto

Thursday, Dec. 20, 2007

Couple helps bring the holidays to children

by Charles Schelle | Staff Writer
[E-mail this article](#) | [Print this article](#)

For 10 years, Jim Raine and Lisa Reed's basement looked more akin to a toy store near Christmas.

More News

- [Title I funding, hard work pays off for Viers Mill](#)
- [Former CEO from Poolesville sentenced for tax evasion](#)
- [Bowie Elks reprimanded for illegal poker game at lodge](#)
- [Bourne bust unveiled in Frederick Memorial Hospital](#)
- ['Nutcracker' dreams come true for young dancers at performance](#)

Raine and Reed head up a toy drive each year for Ravens Nest 14, a fan club in Sykesville and Eldersburg for the Baltimore Ravens. They see generosity pour in, so low-income families can have presents at the annual Neighbors In Need market.

Ravens Nest 14 had its best drive to date this year, with 508 toys collected, topping last year's 348.

Neighbors In Need provides holiday gifts and food for low-income, at-risk families in Carroll County, according to its Web site. Each year, families go to a holiday shop featuring donated items to select gifts.

"It's just one of the best feelings that I can have all year long," Raine said. "I don't see their faces on Christmas morning, but I hear the stories each year from Neighbors In Need from the parents."

Raine credits the Ravens Nest 14 and businesses for making each year a success, and does not want credit for what he has helped organize over the years.

"The only reason I do it because I like the feeling of doing something that makes somebody else happy," he said. "I don't even have to see the end result."

Neighbors In Need was "pretty overwhelmed" last year when Ravens Nest members showed up with toys, Reed said. "I can't imagine their faces when we rolled up with three SUVs."



Photo courtesy Jim Raine
 Ravens Nest 14 members Doug McCauley, Ken Labuda, Mary Carol McCauley, Alice Decker, Debbie Miller and Lisa Reed stand in front of the truck loads of toys to be delivered to Neighbors In Need in Westminster. Ravens Nest 14 had its best toy drive in 10 years, collecting 508 toys.



THIS WEEKEND

Find out where to be and what to see.

Search Gazette.Net's **NEW ONLINE COMMUNITY CALENDAR** right this second. **GO**

FEATURED JOBS
[More](#)
ATTORNEY State-Wide Public

THIS WEEKEND

Find out where to be and what to see.
Search right this second 
Gazette.Net

Raine thanks Eldersburg businesses Cross Roads Bowling Center, Fringes Hair Care, Meiklejohn’s Pub, Tri-Star Martial Arts and Ravens Nest members Alice Decker, Ken Labuda, Doug and Mary Carol McCauley and Debbie Miller for making the toy drive a success.

“What we have realized throughout the years with Eldersburg and the community is that all you have to do is ask, and sometimes it’s overwhelming that they want to help,” Reed said.

The drive started 10 years ago, when Raine noticed that toys were not picked up at his former employer for Toys For Tots. He called the Carroll County Department of Social Services, which directed him to Neighbors In Need.

From there, he turned it into a toy drive that Ravens Nest 14 could support. The donation bins fill up each year, and this year had to be emptied three times, Reed said, so that meant the basement also fills.

“When we first started doing it, we had a small town home in Piney Ridge,” Reed said. “It gets crazy when you have 300 and some toys in a small space.”

Reed and Raine now have a larger basement, but the toy count increased, too. And they want even more toys for Neighbors In Need next year.

To handle the size, they are planning to rent a storage bin to reclaim their basement.

Ravens Nest 14 continues to give to the community throughout the year Reed added, raising more than \$10,500 the past three years. “Jimmy always says save the world, and I say just one person at a time,” she said.

House [More](#)

CARRIERS PRINCE GEORGE'S
 CO NEED SOME DECENT EXTRA CASH? HAVE THURSDAYS AVAILABLE? WELL JOIN [More](#)

EDITOEDITOR Professional Services
 Firm Located In Chevy Chase, MD, Specializing In The Hotel [More](#)

[See All Featured Ads](#)