



# ROLAND PARK NEWS



Spring  
2011  
Volume  
Forty-One

## Roland Park Community Foundation Turns 25!

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By Anne Stuzin

Twenty-five years ago in America, a gallon of gas cost 89 cents. The Dow Jones Industrial average closed at 1,895. IBM unveiled the PC Convertible, the first laptop. We endured the Challenger disaster and the Iran Contra Affair. Around the world, Mikhail Gorbachev introduced "Perestroika" and "Glasnost" in the USSR, the UK and France announced plans to construct the Chunnel, and Spain and Portugal entered the EEC.

Closer to home, William Donald Schaeffer was elected 58th Governor of Maryland. The Os finished dead last in the American League East. Belvedere Square opened, and the *Sunpapers* were sold to the Times Mirror Corporation of Los Angeles for \$600 million.

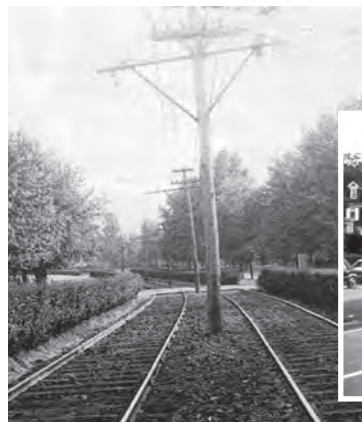
Meanwhile, in early 1986 in Roland Park, the Civic League and Roads & Maintenance Corporation undertook a thorough assessment of the community's "natural state." Among the findings: trees were dying, old paths were being neglected and common areas, like medians, were messy and overgrown. In short, Roland Park, one of the nation's oldest planned garden suburbs, was getting a little rough around the edges.

Later that spring, a group of visionary Roland Parkers, led by David Rudow, then Civic League Chair Bill Wilson and Michael Lower, established a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, the Roland Park Community Foundation, to complement the activities of the Civic League. The Community Foundation's mission was to raise money for community projects that would benefit present and future generations of residents.

Its guiding principles were to "preserve, maintain and improve Roland Park," while staying true to the Olmsted Brother's original landscaping vision for the community.

Building on the findings of the assessment, the Community Foundation's landscape committee, led by Kathy Manson, engaged the Columbia-based landscape architecture firm LDR International to develop a master plan to enhance and beautify the natural elements in the community.

The landscape committee determined that the Community Foundation's first initiative



(Left) Roland Avenue, looking south, circa 1903.  
Photo courtesy of Doug Munro



(Middle) The neglected Roland Avenue median, 1988.  
Photo courtesy of Kathy Manson



(Right) Roland Avenue's majestic Zelkova trees today. Photo: Anne Stuzin.

would focus on the most visible priority, the restoration of the "Green Spine" of Roland Park—the Roland Avenue median. For historical perspective, by 1986, it had been almost 40 years since the last trolley made its way up Roland Avenue, with tracks and privet hedges giving way to a grassy median that extended up University Parkway and Roland Avenue all the way to Lake Avenue. Post-trolley, the Roland Avenue median had stretches without any tree coverage, and areas with randomly planted trees in various states of decay.

After two years of planning and partnership with LDR, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks and the City Forestry Department, boosted by the generous financial contributions of residents and

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# Roland Park News

Volume 41  
Spring 2011

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## Editors' Notes

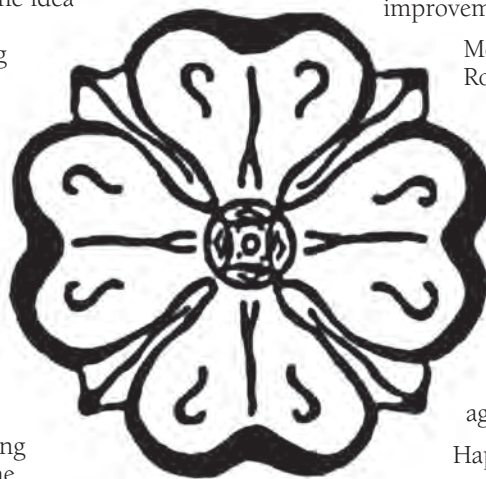
By Martha Marani

Herman Melville said, "A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men." In Roland Park, the strength of those connecting fibers was thoughtfully established through the design vision of the Olmsted Brothers and has been reinforced over the years through the efforts of our community's dedicated residents. The idea of neighbors helping neighbors—cultivating connections—is so deeply ingrained in Roland Park that the examples are too numerous to list. From the most personal—a busy mother making dinner for her sick neighbor—to something with a broader scope—a dedicated and diverse group of people forming a non-profit to help the community maintain its unique character—to something with even farther-reaching implications—a lifelong Roland Parker leading a unique organization designed to help middle school students across the city achieve their full potential—it's part of our community's tradition.

It's the philosophy that inspired the creation of the Roland Park Community Foundation 25 years ago. Read Anne Stuzin's cover story to learn the impressive history of the non-profit, whose mission is to raise money for community projects that benefit present and future generations of residents. The story is particularly poignant with the recent sad loss of one of its founding members, Michael Lower. Those who knew and volunteered with him will miss Michael's easy nature, encyclopedic knowledge of all things Roland Park and deep commitment to the neighborhood he loved.

Connecting people—specifically students and teachers—has been the mission of Ann Daniels' organization, the Middle Grades Partnership. Read the latest installment of Kathy Hudson's series, "Roland Parkers Reach Out," to find out about how Ann's leadership has resulted in such effective partnerships between independent schools and public schools, which are working together to prepare middle school students for success in high school.

The newsletter's "cub reporter," Cecily McIntyre (a Bryn Mawr School junior), helps to strengthen the connection between Roland Parkers and their beloved dogs in her story about the neighborhood's best places to walk your pooch. Even the "Word of Mouth" list of recommended contractors is an example of neighbors helping neighbors—with advice on who to hire for your next home improvement project.



More than 100 years ago, Roland Park was designed as a community with strong connecting fibers—with its layout deliberately chosen to encourage neighborliness. Who knows what the next 25 years will bring? One thing, however, is certain. The legacy established by Roland Parkers more than a century ago will remain.

Happy spring, Roland Park! ❖

## In Memoriam

Michael William Lower passed away on February 11th, 2011. On behalf of the board of the Roland Park Community Foundation, we offer our deepest condolences to his



wife, Margaret Goheen Lower, children, Charles Lower, Amanda Bakaian and Robert Lower, and other family members and friends. Michael's family has asked that memorial contributions may be made to the Community Foundation (5115-B Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210), which he helped to found 25 years ago.



# Art Happenings

The Baltimore Choral Arts Society is one of Maryland's premier cultural institutions. The Symphonic Chorus, Full Chorus, Orchestra and Chamber Chorus perform throughout the mid-Atlantic region, as well as in Washington, DC, New York and Europe. For tickets and more information, call 410-523-7070 or visit [www.baltimorechoralarts.org](http://www.baltimorechoralarts.org).

On April 3rd at 3 p.m., a **Benefit Concert for the Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church** will feature the Handel Choir of Baltimore and Orchestra at Goucher College's Kraushaar Auditorium (1021 Dulaney Valley Road). Conductor Melinda O'Neal will lead the choir and orchestra in selections, including Mozart and Beethoven. Pianist Michael Sheppard will be featured. Tickets are \$40; parking is free. For more information, call 410-922-2100, Ext. 5610, or visit [www.boardofchildcare.org](http://www.boardofchildcare.org).

The **Cathedral of Mary Our Queen** (5200 N. Charles Street) hosts several musical events throughout the year. Upcoming events include:

- March 13th, 6:30 p.m., **Lenten Procession**. The choir of St. John's Huntingdon, under the direction of Thomas Hetrick, will perform works celebrating the season of Lent. Mirroring the Lenten journey, the procession will begin in the Narthex of the magnificent Cathedral, continue to the Sanctuary and finally proceed to the steps of the High Altar. This program is free and open to the public; however, a free-will offering will be received.
- March 20th, 5:00 p.m., **Cathedral Choir Concert**. The Cathedral Choir, under the direction of Daniel J. Sansone, will perform a program of varied choral repertoire celebrating the season of Lent. The program will feature the "Quatre Motets pour les Temps de Penitence" by Francis Poulenc. This program is free and open to the public; however, a free-will offering will be received.
- April 17th, 5:00 p.m., **Daniel J. Sansone, Organist**. In observance of the beginning of Holy Week, Sansone, the Cathedral's director of music, will perform an organ recital featuring "Le Chemin de la Croix" ("The Stations of the Cross") by Marcel Dupré. The work's movements offer musical reflections on the various Stations, depicting Christ's Passion. Narrative readings will precede each of the 14 movements. The regal acoustics of the Cathedral offer the perfect setting for this great work. This program is free and open to the public however, a free-will offering will be received.
- May 15th, 4:00 p.m., **Contemporary Choir Concert**. The Cathedral Contemporary Choir, directed by Katherine Hunt, will perform a program of selections from the late Romantic period through the present. The ensemble will be accompanied by piano and guitar, and will also feature the Cathedral Youth Schola. This program is free and open to the public however, a free-will offering will be received.

Upcoming **Community Concerts at Second** events include:

- March 20th, 3:30 p.m., **Monument Piano Trio**. Violinist Igor Yuzefovich, cellist Dariusz Skoraczewski and pianist Michael Sheppard each brings something unique to the trio, unifying styles and genres into one distinctive sound. Hailed as "breathhtaking" and full of "warmth and character," the Monument Piano Trio is quickly becoming a Baltimore classical music staple.

- March 27th, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight**. Members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) will present some of their favorite chamber works in this candlelit setting. For the complete program and biographies, visit [www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org](http://www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org).

- April 17th, 3:30 p.m., **Wonderlic Voice Competition Finals Recital**. Established in 1990 through a bequest of the late Russell C. Wonderlic, this competition alternates annually between voice and piano and has given many young artists the opportunity to launch international music careers. Three finalists will contend for top honors and cash awards in this competition recital. For updated information on the performers and their programs, visit [www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org](http://www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org).



The Monument Piano Trio will perform at Second Presbyterian Church on March 20th at 3:30 p.m. Photo courtesy of Community Concerts at Second

- April 17th, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight**
- May 1st, 3:30 p.m., **Towson/McDonogh Choirs**. One hundred voices will blend beautifully in this recital of master choral works when the Towson University Chorale and McDonogh School

Continued on page 5

**Thank You  
For 15  
Wonderful  
Years!**

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# Kids View

by Julianne McFarland

## Walk

By Emilia Vizachero (8)

On National Walk to School Day, I noticed that the only ones walking were my sister, my Mom and I. We have 16 kids on our block who could walk to school, but only two were walking. I feel good about walking for the following reasons:

- I am helping the environment
- I am saving money on gas
- I get to see more of my neighborhood, up close
- I get exercise
- I get to play on the way to school
- I get to see the seasons change

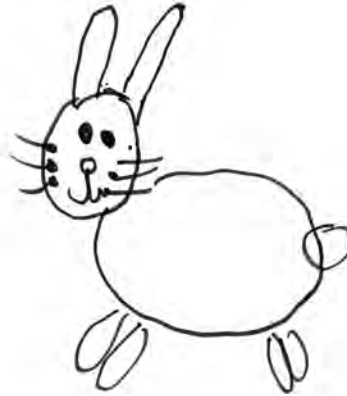
Save money. Live better. Walk.

*Parent's Note:* I have been walking the three-quarter-mile trip to Roland Park Elementary with my daughters, Emilia (grade 3) and Serafina (kindergarten), since the first day of school this past fall. Two days a week, their 3-year-old brother also accompanies us in the jogger stroller, and then I walk him to his school. I jog on the way home and am home, showered and ready for work at 8:30. It has changed my life for the better, too.

## "I Like Spring"

By Kiera X. Ruby (9)

Wait for spring  
Hope for spring  
Hop for spring  
Yell for spring  
New for spring  
Green for spring  
Sing for spring  
I love spring!!!!!!!!!



By Beatrice McAleen (9)

## Bunnies

By Lily M. (9)

They are Fuzzy  
Good to cuddle with  
Very Cute  
They can be black brown and white  
They don't just eat carrots, they eat other food  
Bunnies are warm

## Spring Word Search

W	O	S	G	A	J	W	Z
X	H	P	M	I	O	Q	M
O	S	R	L	E	K	S	A
D	P	I	Q	B	C	L	Y
F	U	N	F	L	C	P	K
L	V	G	R	E	A	T	P
O	R	K	A	P	D	X	A
W	Z	G	I	E	R	U	Q
E	C	L	N	D	F	S	O
R	A	B	Y	N	N	U	B

SPRING, FLOWER, BUNNY, RAINY, WARM, FUN, GREAT

Send Kids View submissions to Anne Stuzin, 206 Ridgewood Road,  
or email to [anne@stuzin.com](mailto:anne@stuzin.com).

*Note: May 1st is the deadline for Summer!*

# Art Happenings

Continued from page 3

Concert Choir join forces for this concert. Sponsored by Lewis Contractors.

## ■ May 22nd, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight**

All concerts are free of charge and require no advance ticketing. Concerts take place at Second Presbyterian Church (4200 St. Paul Street). Free and ample parking is available around the church. Contact 443-759-3309, [CommunityConcertsAtSecond@yahoo.com](mailto:CommunityConcertsAtSecond@yahoo.com), or visit [www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org](http://www.CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org) for more information.

## **Evergreen Museum & Library**

(4545 N. Charles Street) is housed in a former Gilded Age mansion surrounded by Italian-style gardens. It is at once an intimate collection of fine and decorative arts, rare books and manuscripts assembled by two generations of the B&O's philanthropic Garrett family, and a vibrant, inspirational venue for contemporary artists. The museum is open by guided tour only, offered on the hour 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 3 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Call 410-516-0341 or visit [www.museums.jhu.edu](http://www.museums.jhu.edu). Admission is \$6 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65 and over) and AAA members; \$3 for students (13 and over with ID), youth (6 to 12), and Johns Hopkins alumni and retirees; and free for members, Johns Hopkins faculty, staff and students (with valid ID), and children (5 and under). Upcoming events include:

■ Through March 27th, **Edward S. Curtis: Photogravures from The North American Indian**. More than 25 photogravures by American photographer Edward S. Curtis (1868–1952) from the John Work Garrett Library will be featured in this special exhibition presented by the Evergreen Museum & Library and the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries. Free admission to the grounds; regular admission fees for museum tours. Reservations are requested. Call 410-516-0341 or send an email to [evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu](mailto:evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu).

■ March 6th through May 29th, **House Guests: Scott Sedar: Triumph and Slavery**. Inspired by Ambassador John Work Garrett's monograph on Italian art, *Triomfi e Schiavitù* (*Triumph and Slavery*), Washington, DC-based performing and visual artist Scott Sedar spent his 2010 residency exploring themes of triumph and slavery as they relate to art subjects, artists and the lives of the Garretts, and developing a site-specific theatrical/art installation event. In two back-to-back performances of *Triumph and Slavery*, Sedar will recreate a fanciful 1920s theatre evening—a distant relation to the social triumphs hosted by Alice Warder Garrett in Evergreen's Bakst Theatre. An opening reception will be held on March 6th from 1 to 4 p.m., with appearances by Sedar at 1 and 3 p.m. Performances will be held on March 18th and 19th at 7:30 p.m. Performances are \$8 for the public and \$5 for students and members. Admission to the art installation is free with museum admission and on view as part of the regular guided tour. The reception is free; reservations



Violinist Hahn-Bin will perform with pianist John Blacklow in April as part of the Music at Evergreen's concert series. Photo: Workroom K

can be requested by calling 410-516-0341 or emailing [evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu](mailto:evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu).

■ March 6th through May 29th, **The Art of Diplomacy: The Garretts in Rome**. John Work Garrett and his wife Alice counted Rome as a second home between 1929 and 1933, when John Garrett served as the U.S. Ambassador to Italy. This student-curated focus show will explore how the Garretts used their status within Roman society to further an exchange between the art worlds of the two nations—and to a larger degree, the two continents—and the temporary relocation of their celebrated art collection to the American Embassy at Rome, which inevitably, if not officially, became seen as “Evergreen East.” An opening reception will be held on March 6th from 1 to 4 p.m., with a curator's talk at 2 p.m. Admission to the installation is free with museum admission and on view as part of the regular guided tour. The reception is free; reservations can be requested by calling 410-516-0341 or emailing [evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu](mailto:evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu).

■ March 12th and April 16th, 3 p.m., **Music at Evergreen: 2010-2011 Concert Series** (Bakst Theatre). Evergreen Museum & Library will present live music on Saturdays in March and April. Tickets are \$20 for the public, \$15 for members and \$10 for full-time students with ID. Tickets include museum admission and a post-concert tea reception. Seating is limited and advance reservations are recommended. Visit [www.museums.jhu.edu](http://www.museums.jhu.edu) or

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## The Roland Park Community Foundation Invites You to Celebrate Spring and Our 25th Year!

Friday, May 6, 2011 ♦ 6:30-10 PM

The Woman's Club of Roland Park  
4500 Roland Avenue

Join us for food, drink and merriment,  
as we remember our history and  
look forward to the future.

Proceeds benefit the  
Roland Park  
Community Foundation

Tickets \$60 per person

Look for your  
invitation soon



# Art Happenings

Continued from page 5

call 410-516-0341.

- March 12th, **Edmar Castañeda Quartet**
- April 16th, **Hahn-Bin, Violin, with John Blacklow, Piano**

■ Saturdays, March 19th, May 7th, June 18th, August 27th and October 15th (rain or shine), **Edible Evergreen: Kitchen Garden Series with Chef John Shields**. Evergreen Museum & Library will host a five-part kitchen garden series presented by chef John Shields and his restaurant, Gertrude's, highlighting three seasons of sustainably growing and preparing fresh organic produce. The series will include gardening workshops with master gardener Jon Carroll, four cooking demonstrations with chef John Shields, an optional chef's tour of Baltimore's 32nd Street Farmers' Market and a fall harvest luncheon at Gertrude's Restaurant. The cost is \$110 for the public and \$90 for members (nonrefundable, but transferable with advance notice). Registration includes museum admission



Duo Transatlantique combines the award-winning talents of guitarists Benjamin Beirs and Maud Laforest. Photo courtesy of Music in the Great Hall

on day of class. Class size limited to 20 and advance, pre-paid registration required. Call 410-516-0341.


- March 19th, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., **Garden Planning and Seed Starting**
- May 7th, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., **Site Preparation and Planting**
- June 18th, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., **Maintaining the Garden**
- Aug. 27th, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., **Getting Ready for Fall**
- October 15th, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Gertrude's, followed by lunch, **The Fruits of Our Labor**

■ Wednesdays, March 30th, April 13th and May 18th, 6:30 to 8 p.m., **The House Beautiful Lecture Series**. Evergreen Museum & Library's 4th annual lecture series will explore décor from the perspectives of the iconic tastemaker, the contemporary design world and the museum. The illustrated talks will take place in the Bakst Theatre, followed by a lightly catered reception and book signings by the speakers. Individual lectures are \$20 for the public and \$15 for members and students; the three-lecture series subscription is \$48 for the public and \$33 for members and students. There will be a limited number of free seats for Johns Hopkins students with valid ID. Advance registration is required. Visit [www.museums.jhu.edu](http://www.museums.jhu.edu) or call 410-516-0341.


- March 30th, **Emily Evans Eerdmans: Le Style Malmaison**
- April 13th, **Thomas Jayne: Collectors and The Finest Rooms**
- May 18th, **Daniëlle Kisluk-Grosheide: The Wrightsman Galleries for French Decorative Arts**
- April 6th, 6 p.m. reception and signing and 7 p.m. book talk, **Book Talk: Outdoor Sculpture in Baltimore** (Carriage House). Evergreen Museum & Library, the Johns Hopkins University Press and the Friends of the Sheridan Libraries will present art historian and JHU Press author Cindy Kelly, discussing her new book. Kelly, a former director of Johns Hopkins' historic house museums, Homewood Museum and Evergreen Museum & Library, mined local archives and conducted interviews with contemporary artists to uncover the details behind Baltimore's public sculptures. Free.

■ May 12th, 6 to 8:30 p.m., **Alice's Wonderland Garden Party**. Evergreen Museum & Library will inaugurate a new rite of spring with this festive fundraiser for the historic property's ongoing restoration projects. Guests will enjoy fabulous hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, a special exhibition preview of *The American Throne*, a spectacular silent auction, croquet, live music and a fun and fierce Mad Hatter hat contest for the best spring hats, with ladies and gentlemen competing for prizes in numerous categories. The benefit is sponsored by the Evergreen Museum & Library Advisory Council and is co-chaired by council members Mary Ann Beckley, Inez Eicher and Lilli Kazazian. Advance tickets are \$100 for individual, \$250 for patrons and \$1,000 for benefactors. Same day, at the door individual level tickets are an additional \$25. For advance tickets or sponsorship information, call 410-516-6710 or visit the Evergreen Gift Shop. Tickets are tax-deductible after \$45.

- May 22nd through September 25th, **The American Throne**. Though 18th century colonists rebelled against the idea of a monarchy for the new United States, they often borrowed from royal design vocabularies to create great chairs for local,



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regional and national leaders. This exhibit will explore the ongoing redefinition of monarchical forms for democratic and everyday seating and how democratic ideals equally have transformed chairs devised for the common man into thrones of power. Included in the exhibition will be examples of pre-Civil War chairs, ancient Roman-inspired chairs designed for the U.S. Capitol by architect Thomas U. Walter and one of President John F. Kennedy's White



Founder Virginia Reinecke celebrates her 90th birthday with a return to the Music in the Great Hall stage in April. Photo courtesy of Music in the Great Hall

House rocking chairs, which have become icons of American leadership. An opening reception will be held on May 22nd from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission to the installation is free with museum admission and on view as part of the regular guided tour. The reception is free; reservations can be requested by calling 410-516-0341 or emailing [evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu](mailto:evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu).

On May 15th at 4 p.m., the **Handel Choir of Baltimore** will present their spring concert at St. Ignatius Church (740 N. Calvert Street), in collaboration with Harmonious Blacksmith. Artistic Director and Conductor Melinda O'Neal will lead the full choir, Chandos Singers, professional soloists and Handel Period Instrument Orchestra in Mozart's "Requiem" and "Ave verum Corpus" and Bach's "The Art of the Fugue" (portions) and "Cantata 106." For more information or to order tickets, please call 410-366-6544 or visit [www.handelchoir.org](http://www.handelchoir.org).

**Homewood Museum** (3400 N. Charles Street) is a National Historic Landmark built in 1801 by Charles Carroll Jr., and one of the nation's best surviving examples of Federal period architecture. It is renowned for its elegant proportions, extravagant details and superb collection of American decorative arts, including Carroll family furnishings. The museum is open by guided tour only, offered on the half-hour between 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 3:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Call 410-516-0341 or visit [www.museums.jhu.edu](http://www.museums.jhu.edu). Admission is \$6 for adults; \$5 for seniors (65 and over) and AAA members; \$3 for students (13 and over with ID), youth (6 to 12), and Johns Hopkins alumni and retirees; and free for members, Johns Hopkins faculty, staff and students (with valid ID), and children (5 and under). Upcoming events include:

- March 4th, April 1st and May 6th, 5:45 p.m., followed by a reception, **Peabody at Homewood: 2011 Concert Series**. The 11th season will showcase the virtuosity of top students and graduates of the Peabody Conservatory, performed amidst splendid Federal-period architecture of Homewood Museum. Tickets are \$15 for the public, \$12 for members and \$8 for full-time students with ID. The three-concert series subscription is \$40 for the public, \$30 for members and \$20 for full-time students with ID. Tickets include 5 p.m. museum admission

and a post-concert reception. Seating is limited and advance reservations are recommended. Visit [www.museums.jhu.edu](http://www.museums.jhu.edu) or call 410-516-5589.

- March 4th, **Dahlia Flute Duo**
- April 1st, **Vinca Quartet**
- May 6th, **Jazz Duo: Kevin B. Clark, Guitar, and Steve Synk, Bass**

■ April 9th, 6 p.m. book talk followed by reception and signing, **Book Talk: Sisters of Fortune**. Homewood Museum will present English biographer and historian Jehanne Wake, discussing her new book *Sisters of Fortune: America's Caton Sisters at Home and Abroad*, about the four Caton sisters who were born in late 18th century Maryland and brought up by their grandfather, Charles Carroll of Carrollton. They were the first American heiresses to take Europe by storm after the battle of Waterloo in 1815. Free.

■ Through April 17th, **Privileged Pursuits: Cultural Refinement in Early Baltimore**. In the early 1800s, music, dance, literature, fine art and civility were considered part of a complete education. Homewood Museum's 5th annual student-curated focus show will explore how young Baltimoreans were introduced to these and other cultural refinements through parental instruction, printed materials, tutors and specialized schools. An accompanying display on the main level of the Milton S. Eisenhower Library, adjacent to Homewood Museum, will feature

Continued on page 9



# Nature

of  **Broadmead**

It's the

*All-* inclusive healthcare, maintenance-free garden apartments, and interesting friends are a way of life at Broadmead. Enjoy an abundance of resident-driven programs & activities or the serenity of the natural surroundings on this 94-acre campus. It's all up to you. We invite you to visit us and catch the Broadmead spirit. Call (410) 584-3388 to schedule your personal tour.

---

Broadmead is an inclusive, accredited, not-for-profit Continuing Care Retirement Community founded and operated in the caring Quaker tradition.

TTY/Voice ~ Maryland Relay Service  
1-800-201-7165  
[www.broadmead.org](http://www.broadmead.org)








## Calendar & Announcements

The **Roland Park Civic League** monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church (4801 Roland Avenue). For more information, call the Civic League offices at 410-494-0125.

On May 2nd, Roland Parker Kathy Vizachero will present **"Finding a Better Balance: Ideas for Slowing Down, Enjoying Your Kids, and Integrating Your Work and Life"** at the Roland Park Country School through its Kaleidoscope offerings. The session will run from 6:30 to 8 p.m., and will focus on "hands-on self-reflection activities and practical actions that you can customize for and take into your life immediately." Vizachero is a corporate consultant in performance development, a certified executive coach and the mother of three young children. Through her firm, Performing By Design, she helps executives design the kind of lives they really want, including integrating work and family. To register for this \$45 class, visit [www.rpcs.org/Kaleidoscope/spring\\_kaleidoscope.aspx](http://www.rpcs.org/Kaleidoscope/spring_kaleidoscope.aspx), download the spring 2011 Kaleidoscope catalog and complete the registration form.

Celebrate spring at **Cylburn Arboretum's 43rd Annual Market Day** plant sale on Saturday, May 7th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (4915 Green Spring Avenue). This is a great way to experience Baltimore farmers, artists and culinary wizards, and to get Mother's Day gifts. Remember your wagon and reusable bags because this event is green! Parking at Cylburn is \$5, but there is no admission cost for the sale. There will be a preview sale on Friday, May 6th, from 4 to 7 p.m. For more information, visit [www.cylburnassociation.org/subpages/marketday.html](http://www.cylburnassociation.org/subpages/marketday.html). To volunteer, contact Karen Goldstein, Cylburn Volunteer Coordinator, at [karen.goldstein@cylburnassociation.org](mailto:karen.goldstein@cylburnassociation.org).

The **3rd Annual Native Plant Sale**, sponsored by the Roland Park Civic League, will be held on Saturday, May 14th, at the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School (5207 Roland Avenue) starting at 8 a.m. Dozens of varieties of perennials, grasses, shrubs and small trees—all of them appropriate for Roland Park landscapes—will be available. For more information, visit [www.RolandParkNatives.org](http://www.RolandParkNatives.org). ♦

Please submit information for this column to [Newsletter@rolandpark.org](mailto:Newsletter@rolandpark.org).

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## Home Sales

(November 2010 through January 2011)

	List Price	Closing Price
4639 Schenley Road	\$149,000	\$149,100
6 Upland Road #Q-1	\$174,900	\$150,500
3 Saint Georges Road	\$260,000	\$260,000
4338 Roland Spring Drive	\$298,500	\$285,000
6004 Roland Avenue	\$305,000	\$288,400
5713 N. Charles Street	\$299,000	\$299,000
4202 Wickford Road	\$379,000	\$365,000
4827 Keswick Road	\$450,000	\$390,000
4706 Keswick Road	\$429,000	\$415,000
917 Drohomor Place	\$485,000	\$440,000
205 Ridgemede Road	\$475,000	\$445,500
1 Merrymount Road	\$619,900	\$592,500
4 Longwood Road	\$669,000	\$635,000
830 W. University Parkway	\$1,225,000	\$959,775

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# Art Happenings

Continued from page 7

objects from the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries. Free with museum admission and on view as part of the regular guided tour. The accompanying display at the Milton S. Eisenhower Library is on view daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and is free upon presentation of a valid photo ID.

- March 10th, 5 p.m. reception and 5:30 p.m. reading, **Emergence of American Voices: Earth 19th Century Poetry**
- April 10th, 12 to 3:30 p.m., **Festival of Historic Arts**

**Music in the Great Hall**, in its 37th season, hosts concerts at Towson Unitarian Universalist Church (1710 Dulaney Valley Road, Towson) under the exciting artistic leadership of Lura Johnson, one of the area's most prominent pianists. Upcoming events include:

- March 20th, 3 p.m., **Duo Transatlantique**. Formed in 2003, Duo Transatlantique combines the award-winning talents of guitarists Benjamin Beirs and Maud Laforest. Grand prizewinners in the Union Francaise des Artistes Musiciens Guitar Duo Competition, the Duo seeks to promote Franco-American relations through an emphasis on the music of these two musically prolific countries. Duo Transatlantique has performed at the Kennedy Center and just released their debut album, and are excited to share their talents on the stage of Music in the Great Hall.
- April 10th, 3 p.m., **Virginia Reinecke and Friends, 90th Birthday Celebration**. Virginia Reinecke's significance to Music in the Great Hall cannot be understated. Founder of the series in 1974 and its first artistic director, this inspirational artist celebrates her 90th birthday with a return to the Music in the Great Hall stage. She will be joined by colleagues Nicholas Currie, concertmaster of the Mid-Atlantic Symphony, and Lukasz Szymer, prodigious Polish cellist. The trio will present a program of well-loved standards from the chamber music repertoire, including Ravel's shimmering masterpiece, the "Piano Trio." Concertgoers are invited to an extra special reception and birthday party for Reinecke following the concert.

For more information on Music in the Great Hall, visit [www.MiGH.org](http://www.MiGH.org) or call 410-813-4255.

The **Potters Guild of Baltimore's** (3600 Clipper Mill Road) is a cooperative craft center dedicated to increasing awareness and appreciation of the ceramic arts. The Guild offers juried membership, a sales gallery showcasing Guild members' work and shared studio/classroom space. It is located in Meadow Mill, a historic, converted factory building in Hampden. The Guild offers a year-round program of classes and workshops for adults and children. For more information, call 410-235-4884, email [info@pottersguild.org](mailto:info@pottersguild.org) or visit [www.pottersguild.org](http://www.pottersguild.org). For more information about the Creative Alliance, visit [www.creativealliance.org](http://www.creativealliance.org).



The Handel Choir of Baltimore, in collaboration with Harmonious Blacksmith, will present their spring concert at St. Ignatius Church in May. Photo: Will Kirk

The **Women Artists' Forum (WAF)** will present its spring exhibition, "Through Women's Eyes," at the Antreasian Gallery (1111 W. 36th Street) from May 18th to June 5th. The works, all created by women, will represent a broad range of artistic aesthetics and technical styles. An opening reception will be held on Friday, May 20th, from 6 to 9 p.m. All are invited to view the artworks, meet the artists and enjoy refreshments.

WAF is a Baltimore-based organization of approximately 80 active members that was founded to nurture and encourage women artists.

WAF sponsors presentations, workshops and critique groups, and provides venues for exhibiting members' work. For more information, visit [www.arttap.com/WAF](http://www.arttap.com/WAF). The Antreasian Gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, please call the gallery at 410-235-4420 or visit [www.antreasiangallery.com](http://www.antreasiangallery.com). ♦



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# Natives of the Season

By Vince Vizachero, Vice President of Maintenance, Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation

Most gardeners end up planting a lot more flowers than shrubs, more shrubs than small trees and more small trees than canopy trees. In part, this flows from the shorter lifespan of herbaceous perennials and, in part, it flows from the desire of gardeners to have “instant impact.”

Because of their greater mature biomass, however, planting trees and shrubs has not only a larger aesthetic impact but a larger positive environmental impact as well. Particularly when these trees and shrubs are native, they provide nesting sites for birds, host more butterfly larvae, sequester more carbon and filter more groundwater.

Despite the growing awareness of the importance of using native landscape plants, the idea is not a new one. In one of our few surviving planting plans for Roland Park from the Olmsted Brothers company (a 1901 planting plan for Ridgewood Road), the landscape architects made liberal use of native plants.

In the design, the Olmsted Brothers specified four beds consisting of the following plants: *Cornus alternifolia* (pagoda dogwood), *Cornus sericea* (red-twig dogwood), *Rhus aromatica* (fragrant sumac), *Viburnum acerfolium* (maple-leaf viburnum) and



Image courtesy of the USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database/Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 2: 663.

*Viburnum prunifolium* (smooth blackhaw). The blackhaw and pagoda dogwood are the tallest of these plants (up to 25 feet) and could be placed in the rear or middle of the grouping. The red-twig dogwood, fragrant sumac and maple-leaf viburnum typically reach a mature height of six to 10 feet. (To see the Olmsted Brothers plan, visit [rolandpark.org/documents/RidgewoodRoad-1901.pdf](http://rolandpark.org/documents/RidgewoodRoad-1901.pdf).)

These five native plants are all beautiful, attractive to wildlife and readily available from modern plant nurseries. All five grow just fine in shade or partial shade, and would provide year-round visual interest in Roland Park, whether placed in a grouping or in an informal—and historically accurate—hedge along a property line.

For more information, about the plants mentioned above or about the **3rd Annual Native Plant Sale**, visit [www.RolandParkNatives.org](http://www.RolandParkNatives.org). ♦

## Native Plant Sale

The 3rd Annual Native Plant Sale, sponsored by the Roland Park Civic League, will be held on Saturday, May 14th, at the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School (5207 Roland Avenue) starting at 8 a.m. We'll be offering dozens of varieties of perennials, grasses, shrubs and small trees—all of them appropriate for Roland Park landscapes.

## Welcome New Neighbors! (November through January)

Steven Grantz and Nina Markovic, 4202 Wickford Road  
David and Donna Anderson, 1 Merrymount Court  
Ryan and Abigail Frederick, 508 Woodlawn Road  
Paul and Amy Myers, 3 Longwood Road  
William Olsen and Karen David, 5305 Falls Road Terrace  
Ian and Heather Stalfort, 4706 Keswick Road  
Andrew Wolfe and Hie Jung Yoon, 4 Longwood Road  
Jonathan Bromberg and Barbara Scott, 830 W. University Parkway  
Christos and Erin Agelakopoulos, 4827 Keswick Road

We'd like to thank the Crazy Man Restaurant Group for helping us welcome our new neighbors. We hope these new Roland Parkers enjoy the gift of one dozen bagels from Roland Park Bagel Co., one free large pizza from S'ghetti Eddie's and one free tall stack of pancakes from Miss Shirley's Café, Roland Park.

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**Sarah Lewin '09**  
**Brown University '13**

- Majoring in math
- Member of an improvisational theater company
- Research assistant, Johns Hopkins School of Engineering (Summers 2007-09)
- 2009 FS Mixed Chorus Award

**Johari Frasier '09**  
**M.I.T. '13**

- Majoring in physics
- Hopes to be a professor
- Teaches a voice acting seminar to Boston-area high school students
- FS Wind Ensemble, trumpeter



# 25th Anniversary

Continued from page 1

local merchants, the Community Foundation realized its goal of the beautification of Roland Avenue by planting close to a 100 Japanese Zelkova trees in 1989. A dedication ceremony took place, with Mayor Kurt Schmoke in attendance.



(Above) The historic Roland Park Fire House, circa 1902.

Photo courtesy of Baltimore County Public Library

(Below) The Fire House kitchen was recently renovated with funds raised by the Community Foundation. Photo: D.P. Munro

Today, it's hard to imagine Roland Avenue

without the Zelkovas. They are almost iconic, providing balance and a beautiful canopy to the street, not to mention great visual appeal to walkers, joggers, bikers and motorists, as their colors and form change across the seasons.



Kathy Manson notes, "our mantra was 'plant for our grandchildren to see.' I am not sure any of us realized how much we would see and feel the impact of this project."

Indeed, the Roland Avenue Zelkova project launched the Community Foundation's activities. Today, through the continuing generosity of residents, Foundation funds are used for a variety of projects in and around Roland Park. These have included the planting of Red Oaks along the sides of Roland Avenue, the landscaping of Centennial Park, renovations of the historic Roland Park Firehouse and Roland Park Library, streetscaping in the Eddie's and Library block and improvements to Roland Park's wonderful paths. Foundation funds have also enhanced the playground, gardens and unique "Fish Fence" at the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School. The *Roland Park News*, launched in 2001 by then Foundation Chair Kathleen Vanderhorst, now serves as the "official" publication of the community. Soon, *The Guide to Greater Roland Park*, a resource for all residents, will be published by the Community Foundation.

The Foundation also functions as a community-builder, playing host to the annual (and ever-popular) Spring Celebration (which

replaced an earlier, long-standing tradition of Spring dinners hosted by various residents in their homes), and fall's annual Newcomer's Brunch.

Over the years, the Community Foundation's strong leadership has included Bill Wilson, David Rudow, Michael Lower, George Hardy, David Tufaro, Kathleen Vanderhorst, David Koch, Jean Mellott and current Chair Ken Rice, all supported by a board of civic-minded and dedicated residents.

It's true that much has changed in 25 years, in the world and in our community. But gladly, there is much that has remained the same. After a quarter of a century, the Roland Park Community Foundation remains motivated by a singular desire to preserve and enhance the character of the charming, old neighborhood it serves. The Zelkova trees along Roland Avenue stand strong and proud, symbols of a thriving community, living legacies of the Foundation's early days.

Happy Anniversary, Roland Park Community Foundation!

Our thanks to David Rudow, Michael Lower, Kathy Manson, Kathy Hudson and Doug Munro for their contributions to this article.

Don't miss the 5th annual Roland Park Community Foundation Spring Celebration, to be held May 6th at the Woman's Club of Roland Park. Visit [www.rolandpark.org](http://www.rolandpark.org) and download your RSVP today!

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# Roland Parkers Reach Out: Ann Daniels

By Kathy Hudson

Ann Daniels, daughter of Roland Parkers, Jane and Worth Daniels, grew up with her sister Jane on Ridgewood Road and graduated from Roland Park Country School (RPCS). After receiving a bachelor's degree in history from Emory University, she dipped briefly into the world of commercial real estate in Atlanta. She then moved to New York City to run an annual fund for a private school. While living in New York she also worked for a life insurance company, Planned Parenthood NYC and Women in Need. In 1998, she left to obtain a master's in public health at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill before returning to Baltimore to work at the Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF).

In 2008, Ann, her artist husband Eric Kalbfleisch and daughter Josie moved into a house several doors away from her childhood home. The same year, she also took on a leadership role in the Middle Grades Partnership (MGP), of which she is the current board chair.

After a December gathering for MGP, I e-mailed Ann a few questions.

## What is the Middle Grades Partnership?

**Ann Daniels (AD):** MGP is a summer and school-year program founded in 2005. It's designed to offer Baltimore City middle school students with academic potential an opportunity to prepare for and excel in Baltimore's most rigorous college prep public high schools.

MGP has two equally important goals: 1) getting students ready for success in high school and 2) bringing together Baltimore's public and independent school communities.

MGP does both through partnerships; each partnership engages a public and an independent school in a true two-way partnership where schools, faculty and students are enriched.

## How did you first become involved?

**AD:** From 2000 to 2005, I worked as a program officer in community development at the BCF, one of two foundations that came together in 2004 to discuss how a program like MGP might work. While I left BCF in 2005 to have a baby, I was fortunate that they kept me involved in what was happening as MGP formed. My parents were also early supporters. When asked if they would like to serve on an advisory committee, they said no and had me do it instead! Then, when I wanted to come back to work when my daughter was 1 ½ years old, I asked Beth Casey, MGP executive director, if she wanted a volunteer. I have been there ever since in one capacity or another.

## How and why did MGP begin?

**AD:** Tom Wilcox, president of BCF, is the former Head of the Concord Academy. While there, Tom and Concord began a similar program on the campus with students from Boston public schools. When he came to Baltimore, Tom knew he wanted to do something similar.

The Morton and Jane Blaustein Foundation has a long history of supporting public-private partnerships to support education here in Baltimore. So, in April 2004, BCF and the Morton and Jane Blaustein Foundation came together with a vision for nurturing Baltimore's academically promising students while also bringing together the public and private schools.

The two foundations sponsored a conference that brought together partnership-model representatives to speak to Baltimore's public and independent school representatives. From there, small planning grants were made available for schools interested in pursuing this idea. In summer 2005, MGP had its pilot summer.

## What void does MGP fill?

**AD:** While other programs in Baltimore serve middle school students, none does what we do. MGP's model of having a public and an independent school work together in equal partnership is unique. That means a partnership with a director from each school running the program; teachers from both schools creating and teaching in summer and after-school programs. We work



The Middle Grades Partnership prepares students for success in high school.  
Photo courtesy of MGP

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hard to provide professional development to all of our teachers, to tackle head-on and break down stereotypes that exist on both sides.

While other public-private partnerships exist around the country, nowhere—

literally nowhere—is there a group of independent schools working with a group of public schools with the support of both the public school system and the independent schools. The involvement of the Baltimore City Public School System and the commitment of our principals and heads of schools make this unique model work.

And our students...we have 450 smart, talented and wonderful kids succeeding at MGP. This is a voluntary program, and for 450 kids to attend over 89 percent of the time means the program engages and excites them. They are committed to learning and expanding their opportunities.

*What is the annual budget? How big is the staff?*

AD: The budget is \$1.1 million; the staff is two, plus a part-time consultant with offices in the Stieff Silver building at 800 Wyman Park Drive.

*How many and which schools were first involved?*

AD: The pilot summer of 2005 had three programs:

- The Friends School of Baltimore, KIPP Academy and Hampstead Hill Academy
- The Park School and the Stadium School
- RPCS and Garrison Middle School (girls)

*Which of the Roland Park neighborhood schools—The Boys' Latin School, The Bryn Mawr School, Calvert School, Friends, Gilman School, RPCS, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School—are involved?*

AD: Boy's Latin, Calvert, Friends, Gilman, and RPCS are involved. Bryn Mawr had a program for a few years but is now involved in another project that was launched through their experience with MGP; it's called Baltimore Independent/City Schools Alliance.

Boys' Latin partners with Garrison Middle School, working with boys in areas that include character education. The partnership provides five weeks of summer programming in reading, writing, film writing and art. There is a strong technology focus.

Calvert's partnership with Francis Scott Key Elementary/Middle School (FSK) has a strong academic and entrepreneurial focus. It provides students with an opportunity to conduct dissections in science for all middle school years. The program also includes drama, the arts, Spanish and sailing. There are multiple field trips throughout the year and tours of local colleges during the school year. Proceeds from sales at a school store, which was created and is now run by MGP students, support the partnership.

Friends partners with Hampstead Hill Academy and ConneXions Community Leadership Academy. Courses include academics, dancing and drumming and public speaking, with electives offered



Ann Daniels sings the praises of 450 "smart, talented and wonderful" kids involved with MGP. Photo courtesy of Ann Daniels

in journal writing, fiction writing, graphic art, thinking like a scientist, physics and math and sports math. The program also includes swimming lessons and basketball. This partnership has a strong focus on community service, with participants involved with community gardens and murals.

Gilman partners with New Song Academy. Four master teachers and five college interns provide intensive mathematics programming, after-school tutoring, field trips and a high school guidance program for all 8th graders.

RPCS partners with Garrison Middle, working with girls in a program called "Growing Girls and Gardens." The partnership has a large raised-bed garden at Garrison Middle that is tended by the girls, who plant in the spring, tend the garden two mornings a week in the summer and host harvesting days in the fall for their families and the community. The academic focus is also centered around the garden, with plant, soil and nutrition studied in science, while novels and stories about community gardens, farming and the changing landscape are read in English class. The RPCS-Garrison Middle partnership has an entrepreneurial focus—the girls make soaps, lotions and bath salts from herbs they grow in their garden, and sell them at the Waverly Farmers' Market.

*What are the participants saying about the partnerships?*

AD: The kids are coming to MGP and they love it! They now see themselves—and their teachers are seeing them—as college-bound students who are getting into the top college preparatory public

Continued on page 15

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# Two Local Poets Honored by RPCS

By Nancy T. Mugele, Director of Marketing and Communications, Roland Park Country School

"In my heart there is nothing that compares to poetry. It's like a delicate operation. Under certain conditions you can't go that far in because you get to an organ that is a life source, and I feel that with poetry you get closer to that organ; I feel you're getting in as deep as possible." Josephine Boylan Jacobsen, 1926, as told to Elizabeth Spires

In 1998, Elizabeth Spires accompanied Josephine Boylan Jacobsen, 1926, to the Roland Park Country School (RPCS), where Jacobsen was honored as that year's Anne Healy Lecturer, sharing her poetry and career experiences with the community. Spires was a close friend and occasional literary assistant for Jacobsen during the last 20 years of her life. She edited a volume of Jacobsen's occasional prose, *The Instant of Knowing*, in 1997. After



Elizabeth Spires is this year's Anne Healy Lecturer. Photos courtesy of RPCS

Jacobsen's death in 2003 at the age of 94, Spires assembled the poems Jacobsen had published in the last eight years of her life, including seven that appeared in *The New Yorker*, into the chapbook, *Contents of a Minute*, published by Sarabande Press.

On March 30th at 7:30 p.m., Spires will visit RPCS again for the Anne Healy Lecture. Held in the school's Sinex Theater, the event is free and open to the public.

This year, RPCS will celebrate the publication of Jacobsen's final poems, interspersed with several poems that Spires wrote and dedicated to her friend. Among her many honors, Jacobsen served as Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress in 1971 and received the Robert Frost Medal for

lifetime achievement from the Poetry Society of America. A local repository for her writings, papers, publications and photographs for preservation and scholarly research—the Josephine Boylan Jacobsen, 1926, Permanent Collection—is housed in the RPCS Archives.



Josephine Boylan Jacobsen lectured at RPCS in 1998.

Spires is the author of six collections of poetry, most recently, *The Wave-Maker*, and six books for children. A professor of English at Goucher College and Chair of Distinguished Achievement, Spires is also the acting director of the Kratz

Center for Creative Writing. She was educated at Vassar College (B.A., 1974) and The Johns Hopkins University (M.A., 1979). Her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, and *American Poetry Review*, and in many anthologies, including *Contemporary American Poetry* (7th edition) and *The New Bread Loaf Anthology of Contemporary American Poetry*. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Award and the Witter Bynner Prize from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Spires has taught in the Kaleidoscope program.

The Anne Healy endowment was created to honor Healy, who served as the Head of School for 25 years, from 1950 to 1975. The school sets aside a special day each year, inviting a distinguished person in the field of letters to meet and work with groups of students during the school day, and to present a program for students, faculty and members of the larger school community in the evening. ❖

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# Navarin of Lamb

By Ben Lefenfeld, Executive Chef, Petit Louis Bistro

1 whole bone-out lamb shoulder (ask your butcher if they will give you the bones for a stock)

5 stalks celery

2 onions

10 small peeled carrots

Fresh mint

Blanched spring peas

Blanched new potatoes

Blanched pearl onions

3 cups of reduced veal stock (roughly 7 lb. of veal bones should render 3 cups of reduced veal stock)

Roast the lamb bones in a 400-degree oven until they are golden brown. Combine the veal stock, lamb bones and half of your *Mirepoix* (carrots, celery and onions) in a pot. Cover with water and bring to a simmer. Simmer for 3 hours.



While your lamb stock is simmering, clean the lamb shoulder. Cut the shoulder into 2-inch square pieces. Sear the lamb in a cast iron sauté pan with a little oil. You want the lamb to have deep, even caramelization on all sides.

After 3 hours, strain the lamb stock. Discard the bones and cooked *Mirepoix*. Cover the seared lamb with the stock and add the

rest of the *Mirepoix*. Braise in a 300-degree oven for 3 hours or until tender.

Refrigerate the lamb in the braising liquid overnight. Discard any coagulated fat that has solidified on the top. Remove the meat from the braising liquid. Strain the braising liquid and bring to a boil. Reduce the liquid until you have a rich sauce consistency. Add your lamb to the sauce and heat until warm. Finish the sauce with a tablespoon of butter. Lay the lamb on a plate or serving platter.

Garnish with warm spring peas, pearl onions, new potatoes and fresh mint.

I would suggest that you break this dish up into several days of preparation. ♦

## Roland Parkers Reach Out

Continued from page 13

high schools in Baltimore City. MGP students are more confident learners and more confident in their ability to succeed. They are proud to be doing well and achieving academically (it's cool to be smart). They are also becoming more confident when tackling new experiences, like traveling outside of the city to visit colleges, sailing, swimming, rock climbing and more.

The MGP teachers are connecting with kids and teachers they might otherwise not have known and the schools are really leaning into the partnerships. And many of the program's interns, who are high school and college students, are deciding they want to teach in public schools.

*Is something exciting happening? I think I heard a rumor.*

**AD:** Dr. Andres Alonso, CEO of City Schools, has repeatedly asked the independent schools to come "inside the system." Through their positive experience with the MGP model of a true, two-way partnership, Bryn Mawr, Friends, Gilman, Park and RPCS have been learning about operating a public school and the process of opening a Baltimore City Transition Transformation School. These independent schools are all strengthening existing partnerships with public schools and continuing to pursue the possibility of opening a public school in Baltimore.

*How can Roland Park residents become involved?*

**AD:** We would love to have people volunteer, donate or promote MGP in the community. Find out if MGP is in a school where you have a connection. To learn more please go to the website at [www.middlegradespartnership.org](http://www.middlegradespartnership.org) or call 410-856-1310 Ext. 500.

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# Word of Mouth: Recommended Contractors

Neither the *Roland Park News* nor the Community Foundation is endorsing any of the contractors listed below. Rather, neighbors recommended them to us. If you see a contractor listed with whom you've had a negative experience or that you feel should be removed from the list, please send us an email at [Newsletter@rolandpark.org](mailto:Newsletter@rolandpark.org).

Company Name	Contact	Phone No.
<b>Architects</b>		
Melville Thomas Architects, Inc. ( <i>see ad p. 30</i> )	Laura Thomas	410-433-4400
Penza Bailey Architects ( <i>see ad p. 26</i> )	Daniel Bailey, Jeffrey Penza, Laura Thul Penza	410-435-6677
Michelle Trageser	Michelle Trageser	410-409-2553
<b>Architectural Restoration</b>		
RG Book, LLC	Ray Book	410-889-8724
<b>Arborists</b>		
A-AAA Tree Service		410-321-0921
A&A Tree Experts	Matt Anaker, Ron Orem	410-486-4561
Caroll Tree	Rob Nelson	410-998-1100
The Davey Tree Expert Company	Kevin Mullinary	410-377-4002
Lasbury Tree & Shrub	John Lasbury	410-363-8070
Woodsman Tree Experts	Charles E. Odendhal	410-321-0900
<b>Cabinetry</b>		
RG Book, LLC	Ray Book	410-889-8724
<b>Carpenters</b>		
Steve Caudle	Steve Caudle	410-366-5991
Ciesla Carpentry and Cabinet Works	Dennis Ciesla	410-366-2444
Ray Simmons	Ray Simmons	410-978-3376
<b>Chimney Sweeps/Repair Contractors</b>		
Ace of Diamonds Chimney Sweeps Inc.		410-477-9144, 800-326-6449
Mark & Buttons Chimney Sweeps Inc.	Mark	410-655-4367
Swift Chimney Service	Nathan Lewis	443-992-5629
<b>Computer Consultants</b>		
Rich Campbell	Rich Campbell	443-631-0611
The Array Group	Pablo Jusem	443-739-0147
<b>Decorative Contractors (decorative painting, paperhanging and finish carpentry)</b>		
Rising Tide Inc.	Tom Hickey	443-831-1758
<b>Electricians</b>		
Casper G. Sippel, Inc.	Casper Sippel	410-668-3910
Seth Delp	Seth Delp	443-417-8801
George Grossman	George Grossman	410-905-9886
J. Lee Gurley + Sons	John Gurley	410-592-7101
Heubeck Electric		410-235-4095
<b>Exterminators</b>		
Western Pest Services	Lori (pests)	410-252-0930
	Ellen (termites)	410-252-1019
<b>Furniture Repair and Upholstery</b>		
Dovetail Restoration	Todd Emmons	410-243-8300
<b>Gutter Cleaning and Repair</b>		
Ian Garrett	Ian Garrett	443-418-2293
The Gutter Guys		800-488-8371
Jimmy Urena	Jimmy Urena	443-352-8112
<b>Handymen</b>		
Bob Hayward	Bob Hayward	410-868-4467
J.C. Pilkerton	Joe Pilkerton	410-299-2703
Ray Simmons	Ray Simmons	410-978-3376
Jimmy Urena	Jimmy Urena	443-352-8112
<b>Heating and A/C Contractors</b>		
Accurate Heating and A/C	Lon	410-747-7111
Acura System Control, Inc.	Mike White	410-488-3505
Blue Dot	Janet Talley	410-803-4323
Pipco Air Conditioning and Heating Company	Vince Pipitone, Jr.	410-252-7400

**Home Entertainment System Installation**

TechDemand	Greg Ledwell	410-241-3327
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**Home Improvement/Renovation Contractors**

ADR Builders ( <i>see ad p. 6</i> )	Gary Stokes	410-561-0221
ATH Home Repair and Improvement	Tony Himlin	443-690-5129
Bay State Contracting, Inc.	Steve Judge	410-812-9225
Bob Tuttle Roofing & Remodeling	Bob Tuttle	443-418-4067
Fulton Construction, Inc.	Paul Fulton	410-876-3567
Gerlak Construction, Inc.	Joe Gerlak	410-377-0733, 443-604-1964
Greenbuilders Inc.	Polly Bart	410-833-4814
Level Designs	Rob Morrow	443-829-5592
Plumb Construction ( <i>see ad p. 25</i> )	Tom Rayner	410-557-4310
Preferred Contractors and Companies, Inc.	Jerry Skaggs	410-768-5935
Pyramid Homeworks	Pete Beyrodt	443-231-7521, 443-829-2738
Taylor Made Home Improvements	Kevin Taylor	410-499-2064
Thomson Remodeling Company, Inc. ( <i>see ad p. 14</i> )	Clyde Thomson	410-889-7391, 410-889-7999
Unique Resources	Robert Schuck	410-539-1000
Volkmann Construction LLC	Mark Volkmann	410-715-9069

**Home and Office Cleaning and Organizing Services**

A Class Act Cleaning	Glenda Doeller	410-736-3006
Charm City Cleaning LLC	Thomas Butler	410-889-9289
Next Step ( <i>see ad p. 21</i> )	Sally McCabe	410-207-4475
Simplify Organizing Services	Amy Rehkemper	410-661-6248

**Lawn and Landscape Contractors**

Atlantic Landscapes, LLC	Jim Lieb	410-952-3975
Broadleaf Nurseries		410-343-0169
The Davey Tree Expert Company	Kevin Mullinary	410-377-4002
Malinda Donovan	Malinda Donovan	443-797-2635; 410-377-0711
Maple Creek Landscapes	Joseph Ridgely	443-279-0247, 410-790-3901
Maxalea Nurseries	Michael McWilliams	410-377-7500
Michael's Irrigation Inc.	Craig Rhoten	410-557-4070
Pinehurst Nurseries	Corey Branch	410-592-6766
Reality Landscaping	Timmy Russell	410-591-0154
RS Yard Service	Raymond Spencer	410-319-9448
Sunshine Tree and Landscape	Tom Culbertson	410-821-7602, 443-850-4052
Wm. F. Turner Landscape Inc. ( <i>see ad p. 15</i> )	Bill Turner	410-472-9333

**Masonry Contractors**

Lombardi Stone Masonry		410-771-0741
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**Painters**

Absolute Best Custom Painting	Stephen Byrne	410-882-9072
Baltimore Paint Authority	Michael Vardi	410-484-0753, 410-419-2000
Michael Coady	Michael Coady	410-366-7294
Cutting Edge Custom Painting	Tom Haifley	443-789-4111
Five Star Home Services	Chris Levero	410-661-4050
Francisco Specialist Painting Co.	Francisco Colindres	443-854-1461
The Good Bros.	Mark Crosby	410-532-8641
Goode Design ( <i>see ad p. 8</i> )	Denny Goode	410-893-1860
Bob Hayward	Bob Hayward	410-868-4467
McGarity Brothers	Tom McGarity	410 366-8224
GreenSpaces, LLC (interior)	Rod O'Connor, Janet Olney	410-746-2019
Pride Painting Contractors, Inc.	David Gist	410-876-8322, 410-984-0210
Rising Tide Inc.	Tom Hickey	443-831-1758
Sam's Painting and Drywall Repairs, LLC	Sam Poole	443 610 3471
Robert Smith	Robert Smith	443-375-1514
Jimmy Urena	Jimmy Urena	443-352-8112

**Plaster/Sheetrock Contractors**

Mark Guglielmi	Mark Guglielmi	410-365-4134
Mark Smith	Mark Smith	410 483-8499
Alan Taylor	Alan Taylor	410-377-5835
Jimmy Urena	Jimmy Urena	443-352-8112

**Plumbers**

C.W. Fogarty Plumbing & Heating	Christopher Fogarty	410-239-4171
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Forster Plumbing  
Brent Goldsmith  
O'Neill Plumbing and Heating  
Saffer Plumbing and Heating

#### Roofing Contractors

C. Joy Roofers  
Columbia Roofing  
Meticulous Metal Roofing by R J Stoner Contracting, LLC  
Remarkable Home Improvements  
Thomson Remodeling Company, Inc. (*see ad p. 14*)

#### Stained Glass Contractors (new and repair)

Artisan Glass Works, Inc.  
Daniel Hermann Stained Glass Studio  
Great Panes

#### Tilers

Jim Rawlings

#### Window Washers

Ian Garrett  
Janitor On Wheels  
Jimmy Urena

Bryan 410-444-0016  
Brent Goldsmith 443-463-2766  
Pat O'Neill, Dave DeLauder 410-433-4047  
Dave Saffer 410-665-5164

John Elsen 410-254-6734  
410-379-6100  
Ron Stoner 301-432-5327  
Justin Cheetham 443-618-5225  
Clyde Thomson 410-889-7391, 410-889-7999

Tage Jakobsen 410-435-0300  
Dan Herman 410-332-4550  
Len Berkowitz 410-461-9336

Jim Rawlings 410-265-8190

Ian Garrett 443-418-2293  
Aubrey Winters 410-298-2950  
Jimmy Urena 443-352-8112

To check and see if a contractor is properly licensed and/or if they have had any complaints filed against them, contact the Maryland Home Improvement Commission at 410-230-6309 or 1-888-218-5925, or visit [www.dllr.state.md.us/license/mhic](http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/mhic). Please submit information for this table to [Newsletter@rolandpark.org](mailto:Newsletter@rolandpark.org).

*from our brunch menu...*

### CHERRY GLEN RICOTTA PANCAKES with RHUBARB AND STRAWBERRY COMPOTE



*Cherry Glen Farm makes its fresh ricotta from dairy goats bred on 58 acres in Boyds, Maryland. The mild, slightly creamy cheese is handmade in small batches.*

*This recipe yields enough pancakes to serve approximately 8 people.*

3 EGGS (SEPARATED)  
1 ¾ CUPS CHERRY GLEN RICOTTA CHEESE  
1 ¾ CUPS WHOLE MILK  
1 ½ CUPS FLOUR  
2 ½ TEASPOONS SALT  
2 ½ TEASPOONS BAKING POWDER

In large bowl, sift together the flour, salt, and baking powder. In a medium bowl, whisk egg yolks, Cherry Glen ricotta, and whole milk. Slowly whisk the wet ingredients into the larger bowl of dry ingredients. Set aside. In a dry, clean bowl whip egg whites until soft peaks form. Fold whites into batter. Heat griddle over medium heat. Using a 4 oz. ladle, pour onto buttered griddle; cook on both sides until done.

#### Rhubarb and Strawberry Compote

½ LB. WASHED, HULLED, QUARTERED STRAWBERRIES  
½ LB. WASHED, COARSELY CHOPPED RHUBARB  
¼ CUP SUGAR  
¼ TEASPOON SALT

In medium saucepan, combine rhubarb and sugar; cook until tender (5-10 minutes). Add strawberries along with the salt. Simmer for 3 minutes. Serve warm over Cherry Glen Ricotta pancakes.

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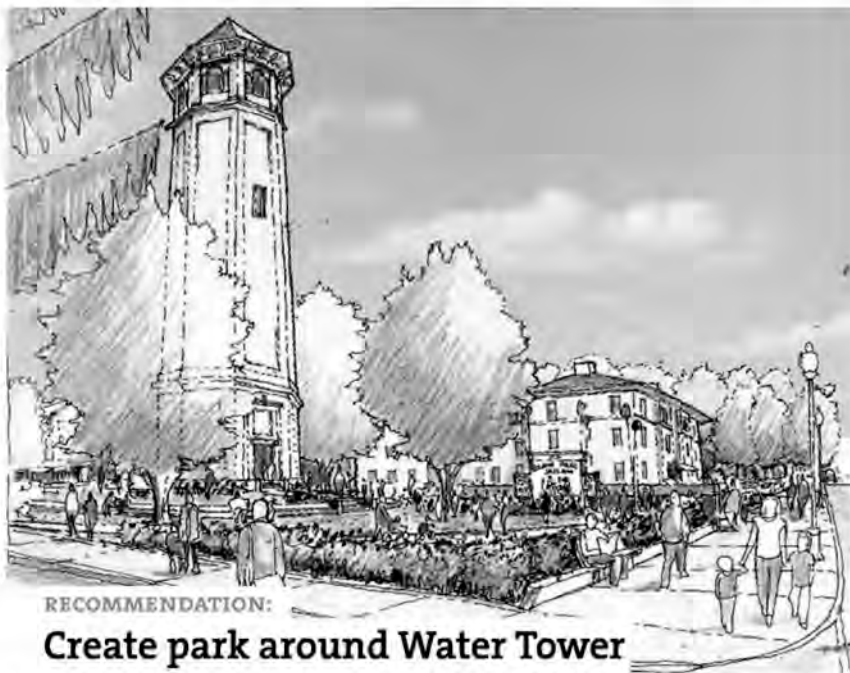
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# Greater Roland Park Master Plan: A Brief Update

By Phil Spevak

The Greater Roland Park Master Plan (GRPMP) is moving forward on many fronts and the steering committee remains focused on what is important and achievable, while building an implementation organization to achieve the plan's objectives. Here are some recent highlights:

- As of press time, we are scheduled to return to the Planning Commission on February 17th (our third visit), which we anticipate will give the plan its final approval.
- The GRPMP implementation team is developed and includes a steering committee that is responsible for executing plan projects, an advisory committee that represents the leaders of all Greater Roland Park communities, and a fundraising and grant investigation committee that is responsible for raising the money required for plan implementation.
- Short-term projects include assessing and repairing community paths, alleys and sidewalks—including pruning overgrown vegetation—and inventorying all community street trees to determine the care and pruning requirements and the need for new plantings.
- We surveyed all streets in Greater Roland Park and submitted a list of those with the most critical resurfacing needs to the City (yes, Roland Avenue is included).
- As part of a private-public partnership, we are working to restore the Roland Water Tower and create a park and community display area. We submitted a State bond bill request with help from the 40th State Delegation—Senator Catherine Pugh, and Delegates Shawn Tarrant, Barbara Robinson and Frank Conaway, Jr.—and City Councilwomen Mary Pat Clarke and Belinda Conaway.
- We suggested to Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake that Cold Spring Lane and Roland Avenue be part of a model demonstration program called “Complete Streets”—a national effort, embraced by the City, to “build road networks that are safer, more livable and welcoming to everyone” (see [www.completestreets.org](http://www.completestreets.org)). The goals of “Complete Streets” are exactly in line with suggestions made in the master plan (e.g.,




The Roland Water Tower as envisioned with a park around its base. Design: Suzanne Frazer, Matthew Fitzsimmons and Jean Mellor; rendering: Lee Divisoli. Image: Greater Roland Park Master Plan

traffic calming, more on-street parking, pedestrian and ADA improvements, including pedestrian-scaled lighting, transit enhancements, safe routes to schools).

■ We continue to participate in the re-zoning efforts of the City as they pertain to Greater Roland Park.

Work is underway on other projects, and more news will follow. For updates, visit [www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlan](http://www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlan). To get involved in the effort, write to [masterplan@rolandpark.org](mailto:masterplan@rolandpark.org). ♦



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# Why Are Roland Park's Alleys Called Lanes?

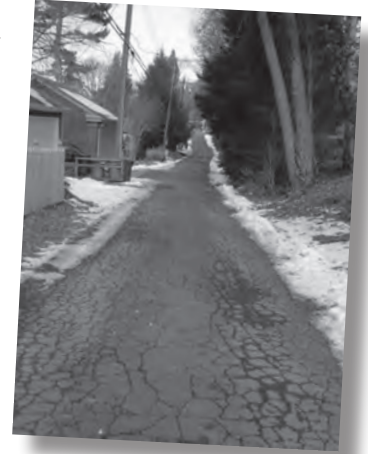
By Kathleen Truelove, President, Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation

Roland Park was developed as a garden suburb—an antidote to crowded, dirty, smelly, unsanitary city living. It boasted sewers at a time when most homes had privies (something specifically prohibited in even the earliest covenants) and clean water from Lake Roland. Advertisements touted the fresh air and park-like surroundings. The word “alley” brings to mind rats and overturned trashcans; “lane” suggests a stroll in the country.

Our lanes serve several uses—they are a place for trash cans (but not overturned ones, and certainly not for rats!). Many houses now have garages that open onto the lanes behind them. Lanes are access routes for utility workers. Some lanes even have houses that face on them. Lanes are good for a stroll! Most lanes border on people's back yards, which are generally more informal than their front yards, but should certainly not be less well kept.

If you don't park your car behind your house, you might not use your lane and you might not be aware just how much others do. The view from the lane is a part of a property's public face, and property owners are responsible for keeping shrubbery and other vegetation from encroaching into the lane's 20-foot right-of-way. Just after bloom is the time to prune flowering shrubs so that they set their buds for the next year. If, for example, you prune forsythia or azalea in late summer or fall, you cut off the next year's flowers. So, after you enjoy those spring flowers, trim the bushes back. Be mindful of how your house looks from the lane; don't let weeds and debris escaped from trash cans build up. (Those dreaded rats just love weeds and debris.)

Now that spring is finally arriving, it's a good time to take a look at your lane and clean it up. Consider getting your neighbors together and cleaning up your shared lane over a weekend. Make your lane welcoming both for a country stroll and the trash truck! ♦



The well-cleared Sunny Lane sets a good example. Photo: Kathleen Truelove

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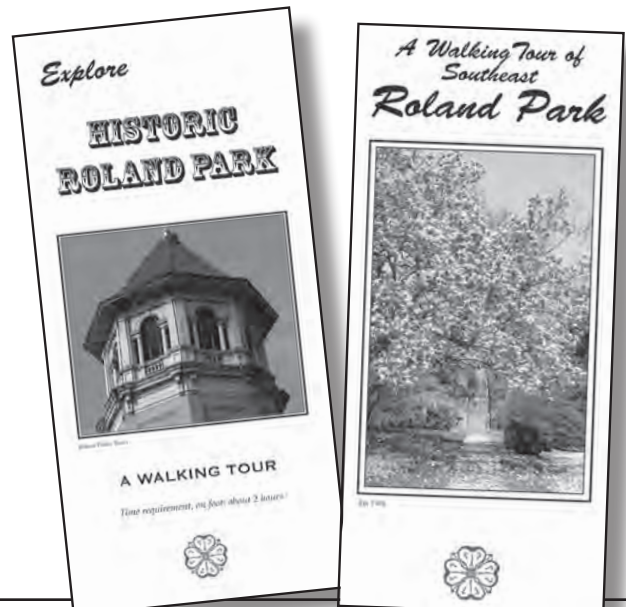
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## New Walking Tour Brochure

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Roland Park resident and photographer extraordinaire Sally Foster, there is now a second walking tour brochure, *A Walking Tour of Southeast Roland Park*, covering Plats 4 and 5. Copies of the new brochure, and the original one, *Explore Historic Roland Park: A Walking Tour*, which covers Plats 1, 2 and 3, are available in the Roland Park office. ♦





# Why You Get a Bill from Roads & Maintenance

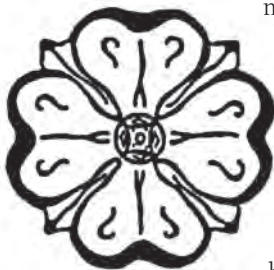
By **Barry Goodinson, Secretary,**  
**Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation**

When the Roland Park Company established our wonderful community before the turn of the last century, they thought of just about everything. They reserved plots of land for churches, schools and civic organizations along the community's main street. They laced the neighborhood with a network of convenient and picturesque pathways, and they made design choices that would encourage neighborly interaction.

The founders also recognized that buildings and landscapes are constantly changing. Shrubs grow, trees fall, tastes change. So, to make sure the carefully planned character of the community would be preserved in perpetuity, the Roland Park Company established covenants that would guide the future choices homeowners would make, and they assigned the responsibility of upholding those covenants to the Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation (R&M), which was also charged with caring for the neighborhood's common areas, including lanes (alleys), paths and small parks. This was a prescient move on the part of the Roland Park Company, as evidenced by the intact architectural features and park-like setting we still enjoy today.

Less prescient, however, was the fee structure that was established in order to fund these activities. The fee is tied to each property's

deed and is legally enforceable. Strangely, the fees, based on a property's size, were tied to the 1909 property tax in dollar amounts (not rates!), which were fixed and could not be increased to accommodate the effect over time of inflation. Without some sort of adjustment to this fee structure, the efforts of R&M to maintain the neighborhood's character have been significantly limited.



Several years ago, in order to address this disparity between need and financial resources, R&M instituted a voluntary program through which homeowners could pay a "full-service fee," which is calculated at eight times the mandatory "basic" fee established more than 100 years ago. The community's response to this program has been extraordinary. Neighbors understand that we all bear a shared responsibility to maintain the character of the neighborhood, which drew us here in the first place—and they recognize that maintenance and improvement projects cost money. Such projects currently include maintaining and upgrading Centennial Park, improving the landscaping of islands and replacing path signs. R&M also contracts for snow removal from the lanes when more than 4 inches of snow falls. For property owners who pay the full-service fee, R&M collects 4 cubic yards of organic yard waste each month, including branches trimmed from trees and shrubbery and the hundreds of feet of extra English ivy we all seem to have. Enabling R&M to do its job well benefits the whole community. ♦

## A Piece of History: The Roland Park Company Papers

By **Mary Page Michel**

What did Frederick Law Olmsted think of the trees that were planted on your street? What did Edward Bouton, the developer of Roland Park, do when confronted by an angry resident of Roland Park? What was your plat originally supposed to look like? You can find the answers to these questions and many others at the Sheridan Libraries at Johns Hopkins University.

In the 1950s, John Mowbray, the second president, closed the Roland Park Company, the developer of Roland Park, Homeland, Guilford, Dundalk and Original Northwood. Cornell University asked to store the company records because they were building an urban planning library. There they stayed for more than 60 years, until Winston Tabb, dean of the University Libraries and Museums, negotiated to have them brought back to Baltimore—closer to where the largest number of people with an interest in them live. How lucky are we!

The collection is *huge*—350 cubic feet of paper records and more than 2,000 rolled drawings. The documents are stored offsite but can be viewed at the Milton S. Eisenhower Library, the university's principal research library (call Assistant Curator of Manuscripts Kelly Springs at 410-516-7782 or email [kspring1@jhu.edu](mailto:kspring1@jhu.edu)).

Unfortunately, the collection was never properly catalogued, so it is very difficult to find things. In December 2010, the Roland Park Civic League and the Roland Park Community Foundation each contributed \$2,500 toward the overall \$8,000 needed by Hopkins to pay for a graduate assistant to organize and catalog the collection. Later this year, we hope to hear that this gift of history is ready for all of us to go over and unwrap. ♦

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# Musical Notes: Rockin' Roland Park

## An Interview with Dave Fairall and Bob Friedman

By Henry Mortimer

Roland Park residents Dave Fairall and Bob Friedman have been playing music professionally for more than 30 years each. Although they generally do their own thing — Fairall plays tenor, alto, and soprano sax, as well as keyboards, and Friedman is primarily a guitar player — they have much in common. For instance, both move about freely in a range of styles, from rock to jazz, and blues to funk, and have performed in some of the same bands. Fairall's recording credits include stints with local luminaries, as well as the stars of jazz and world-music. Friedman, a self-proclaimed "Neighborhood Troubadour," has earned a living as a music teacher and mentor for young musicians. And though their careers have carried them far and wide, both say they remain firmly rooted in, and inspired by, their north Baltimore neighborhood.

*Briefly describe your current musical pursuits. For instance, are you playing in a band?*

**Dave Fairall (DF):** I generally do freelance music gigs these days, mostly private events. I average around 40 gigs a year, playing sax

and keyboards with a number of bands, including the Doug Segree Band, Community Groove (formerly Funk Daddy G), The Mooks, and others.



Local musician Dave Fairall plays sax and keyboards with the Doug Segree Band, Community Groove (formerly Funk Daddy G), The Mooks, and others.  
Photo: Crystal Sherman

**Bob Friedman (BF):** I have several ongoing music "projects," including Mambo Combo, a five-piece Latin and Caribbean dance music band; The Mooks, a five-piece band that plays R&B, funk, reggae, rockabilly and soul; Delta Connection Trio and Patapsco Delta Boys, both of which play roots blues, "hokum," jug band and other blues styles. I also occasionally play as a solo singer-songwriter and on other gigs, playing original songs as well as traditional folk and blues material.

I do a weekly after-school activity at Roland Park Elementary School, called the "Folk & Blues Club," in which we sing traditional American songs and sometimes perform for the school. And I have recently started a music education facility, called "Carriage House Music Workshop,"

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in which I give guitar lessons and teach rock ensemble groups.

*Have you ever recorded any music? If so, with whom?*

**DF:** I am been fortunate to have had the opportunity to play on dozens of recordings with locally, nationally and internationally known musicians, as well as having some TV and radio credits. Most frequently, I've been featured on recordings by Baltimore-based guitarist Carl Filipiak (including the title track of "Hotel Real," as well as "Peripheral Vision" and "Right on Time"), albums that also feature local heavyweight Dennis Chambers and the late great Bob Berg. I also collaborated with Cameroonian guitarist Vincent Nguini on his worldbeat effort entitled "Symphony Bantu," which featured the highly influential tenor saxophonist Michael Brecker and trumpeter Chris Botti, among others.

**BF:** I owned a recording studio for over 20 years, so I have appeared on many recordings of mostly local artists. Additionally, Mambo Combo has released two CDs, *Mr. Happy* and *Live*. We have recorded some good Mooks material, but that has yet to be released.

*What inspired you to become a musician?*

**DF:** I have always gravitated toward music. But as a student at St. Mary's College, I was surrounded — literally, in the dorm — by a lot of great jazz players. And that experience made me officially forego soccer in favor of sax.

**BF:** I always say that music chose me. Besides growing up in a house where my father played violin and my family often sang songs, I also had the good fortune to attend many folk festivals in my teen years, including the Newport Folk Festival (1963–1965) where I saw, met and played with such blues luminaries as Son House and Mississippi John Hurt.

*What do you hope your audience gains most from listening to your music?*

**DF:** Playing music is an outlet for me, and my forte is improvisation. I hope I'm able to convey that passion through my solos.

**BF:** Music has spiritual healing properties and, besides promoting dance and all-around good feelings, it can also nourish the soul. Some of the songs I sing are hundreds of years old. Why do people still listen to them and like them? There must be something essentially human to these mysterious songs.

*Are there artists (not necessarily musicians) who have inspired or otherwise shaped your career?*

**DF:** Early on, I was inspired by the usual suspects for sax players — Charlie Parker and John Coltrane. But since I cut my teeth on rock and funk, I think David Sanborn and Michael Brecker probably have had a bigger influence on my playing.

**BF:** Someone once asked me to list 15 guitar players who made a difference in my life. I did, but I had to add almost 15 more to be complete! Here are just a few of the greats who have inspired me in one way or another: Blind Lemon Jefferson, Robert Johnson, Django Reinhardt, Muddy Waters, Les Paul, Merle Travis, Jimi Hendrix, Keith Richards, John Lennon, Dave Van Ronk, Chet Atkins, Ry Cooder, Lowell George, Richard Thompson, Roy Buchanan, Danny Gatton and Doc Watson.



Guitarist Bob Friedman plays with such local favorites as Mambo Combo and The Mooks, among others. Photo: Larry Melton.

*Does living in Baltimore, more specifically Roland Park, offer any inspiration for your music?*

**DF:** The community, and specifically my circle of great friends and neighbors, are very supportive of my music habit.

**BF:** I moved to Baltimore from New Jersey in the '60s to go to Johns Hopkins and since then I have met many wonderful musicians who live or have lived in this area: Ned Oldham, Caleb Stine, Walker Teret, David Fair, Tom Chalkley, Chris Mason, Anne Watts, Rachel Lachow, Lea Jones and many, many others who have inspired, challenged, and amused me. At various times Ned, Walker and Anne have lived in Roland Park, and I met Caleb at a jam session at The Evergreen [Café].

*What are you working on next?*

**DF:** With a full-time "day gig," I really just hope to keep doing occasional, interesting gigs around town — specifically more public events that family and friends can attend. It's important to keep playing, to keep my "chops up," as it were, and to foster the same passion and love of music in my kids. Ben (10) is an aspiring drummer at the School of Rock and Annie (8) sings in the Children's Chorus of Maryland.

**BF:** Besides expanding my music teaching and ensemble rock work in the Carriage House, I have an upcoming show at the Creative Alliance, called "Murder Ballads," to highlight some of the songs I

Continued on page 24

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# A Dog's-eye View

By Cecily McIntyre

Dogs in Roland Park must be as happy as they come. Eddie's spoils them with treats and a water bowl for hot days, our sidewalks have a generous berm for sniffing, and squirrels are everywhere. And if that is not enough, Roland Park offers many options for exciting, peaceful or sociable dog walks.

The places to exercise them are as diverse as our dogs. Across from the Royal Farms store on West Cold Spring Lane, for instance, is Linkwood Park. The park is big enough to host a few local soccer leagues, and smoothly paved paths run through it to make walking easy. Its large playground will entertain your children as you walk your dog—although, obviously, not every child there might be a fan of large, friendly dogs! On the downside, the traffic on West Cold Spring Lane and Overhill Road does pose a potential danger for runaway pets.

Nearby, the Stony Run path links much of the neighborhood from end to end. Beginning in the wooded area behind Gilman School and running south for nearly two miles into Tuscany-Canterbury, the Stony Run path follows a wide stream, knee-deep in some places, making it a haven for water-loving dogs. With any luck,



The author's dog, Roo, waiting for her to catch up as they take a walk through Roland Park. Photo: Cecily McIntyre

you and your pooch will spot some of our native ducks! South of Wyndhurst Avenue, pebbly paths run on both sides of the stream, making it possible to walk in a loop of a little over a mile. Be wary of walking your dog off-leash in Stony Run, however. Recently, Baltimore City dog patrol handed out several expensive tickets!

St. Mary's Seminary, on the corner of Northern Parkway and Roland Avenue, is a less popular, but personal favorite dog-walking location. The imposing Seminary overlooks a vast field, which is almost always empty. Although the Seminary grounds are

bordered by two very busy roads, because of its size and high hedges, the field somehow feels removed from the traffic.

Finally, although they may be ignorant of their historical interest, dogs that don't mind a few stairs will enjoy walks along Roland Park's public footpaths. These narrow, labeled paths often cut through land boundaries and overlook back gardens, making them perfect for gardeners seeking inspiration!

In Roland Park, dog walking should not be a chore. Scenic routes are not hard to find and our abundance of trees keep us cool on even the hottest day. So grab your leash, don't forget your plastic bags and go explore! ♦

## Musical Notes

Continued from page 23

sing. Ned Oldham, Walker [Teret], Jay [Dilisio] and others will be joining me to perform. It should be a good time. ♦

### Upcoming Shows (open to the public)

March 12th, **Community Groove** (formerly Funk Daddy G), 2nd Saturday Café, 5410 Leaf Treader Way, Columbia, [www.2ndsaturdaycafe.com/Home\\_Page.html](http://www.2ndsaturdaycafe.com/Home_Page.html)

May 7th, **The Mooks**, May Mart, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, 5207 Roland Avenue, [rolandparkpublic.org/the-big-events/may-mart](http://rolandparkpublic.org/the-big-events/may-mart)

For more information on Dave Fairall, visit [www.reverbnation.com/#!/davefairall](http://www.reverbnation.com/#!/davefairall). For more information on Bob Friedman, visit [www.mambocombo.com](http://www.mambocombo.com), [www.facebook.com/pages/Mambo-Combo/185788750044](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mambo-Combo/185788750044), or [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shameless-Mooks/172251940316](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shameless-Mooks/172251940316).

Henry Mortimer resides in Roland Park with his wife and children. He writes *Scribbleskiff.com*, an occasional blog about music, books, and other distractions. In his spare time, he works as a communications consultant. Contact him at [henry@mortimercommunications.com](mailto:henry@mortimercommunications.com).

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# Southern Plants for Northern Gardens

By Peter Bieneman, General Manager of Green Fields Nursery

As gardeners, we're always curious about new and different plant varieties. It doesn't

have to be a new hellebore hybrid that excites us; it could be a plant that seems too exotic to grow in our climate. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Hardiness Map illustrates hardiness zones. In Roland Park, we are zone 7a. We share the same temperatures with parts of North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia, so it's not unusual that we

have some plants in common. Interestingly, many southern plants didn't start out in the South—the camellia and gardenia are both native to Asia—yet many plants are southern to the core, such as *Magnolia grandiflora*, a native from Florida upwards.

In Maryland, we can grow many southern plants. Many homes in the neighborhood boast large camellia bushes, tree-form lagerstroemia and even hardy bananas! I was very excited this year at the Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show to see some nurseries catering to our desire for unique southern plants.

## Perennials

One of my favorite houseplants, which I plan to try outside this year, is *Aspidistra elatior* or cast iron plant. The staff at Cylburn is also considering using it on the grounds. This is an excellent ground-cover, with broad, dark green leaves rising from the ground to about 18 inches. It likes a shady spot in the garden. Zones 7-9

*Setcreasea purpurea* or purple heart is a vigorous plant with succulent leaves. It tolerates our hot, dry summers with ease and is readily propagated by stem cutting. Grown by many as a houseplant or tender annual, it should winter over in a protected spot. It grows up to 12 inches and will die back in the winter. Zones 7-10

An interesting grass to grow from Florida is *Sisyrinchium* "Suwannee." This native blue-eyed grass cultivar is great in sun or part sun, and bears small blue flowers on 8-inch plants in early spring. A selling point is that it doesn't tend to readily seed and become weedy. Zones 7-9

## Shrubs and Trees

*Cleyera japonica* is another evergreen shrub that you rarely see here, despite its many great attributes. It has creamy white flowers in the spring, followed by attractive globose black fruits. Its distinctive rubbery foliage and bronze new growth caught my eye at a local garden this summer. It grows to 6 feet, possibly taller. Zones 6-8



Gardenias bloom May through June. Photo courtesy of Green Fields Nursery

Gardenias are associated with landscapes of the South. I have sold several cultivars for Maryland, including "Kleim's Hardy," which grows happily on the side of my house under a dryer vent. It always rewards with fragrant single white flowers May through June on a compact 3-foot plant. Zones 7-10

*Illicium henryi*, or Henry anise tree, is a dense evergreen with long aromatic leaves and bright pink 1- to 2-inch flowers in May. A large plant, reaching 6 to 8 feet, it likes part shade (no problem in Roland Park) and moist but well-drained soil. Zones 7-9

I have to include a new cultivar of a true southern gem, *magnolia grandiflora* "Kay Paris." A seedling of the well-known "Little Gem" of compact habit, this dense, pyramidal selection has 3- to 4-inch remarkably fragrant flowers in the summer. Reaching 25 to 35 feet at maturity, it makes a great specimen tree. It likes sun to part sun. Zones (6) 7-9

Every southern landscape seems to have *Nandina domestica*, but not so common is the yellow-fruited cultivar "Aurea." It definitely needs protection from winter winds, so site it carefully in your landscape. A strong grower, nandina will form a good 4- to 5-foot clump laden with gorgeous winter fruit. Zones 7-11

Continued on page 26

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# Southern Plants for Northern Gardens

Continued from page 25

*Nerium* "Bill's Beauty" is a hardy oleander. Discovered on the Eastern Shore, this strong grower has pink summer flowers and can reach 8 to 10 feet. Provide protection and moderately moist soil for this plant to thrive. Zones 7-9

An alternative to *euonymus* as an evergreen hedge is *Osmanthus x fortunei* "Carl Wheeler." The wonderfully fragrant tea olive, which emits an apricot and honey perfume in the fall, is an underused shrub in Maryland.



The wonderfully fragrant tea olive grows to a height of 6 to 8 feet.  
Photo courtesy of Green Fields Nursery

Customers could not walk past it in late October without stopping. Mature size is 6 to 8 feet tall and wide. Zones 7-10

Yes, there is a hardy banana, *Musa basjoo*. I have customers with sizable specimens. They do die back each winter, but by mid-spring, large (up to 6-foot) leaves emerge from the center of the thick green stalks. Stunning in the summer garden! Zones 7-10

It is advisable to plant your marginally hardy plants in the spring, giving them adequate time to get established before the winter. Extra care with mulching in the winter for insulation may be necessary to increase survival. Look around your property for protected areas to nestle your plants, such as against the house. With special cultural care and selection, you will enjoy welcoming these southern guests into your yard. ❖

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# Save the Date: Seven Generations Weekend

By Mike McQuestion, Co-chair, Sustainability Committee,  
Roland Park Civic League

"In every deliberation, we must consider the impact on the seventh generation." Great Law of the Iroquois.

*Seven generations* is a founding principle of the sustainability movement and, on May 14th and 15th, the Sustainability Committee of the Roland Park Civic League will again host **Seven Generations Weekend**. This spring event will closely resemble the first Seven Generations Weekend, which took place in October 2009. Our aim is to share information about simple things we can do to make our everyday lives more environmentally sustainable.

On Saturday, our festivities will begin with a host of **exhibitors**, who will set up booths in front of the Roland Park Library (5108 Roland Avenue). These exhibitors will educate, advocate and recruit Roland Parkers for causes that include recycling, alternative energy, watershed protection and organic



The first Seven Generations Weekend was held in October 2009.  
Photo: Rita Walters

food. Our Seven Generations celebration will coincide with the 3rd annual **Roland Park Native Plant Sale**, which will be held at the Roland Park Elementary/Middle School (5207 Roland Avenue). On Sunday, Roland Park's third **ciclovía** will take place. The southbound lanes of Roland Avenue will be open exclusively for use by pedestrians, cyclists and skaters from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Our culminating efforts will follow on Monday, May 16th, through

Friday, May 20th, as our children bike, walk or ride "**walking buses**" to school, and adults, as we venture out, also walk, bike, carpool or hop on the No. 61, No. 22 or whichever bus goes our way.

For more information, visit [www.rolandpark.org/SustainInitiative.html](http://www.rolandpark.org/SustainInitiative.html) or contact the Roland Park Civic League's Office Manager, Marni Toop, at 410-464-2525 or [rporg@verizon.net](mailto:rporg@verizon.net).

We need you! To volunteer, contact Sustainability Committee co-Chairs Mike McQuestion at 443-912-7655 or [mike.mcquestion@gmail.com](mailto:mike.mcquestion@gmail.com) or Rita Walters at 443-610-3403 or [rwalter7@jhu.edu](mailto:rwalter7@jhu.edu).

## Roasted Springtime Asparagus with White Truffle Oil

Eddie's of Roland Park

Nothing heightens the delicate springtime flavors of white and green asparagus like the earthy, garlicky flavor of white truffle oil.

1 bunch white asparagus,  
peeled and trimmed

1 bunch green asparagus,  
peeled and trimmed

2 T. olive oil

½ tsp. coarse kosher salt

Freshly ground black  
pepper to taste

1 tsp. Bella Famiglia  
Imported White Truffle  
Flavored Olive Oil

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place white and green asparagus on a baking sheet, being sure to spread them out in a single layer (use two baking sheets, if necessary). Drizzle olive oil over the asparagus and season with salt and pepper. Roast in oven for 20 minutes until lightly brown. Remove from oven, drizzle with truffle oil and serve. Serves 8.

Serve with Eddie's Roasted Rack of Lamb and Roasted Grape Tomatoes with Shallots. Pair with L'Ecole No. 41 Syrah from Columbia Valley, Washington State. ♦



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# The Book Nook

By Julie Johnson, Branch Manager, Roland Park Library

Welcome to the Book Nook. I hope everyone enjoyed the winter holidays, both planned and unplanned. I'm sure I'm not the only one looking forward to the glory of spring colors.

April is National Poetry Month, so please join us on Saturday, April 23rd at 2 p.m. as poet Virginia Crawford reads from her new collection, *Touch*. Born in Baltimore, Crawford is a graduate of Emerson College in Boston and the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. *Touch* has earned praise from several local writers. Michael Glaser, former Maryland Poet Laureate, writes, "These poems serve as a meditation on what it means to be broken open by love." From poet Barbara DeCesare: "The voice of these poems is at once gentle and desperate, seeking to protect innocence and cultivate passions with only the most delicate tools."

As the winter storm season reaches its end, please note that I always update the voice message on the branch phone when there are changes to our public service schedule. Just call 410-396-6099 and listen to the first message for any changes to hours,

openings, etc. Changes to the public schedule are also posted, usually as a banner, on the Pratt Library's webpage at [www.prattlibrary.org](http://www.prattlibrary.org).

Editorial reviews are excerpted from those found on the Pratt Library's online catalog ([pac.epfl.net](http://pac.epfl.net)).

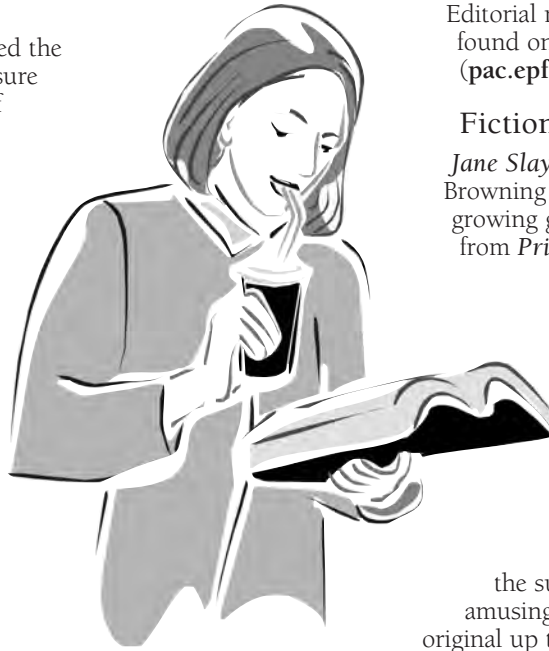
## Fiction

*Jane Slayre* by Charlotte Brontë and Sherri Browning Erwin. Another entry in the growing genre of horror mashups (ranging from *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* to *Queen Victoria: Demon Hunter*), this volume takes Brontë's classic and turns the Reed family into vampires, Jane Eyre's classmates at Lowood into zombies and Bertha Rochester into something far more dangerous than a madwoman. While Jane herself remains much the same, the supernatural additions prove highly amusing, turning the gothic elements of the original up to 11 while preserving the story's post-Victorian coming-of-age conventions.

Despite her whimsical and irreverent modifications, Erwin displays great affection for Brontë and her characters; the undeniable spark between Erwin's Jane and Rochester is made all the more delightful by Jane's plucky fearlessness in the face of evil.

*Layover in Dubai* by Dan Fesperman. Sam Keller, an auditor for pharmaceutical giant Pfluger Klaxon, is in Dubai, traveling with a colleague who has a reputation for indulging himself on the road. Indeed, St. Sam has been charged by Nanette Weaver, VP for corporate security, with shadowing his partner and reporting back to her. So, when the partner is murdered in a Dubai brothel, Sam knows he has a problem, but he doesn't have any idea how big. He's soon targeted by crooked cops, Russian mobsters, a bent diplomat and some corporate sharks; his best hope is Anwar Sharaf, a frumpy Dubai police lieutenant who is distracted by his emirate's headlong leap into slapdash modernity and by his strong-willed, liberated daughter, Laleh. Sam, Anwar and Laleh are pleasingly conflicted characters ill prepared for derring-do, but Fesperman makes Dubai his book's finest character. Fabulous wealth and opulence grind like tectonic plates against traditional Muslim culture, foreign workers outnumber Emiratis by nine to one and rival clans still plot against each other.

*The Nobodies Album* by Carolyn Parkhurst. The beautiful people face their personal demons in this truly novel novel about writing, motherhood and second chances. Rock star Milo Frost stands accused of murdering his girlfriend. Olivia Frost drops everything, including her latest manuscript, to help clear her son's name. Words and deeds, however, prove more difficult to resolve in life than they do in Olivia's books. Parkhurst's brilliantly plotted chapters alternate between Olivia's attempts to solve the murder and excerpts from her novels, gradually revealing just how closely life and art can be connected. As the mystery unfolds, readers slowly come to understand the tragedy that precipitated Olivia's writing career and her subsequent estrangement from Milo. Fans of metafiction will enjoy the way Parkhurst gently pushes the envelope of story and questions the relationship between life and



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art. Mystery lovers, meanwhile, will savor the many twists and red herrings Parkhurst (*The Dogs of Babel*) lobs at them on the way to solving the crime.

*The Lotus Eaters* by Tatjana Soli. This suspenseful, eloquent, sprawling novel illustrates the violence of the Vietnam War as witnessed by three interconnected photographers. Helen Adams, the first woman combat photographer sent to cover the Vietnam War, navigates the boys' club of war photographers, pushing her way onto military missions. Soon after her arrival in Saigon, she falls under the spell of seasoned, jaded and married Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist, Sam Darrow, while also feeling a confusing pull toward his assistant, Linh, a Vietnamese ex-soldier and knowledgeable photographer and guide. Linh, who has lost his wife and entire family to the war, roams the country with Darrow and then Helen (whom Darrow asks Linh to protect). Soli looks at the complex motivations and ambitions of the waves of American photographers who descended on Vietnam seeking glory and fame through their gut-wrenching photos of mass graves, crippled children and dying soldiers, while also reveling in sex, drugs and good times as the war raged around them. This harrowing depiction of life and death shows that even as the country burned, love and hope triumphed.

## Nonfiction

*The Long Way Home: An American Journey from Ellis Island to the Great War* by David Laskin. This is an engrossing and moving story of 12 men, all of them immigrants to the U.S., who were transformed by their brief but intense experiences as soldiers in World War I. They included Italians, Poles, Scandinavians, Slovaks, Jews and Irishmen. Most of them did not relish military service, and some of them fled their homelands to avoid conscription. Before they were drafted or enlisted in the U.S. military, few of them understood or cared about the issues that had torn apart a Europe they had left behind. These men were not atypical, since an estimated 20 percent of U.S. military draftees were foreign born. Laskin tells their individual stories with eloquence and feeling, while avoiding cheap sentimentality. As he traces their paths from boot camp to combat in France, one can see their gradual merging with their fellow soldiers into a true band of brothers. This is a superb chronicle that illustrates how some young men were transformed into Americans.

*Mariposa Road: The First Butterfly Big Year* by Robert Michael Pyle. Kenn Kaufman wrote the wonderful *Kingbird Highway* (1997) about his attempt at a Big Year, an effort to find more birds in one calendar year than anyone ever had before. Pyle, author of the equally wonderful *Chasing Monarchs* (1999), in which he followed the migrating monarch butterflies, decided to try a butterfly Big Year and the present book is his delightful travelogue of butterfly hunting around North America. True to his other inspiration, Pyle's paean to the mariposas (Spanish for butterflies) is as much about the people he met and the places he chased his sometimes-elusive prey as it is about butterflies. Pyle keeps things low-tech: Marsha, a cottonwood-limb butterfly net; his 35-year-old Leitz binoculars; and a bunch of field guides, maps, notebooks and mechanical pencils. Many pints of beer (all mentioned by name)

are consumed; many fellow naturalists met up with; and many insect bites, minor injuries, vagaries of weather and car repairs are dealt with, until by the end of the year Pyle had seen 477 species, all of which are listed in the appendix. This one is great fun

## *Hamlet's BlackBerry: A Practical Philosophy for Building A Good Life in the Digital Age*

by William Powers. Our discombobulated Internet Age could learn important new tricks from some very old thinkers, according to this incisive critique of online life and its discontents. Journalist Powers bemoans the reigning dogma of "digital maximalism" that requires us to divide our attention between ever more e-mails, text messages, cell phone calls, video streams and blinking banners, resulting, he argues, in lowered productivity and a distracted life devoid of meaning and "depth." In a nifty and refreshing turn, he looks to ideas of the past for remedies to this hyper-modern predicament: to Plato, who analyzed the



to this hyper-modern predicament: to Plato, who analyzed the

Continued on page 30

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# Book Nook

Continued from page 29

transition from the ancient technology of talking to the cutting-edge gadgetry of written scrolls; to Shakespeare, who gave Hamlet the latest in Elizabethan information apps, an erasable notebook; to Thoreau, who carved out solitary spaces amid the press of telegraphs and railroads. The author sometimes lapses into mysticism—"In solitude we meet not just ourselves but all other selves"—and his solutions, like the weekend-long "Internet Sabbaths" he and his wife decreed for their family, are small-bore. But Powers deftly blends an appreciation of the advantages of information technology and a shrewd assessment of its pitfalls into a compelling call to disconnect.

**Your Brain on Food: How Chemicals Control Your Thoughts and Feelings** by Gary L. Wenk. In clear, accessible prose, Wenk, a professor of psychology and neuroscience at Ohio State, offers explanations for basic brain functions while exploring how different classes of food and drugs affect those functions. He succeeds in this important and difficult task by focusing on the big picture. He begins with readable and concise explanations of brain anatomy and then moves on to explain how various neurotransmitters (such as acetylcholine, dopamine and norepinephrine) can act to stimulate or depress brain function. Along the way, Wenk addresses a host of fascinating topics, such as possible treatments for Alzheimer's disease, why the same drug can have opposite effects in high versus low doses, and



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## Parents' Corner

Date and Time	Program
Mondays, 1:30 p.m.	<b>Mother Goose Baby Steps</b> An interactive nursery rhyme program with music and movement for children up to age 2 and their caregivers.
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.	<b>Toddler Jumps.</b> A story time specially created for 2-year-olds and their caregivers, with books, rhymes, and bouncing balls.
Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.	<b>Preschool Leaps.</b> Stories, songs and fun for children ages 3 to 5.
Wednesday, March 16th 3:30 p.m.	<b>Black-Eyed Susan Bookopoly.</b> Conquer challenges and answer trivia based on the Black-Eyed Susan nominee, <i>Magic Thief</i> by Sarah Prineas.
Wednesday, April 6th, 3:30 p.m.	<b>Fairy Tale Reader's Theater.</b> Performed by Rose Anne Ullrich, children's librarian at the Waverly branch. Read your part, act it out and hear the applause! Suggested audience: kids, 6 to 12.
Thursday, April 7th, 3:30 p.m.	<b>Fairy Tale Bookopoly.</b> How well do you know fairytales? Come play this challenging game of trivia and find out! Suggested audience: children ages 6 to 12.
Wednesday, April 13th, 12:30 p.m.	<b>Hands on Holidays: Passover.</b> Celebrate the traditions of Passover through stories, songs and a craft. Suggested audience: children ages up to 5.
Wednesday, April 13th, 3:30 p.m.	<b>Black-Eyed Susan Bookopoly.</b> Conquer challenges and answer trivia based on the Black-Eyed Susan nominee, <i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i> , by Grace Lin.

why addiction is so difficult to overcome. He also discusses why virtually all of the over-the-counter supplements claiming to enhance brain function are useless. The book, both enjoyable and informative, will stimulate readers' brains.

## General Information

Our phone number is 410-396-6099. Our branch e-mail is [rln@prattlibrary.org](mailto:rln@prattlibrary.org). When e-mailing us, please make sure the subject line indicates that you have a library question by using BOOK REQUEST or something similar as your subject. The Pratt Library's web page is [www.prattlibrary.org](http://www.prattlibrary.org).

Roland Park Branch hours are Monday and Wednesday: 12 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday and Sunday: closed. Please note the following holiday and furlough closings for all Pratt Libraries: Good Friday, Friday, April 22nd; Easter Sunday, Sunday, April 24th; furlough day, Friday, May 27th; and Memorial Day (observed), Monday, May 30th. ♦

# Book Nook, Jr.

From the Staff at The Children's Bookstore

## Picture Book

*The Rabbit Problem* by Emily Gravett. Gravett's latest masterpiece of design is calendar, story and demonstration of the Fibonacci sequence rolled into one. The problem, which is presented on the front endpapers as a math problem written on a blackboard—"If a pair of baby rabbits are put into a field, how many pairs will there be: a) At the end of each month? b) After one year?" Information about rabbit reproduction is provided in little drawings that show a "pair of newborn rabbits," to "fully grown at 1 month old," to "2 months old—Parents!" The problem is worked out in the form of a picture calendar (complete with a hole so that the book can be hung on the wall). The top of the page has a picture of a field, which in January has only a single, lonely rabbit. The bottom of the page has the calendar, with various notes, drawings and little inserts (including invitations, newspaper clippings, knitting patterns, seed packets, a food rations book and even a little rabbit sonogram!). The book's final page is a pop-up of all the rabbits leaping out of the field. Helping to keep track of the Fibonacci sequence is a little population sign for Fibonacci's Field, whose numbers increase each month until the rabbits are finally allowed to leave the field, with December's population at zero. Gravett has packed so much into this book that a review can't possibly cover it all, particularly not the little stories that take place in the pictures of the rabbit community.



## Middle Grade Novel

*Zora and Me* by Victoria Bond and T.R. Simon. A riveting mystery set in the gator-ridden town of Eatonville, FL, during the early 20th century, *Zora and Me* is the only novel about Zora Neale Hurston, considered one of the pre-eminent writers of 20th century African-American literature, to be endorsed by the Zora Neale Hurston Trust. The dialect and imagery of the area are pitch-perfect, while introducing younger readers to Hurston. This coming-of-age story, told by Carrie (Zora's best friend), richly weaves tall tales involving a gator-man who shape-shifts; regional folktales, beliefs and songs; murder; race issues of the time; love of community and redemption into a page-turning whole. Zora is, quite simply, an imaginative and spunky heroine that any child (or adult) can appreciate.

## Young Adult Novel

*Freak Magnet* by Andrew Auseon. Gloria is the freak magnet; Charlie is the freak. When they first meet, Gloria assumes Charlie is just like all the other freaks that feel compelled to talk to her. She'll write him down in her Freak Folio (a record of a year's worth of encounters) and forget about him. Circumstance and contrivance work to bring these two together in a friendship both desperately need. We come to know Charlie and Gloria through the unique double perspective of alternating first person narrative. The story is, at times, serious, funny, poignant and absurd—sometimes all of these at once. What makes *Freak Magnet* so fabulous is not just Charlie and Gloria, but their family, friends and acquaintances. In a few words, Auseon exposes the humanity of these secondary characters so completely that they are as memorable and as real as the two protagonists. Those brief flashes of beauty remind us why it is worth all the trouble of being human. ♦

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