

ROLAND PARK

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Association • Volume Seventy-One • Spring 2019

**Roland
Water
Tower
Update**

Spring
Pollinator
Trees

***Tuxedo
Pharmacy
Closes***

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Editor's Notes

By Martha Marani

For the past 18 years, the **Roland Park News** has been dedicated to celebrating the community, fostering its unique spirit and helping neighbors to know neighbors. That tradition continues with this issue.

In our cover story, Mary Page Michel updates us on the exciting plans for the Roland Water Tower. Due to the tireless efforts of the Community Foundation, Friends of the Roland Water Tower and our dedicated elected officials, and generous donations to the Open Space Campaign, the vision laid out in the *2011 Greater Roland Park Master Plan* to restore this iconic neighborhood symbol will soon become a reality.

Mary Zajac shares some of Harold and Arnold Davidov's stories and historic pictures after their 80-year-old family business, Tuxedo Pharmacy, closed its doors in January. The Davidovs are among the many local business owners who have made significant contributions to the *esprit de corps* of Roland Park, as Kathy Hudson points out. If you haven't already, take some time to get to know the others.

Sally Foster takes us on a trip to Kenya with her stunning wildlife images in the first of what I hope will be regular photo essays of the journeys Roland Parkers take. Please send me your pictures!

Another new feature I'm hoping will catch on is "Spotlight on Service." In this issue, Kim Tortolani shows us how she's turned

her passion for coaching into an opportunity to effect real change in Baltimore City. Read about the good work she and Next One Up founder Matt Hanna are doing with at-risk youth.

The Ivy Bookshop's Rona London is a new voice for the **Roland Park News**, sharing her picks for children's literature. Because I work with Rona as The Ivy's school outreach

coordinator, I have seen first-hand how much thought she puts into her choices and I'm thrilled to be sharing them with Roland Park.

From 2001 to today, the editors of the **Roland Park News**—who have also included Kathleen Vander Horst, Anne Stuzin, Hilary Paska and Lori Ulloa—

and the many generous contributors and supportive advertisers have all shared its commitment to this unique community we call home. We recognize the good fortune we share as residents and business people in Greater Roland Park. I hope you all feel the same way.

Happy spring! ♦



Photo Courtesy Sally Foster



Roland Park's Spring Celebration

Save the Date! – Friday, April 26

Join your neighbors for the Roland Park Community Foundation's annual fundraiser!

Featuring "celebrity" neighborhood bartenders, light fare provided by local restaurants and the ever-popular Wine Auction.

Tickets available online soon.

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact foundation@rolandpark.org.

All proceeds benefit the Roland Park Community Foundation.

The Roland Water Tower: The Work Begins

By Mary Page Michel

After years of planning, the work on the Roland Water Tower will begin in 2019. There have been more twists and turns, starts and restarts in the restoration of this iconic structure than there have been in a blockbuster mystery novel. Finally, the ink has dried and there is a legal agreement between the Roland Park Community Foundation (RPCF) and Baltimore City, and the project will commence this year.

The City will begin the project's design this spring. This work can take anywhere from six months to a year. When complete, the City will hand over the design to the RPCF and construction will begin, most likely in early 2020.

The octagonal, 148-foot Roland Water Tower sits between Roland Park, Hoes Heights, Rolden and Hampden. It is located at the intersection of University Parkway, Roland Avenue and Evans Chapel Road. Originally built in 1905 to provide water for Hampden, the Beaux Arts tower stored 211,000 gallons. It was decommissioned in the 1930s when the City's reservoir system was installed. The area around the tower became a transportation hub—used as a turnaround spot for streetcars and then buses—but it eventually fell out of use. Over the years, the tower fell into disrepair and, in 2009, the City erected a chain link fence around it to protect people from falling debris.

We chose the restoration of the Roland Water Tower as one of three major projects recommended in the 2011 *Greater Roland Park Master Plan* (rolandpark.org/community-resources/master-plan). With a mission to improve green and public spaces in our community, the RPCF understood this historic gem was not on the list of top priorities for the City and the only way for it to be preserved was if the community stepped up.

In the summer of 2009, a new preservation group was formed—the Friends of the Roland Water Tower ([facebook.com/groups/rolandh2otower](https://www.facebook.com/groups/rolandh2otower)). It is comprised of residents, most living in close proximity to the tower, who care deeply about the restoration. They occasionally hold community events to fundraise for the project. Group Chair Suzanne Frasier, who has been a leader on the Roland Water Tower team, brings her experience as an architect and designer, which continues to be crucial to the success of the project.

Restoration will begin at the top of the heavily damaged tower. The terra cotta roof, roof soffits and balustrades are in disrepair. This work will allow the fence to be removed, which will mark a significant milestone. After the tower's exterior is restored, the 0.75-acre land on which it sits will be improved as a pocket park for the community. If funding allows, there will be lighting to showcase the historical gem that is the Roland Water Tower.

How do we pay for all of this? The State awarded a Bond Bill of \$250,000 to the City for the tower in 2012 on the condition that the community matched that amount in donations. Thanks to the generosity of Open Space Campaign donors, we raised the matching funds. The City committed a portion of the funds allocated to demolish the tower, up to \$337,000. A delegation in Annapolis is currently reviewing another smaller Bond Bill

and the City has committed more limited funds. It is likely that additional funding will be needed, but that will be determined after the design is complete, when construction estimates will be available. Delegate Sandy Rosenberg has been a champion for this project in Annapolis.

Why has it taken so long? There have been three large stumbling blocks along the way. The first was determining which City department would be responsible for the Roland Water Tower, which was originally part of the city's water supply and fell under the Department of Public Works (DPW). DPW had no capacity to or interest in restoring the tower. The Department of General Services oversees monuments, so it made sense that it would be responsible for the tower and, in 2013, the Board of Estimates (BOE) approved that change. Al Copp, a Roland Park resident who passed away in 2017, was instrumental in getting this change made as well as pushing this project forward for the first six years. Deputy Mayor Pete Hammen in Mayor Catherine Pugh's administration oversees the team at City Hall, and City Councilpersons Mary Pat Clarke and Sharon Green Middleton have advocated for this project for many years.

The second stumbling block was dividing the work of restoring the Roland Water Tower. The City suggested that the RPCF turn over the private funds raised as part of the Open Space Campaign so that it could handle the project. We did not feel comfortable doing this, so it was agreed that the work would be split between the City and the RPCF. For many years, the City suggested that we do the design work and the City would do the construction. The RPCF, under the leadership of Copp, worked with multiple design firms but none of them would commit to doing the design with the City doing the construction. Firms did agree to do the design work for the City with the RPCF doing the construction. So the roles reversed.



The 148-foot Beaux Art tower was built in 1905.
Photo Courtesy RPCF

WATER TOWER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The latest challenge was creating an agreement between the City and the RPCF. It took more than a year to hammer out the details of this complicated relationship. The final document was agreed upon in January 2019. Don McPherson, a resident of Roland Park, led the negotiations for the community. McPherson is the attorney who assisted the Mt. Vernon Place Conservancy with the legal negotiations with the City over the Washington Monument. He has generously donated both time and expertise, which have been critical to moving this project forward.

What is the timeline? The agreement between the City and the RPCF must be approved by the BOE, a process the City estimates will take six weeks. Next, the BOE has to approve the contract between the City and its



Architect's sketch of Water Tower Park Image Courtesy Lee Driskill, Hord Coplan Macht

design firm, JMT. It is estimated this will take two months.

After contract approval, JMT will begin the design work. They are required, by contract, to complete the project in under a year, but we hope it will only take approximately six months. We hired an owner's representative, Tom McCracken, to negotiate with JMT on the design. McCracken also worked for the Mt. Vernon Place Conservancy during the Washington Monument negotiations. The desired outcome is a design that the community wants and can afford.

Once the design is complete, JMT will provide a cost estimate for the project. We then have 120 days to hire a construction company.

Could the Roland Water Tower fall down? It is doubtful. In 2011, the RPCF won a matching \$2,500 grant from the Heritage Fund—a joint

program sponsored by Preservation Maryland and the Maryland Historical Trust—to have an engineering study done of the Tower. The study found that the structure was sound.

Could the City demolish it? In 1974, the Roland Water Tower was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and, in 2008, the City designated it a City Landmark Building. In 2011, it was designated by Preservation Maryland as one of the state's most endangered sites. It cannot be demolished.

In a community that cares so deeply about history and historic structures, the restoration of the Roland Water Tower is a grand opportunity to restore our iconic neighborhood symbol and create a unique gathering space. ♦

Mary Page Michel is chair of the board of the RPCF, a non-profit 501c(3) organization established in 1986 to preserve, maintain and improve the parks, streams, squares, trees and other green spaces in our community. Its mission is to benefit present and future generations of residents and stay true to the Olmsted Brother's vision for this community.



Restoration will begin at the top of the heavily damaged tower. Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

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Tuxedo Pharmacy

By Mary Zajac

When Harold Davidov told his wife that he and Arnold, his brother and business partner, had decided to close the Tuxedo Pharmacy, Lynn Davidov told him, "People are going to be upset."

"Nah," Harold says he told her.

But "she was right," he admits.

"When we announced we were closing," Harold says, "I described it to my wife that it was like people on a pilgrimage. People who had been or still were customers came from all over—from Bowie, Maryland, to Big Sky, Montana—to say goodbye."

"There was an attachment there I never realized."

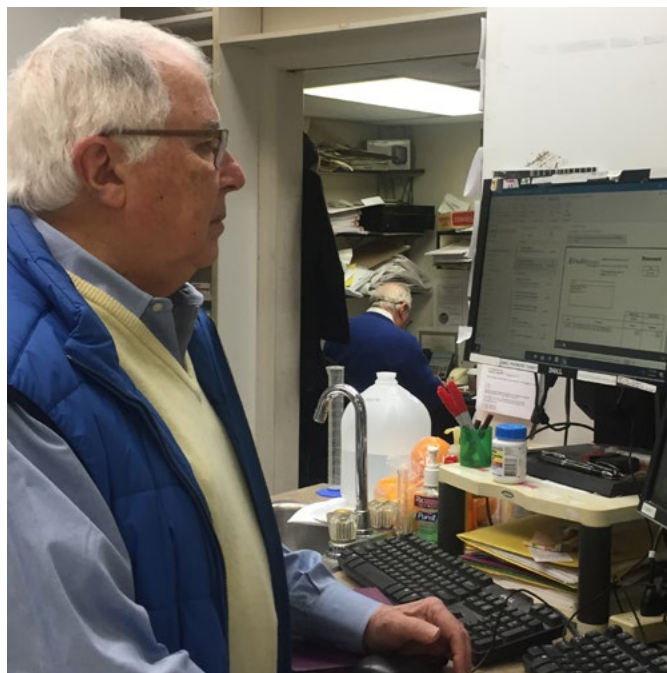
He remembers in particular an African-American woman in her 70s who approached him during the business' last days. He didn't recognize her, but the woman wanted to wish him well and thank him for his family's years of service, especially during the height of segregation." She said, 'I came in when I was a little girl because your father was the only one who would serve me ice cream,'" recalls Harold.

"People wanted to come in, wanted to be taken care of. And we took care of them. There's nothing that was asked that I wouldn't get done for you."

Long-time customers know the familiar story of the Davidov brothers' tenure as keepers of the pharmacy. How their father, Louis Davidov, purchased the business in 1936 and acquired the building itself in 1942; how in the early days, the family lived above the store while Lou worked long hours; how the parents gave the business to their sons, Arnold, a pharmacist, and Harold, a businessman, with the promise that the younger Davidovs would never fire the older generation (their mother, Betty, worked at the store well into her 90s). Instead, four generations of the family served four generations of customers offering everything from dehumidifiers and giftwrap to hairbrushes and cosmetics, as well as the apothecary must-haves.

A combination of factors influenced Harold and Arnold's decision to close the store, including the increased competition from mail order and online pharmacies, and the challenge of dealing with insurance companies. Historical records Harold found among his father's papers reflect the striking change in business over the years. In 1946, Lou filled five prescriptions a day. During the pharmacy's busiest era six or seven years ago, that number rose to 280 per day. It later fell to around 190 at the time of the store's closing.

But whether you came in for a prescription, a greeting card or



A common Tuxedo scene, with Arnold at the computer and Harold in the office.
Photo Courtesy Kathy Hudson

scented Vitabath, you rarely left without a conversation. Bob Embry and Shale Stiller, along with Rabbi Mitchell Wohlberg and the late Gil Sandler, were part of an informal group Harold referred to as "my Saturday guys." The group coalesced organically—Embry recalls stopping in to pick up a newspaper one Saturday morning roughly 15 years ago and getting drawn into conversation with Harold. Stiller thinks his entrée began when he got a prescription filled. On Saturdays, "we'd start to schmooze about politics," says Stiller, a partner with DLA Piper. "Then we'd talk about sports, issues

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TUXEDO PHARMACY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



In January, Tuxedo Pharmacy closed its doors after more than 80 years. Photo Courtesy Kathy Hudson

affecting the city, share stories. Harold is a very easy person to talk to."

"[The Saturday get together] became almost a psychological crutch," says Stiller. "If Harold was out of town, it was almost like a piece of me was missing."

"Harold is very interesting, very intelligent and very opinionated," adds Embry, president of the Abell Foundation. "Their leaving is like a death in the family; it creates a real void. Nothing will replace it."

Over and over, customers cite the warmth of Harold and Arnold Davidov in making the business welcoming to all and how the brothers would go above and beyond normal circumstances to fulfil customer needs. Harold's daughter, Amy Sibel, who worked at the store during her teenage years and again more recently, recalls a time when a Tuxedo driver ran off the road not far from Sibel's home while delivering a prescription during icy weather. There were no injuries, Sibel said, "But Dad called and asked me to drive by and make sure he was okay. He just always tried to do his best by everyone."

"My dad and my uncle were so loyal; they cared so much," says Sibel,



Louis "Doc" Davidov bought the pharmacy in 1936. Photo Courtesy the Davidov family

remembering how they would welcome children to the store with lollipops. "I learned so much from them."

"The customers were terrific," enthuses Harold. "They were stimulating. We served Pulitzer Prize winners, a Hall of Fame pitcher, United States senators. You never knew who was going to walk through that door."

"It's the people contact I will miss most. It was a people business."

Harold is not quite sure what his future plans will be. For now, he still goes to the store every day to wrap up business, happy when people pass by, see him and wave.

So if recently you've found yourself heading toward Roland Avenue to visit the Tuxedo Pharmacy only to pull up short and remind yourself that store closed at the beginning of the year, you're not alone.

"I can't tell you how many times in the last month I have said, 'I would have gone to Tuxedo, but...,'" reports Jean Waller Brune, Head Emerita of the Roland Park Country School. "I would get all of my groceries at Eddie's and then I'd get everything else I needed at Tuxedo. I will miss the fact that I just can't run in there."

"I'm so excited that Harold and Arnold have retired. They've been beloved," she adds. "But anything else there won't be the same." ❖

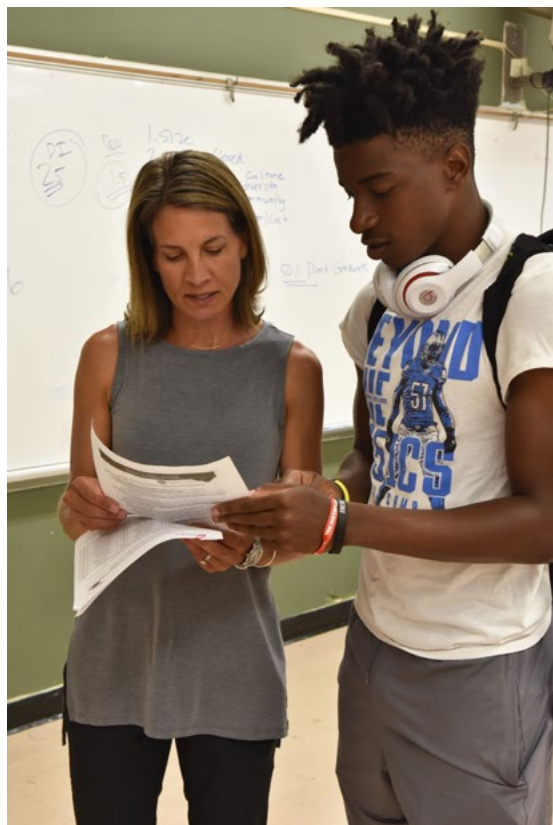


After World War II, Harold and Mynra Davidov lived in apartments above the pharmacy with their brother Arnold, and parents Louis and Betty. Photo Courtesy the Davidov family

Spotlight on Service

By Martha Marani

Over the past two decades living in Roland Park, I've had the great good fortune to meet some of the most generous people I've ever known—people who work full-time and lead busy family lives, but who also volunteer at their church or synagogue, at work or their child's school, or through a local,



Kim Tortolani works with NOU student Mckhiel Lyle.

Photo Courtesy Anne Stuzin

regional or national non-profit. Others—who clearly have the talent and expertise that would bring them tremendous success in the private sector—have chosen to work for a non-profit for far less financial reward.

Most do this work without any fanfare or fuss. They're not doing it for the recognition; it's just how they're wired.

Perhaps it's

something they learned as children. Maybe they're driven by a particular passion (a love of books, for example, has led some to tutor emerging readers at a public school or to work for an organization like the Maryland Book Bank, a literacy non-profit). I like to think that most simply believe the phrase, "To those whom much is given, much is expected."

I hope some of Roland Park's most service-minded folks will occasionally let me tell their stories. I promise to focus more on their charity of choice than on them. My hope is that we'll all come to know one another better and to appreciate one another more. Let's shine a spotlight on—and celebrate—the myriad of ways Roland Parkers serve our city, state, country and world. To suggest an organization for a future "Spotlight on Service" column, please email me at magazine@rolandpark.org.

Next One Up

For the last year, Roland Park resident Kim Tortolani has dedicated her time and significant coaching talent to a local

non-profit that's near and dear to her heart. Next One Up (NOU) empowers young men in Baltimore City—middle and high school student athletes who are believed to be at high risk of having their dreams derailed if they don't receive the right kind of support.

"I've always enjoyed working, coaching and mentoring young people at the high school and college level," she explains. "But I was looking to use my energies and skills to work with individuals from a different background who had less access to educational and professional opportunities."

Tortolani was introduced to NOU founder Matt Hanna at the gym and they immediately hit it off, sharing a similar background in the world of college lacrosse.



Founder Matt Hanna is dedicated to advancing the academic, athletic and social development of the young men in his program. Photo Courtesy Anne Stuzin

"While both of us loved our experiences as athletes and coaches, we strongly believe that sports is not the answer for the young men at Next One Up, who face significant barriers and a lack of options."

She joined the organization and has recently been named School Choice Director. She works with 8th graders and their parents on the high school application process, and high school juniors and seniors and their parents on the college application process. Tortolani also teaches college readiness skills to all NOU students.

Hanna, who graduated from Johns Hopkins University, played professional lacrosse and then taught history in the Baltimore City Public Schools system, unofficially acting as a mentor to several of his students. The students reminded him of a childhood friend who had been jailed for robbery after high school. Recognizing parallels between his friend's path and the one that many of his students were on, he worried that their outcomes would be the same. Hanna took action, founding NOU in 2009.

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SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE

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He recently described his inspiration to Tortolani. “I was tired of watching athletes and coaches view sports as the only path out of poverty and equally frustrated with that lack of avenues to develop necessary life skills to make it beyond sports and into a stable life. Everything seemed to stop at 18. I wanted a program that walked with these guys through the many phases of life. The ultimate purpose is to create generational change...it is not about being rich, but about doing one step better than your parents and creating a life that will support your children so they will not need a Next One Up program!”

NOU mentors and coaches young men on and off the field, helping middle school students find their way to good high schools and continuing to support them through graduation, whether their next step is college or a career path. The staff and volunteers are dedicated to advancing the academic, athletic and social development of the young men in the program.

According to the website (nextoneup.org), NOU “arm[s] our young men not only with tangible support, but with the perseverance, grit and resilience that will be the precursor of lifelong success.”

NOU’s student athletes face such obstacles as unstable housing, a lack of basic needs, incarcerated family members, addiction issues in the home and the experience of significant trauma. With NOU on their side, however, 100 percent of participants have graduated from high school on time and been accepted in two- or four-year colleges. Ninety-two percent have chosen college, while the others have chosen to train for a trade. NOU places young men with jobs and internships at Under Armour, Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, M&T Bank, Tulkoff Food Products and other local businesses.

Academic services include tuition and soft supports (e.g., books, clothing, transportation), academic and special needs assessments, school placement support, custom STEM and leadership curricula, Sunday programming year-round, currently at Gilman School, and a five-week summer academic program. Athletic services include sports and outdoor experiences, training and conditioning. Hanna also recently introduced a community service component.

NOU is with its students for the long haul, providing mentoring, college counseling and support, and job placement. In fact, many former program members become NOU mentors, offering their hand out to the “next one up.”

All services are designed to:

- Foster stability, to prevent talented young men from being derailed by barriers
- Identify passions, to keep them focused, and to set them on a path for lifelong success and self-realization
- Build skills, to prepare them to be leaders in their communities
- Create vision, to help them hone in on—and achieve—future success

Tortolani talks about the boys she mentors with pride and affection. She describes one student, Ronald, who has a special place in her heart. She’s been mentoring the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute student since before she joined the NOU staff and she’s quick to point out that, in addition to being involved with NOU, Ronald is a member of the Johns Hopkins University’s MERIT Health Leadership Academy.

“To be honest, Ronald didn’t need a whole lot of mentoring, outside of talking to him about organizing his time and getting to bed before 1 am,” says Tortolani. “He has become a part of our family and he and my oldest son are good friends.”

Tortolani is a perfect example of someone who expects much of herself, whose dedication to serving those who have been less fortunate is worth showcasing.

“I love building relationships with young people and pushing them to be their best selves,” she explains. “Whether it is on



100 percent of NOU participants have graduated from high school on time and been accepted in two- or four-year colleges. Photo Courtesy Anne Stuzin

the athletic field or in the classroom, I have always emphasized working hard, doing the little things right, and being a loyal teammate and unselfish leader.”

Prominently featured on NOU’s website is this line, “When you get to the top of the mountain, pull the next one up.” It’s from a poem written by Marc Kelly Smith (aka Slam Papi), American poet and founder of the poetry slam movement. It fits the organization’s mission and makes NOU the perfect choice to kick off this new column. It’s my goal to tell the stories of how our neighbors here in Roland Park reach out regularly to, “Pull the next man up/Pull the next woman up/Pull the next up/Up/Up” (Marc Kelly Smith, “Pull the Next One Up”). It all starts with people like Kim Tortolani and Matt Hanna, and organizations like Next One Up.

For more information or to get involved in Next One Up, visit nextoneup.org. You can also follow the organization on Instagram.

Trees for Pollinators and Us

By Devra Kitterman

With spring coming, humans in our part of the world are enthusiastically looking forward to longer days, warmer temperatures, the cacophony of birds singing (hopefully), and the reemergence of all manner of plants and arboreal delights. Likewise, overwintering honeybees and other pollinators, desperately hungry, are anxiously awaiting the first budding flowers of trees, their primary source of nutritionally important nectar and pollen.

All bees, including the 450 types of native bees in Maryland, are dependent on a reliable, varied and safe supply of nectar and pollen to survive, and the continued success of our food supply around the world is dependent primarily on bees. Yet all bee species are currently threatened by climate change and loss of habitat, and the resulting loss of forage (food).

While the diversity of flowering plants, shrubs and trees is important to all pollinators, birds and other living things, trees are the most important and vital to our survival. As the largest plants on earth, they create oxygen through photosynthesis and absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Their roots stabilize, cool and protect the soil. They provide the materials for shelter, and food for humans and wildlife. In Roland Park, their shade keeps temperatures cooler than those downtown by up to eight degrees on a hot summer day. Trees truly are the lungs of the earth.

In spring, Sugar Maples (*Acer saccharum*) and Red Maples (*Acer rubrum*) are some of the earliest to bloom, followed in importance by the Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), whose beautiful white flowers produce some of the finest, lightest honey. Blooming nearly simultaneously with the Black Locust is the magnificently tall Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), which blooms in May and early June, depending on weather conditions. Its nectar-loaded flowers, which resemble an upright tulip in shape and markings, are sticky-sweet favorites of pollinators (and squirrels).

Rounding off the list of top nectar-producing trees are the Lindens, also called Basswood, which bloom in June and early July. American Linden (*Tilia americana*) flowers make especially fine honey. When Lindens are blooming, you can hear the bees buzzing around the canopy. Not only are they excellent pollinator trees, Lindens make good street trees, as they are incredibly durable and tolerant of many soils and conditions. Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*) is a prolific bloomer with a nice overall form, but during some early summers it can be plagued by

aphids, which drop a clear, sticky “honeydew” on cars. However annoying, it typically only happens for a short period of time.

In fact, many—if not most—of the very best pollinator plants and trees are considered to be messy or invasive. So the question we have to ask ourselves is which is more important, being somewhat inconvenienced by things like having to occasionally clean honeydew off our cars or losing our pollinators? After all, bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, etc., support the very food—fruits, nuts and vegetables—that help keep us alive. Planting pollinator-friendly trees seems like an easy choice. As Rachel Carson so presciently observed, “In nature, nothing exists alone.”

The trees mentioned here are not the “be-all and end-all”—there are many others that deserve consideration. Sugar Maples, Red Maples, Black Locusts, Tulip Poplars and Lindens are the top nectar producers in our region and are, therefore, most vital to our declining pollinators.

During the 20 years I have lived in Roland Park, I have watched more than half of our 150- to 200-year-old trees be taken down due to declining health, old age, storm damage or the

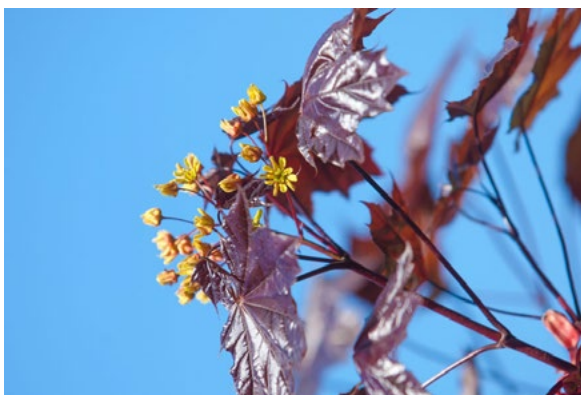
misguided desire by some to encourage yet more grass. Too often, these old friends are not being replaced with similar or beneficial varieties. I regret that I helped add yet more Japanese Zelkovas to Roland Avenue during my time on the Roads & Maintenance Corporation board, rather than requesting other, more beneficial trees. I simply did not know better at the time. And as I write this and look out my window, I can

see failing trees in every direction. Climate change has brought various new tree viruses into the area, affecting many of our trees, including the American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*). It won't be long before we lose all of the largest trees in Roland Park and it is tremendously important for neighbors to be thinking about how their replanting choices may affect the health and future appearance that our signature tree canopy has provided here for generations. ❖

Devra He'ui Kitterman is a Baltimore City beekeeper and the Pollinator Program coordinator for the Maryland Agricultural Resource Council (marylandagriculture.org), a non-profit that emphasizes public education. She runs multiple classes and workshops for beekeepers and others. She formerly owned and operated He'ui Horticultural Services, which provided commercial interior plant services and exterior landscape design and maintenance for 27 years. To receive her free pollinator plant list, contact her at devra.kitterman@gmail.com.



Photo Courtesy Sally Foster



Red Maple. Photo Courtesy Aleksandr Prokopenko ©123RF.com

Hudson's Corner: Local Businesses Enrich Community

By Kathy Hudson

It's a no-brainer. Locally owned businesses add color to neighborhoods and further a sense of community. Think of the small shops and restaurants throughout Greater Roland Park and Hampden. These are brick and mortar places. They are not "Amazonian." They foster human connection. Along with products, shoppers receive personal attention.

Roland Park was founded with a "business block," one of the first off-street shopping centers in the United States. Now listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the purpose of the business block was to confine commercial space to a central area that would give residents convenient services and shopping.

Over the years, the historic shopping center has seen the original post office and community meeting rooms, Morgan & Millard pharmacy with its luncheonette and soda fountain, a Woman's Industrial Exchange, Victor's Market, Delvale and later Baskin-



Jeff Pratt at Schneider's Hardware Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

Robbins ice cream parlors, a dress shop, a photo shop, real estate offices and now a bank, Eddie Jacobs men's clothier and two locally-owned restaurants, Petit Louis and Johnny's. Residents of all ages have come together here for generations. People from the entire Baltimore area enjoy today's businesses.

Farther up Roland Avenue, the Wyndhurst and Tuxedo Park neighborhoods, older than Roland Park, also have had many small businesses. Schneider's Hardware (originally a grocery and meat market and now a hardware



Amy McManus at Crimson & Clover Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

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and gift shop) has been a family business since 1896. Other Wyndhurst businesses today include two hair salons (Atelier and Shear Classic), Bijoux, ReDeux consignment shop and Shanigans Toy Shop.

On Roland Avenue, Eddie's, in its third generation, still occupies its first space there, as well as space formerly occupied by the A & P grocery store and Ronkin's pet store. Around the corner, Crimson & Clover Floral Design and Laboratorie, a salon, do business where Shear Grace (successor to Ronkin's) was after Mrs. Marshall's Thrift Shop closed. Several years ago, Love Me Two Times moved to the spot where Gundy's Gifts had resided for decades, following its move from Roland Avenue.

At the time of this writing, two prime commercial spaces are vacant: Tuxedo Pharmacy and The Children's Bookstore. As with the closing of 77-year old Gundy's Gifts, the closing of the 83-year old Tuxedo Pharmacy marked the end of a community cornerstone. Ditto the move of The Children's Bookstore, in Roland Park for 32 years, to Lauraville.

These businesses offered quality merchandise and services like gift-wrapping and home delivery. They drew multi-generational shoppers. Customers knew the owners and sometimes the owners' parents and children. The owners often knew customers' grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren. These businesses provided neighborhood history and continuity.



Flora Stelzer at Shananigans Toy Shop Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

They also welcomed newcomers to the neighborhood. That is an important feature of neighborhood businesses. It is good for business and good for the community. Owners and shoppers quickly recognize one another. When my family first moved here in 1954, we knew only my father's boss and his family. After that came the people at Roland Park Country School, the grocery store managers and owners, and the druggists. Our doctors, William Helfrich on Roland Avenue and Charles O'Donovan on Deepdene Road, quickly became part of our family. Soon came the Roland Park Presbyterian Church, St. David's Episcopal Church, Gundy's and Ronkin's. In the 1960s a Roland Parker who had become a family friend, Hedley Clark, opened a men's clothing store, Jas. Brentley, next to Tuxedo Pharmacy. We gradually knew more names; more people knew ours.

Thirty years ago, I heard a man in Pigtown (another neighborhood with main street shops) mention the importance of calling people by name. He said it shows respect and acknowledges the person's individuality. Children always brighten when called by name. Adults constantly instruct children to use names: "Happy Birthday, Mac.," "Hello, Mrs. Downes," echo through the generations.

Owners of local businesses try to use customer names. We also know theirs: Jeff and Pat at Schneider's (before them, Jeff's father Paul), Flora at Shananigans (before her, Nancy and Sharon), Nancy and Michael at Eddie's (before them, her father Victor), Amy at Crimson & Clover, Andrea at Love Me Two Times, Tony and Cindy at Johnny's and Petit Louis, and Eddie at Eddie Jacobs.

We miss Doc and Mrs. Davidov and now their sons, Harold and Arnold, who grew up above Tuxedo Pharmacy with their sister, Myrna. We miss Diane at Gundy's, Liz at Shear Grace and JoAnn at The Children's Bookstore.



Pat Pratt at The Carriage House Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

Over time, residents and merchants come to know one another. Events in personal lives are shared in ways that rarely happen in chain stores, where personnel changes frequently, décor often is sterile and late-night delivery to sick clients never happens.

While retail has drastically changed with online shopping, locally owned businesses and restaurants still prosper and enrich life in Roland Park. We hope for more in the Eddie's block. ❖



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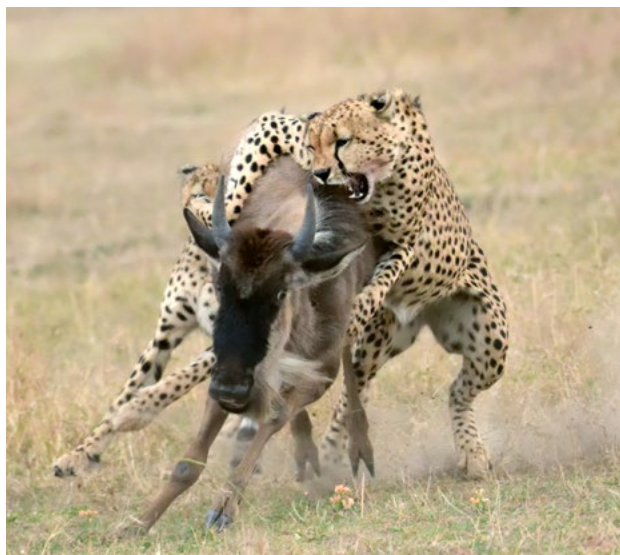
Travelogue: Kenya

By Sally Foster

Was it a dream or did it really happen? In October, I spent 10 days on a Kenyan photo adventure with award-winning photographers Denise Ippolito and Paul McKenzie. We camped close to the Mara River and each morning at just after 5 am we set out with our Masai guides. I never expected to be within feet of cheetahs taking down a wildebeest or a topi antelope being born. Elephants by the river, a lion cub in a tree, zebras fed up with photographers, a leopard's dreamy gaze, a roaring lion, birds picking insects off a Cape buffalo, male giraffes in a battle for dominance and a glorious sunset...if I close my eyes, I can still see them. ❖

Photos Courtesy Sally Foster





Roland Park Civic League Update

By Robert Connors, President, Roland Park Civic League

The Roland Park Civic League (RPCL) and Roads & Maintenance Corporation (R&M) recently added Saturday office hours to accommodate more members and residents, closing the office on Monday instead. If you're running errands on the Eddie's block Tuesday through Saturday between 10 am and 2 pm, stop in upstairs at 5115B Roland Avenue to say hello to our office manager, Shari Hash. You might even bump into one of your board members, who would love to chat!

The RPCL continues to address Roland Avenue safety issues for all users—pedestrians, cyclists and motorists—and I attend ongoing Baltimore City Department of Transportation (DOT) committee meetings. The DOT hired the nationally recognized engineering and architecture firm of Whitman, Requardt & Associates (WRA) to provide an independent expert opinion of the road's current status, analyze existing data, assess the need for new data points and recommend corrective design options. WRA has confirmed that existing standards are not met and the current roadway design installed in 2015 cannot remain. Changes are expected to occur during summer 2019. The RPCL will share details when they become available, which is anticipated throughout the spring. An update is planned for the annual members' meeting in May (date and location to be determined).

Our first annual food drive was a tremendous success, with donations

benefitting the Langston Hughes Community, Business and Resource Center (langstonhughescbrc.org) in Park Heights. The RPCL would like to thank all those who generously responded with food. Neighbors donated two carloads of food, including five turkeys, five hams and 10 pies, and

15 bags of additional groceries were donated by Brownies Troop 1258, which is made up of 22 girls from Roland Park Elementary/Middle School. In addition, \$325 was raised in just two hours!

Watch for an invitation next fall to participate during November 2019. The concept for this food drive was presented and unanimously approved at the RPCL's November board meeting. Board members Steve Grantz, Kristin Herber and Ashley Handwerk staffed the donations table. Anne Stuzin rallied her neighbors into donating money so that she could make a grocery run to kick off the drive. And huge kudos to Shari Hash, RPCL office manager, for getting our table banner made in record time and helping haul all the groceries over to Park Heights.

The RPCL's Social Committee, which organizes the fantastic 4th of July Parade, is planning to add a spring and fall gathering to the calendar. Look for details to be shared online. These events always need community involvement, so please consider volunteering. It is incredibly rewarding. To get involved, please email CivicLeagueAtLargeE@RolandPark.org.

The RPCL shares news and updates of ongoing initiatives at our monthly board meetings, which are open to the public. Meetings are held in the basement-level community room of the Roland Park Presbyterian Church (4801 Roland Ave.) from 7 to 9 pm on the first Wednesday

of the month. We post the agenda several days in advance and meeting minutes afterward under the "News" and "Civic League" tabs on our website (rolandpark.org). In order to reach as many residents as possible, links are posted on NextDoor, Google Listserv and Facebook. You can also sign up for the RPCL's e-letter by clicking a link found at rolandpark.org/news/e-letter. Our annual members' meeting is held in May. As stated in our bylaws, notices will be mailed to all eligible residences at least 20 days in advance. ♦

Robert Connors is president of the RPCL, the civic governing body that addresses matters affecting the interests of Roland Park residents. Its purpose is to foster the common good and welfare of its members, to take action on those matters of mutual interest, and to otherwise represent the people of Roland Park.

CIVIC LEAGUE UPDATE



Steve Grantz, Ashley Handwerk and Kristin Weber (left to right) staff the Thanksgiving Food Drive table. Photo Courtesy Bob Connors



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Who Does All the Neighborhood Landscaping?

By Chris McSherry, First Vice President, Roland Park Civic League

Have you ever wondered how the grass gets cut in the medians or Centennial Park, or who prunes the bushes in the islands and the bump-outs? Are you curious about who keeps the paths cleared and passable, and the railings repaired? There are no gardening and maintenance fairies that sneak in during the night and magically keep our neighborhood looking good. Most of those tasks are done by K & C Grounds Maintenance (K & C), whose vans you may have seen in the neighborhood. The Roland Park Civic League (RPCL) Maintenance Committee pays K & C to do a lot of work that benefits us all, putting your Roads & Maintenance Corporation (R&M) fees to good use.

When the Roland Park Company built our neighborhood between 1890 and 1915, they established R&M to do two things: enforce the covenants and maintain the community's common spaces. They set it up so that our deeds required the payment of basic fees to R&M. The fees calculated at the time were considered adequate to cover the costs of covenant enforcement and common space maintenance. These days, however, the fees don't even come close. That is why we ask everyone to pay "full fees," which are eight times the basic fee, so that we can pay the contractors who do all the work.

The RPCL amended its by-laws in 2012 and assumed the common space maintenance duties from R&M, so the latter could focus its resources and efforts on covenant enforcement. Here are some of the tasks that K & C does under their contract:

- Four major cleanups of the paths, islands, medians, bump-outs, Centennial Park, Falls Road Terrace median, Edgevale Park, Merryman Court and the bushes on the hillside on University Parkway at Keswick Road, which includes pruning, weeding, mulching, vine and debris removal, and general cleanup.
- Mowing of Centennial Park, Edgevale Park, the Roland Avenue median and Merryman Court.
- Fall leaf cleanup in all the areas listed above.
- Weeding and mulching of the trees in the Roland Avenue median, as well as cleanups of fallen branches.

The Maintenance Committee also pays Davey Tree to care for the trees in the Roland Avenue median, which we are slowly nursing back to health. The costs to deep-root fertilize, prune and mulch all those trees can run to many thousands of dollars.

In addition to the routine maintenance, the committee pays for planting the free trees in the program established in 2012 by Al Copp (see page 14). As many as 50 new trees are planted in a year. It pays to have the lanes plowed when we have more

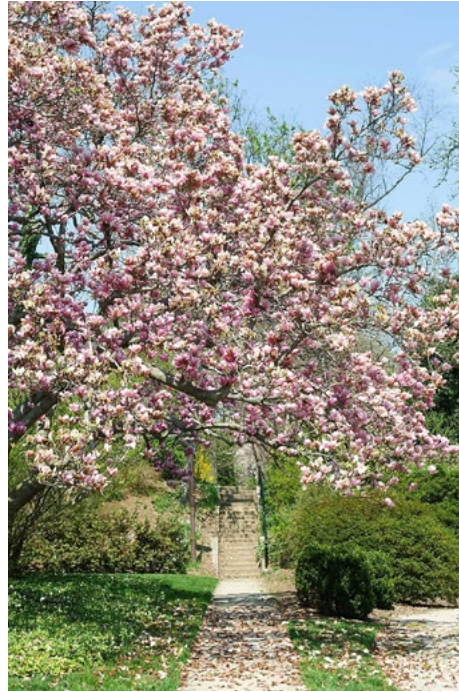


Photo Courtesy Sally Foster

than four inches of snow. It pays for repairs to path railings, steps and signs, as well as for concrete repair, erosion control and occasional cleanups of organic debris left in our public spaces. The Maintenance Committee also oversees the organic debris removal program, which allows full-fee-paying households to dispose of up to 2 cubic yards of material (roughly what would fill the flatbed of a pickup truck).

The next time you get an invoice from R&M, please try to pay the full fees and support the work of the Maintenance Committee, so that they can go on keeping the neighborhood looking its best. ❖

Chris MacSherry is first vice president of the RPCL.

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Spring Native Flowers for Your Garden

By Kirsten Johnson

There's a lot of interest in native plants for gardening, and that's a good thing. Native plants are the foundation of a healthy ecosystem that supports birds, insects, humans and other animals. But what does the term "native plant" really mean? Every plant is native to somewhere, whether that somewhere is in the mountains of eastern Asia or a single pond on Maryland's eastern shore. A plant is considered native to a region if it grows there naturally, meaning without human intervention. If a plant only grows naturally on the West Coast of the United States, it may be just as foreign to Maryland's



Claytonia virginica Photo Courtesy Kimberly Booth

ecosystem as one that grows in Japan. So the term "U.S. native" tells the Maryland gardener nothing about its local ecological value. Look at the label and ask questions when you buy plants.

If you're looking to add a few plants to your garden this spring, here are two Maryland native wildflowers that are easy to grow and require little or no care once established. You can tuck them in here and there in the garden—no redesign required.

I like to keep track of what grows in the West University Parkway median (otherwise known as Centennial Park). Imagine my surprise and delight one spring when I found



Spring Beauty with syrphid fly Photo Courtesy Judy Gallagher

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Roland Park Tree Program

This spring's selection of free trees, available to Roland Park residents who pay full fees, will include oaks, maples, disease-resistant American elms, dogwoods, flowering cherries and silver bells. A more detailed list of trees will be made available (listed on Nextdoor and sent out via the listserv) in the spring, after the trees are delivered. Please contact Kate Culotta (krculotta@msn.com) if you have any questions. To learn more about the Roland Park Tree Program, visit rolandpark.org/roland-park-tree-program.

Please do not nail, staple or tack anything on neighborhood trees! Anything that penetrates a tree's bark puts it at risk for disease or insect infestation. It can also damage the cambium, the area beneath the bark where cells rapidly divide and increase the girth of the tree. Another problem with putting nails, staples or tacks in your tree is that the tree will grow around the object. This makes it dangerous to trim or cut down the tree at a later date. ❖

Spring Beauties (*Claytonia virginica*) blooming in the grassy verge across from the 500 block. They're likely remnants from before the street was laid out. I've noticed in other places, too, that this hardy species is among the last of the spring wildflowers to succumb when non-native invasive plants overrun an area.

Spring Beauty is a spring ephemeral, meaning that its flowers and leaves die back once the trees leaf out. These and other spring ephemerals are critical food sources for early emerging native bees, like bumblebees and those of the species *Andrena* (commonly called the mining bee), which overwinter as adults and emerge hungry in early spring. Spring Beauties also feed on—and are pollinated by—other insects like those flashy wasp look-alikes, the native syrphid flies, also known as flower flies.

Spring Beauties form low, gradually expanding clumps, making them showier as the years go by. But they will not cause trouble in the garden, and it's a thrill to see them coming up, sometimes even before the snow has melted.



Wild Columbine Photo Courtesy Jim Stasz

Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) one of the most popular native flowers, is among my personal favorites. Its red color and unusual shape evolved to attract hummingbirds as pollinators. Each flower consists of five long tubes, just the right length for the hummingbird's beak, but too long for bees and other insects to reach the nectar inside. You can also find blue columbines (often Rocky Mountain Columbine, *Aquilegia caerulea*) for sale. They are native to Europe or the western U.S. and their shorter tubes evolved for pollination by insects of their regions.

Wild Columbine blooms in early to mid-spring, and the delicate foliage persists into mid-summer. You'll notice the occasional volunteer popping up in other areas of the garden, but they don't get out of hand. They've done fine wherever I've planted them, but the volunteers seem to come up most often on a slope. This isn't surprising since, when it grows naturally, Wild Columbine is nearly always found on cliff faces and steep slopes. ❖

Kirsten Johnson is president of the Maryland Native Plant Society (mdflora.org), which is dedicated to promoting awareness, appreciation and conservation of Maryland's native plants and their habitats. She and the photographers are regular contributors to the Maryland Biodiversity Project (marylandbiodiversity.com), a non-profit organization focused on cataloging all the living things of Maryland.

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Seared Scallops with English Peas, Morel Mushrooms and Beurre Blanc

Petit Louis Bistro

Ingredients for *Beurre Blanc*

- 1 c. dry white wine
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 sprig thyme
- 10 whole peppercorns
- 1 shallot, sliced
- 2 oz. heavy cream
- $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. salted butter (use high quality butter, it makes a difference), large diced

Start by adding the wine, bay leaf, thyme, peppercorn and sliced shallot to a smallish saucepot. Bring the mixture to a boil, and cook until the wine has reduced to the consistency of syrup and looks as though it has almost entirely disappeared from the pot. Be sure to remove from the heat before the mixture begins to develop color and burn



Photo Courtesy Petit Louis Bistro

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604 W. University Parkway	\$395,000	\$411,500
4223 Wickford Road	\$439,000	\$425,000
4330 Roland Avenue	\$499,000	\$474,000
501 Hawthorn Road	\$695,000	\$600,000

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

on the bottom of the pot. At this point, add the heavy cream and return the pot to very low heat. Once the cream is hot and begins to slowly simmer, add the cold, diced butter gradually, whisking constantly to form an emulsion. The resulting sauce should look thick and creamy. If it looks like liquid melted butter, the emulsion has broken, and you must start again from the beginning. Once all the butter has been added, strain the sauce through a fine mesh sieve. The sauce can be held warm in a container placed in a warm water bath or in a thermos while you finish the rest of the components of the dish.

Try to find English peas from the farmer's market. Blanch them in rapidly boiling salted water for around 4 minutes, checking them along the way to make sure they are not overcooking. When properly cooked, the peas should still have a little bit of bite to them but should have lost the raw flavor and texture. Be sure to put the blanched peas into ice water immediately after they are cooked to arrest the cooking process and help them retain their bright green color. You may to adjust the cooking time depending on the size of the peas. If they are super tiny, you can skip the blanching and just gently heat them in a pan with melted butter.

Early in the season, morels tend to be fairly clean, not requiring much more than a gentle brush with a towel. Be careful not to damage the mushroom. If you're buying them late in the season, morels tend to become "sandy" and may require a quick dunk in cool water to remove excess dirt. Submerging mushrooms in water is never ideal but if you must do it, do it quickly and then dry and cook them immediately to remove excess water. I cook my morels in a pan with just butter and salt until they start to become crispy on the outside. You can leave them in the same pan off the heat to stay warm and continue to soak up the butter until the rest of your dish components are ready.

If you can find local scallops while they are in season, you should use them. If you can't, try to find "dry-packed" or "non-treated" scallops. Some scallops on the market are treated with preservatives. Treated scallops tend to be unnaturally salty and do not sear well. Check the scallops to make sure the abductor muscle has been removed. It is a small piece of flesh on the side that feels tougher than the rest of the scallop. If it is still attached, it can be easily removed by peeling it off the rest of the scallop. Pat the scallops dry with a towel and season them with salt. Preheat a sauté pan to medium-high heat and add a small amount of neutral flavored cooking oil (canola or corn oil) to the pan. Place the scallops in the pan and let them cook on one side for about 1 to 1.5 minutes, or until they are sufficiently browned. Turn them over and reduce the heat to medium and continue to cook for an additional minute.

While your scallops are cooking, gently warm up the peas in melted butter. Place a small pile of peas and the warm morels in the center of a plate. Drizzle the warm *beurre blanc* around the peas and morels. When the scallops are ready to serve, give them a gentle sprinkle of salt, before placing them on top of the pile of peas and mushrooms. ❖

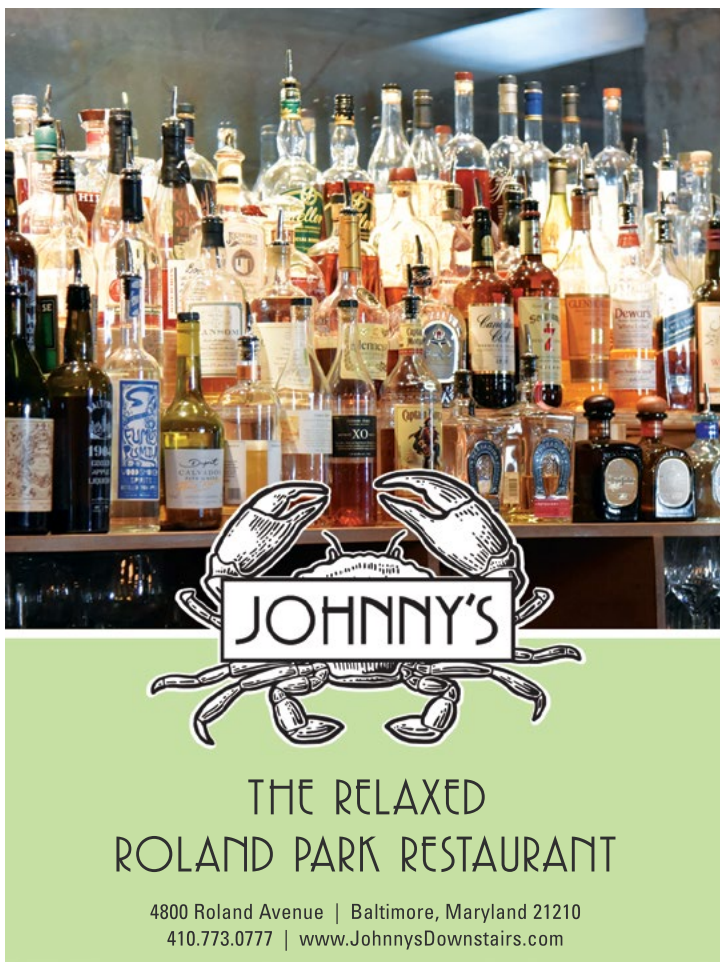


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Spring Quinoa Salad with Pomegranate and Pistachios

Eddie's of Roland Park

This bright side dish—fragrant with fresh herbs and accented with crunchy pistachios and tart, pomegranate arils (the fruit's seed pod)—will complement most any main dish, including Easter and Passover fare, or oven-ready salmon filets from Eddie's.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook Time: 25 minutes

Serves: 4

Ingredients

- 1 c. pre-rinsed white quinoa (or blend of red and white)
- 2 c. water
- 1/3 c. golden raisins
- 1/3 c. shelled unsalted pistachios, coarsely chopped
- 1/3 c. pomegranate arils

1/4 c. scallions (green onions), finely chopped

1/4 c. parsley, finely chopped

1 T. mint, finely chopped

Zest of 1 orange

1/3 c. feta cheese, crumbled (optional)

Dressing

1 T. fresh lemon juice

3 T. cider vinegar, divided

2 t. honey or agave syrup

1/2 t. coarse kosher salt

1/2 c. extra virgin olive oil

Combine quinoa and water in a medium saucepan. Cover and bring to a rolling boil. Reduce heat to medium and continue

to cook, covered, for 15 minutes until quinoa is translucent and all the water is absorbed. Fluff with a fork and set aside for 10 minutes. Soak raisins in 1 T. cider vinegar in a small dish. This will rehydrate and plump the raisins. For the dressing, whisk together lemon juice, the rest of the cider vinegar, honey and salt. Slowly whisk in the olive oil. Set aside.

Combine prepared quinoa, soaked raisins, pistachios, herbs, orange zest and feta (if desired). Toss with dressing. Adjust seasoning and serve chilled or at room temperature. Pair with Molo 8 Lambrusco Mantovano. ❖

Eddie's Tip: Turn up the tartness with dried cherries or dried apricots in place of pomegranate arils. This recipe also works with riced cauliflower subbed in for quinoa.



Photo Courtesy Eddie's of Roland Park

One Book-One Poly: Breaking the Boundaries

By Katrina Marinelli

As students attending Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (Poly), my classmates and I are a part of one family, drawn from 31 zip codes. Outside of school, though, the boundaries introduced by zip codes and historic discrimination result in a divided city. With One Book-One Poly: Breaking the Boundaries, we hope to begin to reverse the effects of institutionalized racism. By engaging the entire school in a single social justice issue—with all of us studying one book each year—and by partnering with local social justice organizations, we will work toward making Baltimore a more equitable and united city. This year, the chosen book is *Not in My Neighborhood: How Bigotry Shaped a Great American City* by Baltimore author Antero Pietila.

Nearly 300 students, teachers and administrators have requested a copy of the book and plan to attend the event. This program is partially funded by the Bezos Foundation, which provided a \$1,000 grant. To date, members of the local community have donated an additional \$500 to pay for more books. Others have donated the book itself, but we still need more.

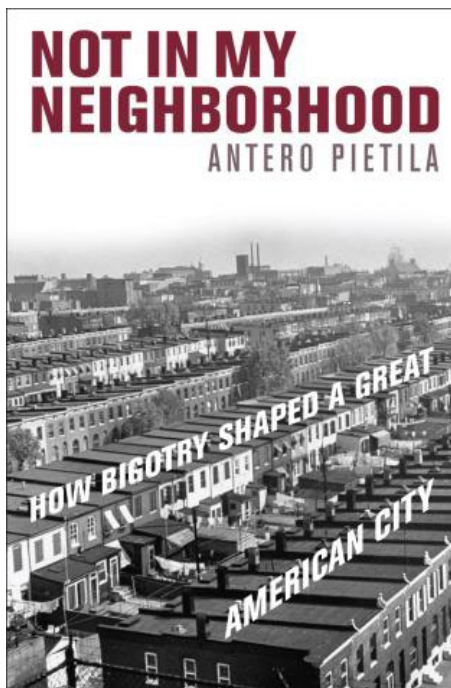
The culminating event of the program will be held at Poly (1400 W. Cold Spring Ln.) on April 27 from 9 am to 12 pm. Pietila

is confirmed as the keynote speaker and other local experts will participate as well. To translate our learning about these issues into action, local organizations will also participate and encourage ongoing involvement within the city.

The Bezos Foundation will provide a grant for one more year of the program but, considering the enthusiastic response from both the school and the greater community, we hope to continue One Book-One Poly in the future and perhaps expand it to other schools.

If you have any questions, would like to make a monetary or book donation, or get involved in any way, please email me at katrinamarinelli01@gmail.com. ❖

Katrina Marinelli is a junior at Poly (**bpi.edu**), a coeducational academic institution that emphasizes sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).



Bryn Mawr Introduces Summer Session

By Arielle Amegashie

Beginning in summer 2019, The Bryn Mawr School will offer credit-bearing summer courses for Upper School students entering grades 9 through 12. In keeping with the school's strategic plan goal of allowing more individualization in the Upper School curriculum, Summer Session at Bryn Mawr will allow more flexibility in how students choose to complete their



Photo Courtesy Bryn Mawr School

Students may complete a one-semester/half-credit course, or a full-year/one-credit course during the full session. The program will offer a variety of courses in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), the arts, and humanities, in addition to providing summer review courses in algebra and English, allowing students the opportunity to refresh or strengthen knowledge and skills before the academic year.

Upper School Director Dr. Nicole Hood says that, as a parent, she is eager to see the doors that Summer Session will open for Bryn Mawr students. "We're all really excited about this new program and the ways that it will foster a year-round learning community at Bryn Mawr," says Hood. "I see this as the creation of a number of micro-learning communities where students and faculty engage intensely on understanding a challenging and exciting subject in a longer daily time frame."

Bryn Mawr is committed to enriching the academic experience of each student, with a greater emphasis on experiential and collaborative learning to build an experience around the interests and needs of each student. The Summer Session program at Bryn Mawr will allow exactly that. ❖

Arielle Amegashie is assistant director of communications for Bryn Mawr (brynmawrschool.org), a private all-girls kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school with a coed preschool for ages 2 months through 5 years.

coursework. Incoming Bryn Mawr students can also register for Summer Session courses, provided all prerequisites are met

Director of Technology Justin Curtis says Summer Session will create more opportunities for students to immerse themselves in a particular area of interest. "By fulfilling graduation requirements over the summer, students can opt to take additional classes that relate to their interests during the school year, or create more balance and flexibility in their schedule to pursue opportunities like athletics or arts," says Curtis. "I am eager to see how students leverage Summer Session courses to pursue their passions and interest."

Summer Session will run for five weeks in June and July.

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Gilman School Launches Pre-Kindergarten Program

The Gilman community is excited to welcome its newest—and youngest—Greyhounds in the 2019-2020 school year with the launch of its new pre-kindergarten program.

Channeling their innate energy, Pre-K boys will learn through doing, exploring, engaging and spending time outdoors. They will use a hands-on, project-based, investigative process that will allow for exploration and discovery as a way of learning about topics that are relevant to each boy's everyday experiences and curiosity.

Embodying joy, happiness and positivity, lessons taught will promote exploration, imagination, discovery and play, resulting in a lifelong spirit of inquiry and learning. The curriculum, including reading, writing and math readiness, will encompass developmentally appropriate practices for the youngest



Photo Courtesy Gilman School

Greyhounds, and provide an integrated experience that will lay the foundation for academic success and personal growth throughout their school years. Additional subjects will include music, art, library, science, makerspace, and Spanish and French cultures.

Families can learn more by visiting gilman.edu/prek. Spring visiting dates for the 2020-21 school year will be announced soon at gilman.edu/admissions.

Gilman (gilman.edu) is an independent Pre-K through 12th grade day school for boys.



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Friends Connects

By Matt Micciche, Head of School

What's in a name? The question is at the heart of a strategic direction Friends School of Baltimore (Friends) embarked on in 2017. Called "Friends Connects", this vision for the future challenges our school to live up to its name by being more truly and fully of Baltimore. In order to do so, Friends



Matt Micciche, head of Friends Photo Courtesy Friends

will engage with the totality of Baltimore—its assets, its challenges, its rich history and its daunting legacy of inequality.

These aspirations call for each of us to go beyond our comfort zones in many ways—to look carefully and critically at familiar neighborhoods like Roland Park, where restrictive covenants once denied homeownership to certain groups, and to come to know very different neighborhoods, like Jonestown, where we have a thriving partnership

with the McKim Center (mckimcenter.org), a community organization that happens to be located in the very Meeting House where our school was founded in 1784. It also involves wading into uncomfortable conversations about racial tensions within our city, the uneven distribution of resources and the true meaning of equity.

Every day, in myriad ways, Friends educators help students venture beyond their protective bubbles by providing them with authentic opportunities to connect with and learn from people whose lives, by virtue of economics, geography and other factors, are very different from their own. And while such opportunities may sound like non-academic or extracurricular pursuits, make no mistake: The work of looking inward while engaging outward, of questioning our assumptions while remaining true to our principles, and of reflecting on our experiences through meaningful classroom dialogue is key to developing empathy, a skill that educators now understand is central to future success.

Our school's quest to become more fully "of Baltimore" is opening exciting doors to learning. And it is but one of the pillars upon which our strategic direction is based. At this

writing, exciting developments in the remaining aspects of our name—"Friends" (a reference to our 235-year history as a Quaker institution) and "School" (a concept that is evolving rapidly and must continue to do so)—are coming to the fore, all

Friends Connects

A Strategic Direction for the Future

of which will profoundly shape the educational outcomes for our students. We embrace these changes wholeheartedly and look with excitement toward the future.

For more information about Friends Connects, visit connects.friendsbalt.org.

Matt Micciche is head of school at Friends (friendsbalt.org), a private coeducational Quaker school founded in 1784 and serving students in Pre-K through 12th grade.

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50 Years: A Celebration of Roland Park Country School's First Black Alumna

By Abbey Pulcinella

Last November, alumnae, students, faculty and friends gathered to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Roland Park Country School's (RPCS) first black graduate. In 1964, RPCS enrolled its first two black students, Sharon Joyner and Cheryl Russell, both from the class of 1969. In 1966, the two were joined by Deborah Williams (1968), who became the school's first black alumna.

Approximately 150 guests attended a reception to honor the courageous sacrifices that Joyner, Russell, Williams and their families made in choosing to desegregate RPCS at a time that was fraught with racial tension. Planned by five graduates, the reception featured remarks from Head of School Caroline Blatti, alumnae Diane Hutchins (1972) and Janet Hartman (1968),



Photo Courtesy Hannah Klarner

and Deborah Williams' daughter, Jessica Brianne Snowden, and a moving performance by the school's gospel ensemble. Christyn Robinson, president of the school's Black Student Union, moderated the event.

Earlier that day, an alumnae panel spoke to students and joined members of the Black Student Union for lunch. Panelists included Sharon Bowie (1976), who was the first black teacher at RPCS, April Fahr (1991), Rianna Matthews-Brown (1997), Tara Bynum, (1998), Corrin McBride Hunt (1999) and Tanaira Cullens (2008). Throughout

the day, they reminisced about the joys and challenges of attending RPCS, and urged students to use their voices to speak for those who are not able to stand up for themselves.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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Spring Cleaning Tips

By Kate Culotta

Early spring is a great time to clean and organize your home before the warm weather draws you outside. Here are some tips:

- Put a cup of water and slices of fresh lemon in a microwave-safe bowl and heat it in the microwave for 5 minutes to loosen hardened splatters. Wipe clean.
- Inspect everything in your refrigerator, including condiments, tossing out anything that is old or expired.
- Mix 4 cups water with 2 tablespoons baking soda. Dampen a clean towel with the mixture and let it sit for 20 minutes on any congealed spills in the refrigerator. Wipe clean.
- Pour white vinegar into a plastic bag and secure the bag over showerheads with a rubber band. Leave overnight to remove hard water residue.
- Rub the cut side of a fresh lemon over faucets to clean spots and hard water residue.
- Scrub your stainless steel sink with a paste of baking soda and warm water. Rinse clean.
- Hire a professional window cleaner, or use newspaper and a spray bottle mixed with 2 cups water and 2 teaspoons liquid dish soap.
- Wet a dryer sheet and let it sit for 15 minutes on your ceramic stove top. Wipe.
- Heat your outdoor grill and then turn it off. Spray the grill with white vinegar. Wearing disposable gloves, scrub the grill with an onion cut in half, cut side down.

- Spray computer keyboards with a can of compressed air, following up with a cotton swab dipped in rubbing alcohol.
- Wipe between the slats of your HVAC vents with an old cut-up t-shirt, wrapped around a butter knife and secured with a rubber band.
- Get to those hard-to-reach spots with a DIY long-handled cleaning tool that you make by wrapping a cloth or towel around a broom handle and securing it with a rubber band.
- Clean out your closets. Divide unwanted clothing into piles: discard, donate and consign. From the discard pile, take old t-shirts and cut them into rags. Consider donating career clothing to a charity that helps men and women transition from training into employment. One option is Paul's Place (paulsplaceoutreach.org), an organization in Pigtown that provides programs, services and support that strengthen individuals and families. Please make sure clothing is in season. You can also consign items at ReDeux in Wyndhurst Station (redeuxapparel.com), Love Me Two Times on Deepdene Rd. (lovemetwotimes.net) or Vogue Revisited on Roland Ave. (voguererevisited.com).

Kate Culotta has an interior design business, Kate Culotta Interiors (kateculottainteriors.com). She recommends Cassandra Kent's *Household Hints & Tips* (1996) for other useful information. ♦

ROLAND PARK COUNTRY SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Encouraging students to seek out diversity in all forms is an unwavering priority at RPCS. Akailah McIntyre, director of Diversity and Inclusion, leads many initiatives to help students, faculty and staff deepen their understanding and initiate dialogue about diversity. Recent efforts include frequent professional development sessions about race and representation, an Employee Inclusion Council, an affinity group for girls of color in the Lower School and a Parent Diversity Committee.

RPCS is a better community because of Williams, Joyner and Russell. The bravery of these trailblazers serves as a reminder of the school's ongoing responsibility to fight for equality and educate tomorrow's leaders to create positive change in the world. ♦

Abbey Pulcinella is associate director of communications for RPCS (rpcs.org), an independent all-girls college preparatory school, with girls in grades K through 12 and a coed preschool.

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Friends of Stony Run 2018 Activities and Milestones

By Amy Johanson

In February 2018, the Baltimore City Planning Commission approved the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan. Initiated by the Roland Park Community Foundation in partnership with Friends of Stony Run (FSR), and with professional services from Mahan Rykiel Associates, a landscape architecture, urban design, and planning firm, the planning process engaged a broad range of stakeholders to create a comprehensive vision and action plan. You can find the plan at planning.baltimorecity.gov.

For the sixth year, FSR organized cleanups in connection with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's Project Clean Stream 2018. More than 130 volunteers worked at four locations, collecting 38 bags of trash, debris and invasive vines, and planting 50 trees along the stream and adjacent streets.

Volunteer teams continued the battle against invasive plants at five events throughout the year. In July, FSR joined forces with the Baltimore City Weed Warriors program to



FSR board members Myra Brosius, Ray Iturralde and Jack Boyson used ingenuity to keep 2017 plantings watered. Photo Courtesy FSR

fight kudzu in Wyman Park. In September, Boy Scout Troop 35 freed the Linkwood Pedestrian Bridge and surrounding trees from invasive overgrowth. In October, Johns Hopkins University students tackled porcelain-berry around the Remington Avenue Bridge. Tuscany-Canterbury and Roland Park neighbors joined forces in Linkwood Park in October, and Weed Warriors removed a vast field of porcelain-berry in Stony Run Park in early November.

FSR participated in the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Stream Waders program, the volunteer-powered component of the department's Maryland Biological Stream Survey, to collect benthic macroinvertebrates samples.

Bird lovers of all ages enjoyed the third annual Stony Run Urban Bird Fest in September, visiting with live raptors from the Carrie Murray Nature Center, dissecting owl pellets with Patterson Park Audubon, creating bird-themed crafts and following local birders on a special bird walk, thanks to volunteers from Senior Girl Scout Troop 693 and the Roland Park Presbyterian Church.

We advocated for sound stream restoration practices along the Stony Run throughout the year. Volunteers monitored the progress of the Lower Stony Run stream restoration project in Wyman Park and reported deficiencies to the Department of Public Works (DPW) and our elected representatives. Volunteers documented changing conditions with photographs and video, and coordinated walk-throughs with DPW staff and community members. In other news, after several community meetings, DPW staff reported that plans for stream repairs in the Middle Stony Run were put on "permanent hold" as of November 2018.

The newly established FSR Planting Advisory Committee provided guidance to tree planters from the Bolton Hill Memorial Episcopal Church, collaborated with the Tuscany-Canterbury Neighborhood Association to design landscape improvements in Linkwood Park and coordinated with planting partners to order TreeBaltimore trees in anticipation of spring 2019 planting. The committee also coordinated watering and maintenance of trees that were planted in 2017.

Is your group interested in planting trees and native plants along the Stony Run? The Planting Advisory Committee can provide guidance on obtaining trees, where and what to plant, proper planting techniques, working with City agencies, and maintaining your plantings in the first two critical years. Contact committee chair Myra Brosius at myrabrosius1@gmail.com. ❖

Amy Johanson is vice president of the board of FSR (stonyrun.org), a volunteer-based organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the entire Stony Run stream valley. FSR is interested in creating cooperation among all stakeholders in the area—neighborhoods, schools, government, people, animals and plants.

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Safety and Crime Prevention Tips

Baltimore City Police Department

Pay Attention to Your Surroundings. Almost everyone has a smartphone, and they can be very distracting. Walking while texting or making phone calls is inviting to criminals. Avoid doing this. Thieves can easily see you have a valuable phone and are not paying attention to your surroundings.

Always Lock Your Car. It may seem like a no-brainer, but always lock your car. This includes while refueling at the gas station or quickly running into a friend's house or store.

Don't Leave Your Car Running By Itself. In the winter, we all want to get behind the wheel of a warmed-up car. So do car thieves. Do not leave your car unattended if you warm it up before driving.

Leave Your Car Empty. Whenever you leave your car, even for a few minutes, make sure to leave it empty. Opportunistic thieves walk the street looking through car windows. When they see a car that has valuables in sight—even small amounts of change—they may smash your window for a quick payday.

Hide Cell Phone Charging Cables and GPS Devices. A cell phone charger plugged into a car's cigarette lighter or other outlet is a sign to crooks you may have additional items of value in the car. Hide that charging cable. Similarly, anyone who uses a GPS device should be aware that thieves look for a rubber mount's suction cup ring on a car's windshield. Before exiting the car, hide your GPS and wipe away the ring.

Package Theft. With the rise of online purchases and deliveries, opportunistic thieves commonly steal packages from front porches. If you know you are not going to be home when your package is delivered, leave a note asking the driver to deliver the package to a neighbor or a friendly neighborhood business for safekeeping.

Mail Theft. Most city residents don't have traditional mailboxes at the end of a driveway, and outgoing mail left on top of a mailbox outside the front door is an easy way for thieves to steal your letters and even your identity. Be sure to place all outgoing mail into one of the many mailboxes located throughout the city.

Bicycle Theft. Because so many bicycles look alike and lack unique identifiers, it can be very difficult to return them to their rightful owners. Have a friend take a picture of you with your bike, and write the make and model on the back of the printed picture. You can also engrave the bicycle with a serial number, and keep the picture and serial number with your other important papers. Doing so will make it much easier to recover your stolen bike and prosecute the offenders.

Going Out of Town. If you are going out of town for an extended period of time, make arrangements with a neighbor to collect your mail and keep an eye on your house. And leave on lights. Piled-up mail and a dark house tells criminals you aren't home.

Burglary Prevention Tips. Locking your windows and doors, and installing high-quality security locks and exterior lighting, are the easiest and most cost-effective ways to prevent burglary. Here are some additional tips:

- Use solid or metal exterior doors that are properly installed. Never use interior doors, which are not as strong as exterior doors.
- Anchor the strike plate to the framing of the house using 3-inch screws.
- Install weather stripping around your doors if they do not fit tightly.
- Equip every exterior door with a deadbolt lock (key-in-the-knob locks, by themselves, are insufficient), and engage both the knob and deadbolt locks every time you leave your home.
- Use a blocking device on all sliding windows and doors (a broomstick or dowel placed in the inside track is sufficient).
- Never hide a key outside. Leave a spare key with a trusted neighbor.
- Always leave a light on when you are not home.
- Consider purchasing an alarm system.
- Increase exterior lighting and use motion-sensitive lights or timers.
- Pick up trash from your yard and alleyways, and collect newspapers and mail daily. If you go on vacation, have a trusted neighbor or friend do this for you.
- Use "Beware of Dog" or "Alarm" decals to deter suspects from entering your home.
- Trim trees, bushes and other landscaping to ensure windows and doors are not blocked and criminals cannot use them for concealment.
- Use safes to store valuables and *always* keep a record of your serial numbers.
- Whenever you move into a new home or apartment, always change the locks.
- Call 911 to report any suspicious activity.

For other tips on how to prevent crime, visit **baltimorepolice.org/community**. ❖



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The Book Nook

By Julie Johnson

This spring, the Roland Park Branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library welcomes programs from the Village At Home and Patterson Park Audubon Center, as well as documentary film screenings in partnership with Maryland Public Television's Indie Lens Pop-up. Look for them in the Calendar Highlights column that starts on page 30.

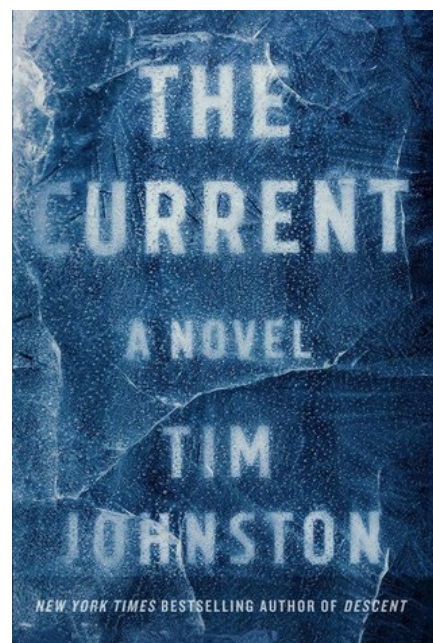
The library is open Monday and Thursday, 10 am–8 pm; Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 am–5:30 pm; and Friday and Saturday, 10 am–5 pm. The branch is closed Sunday. This spring, all Pratt libraries will be closed on Good Friday (April 19), Easter (April 21) and Memorial Day (May 27). I always update the first message recorded on the branch phone (410-396-6099) when there are changes to our schedule. Changes are also posted, usually as a banner, on the Pratt webpage at prattlibrary.org.

Our branch email is rln@prattlibrary.org. Please summarize your question in the email's subject line (e.g., "book request").

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

Fiction

The Current by Tim Johnston. At the start of this outstanding thriller from bestseller Johnston (Descent), Audrey Sutter, a student at an unnamed Southern college, asks to borrow bus money from her friend Caroline Price so she can get home to see her father, Tom, who's dying of lung cancer in Minnesota.

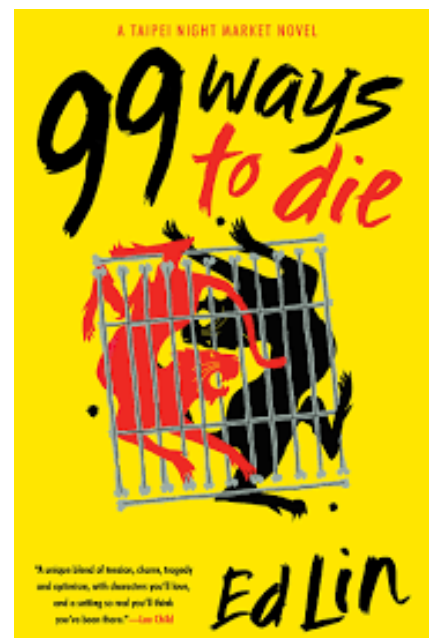


Instead, Caroline, a Georgia native, offers to drive Audrey the 700 miles north. A few miles from Audrey's hometown, Caroline's SUV plunges into the icy Black Root River, killing her; Audrey survives. Tom, the town's former sheriff, wonders if the vehicle was pushed. The case echoes back to the death of 19-year-old Holly Burke, whose body was found in the same river a decade earlier. Tom has never forgotten the unsolved case, and Holly's father, Gordon, still blames the ex-sheriff for not proving that a local

teenager killed his daughter. Johnston imbues each character with believable motives. The nuanced plot delves deeply into how a community—and surviving relatives—deal with the aftermath of a death.

99 Ways to Die by Ed Lin. A tearful telephone call from a former classmate asking for help gets Chen Jing-nan's attention.

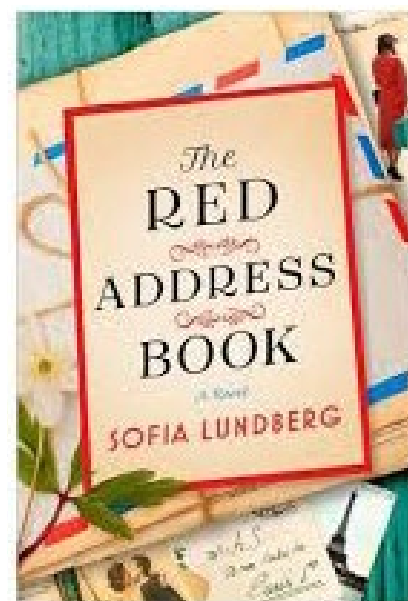
Especially since the caller is Peggy Lee, daughter of Tommy Lee, one of the wealthiest men in Taiwan (where he's popularly known as Tong-tong), who has been kidnapped along with one of his employees. Tong-tong also owns Taipei's Shilin Night Market, where Jing-nan runs his food stall, Unknown Pleasures. When the kidnappers ask not for a ransom but for the plan for a power-efficient memory chip, Jing-nan is tasked with requesting the plan from the man presumed to own it, imprisoned Ah-tien, the former sugar daddy of Jing-nan's girlfriend, Nancy. Top-notch international crime fiction that will have readers dreaming of a visit to the Taipei market.



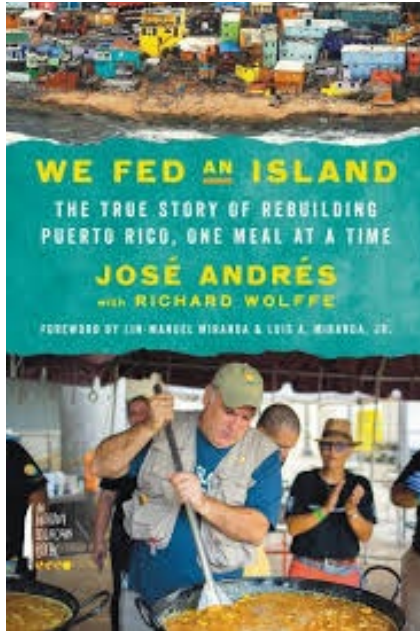
The Red Address Book by Sofia Lundberg. A lifetime of memories is contained within the worn leather covers of an address book, which was given to Doris by her father on her 10th birthday. Doris has kept the book all her life, but now, at 96 years old, living alone in Stockholm, she has crossed off most of the names it contains, as one by one her loved ones have died. Her story stretches from working as a young maid in Stockholm through her years as a living mannequin at the center of 1930s Parisian fashion, and then adjusting to a new life in Manhattan. The relationships she forms along the way, from the tortured gay artist who becomes a lifelong friend to the charismatic young man whose love drives Doris to battle enormous odds in an attempt to find him during WWII, are beautifully brought to life in this sweetly elegiac novel.

Nonfiction

We Fed an Island: The True Story of Rebuilding Puerto Rico, One Meal at a Time by José Andrés with Richard Wolffe. This lovely, energizing story from Michelin-starred chef Andrés and his frequent cookbook coauthor Wolffe (*Made in Spain*) provides an antidote to passivity and cynicism. Having done food relief work in Haiti in



2010, Andrés was ready to help feed the people of Puerto Rico after the island was ravaged by Hurricane Maria seven years later. In a matter of days, Andrés and his volunteers had expanded an operation run by his friend Jose Enrique, a San Juan chef, making sandwiches, paellas and stews (Andrés has contempt for the idea that disaster victims deserve only lousy food). In between fighting with red tape-tangled FEMA officials and dealing with the Red Cross' lack of organization, Andrés quickly scaled up an operation with 20,000 volunteers that produced 3 million meals. "We solved the problems as they popped up," Andrés writes, "as chefs do." This is a powerful story of the impact a well-meaning group can have on the world.

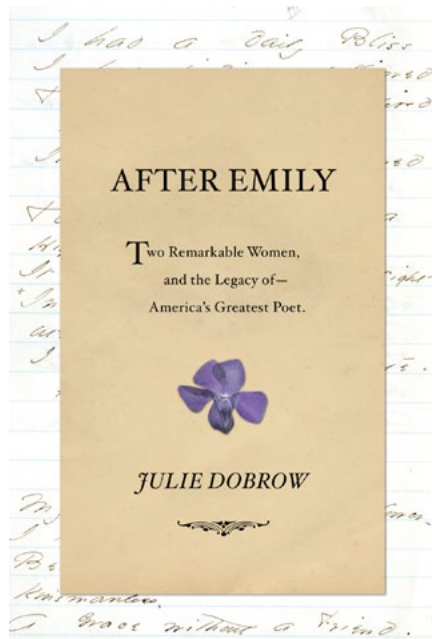
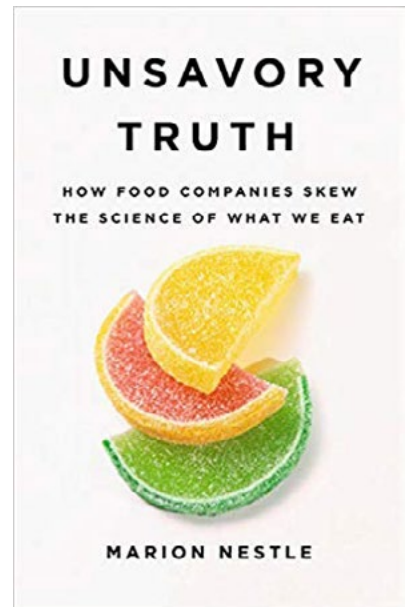


After Emily: Two Remarkable Women and the Legacy of America's Greatest Poet by Julie Dobrow. Scholarly arguments about how Mabel Loomis Todd and her daughter, Millicent Todd Bingham, handled Emily Dickinson's work during their years of editing and compiling the nearly 1,800 poems discovered after Dickinson's death will continue. But thanks to Tufts University professor Dobrow's astonishing new research, readers gain a better understanding of their efforts. Todd began organizing, transcribing, editing and publishing Dickinson's poems at the request of the poet's sister, Lavinia, and she became devoted to the cause. After Todd's death, Bingham continued, publishing

Dickinson's previously unseen poems and tackling copyright issues. Dobrow's intimate portrait of these artistically talented and intelligent women, based largely on their extensive, detailed diaries and correspondence, reveals fallible women who painstakingly attempted to share an extraordinary poet's vision.

Unsavoring Truth: How Food Companies Skew the Science of What We Eat by Marion Nestle. This exposé

documents numerous examples of corporations wooing experts to conduct studies that produce dubious results, such as that children who eat candy tend to be less obese and chocolate milk alleviates concussions. While it may seem logical that the Food and Drug Administration would curtail such "research," Nestle (*Food Politics and What to Eat*) describes how some major food interests fund nutritionists to infiltrate professional organizations and government-sponsored studies, influence food-related publishing, from scientific journals to foodie blogs, and successfully lobby against any legislation that might affect sales. The solution? Consumers should "vote with their forks," question company-authored food studies about nutrition or health, and demand that elected officials investigate and verify published results. ❖



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KidLit Picks

By Rona Sue London

Picture Books (Ages 3-6)

Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt de la Peña. With birthday bracelets jangling, Carmela's first birthday wish has already come true. She is excited because she is finally old enough to go with her big brother as he does his errands in town. Her brother, of course, would rather go alone, finding Carmela nothing more than an annoying, her joyful chatter exasperating. On the way to the Laundromat, Carmela discovers a puffy white dandelion and learns from her snarky brother that she can make a wish by blowing on it. Holding tight to this glorious gift, Carmela wishes for a candy machine, and that her mother could sleep in one of the hotel beds she makes each day and her father can get the documentation he needs to finally come home. Suddenly, Carmela stumbles and her dandelion is destroyed and her wishes evaporate. After all his grumpiness, her brother becomes grudgingly sweet. Taking her hand, he walks with her to the beach, where the air is filled with souring seagulls, wonder and wishes for the asking.

Are You Scared, Darth Vader? by Adam Rex. Again and again, a parade of scary creatures, including a vampire, ghost and witch, ask Darth Vader if he is scared. He replies, "Who could possibly scare Lord Vader?" The creatures, masked and costumed

children, disrobe and descend on Vader with exuberant glee. Finally, they leave him alone and Vader admits his one true fear: being trapped in this book when you close its covers. The perfectly textured illustrations and the alternately bright yellow and dark black type will delight everyone, but particularly Star Wars fans, young and old.

Early Readers (Ages 6-9)

Out of Left Field by Ellen Klages. Katy, 10, is passionate about baseball, but in 1957 there are not many places a girl can play. So she decides to tuck her hair under a baseball cap and try to pass as a boy. With her wicked curve ball, she makes the team and plays until her secret is revealed. League rules prohibit girls from playing. Not one to take things lying down, Katy begins a campaign to change minds. When a school report on a hero is assigned, Katy makes it her mission to discover all she can about women in baseball, including the Boomer Girls teams of the 1890s, the All-American Girls during WWII, and the women who played in the Negro Leagues in the 1940s and 50s. A girl even struck out Babe Ruth! Interwoven with current events, including desegregation, the space race and the Giant's move from New York to San Francisco, Klages' book describes a journey that will reveal the extent to which females have been involved and then forgotten by her beloved game. With a ton of support, Katy finds her voice and feels empowered to fight for her right to play baseball and move the needle incrementally toward equality. This book is a grand slam home run!

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Spring Preview
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
8:30-10:30 a.m.
SPSG Learning Commons

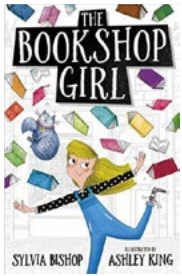
Spring Preview

Friday, May 10, 2019
9:00-10:30 a.m.

Please call 410-821-3034
for more information.



The Bookshop Girl by Sylvia Bishop. Property Jones, 10, was abandoned at the warm and welcoming White Heart Bookshop when she was five. The lovely owners, Netty and her son, Michael, took her in and the three have a wonderful though

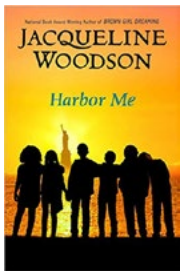


financially unstable life. Property, however, has a secret. She can't read, though she loves the smell and feel of books. When the three enter and win a contest to own the Great Montgomery Book Emporium in London, life begins to change. They must venture to the big city to take over the huge mechanical bookshop with its extravagantly themed rooms, including the Room of Knights and Castles, with its turret and tapestries, and the Room of Woodland Tales, with a pine needle

floor and books in its trees. Before they even get settled, it comes out that they have also inherited a massive debt and the creepy Eliot Pink has come to collect. In a whimsical tale full of delightful twists and turns and a villainous enemy, clever Property is able to figure out a solution and save the day.

Upper Middle Readers (Ages 10-13)

The Jigsaw Jungle by Kristen Levine. "Sometimes things change, whether you want them to or not." This is the truth of Claudia's life right now. At 12, she is thrust into a search for the truth about her family when her father abruptly disappears, leaving only clues revealed one puzzle piece at a time. The timing couldn't be worse. Her mother must attend a conference in Switzerland and the only option is for Claudia to stay with her paternal grandfather, Papa, who has been reclusive since the recent death of her big-hearted grandmother. Claudia and Papa grow closer and when Luis, a 12-year-old neighbor and budding documentarian, becomes involved, the mystery begins to unravel. With texts, emails, a time capsule and old home movies, the trio piece together the intricate clues. When the puzzle is completed, Claudia must come to terms with her father's long-repressed struggle with his identity and sexuality. This compelling mystery is a touching coming-of-age tale handled with delicacy, nuance and a great deal of verve, told by an author who has first-hand knowledge.



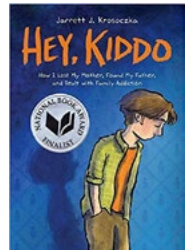
Harbor Me by Jacqueline Woodson. "If the worst thing in the world happened, would I help protect someone else? Would I be a harbor to someone else? Would I let myself be a harbor for someone who needs it?" Those are the questions posed by a caring teacher to six kids in a special learning group. At first, it is awkward, but they soon open up. Each is facing a challenge: Esteban is worried about his undocumented father being deported, Ashton,

one of the school's few white kids, is being bullied, Amari is learning what it means to be black in America, Haley's father is in jail for drinking and driving, and Tiago, who is Puerto Rican, has an unemployed parent. Each child, given freedom and privacy from adult supervision, begins to trust their classmates and share their burdens, finding that vulnerability lightens the load and that "When you tell stories it's like letting out all the scared inside of you." This is a masterful book about the beauty of finding a safe harbor.

Young Adult (Ages 14-18)

Dear Evan Hansen by Val Emmich. Based on the Tony Award-winning musical about a teenager crippled by anxiety, Emmich's novel explores the ideas of loneliness, truth and unintended consequences. Evan's therapist suggests that he write an affirmative letter to himself each morning. When one letter mistakenly falls into the hands of a classmate struggling with his own issues who later commits suicide, the boy's parents make the incorrect assumption that the two were best friends. Wanting to ease the family's pain, Evan further contributes to the misconception, and the tangled web of deception grows. As a result, Evan falls inadvertently into a close relationship with the family, makes new friends, and garners respect, popularity and a sense of belonging, but at what cost? A tender glimpse into how an innocent lie, aided by technology, can spiral out of control and how every life affects so many others, this book speaks to all those who at times feel invisible, the healing power of honesty and the connections that make us human.

Hey, Kiddo by Jarrett J. Krosoczka. In this moving, yet harrowing, graphic memoir, Krosoczka recounts his formative years as the son of a heroin-addicted, often incarcerated mother, and absent father. Raised by his grandparents, Joe and Shirl, he is surrounded by love and support, but struggles to reconcile his feelings of abandonment with his love for his mother. At home with Joe and Shirl, life is tender and tough and, in spite of their sometimes hard-drinking ways, they go to great lengths to foster Krosoczka's budding artistic talent, making him feel loved and cared for. The atmospheric and somber gray and burnt orange panels are interspersed with actual letters and drawings from Krosoczka's childhood, making the story even more poignant. This is an indelible portrait of a sweet boy growing up amidst addiction and its ripple effect on the entire family, told with honesty from the inside. With compassion and heart, we come to care deeply for each member of the Krosoczka and to root for them at every turn.



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Calendar Highlights

This list includes a selection of events happening in and around Greater Roland Park. A more complete list can be found at rolandpark.org/news/calendar. All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

MARCH

Mon., Mar. 4, 6:30 pm. **Downsizing with Village At Home**, Roland Park Library, 5108 Roland Ave. calendar.prattlibrary.org/event, 410-396-6099

Sun., Mar. 10, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Michael Adcock Concert**, Second Presbyterian Church, 4200 St. Paul St. CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org

Tue., Mar. 12, 7:30 pm. **Rediscovering Forgotten and Heirloom Bulbs for Summer Gardens and Containers**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Auditorium, 4915 Greenspring Ave. Members may bring 1 guest; \$10 for non-members. mdhorticulture.org/programs-events, 410-821-5561

Thu., Mar. 14, 6:30 pm. **Maryland Public Television (MPT) Indie Lens Pop-Up: The Providers**, Roland Park Library

Sun., Mar. 17, 7:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Chamber Music by Candlelight**, Second Presbyterian Church

Wed., Mar. 20, 7 pm. **Baltimore Police Department Northern District Community Council Meeting**, Northern District Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Ln. All are welcome. baltimorepolice.org/districts/northern-district, 410-396-2455, NorthernDistrict@BaltimorePolice.org

Thu., Mar. 28, 6 pm. **Friends of Stony Run Annual Meeting**, Cafe Azafran, 3700 San Martin Dr. Speaker: Stream Restoration Ecologist Scott McGill, Ecotone, Inc. Light fare and donation bar. stonyrun.org

Fri., Mar. 29, 5:30 pm. **Wine and Silent Auction**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park, 4500 Roland Ave. Open to all women interested in exploring the possibility of membership. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net or 410-889-0760. www.twcrp.org

Sat., Mar. 30, 10:30 am and then throughout the day. **Rollin' Reels at Roland Park: Hoosiers**, Roland Park Library

Sun., Mar. 31, 7:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Chamber Music by Candlelight**, Second Presbyterian Church

APRIL

Mon., Apr. 1, 5:30 pm. **Audubon's Bird-Friendly Garden Design**, Roland Park Library. Please register in advance at baltimore@audubon.org or 410-558-2473.

Thu., Apr. 4, 6:30 pm. **Poetry Reading: Ann Bracken and Ann Quinn**, Roland Park Library

Fri., Apr. 5, 6:30 pm. **Catholic Relief Service Meal Packing**, School of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen Gymnasium, 111 Amberly Way. cathedralofmary.org/event/crs-meal-packing

Sat., Apr. 6, 8 am. **Cardinal Cup 5K**, Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. cathedralofmary.org/event/cardinal-cup

Sat., Apr. 6, 9 am. **Project Clean Stream, Friends of Stony Run**. For more information on locations, please visit stonyrun.org

Sun., Apr. 7, 2 pm. **Hidden Foot Paths of Roland Park**. Meet Judy Dobbs and Kathy Hudson at Roland Park Library. rpcs.org/page/kaleidoscope, 410-323-5501

Sun., Apr. 7, 6:30 pm. **Sounds of Spring, Baltimore Musicales**, Corner Community Center, 5802 Roland Ave. \$20 per person (\$15 for students and seniors). baltimoremusicales.org, 410-825-1297

Tue., Apr. 9, 7:30 pm. **The Natural History of Spring Wildflowers: A Closer Look**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Auditorium. Members may bring 1 guest; \$10 for non-members. mdhorticulture.org/programs-events, 410-821-5561

Thu., Apr. 11, 6:30 pm. **Maryland Public Television (MPT) Indie Lens Pop-Up: Charm City**, Roland Park Library

Fri., Apr. 12, 5:30 pm. **Spring into the Arts!**, Gilman School, 5407 Roland Ave. Concessions, games and fun for all ages. Tours of ArtWalk, a collection of mixed media art from K-12th grade boys. gilman.edu, 410-323-3800

Fri., Apr. 12, 7 pm. **9th Annual Daniel A. Citron Film Festival**, Gilman School. Featuring original movies created by Maryland student filmmakers. Younger children will be treated to a family-friendly movie.

Sat., Apr. 13, 11 am and 12 pm. **Jazz in the Stacks**, Roland Park Library. Jazz ensemble led by Carl Grubbs, presented in partnership with Contemporary Arts Inc.

Sun., Apr. 14, 10 am. **Spring Wildflower Walk**, Lake Roland, 1000 Lakeside Dr. Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156. lakeroland.org/calendar

Fri., Apr. 26, 7 pm. **Roland Park Community Foundation (RPCF) Spring Celebration Cocktail Party**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Tickets available online. rolandpark.org

Sat., Apr. 27, 9 am. **YOGAHikes Baltimore**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Lawn. cylburn.org, 410-367-221

Sat., Apr. 27, 10 am. **Earth Day and Project Clean Stream**, Lake Roland. Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156.

Sat., Apr. 27, 10:30 am and then throughout the day. **Rollin' Reels at Roland Park: Autism in Love**, Roland Park Library. Snacks permitted.

Sun., Apr. 28, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Wonderlic Voice Concert**, Second Presbyterian Church

Tue., Apr. 30, 7 pm. **Inclusive Education: Panel Moderated by Mary Beth Marsden**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Open to the public. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net or 410-889-0760. www.twcrp.org

MAY

Thu., May 2, through Sun., May 5. **Crazy For You** (winner of 1992 Tony Award for Best Musical), Gilman School, 5407 Roland Ave. Show includes talented performers from Bryn Mawr School, Gilman, Roland Park Country School, and St. Paul's School. Email boxoffice@gilman.edu for information and tickets. gilman.edu, 410-323-3800

Thu., May 9, 6:30 pm. **Maryland Public Television (MPT) Indie Lens Pop-Up: Wrestle**, Roland Park Library

Village Square Café Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Village Square Café, a neighborhood gathering spot serving fresh and simple fare in the Village of Cross Keys, will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Saturday, May 4th from 7 to 10 pm. Join them as they mark this milestone with live music featuring Baltimore's best R&B/Motown band, The Powell Younger Project, while sipping wine and enjoying nibbles on their lovely outdoor garden patio. Mark your calendar to save the date and check the café's website (villagesquarecafe.com) or Facebook page later this spring for more details. ❖



Roseann and Robert Glick opened Village Square Café in 2008. Photo Courtesy Village Square Café

Fri., May 10, 5:30 pm. **Market Day Preview Party**, Cylburn Arboretum. \$50 per person.

Sat., May 11, 8 am. **Market Day**, Cylburn Arboretum. \$10 parking.

Sat. May 11, 10 am. **RPE/MS May Mart**, RPE/MS, 5207 Roland Ave.

Sat., May 11, 10 am. **Roland Park Presbyterian Church Strawberry Festival**, 4801 Roland Ave. rolandparkchurch.org/calendar, 410-889-2001

Sat., May 11, 10 am. **Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage**, Baltimore City Tour, Site No. 1, Village Learning Place, 2521 St. Paul's St. \$35 (\$37.22 with service fee) in advance; \$40 on the day of the event. Purchase tickets at brownpapertickets.com/event/4034218. mhgp.org, 410-821-6933

Sun., May 12, 7:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Chamber Music by Candlelight**, Second Presbyterian Church

Tue., May 14, 6:30 pm. **Annual Tool Drive**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Auditorium. mdhorticulture.org/programs-events, 410-821-5561

Tue., May 14, 7:30 pm. **Making a Great Garden Again!**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Auditorium. Members may bring 1 guest; \$10 for non-members. mdhorticulture.org/programs-events, 410-821-5561

Wed., May 15, 7 pm. **Baltimore Police Department Northern District Community Council Meeting**, Northern District Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Ln. All are welcome. baltimorepolice.org/districts/northern-district, 410-396-2455, NorthernDistrict@BaltimorePolice.org

Sun., May 19, 3:30 pm. **Community Concerts at Second: Chrystal Williams Concert**, Second Presbyterian Church, 4200 St. Paul St. CommunityConcertsAtSecond.org

Sat., May 25, 8:30 am. **Yoga at Cylburn**, Cylburn Arboretum's Vollmer Center Lawn

Sat., May 25, 10:30 am and 2 pm. **Rollin' Reels at Roland Park: The Good, the Bad, the Weird** (in Korean, with subtitles), Roland Park Library. Snacks permitted.

Sat., May 25. **Roland Park Pool Opening Day**, 5021 Lawndale Ave. rolandparkpool.org

Fri., May 31, 6 pm. **Forest Therapy Walk and Talk**, Cylburn Arboretum's Greenhouse Classroom and Cylburn Mansion Gardens. \$10 suggested donation. ❖

Please send calendar announcements, following the format of the listings above, to magazine@rolandpark.org.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

For the Kids

MONTHLY

Mondays at 3:30 pm. **Chess Club**, Roland Park Library, 5108 Roland Ave. Contact teen librarian, Alex Lawson, at 410-396-6099 Ext. 35505 for more information.

Thursdays at 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Family Story Time** (ages 2-5 with caregiver), Roland Park Library. Siblings welcome.

Thursdays at 1:30 pm. **Roland Park Branch Baby and Toddler Story Time** (ages up to 2 with caregiver), Roland Park Library

Saturday, Mar. 9, Apr. 6 and May 11, 10:30 am. **STEAM Saturday**, Roland Park Library

Saturday, Mar. 9, Apr. 6 and May 11, 1 pm. **Games Galore**, Roland Park Library

Saturday, Mar. 9, Apr. 6 and May 11, 1 pm. **Origami Saturday**, Roland Park Library. In partnership with the Charm City Creasers. All ages, but those under 8 will do best with a caregiver's help.

MARCH

Sat., Mar. 2, 8 am (ages 5-6), 9 am (ages 7-8), 10 am (ages 9-10)

and 11 am (ages 11-15). **Roland Park Baseball League (RPBL) Picture Day**, School of the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen gymnasium, 111 Amberly Way. rolandparkbaseball.com

Sat., Mar. 2, and Sun., Mar. 3, 2 pm. **Maple Sugaring**, Lake Roland. \$5 per person. Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156.

Thu, Mar. 7, 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Hands on Holiday: Purim** (ages 3-5 with caregiver), Roland Park Library. In partnership with the Downtown Baltimore Jewish Community Center.

Sat, Mar. 9, 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Charlotte's Web**, Roland Park Library

Sun., Mar. 17, 1 pm. **St. Patrick's Snakes**, Lake Roland. \$5 per person (ages 3 and up). Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156.

Tue, Mar. 19, 3:45 pm. **Anime Club**, Roland Park Library. Middle schoolers and teens.

Thu, Mar. 21, 5 pm. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Charlotte's Web**, Roland Park Library

APRIL

Thu, Apr. 4, 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Hands on Holiday: Passover** (ages 3-5 with caregiver), Roland Park Library. In partnership with the Downtown Baltimore Jewish Community Center.

Sat, Apr. 6, 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Chicken Run**, Roland Park Library. calendar.prattlibrary.org/event, 410-396-6099

Sat., Apr. 13, 9 am. **RPBL Spring Opening Day and Silent Auction**, Roland Park Elementary/Middle School (RPE/MS), 5207 Roland Ave. rolandparkbaseball.com

Sat., Apr. 13, 2 pm. **Spring Fairies and Gnomes Walk and Craft**, Cylburn Arboretum's Greenhouse Classroom. Ages 5-10, accompanied by an adult. \$7 per child.

Sat., Apr. 13 (rain date Apr. 14), 7:15 pm for ages 5 to 12, 7:45 pm for ages 10 and up. **Flashlight Egg Hunt**, Lake Roland. \$5 per person. Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156.

Thu, Apr. 18, 5 pm. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Chicken Run**, Roland Park Library

Mon., Apr. 22, 10 am. **Bunny Story Time**, Lake Roland. Register at LakeRol-RP@BaltimoreCountyMD.gov or 410-887-4156.

Wed, Apr. 24, 3:30 pm. **Roland Park Branch Imagination Celebration: Jacqueline Woodson's The Day You Begin**, Roland Park Library

MAY

Sat., May 11, 11 am. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Mulan**, Roland Park Library

Thu., May 17, 5 pm. **Roland Park Branch Free Family Films: Mulan**, Roland Park Library

Tue, May 21, 3:45 pm. **Anime Club**, Roland Park Library, 5108 Roland Ave. Middle schoolers and teens. ❖

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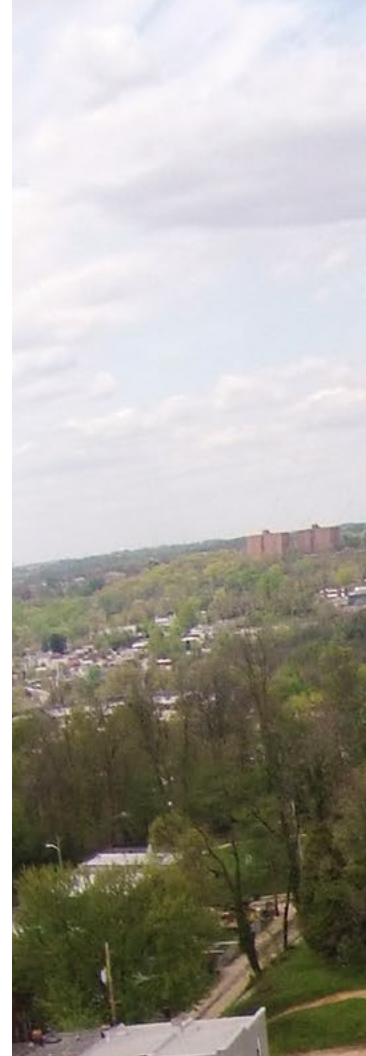


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