

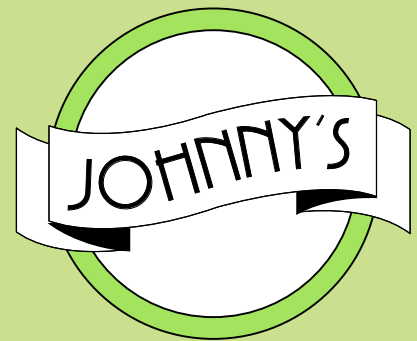
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ROLANDPARK news

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Sixty-One • Spring 2016



Where Is Roland Park?

***Word of Mouth:
Recommended
Contractors***

***'43 Flashback:
Orioles at Gilman***

Your Neighborhood
since
1999
NEWS

Table of Contents

- 2 Editor's Notes
- 3 Arts Happenings
- 6 History and Heritage
- 9 Natural Selections
- 11 Lake Roland Nature and Environmental Education Center Needs Your Support
- 12 Where Is Roland Park?
- 14 Basic vs. Full Service: Understanding Roads & Maintenance Fees
- 15 "Put me in Coach": The 2016 Elections: Civic League Update
- 15 Welcome New Neighbors
- 16 Home Sales
- 17 Spring Recipe: Farfalle with Wild Mushrooms, Ricotta and Fresh Chives
- 18 Word of Mouth: Recommended Contractors
- 21 Early Spring Gardening Tips
- 22 Flashback to 1943: The Orioles at Gilman School
- 24 Wild about Gorillas
- 25 The 2016 Anne Healy Lecture, featuring Anna Quindlen
- 25 Spring Recipe: Blackberry Bourbon Jam
- 26 Green Corner
- 28 Bookends: Finding Humor and Hope in Life's 'Small Moments': An Interview with Kathy Flann
- 30 Book Nook
- 33 Rollin' Reels
- 35 Donor Pledge Form

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Editor's Notes

By Hilary Paska

Spring is synonymous with new beginnings so we're starting the season with a fresh look for the newsletter. Thanks to the efforts of the past and current editorial teams, plus numerous contributions from Roland Park's talented writers and photographers, the newsletter has evolved to the magazine-style publication it is today. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible, with special thanks to photographer Sally Foster for this issue's splendid front cover photo.

Now in its 124th year, Roland Park remains one of Baltimore's most attractive neighborhoods, due to its innovative design and landscaping.

Today, the term "Greater Roland Park" is often used to describe the area's collection of historic neighborhoods — but where exactly is Roland Park among them? Kathleen

Truelove explores the neighborhood's development from Plats one to six.

Maintaining Roland Park's shared spaces, including path maintenance, landscaping and snow removal from the lanes,

requires timely payment of our Roads & Maintenance fees. "Basic vs. Full Service" explains the importance of these fees for keeping these spaces well-maintained. If you need your latest statement, please contact the Civic League Office at (410) 464-2525 or office@rolandpark.org.

From public to private spaces, it's the season to tend to our own backyards and perhaps plan some home improvements. Peter Bieneman of Green Fields Nursery shares his early spring gardening tips for a successful gardening year, while Polly Bart of Greenbuilders suggests some straightforward ways to make your remodeling projects more environmentally-friendly.

Finally, with spring training underway, we have some remarkable Orioles news —

from the 1940s! Jim Considine's "Flashback to 1943" recalls Gilman School's wartime support for the Orioles, when Gilman hosted the team's spring training. The



The 1944 Orioles running at Gilman. Photo courtesy of Gilman Archives

1944 Orioles won the International League championship, a satisfying victory for their neighborhood hosts. ♦

Roland Park Unveils a New Website

By Steve Grantz

Want to know more about the neighborhood? Visit the new Roland Park website, coming to your screens this spring. With a mobile responsive design, the new website will now be easy to read on all devices, from traditional desktop and laptop computers to tablets and phones.

The site also showcases Roland Park's wealth of manmade and natural beauty. The redesign committee tapped into the community's photographic talents, asking volunteers to submit their best neighborhood photos. Local firm Spokes Marketing lent professional expertise to the design, which better reflects Roland Park's attractiveness.

We have also integrated blogging technology so that some areas of the site, such as news and events, can be quickly updated by a larger set of authors. This should lead to more timely content.

Thank you to all the volunteers who participated in the redesign — we hope you enjoy the results at rolandpark.org.

Arts Happenings

The host of one of Baltimore's premier jazz concert series for 25 years, the **Baltimore Chamber Jazz Society** (Venue: The Baltimore Museum of Art, 10 Art Museum Drive) has a rich history of bringing the world's finest jazz artists to the region for memorable performances in an intimate setting. Tickets can be purchased in advance at baltimorechamberjazz.org, or at the door. More information is also available at 410-385-5888 or on the BCJS Facebook page.

- March 6, 5 p.m., **Antonio Sanchez & Migration w/Seamus Blake, John Escreet, Matt Brewer.** Drummer Antonio Sanchez has spent 15 years as a sideman with guitarist Pat Metheny, but now he has fully arrived as an ambitious, gifted leader. Sanchez was featured in the July 2015 issue of *Downbeat* discussing his current time in the spotlight due to the international acclaim and multiple awards received from his score for the 2014 film ***Birdman: Or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)***. His upcoming release with Migration, ***The Meridian Suite*** pushes his compositional skills in a way that no other project has done before. \$40 General Admission, \$38 BMA members and seniors, \$10 students.



Four time Grammy Award winner Antonio Sanchez. Photo courtesy of Antonio Sanchez website

- April 3, 5 p.m., **The Orrin Evans Quartet.** Orrin Evans has been recognized as one of the most inventive pianists of his generation. Evans is that rare musical force – a composer, pianist, bandleader, teacher, producer and arranger. He uses his musical influences to create an art experience comprised of the American Songbook, spirituals, iconic jazz repertoire pieces by colleagues, plus his originals. Always pushing the boundaries of music, even questioning what it's called, Evans attracts other brilliant, progressive musicians with a sound and style like no one else. \$35 General Admission, \$33 BMA members and seniors, \$10 students.



Grammy-winning saxophonist Joe Lovano. Photo courtesy of Baltimore Chamber Jazz Society

- May 1, 5 p.m., **The Joe Lovano Classic Quartet featuring Lawrence Fields, George Mraz, Lewis Nash.** Numerous accolades for Grammy-winning saxophonist Joe Lovano include multiple wins as *Downbeat* magazine's Jazz Artist/Musician of the Year, Tenor Saxophonist of the Year and Album of the Year. In Joe Lovano's Classic Quartet, Lovano will explore the rich history of mainstream jazz through swing and bebop. \$40 General Admission, \$38 BMA members and seniors, \$10 students.

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

- March 6, 3:30 p.m., **Vega Quartet**, Sponsored by Ed & Ellen Bernard. With a mission to create and cultivate a new generation of passionate and educated chamber music lovers, the critically acclaimed Vega Quartet's playing has "a kind of clean intoxication to it, pulling the listener along" and "a deceptive simplicity and fluidity." This quartet in residence at Emory University will perform works by Beethoven, Janáček, and Mendelssohn.
- March 20, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight with post-concert reception.** Join us in a candlelit setting, as members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra perform some of their favorite chamber works. Plan to stay for a post-concert reception, hosted by the BSO, to mingle with the musicians and fellow audience members.
- April 24, 3:30 p.m., **Wonderlic Recital.** Established in 1990 through a bequest of the late Russell C. Wonderlic, the Wonderlic Competition alternates annually between voice and piano, and has afforded many young artists the opportunity to launch international music careers. The

music for all
COMMUNITY CONCERTS
AT SECOND

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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ARTS HAPPENINGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

winners will perform a recital consisting of the challenging repertoire that distinguished them in the competition. Check our website, **CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org**, for biographical and programming information.

- May 1, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight** with post-concert reception. Join us in a candlelit setting, as members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra perform some of their favorite chamber works.
- May 22, 3:30 p.m., **Alexandre Moutouzkine, Piano**, sponsored by The Johns Hopkins University. Internationally acclaimed winner of many renowned competitions, Russian-American pianist, Alexandre Moutouzkine, was the winner of the Van Cliburn Special Award for Artistic Potential at the age of 19 and is said to be "poised to join the pantheon of greats." Join us for this Manhattan School of Music faculty member's program, which will include Rachmaninoff piano transcriptions and Beethoven.
- June 12, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight** with post-concert reception. Join us in a candlelit setting, as members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra perform some of their favorite chamber works.

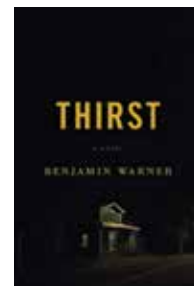


All concerts are free of charge with free street parking and require no advance ticketing. Concerts take place at Second Presbyterian Church (4200 St. Paul Street). Contact Gina Parks, Managing Director, at 443-759-3309, **CommunityConcertsAtSecond@yahoo.com**, or visit **CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org** for more information.

The Ivy Bookshop (6080 Falls Road) is Baltimore's independent literary bookstore, carrying a broad range of titles with an emphasis on new fiction, non-fiction, biography, art, interior design, cooking and children's books. Booksellers are knowledgeable and friendly, ready to recommend based on your personal preferences. The Ivy is locally owned and has a deep interest in promoting the community and its organizations. For the most up-to-date information on events, please visit **theivybookshop.com**. To RSVP, please call 410-377-2966 or email **info@theivybookshop.com**. All events will take place at The Ivy unless otherwise noted. All are free unless otherwise noted. Upcoming events include:

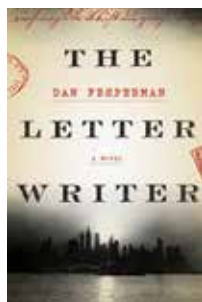


- March 21, 7 p.m., **Reality in Fiction: Debut Authors Ava Jae, Janet Sumner Johnson, Kathy MacMillan and Laura Shovan**. The Ivy hosts a round table conversation with four middle grade and young adult authors for a discussion of how everyday realities shape their fiction, and how fiction helps readers engage with real world issues. Featured books are *Beyond the Red* (Jae), *The Last Great PB&J Adventure* (Johnson), *Sword and Verse* (MacMillan) and *The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary* (Shovan).
- April 3, 1 p.m., **Jack Gantos: *The Trouble in Me***. Jack Gantos is an award-winning author of books for all ages, from picture books and middle-grade fiction to novels for young adults and adults. He has been a National Book Award finalist (*Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*), and his books have won the Newbery Award (*Dead End in Norvelt*), and Michael L. Printz and Robert F. Sibert and Newbery honors.
- April 7, 7 p.m., **Danielle Shapiro: *John Vassos: Industrial Design for Modern Life***. Baltimore author Danielle Shapiro presents her biography of John Vassos, an influential design consultant for RCA who shaped the look of emerging technologies in the 1930s through 1950s.
- April 12, 7 p.m., **Benjamin Warner: *Thirst***. Benjamin Warner, who teaches creative writing at Towson University, launches his debut novel. *Thirst*, a literary thriller, explores what happens when a suburban community suddenly loses access to water.
- April 19, 7 p.m., **Dan Fesperman: *The Letter Writer***. Acclaimed espionage writer and former Baltimore Sun reporter Dan Fesperman launches his new novel. *The Letter*



Writer takes place in New York City, four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

- April 21, 7 p.m., **William Geroux: *The Mathews Man: Seven Brothers and the War Against Hitler's U-Boats***. William Geroux tells one of the last unheralded stories of World War II: the U-boat assault off the American coast against the men of the U.S. Merchant Marine who were supplying the European war, and one community's monumental contribution to that effort.
- April 23, 6 p.m., **Laura Shovan: *The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary***. Laura Shovan, a poet-in-the-schools for the Maryland State Arts Council, presents her middle reader novel-in-verse, a time capsule of one class's poems during a transformative school year.
- May 5, 7 p.m. **Laura Lippman: *Wilde Lake***. Baltimore's own Laura Lippman launches her new novel. *Wilde Lake* challenges our notions of memory, loyalty, responsibility and justice in this evocative and psychologically complex story about a long-ago death that still haunts a family.



Spring into the Arts at **Friends School of Baltimore!** Events include:

- April 12, 7:30 p.m., **Upper School Choral Concert**, Forbush Auditorium.
- April 21, 7:30 p.m., **Upper School Wind Ensemble/Jazz Concert**, Forbush Auditorium.
- April 27, 4 to 6 p.m., **All-School Art Show** opening in the Gymnasium with performances by the Acoustic Music Club and refreshments provided by the parents association. The All-School Art Show features works created by students in pre-K through 12th grade.
- May 13-14 at 7:30 p.m. and May 15 at 2 p.m.: **Upper School presents Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!"** in the new Forbush Auditorium. The spring musical annually attracts a cast and crew of some 75 students in grades 9 through 12.
- May 18, 7:30 p.m., **All-School Orchestra Concert**, Forbush Auditorium. String musicians in grades 4 through 12 perform in concert by grade and as a school-wide ensemble!



Artwork courtesy of Friends School.

The **Handel Choir of Baltimore** is pleased to present:

- March 3, 8 p.m., **Preview Concert**, St. Ignatius Catholic Church (740 N. Calvert Street). Movements from Joby Talbot's *Path of Miracles*, and works from our May 7 concert, *The Heart's Age*. Tickets: \$10 general admission; free for full-time students showing I.D. and all patrons 18 or younger. Apply your \$10 purchase price to the cost of a full-

price ticket to the March 5 or May 7 concert. Free for those already holding tickets to the March 5 or May 7 concert (must show ticket at the door or provide proof of purchase).

- March 5, 2 p.m., **Joby Talbot, *Path of Miracles***, Baltimore Basilica (409 Cathedral Street). Handel Choir of Baltimore, Arian Khaefi conductor. A mesmerizing journey in sound inspired by a centuries-old pilgrimage of faith, the Camino de Santiago. Tickets: \$37 premium (forward/center seating), \$27 standard, \$10 student with ID.
- May 7, 7:30 p.m., **The Heart's Age**, Second Presbyterian Church (4200 St. Paul Street), The Handel Choir of Baltimore and the Concert and Lyric Choirs of Children's Chorus of Maryland, Arian Khaefi and Susan Bialek, conductors; Thomas Hetrick, organ.

The program includes *Allegri, Miserere Mei*; Argento, *There Was a Naughty Boy*; Biebl, *Ave Maria*; Britten, *Te Deum in C* and *Ballad of Green Broom*; Distler, *Kinderlied für Agnes*; Holst, *Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda*; Galuppi, *Dixit Dominus*...and more! Tickets: \$37 premium (forward/center seating), \$27 standard, \$10 student with ID.

Tickets are available now at handelchoir.org or by calling 667-206-4120.

NOTE: A March event was incorrectly listed in the Winter newsletter. Please refer to this issue for the Handel Choir's spring events.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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Calendar & Announcements

Roland Park Civic League meetings will occur on the first Wednesday 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 410-464-2525.

Job Hunters Support Group meetings are held on Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at First Christian Church (5802 Roland Avenue). Participants are welcome to share ideas, challenges and spiritual support. A sandwich luncheon will be served. Call 410-435-1506 or visit baltimoredisciples.org.

The **Baltimore Police Department Northern District Community Council** meets on the third Wednesday of every other month at the Northern District Headquarters (2201 W. Cold Spring Lane). All members of the community are welcome. The Council maintains a liaison relationship between Council communities and the police, keeps Council neighborhoods informed of relevant measures that citizens can take to support police efforts to prevent or resolve criminal activity in the area, and establishes a network for effectively educating and sharing information on mechanisms for dealing with problems in Council neighborhoods. To receive updates on the Council via email, join the Yahoo group at groups.yahoo.com/group/northerncommunitycouncil. ❖

Please submit information for this column to Newsletter@RolandPark.org.

ARTS HAPPENINGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Spring shows at **The Lyric** (110 W. Mount Royal Avenue) include:

- March 11 & 13, **Barbiere Di Siviglia**

- March 19, **The Sleeping Beauty Ballet**
- April 2, **Brit Floyd**
- April 15, **Michael Carbonaro**
- April 16, **Alton Brown**
- April 26 & 27, **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**
- May 13 & 15, **Roméo Et Juliette**

Check out our website lyricoperahouse.com. For tickets call 410-547-SEAT or visit Ticketmaster.com. For more information and group rates, contact Audience Services at 410-900-1150, Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Open House Week at Children of the World Co-op, May 16 - 20, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come for a morning of play in our cooperative playgroup program for American and international families with children ages 9 months to 4 years. Parents/caregivers join in enriching their children's early learning in a gently structured, mixed-age program with indoor/outdoor play, art activities, snack time and circle time singing/movement. Social gatherings round out the fun! Adult ESOL classes are available for interested Co-op members. Meets year-round at the Cathedral of the Incarnation (4 E. University Pkwy). The Co-op has no religious affiliation. 410-377-5900, cotwcoop.org.



History and Heritage

Homewood Museum (3400 N. Charles Street, Johns Hopkins University) is a National Historic Landmark built in 1801 by Charles Carroll, Jr., and one of America's best surviving examples of Federal period domestic architecture. The museum is open by guided tour only, offered on the hour and half-hour, Tuesday through Friday between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., and

Saturday and Sunday noon to 3:30 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$7 for seniors (65 and over) and AAA members; \$5 for students (with ID), youth (6 to 18) and Johns Hopkins alumni and retirees; and free for members, Johns Hopkins faculty, staff and students (with valid ID), and children (5 and under). For more information or to register for museum tours, events and programs visit museums.jhu.edu or call 410-516-5589.

- On view through March 20, **Curating the Carrolls**, Homewood Museum. In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Carroll family of Maryland played a formative role in the foundation of the United States and was one of the young nation's most prosperous families. **Curating the Carrolls** showcases an important group of objects drawn from Homewood Museum's permanent collection and private loans that have a Carroll family provenance, tracing ownership through object marks, inventories, account books and letters. Cost is included with paid museum admission and on view as part of the guided tour, or \$3 for the exhibition only.
- March 3, 5 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. lecture, **Charles Carroll of Carrollton and his Caton Granddaughters: The Making of three American Graces**, Homewood Museum. Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a leader of the American revolutionary movement in Maryland, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and one of the wealthiest men in Maryland, was the patriarch of a large extended family. In this talk focusing on his unique relationship with his three Caton granddaughters known as the "American Graces," historian Mary C. Jeske will trace how Carroll made possible the sisters' impressive careers in England, where all married into titled families, in sharp contrast to his comparative neglect of his other granddaughters, particularly the daughters of his only son, Charles Carroll of Homewood. Mary C. Jeske is an editor at the Charles Carroll of Carrollton Family Papers. The lecture is presented in celebration of Women's History Month and in conjunction with Homewood Museum's special focus exhibition *Curating the Carrolls*, on view through March 20. Cost: \$8 general; FREE for members, and JHU faculty, staff, and students (with ID). Advance registration is requested: online at bpt.me/producer/22987 or by calling 410-516-5589. Walk-in registration is based on seating availability.
- March 10, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., **Day Trip to Philadelphia**. Bus will depart from and return to Evergreen Museum & Library (4545 N. Charles Street). Please arrive early for a prompt departure. Join members and friends of the Johns Hopkins University Museums on visits to Philadelphia's historic (and perhaps haunted?) Powel House and 2016 Flower Show, accompanied by Catherine Rogers Arthur, director and curator of Homewood Museum. An early dinner at In Riva restaurant and our later arrival to the Flower Show will allow us to enjoy the incredible large-scale floral displays, elaborate gardens, and over-the-top floral creations with fewer crowds. Now in its 188th year, this year's Flower Show is celebrating the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service. From Yellowstone to Yosemite, "Explore America" will take visitors through acres of displays inspired by iconic parks. Cost: \$140 for public; \$125 for members. Space is limited; advance registration required by calling 410-516-5589.

- On view April 8 through September 4, **High Dynamic Homewood**, Homewood Museum. Bringing together the talents of undergraduate students in Johns Hopkins University's Center for Visual Arts, this group exhibition presents unique photographic visions of Homewood Museum, combining traditional black-and-white practice with digitally manipulated imagery using high dynamic range. The photographs on view share the stories of Homewood's former residents through modern techniques that expose all the shadow and highlight details of the historic, architectural interiors. Cost is included with paid museum admission and on view as part of the guided tour, or \$3 for the exhibition only.

Evergreen Museum & Library (4545 N. Charles Street, Johns Hopkins University) 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 Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Admission is \$8 for adults; \$7 for seniors (65 and over) and AAA members; \$5 for students (with ID), youth (6 to 18) and Johns Hopkins alumni and retirees; and free for members, Johns Hopkins faculty, staff and students (with valid ID), and children (5 and under). Parking is free. For more information or to register for museum tours, events, and

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HISTORY AND HERITAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

programs visit museums.jhu.edu or call 410-516-0341.

- March 9, April 6 and May 6, 6:30 p.m., **The House Beautiful 2016 Lecture Series**, Evergreen Museum & Library. Cost of three-part subscription: \$48 public; \$33 members, and JHU faculty, staff, students and alumni (with ID); or individual lectures: \$20 public, \$15 members, and JHU faculty, staff, students and alumni (with ID). Advance registration is requested: online at bpt.me/producer/22987 or by calling 410-516-0341. Walk-in registration is based on seating availability.
- March 9, 6:30 p.m., **Through the Looking Glass or 'Looking Through the Glass'...Inspirations From The**



John Trumbull's portrait of George Washington and William "Billy" Lee (detail), 1780. Metropolitan Museum of Art. Courtesy of Homewood Museum.

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Natural World Around Us. An interior designer practicing in the Virginia countryside near Washington, D.C., Barry Dixon has taken his own brand of warmly- hospitable Southern design style to projects around the world. A childhood spent abroad in exotic locales such as India, South Africa and French Polynesia affords his work a singular, global perspective. Believing that the best interiors reflect the natural realms that surround them — the view through the window — Dixon will explore and explain how he liaisons inside/outside through images of his published and soon-to-be-published work.

- April 6, 6:30 p.m., **Federal Architecture and Democracy.** Since the founding of our republic, federal architecture has sought not only to house governmental functions, but to reflect the democratic values of the nature and the aspirations of its citizens. In 1994, the General Services Administration sought to reinvigorate such noble ambitions and created the Design Excellence Program to produce America's future landmarks by the country's finest architects, designers and artists. Former program director and architect Thomas Grooms will discuss the origins, evolution, challenges and results of this award-winning initiative.
 - May 4, 6:30 p.m., **The Costumed and Bejeweled Interior: Léon Bakst As Decorator.** Counted among the most important artistic commissions at Evergreen House are three rooms designed between 1922 and 1924 by the revolutionary stage designer and artist Léon Bakst. Commissioned by Ambassador John Work Garrett and Mrs. Alice Warder Garrett, these spaces serve as unique American transmissions of European post-war modernism. James Archer Abbott, director and curator of Evergreen Museum & Library, will consider these rooms in the context of Bakst's influential visions for the professional stage. Historic paint color consultant Matthew J. Mosca will reveal his findings from recently completed paint analysis and Amy Kimball of the Johns Hopkins Sheridan Libraries will share insights into Bakst's working relationship with the Garretts' architect, Laurence Hall Fowler.
 - On view March 20 through October 9, **Peter Milton: Etching Enigmas.** Peter Milton is an internationally respected titan of etching who has enjoyed a long and fruitful career in printmaking. His large-scale, multilayered images defy visual logic while telling fantastic stories about life, loss, music, and art. The exhibition is guest curated by printmaker Trudi Ludwig Johnson, adjunct faculty member at the Maryland Institute College of Art and Ann Shafer, associate curator of prints, drawings and photographs at the Baltimore Museum of Art.
- Opening Reception, March 20, 3 to 5 p.m., Free.** Reservations are requested: online at bpt.me/producer/22987, by calling 410-516-0341, or by email to evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu. Cost is included with paid museum admission and on view as part of the guided tour, or \$3 exhibition only.
- March 26, 3 p.m., **Mined And Unmined Cole: Favorite and Forgotten Songs of Cole Porter.** Cole Porter concentrated with uncommon wit and inventiveness on comic list songs,

which highlighted his ingenuity and irreverence, while his haunting love songs brimmed with eroticism and romance. Even Porter's forgotten songs are often as good as his most famous. With a combination of enthusiasm, passion and humor, American musical scholar Michael Lasser, singer Cindy Miller, and pianist Alan Jones offer a tour through the songs of one of America's most beloved creative voices. Advance tickets are strongly recommended: online at bpt.me/producer/22987 or by calling 410-516-0341. Walk-in tickets are based on seating availability.



Peter Milton's Nijinsky Variations (detail), 1996. Etched and engraved copper plate. Courtesy of the artist/ Evergreen Museum & Library.

- April 23, 3 p.m., **Stephen Waarts, Violin and Chelsea Wang, Piano.** A multi-award winner, Waarts is the Frank S. Bayley Fellow at the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studies with Aaron Rosand. The program will include works by Beethoven, Bartók, Ysaÿe, Massenet, Kreisler and Ravel. Please note: program is subject to change at the discretion of the artists. Advance tickets are strongly recommended: online at bpt.me/producer/22987 or by calling 410-516-0341. Walk-in tickets are based on seating availability.



Violinist Stephen Waarts performs at Evergreen Museum & Library on April 23. Courtesy of the Young Concert Artists/ Matt Dine.

- May 14, 6–11 p.m., **Circus Ball.** In the tradition of Elsie de Wolfe, prewar Europe's premier party hostess, Evergreen Museum & Library hosts a stylish revival of her legendary Circus Balls for a spectacular one-night benefit event in support of the museum's endowment fund. The former Gilded Age estate of Ambassador and Mrs. John Work Garrett will be transformed into a wildly colorful, artistic circus arena of the senses, where guests will be mesmerized by acrobats, jugglers, magicians, and circus performers, live music, and exceptional cuisine, all in the style of 1930's Paris. Cost: Tickets to be announced. For individual and corporate sponsorship opportunities, contact Elizabeth Courtemanche, 410-516-6710 or ecourtemanche@jhu.edu.
- On view May 17 through September 11, **An Invisible World Made Visible: The Infrared Landscapes of Phyllis Arbesman Berger.** Infrared photography can appear dreamlike or mystical, sometimes even lurid. Infrared's radiant energy documents a world beyond what is before us at first glance, beyond the visible spectrum of light. This solo exhibition showcases Baltimore photographer Phyllis Arbesman Berger's sensitive mastery of infrared techniques through the theme of landscapes — natural and manmade — in France, Ireland and Panama. Cost: Included with paid museum admission and on view as part of the guided tour or by advance appointment.

Natural Selections

Begins April 2, 9:30–11:30 a.m., **Edible Evergreen 2016 Kitchen Garden Course.** This kitchen garden course, presented over five Saturdays (April 2, May 21, June 11, August 20, October 1) by **chef John Shields** and farm manager Jon Carroll of Gertrude's Restaurant, highlights three seasons of sustainably growing and preparing fresh organic produce. The series includes hands-on gardening workshops in the restaurant's garden at Evergreen, cooking demonstrations, a chef's tour of the Waverly Farmers' Market and a concluding fall harvest luncheon at Gertrude's. Participants will receive printed material on home kitchen garden planning and growing techniques, and recipes incorporating the featured crops. Cost: \$110 public; \$90 members (nonrefundable, but transferable with advance notice). Registration includes museum admission on day of class. Class size limited to 20 and advance, pre-paid registration required: 410-516-0341.

University of Maryland Extension & Baltimore City Master Gardeners Speaker Series. Speakers begin at 7 p.m. All sessions are held in the Greenhouse Classroom at Cylburn Arboretum (4915 Greenspring Avenue). Sessions are free and open to the public:

- April 19, **Olivia M. Bernauer**, Master's Candidate, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10




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NATURAL SELECTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Park, Effective Pollinator Gardens. Learn how to plant an effective pollinator garden and what insect visitors you would expect to see. Olivia will also provide information about becoming a Citizen Scientist for the current pollinator project.



Chef John Shields of Gertrude's Restaurant shares his expertise with students. Photo courtesy of Evergreen Museum & Library.

- **May 17, Marty Reisinger**, Baltimore City Master Gardener, **Gene Banks Collecting and Preserving the world's plant genetic diversity.** Why are there two million samples of seeds stored at the North Pole? During his talk, Marty will answer this question as well as share stories about the fascinating people involved in collecting and preserving the world's plant genetic diversity. In an effort to conserve agricultural biodiversity, gene banks around the world store and conserve the world's plant genetic resources, helping to protect major crop plants and their crop wild relatives. Some



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- **June 21, Dr. Sara Via**, Department of Biology and Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park, **Climate Change and the Garden.** How is climate change affecting our gardens? What is the impact on native plants? A popular speaker at the Maryland Master Gardener Annual Training Conference, Dr. Via will address these questions and pass along climate friendly gardening tips.



Hands-on gardening is part of the Edible Evergreen Kitchen Garden Course. Photo courtesy of Evergreen Museum & Library.

Early spring events at **Lake Roland** include:

March 12, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., **St. Patrick's Snakes.** Legend has it that Ireland has St. Patrick to thank for its lack of snakes, but we're thankful for the many snakes that call Lake Roland park home! Come meet several friendly serpents and create a slithery craft. Ages 5 and up \$3 per person, \$2 members

March 19, **Flashlight Egg Hunt.** Need more challenge in your egg hunt? Use your night vision and a flashlight to find hidden eggs along our trails. Ages 5-12, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.; ages 10 & up, 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. (expert level).) \$5 per person, \$3 members. Rain Date: Sunday, March 20

March 20 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., **Natural Egg Dyeing.** Bring your own hard boiled eggs to celebrate the ancient tradition of egg-decorating. We'll use natural materials to craft eggs in several styles. All ages, \$3 per person, \$2 members.

March 28 – April 1 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., **Spring Break Camp.** Spring break camp is a great way to enjoy the beginning of spring! Campers will enjoy hikes, nature activities, playing games, making crafts, and much more! Limited enrollment. Sign up early! Ages 6-12, \$150, \$140 members.

April 9 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., **Project Clean Stream.** Join the Habit and Trail team to beautify Lake Roland. Bring your boat or help clean up the shore on foot. All boaters must wear a life-jacket. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

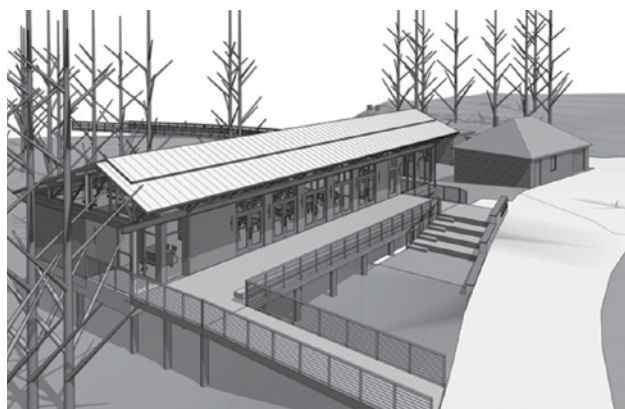
Maryland Master Naturalist Training. A training program for volunteers who want to learn and share knowledge of the natural world. Classes are taught by university professors and experts in the fields of botany, entomology, herpetology, ornithology. **Choose from two sessions:** Session I: April 4 - May 23, 2016, Mondays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and two Saturdays, April 16 & May 21; Session II: April 12 to June 18, 2016, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. and two Saturdays per month. For more details or to register, please call (410) 887-4156 or email lakerol-rp@baltimorecountymd.gov.

For more information and additions to our programming calendar, visit lakeroland.org. ❖

Lake Roland Nature and Environmental Education Center Needs Your Support

By Nancy Worden Horst

If you have visited Lake Roland Park recently, you have seen the progress on the Lake Roland Nature and Environmental Education Center next to the ranger station. Work began last fall and continues with the completion of site clearance and pile driving. The center will provide classroom and education space for up to 280 people. Accessible via a raised boardwalk connected to the Falls Road light rail station, the center is the first transit-oriented nature center in the Baltimore Metropolitan area.



An architectural rendering of the Lake Roland Nature and Environmental Center.
Rendering courtesy of Hord | Caplan | Macht

Lake Roland, a 503-acre park located in Baltimore County near the Baltimore City line, serves thousands of residents of both jurisdictions as well as those from Harford, Carroll and Anne Arundel Counties. The existing indoor space, however, is a repurposed restroom that serves as an office for rangers and a small public meeting space for about 12 people. While many public programs take place in the park or at one of two open pavilions, there is no place to hold educational programs during cold or stormy weather and nowhere to shelter from thunder and lightning.

The new Nature and Environmental Education Center is designed to have a minimal environmental footprint and to utilize renewable construction materials. The cost of the project is estimated at \$1.3 million dollars. The Education Center will be ADA accessible. It will provide space for before- and after-school children's activities, as well as for teenage, adult and senior programs.

The Lake Roland Nature Council asks for your help in funding this project. \$1 million dollars has already been committed thanks to generous contributions from

the State of Maryland and Baltimore County. The Lake Roland Nature Council must raise the remaining \$300,000 so the building can be fully funded. To learn more, and to see how you can help, please visit our website: lakeroland.org/donate-lake-roland-nature-environmental-education-center/. ♦

Go Native!

Native Plant Sale at Lake Roland, Saturday April 30

The Lake Roland Nature Council and Guilford Garden Club will have plants native to the Chesapeake Bay watershed and the Piedmont region of Maryland for sale on April 30 (rain date is May 1) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. across from the Lake Roland dam.

Knowledgeable Garden Clubbers carefully select sale plants, including deer-resistant perennials and shrubs, plants for wet or dry shade or sun, and varieties that attract butterflies such as the Baltimore Checkerspot, the Maryland State insect.

Bring photos or sketches of your garden for planting ideas and advice from trained experts. Learn about native plants and how specific selections influence the lives of butterflies, birds and other wildlife.

For directions to this event, visit lakeroland.org. Proceeds from the sale go towards improvements at Lake Roland and the Guilford Garden Club scholarship fund. ♦

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Where is Roland Park?

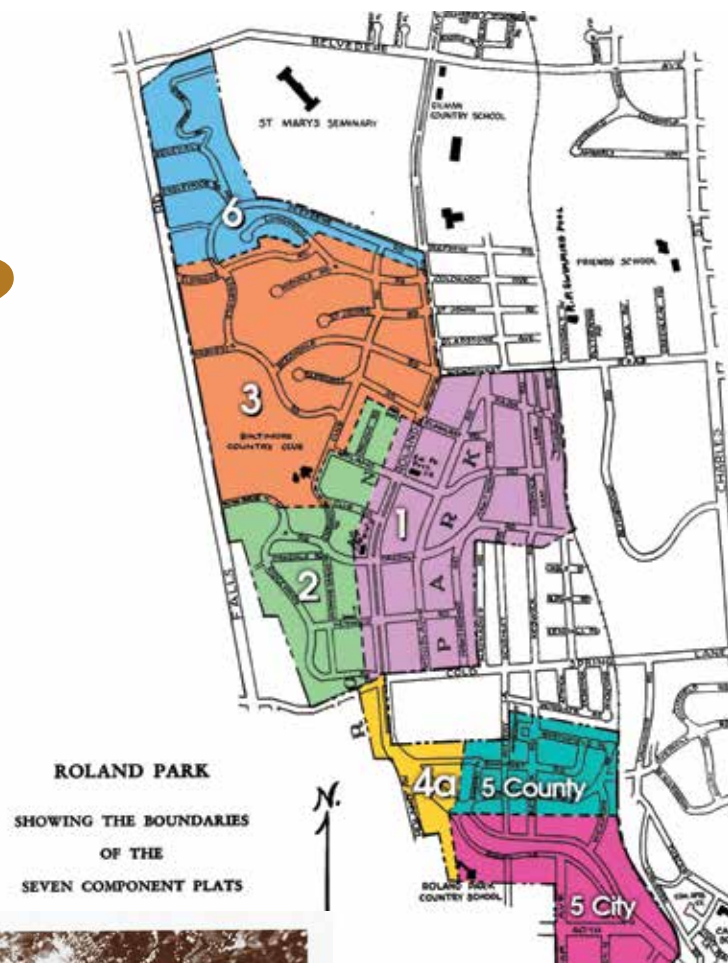
By Kathleen Truelove, President,
Roland Park Roads & Maintenance

Many people think of “Roland Park” as the area stretching from the Johns Hopkins University Homewood campus up to Lake Avenue, and across from Falls Road to Charles Street.

This was indeed the early vision of Edward Bouton, the guiding force in Roland Park’s development, but that area actually spans several historic neighborhoods, now collectively referred to as “Greater Roland Park”. The neighborhood of Roland Park, a suburban development founded in the 1890s by the Roland Park Company, covers a smaller and barely contiguous space.

Beginning in 1892, Roland Park was laid out in six plats. Most of the land was obtained by the Roland Park Company through the purchase of country estates, starting with “Oakland” on the west side of what is now Roland Avenue and “Woodlawn” on the east side. Plat 1 is largely situated on the land from “Woodlawn”, whose mansion stood at the intersection of the current Woodlawn and Upland Roads. Initial development began south of Wyndhurst Avenue and ended at Cold Spring Lane. Some prominent Plat 1 landmarks include the Women’s Club of Roland Park, three churches — Roland Park Presbyterian Church, Roland Park Mennonite Church (originally a Methodist church), and St. David’s Episcopal Church, as well as 4608 Roland Avenue, Roland Park Country School’s former location, now a private home. The Maryland and Pennsylvania (“Ma & Pa”) Railroad along Stony Run acted as the neighborhood’s eastern boundary.

To the north of Wyndhurst and east of Roland Avenue lies Tuxedo Park, an adjoining neighborhood that was also laid out in the early 1890s by some of the same investors. These smaller lots were intended for homes



A TYPICAL PATHWAY

The top of Sunset Path looking west. On the left is Rusty Rocks, Roland Park Co. President Edward Bouton's third and final home in Roland Park. Original caption: "A typical pathway," June 1911. Photographer: George B. Simmons. Source: A Book of Pictures in Roland Park. Photo courtesy of Doug Munro.

for the employees of the United Railways and Electric Company, and several much-loved neighborhood institutions, including Gilman School, Roland Park Elementary School, the “Eddie’s Block”, and Schneider’s Hardware are in Tuxedo Park. The Evergreen and West Evergreen neighborhoods, developed 20 years earlier, sit to the south and east of Plat 1.

Having overcome slow initial sales, Roland Park rapidly expanded during the first decade of the twentieth century. Plat 2, established in 1901, is located on the west side of Roland Avenue north of Cold Spring Lane and south of Elmhurst Road, (with the exception of the houses along this part of Roland Ave on its west side, which were part of the original Plat 1). Sunny Lane, behind the houses on

Ridgewood Road, marks the western limit of Plat 2,

across from the Cross Keys community. Cross Keys falls under Mount Washington's 21209 zip code .

By 1903, Plat 3 extended from Plat 2 north to Elmwood Road and Blackberry Lane, west to Falls Road, and east to Roland Avenue. Houses on the west side of Roland Avenue north of Elmhurst are in Plat 3, as is the Baltimore Country Club, whose golf course originally

Until 1918, the majority of Roland Park was situated in Baltimore County...

extended across Falls Road into what is now the site of Poly/Western High Schools and the Village of Cross Keys.

Plat 4a is the neighborhood's smallest Plat, running south from Cold Spring Lane on both sides of Roland Avenue and east of the upper end of University Parkway. The former site of St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, now the 4401 Roland Avenue Condominiums, sits on its northern border, and the Roland



RIDGEWOOD ROAD

Ridgewood Road, June 1911. Photographer: George B. Simmons. Source: A Book of Pictures in Roland Park. Photo courtesy of Doug Munro.

trolley stop considered part of Baltimore City. This resulted in two Plat 5 divisions: Plat 5 City and County. The Roland Park Company did not purchase land along Cold Spring Lane; this

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



ROLAND PARK COUNTRY SCHOOL AT ORIGINAL LOCATION - APPROXIMATELY 1908

Roland Park Country School at 4608 Roland Avenue (then 210 Roland Avenue). Original caption: "Roland Park Country School at original location — approximately 1908" [actually its second location — Ed. Note.] Date: 1908. Photographer: Unknown. Source: Roland Park Revisited. Photo courtesy of Doug Munro.

Springs community on Cold Spring Lane was also built on the St. Mary's estate. Why Plat 4a? Originally known as Plat 4, the district was drastically altered during its first decade, becoming known as 4a by 1915.

Until 1918, the majority of Roland Park was situated in Baltimore County, with only the section south of the University Parkway

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Basic vs. Full Service: Understanding Roland Park's Roads & Maintenance Fees

Roland Park Civic League's Maintenance Committee is charged by our by-laws to maintain the green spaces of Roland Park by caring for the neighborhood's lanes (alleys), paths, islands and small parks that are an essential element of Roland Park's famous design. In order to fund this maintenance, Roland Park Roads and Maintenance collects fees based upon a linear measurement of the frontage of each property in Plat 1 and upon the square footage of the properties in the other five Plats. These fees were set at the turn of the last century and are legally binding.

The original covenants made no allowance for future inflation and so the basic fees only represent a tiny fraction of the operating costs of the present day Maintenance Committee. Consequently, we encourage all residents to pay a "full service" fee in order to cover the current costs of the Maintenance Committee. The full service fee is eight times the basic fee. Paying the full service fee entitles residents to monthly yard debris removal service during the growing season and to a free tree planted on their property.

Roland Park has a long and stable history, much of it due to the

resourcefulness and generosity of its residents and also because of the restrictions and commitments residents agreed to when purchasing property in Roland Park. The Roland Park Roads and Maintenance Corporation was formed in 1909 by the Roland Park Company to maintain the community property in Roland Park. This once included the sewer and storm water system, as well as all community roads, paths, and islands, and public rights-of-way. Although the City of Baltimore has maintained the sewer, storm drains and road systems for decades, the Maintenance Committee continues to mow, prune and take care of 14 islands, 18 paths, Centennial Park, the median of Roland Avenue and the median between Falls Road and Falls Road Terrace.

Additionally, during the winter the Maintenance Committee hires a contractor to plow lanes when more than four inches of snow falls on them. Roads and Maintenance also pays a share of the expenses to run the Roland Park office (shared with the Civic League and Roland Park Community Foundation), which is open weekdays to answer questions from residents, respond to real estate agents and City employees, and pay the bills involved in maintaining a community of over 1000 residences. Except for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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"Put me in, Coach": The 2016 Elections

By Chris McSherry, President, Roland Park Civic League



CIVIC LEAGUE UPDATE

As I sit to write this article, the schools have all just reopened after the "Blizzard of 2016" and the Iowa caucuses will be held tonight. The parallels between this year's presidential elections and the Roland Park Civic elections in May strike me as noteworthy. The scale is much smaller in our neighborhood, but the services can be extremely important to our everyday lives.

The Civic League serves this neighborhood by striving to improve the quality of life through direct services such as plowing the lanes in a snow storm and picking up organic debris in the gardening months, and through indirect services, including representing the community to the Baltimore City government and negotiating with developers who wish to build here. The Civic League Board consists of 18 volunteers from all over the neighborhood who represent their individual Plats or the community at-large. These 18 individuals donate hundreds of hours of their time and talents to our neighborhood.

Andrew Marani, for example, was the hero of the recent snowstorm, handling the thankless task of getting the lanes plowed as soon as possible and in a rational order. Andrew received dozens of pleas from neighbors and friends to plow their lanes first. He worked closely with contractor Davey Tree so that they managed to reach all of the lanes within two days of the City plows opening the access streets. He did receive a few thank you e-mails, but those were a small fraction of the requests and complaints. He did this service for all of us simply because he is a good citizen and a good neighbor.

There are many other stellar examples of RPCL board members' work. The new website will soon be launched and the five-person committee has done a magnificent job of planning and designing a more user-friendly and visually-appealing site. The Zoning Committee has worked closely with our City Councilwomen for the last two years, and they have proposed many amendments to the new Baltimore City Zoning Code to protect the neighborhood from harmful future development. Roland Park Place, for example, is planning a major expansion, and our committee of board members and adjacent neighbors has been working closely with them to craft a design that everyone can accept.

I am touting the accomplishments of the RPCL board because I want to encourage all of you to participate in our community organizations as much as possible. Volunteers are the lifeblood of any community organization and the organization is only as strong as their commitment. We all need to participate to keep our neighborhood strong and vibrant. We cannot afford to sit back and complain, we need to step up and help. **Please attend the Civic League's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 18, at 7 p.m., at Roland Park Elementary School, and be a part of this process.**

This same principle holds true for our presidential elections this year. As Franklin D. Roosevelt said: "Nobody will ever deprive

the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting." When we don't vote we abdicate our right to self-governance. When we don't participate, we relinquish the right to make a difference. Let's all participate in our local and our national elections this year, and make a difference. It is our right and our responsibility as citizens. ♦

Welcome New Neighbors!

Daphne & Andrew Bahl, 119 Beechdale Rd.

Abigail Lattes & John W. Kamauff, Jr., 405 Edgevale Rd.

Kelly & Jeffrey Souryal, 216 Hawthorne Rd.

Gauri Kulkarni & Vikram Jeyasekaran, 5101 Roland Ave.

Kelly & Brian Dettmann, 5803 Roland Ave.

Katharine Noel & Roderic Puchner, 4640 Schenley Rd.

Victor Miranda, 548 W. University Pkwy.

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ROLAND PARK'S ROADS & MAINTENANCE FEES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

the shared single employee in that office, all the management, administration, and governance of Roads and Maintenance is done by volunteers.

In the past few years, the Committee has done more than just maintain the green spaces, paths and medians. They have also made some improvements and added a few new path signs. The path signs are expensive to manufacture and install so they are working their way through a list of the missing and damaged signs. They improved the bridge on St. Margaret's path and are about to add a hand railing to that bridge. They had to replace part of the path on Hilltop path because it was damaged when a large tree fell and pulled up the concrete. They have also removed dead and diseased trees that are on the paths. The Committee would like to be able to do more repair work to the paths, but that will depend on the income from fees collected this year.

Roland Park homeowners pay for these services — and you benefit from them. The City will not pay for or perform these services. Each January we bill every homeowner the 1909 basic fee and we also request everyone to pay a "full service fee". We cannot force owners to pay this larger fee and usually about half

of our homeowners pay full service fees. Those who do not pay them will still benefit from the maintenance of the green spaces, trees and paths, and the plowing of the lanes, but they will not be helping to pay for these services. Please do your part to support the maintenance of our lovely neighborhood. ❖

Area Home Sales

(November 2015 through Early February 2016)

	List Price	Closing Price
119 Beechdale Rd.	\$1,050,000	\$925,000
405 Edgevale Rd.	\$698,500	\$670,000
216 Hawthorne Rd.	\$850,000	\$850,000
4640 Schenley Rd.	\$599,000	\$550,000
548 W. University Pkwy.	\$325,000	\$325,000

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Information is believed to be accurate, but should not be relied upon without verification. Information not guaranteed by Broker or Agents, or by the Roland Park News.

Information provided by **Daniel Motz**, Realtor, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, (410) 235-4100 (office), (443) 415-3160 (cell), dmotz@cbmove.com.

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Farfalle with Wild Mushrooms, Ricotta and Fresh Chives

Eddie's of Roland Park

A delicious recipe to welcome spring!

Prep. Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 20 minutes

Serves: 4

1 lb. farfalle (bowtie pasta)

1 T. + 1 tsp. coarse kosher salt

Fresh ground pepper

2 T. extra-virgin olive oil

2-6 oz. pkg. KSK Gourmet Blend Wild Mushrooms, coarsely chopped

¼ cup shallots, chopped

½ cup dry sherry

1 ½ cup ricotta cheese

1 tsp. Bella Famiglia White Truffle flavored oil

4 fresh chives, snipped

1/3 cup fresh grated parmesan

Cook pasta according to directions on the box. Be sure to add 1 T. salt to the pasta water.



Meanwhile, in a large frying pan over medium-high heat, sauté the mushrooms and shallots in 2 T. olive oil for about 6-8 minutes, until mushrooms start to brown. Add sherry and cook until most of the liquid has evaporated. Add about ½ cup of the pasta water to the mushrooms, reduce heat to medium and stir to combine. Season with salt and fresh ground pepper.

Drain pasta, reserving about 1 cup of pasta water. Add pasta to mushroom mixture. Add ricotta and toss to combine. Stir in some of the reserved pasta water if the mixture seems dry. Cook until warmed through. Add fresh grated parmesan and a drizzle of truffle oil.

To serve, transfer the pasta to a serving platter and top with fresh snipped chives.

Pair with Volpaia Chianti Classico. ♦

Take a First Look

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8:45— 10:30 A.M.

PARENTS, REGISTER FOR THIS SPRING EVENT AT PARKSCHOOL.NET



Word of Mouth: Recommended Contractors

The *Roland Park News* is not endorsing any of the contractors listed below. Rather, they were recommended to us by neighbors.

ARCHITECTS

David Sutphen Design DavidSutphenDesign.com	410-977-8353
Melville Thomas Architects, Inc. mtarx.com	410-433-4400
Mark Mobley Architecture mmarchitecture.com	410-385-8570
Penza Bailey Architects penzabailey.com	410-435-6677
Place Architecture: Design placearchitecture.com	410-337-5299
Cobalt Architects Ltd. cobaltarchitects.com	410-377-3344

ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATION

RG Book, LLC (also cabinetmakers) rgbookllc.com	410-241-6258
----------------------------------------------------	--------------

ARBORISTS

A-AAA Tree Service treeworkmd.com	410-321-0921
A&A Tree Experts aatreeexperts.com	410-486-4561
Carroll Tree Service carrolltreeservice.com	410-998-1100
The Davey Tree Expert Company (also lawn & landscape contractors) davey.com	410-377-4002
Lasbury Tree & Shrub	410-363-8070
Woodsman Tree Experts woodsmanmd.com	410-321-0900

CARPENTERS

Ciesla Carpentry and Cabinet Works	410-366-2444
Ray Simmons (also a handyman)	410-9783376

CHIMNEY SWEEPS/REPAIR CONTRACTORS

Ace of Diamonds Chimney Sweeps Inc. aceofdiamondschimneyd.com	410-477-9144
Mark & Buttons Chimney Sweeps Inc. markandbuttons.com	410-655-4367
Swift Chimney Service	443-992-5629

COMPUTER CONSULTANTS

The Array Group thearraygroup.com	443-739-0147
Trahan Corporation trahancorp.com	866-323-4877 Ext. 3

ELECTRICIANS

Stephen S. Scalf	410-662-8464
Casper G. Sippel, Inc.	410-668-3910
Seth Delp	443-417-8801
George Grossman	410-905-9886
Gurley Electric	410-668-9627
Heubeck Electric	410-235-4095

ENERGY AUDITORS AND CONTRACTORS

TerraLogos Energy Group TerraLogosEG.com	410-225-5040
Retrofit Baltimore (non-profit community resource) retrofitbaltimore.org	410-929-6139

EXTERMINATORS

Atlas Exterminator Company Inc.	410-296-1212
Pest-A-Rest	410-600-3113
Western Pest Services westernpest.com	877-250-3857

FURNITURE REPAIR AND UPHOLSTERY

Dovetail Restoration dovetailrestoration.com	410-243-8300
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GUTTER CLEANING AND REPAIR

Ian Garrett (also window washer)	443-418-2293
The Gutter Guys thegutterguys.com	800-GUTTER-1
Jimmy Urena (also a handyman and window washer)	443-352-8112

HANDYMEN

Mark Evans (also a painter)	410-467-8569
Bob Hayward (also a painter)	410-868-4467
J.C. Pilkerton Home Improvement Inc.	410-285-7966

HAULING/JUNK REMOVAL

Mark Pratt	410-274-2986
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HEATING AND A/C CONTRACTORS

Accurate Heating and A/C	410-747-7111
Acura Systems Control, Inc.	410-488-3505
All Steamed Up	410-321-8116
Blue Dot	410-803-4323

HOME ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM INSTALLATION

TechHDemand techdemand.net	410-241-3327
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HOME IMPROVEMENT/RENOVATION CONTRACTORS

ADR Builders adrbuilder.com	410-561-0221
Amber Carpentry (also carpenters, painters and flooring contractors)	443-839-6481
Anchor Home Building & Remodeling anchorhomebuilding.com	410-452-9753
ATH Home Repair and Improvement	443-690-5129
Bay State Contracting, Inc.	410-812-9225
Bob Tuttle Roofing & Remodeling	443-418-4067
John DeGraw	443-797-7125
Delbert Adams Construction Group dacgllc.com	410-583-7575
Design to Finish design2finish.net	717-246-2075
E & F Contractors (also roofing contractors and painters)	410-282-6677
Federal Hill Kitchen, Bath & Closet	410-783-1992

HOME IMPROVEMENT/RENOVATION CONTRACTORS (cont.)

Fick Bros. Roofing & Exterior Remodeling Co. fickbros.com	410-889-5525
FitzGerald Design Build/Patrick FitzGerald fitzdesignbuild.com	443-838-4095
Fulton Construction, Inc. fultonconstructionmd.com	443-463-4775
Gerlak Construction, Inc.	410-377-0733
Greenbuilders Inc. greenbuilders.com	410-833-4814

LAWN AND LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS

Appel Stoneworks appelstoneworks.com	443-623-1258
Martin Turner Masonry	443-310-6942
Ruane Contracting, Inc.	443-643-6512

PAINTERS

Absolute Best Custom Painting	410-882-9072
Baltimore Paint Authority baltimorepaintauthority.com	410-484-0753
Bill Bischoff	443-992-6045
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Early Spring Gardening Tips

By Peter Bieneman, Green Fields Nursery

March and April are busy but enjoyable gardening months. What you do now will yield benefits throughout the year! Let's start with grass, as it's the right time to evaluate and over seed. Check out organic, phosphorus-free fertilizers that are safe to apply when seeding and Bay safe. Espoma offers a non-burning, apply anytime formula. I use it with great success in my back yard.

When evaluating grass, also look for ways to diminish its footprint. Grass grows poorly in shade so consider planting alternative groundcovers and perennials. Choose native or non-invasive plants that are suited to our climate and not overly

demanding in care. I love ferns and perennials for groundcovers — the National Park Service's website, nps.gov/plants/pubs/nativesmd/lists.htm is a great resource for recommendations (see sidebar).

It's also prudent to evaluate trees and shrubs for winter damage. Prune what you safely can while most plants are still dormant.

Ferns and Perennials

Adiantum pedatum - Maidenhair fern

Dennstaedtia punctilobula - Hay-scented fern

Dryopteris marginalis - Evergreen wood fern

Polystichum acrostichoides - Christmas fern

Carex pensylvanica - Sedge

Asarum canadense - Wild ginger

Chrysogonum virginianum - Green-and-gold

Geranium maculatum - Wild geranium

Tiarella cordifolia - Foamflower

Remember, this type of corrective pruning may sacrifice blooming but is usually necessary to stabilize a damaged plant. What you cannot prune, such as large trees, should be done by a licenced arborist. Always ask for references and be sure to inform your neighbors, as pruning may affect their yards.

Replacing plants damaged by ice melt or a snow plow is another worthwhile spring activity. Before you replant with the same variety, however, consider whether it is still the right choice. Have conditions changed so that a different choice or improved variety would be better? Is there a native alternative (see sidebar)? Talk to your nursery staff and bring in pictures of what you're replacing. Putting in the biggest plant you can find is not always recommended!

Finally build a vegetable garden this year. Look for a sunny, well-drained relatively flat area to site. You can use containers and raised beds to grow vegetables, or mix them in with your flowers if pinched for space. Bring in enough compost to amend your beds three to four inches and dig in at least 10 to 12 inches in depth. This will give you rich soil that is ready for early planting. Start with cole crops (i.e. those from the genus *Brassica*) such as broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and kale, which you can buy as seedlings. Directly sow seeds for other cool season crops in the ground — arugula, lettuce and spinach

will yield early greens. Radishes, onion sets and asparagus roots can be planted in the ground as the weather warms in March. Don't forget to establish a compost pile to complement your garden — it will be a valuable repository of spent plants.

Some great cool season seeds to directly sow in your early spring garden include: Endive 'Olesh Tres Fine', Escarole 'Broadleaf Bavarian', Dwarf Blue Curled Kale, Kale 'Nero Toscana', Lettuce 'Red Velvet', Radish 'Easter Egg Blend' and Pea 'Sugar Snap'.

With a little planning now, a most successful and satisfying garden year lies ahead! ❖

Peter G. Bieneman is the General Manger of Green Fields Nursery and has his Master's degree in Landscape Architecture. To contact him, please call (410) 323-3444 or visit Green Fields Nursery at 5424 Falls Road at Northern Parkway. For more information, visit greenfieldsnursery.com.

Native Plants

Cornus alternifolia – Pagoda Dogwood

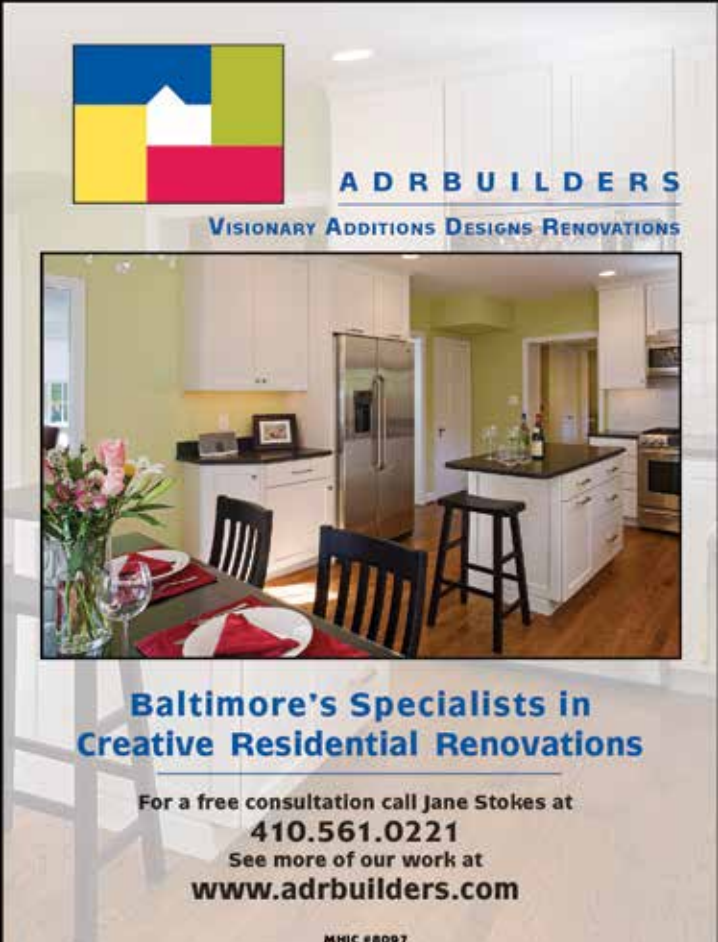
Cornus sericea - Red Osier Dogwood

Ilex glabra – Inkberry

Ilex opaca – American Holly

Rhus aromatica – Aromatic Sumac

Viburnum prunifolium - Blackhaw Viburnum



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Flashback to 1943: The Orioles at Gilman School

By Jim Considine

Touring the historical sights of Roland Park can easily fill a day. Authors James Waesche, Doug Munro and Kathy Hudson have plotted many routes to explore. The simplest straight line down Roland Avenue reveals the oldest seminary in the United States, the estate of Elizabeth Patterson Bonaparte and the Roland Park Shopping Center, the country's first planned suburban shopping center, all in the space of 1.5 miles.

If we continue south to 4708 Roland Avenue, we see the only ranch-style home that comes to mind in the collection of Roland Park architectural designs. Built in 1959, the rancher is the second building to occupy this lot. The first was named "Oriole Hall", the home of the International League Baltimore Orioles baseball team during World War Two.

President Franklin Roosevelt issued his opinion to baseball commissioner Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis that professional baseball should continue despite the war. The population would be working long hours

and they needed a chance to relax at a ball game. The caveats imposed upon baseball, however, would soon follow.

Professional baseball players were drafted in mass. The only deferments were granted to ballplayers with dependents and those with 4F classification (significant health issues). Teenagers too young for the draft and recently retired ballplayers filled the rosters of the 16 major league teams.



"Orioles Again Daily Using Gilman Cage For Spring Training." An excerpt from the Gilman Times, Friday, April 14, 1944. Courtesy of Gilman Archives.

Minor league baseball had 44 leagues across the country at the start of the war, but just 12 remained in business by the end. The Baltimore Orioles played in the AA (highest level at the time) International League.

Every team had travel restrictions imposed on them. Charter buses and reserved rail cars were not allowed to transport a team, so the tradition of traveling to the warmer southern states was no longer permitted. As 15 of the 16 major league teams were located north of the Mason Dixon line, this meant some chilly calisthenics were in store.

Orioles' manager Tommy Thomas developed a plan on how to prepare for the upcoming

season without palm trees and tropical breezes. Gilman School would provide the key answer to this quandary.

Gilman had a great indoor facility known as "the cage." It could accommodate live batting practice with real dirt underfoot and a pyramid-shaped skylight overhead. The Orioles were given their own private locker room where they could change and access the baseball field without disturbing the students.

Living quarters were arranged by renting a home at 4708 Roland Avenue and a small staff, including a cook and housekeeper, was hired for the dormitory of baseball players. The Girls Latin School bumped up against the rear of the house; Morgan Millard Pharmacy and Lunch Counter was the place to hang out. Some protective parents and neighbors took umbrage at the new neighbors! Despite these reservations, the arrangements continued in 1944 and 1945.

1944 was a season that usually gets a full chapter in books about baseball in Baltimore.

Local author James Bready writes that, "The ball club caught fire in 1944 (in the pervasive pleasantry), and so did the ballpark.



Charles Dettlev, C. Ed Klemm, P. Ted Szczekowski, INF. Bill Johnston, C. Tommy Thomas, MGR. Dick Waid, P. Eight of the Orioles players and Manager Tommy Thomas standing in front of the Gilman gym in their new jackets for the 1943 season. Photo courtesy of Gilman Archives.



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It was the year of 52,833 paid admissions to a minor league playoff game in Baltimore – 16,625 more than to any game of that year's World Series."

The original "Oriole Park" located at 28th and Barclay Streets in Waverly was a 30-year-old wooden ballpark. Following the July 3 game on a Monday night, the groundskeeper hosed down the seating area. The Fourth of July would be a day off for the weary war-workers and a chance to catch a double-header. A smoldering cigar is the suspected culprit that changed history.

The fire lasted one hour and was considered the second largest fire in Baltimore history beside the great Baltimore fire of 1904. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured and the damage to surrounding properties was minimal. Nevertheless, the inferno consumed the team's uniforms, equipment and a museum's worth of trophies and memorabilia from Baltimore's baseball history.

In the aftermath of the fire, Baltimore Mayor Theodore McKeldin inspected the site and met with the Dunn family, the park's owners, to offer the use of the massive Baltimore Municipal Stadium. This coliseum had been built in 1922 to attract major collegiate football games and had hosted 80,000 people at the annual Army-Navy contest in 1924. This is the largest crowd to see a football game in Baltimore.

McKeldin put the city workers to the task of converting the field on 33rd Street (the precursor of Memorial Stadium) into a baseball arena. Within two weeks, with assistance from Connie Mack and the Philadelphia Athletics, as well as city employees, the Orioles were playing ball on 33rd Street.

The 1944 Orioles would win the International League championship in October and the story of Baltimore outdrawing St. Louis in attendance made national headlines.

At the conclusion of the baseball season, the field was swiftly converted back to football, as the Naval Academy was scheduled to kick off their season the following weekend.

Baltimore's stellar reaction to the fire had caught the attention of many sports enthusiasts, however — even in the U.S. War Department. The City was given a two-week notice that the Army-Navy game would be moved from Annapolis to Baltimore, a larger, neutral location for the Cadets and Midshipmen.

The Army-Navy game of 1944 was the greatest in the history of the rivalry. The event was attended by four of the seven generals and admirals who would be awarded a fifth star in the following month. These included Generals Marshall and Arnold, along with Admirals Leahy and King.

Many of the 1944 Orioles team planted roots in Baltimore, including manager Tommy Thomas and pitcher Dick Walcott.



*A collection of 1944 Baltimore Orioles memorabilia.
Image courtesy of Jim Considine.*

Bob Latshaw Jr. recalls that his father, who played first base for the champion O's, would meet former teammates Sherm Lollar (who joined the O's as a coach after an 18-year career) and Baltimore baseball icon "Howitzer" Howie Moss for lunches at Alonso's.

The Orioles recognized the surviving members of the 1944 team during the final weekend of baseball at Memorial Stadium in October 1991. Ernie Tyler, another former Roland Park resident, was also honored that weekend upon his retirement as the Tigers' announcer.

Gilman has stood up for the Orioles several times since the 1940s. As the American League Orioles prepared to play their inaugural opener in 1954, the new stadium remained incomplete as opening day loomed. The '54 Orioles took the field at Gilman to give the workers more time to

finish the construction.

In 1980, with labor strife kicking, the Oriole players held their own workout at Gilman and nearly two decades later, Gilman hosted a goodwill exhibition game with the Cuban youth team in 1999. ♦

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When rising Bryn Mawr fourth grader Molly Jethwa picked up the Newbery Medal-winning book "The One and Only Ivan" last year to do her summer reading, she didn't know what to expect, other than a story about a gorilla. But, Jethwa soon found out, this was more than just a made-up story. "It was a really good book," she says. "It told the story of what's happening to some gorillas, and it's [based on] a true story."

The book follows the life of Ivan, a lowland gorilla who lived in an enclosure at the B&I shopping mall in Tacoma, Washington, after being captured from the wild as a baby. Ivan spent 27 years of his life in the mall before local animal welfare organizations successfully campaigned for his release to a facility better equipped to care for him. Ivan eventually moved to Zoo Atlanta



The newest class pets, Buddy and Tag, two gorilla stuffed animals, symbolize their adopted wild friends.

Photo courtesy of The Bryn Mawr School.

in Atlanta, Georgia, where he lived until his death in 2012 at the age of 50. One of the most notable things about him was his artistic skill; he liked to create colorful finger paintings that he often "signed" with a thumbprint.

The story had an immediate impact on the girls, says fourth grade teacher Jeannie Emala. "As kids, they respond so much to animals – they love animals and can relate to them."

The theme of the fourth grade year is global awareness. So, inspired by the story, Emala and fellow fourth grade teacher Renuka Gandhi

came up with a unique challenge for the girls: to research gorillas, learn about the problems they face and then come up with a way to help. Over the course of several



Bryn Mawr fourth graders researched gorillas, learned about the problems they face and came up with a way to help. Photo courtesy of the Bryn Mawr School

weeks the girls worked in groups to read books about gorillas and take notes on four different topics pertaining to the animals' lives. The classes also discussed endangered animals and the pros and cons of captivity and wildlife sanctuaries. Then, the girls made posters and gave oral reports about what they had learned. As the culminating project, students wrote letters to Lower School Director Pat Nothstein about why Bryn Mawr should fund the symbolic adoption of a gorilla through the World Wildlife Fund, which uses the donations to fund conservation efforts. "They had to be very persuasive – they had to show three facts they knew, three things they learned and three reasons to do it," explains Emala.

Collectively, the letters made quite an impact, both on emotional and practical levels. "They included a lot of interesting facts like what gorillas eat and how they sleep, gorilla troops and the family dynamic," says Gandhi.

And, adds Emala, "They were so from the heart."

Moved by what they read, Nothstein and Lower School Assistant Director Anne Eggleston Broadus '88 decided that not only would Bryn Mawr fund that the adoption of one gorilla, but that they would personally match the donation and adopt a second gorilla. In December, the girls were thrilled to receive their newest class pets, Buddy and Tag: two gorilla stuffed animals symbolizing their adopted wild friends. Now, these furry friends serve as a daily reminder of the importance of caring for our world and the animals in it. After all, as Jethwa notes, "Humans came from gorillas, so we should definitely help them!" ❖



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The 2016 Anne Healy Lecture, featuring Anna Quindlen

Roland Park Country School is delighted to welcome bestselling author, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and social critic Anna Quindlen as the featured speaker for the 2016 Anne Healy Lecture on Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30pm in the Sinex Theater. Anna will address *How Reading and Writing Will Ensure Democracy*. In her own words, "It's no accident that Hitler ordered book burnings. Reading and writing break down the walls between people, and bring down the big lies of demagoguery. That's why a literate United States is a more tolerant and more democratic United States, and why a thirst for words may be the greatest legacy we hand down to our kids."



Photo courtesy of Roland Park Country School.

with *Bread Crumbs*, was released in January 2014 and debuted at #3.

Named one of the top "100 Outstanding Journalists in the United States of the Last 100 Years," Quindlen began her career at age 18 as a copy girl. In 1990 Quindlen became the third woman in *The New York Times'* history to write for its influential Op-Ed page. Her nationally syndicated column "Public and Private" won the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 1992. Quindlen went on to write the prestigious "Last Word" column for *Newsweek* for 10 years.

Twelve of Quindlen's books, including seven of her novels, have appeared on The New York Times Best Sellers list. *One True Thing* became a feature film starring Renee Zellweger and Meryl Streep. *Blessings* and *Black and Blue* were both made into TV movies. Her book, *A Short Guide to A Happy Life*, sold well over one million copies. It was followed by *Being Perfect*, *Good Dog. Stay*, about her beloved black Labrador, Beau; and the novel, *Every Last One*.

Quindlen's memoir on aging, *Lots Of Candles, Plenty Of Cake* was published in April 2012 and debuted at #1 on The New York Times Best Sellers list. Her latest NYT best seller, *Still Life*

This event is free and open to the public. Please contact the Kaleidoscope office at 410-323-5500 x3045 to register. ❖

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

Blackberry Bourbon Jam

Miss Shirley's Cafe

16 oz. fresh blackberries

2 T. bourbon

1 T. lemon juice

1 tsp. vanilla extract

½ cup sugar

2 T. liquid pectin

Place blackberries, bourbon, lemon juice, vanilla extract and sugar in a saucepan.

Cook over medium heat until blackberries soften and sugar dissolves. Cool and drain any excess liquid. Add the liquid pectin and blend briefly to break up any large chunks, but do not make too smooth.

Enjoy with your favorite biscuits and breads! ❖



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How is this Green?

By Polly Bart

How is this “green,” there’s not a solar panel in sight?

Not to worry. There are many ways to be green in your remodeling projects that give immediate benefits and cost little or nothing more than a conventional remodeling. You already know to think about energy, but questions remain such as where are your materials coming from and where is your waste going to? What are the impacts on your health and well-being?

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) a green building certification system, lists some categories to consider in your next remodel:

- **Site:** In historic Roland Park, the appearance of the facade is key — you need to retain the existing ‘look’, especially for energy efficiency and ventilation. In addition, construction materials and debris should not be allowed to pollute the ground or set against tree trunks. Tip: Tree roots extend at least as far as the branches so don’t let people drive across them if you want to save the tree.
- **Energy:** Reducing overall energy costs, or keeping them the same if you’re adding more space, are realistic energy goals. The best way to do this is to adapt and improve your existing systems if possible, rather than ripping out and buying new.



A Roland Park historic home. Photo: Polly Bart

And, of course, insulate the building envelope. Tip: Caulking and insulating around the edges when replacing windows is just as important for energy efficiency as the rating of the window itself.

- **Water:** Use water-saving devices where you can. Tip: Toto Aquia is a good, reasonably-priced dual-flush toilet that many people like, and it comes ADA-compliant if desired.
- **Materials:** Buy local and American-made, or buy from a country with good environmental practices and a history of treating workers well. Tip: For clients on a budget, IKEA has pretty good credentials for both factors and some attractive designs.
- **Indoor air quality:** Use non-polluting materials, fixtures and furniture. Avoiding products with added urea-formaldehyde (most pressed wood contains high formaldehyde) can be a challenge, but it makes a big difference health-wise, especially for allergies. Also improve ventilation, especially in winter. Tip: Make sure your bath fan exhausts to the outside (not your attic) and replace the switch with a humidistat — the fan will stay on until the moisture is exhausted.

A recent project right here in Roland Park, which doesn’t seem overtly “green,” nevertheless achieves many green goals through careful design and buying decisions. Key elements include:

- **Replacement windows** (approved in advance by the Roland Park Architectural Review Committee) are highly efficient and have through mullions. This appearance is as close as possible to the originals, which were meticulously deconstructed and donated to Second Chance (also a nice tax deduction).
- **Domestic soapstone countertops quarried locally.** Most granite countertops destroy a piece of the Brazilian rainforest, or a mountain in China or Afghanistan. Local sources provide work for skilled local labor and do no damage — you can even visit the quarry and observe for yourself. Our source was Alberene Soapstone, an historic quarry in Schuyler, Virginia.

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GREEN CORNER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

- **Local Wood.** This bathroom vanity was created from walnut milled locally from a downed tree. The bloodwood is not environmentally ideal, but still a big improvement over most exotics. Crafted by Emmanuel Nicolaidis, an up-and-coming local cabinet-maker, his proximity made it easy for the client to participate in the design process and we received excellent care and attention (note the grain matching).
- **Inexpensive and efficient electric heat mats under the floor tiles, on a thermostat.** Think warm toes at 4 a.m.! The original radiator was retained but moved to a better location (adapting and improving an existing feature when it makes sense). Proper ventilation for the bathroom respected the historic integrity of the façade but vented to the outside with the shortest run possible—see the exterior photo to check the appearance. Hint — it's invisible!
- **Air barriers and zipwalls to protect the interior.** Scaffolding to the second story allowed all debris to be removed directly through the window opening instead of through the house, minimizing dirt and dust.



A remodeled bathroom with a "green" focus. Photo : Anne Gummerson

- **Finally, porcelain tiles from Italy.** Wait a minute— is that really green? Well, not perfectly, but Italy maintains strong environmental and social controls, plus the material is non-toxic, won't off-gas and leaves nothing harmful in the environment when it's done (unlike PVC, vinyl and most synthetic tiles). And, yes, the tiles are both beautiful and durable. Let's not try for perfection here, let's try for delight!

One remodeling project has more of an environmental impact than a lifetime of reusable grocery bags. It's worth thinking about the effect of each of your buying decisions. Do what you can and enjoy the results, knowing that you made an effort and did something to help. ❖

Polly Bart is a builder-remodeler and the owner of Greenbuilders, Inc., an eco-friendly general contracting firm. Please visit greenbuilders.com

for more information on her work, write pbart@greenbuilders.com, or call (410) 833-4814 with your suggestions for this column and questions about being green.

WHERE IS ROLAND PARK?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

area was developed later and is now known as Keswick, or, informally as "Alonzoville". Plat 5 City's southernmost border is part way through the 3800 block of Keswick Road

Plat 6, laid out in 1909, is the northernmost section of Roland Park, running from the border with Plat 3 to Northern Parkway on the east side of Falls Road (including the Exxon station) and along Deepdene Road to Roland Avenue. Plat 6 is bordered by Saint Mary's Seminary and Roland Park Country School's present site.

The properties in Roland Park's plats are subject to fees set out in the original deeds from the Roland Park Company to the initial owners. These fees were for the maintenance of the neighborhood's private infrastructure, including roads, footpaths, water, and sewerage amenities the Roland Park Company provided to attract buyers. These services were turned over to Baltimore City in the 1920s and today's fees are used for the maintenance of common areas such as footpaths, islands in road intersections, and Centennial Park, to name a few.

"Greater Roland Park" remains one of the most desirable districts in Baltimore City, and this is largely due to the planning and development begun by the Roland Park Company 125 years ago. That vision produced a neighborhood that people still enjoy calling home. ❖



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Bookends: Finding Humor and Hope in Life's 'Small Moments'

AN INTERVIEW WITH KATHY FLANN

By Henry Mortimer

For author Kathy Flann, a self-proclaimed “newcomer” to Roland Park — having immigrated here from Hampden two years ago — fiction-writing is the art of creating “the beautiful lie.” Or, in other words, using make-believe to make the real world seem more, well, believable. And Flann, who teaches creative writing at Goucher College, practices this art to perfection in her new book, *Get a Grip*, a collection of short stories. Flann says she prefers to craft “micro-worlds” with her writing, rather than sweeping epics, exploring the way “small moments illuminate big issues” in people’s lives. Which makes the stories in *Get a Grip*, all set in and around “Baltimore, a major urban center with a small-town heart,” as she says, all the more interesting and poignant. These days, the media’s,



and thus the world’s, attention is still tightly focused on Charm City’s ability (or lack thereof) to get a grip on its interpersonal skills. In Flann’s imaginary Baltimore, we meet a wildly varying cast of characters struggling to make sense of life’s most common and biggest puzzles, like “loss, loneliness, change, pain.” Yet each manages to overcome his or her private, momentary crisis, often with honesty, humor and, above all, hope. And that’s a beautiful lesson for those of us living in the real Baltimore and beyond.

Please briefly describe your new collection of stories, *Get a Grip*. What inspired you personally to write it?

The book contains stories about a host of different people — Estonian brothers trying, against many obstacles, to get to a college interview for basketball scholarships at Loyola; a man driving his young son, a national-champion video-game player, to a tournament in DC; a commitment-phobic Catonsville woman who tries to make new choices on her fortieth birthday; and many others.



Each of the stories had different inspirations. For example, “Heaven’s Door,” which is about a meteorite hunter, was inspired by an article in *The Sun* about the first meteorite fall in Maryland since the 1920s. Meteorite hunters were racing to our state from throughout the country, competing to find the meteorite first. The longer a meteorite sits on the ground, the less value it has to wealthy collectors. I thought, Who are these people? I love micro-worlds, such as the meteorite-hunting world, the ways the people in it get immersed. I loved writing a story about a race against time, because we’re all in a race against time.

Your previous book, *Smoky Ordinary*, was also a collection of stories. How does *Get a Grip* differ?

All of the stories in *Smoky Ordinary* take place in a small, fictional Virginia town, inspired by the area where I grew up, though more rural. The stories in *Get a Grip* take place in Baltimore, a major urban center with a small-town heart. Baltimore has the bustle, challenges, and advantages of a city, but underneath, there’s something tight-knit and quirky. I was interested in that juxtaposition. But more broadly, I am fascinated by the idea that we can live in close proximity to others, and yet have completely different perceptions of a place’s

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BOOKENDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

reality. My Baltimore might be different than my neighbor's or my mechanic's.

Is there a reason you prefer short stories to novels?

I've always been drawn to the short form because it seems true to me that small moments illuminate big issues. Maybe a couple has been having marital problems for years, but the point of no return might be something really small. One partner might develop a love of green smoothies, and the other might hate the way they smell. A short story can shine a light on that moment. I love the way both sadness and absurdity can be encapsulated in a break-up over a green smoothie.

What do you hope readers will gain from reading this book?

The characters are struggling with things we all face — loss, loneliness, change, pain. There's hope in the fact that they make the effort to struggle, I think. To me, there's also hope in the book's humor. Challenges change shape when we can find them a little funny. Laughter is communal, something we don't tend to do when we're alone. Maybe if readers can experience these characters' flaws and struggles, the sadness and absurdity of them, they can find ways to be kind to themselves about their own. That's a kind of ridiculously lofty and esoteric goal, though, don't you think? Maybe the book will just be a diversion, a way to avoid eye contact with a fellow bus passenger who wants to show off a suspicious mole.

How did living and working in Roland Park offer inspiration for the book?

I'm a relative newcomer to Roland Park, having moved here two years ago from Hampden (from Kentucky before that, and England before that). I actually had already finished the book by then. But I did get word, while living in this house, that it had won the George Garrett Award and would be published. And my new neighbors have been incredibly supportive since the launch in November, attending readings and buying the book for friends. I love my writing room here — all of the trees I see out the window when I work on new material. It's a perfect location for someone who's a little obsessed with the ways that small town and big city intersect.

Are there local writers who have inspired or otherwise shaped you as a writer? If so, who and how?

There are so many writers in Baltimore to admire. I think the writing community, as much as anything, helped me fall in love with the city and stay in one place. *Get a Grip* was shaped into a much better book because I had wonderful writers to give me feedback during the process — James Magruder, Betsy Boyd, Jane Delury, Christine Grillo and Jen Michalski, to name a few. They'd say, "Try to give a sense of why the character is doing this." Or, "Maybe more needs to happen in this scene." They were always right. I've also been lucky enough to know fellow Roland Parkers Marion Winik and Jessica Anya Blau. They're insightful and hilarious, both in person and on the page.

You once stated that, as a creative writing teacher, you

"help people make up believable lies for a living." What does that mean?

Fiction writing has sometimes been called "the beautiful lie." In other words, we make up people and places in order to illuminate something about real people and places. However, if the made-up world isn't vivid and sharp, the reader can't fall into that dream and share it. Much of my work at Goucher involves helping fledgling writers to sharpen their imaginary worlds. I spend my days there saying things like, "What does your character keep in the glove box? What's in the fridge? What was the worst thing that ever happened to him/her? Why is today the day of the story? Why not yesterday or tomorrow? What does the character want so badly that it's dangerous?"

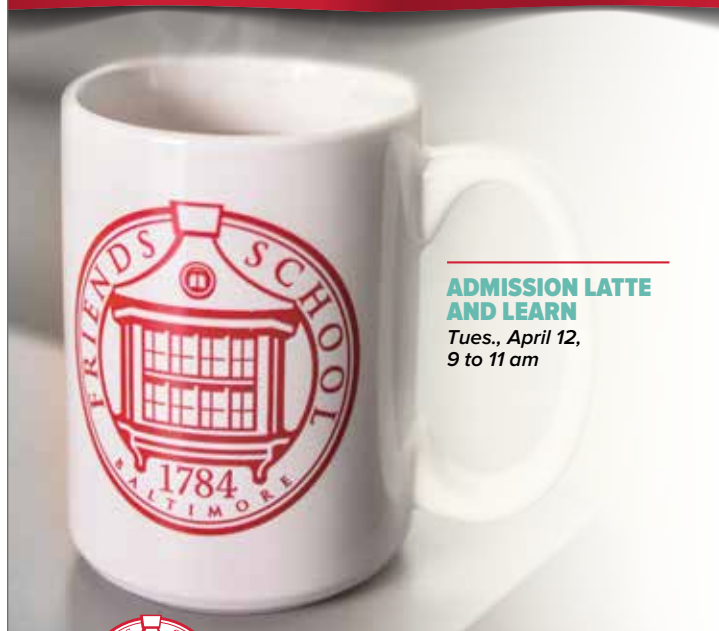
What are you working on next?

I've always got a lot of projects going. I've been working on a book-length memoir about traveling overseas with my dog. A couple of the chapters have been published in magazines. Another project is the "How to Survive a Human Attack" series, advice for movie monsters — mummies, zombies, swamp monsters, etc. It's tough out there for a monster.

For more information about Kathy Flann and the book *Get a Grip*, visit kathyflann.com. ♦

Henry Mortimer resides in Roland Park with his wife and children. He writes 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.

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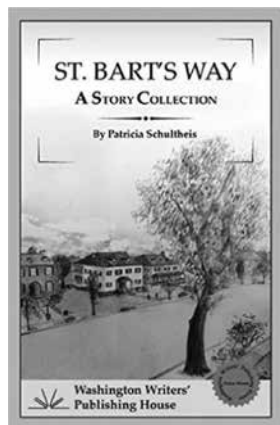
The Book Nook

By Julie Johnson, Branch Manager, Roland Park Library

Welcome to the Book Nook! Now that we're all shoveled out, it's time to think spring planting, the great outdoors, and, of course, writers!

We have a full slate of spring programs and hope you'll be able to join us for some of these informative and entertaining events. This link, calendar.prattlibrary.org/roland_park_branch_40/calendar will take you to the branch's online event calendar where you can find more information about each of the following:

Saturday, March 12, 1 p.m., **Writers LIVE! Patricia Schultheis, *St. Bart's Way***



Winner of the 2015 award for fiction from the Washington Writers' Publishing House, *St. Bart's Way* examines the lives of the families living in a well-to-do fictional Baltimore street. In lyrical prose, this collection explores the values held by those families and the assumptions those families hold about their place in society.

Saturday, April 2, 2 p.m., **Veggie Gardening 101**. Learn how to grow vegetables in containers or in your yard. Supplies will be provided, and you can take home some plants to test your skills. Presented by the Baltimore City Master Gardeners.



Saturday, April 9, 11 a.m., **Gardener's Advice from Walnut Hill**. Join experienced and passionate gardener Penney Hubbard and author Kathy Hudson for a quick tour of the fine garden around the Roland Park Branch. They will offer spring planting advice and gardening tips, as well as a brief talk about Hudson's new book *On Walnut Hill: The Evolution of a Garden*. The book chronicles the 46-year history of A.C. and Penney Hubbard's Ruxton garden. With photographs by award-winning landscape photographer Roger Foley, it also showcases the garden over one year's time.

Saturday, April 16, 11 a.m., **The Public Parks of Baltimore – A Slide-illustrated Talk by Photographer Denny Lynch**. Denny Lynch's talk will feature images of the natural beauty one can discover in our city's outdoor settings. In addition, he will share with us some of the history concerning the establishment of the parks, and the activities available to those who explore them.

Saturday, May 21, 11 a.m., **The Civil War in Maryland and Beyond**. In this slide-illustrated talk, photographer Denny Lynch will highlight some of the important events that took place in our state during the Civil War. Lynch will also share some artifacts, letters and photographs that once belonged to his great-grandfather who enlisted in Company E of Maryland's Fourth Regiment in 1862. (This presentation is rescheduled from October).

Spring Reading

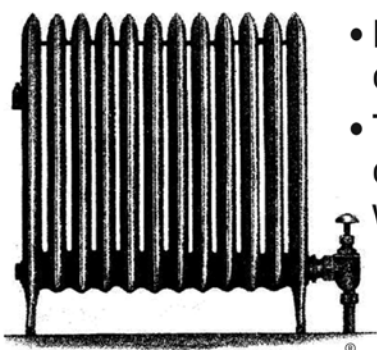
As always, the following reviews are excerpted from the library's online catalog, available at prattlibrary.org.

Fiction

The Mulberry Bush by Charles McCarry

The unnamed narrator of this exceptional spy novel from McCarry (*The Shanghai Factor*, 2013) vows to avenge his father, a disgraced secret agent. The narrator engineers his own recruitment into "Headquarters" (McCarry's name for the CIA) and, after training, begins his career as a covert agent, hunting and killing terrorists in the Middle East, though he never forgets his chief purpose in life: exacting retribution on those responsible for his father's downfall. Amzi Strange, the deputy director for operations and his father's former enemy at Headquarters, brings the narrator back home, where he decides to implement his plan by infiltrating the remains of a terror organization in Latin America that was led by the charismatic Alejandro Aguilar. The narrator begins an affair with Aguilar's 29-year-old daughter, Luz, and eventually they marry. McCarry spins his riveting story in unexpected ways; the writing is always subdued but brilliant, leading unsuspecting readers to collide straight into the unforgiving wall of a stunning ending.

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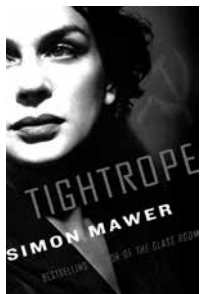
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30

Mrs. Engels: A Novel by Gavin McCrea

Irish-born McCrea's stellar debut novel imagines the lives of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, not men usually associated with romance, through the eyes of Engels' illiterate common-law wife, Lizzie Burns. Lizzie's voice — earthy, affectionate and street-smart, but also sly, unabashedly mercenary, and sometimes-scheming grabs the reader from the first sentence and doesn't let go. As the novel opens in 1870, Lizzie is moving with Frederick to London as his live-in lover. He wants to be closer to Marx, whom he has long supported financially. Lizzie is excited to move into a grand house but has mixed feelings about Karl's wife, Jenny, herself a fascinating combination of bourgeois sensibilities, love of family, and survival instincts. In the past, Jenny was not kind to Lizzie's older sister, Mary, the first Burns sister with whom Frederick was involved. Growing up in Manchester, the Burns girls worked at Ermen and Engels, the mill that German-born Frederick came to manage for his family in 1842. Mary quickly fell into a serious love affair with Frederick. Although he left Manchester for eight years, "writing his books and chasing the great revolutions around Europe," Mary eventually quit the mill and lived openly with him. When Lizzie's own romantic involvement with Moss, an alcoholic Fenian, soured, she moved in with Mary to keep house. She witnessed Mary's relationship with Frederick turn turbulent after he apparently fathered an illegitimate baby with the Marxes' maid, Nim. Shortly after Mary's death, Lizzie's own sexual liaison with Frederick began. By 1870 their relationship has endured, even thrived for years, providing for Lizzie attraction, affection and practical financial security. Forget Marx and Engels as authors of *The Communist Manifesto*. For Lizzie (and McCrea), social mores

trump politics, while individual loyalties and needs are what ultimately matter. Who knew reading about communists could be so much fun?

Tightrope by Simon Mawer

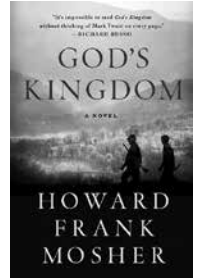


In this outstanding sequel to Mawer's superb *Trapeze* (2013), we pick up the story of Marian Sutro, WWII British spy, after the war has ended, and she has been liberated from a German concentration camp. Gradually but inexorably, Marian is drawn into the

game again, as the mysterious Major Fawley recruits her to turn a Russian spy whom she first encountered in Germany after the war. The Russian, meanwhile, is charged with blackmailing Marian into working for him. It is a classic Cold War situation, yet Mawer uses it for much more than espionage-driven suspense. Is Marian a British agent, a Russian double-agent, or is she pretending to be both while actually being neither — a woman, in other words, with no real identity, trolling for an elusive sense of self lost after too many years of tradecraft? And is her love affair with the Russian the real thing a way to break with the undercover world or is it yet another illusion? That we see much of Marian's life through the eyes of a boy and then young man who idolizes and eventually falls in love with her gives Marian's story yet another level of tantalizing ambiguity. Like John le

Carré's *A Perfect Spy* (1986), Mawer's novel offers a meditation on the problem of identity in a world where everything is cover for something else. A spy novel, yes, but one with the psychological richness and complexity of literary fiction.

God's Kingdom by Howard Frank Mosher



Northeastern Vermont is beautiful and daunting: seductive when the leaves turn crimson, terrifying when blizzard winds whip down from Canada. It was called God's Kingdom by its earliest settlers, who hoped it wouldn't turn into a hell on earth. To that unknown came Scottish immigrant Charles Kinneson, whose generations of descendants would contribute in noble and notorious ways to the lore of the region. Destined to be his family's scribe, young Jim Kinneson pays particular attention to the tales told by his grandfather and assorted relatives, finding himself repulsed by acts of barbarity and attracted to the occasions when justice was properly, if inventively, served. In his eleventh book of fiction, a novel-in-stories, much-acclaimed Vermont writer Mosher's (*The Great Northern Express*, 2012) thoughtful, clear-eyed unraveling of small-town life, warts and all, is powerful in its simplicity and soaring in its embrace of universal truths. And plucky, bright Jim Kinneson deserves a place in the pantheon of other such laudable young men memorably rendered by the likes of Mark Twain, Ernest Hemingway, and Tony Earley.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

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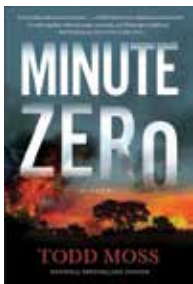
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BOOK NOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

Minute Zero by Todd Moss

State Department crisis expert Judd Ryker is dispatched to Zimbabwe to help manage a potentially explosive election pitting the nation's corrupt six-term president against an outspoken female challenger. Moss's last novel, *The Golden Hour* (2014), took its title from Ryker's theory that political crises, like medical traumas, can be cured if proper measures are taken during the crucial period following the outbreak of troubles. This time, Ryker is eager to test a related theory that desired results can be brought about by acting forcefully during periods of great uncertainty — in this case between the casting of ballots and the official announcement of election results. State Department officials who scoff at Ryker's "ivory tower ideas" are determined to keep 88-year-old incumbent Winston Tinotenda in power, as bad as he and his scheming right-hand general, Simba Chimurenga, are. Ryker, however, supports the opposition candidate, Gugu Mutonga, a lawyer who seeks justice for the victims of a massacre the army carried out and covered up. Moss, a former diplomat in West Africa, draws from his experience to produce a tense, fast-paced, utterly convincing picture of chaos in the making. That Ryker acts not



like a supersleuth but as the former Amherst professor he is makes the book even more persuasive.

The Devil in Jerusalem by Naomi Ragen

Daniella Goodman has lived her life in search of religious fulfillment. Steeped in Jewish teachings at a prestigious day school and an Orthodox summer camp, she finds herself far too busy with pre-med studies at the University of Pennsylvania to seek out religiously like-minded friends. That is, until she meets Steven, a devout Jewish scholar who prefers to be called Shlomie. His religious interests skew toward the mystical and fanatical, and Daniella soon finds herself wrapped up in Shlomie's enthusiasm. Before long, she and Shlomie move to Israel to start a family and to further their religious education. Isolated from their friends and families and blinded by their quest for piety, Daniella, Shlomie and their growing family become a target for one of Israel's most abusive, horrifying cults. Detective Bina Tzedek is tasked with unraveling the threads of pain, prayer and prophecy in the most difficult case of her career. Ragen draws on the tactics of cult leaders and on victim testimony to craft this exploration of religious fanaticism. Readers of Gillian Flynn's *Dark Places* (2009) and *Emma Donoghue's Room* (2010) will be drawn to this terrifying and compelling novel



Nonfiction

The Reason for Flowers: Their History, Culture, Biology, and How They Change Our Lives by Stephen Buchmann

Flowers: showy, demure, exotic, ordinary. What would we do without them? Nothing, it turns out. Flowers and their resultant fruit are the ultimate source of the food we eat and the clothes we wear. But they do more than meet the physical needs of humans and other creatures; they also uplift spirits, inspire art, and symbolize the very essence of human nature. Buchmann, a prolific and ardent pollination ecologist, peels back the petals to reveal fascinating aspects of floriculture. From beetle and butterfly pollination to pleasure gardens; from production flower farming to roadside stands, the cultivation and appreciation of flowers crosses all economic, political and cultural strata of society. Whether one actively raises roses in one's backyard, artfully arranges lilies in a vase, or thrills to the first sign of tulips in the spring, it is hard to imagine a world without the beauty and benefits of flowers. Intensely researched, well paced, intricately detailed, and delightfully accessible, Buchmann's exploration of this trove of living sensory delights is a boon to both casual and committed flower lovers.

The Oregon Trail: A New American Journey by Rinker Buck

A crazy whim of a trip on a covered wagon turns into an inspired exploration of American identity. Journalist Buck (*Shane Comes Home*, 2005, etc.) chronicles his summer-long journey across the "Great American Desert" in a covered wagon, an arduous, astonishing journey that traced the same exodus of more than 400,000 pioneers across the Oregon Trail in the 15 years before the Civil War. The author and his brother had the knowledge

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

Rollin' Reels at Roland Park Library

A selection of films presented on the big screen in our meeting room on the last Saturday of each month. All start at 10:30 and run continuously throughout the day. Snacks permitted!

March 26: Imitation of Life.

Louise Beavers, inducted into the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame in



1976, was given one of the first serious, dramatic roles in Hollywood for an African-American actor in her depiction of Aunt Delilah.

April 30: The Guns of Navarone. April birthday boys Gregory Peck and Anthony Quinn star in this action-packed classic.



May 28: Going My Way.

Bing Crosby in his Oscar-winning role as Father Chuck O'Malley.

Old Time Disney Delights – Not a Princess in Sight!

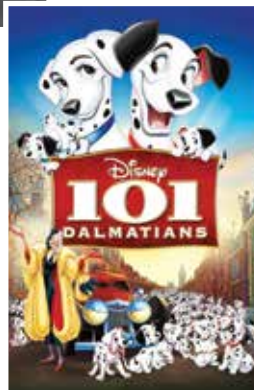
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May 1: 101 Dalmatians.

May 25: Sword in the Stone.



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BOOK NOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

and wherewithal to make such an ambitious journey largely because of their upbringing in rural New Jersey, where their father, a *Look* magazine editor and former pilot, kept horses and wagons and took the family of 11 children on a similar, though shorter, journey into Pennsylvania in the summer of 1958. Once Buck realized he could not manage three mules and a wagon all by himself, he enlisted his big, enormously capable brother, and the two procured the authentic 19th-century Peter Schuttler wagon and three specially bred American mules (each with its own wonderfully eccentric personality) and all the necessary equipment for breakdowns and repairs. The preparations were daunting, and Buck fascinatingly walks readers through them, all with an eye to how the early settlers made the actual journey from St. Joseph, Missouri to the Willamette Valley, Oregon: 2,000-plus miles of carefully plotted trail, encompassing high desert and mountains, rivers and shaky bridges, thunderstorms, scant water and patches of no road. Throughout, the travelers were, by necessity, required to frequently jettison supplies. "See America Slowly" was the theme of the men's boyhood trip, a theme resurrected sweetly for this one. The journey encouraged delighted observers to shelter and feed the men and mules, often in the towns' communal rodeo grounds, and allowed the brothers to reconnect over childhood memories and with

the American land they cherished. By turns frankly hilarious, historically elucidating, emotionally touching and deeply informative.

The Betrayal: The 1919 World Series and the Birth of Modern Baseball by Charles Fountain

Yes, we know the 1919 World Series was fixed that's been reported or alluded to in everything from *The Great Gatsby* to Eliot Asinof's 1963 book *Eight Men Out* and the 1988 film based on it. Still, the facts remain controversial: all eight White Sox players accused of throwing the Series were found innocent in the 1921 trial, but baseball's new commissioner at the time, Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis, banned the players, including White Sox star Shoeless Joe Jackson, from the game for life. Fountain acknowledges Asinof's book as the primary source for the scandal, but he impugns much of the scholarship behind it, conceding, though, that the real details surrounding the scandal may never be known. His wonderfully detailed account is especially strong on showing how baseball in its infancy had become a magnet for gamblers. Modern

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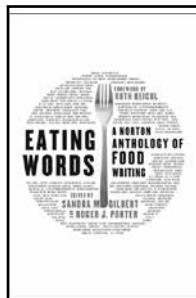
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Parents' Library Corner: Programs for Children

Date & Time	Program
Thursdays, 11 a.m.	Preschool Leaps. Ages 3 to 5 Stories, songs, and fun for preschoolers. (No storytime on March 24 and April 21).
Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.	Mother Goose Baby Steps. Birth to 2 An interactive nursery rhyme program with music and movement. (No storytime on March 24 and April 21).
Tuesday, March 1, 10:30 a.m.	Mazel Tales: Purim. Birth to 5 The Jewish Community Center of Baltimore presents a celebration of the traditions of Purim.
Saturday, March 19 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Games Galore for the Whole Family Get active, challenge your brain and show off your skills with games and activities for every age.
Tuesday, April 5, 10:30 a.m.	Mazel Tales: Passover. Birth to 5 The Jewish Community Center of Baltimore presents a celebration of the traditions of Passover.
Tuesday, April 12, 3:30 p.m.	Fairy Tale Festival: Stories, Stories, Stories Ages 5 -12 Join us for a celebration of fairy tales with storytelling. Imagination required!
Saturday, April 23 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Games Galore for the Whole Family Get active, challenge your brain and show off your skills with games and activities for every age.
Tuesday, May 3, 10:30 a.m.	Mazel Tales. Birth to five The Jewish Community Center of Baltimore presents a celebration of the traditions of Israel Independence Day.
Saturday, May 21 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Games Galore for the Whole Family Get active, challenge your brain and show off your skills with games and activities for every age.

commentators on the scandal often portray the players as unfairly punished, but Fountain convincingly argues that, while the penalties were harsh, they brought about an intensified vigilance toward gambling that allowed the sport to move into a new, less-sullied era. This is a carefully researched, remarkably thorough, yet readable exploration of a seminal event in American sports history.



Eating Words: A Norton Anthology of Food Writing edited by Sandra M. Gilbert and Roger J. Porter

In today's world of foodies, celebrity chefs, food television and a culture obsessed with what to eat and what not to eat, it's salutary to remember that from the dawn of literacy people have loved reading about their sustenance, not simply from its nutritional perspective, but especially for its aesthetic, moral, economic and cultural implications. Gilbert and Porter have thoughtfully and entertainingly compiled essential writings from across the centuries that have had some lasting influence. They juxtapose familiar classics such as Charles Lamb's Dissertation Upon Roast Pig and M. F. K. Fisher's The First Oyster with less familiar essays on the order of Frederick Douglass's Ash Cake and the Rich Man's Table and Chang-rae Lee's essay recording his simultaneous horror and enticement provoked by his first sea urchins. Both vegans and carnivores air their perpetual controversies. Food writing will continue as long as humans eat and write, for, as Elias Canetti observes, just a single body organ serves to admit food and disgorge language.

General information

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 prattlibrary.org.

Our phone number is 410-396-6099. Our branch e-mail is 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. ❖

Roland Park Branch Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 12 noon to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday and Sunday: Closed

Please note the following closings for all Pratt Libraries: Friday, March 25 for Good Friday; Sunday, March 27 for Easter Sunday; and Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day.

Roland Park Open Space Campaign Pledge Form

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In support of the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park and to assist in the preservation and improvement of the environment of Greater Roland Park:

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City, State, Zip

Please make checks payable to the Roland Park Community Foundation, Inc. Contact the Foundation office at 410-464-2533 for stock gifting instructions. The Foundation is a section 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax-deductible.