

ROLAND PARK NEWS

The Time is Now

Close your eyes and imagine two Roland Parks. In one, you can see children safely walking and biking to school through a beautiful park that runs along the Stony Run. You can hear the crowd laughing and singing, enjoying a community festival at the base of the restored Roland Water Tower. You can almost smell the 4th of July family picnics being enjoyed on the land purchased by the community from the Baltimore Country Club. After sunset, when the stars appear, you can hear the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra playing patriotic tunes for a concert that club members and community residents enjoy together.

Then picture another Roland Park, where none of these can happen. Now you understand why the Open Space Campaign is so vitally important.

Make no mistake. You will see a very different Roland Park with the loss of our precious open space. You may choose not to live and raise your family here. You may have trouble recruiting new colleagues to Baltimore if we lose an important characteristic of one the city's most beautiful neighborhoods. You may see the value of your home decline.

Please keep these and a few other important points in mind as you read through this issue.

- The Campaign represents a \$10 million investment

in open space, with \$5 million to be raised from private contributions and the rest coming from public, foundation and institutional funds.

- As you learn more about the Campaign, recognize that its benefits will accrue to all residents of Greater Roland Park—young and old, singles, families and retirees.
- It is only a matter of time before we lose our opportunities to preserve what's left of our open space and, once it's lost, it will likely be lost forever. Understand that the Baltimore Country Club land could be covered by a large institutional structure.
- This Campaign is a partnership that will include public and foundation dollars only if we, as resident stakeholders, demonstrate our commitment. Without a significant commitment by virtually everyone in Greater Roland Park, we cannot convince others to join the effort.
- Much has been achieved already. Work has already begun to restore the Roland Water Tower and the Stony Run. Together, we can get the whole job done.

Thank you.

Phil Spevak, President, Roland Park Civic League

By Mary Page Michel and Ellen Webb

Last May, the Open Space Campaign was announced to the community at the annual Civic League meeting. Since then, more than 17 presentations have been made to residents of every plat. Our goal is to present the vision for the Campaign to every resident of Greater Roland Park and to provide everyone with an opportunity to invest in the health and future of this great, historic community.

In 2010, the community came together to create a

Master Plan for Greater Roland Park. The issues we addressed fall into six categories: transportation,

infrastructure, commercial centers, livability, housing and open space. Most of the plan's priorities will be paid for over the next 10 to 15 years through the state and city budgeting process. An example is the \$3.5 million transportation improvement project along Roland Avenue, Cold Spring Lane and Wyndhurst Lane that will begin in 2013.

It has become clear that there is one area of concern that

government budgets would not fully fund—open space. These spaces, so vital to the character of Roland Park, need to be paid for, in part, by



The Open Space Campaign has a dramatic vision to preserve and protect the BCC land as open space, with playing fields and walking paths.

Photo: Anne Stuzin

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Roland Park News

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Editor's Notes

By Anne Stuzin

It's hard to believe, but the holidays are upon us once again in Roland Park! It's a time that we all, at some point, spend reflecting on the last 12 months and pondering our plans and goals for a fresh start in a new year. With this in mind, we at the *Roland Park News* have traditionally used our winter issue's Editor's Notes to highlight local holiday traditions, celebrate community successes, and give thanks for the things our friends and neighbors do to make Roland Park so special.

Last year, we showcased the benefits of local shopping. In 2010, we praised the victory of the first neighborhood

ciclovía and had some fun with "The Twelve Days of Holidays in Roland Park." Back in 2008, we rejoiced in the gift of the recently renovated Roland Park Library.

But as 2012 comes to a close, we'd like to use this opportunity to give an important message to all our readers: if there was ever a year for the Roland Park community to reflect, look ahead and effect change, it's this one!

We devote much of this issue to the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park, an unprecedented community project that kicked off this past May.

As you'll read in this issue's cover story, there have already been more than a dozen Open Space Campaign information meetings (hosted by residents in their homes), with close to 200 people in attendance. Appeal packets and pledge forms have been mailed to each of Roland Park's 1,100 households, and donations are starting to come in! All this has been made possible by an impressive team of volunteers, led by Civic League President Phil Spevak, and Campaign co-chairs Mary Page Michel and Ellen Webb. They have devoted countless hours to developing the campaign, educating residents and rallying us all to invest in a project that, if successful, will make Roland Park an even more special place to live for generations to come. We should all be thankful for their great efforts!

Also, in this issue, Al Copp brings us a progress report on the Greater Roland Park Master Plan, highlighting its successes thus far.

Kathy Hudson's piece, "Protecting Community Gems," is a history lesson of sorts, reminding us that no matter what the local challenge, it's in our collective best interest to take action and invest in projects that will improve our community's quality of life.

Have a look at the Open Space Campaign Q&A page. It summarizes lots of key information on the plan.

Finally, have you ever considered how

open space can boost your property values? Dan McIntyre and Cindy Paradies count the ways in their informative article. You may be surprised at the benefits!

As your holidays unfold, please take a moment, if you haven't already, to think about how you will support your community in 2013.

Remember, now is the time! Time for us to come together and support the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park! Time to make your pledge! Do it today, so that, years from now, we can all say that 2013 was the year "We Got Green Space!"

Here's to your health and happiness, Roland Park. Enjoy your winter holidays! ❖

Please note: The names of all donors to-date to the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park will be published in the next edition of the *Roland Park News* (March 2013). If you prefer that your name not appear on the donor list, please contact the Roland Park office at communityfoundation@rolandpark.org or call 410-464-2525.

Art Happenings

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

- January 20, 3:30 p.m., **Ieva Jokubaviciute, Piano**. Known for her deep musical and emotional commitment to a wide range of repertoire, Lithuanian pianist Ieva Jokubaviciute's ability to communicate the substance of a work has led critics to describe her as possessing "razor-sharp intelligence and wit" and as "elegant and engaging." Jokubaviciute's program, "New Century: New Paths," includes works by Debussy, Schoenberg, Scriabin, Janáček, Berg and Debussy.
- January 27 and February 17, 7:30 p.m., **Chamber Music by Candlelight**. Members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra present some of their favorite chamber works in a candlelit setting.
- February 24, 3:30 p.m., **The Amadeus Trio**. Recognized for their brilliant virtuosity and superb musicianship, pianist Hiroko Sasaki, violinist Timothy Baker and cellist David Teie are acknowledged as one of the foremost piano trios in the world. Proclaimed as "a world class ensemble" and "powerhouse American chamber group," the Amadeus Trio will perform works by Beethoven, Shostakovic and Mendelssohn.

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

Friends School of Baltimore's fine arts schedule includes:

- December 6, 6:30 p.m., **Monument Lighting Festival at the Walters Art Museum**, featuring the Middle School Apollos
- December 9, 3 p.m., Auditorium, **Upper School Choral Concert**
- December 11, 7:30 p.m., Goucher College, Kraushaar Auditorium, **Unwrap the Magic**, a benefit performance for Pathfinders for Autism and St. Elizabeth School, with performances by the Friends School Chamber Choir
- January 2 through February 18, Katz Gallery, Forbush Building, **Guest Artist Exhibit: Paintings by Phillip Koch**
- January 16, 8 p.m., Auditorium, **Upper School Instrumental Concert**
- January 25 and 26, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium. **Upper School Student-Run Play: Neil Simon's "Rumors"**
- February 25 through March 29, Katz Gallery, Forbush Building, **Art Majors Exhibit**
- March 1 and 2, 7 p.m., Auditorium, **Middle School Dragonfly Theater presents "Annie"**

On December 15 at 8 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church (740 N. Calvert Street in Mount Vernon) and December 16 at 3 p.m. at Towson Presbyterian Church (400 W. Chesapeake in Towson), join **Handel Choir of Baltimore** for its 78th annual presentation of **Handel's Messiah**. Handel Choir is the only ensemble in town presenting this joyous oratorio with period instrument orchestra, in two intimate Baltimore spaces. With Handel Period Instrument


Orchestra, soprano Emily Noël, countertenor Douglas Dodson, tenor Scott Mello and baritone Brendan Curran, conducted by Melinda O'Neal. Tickets: \$45 premium (preferred seating), \$35 standard, \$10 under 18 and students with ID. Lower ticket prices available with three-concert season subscription (\$105 premium, \$80 standard, \$25 student). To purchase tickets or for more information, call 410-366-6544 or go to **www.handelchoir.org**.

On February 24 at 3 p.m. at Church of the Redeemer (5603 N. Charles St. at Melrose near Northern Parkway), **Handel Choir of Baltimore** presents **Transcendence and Transformation**. Come in from the cold and be transported far from the everyday. Embrace the ethereal with music by John Tavener and Arvo Pärt, première of "Song of the Shulamite," a Handel Choir co-commissioned work by Donald McCullough on Song of Solomon texts for soprano, xylophone, marimba and harp, plus folk songs of the British Isles. With Chandos Singers, conducted by Melinda O'Neal. Tickets on sale December 17: \$35 premium (preferred seating), \$25 standard, \$10 under 18 and students with ID. Lower ticket prices available now with three-concert season subscription (\$105 premium, \$80 standard, \$25 student). To purchase tickets or for more information, call 410-366-6544 or go to **www.handelchoir.org**.

Winter shows at the **Patricia and Arthur Modell Performing Arts Center at the Lyric** (110 W. Mount Royal Avenue) include:

- December 2, **Buddy Valastro, the Cake Boss**
- December 7 and 8, **Mickey's Musical Festival**


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Art Happenings

Continued from page 3

- December 16, **A Christmas Carol**
- December 21 and 22, **The Nutcracker**
- January 5 and 6, **Cirque Eloize**

Tickets are available at www.ticketmaster.com or at the Modell PAC/Lyric box office from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call 410-900-1150. For more information, visit www.modellpac.com.

Evergreen Museum and Library (4545 N. Charles Street), at once an intimate collection of fine and decorative arts, rare books and manuscripts assembled by two generations of the B&O's philanthropic Garrett family, and a vibrant, inspirational venue for contemporary artists. The museum is open by guided tour only, offered on the hour, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. The last tour is at 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). For more information, call 410-516-0341, email evergreenmuseum@jhu.edu or visit www.museums.jhu.edu.

Upcoming events include:

- December 6, 6 to 8 p.m., **An Ever Green Evening**. Annual holiday open house, featuring spectacular seasonal decorations;

the opening of the fifth annual **Evergreen as Muse** group exhibition of student-made artist books; a silent auction for one-of-a-kind, three-panel screens hand-decorated by some of Baltimore's best designers, architects and artisans; and after-hours viewing of the museum's special exhibition, **Through the**

Legacy of Bakst: The Art of Aleona Isakova. Festive holiday fare will be served, and fresh greens harvested from Evergreen's extensive grounds will be available for sale in the gift shop. \$8 for the public, free for members and Johns Hopkins students.

- December 7 through January 27, Preview Reception: December 6, 6 to 8 p.m., **Evergreen As Muse**. The fifth annual Evergreen as Muse group exhibition of student-made artist books as part of the Johns Hopkins undergraduate course, "The Artist in the Museum: Making Books," a unique collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Homewood Arts Workshops and Program in Museums and Society. Cost is free with museum admission and on view as part of the regular museum guided tour. \$8 for the public, free for members and Johns Hopkins students.

- December 8, 1 to 3 p.m., **Make and Take Holiday Card Workshop**. Evergreen director and curator James Abbott will lead a workshop on the art and craft of card making in the Victorian era. Advance registration required. Call 410-516-0341.

- Through February 24, North Wing Gallery, **Through The Legacy of Bakst: The Art of Aleona Isakova**. Organized in honor of the 90th anniversary of Bakst's work for Alice Warder Garrett at Evergreen, the exhibition includes more than 40 lavish works by Isakova. Tickets are included with paid museum admission and the exhibit is on view as part of the guided tour. Tickets are \$3 for the exhibition only.

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



In March, Friends Middle School will present the musical, "Annie." Nearly one-third of the student body participates in the annual musical—whether performing on stage or assisting with set design and construction. Pictured, a scene from last year's show: "Bye Bye Birdie."



The student-run production is an Upper School tradition at Friends. Last year's production was Woody Allen's "Don't Drink the Water." This year the students will direct and stage another comedy: Neil Simon's "Rumors," on January 25-26. Pictured, Eric Ritter and Abby Preston in a scene from last year's student-run production.

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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, call 410-516-5589, email homewoodmuseum@jhu.edu or visit www.museums.jhu.edu.

Upcoming events include:

- December 1, noon to 4 p.m., **Silhouettes for the Holidays.** Experience the magic scissors of historical artisan Lauren Muney, a master portraitist in the tradition of the silhouette artists of the 18th and 19th centuries. Proceeds will benefit Homewood Museum. \$30 for two copies of one silhouette (includes museum admission). Advance registration for appointment time is strongly recommended. Register by calling 410-516-5589. For more information about Lauren Muney's nationally known work, visit www.silhouettesbyhand.com.

- December 3, 5 to 7 p.m., **Homewood by Candlelight.** Decorated for the holidays with garlands and boxwood by the Homeland Garden Club, Homewood exudes a festive spirit that is best witnessed at the museum's annual Homewood by Candlelight open house. The reception hall will be filled with the sounds of live music by harpist Lynn Goodfellow, the Museum Shop will offer a wide variety of holiday gift-giving ideas for people of all ages, and refreshments will be served in the wine cellar. The event also serves as a preview of the museum's new, student-curated exhibition, **Portrait of a City: Views of Early Baltimore.** \$8 for the public; free for members and Johns Hopkins students.



Foundry on Jones [sic] Creek near Baltimore, Jacques-Gérard Milbert, 1828. Collection of Stiles Tuttle Colwill
Photo courtesy Homewood Museum, Johns Hopkins University

- December 4 through May 26, Preview Reception: December 3, 5 to 7 p.m., Homewood Museum Reception Hall, Portrait of a City: Views of Early Baltimore. This exhibition highlights prints and original works of art recording the landmarks, landscapes and historical moments of the city that Charles Carroll, Jr., called home. Cost is included with paid museum admission and on view as part of the guided tour, or \$3 for the exhibition only. \$8 for the public, free for members and Johns Hopkins students.



East View of Baltimore, Maryland, G. Beck, 1802. Collection of Stiles Tuttle Colwill
Photo courtesy Homewood Museum, Johns Hopkins University

Events at both Evergreen Museum and Library and Homewood Museum include:

- December 1 through December 30, museum hours, **Season of Celebration at the University Museums.** See two of Baltimore's most beautiful historic houses decked out in their




Battle of North Point, Thos. Ruckle, 1831. Collection of Stiles Tuttle Colwill
Photo courtesy Homewood Museum, Johns Hopkins University

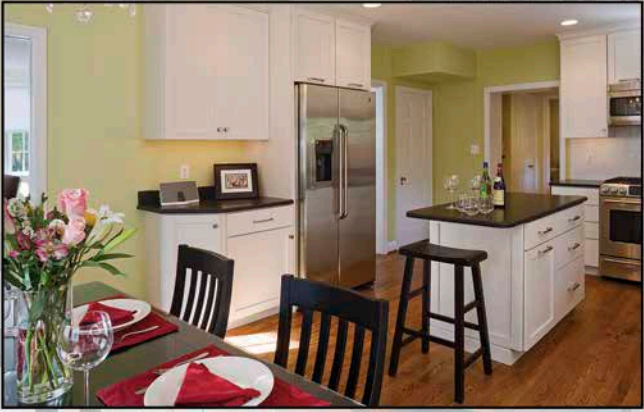
annual holiday best. Groups of 15 or more are invited to schedule holiday group tours of Homewood and Evergreen, with options for tea, box lunches and add-on tours at Mount Clare and/or Hampton National Historic Site. Regular museum admission. For information, visit

museums@jhu.edu or call 410-516-0341.

- December 1 through December 9, museum hours, **Discount Shopping Days.** Members of the Homewood and Evergreen museums, and Johns Hopkins faculty, staff and students are invited to enjoy special discounts in the Homewood and Evergreen gift shops. Everyone with a valid Johns Hopkins ID receives a 10 percent discount on all merchandise, excluding consignment items. Members receive a 20 percent discount.
- December 8 and 9, noon to 4 p.m., **Dollar Days Weekend.** Visitors of Homewood Museum and Evergreen Museum and Library are invited to enjoy seasonal music and decorations, light refreshments, shopping in the Museum Shops and special \$1 admission as part of Baltimore's annual Downtown Dollar Days. \$1 for the public, free for members. ♦



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KidsView

By Kate Culotta

Breakfast Bird Feeder

Stale bread or toast
Cheerios or any round cereal
Yarn
Scissors
Pen or pencil

Using the tip of your pen or pencil, poke a hole through your stale bread or toast. String together large squares or triangles of toast and cereal together on the yarn. Tie off the yarn, making a circle and leaving the ends long enough to tie around a tree branch.



Holiday Garland

Fishing line
Large needle
Dried fruits (e.g., apricots, prunes, dates)
Popcorn

Cut an 18-inch length of fishing line and tie a loop knot at one end. Thread the other end through the eye of the needle. Thread a couple of pieces of popped popcorn onto the line.



Add a piece of dried fruit. Repeat the process until you have a length of popcorn garland. You can tie the garland in a loop and tie it to tree branch or make the garland longer and string it along the tree branches.

Pretzel Snack Ornament

Large pretzels
Your favorite peanut butter
Sunflower seeds
Yarn
Scissors
Paper plate

Cut a loop of yarn and tie it to a pretzel, leaving the ends long enough to tie around a tree branch. Put the pretzel on a paper plate and, using your fingers, cover it with peanut butter. Cover the peanut butter in sunflower seeds (or other bird seed). Hang the pretzel from a tree branch and enjoy watching the birds eat their snack!



Send KidsView submissions to Anne Stuzin, 206 Ridgewood Road,
or email to anne@stuzin.com.

Note: February 1 is the deadline for spring!

How Open Space Increases Property Values

By Dan McIntyre and Cindy Paradies

Economic studies confirm that historic preservation and proximity to parkland increase property values. For many of us, the appearance and history of Roland Park were at least as important as the condition of the homes we were buying. Studies have found that the presence of nearby parkland brings increased property valuations. Completing the Open Space portions of the Roland Park Master Plan—purchasing the Baltimore Country Club (BCC) property, improving the Stony Run and restoring the Roland Water Tower—will increase the value of our homes.

Who hasn't heard the real estate agent's mantra that the



Studies have found that property values are higher when a home is close to a park. Photo: Sally Foster

three most important factors in setting a property's price are location, location and location? In defining what would matter for different locations, one agent referred to homes that were "close to outdoor recreation and nature" and "surrounded by properties of similar age and construction."

Using more scientific terminology, economists categorize real estate as an "interdependent asset," the value of which is determined in large part not by an individual owner's investment but by the state of surrounding properties. One study found that "a positive impact of 20 percent on

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EnergyWise: Passive House Technology

By Polly Bart

Did you ever wonder how the Esquimaux live without electricity, gas, or oil? The answer is a set of principles that make it possible to keep a very small amount of heat right where it is needed.

In this decade, starting in the cold, dark countries of northern Europe, the same principles have been used to build modern, stylish houses that require no furnace. That's right, no furnace and no BGE bills for heat. This set of principles is called PassivHaus, which in this country is sometimes called Passive House.

The first Passive House certified in Maryland was completed in June 2011, with David Peabody as the architect. The Bethesda house is the 24th to be certified in the U.S. (there are about 20,000 in Europe). In Austria, 17 percent of all new homes meet the standard.

We went to Peabody's office in Bethesda to ask for the details. Here are his answers (paraphrased, in some cases).

Greenbuilders: What makes a Passive House?

Peabody: A passive house is the most affordable way to get off the grid. It is super-insulated and nearly airtight. To maintain high indoor air quality, fresh air is brought into the house through a very efficient energy recovery ventilation system, or ERV.

Greenbuilders: What are the main elements of a Passive House?

Peabody: Very thick walls, insulation around and under the basement slab (in new construction), special sealants at every framing connection, passive solar design for the specific site and no thermal bridges.

Greenbuilders: Would you explain thermal bridging?

Peabody: When a home is built using framing lumber—2x4s or 2x6s—the wood itself carries cold temperatures into the house.

If you use an infrared camera to detect heat in your home, you'll see red areas in the walls where the studs are. On a cold day, that means currents of cold air circulate on the inside surfaces of your walls. The easiest way to avoid this is to add a thin layer of insulation on either the outside (under the siding) or inside of the house.

Greenbuilders: How is the house heated if there's no furnace?

Peabody: A tiny amount of heat is enough to keep a heavily insulated house cool. People, appliances, the hot water heater and the ERV all produce heat. In the summer, the ERV cools the air entering the home. You can also use point source heat as a supplement, such as a Mitsubishi (or other) mini-split system, if you want extra

heat or cooling in one zone of the house.

After our interview with Peabody, we thought about how Passive House principles might help Roland Park homeowners save energy.

Passive House is an idea. It's also a reality, but for us, it's a powerful concept that may seem unreachable. Not so! Break passive house into components, and each of us can apply those that fit.

Take an inventory of your current heating and cooling systems to see where your heat is going. Many people have leaky ducts in their attic—meaning that they're cooling or heating the attic instead of their home. Cover any seams with duct tape or insulate the underside of the roof in your attic instead of the attic floor to keep the heat from escaping.

When a project involves changing the surface of your walls—inside or outside—seize the opportunity to put a continuous sheet of insulation under your new siding or drywall. Tape the joints. Any time you open a wall for a project, caulk all the wood connections (stud to plate, for example) and add extra insulation.

Study your house's passive solar strengths and challenges. The main areas to look at are windows and masonry areas where the sunlight falls. Add shading (awnings or vegetation) to protect your home from overheating in summer, and remove obstacles that will stop the sun's rays from entering in winter. You will be surprised at how much more comfortable you will be.

If your home is already somewhat airtight, install a high-efficiency ERV. This is particularly useful if someone in the house has allergies, because the system draws in fresh outdoor air and recovers heat lost at the point of entry. Air can be filtered at the same time.


Your furnace is not the only heat source in your house. Look at the heat-generating capability of appliances, lighting and, yes, people! We used to gather around the fireplace. We can still gather in the kitchen for homework, meals and socializing. Use a zone system

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Here's Johnny's!

By Allison Parker-Abromitis

Johnny's is the latest restaurant inspiration from restaurateurs Chef Cindy Wolf and Tony Foreman. The restaurant features West Coast cuisine (under the direction of Executive Chef Kiko Wilson), a serious coffee program and a dynamic whiskey bar.

A common question about Johnny's centers on the menu and what exactly is West Coast cuisine. It's not specifically California, that I promise you, although there are certainly influences from the state on the menu. The West Coast, with its large Asian population,

led the way in creating what many refer to as Pacific Rim cuisine, which is simply a merger of Asian techniques with fresh local and seasonal ingredients.

So-called "California (aka New American) cuisine" also has Mediterranean, Mexican and Latin influences, many dishes offering a fresh expression of Old World dishes.

The West Coast can claim many of our favorite dishes: the cheeseburger was invented in Pasadena in 1920; the French dip sandwich; the Cobb Salad, made famous in the 1930s at Hollywood's Brown Derby restaurant (they also invented the Shirley Temple); and more recently, the fruit smoothie.

Under the direction of Chef Wilson, the kitchen serves West Coast-inspired food in an American format. The dishes are accented with both Pan Asian and Mexican ingredients and traditions. Guests can expect meals that are fresh, light, healthful, flavorful and satisfying.

Intended to be a casual gathering place for the neighborhood, Johnny's is serving breakfast, lunch and dinner six nights a week. The restaurant is closed on Monday. Tuesday through Saturday, breakfast starts at 7 a.m., lunch is offered at 11:30 a.m. and dinner service begins at 4:30 p.m.

Guests can enjoy multiple dining spaces within the restaurant. An airy, country-chic café space with a 25-foot ceiling, marble-topped coffee bar, farm table and banquette seating is immediately to the right of the entrance. Classic diner-style seats are a new favorite for breakfast and lunch. The Whiskey Bar Room features the building's natural brick walls and pillars from the 1890s, as well as plush and colorful chesterfields and booths. The Kitchen Dining Room and Back Room both feature low ceilings, which creates a cozy feel, in addition to leather banquette seating and many natural textures throughout—a nod to an industrial interior. The Kitchen Dining Room also features a window into the kitchen.

The wine and beverage program is squarely focused on American products. There are approximately 50 American wines by the



Johnny's, Roland Park's newest restaurant, features West Coast-inspired cuisine.

Photo: Parvina Mamatova



glass or bottle, and a selection of American and Mexican beers, as well as a cocktails and punch menu. The Whiskey Menu features 17 selections.

The non-alcoholic beverage offerings feature a serious coffee program led by coffee auteur Lindsay DiFabbio. Coffees are made to order from single-origin coffees specially brewed in a Chemex brewer, providing a rich body and low acidity. Another unique part of the non-alcoholic offerings is specialty glass-bottled sodas and single varietal grape juices. Guests can also expect to see a Smoothie of the Day, Bottle Soda Floats and milkshakes made with house-made ice creams.

Johnny's is located at 4800 Roland Avenue (410-773-0777). Reservations are not accepted. A bike rack is available. For more

information, or to see the wine and coffee lists and a menu, visit www.johnnysdownstairs.com. ♦



by Cindy Wolf
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Calendar & Announcements

The **Roland Park Civic League** monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church (4801 Roland Avenue). For more information, call the Civic League offices at 410-494-2525.

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 www.baltimoredisciples.org.

Bagged leaf pick-up will occur on Mondays through January 14th. For more details, visit publicworks.baltimorecity.gov/Recycling/YardWaste.aspx.

■ **Scheduled pickup:** 20 bags of leaves from each address every Monday by calling 311 before Sunday at 10 p.m. for the next day collection. You can make multiple appointments up to two months prior to collection.

■ **Regular pickup:** 5 bags of leaves from each address every week on regular trash collection day. With Monday collections and regular mixed refuse collections, the Bureau of Solid Waste will collect, in total, 25 bags of leaves per week per resident. Residents need to put leaves in clear or labeled bags and not in the public right-of-way.

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.

Interested in losing weight? Join us for a free information seminar to learn if bariatric surgery is right for you. Meet the surgeon and ask any questions you may have. Seminars are held in the Zamoiski auditorium at Sinai Hospital, beginning at 6 p.m. on the following dates: December 3, January 7, February 4 and March 4. There are convenient office hours at Sinai Hospital and Quarry Lake. Please call 410-601-WELL to register.

Crush Restaurant at Belvedere Square has an updated menu for fall and a new dessert menu. Executive Chef/Owner Daniel Chaustit has created some new entrees, including Seafood Flatbread and Salmon with Butternut Squash Risotto, while continuing to offer his signature BLTs and the perennial favorite, Shrimp and Grits. The revamped dessert menu features a Pecan Tart, Apple Bread Pudding and a Pumpkin Cheesecake. Starting in the fall, Chaustit is also opening the restaurant early on Sundays. Starting at 11:30 a.m., local residents can enjoy light fare and bar specials (while mingling with neighbors and catching a game or two on TV) in the restaurant's light-filled lounge. The former Demi (located in the restaurant's lower level) has become a venue for special events, corporate meetings, and holiday parties. ♦

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

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Energy Wise

Continued from page 8

for heat and cooling with thermostats, making the high-use areas the warmest in the house.

Roland Park may not be the place for igloos; however, for thousands of years, all life stayed warm or cool without depending on foreign oil. Many of the techniques used work just as well today, updated to reflect what we've learned about technology and energy. We can achieve a much higher level of comfort in this century than the industrial revolution ever gave us in the last one.

For more information: David Peabody (www.greenhaus.org/passive-house), Passive House Institute (www.passivehouse.us), ERV systems (is.gd/CESUNS). ♦

Polly Bart is owner and CEO of Greenbuilders, Inc., an eco-friendly general contracting firm. She was the third woman awarded a PhD in city planning by the University of California at Berkeley and is a LEED-accredited professional. Please write pbart@greenbuilders.com or call 410-833-4814 with your suggestions for future columns and questions about being "EnergyWise."

Lobster Pintxo

Mario Cano-Catalan, Executive Chef, Pazo

Lobster

- 1 gal. water
- 1 lb. lobster
- Large bowl of ice water

Bring water to a boil. Gently place the lobster in and cook for 7 to 10 minutes. Remove from boiling water and immediately place in ice water.

When lobster is cool, remove the tail and claws from the body. Press the tail in half lengthwise to crack the shell and remove the meat. Using the back of a large knife, crack the claws on both sides and remove the meat. Cut all the meat into $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pieces.

Potatoes

- 1 qt. water
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup salt
- 5 large fingerling potatoes

Bring water and salt to a boil. Cut potatoes into $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pieces and cook in salted water until tender. Remove from water and place in refrigerator to cool quickly.

Pimentón Aioli (makes 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ cups)

- 1 tsp. pimentón (Spanish paprika)
- 1 T. fresh lemon juice
- 1 T. sherry vinegar
- 1 pinch saffron
- $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. Tabasco
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp. capers, chopped

In a small bowl, combine the pimentón, lemon juice, sherry vinegar, saffron, Tabasco, egg yolk and salt. Whisk until all of the ingredients are well blended. While whisking, slowly drizzle in the extra virgin olive oil. The mixture should begin to thicken and take on the consistency of mayonnaise. After all of the oil is added, fold in the capers.

Saffron Aioli (makes 1 cup)

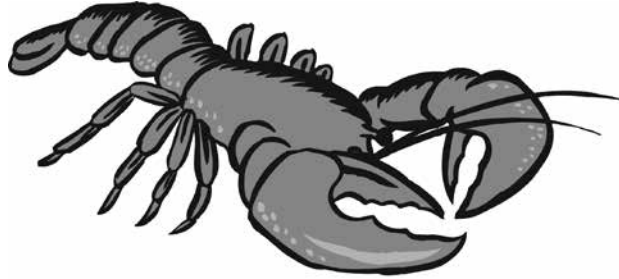
- 1 clove garlic
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup milk
- 1 tsp. saffron
- 2 tsp. water
- Juice from one lemon
- 1 egg yolk

- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 cup soybean oil

In a small saucepot, bring the milk to a boil. Add the garlic clove and allow to cook for 2 minutes (the milk should be deep enough to fully submerge the garlic clove). Remove garlic clove and submerge in a glass of ice water. Remove garlic clove from ice water and, using the side of a kitchen knife, work it into a smooth paste. Reserve for later use.

In a small, dry sauté pan, toast the saffron for 2 minutes over medium heat. Add to the water. In a small bowl, combine the garlic paste, toasted saffron and water, lemon juice, egg yolk and salt. Whisk until all of the ingredients are well blended. While whisking, slowly drizzle in the soybean oil. The mixture should begin to thicken and take on the consistency of mayonnaise.

To assemble and serve the dish, place one piece of lobster on a wood skewer, followed by one piece of potato. Serve with the two sauces on the side. ❖



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David B. Rudow Selected for Top Honors

From Press Releases

David B. Rudow, a member with Adelberg, Rudow, Dorf & Hendler, LLC (ARD&H), was selected for *Washington D.C. & Baltimore's Top Rated Lawyers 2012 Edition*. To create the top-rated lawyers list, LexisNexis® Martindale Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated AV® Preeminent™, the highest Peer Review Rating available. Rudow, of Roland Park, was listed in the business/commercial specialty area. He is one of 14 ARD&H attorneys listed in the publication.

Rudow was one of five members selected for *Super Lawyers Business Edition 2012*, an annual resource that serves as the go-to guide for general counsel and executives in charge of making legal hiring decisions. The 400-page magazine recently was distributed to 40,000 presidents and CEOs of Fortune 1000 companies and in-house counsel. Overall, only 5 percent of Maryland attorneys are chosen annually for *Maryland Super Lawyers*. The selection process is multi-phased and includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations. Rudow was listed in the business/corporate section. Earlier this year, he was recognized in *Maryland Super Lawyers 2012*.



Longtime Roland Park resident and supporter David Rudow is recognized among the top lawyers in the area.
Photo courtesy of David Rudow

Many who know him wholeheartedly agree with Rudow's recognition as a top-rated lawyer. Beyond that, though, they appreciate his steadfast commitment to Roland Park and the city as a whole.

"David Rudow's commitment to his community has an authenticity that few can match," says Karen Footner, a consultant who has served with Rudow on the Board of Directors of the Baltimore Efficiency & Economy Foundation since 1998. The foundation is an independent, non-profit civic organization that is dedicated to improving city government and the quality of life of Baltimore residents.

Founded in 1927, ARD&H has offered experienced counsel to corporations, institutions, associations and individuals for more than 80 years. The firm concentrates in a diverse set of practice areas, including business, banking, bankruptcy, commercial finance, family law, civil and criminal litigation, health care, white-collar criminal defense, real estate, construction, federal and state taxes, wills, estates and trusts, arbitration and mediation, and intellectual property. Visit www.AdelbergRudow.com for additional information. ♦

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Involving Your Kids in Healthy Giving

By Ashley Gorby

For the second year in a row, kids at Roland Park's Calvert School showed their passion and spirit for helping other kids in their community. Calvert's school-wide healthy food drive, supporting United Way of Central Maryland's (UWCM) Access to Healthy Food Initiative (uwcm.org/healthyfood), was a huge success. Dressed as fruits and veggies, the students promoted the drive to the morning and afternoon carpool lines. Last year, the kids and their families raised 1,700 pounds of healthy food. This year, they raised a whopping 2,057 pounds in one week.

"Food insecurity is a profound problem throughout our community," said Molly Shattuck, Calvert School mom, founder of Molly Shattuck Vibrant Living and UWCM's Healthy Food Ambassador. "Calvert School healthy food donations of fresh fruit and vegetables were delivered daily to Baltimore City schools for distribution to their families and through their cafeteria meals. This effort not only helps to feed local kids who are less fortunate, but also aids in making sure the food they eat is nutritious at a time when obesity and diabetes threaten the long-term health of many children."

"UWCM's healthy food drives are an easy and fun way to get your kids involved in healthy giving," said Roland Park's Holly Hoey,

Vice President of Major Gifts at UWCM. "And it is also a great learning opportunity—teaching them about giving back as well as how to select healthy food and why it's so important."

UWCM's Access to Healthy Food Initiative launched in October 2011 with a series of family-oriented volunteer harvesting events and healthy food drives. With more than 300,000 central Maryland residents lacking consistent access to healthy, affordable food, UWCM aims to raise and distribute 1.5 million pounds of healthy food annually. In its first year, UWCM exceeded that goal by raising 2.1 million pounds of nutritious food that were distributed across central Maryland.

In addition to Calvert School's healthy food drives, Roland Park's Bryn Mawr School last year raised 1,650 pounds of healthy food and plans to host another healthy food drive this fall.

To learn how you can host a healthy food drive at your kids' school or with another club or organization, please contact Marly Diallo at 410-547-8000 or

Marly.Diallo@uwcm.org ♦



Calvert students raised more than 2,000 pounds of healthy food at their recent drive.
Photo courtesy of Calvert School

Bigfoot?



If you're walking along Roland Avenue, you could easily miss it. At the sidewalk entrance to a home on the west side of the street—Bigfoot in Roland Park. Photo: Sally Foster



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L.T.E. #184

Open Space Campaign

Continued from page 1

residents if they are to be protected. To secure that necessary private funding, we launched the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park.

The three main projects of the Campaign involve rehabilitating the Roland Water Tower and creating a pocket park at its base; improving and expanding the Stony Run linear park; and purchasing 17 acres of Baltimore Country Club (BCC) property in order to create a community park.

The Roland Water Tower project was originally priced at \$1.4 million. Last year, as we began to talk to the Tower's neighbors, politicians and other preservation and government officials, interest in the project grew. As a result of a monumental amount of work done by Elisabeth Sachs, Matthew Fitzsimmons, Al Copp and Peter Pearre, and the support of the Friends of the Roland Water Tower, we have secured a \$250,000 bond bill and a similar award is pending from the City. The Tower project is so far along that we are wholly confident that it will happen.

It's important to note that the key to the success of this effort was seed money. The community was required to raise matching funds to secure the bond bill, and it did. Without the original \$250,000 provided by the Roland Park Community Foundation, we would never have had this success. Seed money has also proven critical for the Stony Run project and it will be for the BCC project as well.

The Stony Run Park project has experienced a similar series of successes. The original scope was from Northern Parkway to Cold

Spring Lane. Thanks to the support of our elected officials, the project now runs from Northern Parkway to Johns Hopkins University (Hopkins), and includes safer crossings at Wyndhurst and Cold Spring lanes.

Landscape improvements to Stony Run have also become more comprehensive. Working with the Friends of Stony Run, we have enhanced the scope to include two bridges—one to replace the rickety, unsafe one just south of Linkwood Park and another to allow safe passage under University Parkway to Hopkins' newly replanted Dell. We were thrilled to announce that the State Department of Natural Resources recently awarded \$600,000 for this project.

With the remarkable success of the first two projects and our greater understanding of the value of seed money, we are now focusing on the BCC project. We remember well the very real threat that was posed by the potential purchase of the land by Keswick Multi-Care Center. If the neighborhood had not come together in an almost historic manner to defend its right to maintain the current zoning, Keswick would have built a massive development of inappropriate density that would have snarled



In what Phil Spevak refers to as "another" Roland Park, traffic congestion on Roland Avenue could be like this every day, not just on school days.

Photo: Anne Stuzin

"The Master Plan team and the Civic League, who are working tirelessly to secure services, respond to issues, such as safety concerns and improvement projects...deserve my recognition and endorsement. Yes, I want more green spaces, but I also want to show my thanks to this group of people who are giving tirelessly to our community."


neighborhood traffic and strained neighborhood infrastructure.

In stark contrast, the Campaign has a dramatic vision preserving and protecting the land as open space. This vision of a community park is likely to evolve, but it's easy to picture playing fields, walking paths and open space preserved in perpetuity. We are closer to making that a reality than you might think.

Our research reveals that once we secure a contract to purchase the land from BCC, we can turn to other sources of funds, including local foundations and federal and state government sources. Foundation and public monies will only flow if we raise \$4 million first. We are now fund raising from the community in earnest.

Some residents may be skeptical about our ability to succeed. But we have only to look at recent history to see evidence of Roland Park's commitment. The Roland Park Library and historic fire house projects were two substantial efforts we successfully completed. The Roland Park Library Initiative raised nearly \$3 million and started a wave of library restorations throughout the city. The Roland Park Fire House was in need of restorations, and again the community stepped up. We raised private funds and advocated on behalf of the fire house getting government funding. Roland Parkers have a proud tradition of investing in the causes we care deeply about.

So where are we now? To date, we've raised more than \$1.2 million. Every one should have received an invitation to attend



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an informational session in your plat and a personal solicitation for a contribution. Won't you consider making a pledge? These pledges may be paid over five years and may be restricted to the project or projects you prefer. If the project is not done, you will get your money back.

If every family in Greater Roland Park gives \$5,000, payable over five years, we will raise \$6.5 million—more than enough to take the next step. We won't convince everyone, but if each one of us who believes in the goals of the Campaign gives a reach gift—which for some means \$200 and for others means \$50,000 or more—we will meet our fund raising goals.

Roland Park is at a critical crossroads. The Keswick scare made it very clear that BCC is planning to sell what they consider as surplus land. We are their preferred buyer,

Frequently Asked Questions about the Campaign

Public or private?

All land impacted by the Open Space Campaign will be public. Stony Run, the Roland Water Tower and the Baltimore Country Club (BCC) property will all be open to the community. Parks come in all different sizes and support different kinds of activities. Sherwood Gardens is an example of a community park that supports few planned activities and offers no extra parking.

How will we maintain open space?

The Roland Park Roads & Maintenance Corporation has been in the business of maintaining property for more than 100 years. Take a look at the median on Roland Avenue, Centennial Park, the Olmsted triangles on our winding streets and our 18 footpaths to see evidence of their successful efforts. There is a maintenance endowment in the budget for every Open Space Campaign project.

What happens if the deal for the BCC land falls through? Can I get my money back?

If you make your pledge contingent on the deal going through and it doesn't, we will return your money. The money will be invested under the direction of a committee of investment professionals, who will oversee the Campaign fund with a responsible and careful investment strategy.

Will BCC sell the land to us?

The leadership of BCC has said they would sell to us if we provide the necessary funding. They have also said they would prefer a buyer whose goals are to use the land for recreation.

Continued on page 18

Gift Amount	Gifts Needed	Dollars Needed
\$250,000	2	\$500,000
\$100,000	5	\$500,000
\$50,000	10	\$500,000
\$25,000	35	\$875,000
\$15,000	40	\$600,000
\$10,000	71	\$710,000
\$5,000	180	\$900,000
\$1,000	280	\$280,000
\$500	180	\$90,000
\$250	180	\$45,000
Total	983	\$5,000,000

For the Campaign to result in community-wide "ownership" of open space, the grass roots strategy of the Open Space Campaign focuses on 60 percent of the donations ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000. This means asking some residents to make a "reach" gift. Pledges can be paid incrementally over a period of up to five years.

but if we cannot raise sufficient money, the club will go elsewhere. At the risk of sounding alarmist, if you ever plan to support this fabulous community that provides us all so much, now is the time.

We need to receive your pledge before the end of 2012 so that we can move on to the next step. Please consider being part of this historic project and pledge today. Thank you. ❖

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Cylburn Exhibits Brightside Gardens Photographs

By Karen Smith

The picturesque gardens of Brightside, the well-known garden in Baltimore's Owings Mills area created by Charles and Amy Newhall, will be the subject of "Brightside Gardens: Seasons. Moments. Monuments," a photography exhibit by Alan Gilbert, which will open on January 25 at Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center. The show will be curated by Gilbert and Charles Newhall, and will reflect themes expressed in the individual gardens of Brightside.

"These gardens are the emblem book of our lives," explained Newhall. "They contain garden names, quotes, statuary and the Victorian language of flowers. Interpret these four elements and each garden will tell you its own story."

An American Horticultural Society publication includes this description of the garden, "It's a shared effort—Amy makes the specific choices of plants to include trees

and flowers. Chuck's passion is in the oversight of design layout and sculpture enhancements. Neoclassicism is the underlying theme of both the gardens and house."

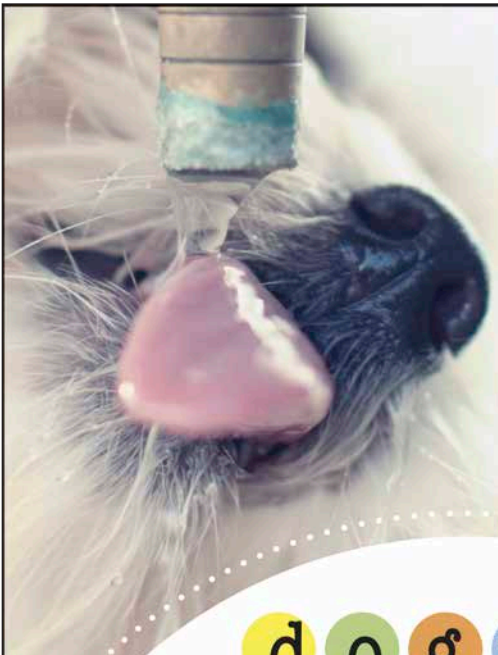


Alan Gilbert has been photographing Brightside Gardens for nearly 10 years.
Photo: Alan Gilbert

Gilbert has been photographing the gardens at Brightside for nearly 10 years, and will print the photos on oversized archival papers. The large prints, along with smaller versions, will be available for purchase. An opening reception is scheduled for January 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The exhibit will be on display through February 25. Please call the Cylburn Arboretum Association at 410-367-2217 for more information.

Alan Gilbert Photography is located nearby on Keswick Road. Gilbert has served leading architects, builders, interior designers, landscape architects, engineers and other building specialists. His work has appeared in *Home and Design*, *Style Magazine*, *Washington Spaces*, *Baltimore Magazine*, *Chesapeake*

Home, and the *Baltimore Sun*. He is also a founding partner of DOC Artist Services, which provides fine printing, design and other digital services to artists and the design community. ♦



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Natural Selections: Cylburn Arboretum's Winter Programs

Except as noted, please call 410-367-2217 to register for these programs in advance. For more information, visit www.cylburnassociation.org or call Lili Levy, Education Program Manager at Cylburn Arboretum, at 410-367-2217 Ext. 104.

- December 5, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., **Holiday Boxwood Wreath Workshop**, \$30 for members and \$45 for non-members, Greenhouse Classroom
- December 7 through 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., **Poinsettia and Greens Sale**, Greenhouse
- December 8, 10 to 11:30 a.m., **Decorate Nature for the Holidays For Kids**, \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members, Greenhouse Classroom
- December 8, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., **Holiday Boxwood Tree Making Workshop**, \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members, Greenhouse Classroom
- December 9, 3:30 p.m., **Baltimore Mandolin Orchestra**, \$20 per person (www.missiontix.com), with 10 and under free, Vollmer Center
- December 27, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., **School's Out! Skulls, Snakes and Stew!**, \$45, Greenhouse Classroom
- January 8 and 22, February 5 and 19, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., **Nature Story Hour**, \$1 donation requested, Mansion
- January 20 and February 23, 1 to 2 p.m., **Hot Chocolate Walk**, \$5 per person

Protecting Community Gems

By Kathy Hudson

Imagine Guilford without Sherwood Gardens. Imagine Roland Park without the Roland Park Shopping Center or the library.

At a recent gathering for the Open Space Campaign for Greater Roland Park, I pictured those gems, which narrowly escaped irrevocable change.

In the mid-1960s, after the death of John Sherwood, some of the prime acreage on which Sherwood had developed his exquisite gardens was slated for sale. At first, neither Guilford nor Baltimore City rushed in to buy the land. After the Citizens Planning and Housing Association called the gardens, “one of Baltimore’s unique and famous resources,” Mayor Theodore McKeldin, the city’s Parks Board and the Guilford Association rallied.

The Sherwood heirs generously cut in half the asking price for the two parcels of land in question. They sold them to the Stratford Green Corporation, a non-profit established by the Guilford Association (similar to the Roland Park Community Foundation). This bold move came at a time when the flight to the suburbs was well underway. It preserved green space and left intact Sherwood’s creation, which had become a Baltimore destination and tourist attraction. It stabilized and enhanced property values. It kept Guilford one of Baltimore’s most attractive neighborhoods and furthered the neighborhood’s sense of community and its connection to the city.

Future development of the gardens by the Guilford Association has brought colorful summer gardens and year-round use. Current prices of Guilford homes reflect not only the design of the historic community and its architecture but also the abundance of open space throughout—at Greenway and University Parkway, at the sunken garden on Charles Street and Overhill Road, and at Sherwood Gardens.

The Open Space Campaign of Greater Roland Park represents a \$10 million investment in open space, of which \$5 million will be raised from private contributions and the remainder through public, foundation and institutional dollars. The investment will fund improvements to the Stony Run linear park and Centennial Park, complete the Roland Water Tower restoration and park project, and serve as seed money to secure other funds so that a serious offer can be made on 17 acres of land at the Baltimore Country Club—acreage key to the original Olmsted design of Roland Park.

That is a lot of money, but a lot is at stake. Much has been at stake before. Those who lived here in the mid-1970s vividly remember when a demolition permit was sought to alter permanently the Roland Park Shopping Center. Rumors flew that the building was going to be torn down for a convenience store. The Roland Park Civic League and hundreds of Roland Parkers, few who had ever publicly protested anything, rented a bus and went to City

Hall. The case was held in “protracted litigation,” with the owner refusing to renew leases or grant extensions, turning off the heat in the extreme cold of 1976 and daring tenants to sue him.


In May 1976, the City of Baltimore bought the shopping center in condemnation proceedings for \$650,000 and sold it to a new owner. The community secured its future by having the shopping center designated an historic landmark. Now it is thriving. There’s a bank where Victor’s Market once flourished and Petit Louis Bistro prospers where the Morgan & Millard’s Roland Park Pharmacy once filled prescriptions and housed a neighborhood luncheonette. Recently opened Johnny’s recreates an old-fashioned neighborhood atmosphere with a contemporary twist on the site formerly used for the Roland Park Bakery & Deli, ice cream-making by Mrs. Gogel’s Bakery (where Eddie Jacobs is today) and the brake shop for the City and Suburban Street Car Line.

The next major challenge for Roland Park was its library. In 1999, word was that the Roland Park branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library might close because its footprint was too small. Roland Park mobilized and, with dedicated leadership, raised almost \$3 million. Combined with funds from Baltimore City and the Pratt, renovation and expansion began. The new and improved building



Residents of Guilford saved Sherwood Gardens, a beautiful swath of green and open space, a move that stabilized and enhanced property values. Photography by A. Aubrey Bodine • Copyright © Jennifer B. Bodine

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Open Space Campaign

Continued from page 15

Has anything like this ever been done in Maryland?

Sherwood Gardens in Guilford was once privately owned. When John Sherwood died in 1965, he left funds to care for the gardens for one year. The property was listed for sale and the Guilford Association stepped up, with assistance from the city to purchase the gardens for future generations.

In 2002, in a small community near Annapolis, the Bay Ridge Civic Association, in partnership with the Bay Ridge Trust, purchased 114 acres of land from a developer to protect a mostly undeveloped swath of woods. Residents in the community's 400 homes raised the money from a combination of private and foundation sources, and from Program Open Space (a federal program the Campaign will approach for funding), and purchased the property for \$4.5 million. The community borrowed \$2.25 million through a Special Benefits District designation and each household contributed \$250 a year for 20 years to pay off the loan. Residents were so happy with the results that they bought another piece of land in 2005.

Their use of conservation easements and loans is a great model for Roland Park.

This is so much money. Can we really do this?

The community is not expected to raise all of the money on its own. The expectation is that 40 percent will come from individuals and businesses, 40 percent will come from government sources and 20 percent will come from foundations. In the past few years alone, the community stepped up to rebuild the Roland Park Library, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School playground and Linkwood Park playground, and to restore our historic fire house. In all of these projects, the community had to provide seed money to get started and to show government officials that we were serious. Clearly, Roland Park has a long and proud tradition of investing in what we care about. ♦

If you have any other questions about the Open Space Campaign, please contact Mary Page Michel or Ellen Webb at the Community Foundation office at 410-464-2533 or CommunityFoundation@RolandPark.org.

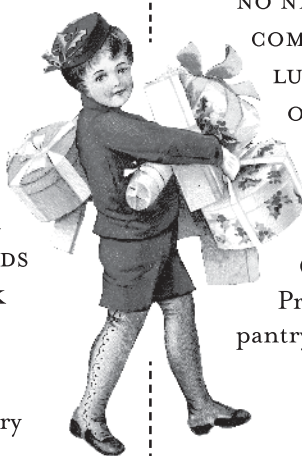
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Master Plan Update

The following initiatives are either complete or underway.

Open Space

- Fundraising campaign for acquisition of Baltimore Country Club, Stony Run, Roland Water Tower, Centennial Park, and median and island maintenance projects
- Construction of improved Stony Run access from Cold Spring Lane
- Animal waste removal and interior decontamination at Roland Water Tower
- Greater Roland Park tree canopy inventory and planting improvements and tree pruning in Centennial Park.
- Path sign replacement and path repairs
- Sidewalk vegetation removal

Transportation

- Roland Avenue improvements, including Roland Avenue repaving (also helps meet Streetscape goals); new signalized intersection on Northern Parkway for Bryn Mawr and Gilman schools, and new southbound entrance to Gilman on Roland, both of which lessen congestion; green traffic calming curb extensions on Roland, and Wyndhurst and Cold Spring lanes; bioretention tree pits on Roland and Schenley Road; more than 100 new trees along Roland; permanent special paved crosswalks near schools and in commercial areas on Roland, Wyndhurst and Cold Spring; wider bicycle path on Roland; narrowed traffic lanes on Roland; improved street lighting on Roland between Cold Spring and Wyndhurst; new standard benches and trash/recycling containers; sidewalk and curb repairs on Roland
- Repaving of secondary streets, including Hawthorne, Keswick, Oakdale, Wilmslow, Boulder and Midvale

Housing

- Active participation in development of Transform Baltimore, the new zoning ordinance for Baltimore

Commercial/Retail

- Improved designs of Symphony Manor, M&T Bank, Roland Park Shopping Center renovations and Cold Spring commercial upgrades

Infrastructure

- Repair of sewer conduits on Cold Spring and Falls Road
- Completion of fire house kitchen renovation

Livability

- Improved governance of Roland Park through reorganization of Civic League, Roads & Maintenance and Community Foundation
- Publication of the 2011/2012 *Guide to Greater Roland Park*
- Public safety initiative with Baltimore police, State's Attorney's Office and Mayor's Office on Criminal Justice

Streetscape

- Roland repaving contract (also helps meet Transportation goals)

Protecting Community Gems

Continued from page 17

opened in 2007. It is hard to imagine Roland Park or surrounding communities without that vibrant, well-used hub or its street-softening and striking gardens.

Now is the time for Greater Roland Park's biggest challenge: to raise \$5 million in private funds for open space. If we do not all pitch in to make that happen, the opportunity to preserve the green space at the heart of our community will be lost. Not only would we lose an opportunity to create a destination open space in Roland Park, we would also risk the very real risk of a potential decrease in property values.

As the president of the Civic League said at the Open Space gathering I attended, "Taking no action is an action."

Do we really want more massive cutting of trees and loss of land, another large parking lot, a housing development or a mega-church, more cars, more traffic, more run-off, more noise and pollution? Is saying "no" through inaction how we want to be known to future generations and to a city that watched as Roland Park vociferously protested the Keswick development?

If Guilford can rally to preserve the original Sherwood Gardens, Roland Park should be able to preserve 17 acres at the heart of its community. ❖



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News from Robert E Lee Park

By Nancy Worden Horst

Children's Programs

Rangers Shannon Davis and Bart Viguers, working with Master Naturalists and volunteers, provide a variety of imaginative programs for all ages, including bird watching, mud day, kayaking, native plant and history walks, bike rodeo, fairies and elves, cane pole fishing, kayaking and nature scouts.

A Kids' Night Out will be held at the park on December 20 and a Winter Solstice Campfire will be held on December 21. Celebrate the solstice with park rangers, and



Kathryn Horst models the fairy crown and wand she made at the "Fairies and Elves" program at Robert E Lee Park. Photo: R.W. Horst



After the mud pies, slip 'n slide and mess, Brooklandville firefighters hosed off all Mud Day participants. Photo: Ranger Bart Viguers

explore what's green and living this time of year. After a night hike, enjoy s'mores by the fire.

Programs planned for 2013 include a Winter Campfire in January, a Bird Extravaganza in February, and Natural Egg Dying and Woodland Egg Hunt in March. For details, visit relpnc.org/events. To sign up for an event, contact Donna at 410-887-4156.

Volunteerism

Just a year after County Executive Kevin Kamenetz cut the ribbon to re-open Robert E Lee Park, it is flourishing. A new pavilion overlooks Lake Roland, the trestle has been rebuilt and almost 50 acres have been added to the park.

Nature council volunteers such as Howdy Knipp and Jeffrey Budnitz, and their group of dedicated trail maintenance workers, wield chain saws, loppers and other tools to keep the many trails in the park clear of fallen trees and vines.

Eagle Scout Kevin Turner and Boy Scout Troop No. 711 built steps from Paw Point Dog Park to the lake. Student Conservation Corps members removed overgrown and invasive plants near the dam in preparation for members of the Guilford Garden Club, who replanted the area with native species. Children from Scott's Branch Police Athletic League planted turtlehead plants for the Maryland Checkerspot Butterfly (the Maryland state insect) and painted wooden butterflies for the caterpillar enclosure near the future site of Acorn Hill. ❖



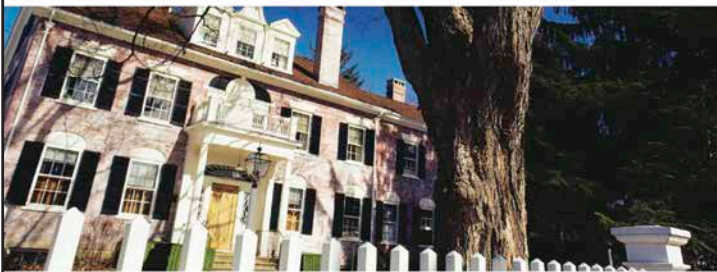
Eagle Scout Kevin Turner and Boy Scout Troop No. 711 built steps from Paw Point dog park to the water's edge. Photo courtesy RELPNC



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Winter Birds

By Peter Lev

Winter is a good time to look for birds in Maryland. Many species of waterfowl are on area lakes, including mallard, black duck, Canada goose, gadwall, ring-necked duck and pied-billed grebe, to name a few. White-throated and other sparrows are in brushy and marshy areas—the boardwalk at Robert E Lee Park is a good vantage point. Sparrows may also be at backyard feeders.

Some of Maryland's biggest and most beautiful birds, including bald eagle, pileated woodpecker and barred owl, are easier to see in winter because deciduous trees are bare. The best spot for



Winter is a good time to look for birds in Maryland. Photo: Peter Lev

eagles is Conowingo Dam in Harford County, but they can also appear in local parks, at Loch Raven Reservoir or flying over your neighborhood. In fact, a pair of bald eagles has been hanging around Lake Roland in Robert E Lee Park for the last few years.

Once every several years, we find large numbers of northern songbirds wintering in Maryland because food is lacking in their more typical habitat—Canadian forests. This year, red-breasted nuthatch and pine siskin are already here. Look for them at your feeders. The red crossbill, a less common visitor, has also been reported. Crossbills feed on pine cones. Look for them in stands of pine or hemlock.

Winter is rarely dull for birders. So get out your field guide and have fun!

Peter Lev is a longtime member of the Baltimore Bird Club. For information about the club, visit www.baltimorebirdclub.org. ❖

Welcome New Neighbors!

(June through August)

Adam and Jessica Donaldson, 196 Oakdale Rd.
Gregory and Maria Durham, 204 Oakdale Rd.
Geoffrey Neuner and April Hotlman, 4604 Roland Ave.
Alexander and Anne Weil, 5 Club Rd.
Hakan Omer and Kara Bush Koymen, 1 Elmhurst Rd.
Peter Devereaux and Josephine Bergin, 14 Elmwood Rd.
Richard D. and Tracy A. Froh, 2 St. John's Rd.
Jeremy and Elizabeth Green, 8 St. John's Rd.
Adam Coleman and Lynn Desrosiers, 3931 Keswick Rd.
Elijah and Jamie Leigh Roberts, 4219 Wickford Rd.
Benjamin and Sara Langmead, 611 Edgevale Rd.

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

The holidays are just around the corner!

Celebrate with us! Treat your staff, clients, family, friends or team to breakfast, brunch or lunch this holiday season!



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How Open Space Increases Property Values

Continued from page 7

property values abutting or fronting a park is a reasonable starting point for estimating a park's impact."

Whether you rely on anecdotal or scientific data, it's easy to argue that improvements to our green space, together with an assurance that they will remain a permanent part of Roland Park, will increase our property values.

Numerous studies have shown that parks and open space have a positive impact on nearby residential property values. Technological improvements, along with the availability of data collected through multiple listing services, has facilitated studies that address the effect of public green space on property values.

Property values have increased for single-family homes within walking distance of urban trails, greenbelts, city parks and open green space. For example:

- In Boulder, CO, housing prices increased for each foot of proximity to an urban trail (M.R. Correll, J.H. Lillydahl and L.D. Singell's article in *Land Economics*, "The effects of greenbelts on residential property values: Some findings on the political economy of open space")

- In Salem, OR, land next to a greenbelt was worth approximately \$1,200 more per acre than similar land that was further away (A.C. Nelson's article in the *American Planning Association Journal*, "Using land markets to evaluate urban containment programs")

- In Philadelphia, PA, an analysis of the selling prices of 336 properties within a half-mile of a stream valley park showed, on average, a price differential of 4.2 percent compared to properties not within that distance (D.W. Lyon's PhD dissertation for the University of California, "The spatial distribution and impact of public facility expenditures, Berkeley, CA")

When park size was considered, two academic studies found more value was created by a series of small parks than by a single park of aggregated space.

Aside from the benefit of increasing property values, preserved open space causes little to no strain on existing infrastructure. The argument is often erroneously made that development on vacant land will generate additional property tax revenue, which ultimately might lead to reduced property taxes for the rest of the community. What is not discussed, however, is the strain that new development puts on existing infrastructure and public services. Additional tax revenue generated by new development is often quickly offset by the cost of providing new infrastructure and public services.

Park and playgrounds attract people of all ages, which can offer enough reason for residents to stay in a neighborhood past retirement. That has the effect of stabilizing home prices. And, as an added benefit, people between the ages of 65 and 74 use public parks more frequently than any other age group above 15.

In Roland Park, the preservation of open, green space is also a form of historic preservation that brings with it additional valuation benefits. The Olmsted design for Roland Park included open space, without any home sites on those areas. Purchase of the BCC property and its preservation as open, green space, along with the preservation of other open space identified in the Master Plan, will guarantee the continuance of Olmsted's historic vision of Roland Park for generations to come. ♦

Additional Reading

"August 2011 Economic Snapshot: The Economic Impact of Parks on Real Estate Values in NYC," 2011, New York City Economics Blog, www.nycdc.com/blog-entry/august-2011-economic-snapshot-economic-impact-parks-real-estate-values-nyc.


"Solving the Real Estate Crisis with Parks," 2011, American Society of Landscape Architects, dirt.asla.org/2011/06/16/solving-the-real-estate-crisis-with-parks.

Walker, Chris, "The Public Value of Urban Parks," 2004, The Urban Institute, www.urban.org/uploadedPDF/311011_urban_parks.pdf.

Fox, T., 1990, *Urban open space: An investment that pays*, New York, NY, The Neighborhood Open Space Coalition.

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Footlights: Not Just Any Home Anymore for Everyman

An Interview with Ian Tresselt

By Henry Mortimer

What's in a name? Everything, at least in the case of Everyman Theatre. For more than two decades, Everyman has sought to provide a quality, meaningful regional theater experience that everyone can enjoy. However, until recently, the organization has struggled to find a venue that suits its creative vision and the demands of its growing subscriber base. But that will all change in January, when the lights go up on Everyman's new home in the refurbished Empire Theatre space on W. Fayette Street. Roland Park resident Ian Tresselt, who serves as the theatre's Managing Director, has helped to orchestrate the organization's move to its permanent site and is poised to usher in its (and his own) new era.

Please briefly describe the history of Everyman Theatre.

Everyman Theatre was founded in 1990 by Vincent Lancisi as a way to help artists from the region find consistent, meaningful work that will keep them living in and contributing to the cultural life and economy of Baltimore. Twenty-plus years later, we produce six plays annually and have



Roland Park resident Ian Tresselt is managing director of Everyman Theatre. Photo courtesy Everyman Theatre

more than 4,500 subscribers. In January 2013, we will move into our newly renovated home at 315 W. Fayette Street, complete with a 250-seat theatre, spacious lobbies, a rehearsal room, classrooms and room to grow in the future.

What is the reason behind your decision to change locations? How will the move affect the kinds of shows that Everyman produces?

After several years in borrowed locations, Everyman moved to its current Charles Street location in 1995. But by 2004, the constraints of the facility (it was originally built as a bowling alley), like low ceilings and massive columns, which present numerous physical barriers and challenges that limit artistic choices, had become overwhelming. Also, unlike many regional theatres, Everyman's subscription base was growing rapidly and plays had to be extended to accommodate the demand, taking up precious rehearsal time from the next play. Had subscriptions continued to increase, the theatre would be "subscribed out" and we would have no single tickets to sell, a key ingredient to sustained revenue and introducing new patrons to the theatre. So the board, along with the Baltimore Development Corporation, engaged in an

Continued on page 24

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Footlights

Continued from page 23

extensive search for viable locations in the city that would accommodate Everyman.

Eventually, following a request for proposal on the former Chesapeake Restaurant that was denied, the theatre learned about the former Town Theatre (originally the Empire Theatre) on W. Fayette Street. Generously, Bank of America and the Harold Dawson Trust gave Everyman the theatre for \$1. In 2006, the theatre began an \$18 million campaign to renovate the vacant space into the new Everyman Theatre and, in April 2011, we broke ground. We'll open our new theatre to the public the week of January 14 with Tracy Letts' Pulitzer Prize-winning zinger of a play, "August: Osage County." Low ceilings be damned, because we are building a three-story house on stage!

What is your role as Managing Director?

I work closely with Vincent, Everyman's founder and Artistic

Director, and we both report to the Board of Directors and are responsible for different things. I oversee the departments that provide him with the tools to make the art—finance, fund raising and marketing. We both oversee our education department. My goal is always to find ways to protect the art and say, "Yes, we can do that."

When and why did you decide to pursue a career in the theatre?

I started dancing when I was in elementary school. I acted in high school plays, and was seen by a scout who was starting a Visual and Performing Arts Program at a magnet school. I auditioned and was accepted. Then I auditioned for Carnegie Mellon's School of Drama, mostly because I had a guidance counselor who said I would never get in—I did. During my tenure at Carnegie, I learned

about all of the elements that go into making theatre. It also opened my eyes to the fact that there were a lot of people who were far more talented than me on stage, so maybe my pursuit was off-stage. In the real world, I was fortunate to find jobs at different theatres in different capacities, and I just kept finding ways to increase my responsibilities and work with professionals who I admired and could learn from.

What inspires you personally to work with Everyman, rather than any other theatre in Baltimore—or New York, for that matter.

I'm originally from Maryland, and grew up in Frederick County. Baltimore was the "big city" of my childhood. In the summer of 2008, I was perfectly content in my job at the New Victory Theatre in New York. I had lived and worked in New York for 10 years, had a new boyfriend and finally had enough money to afford a one-bedroom apartment. Then I received a phone call from a search firm who asked me about my interest in the job. Always up for a challenge, I was intrigued, submitted my material and made many trips to Baltimore over the course of that summer. When I got the offer, my partner and I were walking along the Hudson River in Manhattan. He was game, I accepted and we started our new adventure. Many of our patrons say to me, "All you have to do is come to see a play, and then you're hooked." That's exactly how I felt. Where else do you get the chance to change the cultural landscape of a city, save an historic building through adaptive re-use, while working with a group of extraordinary artists and volunteers? We knew this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

How does being located in Baltimore influence the choices you make for productions?

I think art is always informed by its surroundings, but ultimately we strive to produce plays that tell a human story that will engage, inspire and transform you. Humans are diverse and individual. Based on those criteria, the cannon of plays from which to choose is vast.



Everyman's new home is the refurbished Empire Theatre on W. Fayette Street. Image: Cho Benn Holback & Associates

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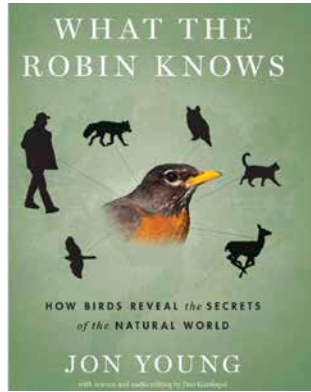
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The Book Nook

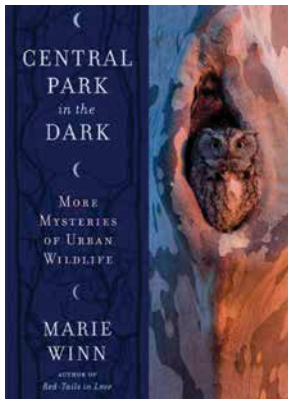
By Julie Johnson, Branch Manager, Roland Park Library

Hello, everyone and welcome to a special edition of The Book Nook, which in honor of the ongoing community Open Space Campaign, is dedicated to open space. It also offers a sneak preview of our program plans for the spring and asks for book suggestions for a discussion series we're planning. Keep reading!

Running from March through May, the Roland Park Branch Library will host a book discussion series on the value and uses of open space in an urban setting. We have chosen two of the titles and are asking readers to help us choose the third. We currently plan to host the book discussions on March 9, April 13 and May 11 at 11 a.m. in the library's meeting room. As we finalize plans, we will provide more information about which title will be discussed on which date and we will ask interested readers to register at the library. Listed below are the titles and brief descriptions.



What the Robin Knows by Jon Young. Young's book is more than a book about birdcalls; he writes about the deep language that many birds exhibit and that many of our forefathers understood. From warning of predators to notice of where food and water is located, many species of bird have very complex languages that humans can, and have in the past, understood.



Central Park in the Dark by Marie Winn. Winn writes not just about the many types of nocturnal animals that come alive at night in NYC's biggest public park, but also about the human denizens who inhabit the darkened trails and paths. Winn is known for writing engaging stories that will make you care about her human and animal protagonists alike.

We are planning other open space programs for the spring and summer, and hope to have a variety for all ages and interests, so stay tuned. As we finalize plans and

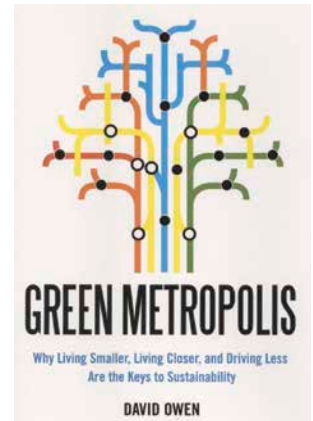
presenters, the details will be posted on the branch website (www.prattlibrary.org/locations/rolandpark), in The Compass (Pratt's system-wide newsletter of events) and on flyers posted at the library.

These next titles are the possibilities for our third choice. Please contact Brian DeLuca or me at the adult information desk by January 12 to cast your vote.

Big Burn by Timothy Egan. Egan won the National Book Award for his history of the Dust Bowl, *The Worst Hard Time*. This time, he looks at the birth of the National Park Service and one of the deadliest forest fires of the early 20th century. At the heart of this tale are two men, President Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot, both of whom were determined to create a naturalist culture and a legacy of public parks and land in the United States.

Grand Avenue by Scott Berg. Washington, DC, is unique among most world capitals in that it was designed and laid out before anyone called the city home. Berg examines the life of Pierre Charles L'Enfant, French volunteer in the Revolutionary War, friend of many of the Founding Fathers, and the man who first envisioned and drew up the plans for the nation's new Capital. Politics, in-fighting, and a clash of personalities would see L'Enfant banished from the project and the credit for the plans stripped from him.

Green Metropolis by David Owen. Owen is a unique environmentalist. He is pro-city—any city—and sees them as a more environmentally sustainable way of life than your standard wilderness commune. He takes issue with many of what he considers ill-considered green policies and proposes alternatives that play up the advantages of city living.



Continued on page 26

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Book Nook

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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. Changes to the public schedule are also posted, usually as a banner, on the Pratt Library's website at www.prattlibrary.org.

Our branch e-mail is rln@prattlibrary.org. When emailing us, please make sure the subject line indicates that you have a library question by using BOOK REQUEST or something similar as your subject. The Pratt Library's website is www.prattlibrary.org.

Roland Park Branch hours are Monday and Wednesday: 12 to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday: 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday and Sunday: closed. Please note the following holiday and furlough closings for all Pratt libraries: December 24 for Christmas Eve, December 25 for Christmas Day, January 1 for New Year's Day, January 21 for Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, and February 18 for Presidents' Day. ♦

Parents' Library Corner

Date and Time	Program
Mondays, 1:30 p.m.	Mother Goose Baby Steps. Interactive nursery rhyme program with music and movement for children up to age 2 and their caregivers. If Monday is a holiday, program will be held on Thursday at 1:30 p.m.
Thursdays, 11 a.m.	Preschool Leaps. Stories, songs and fun for children ages 3 to 5.
Wednesday, December 5, 12:00 p.m.	Hands on Holidays: Chanukah. Songs, stories and crafts celebrating the holiday of Chanukah, presented by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Baltimore. For children up to age 5.
Thursday, December 6 3:30 p.m.	Bookopoly 101. Learn about Bookopoly and then play a game with us. For children ages 6 to 12.
Wednesday, January 16, 12 p.m.	Mazel Tales. Stories, songs and activities showcasing Judaic culture, presented by the Jewish Community Center of Baltimore. For children up to age 5.

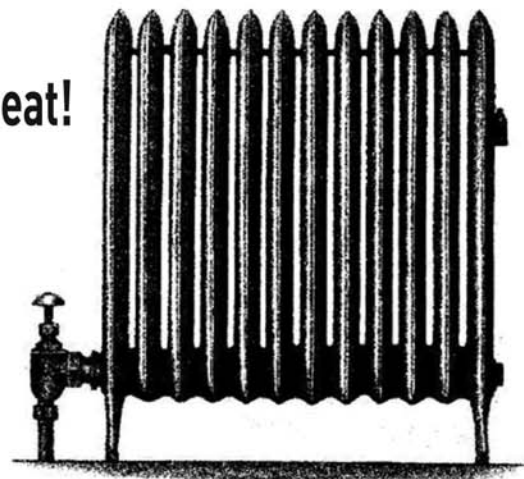
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Footlights

Continued from page 24

What do you hope audiences will gain most from attending a show at Everyman Theatre?

A theatre is one of the few places in our modern world where we ask you to turn off your technology and watch a story from beginning to end, at a pace that you cannot control. You cannot pause and come back to it, and you cannot fast forward it to the end. Actors are informed by the audience, and the audience is informed by the play. Theatre remains an art form that requires you to listen. Our hope is that you leave the theatre more informed but, more importantly, with an opinion.

Are there local theatre luminaries who have inspired or otherwise shaped your career? If so, who and how?

Carl Schurr and Wil Love, two of Everyman's resident company members, mean the world to me. I grew up watching them perform and, even though I've had the privilege to work with them, I'm still star-struck. They gave me my first professional theatre gig when I was in college. It was summer stock, so I learned a little bit of everything—from painting sets to cat-wrangling. Time marched on, and connections were lost. But what a marvelous homecoming to learn that two extraordinary friends and artists were back in my life. The magic of theatre, indeed!

What is next for Everyman? For you?

As we start settling into our new home, our hope is to bring more new voices to Baltimore, while continuing to produce the American classics that our audiences love. Because we have more seats in our new theatre, we are also planning to expand our education programs and partner with more Baltimore City Public Schools to provide them with access to live theatre. We also look forward to aligning ourselves with the terrific organizations in our new neighborhood, like the Hippodrome, the Bromo Seltzer Arts Tower, EMP Collective and Arena Players, just to name a few. As for me, I'm looking forward to becoming a dad. My partner, Joe, and I are in the process of adopting an infant, and we are so excited to start our family in Roland Park. ♦

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

Home Sales

(August through October)

	List Price	Closing Price
903 W. University Pkwy., No. 30	\$190,000	\$182,000
4605 Schenley Rd.	\$220,000	\$220,000
4612 Schenley Rd.	\$275,000	\$275,000
4513 Wilmslow Rd.	\$285,000	\$275,000
4314 Roland Springs Dr.	\$325,000	\$320,000
425 Wingate Rd.	\$349,500	\$349,000
619 St. John's Rd.	\$376,500	\$367,500
4604 Roland Ave.	\$399,000	\$399,000
1015 Poplar Hill Rd.	\$419,000	\$393,000
721 Gladstone Ave.	\$459,000	\$442,000
611 Edgevale Rd.	\$485,000	\$485,000
5500 Toad Ln.	\$525,000	\$510,000
204 Oakdale Rd.	\$569,500	\$562,000
123 Hawthorn Rd.	\$570,000	\$565,000
98 Cotswold Rd.	\$589,000	\$538,000
333 Tuscany Rd.	\$595,000	\$575,000
8 St. John's Rd.	\$595,000	\$585,000
1107 Harriton Rd.	\$649,000	\$635,000
407 Hawthorn Rd.	\$675,900	\$650,000
2 St. John's Rd.	\$725,000	\$709,000
5 Club Rd.	\$899,000	\$800,000
1 Elmhurst Rd.	\$1,095,000	\$1,025,000

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Halloween

By Sally Foster

Ghosts...goblins...ghoulish monsters, carved pumpkins on steps. Fake owls perched on windowsills. Skeletons dangling from tree limbs. Clusters of kids dressed as movie and TV characters, princesses...fairies...cowboys. A touch of originality in the airplane and ice cream cone seen along Roland Avenue. Bags filled with Milky Ways, Snickers, M&Ms and Three Musketeers. A child's dream...a dentist's nightmare. The lights were on and everyone was in good spirits. ♦

Photos: Sally Foster and Anne Stuzin



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Artifact Coffee Pumpkin Bundt Cake

3 ¼ cup flour
 2 ½ cup sugar
 1/2 tsp. salt
 2 tsp. baking soda
 2 tsp. baking powder
 22 oz. (1 ½ 15-oz. cans) pumpkin purée
 5 eggs
 1 ¼ cup canola oil
 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
 3 T. powdered sugar
 3 egg whites



Generously coat a Bundt pan with butter and dust with flour, tapping out the excess. Spoon batter into pan and bake for about an hour, or until tester inserted in cake comes out clean. Remove from oven, cool on a rack for about 15 minutes and invert the pan onto rack to cool completely.

For the glaze, cream softened cream cheese with powdered sugar and 3 egg whites. Drizzle cake. While the icing is setting, you can stick pecans raisins, or whatever you like in it to decorate. Let it sit before serving.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. For the cake, combine dry ingredients in medium bowl. In a separate large bowl, combine wet ingredients. Gradually whisk dry ingredients into wet ingredients just until combined.

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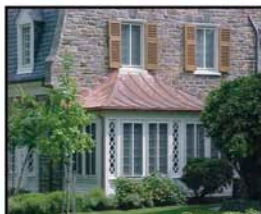


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Winter Berry Charms

By Kate Culotta

Each year, as Mother Nature glides into late fall, I look out over my gardens, so lush a few weeks ago, and wonder at how many empty, blank spots I have. For the past few years, I've told myself that I need to pay more attention to the autumn garden. But when I've gone looking at local garden centers, the selection is rather thin and uninspiring. As much I love the nandina bushes that anchor the front corners of my house, I keep thinking there must be more out there than nandina and holly to provide berry interest through the fall and winter. I found the answer this year with the elderberry family.

Sambucus canadensis, American elderberry, is a member of the honeysuckle family that grows as a shrub or small ornamental tree to about 13 feet in height. The bark is smooth and gray, developing corky bumps over slender branches. There is a spongy, white pith inside the branches that's easy to bore out or remove, which is why elderberry branches were often used for lutes and musical pipes in earlier times. The leaf is divided into between five and 11 coarsely toothed, pointed elliptical leaflets. In late spring or early summer, the plant bears a branched stalk with white to pale pink lacy flowers in a rounded cluster. Tiny clusters of seeded berries appear in late summer.

If you're interested in picking elderberries or collecting the edible flowers, consider visiting a farm that only cultivates

the edible species. Not all elderberries in the wild are safe to eat, and eating green, unripened berries can give you a tummy ache.

The American elderberry can be eaten raw, but is best if dried or cooked before consuming. The European species, *Sambucus nigra*, and the American red elderberry, *Sambucus racemosa*, are not edible unless cooked first. There is a small amount of naturally occurring arsenic in the elderberry shrub, so investigate carefully before consuming.

Elderberry shrubs and trees are found across North America, from woodland gardens to damp soil by seaside cottages. They prefer a well-drained, sunny location, but can tolerate dappled sun and shade in hotter zones. They are often planted along streams and riverbanks to help stabilize the soil. The foliage helps to cool stream water on hot summer days, and provides habitat for fish and other aquatic organisms.

Once planted, you should allow the shrub to grow without pruning for a year to allow the

flowers and berries to form on that first year of cane growth. Beyond the second year, the shrubs handle pruning well.

The elderberry is a wonderful wildlife habitat, attracting woodpeckers, bluebirds, orioles and many other creatures, though deer tend to avoid it.

References to elderberry go back far into Greek history and mythology. It is one of the oldest medicinal plants referenced in ancient times. It was, at one time, considered a medicine chest all on its own. Elderberry berries and teas were used as diuretics or laxatives, and given to children to settle upset stomachs. The flower was often steeped in oil to create a massage lotion used to stop bleeding, and reduce the discomfort of sunburns, bruises and rashes. Elderberry flowers contain high levels of vitamin C and were often mixed with yarrow and peppermint to treat sinusitis, hay fever, colds, flu and asthma. Please, though, consult your doctor before you go out and invest in herbal elderberry products.

The elderberry has also played an important part in our domestic lives throughout history. Its scientific name, *Sambucus*, refers to the Latin sambuca for harp. In Greece, a sambula was a stringed instrument made from elder wood. Aside from the medicinal uses, fruits were gathered, dried and preserved in large quantities that were cooked into sauces that needed no further sweetening. Elderberry wine has always been prized for its gorgeous deep claret color. In European folklore, ladies would douse their white skin with elderflower water to preserve its youth and freshness. On the practical side, twigs were used for weaving lightweight baskets. With the pith removed, the twigs were used to blow on fire embers and to make flutes and pipes. Elderberry trunks were used to make other useful household items.

I do think the elderberry shrub will be at home here in my Roland Park garden, but we'll have to wait until next fall to see firsthand how it shines in the autumn garden. ❖



The elderberry bush is a wonderful wildlife habitat.

Photo: USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database/Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions. 3 vols. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. Vol. 3: 268.

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Update on Crime in Roland Park

By Elisabeth Sachs

In light of a spate of burglaries this fall in Roland Park, a special community meeting on crime was held on October 15. Members of the Roland Park Public Safety Initiative, representatives from the Northern District of the Baltimore City Police Department and State's Attorney's office, and several of our elected officials attended. After a walking tour of neighborhood properties affected by crime, a discussion was held to review the facts and determine a plan of action to reduce crime and keep Roland Park a safe community. A full report of the meeting is available here on the Roland Park website, at www.rolandpark.org/documents/RPCL_crime_meeting%2520_20121015.pdf.

Since the October meeting, Captain Richard Worley of the Northern District reports, "Detectives are still actively pursuing leads on robberies." He adds, "Property crime appears to have subsided, and Officer Quinton Smith is still assigned to the community. His presence will not change anytime soon."

As always, you are urged to stay vigilant and call 911 immediately if you see suspicious activity or persons. Also, please be in touch with the Roland Park Public Safety Initiative team with any concerns, comments or reports of crime in your area. ♦

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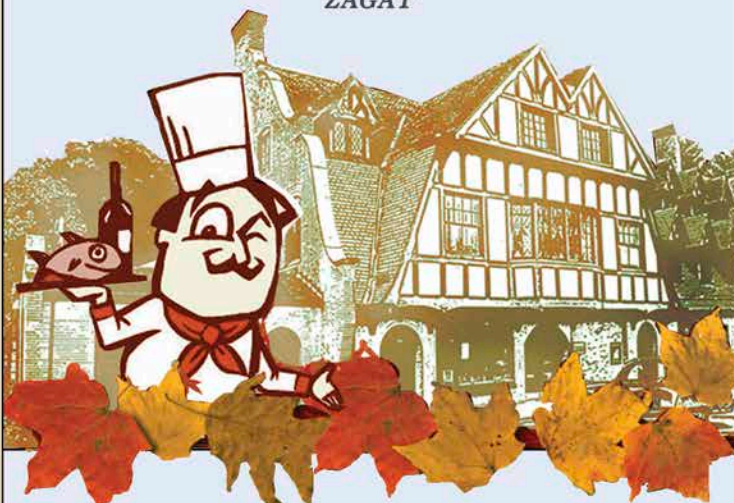
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