

ROLAND PARK news

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Eighty-Seven • Winter 2022

Holiday Gift Guide

Doris Lindo Lewis, Surrealist Painter

Two Decades of Service: Julie Johnson



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For more information about editorial, advertising or distribution, please email magazine@rolandpark.org

Roland Park News is published quarterly by the



ROLAND PARK
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

5115B Roland Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21210
Telephone: (410) 464-2533

Chair: Mary Page Michel
Treasurer: John Kevin

Design & Production: DesignConcept
Printer: Advance Printing, Inc.

Deadlines for copy, including announcements and calendar items, are February 1 for spring issue (March-May), May 1 for summer issue (June-August), August 1 for fall issue (September-November), and November 1 for winter issue (December-February).



Photo: Sally Foster

Editor's Notes

By Martha Marani

Greetings! This issue probably arrived in your mailbox with cards sending holiday wishes from friends near and far, and we at the *Roland Park News* share the same message—may this festive time of the year bring you and your family peace and joy!

Roland Park is blessed with a handful of locally owned shops, some of which have been in the neighborhood for years. We asked the owners—Pat Pratt of The Carriage House, Nancy Cohen of Eddie's of Roland Park, Flora Stelzer of Shenanigans Toy Shop and Caves Valley Partners of the Village Shops at Cross Keys—to offer their holiday gift suggestions. Check them out in the "Holiday Gift Guide," which also includes great locally made art kits from Tiny Easel's Jennifer Nolley and the fantastically funny book, *I Gave Baltimore Crabs (for Christmas)*, from award-winning local writer, director, producer and general troublemaker, David DeBoy. Check out the choices and please consider shopping locally!

For those who make charitable giving a part of their holiday tradition, consider making a donation to one of the local organizations listed in the "Holiday Gift Guide." You can

*“When we give cheerfully
and accept gratefully,
everyone is blessed.”*

Maya Angelou

also make a donation to the campaign for Hillside Park (see "Community Foundation Update" for details).

Books always make great gifts, and Rona London offers up many wonderful selections for all ages and interests. These titles are available from another locally owned shop, The Ivy Bookshop, which also has an interesting slate of in-person events scheduled for the next few months (check them out in "Calendar Highlights"). Plans for an event with local author T. Destry Jarvis (*National Parks Forever*) and his brother, Jonathan B. Jarvis, are in the works for the spring.

Whatever you and yours celebrate during the winter months, I hope the time is filled with a myriad of blessings.

Happy holidays, all! ❖

Two Decades of Service: Roland Park Library Branch Manager Julie Johnson



Julie Johnson with the staff of the Enoch Pratt Free Library on Roland Avenue (above).
Photos: John Cassini (above and below) and Anne Stuzin (left)

By Kathy Hudson

“Eight years or so ago, colleagues had decorated my spot at the Info Desk for my birthday,” remembers Julie Johnson, the veteran branch manager of the Enoch Pratt Free Library on Roland Avenue. “One of our after-school regulars zipped past, stopped abruptly, backed up, said, ‘Happy birthday!’ and motored right along. Just a few weeks ago, he dropped by for a quick hello—he is now at Brown University double-majoring in biomedical engineering and computer science.”



Such is a gratifying memory of Johnson who, in 21 years at the Roland Park branch, has become a neighborhood fixture. She began her service to the Pratt 27 years ago as a children’s librarian in the Hamilton branch. Soon she will leave Roland Park to work as the Data Interpretation and Insight Librarian for Neighborhood Library Services, a completely new position for the Pratt.

In her tenure on Roland Avenue, Johnson has watched the greater Roland Park community, the many surrounding schools and the library itself age, change and expand. With “six-ish” employees and some vacancies, today the Roland Park branch has the highest circulation of all neighborhood branches, with 101,712 items for fiscal year 2022. It was also tops for sidewalk service during COVID. Numbers are still climbing as people return to in-person use and browsing. Enough staff to provide the community with programming, materials and outreach is Johnson’s biggest challenge.

Even so, Johnson, the branch and the community survived COVID well. The COVID challenge was helped by ever-increasing access to materials via the Internet—reference, magazines, newspapers, etc. “And being able to do research from home wearing your bunny slippers and drinking hot chocolate,” Johnson adds in characteristic humor.

Before COVID, Johnson had survived a three-year, \$5.8 million renovation and expansion of the branch. She sees that expansion and the 2007 reopening as the greatest success of the branch since she’s been there. “It provided space for more activities, materials, etc. It made everything more: size,



ability to have more programs, circulation, more materials, more computers.”

That major undertaking was led by the Roland Park Library Initiative (RPLI) and funded by Baltimore City, the Pratt and the greater Roland Park community.

David Blumberg, past president of both the Roland Park Civic League and the RPLI and former director of the Baltimore City Jail library branch, says, “In the 20 years Julie has graced our presence in Roland Park, she has been the absolute consummate professional in every aspect of librarianship...Her knowledge, recall, wit and sense of humor are second to none.”

Longtime branch volunteer Beth Bishop concurs, “I will miss Julie tremendously, but I know she is excited about her new position...She’s been such a friendly and knowledgeable manager. Even when she’s frustrated with something, she keeps her cool and ‘soldiers on!’”

JULIE JOHNSON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But Johnson has many happy memories, including the customer who brought in a banana split and the customer for whom she shot a short audition video for a commercial. "And I love serving as a judge for Baltimore City's National History Day contest. I learned about this annual event because the Roland Park Middle School students compete every year."

After a library program with local author Barbara Morrison, whose memoir is entitled *Innocent: A Memoir of a Welfare Mother*, an audience member affiliated with the University of Maryland School of Social Work, asked Morrison to speak to her graduate students about her experience. "Success!" exclaims Johnson.

"Those kinds of day-to-day interactions with patrons—the chats, the book discussions, the warmth of seeing familiar faces, are what I'll miss most," says Johnson. She hopes to resume traveling soon. In the meantime she'll continue to enjoy reading, gardening and walking, and her two cats Cooper (15) and Annie (10). ♦

Parting Recommendations

During the more than 20 years Johnson contributed "The Book Nook" to the magazine, she submitted reviews for more than 500 books. Some of her favorite authors are:

- Joe Abercrombie (The Age of Madness and Shattered Sea series, The First Law trilogy, and stand-alone novels)
- Alan Furst (*Under Occupation, A Hero of France, Midnight in Europe, Spies of Warsaw*)
- Ann Leckie (*The Raven Tower, Provenance, The Imperial Radch* trilogy)
- Bernard Cornwell (especially the Sharpe's series)
- The Dresden Files series by Jim Butcher, narrated by James Marsters
- The Walt Longmire Mysteries series by Craig Johnson, narrated by George Guidall
- The Chet & Bernie Mystery series by Spencer Quinn, narrated by Jim Frangione
- The Binti series by Nnedi Okorafor, narrated by Robin Miles
- *Anything* read by Robin Miles

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Community Foundation Update: Hillside Park

By Mary Page Michel, Chair, Roland Park Community Foundation

A new 20-acre park is coming to Baltimore City! A park with walking paths, hundreds of trees, streams, birds, a playground and more.

When is settlement?

The Community Foundation (RPCF) will purchase 20 acres of the former golf course at the corner of Falls and Hillside roads when two conditions are met. First, the Baltimore Country Club (BCC) is required to subdivide the property. This is a city legal process and many departments in city government have to sign off on the subdivision. In RPCF's due diligence, environmental issues were found on the property. BCC accepted the responsibility and is working with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to remediate the issues. Once the plan is approved by MDE, a construction firm will be contracted. When RPCF is satisfied with these two requirements, we can move to settlement.

How is the fundraising going?

When we signed the \$9 million Purchase Agreement, the RPCF had \$6 million in cash and pledges. BCC required us to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement so we could not start fundraising for the balance of the contract until after the deal was made public. It is not every day when you get to be a part of buying a park, so many people have stepped up. Many former residents heard about the project for the first time and sent funds. We had people who raised families in Roland Park contribute for a group gift. Most donors gave at the highest level in their lifetime. New and long-standing residents told us how important this project is to them. What an inspiration! We are not done yet. We have raised \$8.5 million and have \$3 million to go. The purchase and closing costs require \$1 million. The final \$2 million is for the maintenance endowment so we don't push the cost of upkeep onto the next generation.

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted, the founder of American landscape architecture.



Photo: Sally Foster

Hundreds of events have celebrated him all over the country and world. We are honored to have been mentioned repeatedly as one of the few places in the country building a new park in the style of Olmsted.

Why is Olmsted important to Hillside Park?

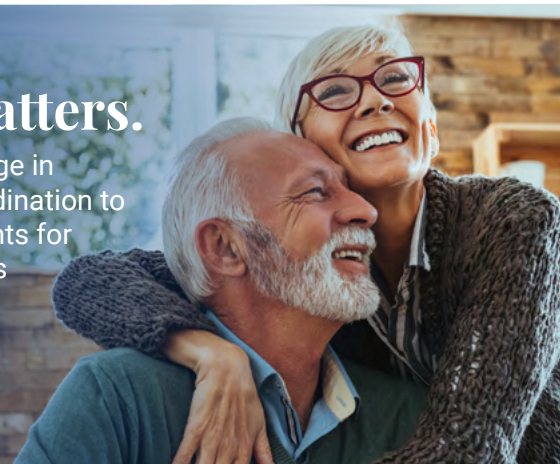
The Olmsted firm designed the area around Hillside Park. Long before it was widely understood, Olmsted called parks the most democratic spaces and places of healing. Parks bring people together, with no regard to race, religion, politics or socio-economic class. Olmsted believed that the most beautiful places should be shared, with a style embracing the natural topography of the land. His philosophy and beliefs still resonate today and inspire our vision for Hillside Park. We are delighted that many others around the country are hearing about what we are planning in Baltimore.

To those who have already given to the Hillside Park project, thank you! We are thrilled to have 596 donors representing 34 Baltimore City neighborhoods, 26 Maryland communities and 19 states. We would love to have everyone in the greater Roland Park community on that list!

Additional donations may be made by check, donated securities, IRA donations, credit cards or pledges. Our website at rolandpark.org/Hillsidepark has all the donation information. Gifts may be pledged over three years. Help us get to the finish line on this historic project for Baltimore! ❖

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Message from the Civic League: PayHOA

Claudia Diamond, President, Roland Park Civic League

The Civic League (RPCL) thanks our neighbors who have paid their annual requested maintenance fees and RPCL dues as of November 7. Starting October 1, we moved our invoicing

system to PayHOA, an electronic platform. Invoices are now sent electronically. Don't see your address listed? Please contact us at Office@rolandpark.org or 410-464-2525 for assistance. We want to acknowledge you as well! ❖

1 Kenwood Road
1 Midvale Road
10 Englewood Road
10 Longwood Road
10 Midvale Road
100 Beechdale Road
100 Park Lane
100 Ridgewood Road
100 B Ridgewood Road
100 St. Johns Road
101 Deepdene Road
101 Edgevale Road
101 Longwood Road
103 Edgevale Road
103 Elmwood Road
104 Elmwood Road
104 St. Johns Road
105 Deepdene Road
107 Beechdale Road

107 Hawthorn Road
108 Elmwood Road
108 Hawthorn Road
109 Beechdale Road
109 Woodlawn Road
11 Elmwood Road
111 Hawthorn Road
111 Woodlawn Road
112 Elmhurst Road
112 Hawthorn Road
112 St. Johns Road
114 Hawthorn Road
114 St. Johns Road
115 Longwood Road
116 Ridgewood Road
117 Woodlawn Road
118 Hawthorn Road
12 Merrymount Road
13 Elmwood Road

13 Midvale Road
14 Hillside Road
16 Midvale Road
17 Elmwood Road
196 Oakdale Road
2 Elmhurst Road
2 Hillside Road
2 Merrymount Road
20 Indian Lane
200 Oakdale Road
200 Ridgewood Road
201 Longwood Road
202 Edgevale Road
203 Deepdene Road
203 Edgevale Road
203 Goodwood Gardens
203 Hawthorn Road
205 Goodwood Gardens
206 Edgevale Road

206 Goodwood Gardens
206 Hawthorn Road
206 Ridgewood Road
208 Longwood Road
208 Oakdale Road
209 Ridgewood Road
21 Merrymount Road
210 Goodwood Gardens
210 Northfield Place
211 Goodwood Gardens
212 Longwood Road
212 Ridgewood Road
214 Oakdale Road
215 Overhill Rd
217 Hawthorn Road
219 Woodlawn Road
222 Ridgewood Road
222 Woodlawn Road
23 Merrymount Road
25 Merrymount Road
26 Merrymount Road
27 Merrymount Road
3 Upland Road
301 Edgevale Road
301 Northfield Place
301 Oakdale Road
301 Woodlawn Road
302 Somerset Road
303 Club Road
303 Northfield Place
303 Oakdale Road
305 Edgevale Road
305 Goodwood Gardens
305 Northfield Place
307 Edgevale Road
308 Woodlawn Road
309 Somerset Road
311 Overhill Road
313 Overhill Road
321 Hawthorn Road
329 Hawthorn Road
3816 Beech Avenue
3901 Keswick Road
3903 Keswick Road
3925 Keswick Road
3928 Beech Avenue
3929 Keswick Road
4 Club Road
4 Merrymount Court
400 Overhill Road
400 Woodlawn Road
4001 Keswick Road
401 Edgevale Road

401 Hawthorn Road
401 Somerset Road
401 Woodlawn Road
402 Overhill Road
402 Woodlawn Road
403 Club Road
406 Woodlawn Road
407 Hawthorn Road
417 Hawthorn Road
4200 Somerset Place
4203 Roland Ave
4209 Roland Avenue
4220 Wickford Road
423 Hawthorn Road
4239 Wickford Road
4243 Wickford Road
4245 Wickford Road
4247 Wickford Road
425 Hawthorn Road
4322 Roland Court
4325 Wickford Road
4328 Roland Court
4330 Roland Court
4334 Roland Court
4402 Roland Avenue
4406 Roland Avenue
4412 Roland Avenue
4418 Roland Avenue
4511 Roland Avenue
4607 Roland Avenue
4608 Roland Avenue
4702 Keswick Road
4706 Keswick Road
4713 Keswick Road
4717 Keswick Road
4721 East Lane
4800 Roland Avenue
4801 Keswick Road
4803 Keswick Road
4808 Wilmslow Road
4808 Wilmslow Road
4816 Keswick Road
4819 Keswick Road
4820 Roland Avenue
4822 Keswick Road
4824 Roland Avenue
4825 Keswick Road
4828 Roland Avenue
4836 Keswick Road
4904 Wilmslow Road
5 Midvale Road
500 Edgevale Road
501 Hawthorn Road

501 W. University Parkway
502 Edgevale Road
504 Overhill Road
504 Somerset Road
5103 Falls Road Terrace
511 Edgevale Road
5113 Falls Road
5301 Falls Road Terrace
5305 Falls Road Terrace
5307 Falls Road Terrace
534 W. University Parkway
536 W. University Parkway
5405 Falls Road Terrace
5411 Falls Road Terrace
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544 W. University Parkway
546 W. University Parkway
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6 Beechdale Road
6 Englewood Road
6 Hillside Road
6 Longwood Road
6 Midvale Road
6 Upland Road
6 Upland Road Apt. L2
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7 Englewood Road
7 Longwood Road
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703 W. University Parkway
705 W. University Parkway
711 W. University Parkway
8 Elmhurst Road
9 Beechdale Road
9 St. Johns Road
908 W. University Parkway
916 W. University Parkway

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INQUIRE

Seeds in Cracks: An Essay to Inform and Inspire

By Debbie Swartz, Vice President, University of Maryland Extension
Baltimore City Master Gardeners, and Chair, BayWise

Mentors come in many forms. My first environmental mentor appeared in the form of a leprechaun by the name of Al Degray. Twenty-one years ago, while I was enrolled in the Baltimore City Master Gardeners program at Cylburn Mansion—our swishy classroom had not yet been built—a man with a shiny, bald head, red suspenders and a sweatshirt that said “Composting, because a rind is a terrible thing to waste” taught the soils/composting class. In addition to his shirt’s sentiments, the late, great Degray had other pearls of wisdom. He reminded us that nothing lasts forever and everything will eventually decompose, which is why you cannot fail at composting! He asked us to please call soil “soil” *not* “dirt”, which is just misplaced soil. .

I was sold. I followed Degray closely and he was generous with his knowledge. He maintained a composting demo site at Cylburn. Under his direction, we created a laboratory for best techniques in making good soil. We freely experimented. Elephant poo from the zoo? Yes, please, let’s amend the soil with that free nitrogen source!

We were onto some great stuff but still had lots to learn. We hadn’t yet discovered that soil has a delicate microbiome that should not be disturbed. Don’t have enough room for a compost pile? No worries, just bury your fruit and veggie scraps directly in the ground! *Wrong!* There was also still lots of rototilling going on back then to prepare planting beds, which did a good job of chopping up earthworms and burrowing insects while replanting weed seeds and ruining the life of the soil. So much damage in just one gas-fueled stroke. Another thing we taught that makes me cringe today was to allow the grass to grow long in the fall and then mow it along with the fallen leaves (more gas!) to create a mixture of carbon and nitrogen for composting. This is so wrong. More about grass and leaves in a bit.

I wonder what other harmful things we are teaching with the best of intentions. What I know for sure is that every time we control or disturb the environment we do damage to it and to ourselves.

American entomologist, ecologist, conservationist and author Douglas Tallamy (*Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens and others*) calls grass an “ecological wasteland.” Not only does it take a lot of water, fertilizers and gas-powered machines to maintain—big carbon footprint there—it does nothing to support our biodiversity. Shallow-rooted grass cannot stop flowing water and, along with impervious surfaces, is a big contributor to soil erosion. To keep it alive, we don’t allow fallen organic material to stay on it so the soil isn’t being regenerated. Grass seals off the earth in a tight mat, taking away the conditions needed by trees and plants to regenerate. We have our environment so under control that we must plant every new tree ourselves or we won’t have any. Trees need other trees to grow; the bare mountains in northern Greece are testament to that. We’d better get busy.



The land that will become Hillside Park is graced by many lovely old trees. Photo: Sally Foster

Leaf litter has other importance. The bugs lay their eggs on the leaves in the fall and the eggs don’t hatch until spring. When we remove the leaves in the fall, we remove the next generation of bugs. Insects are the beginning of the food chain. No bugs, no life. We now know we must leave the leaves. Besides hosting the next bug generation and creating the conditions needed for plants to spread, fallen leaves also allow wintering wildlife to forage, shelter and stay warm, while wrapping the earth in a warm blanket. How could we possibly have the hubris to interrupt this perfect system?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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SEEDS IN CRACKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

We all need to think of nature as a system that needs every part to run. What good will it do to put in beneficial plants or vegetables if the system is not in place to support those plants? The top-most layer, our keystone canopy trees (white oak, black cherry and willow), must be planted first to create the environment needed for all the understory plants to successfully exist. A small garden can expand its environmental impact exponentially by going vertical to increase its size and, therefore, environmental value. An understory tree needs to live beneath a canopy tree. We can no longer take shortcuts, that's what got us into this mess. Again, the canopy trees are the system's anchor and must be planted first.

Knowledge is power, let's make informed choices in our gardens. About 80 percent of the U.S. is privately owned and broken up into tiny parcels. If we all made just one change, the impact would be huge.

Lastly, alien (non-native) plants must be eradicated. They are not bad plants, they just do not belong on this continent. At best, they provide nothing for our biodiversity. At worst, they outcompete native plants, leaving insects, birds and wildlife to starve. Our wildlife has evolved with our native plants and has been genetically coded to know what to eat. It does not recognize non-native plants as nutritious.



Planting keystone canopy trees, like many of those on the BCC property, is a great way to mitigate climate change. Photo: Sally Foster

Moving forward, we must live more intentionally. Now is the time to figure out how we can mitigate the environmental damage we've caused to restore our healthy ecosystem, where biodiversity can flourish again. Every living thing needs and deserves clean air and water to exist. Many of the mental and physical illnesses we suffer from are the result of a literal and figurative toxic environment.

Our bodies are designed to be in nature. It doesn't take a study to know we feel calmer and happier in the natural world, although there is plenty of science to back this up. Did you know trees emit oils that boost our immune system? We are only beginning to understand the secrets and gifts plants hold. It would have put us in good stead to respect the knowledge of the indigenous people before us.

Stan Rushworth, an indigenous elder of Cherokee descent, talks about the difference between western settler mindset of "I have rights" and the indigenous mindset of "I have obligations." How much is enough? How many things must we own? Airplane flights we must take? How much of the environment must we control? We must change our habits to reduce our environmental impact.

The five things we all must do:

1. Avoid using pesticides.
2. Eliminate grass *completely*. Children who play in the forest have much better brain development, and are more creative, imaginative and happy.
3. Leave the leaves.
4. Eliminate outdoor lighting, or put lights on motion detectors, direct lights downward and use amber-colored bulbs. Birds navigate at night by the stars and get thrown off course by artificial light. Bugs get confused by and are attracted to light at night, and often die (like the proverbial moth to a flame).
5. Plant keystone canopy trees, like white oak, black cherry and willow.

Environmental justice is social justice. We are all in this together. Let's help raise everyone up. ♦

Resources: Doug Tallamy; William Cullina, author (*Native Trees, Shrubs, and Vines: A Guide to Using, Growing, and Propagating North American Woody Plants*) and executive director of the University of Pennsylvania's Morris Arboretum; Rick Darke, author (*Gardens of the High Line: Elevating the Nature of Modern Landscapes*), landscape design consultant, lecturer and photographer; Erin Reed Miller, senior coordinator for Bird-Friendly Communities, Patterson Park Audubon Center; and Susie Creamer, director of Patterson Park Audubon Center; and lots of time observing nature.

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More Trees at Cylburn

By Brooke Fritz, Director of Development, Cylburn Arboretum Friends

This year, Cylburn Arboretum joined forces with the University of Delaware, University of Kentucky and the U.S. Forest Service to participate in a study looking to advance the resilience of forests in cities and, specifically, the adaptive capacity of white oak trees. This coming spring, approximately 400 seedlings from three seed zones (Baltimore, a northern source and a southern source) will be planted at Cylburn. Oak trees support more life than any other tree in North America, but they are threatened by climate change and disease. We hope that the impact of our collaborative effort to develop high quality white oaks will extend well beyond the grounds of Cylburn.



Meanwhile, the Nature Education Center (NEC) is well underway with a scheduled completion date of April 2023. Doug Tallamy, author of *The Nature of Oaks* and winner of the American Horticultural Society's 2022 book award, has given us permission to use his caterpillar data specific to the Baltimore area. This will go in a portion of our NEC exhibit called "The Woodland Sausage Cart."

Tallamy wants visitors to the NEC to visualize what planting a tree can do for the native ecosystem as a whole. He says, "I want them to see that the tree will support the caterpillars, it will support the birds that eat those caterpillars, it will support the predatory insects that depend on those caterpillars, and it will support all of the parasitoids. That tree would literally support at least 1,000 species in a food web!"

Finally, Cylburn Arboretum Friends is trying to plant as many trees as possible before the first frost to hit our target for replacing trees (the forest conservation plan) felled by construction of the NEC. It's fun to plan, source and even plant all these trees. Their home at Cylburn will entitle them to a lifetime of care, stewardship and, hopefully, study. Few other trees in Baltimore City receive this level of dedication.


Trees have always been a focus at Cylburn but, with the interpretive signage surrounding our future oak study and the exhibits in the future Nature Education Center, we are looking forward to more learning opportunities for Baltimore residents in the very near future! ❖

Cylburn Arboretum Friends (cylburn.org) is the non-profit organization that has been partnering with the City of Baltimore since 1954 to maintain the grounds and gardens at Cylburn. As a 501 (c)(3), nonprofit organization, it provides support and stewardship for Baltimore City's Cylburn Arboretum as a place of natural beauty, tranquility, culture and learning, open to all.




Cylburn, the universities of Delaware and Kentucky, and the U.S. Forest Service will study forest resilience in cities.
Photos courtesy of Cylburn Arboretum Friends


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Gilman's Middle School Celebrates 50 Years

As Gilman celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2022, the school also commemorates its middle school's 50th year in existence. For the first 75 years of Gilman's history, there was no middle school. Students completed grades 1 to 6—then called Lower Forms I to VI—in the lower school and then moved on to grades 7 to 12—Upper Forms I to VI—in the upper school. However, the 1960s and '70s brought the Middle School Movement in the United States: the idea of a separate division for students “in the middle.”

In November of 1969, then Headmaster Redmond C. S. Finney ('47) circulated an essay he wrote arguing the primary reasons for a separate middle school. He cited a number of factors, including the idea that such a school division would “allow for the gradual transition from the homeroom environment of the elementary school to the departmentalized structure of the high school.” He asserted that a middle school would strive to meet “the special needs and capabilities of children in the years between childhood and adolescence,” years, which “should be considered crucial in the development of the student's attitude toward learning.”

And so, with Finney's encouragement, the Long-Range Planning Committee recommended creating a three-grade middle school



Gilman's middle school today. Photo: Steve Ruark

Gilman's middle school building (right) was opened in 1972.

Photo courtesy of Gilman



at Gilman. In June of 1970, Finney appointed Reginald S. Tickner as the first Head of Middle School, and that fall, Gilman officially began labeling seventh and eighth grade students as part of the middle school. The sixth grade separated from the lower school in 1972 with the opening of the middle school building.

In September of 1972, the John M. T. Finney middle school building opened to 235 students in sixth through eighth grades, along with 17 full-time teachers. Named in honor of the prominent physician Dr. John M. T. Finney, who served as president of Gilman's board of trustees from 1912 to 1942, the building was originally designed as an open-space school, a trend at the time thought to promote an innovative teaching style. A library/media center was in the middle, and there were no walls dividing the classroom spaces. But it quickly became apparent to teachers and students that the open-space model was not optimal for teaching and learning. Under Head of Middle School Paul Killebrew, more traditional, closed classrooms were added in 1976.

By the early 1990s, the middle school had outgrown the one-story structure. Under the guidance of Head of Middle School Ron Culbertson, the new John M. T. Finney Hall, constructed on the frame of the original building, was rededicated on September 9, 1994.

In an oral history recorded in 2020, middle school teacher Don Abrams, who taught and coached at Gilman from 1972 to 2018, said, “Over the years, there has been evolution on multiple levels...programmatic, curricular, physical plant...” And at the heart of every change and transformation, Gilman leaders are asking: “What can we do to better serve the needs of boys and better prepare them for the world ahead?” ❖

Gilman School (gilman.edu) is a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade independent school in Baltimore, Maryland, with an enrollment of approximately 1,000 boys. A diverse community dedicated to educating boys in mind, body, and spirit, Gilman seeks to produce men of character and integrity who have the skills and ability to make a positive contribution to the communities in which they live and work.

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RPEMS School News



Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS) is finding a new normal as the COVID pandemic's worst restrictions fade into the background, and students and teachers work diligently to learn and grow. The 2022/23 school year is the first since 2019/20 that all students started the school year together in the building. It is also the first year that many beloved activities are returning, live and in person.

For RPEMS parents and families, there are more opportunities to volunteer at the school than the last two years, including supporting the library, helping at a variety of events like dances and performances, or being in the classroom for National Education Week, with some COVID restrictions still in place to keep everyone safe. A number of important school meetings, like Back-to-School nights in the fall, and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and School and Family Council meetings throughout the year, are now in-person again, helping to restore much-needed connections.

Events in winter for the school community include a formal event for the tiniest students in pre-Kindergarten and kindergarten in January, the elementary school play, "Mother Goosed", in early February, and Black History Month performances in late February. An important school fundraiser is the PTA's "Roland Park After Dark" auction on February 10 at the Mount

Washington Dye House. Anyone interested in being a community sponsor or in making donations for the auction should contact PTA organizers at rolandparkpta@gmail.com.

A distinct success so far for the school year is the return of a fully in-person Roland Park Annual Fund Baltimore Running Festival team. The Annual Fund's fall fundraiser starts with a Baltimore Running Festival team raising money for about six weeks to support a major project at the school. This year's fundraiser was called "SAME BOOK, Next Chapter," a continuation of last year's effort to raise money for renovations and upgrades for the RPEMS school library. Support from community sponsors, local restaurants that hosted fundraising nights, and family and neighborhood contributions helped this year's fundraiser reach the \$90,000 goal by mid-November.

The school community looks forward to winter and spring learning and activities that are safe, healthy and getting smarter every day. ❖

Roland Park Elementary & Middle School (sites.google.com/bcps.k12.md.us/roland-park-233/home) empowers its diverse community to achieve success for the whole child through academic rigor, hands-on learning and the creative arts. The school fosters an environment that prioritizes equity and positive relationships to promote social and emotional wellness to ensure all students have access to challenging academic content and skills.

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Investigations in Architecture and Exhibition Design

By Janna Rice, Upper School Visual Arts and Exhibitions Educator
The Park School of Baltimore

Professional art exhibitions are a staple of Park School life. Displays of artwork in a wide range of mediums greet our students throughout every academic year as they walk through the front door, and head towards middle and upper schools, or cruise along the large walls outside the Meyerhoff Theater and into the Richman Gallery.

Hosting hundreds of artists in dozens of exhibitions over many decades, Park's art shows feature the work of professional artists alongside the creations of Park School students. This year, for the first time, the arts department is offering a new elective—Exhibition Design: Architecture, in which upper school students investigate the exhibition design process, while also curating the work and installing a show that will serve as the winter exhibition.

With a new science and engineering wing designed by architects from Hord Coplan Macht, Inc. (HCM), a firm with close connections to Park School, students in the course were tasked with creating an exhibition focusing on the architecture of the new building as a theme. Lee Coplan, Park class of 1969, and founder of HCM, agreed to be a resource, and often joins the class, providing insight into the profession: What does it mean to



On a visit to HCM, Park students engaged in problem-solving exercises and learned about concepts around building planning and 3D modeling. Photo courtesy of The Park School of Baltimore

be an architect? How do teams drive the process of designing and building? What are the different roles within an architecture firm? How does a building go from concept to reality?

To learn more about the exhibition design process itself, the class traveled to the Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC) to meet with Park parents Danielle Nekimken and Joe Tropea. Nekimken is a freelance designer who works with various museums throughout the country, assisting them in the design and creation of exhibitions. Tropea is a historian and curator for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



Learning to me, is investing in
understanding the world around
you; and leaning in.

I know this because I go to Park.

—Ella, Grade 9

The Park School of Baltimore is a
Pre-K through 12 school with the mission of
supporting young people in becoming confident
questioners and responsible citizens of the world.

parkschool.net



Becoming WISE at GFS

Through a long-standing partnership with The Johns Hopkins University, the Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) program at Garrison Forest School connects juniors and seniors with an opportunity to gain real-world experience and build important skill sets. WISE is much more than working on world-class research projects; it brings students out of the classroom and into the lab, providing an opportunity to dive into passions for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), and develop skills that will serve them well beyond their high school experience.

WISE participants conduct important research side-by-side with Hopkins professors and graduate students for two afternoons a week. It's a customized experience that guides students through all aspects of assisting in a research lab, giving them the opportunity to learn at a level normally reserved for graduate school. Their lab placements span the spectrum from biomedical engineering to chemistry to Earth and Planetary Sciences.



WISE allows students to hone college readiness skills.
Photo courtesy of GFS

"This experience is invaluable to students who, at the end of the semester, have learned new skills, gained a better understanding of the field of study they were immersed in and seen firsthand how university-level research is accomplished," says Whei Moriarty, upper school science teacher and WISE academic coordinator.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



Garrison Forest School

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The Cross Keys Revitalization and Holiday Update

Renovation Progress

Since acquiring the property in July of 2020, Caves Valley Partners has been making progress toward returning the Village of Cross Keys to its place as Baltimore's premier mixed-use destination. The revitalization has been focused on key components of the development, including the gatehouse and entrance area, Village Square, and The Quad office building.

Renovations started in 2020. To date, completed work includes a comprehensive renovation to the gatehouse exterior, a reconfiguration of the entry from Falls Road into the property, new landscaping and signage, and upgrades to the lobbies and common areas of the office buildings.

The enhancements to the Village Shops—the crown jewel of the property—are approximately 75 percent complete and include:

- Installation of cedar siding and trellises, metal panels and details, and fresh paint on the façade
- Upgraded soffit and lighting over the pedestrian walkways
- Updated painting



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Caves Valley Partners has been renovating the Village of Cross Keys since 2020.



The Village Shops are considered the crown jewel of the property. Photos: Anne Stuzin

- A coordinated signage program comprised of new monument signs on Falls Road and just inside the gatehouse entry on Cross Keys Road, an illuminated Village Shops sign above the east breezeway into the retail courtyard, new tenant signage on the façades, under the walkways and along the storefronts, and vehicular and pedestrian wayfinding

Improvements to the parking garage also are underway, and include the addition of elevator lobbies, fresh painting and striping, lighting upgrades, and a graphic wayfinding program.

Holiday Gift Guide

The season of giving is upon us. We asked our wonderful local merchants to suggest some of their favorite ideas for holiday gifts. Visit them to find that special something for everyone on your list!

The Store Ltd.
Iconic Betty Cooke
petal necklace in 14k,
sterling silver or a
combination of both.

Octavia
The Made as Intended original, authentic
blessing bracelet of high-quality
gemstones and sterling silver inspires a
shift in perspective and consciousness.



Village of Cross Keys

5100 Falls Rd.

Check individual store hours
and phone numbers.

Pied Piper Kids

A classic dress in hot
pink velvet, all tied up
with a big red sash,
will be a holiday hit
and sweeter than any
visions of sugarplums!



Yves Delorme

The Boreale decorative
pillow, made in France with
100 percent organic cotton
and embroidered in our
partner workshops in India,
is inspired by the forests of
the far north.



I Gave Baltimore Crabs (for Christmas)

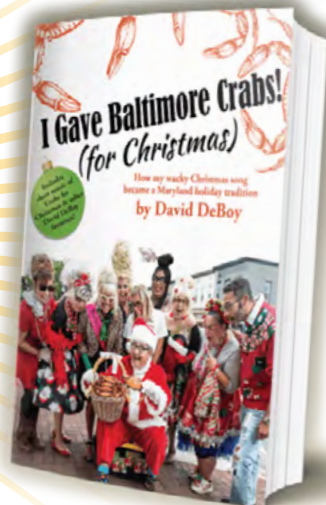
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A CD released in 2011 to celebrate the 30th anniversary
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and "Baltimore Hon".

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Christmas" became a regional sensation.
Includes sheet music for this and other
David DeBoy favorites.



GIFT GUIDE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



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Holiday Tote.

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Caspari Christmas Trees with
Lights Crackers.



Crab Cheese Board (left),
Thymes Frasier Fir Candle (right).





Christmas ornaments and decor
(left, right and below).



The Carriage House

700 Wyndhurst Ave.
Mon-Sat • 9:30am-5pm
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Local Artist Leonor Trujillo's
Sun Catcher (right).



Amazing MaBoRun (left),
Magna-Tiles Dino World (right).



Shananigans Toy Shop

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Ravensburger 1,000-piece Puzzle
(left),
Magical Unicorn Science
from Klutz (right).



Charitable Giving

The holidays are a perfect time to make annual contributions to local, national and international charities. Here are a few Baltimore-based charities to consider.

- **Roland Park Community Foundation (RPCF)**, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1986 to preserve, maintain and improve the parks, streams, squares, trees and other green spaces in our community. Donate by visiting rolandpark.org/organizationscommittees/roland-park-community-foundation or send a check to P.O. Box 16214, Baltimore, MD 21210.
- **Art With a Heart**, enhancing the lives of people in need through visual art. artwithaheart.net
- **B & Dee's Baltimore Love**, providing life-sustaining resources to the most vulnerable residents of Baltimore City by inspiring others to give back as well. Bdeebaltimorelove.org
- **Baltimore Station**, a residential treatment program supporting veterans transitioning through the cycle of poverty, addiction and homelessness to self sufficiency. baltimorestation.org
- **The Baltimore Women's Giving Circle**, empowering women and their families in the greater Baltimore area to achieve self-sufficiency. thebwgc.org
- **Black Women Build**, a homeownership and wealth building initiative training Black women in carpentry, electrical and plumbing by restoring vacant and deteriorated houses in west Baltimore. blackwomenbuild.org
- **Living Classrooms Foundation**, providing access to more equitable education, workforce development, community safety, and health and wellness opportunities that enable individuals to achieve their aspirations and build safer, stronger, and healthier communities for all. livingclassrooms.org
- **Loyola Early Learning Center**, providing a scholarship-based education for children of Baltimore City families of limited means aged two through the second grade. loyolaearly.org
- **Maryland SPCA**, an independent, local nonprofit operating out of one small but mighty campus in Baltimore. Mdspca.org
- **St. Ignatius Loyola Academy**, a tuition-free private Jesuit school transforming the lives of boys in grades 5 through 8 from underserved neighborhoods through education. saintignatius.org
- **Santa Claus Anonymous**, a unique volunteer non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization raising money to give every child a Christmas. santaclausanonymous.org
- **Sharp Dressed Man**, working together with community partners and reintroduction organizations we provide tailoring services and suits for men who are rejoining the workforce. sharpdressedman.org
- **Weekend Backpacks for Homeless Kids**, improving the lives of students affected by food insecurity in Baltimore by providing child-friendly, nutritious food directly to children in need over the weekends. weekendbackpacks.org

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CROSS KEYS REVITALIZATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Leasing Update

Office demand at Cross Keys has been strong, particularly at Village Square, which is now nearly fully leased, with Groove Commerce and New Story Schools being the largest new additions, together taking 18,500 square feet.

Retail and restaurant leasing at the Village Shops is also proceeding well, with agreements being finalized for a number of retail, restaurant and service uses. Yves Delorme recently moved into its beautiful new space next to The Store Ltd., and Easy Like Sunday is on track to begin serving breakfast, brunch and lunch by spring of 2023.

The Holidays at Cross Keys

Cross Keys is the perfect place to bring the family and shop for the holidays. Throughout the season, shoppers will find a variety of fashions, gifts, home décor and more at the Village Shops



With several additions, Village Square is almost fully leased. Photo: Anne Stuzin

and at the Holiday Pop-In curated by Bits & Bobs. The Holiday Pop-In will feature a rotating, hand-selected group of makers and vendors offering unique gifts and goodies.

Holidays in the Village, Cross Keys' signature annual holiday event, will be held on December 3 from 10am to 2pm. This family- and pet-friendly event includes:

- A maker's market by Bits & Bobs with more than 60 local artisans
- Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves (bring your camera!)
- Live musical entertainment courtesy of Central Guitar Castin, with holiday favorites as well as blues, folk, pop, country, folk rock, American roots, traditional and original material

Help children in need have a better holiday season by dropping off new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots at Pied Piper Kids from November 18 to December 15. ♦

For more information, including store hours and event specifics, visit crosskeysbaltimore.com. Sign up to receive the Cross Keys e-newsletter to be entered to win a \$100 gift card to the Cross Keys store of your choice.



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Baltimorean Discovers Early Female Surrealist

By J. Denis Glover

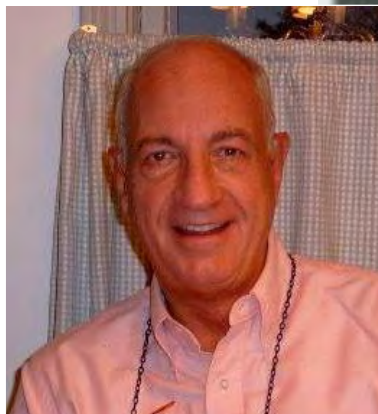
Who would have thought an average Roland Park guy like me would be donating paintings to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and Boston's Museum of Fine Arts (MFA)?

Well, I wouldn't have, but I did.

Here's what happened.

When my mother-in-law died, my wife and I discovered what an amazing, prolific artist she was. We found 65 unknown works of art by her, some under her bed or in a drawer. Within a few years, Doris Lindo Lewis became acclaimed as one of the first, if not the very first, female surrealist painter in North America.

Ilene Fort, a leading curator of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, flew to our home for a weekend to see the Lewis paintings. Then she incorporated one into a ground-breaking



Glover was raised in Roland Park.
Images courtesy of J. Denis Glover.



Lewis in the 1920s

"Blue Prayer" by Doris Lindo Lewis, early 1930s. Sold at Sotheby's auction house in New York City (right).

"Spring Awakening," early 1930s, the Dixon Gallery (below).



international exhibition, "In Wonderland," which traveled from Los Angeles (my wife attended) to Quebec (we both attended) to Mexico City. The catalog/book sold 11,000 copies.

Fort says of Lewis, "a remarkably sophisticated talent."

Visits followed from the National Gallery and MFA. "Lewis's vision is celebratory and powerful," says Erica Hirshler, MFA's curator of American paintings.



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They both acquired a Lewis painting for their permanent collections. Two appeared three years ago in a large MFA exhibition of female artists, next to two by Georgia O'Keeffe.

Soon the Dixon Gallery & Gardens in Memphis and the Provincetown Art Association and Museum acquired two more.

Subsequently, five more have been sold at Sotheby's.

For me, it's been quite a journey from taking wood shop and mechanical drawing classes at Roland Park Junior High School (now Roland Park Elementary Middle School) to being interviewed in New York City by a senior vice president at Sotheby's. ♦

J. Denis Glover, born at home in Baltimore, was raised on the Benjamin Griswold estate (201 Edgevale Rd) that was owned by his father. As a youth, he acted at the Hopkins Playshop and studied piano at the Peabody Institute. Glover attended Roland Park Junior High before entering the "A" course at the Baltimore City College. He's the author of a novel, *The Smithy Miracles*, and holds an honors Master's degree from Columbia University in British and American Literature.



Lewis's "The Conscience of Pinkerton," National Gallery (above).

"And the Evening and the Morning Were the First Day" by Lewis, early 1930s. The scallop shell symbolizes the feminine creative principle, as in Botticelli's "Birth of Venus." An example of the veristic surrealist canvases for which Lewis has received increasing critical acclaim (right).



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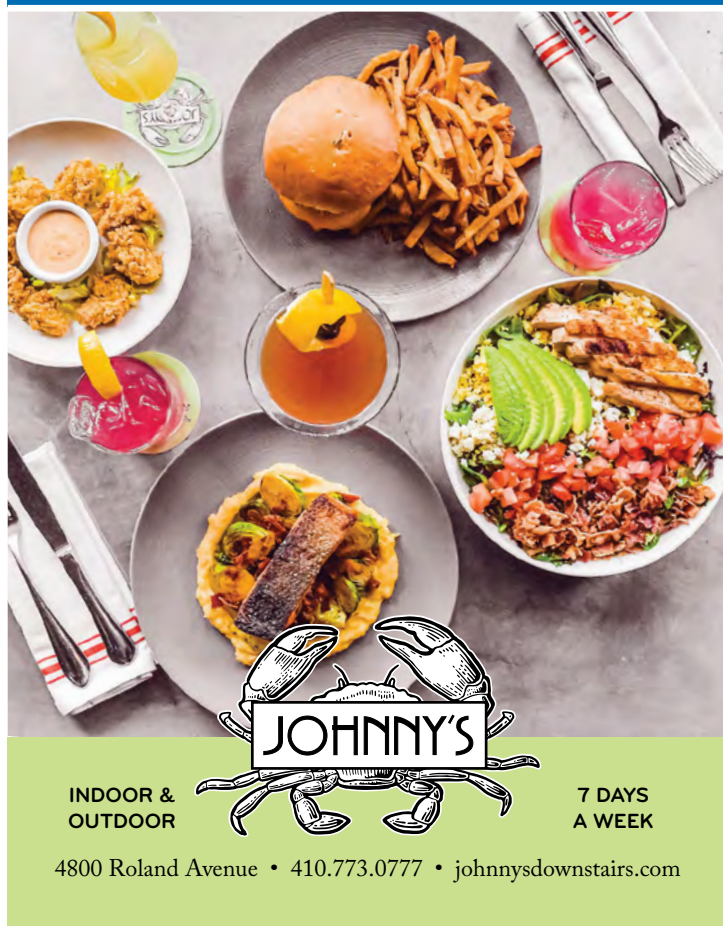
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GARRISON FOREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

While the hands-on research aspect of WISE is what initially draws in many students, what they take away goes beyond pipettes and an impressive addition to their resume. They gain important college readiness skills like independence, responsibility and confidence to pursue what interests them.

"Unlike many high school research opportunities, WISE is a cohort experience," says Andrea Perry, director of the James Center and dean of Special Programs and a WISE coordinator. "WISE students travel to Johns Hopkins University together and rejoin each other at the end of their afternoons. They are able to encourage each other and share their learning. This group dimension helps expand and reinforce other parts of what students take away from WISE: becoming at ease in navigating a large, diverse research university; understanding the habits of mind that need to be cultivated to be successful in research, including perseverance and learning from failure; and experiencing the curiosity and spirit of collaboration that researchers bring to their efforts. WISE is a lab for life as much as it is for STEM." ♦

Garrison Forest School (gfs.org), in Owings Mills is a day and boarding school educating girls in grades K-12, with a coed preschool. Daily transportation is offered to the Roland Park area.

Greater Roland Park Home Sales

(AUGUST – OCTOBER 2022)

	LIST PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
5203 Falls Rd., No. 11	\$ 189,990	\$ 189,990
610 Somerset Rd., No. 201	\$ 305,000	\$ 310,000
625 W. University Pkwy.	\$ 615,000	\$ 665,000
301 Woodlawn Rd.	\$ 649,900	\$ 803,000
4832 Keswick Rd.	\$ 878,000	\$ 927,300
208 Northfield Pl.	\$ 875,000	\$ 930,000
300 Woodlawn Rd.	\$1,025,000	\$1,025,000
202 Hawthorn Rd.	\$ 997,770	\$1,170,000

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Chicken Pot Pie Soup

Miss Shirley's Café

Yields: 1 ½ quarts.

Serves 4 to 6 people (8 oz portions).

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 stick butter, unsalted | |
| ½ cup all purpose flour | |
| 1 carrot, peeled and diced | |
| 2 stalks celery, diced | |
| ½ large onion, diced | |
| 2 tsp. garlic, chopped fresh | ½ cup frozen green peas |
| 2 T. white wine | 1 cup heavy cream |
| 2 cups chicken broth | 1 cup milk |
| 2 Yukon Gold potatoes, skin on, ½-inch dice | 1 T. fresh parsley |
| ¼ tsp. ground nutmeg | 1 large, skinless chicken breast (8-10 oz.) |
| ¼ tsp. thyme | Salt and pepper to taste |



Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

In the microwave, melt butter in a plastic container covered with plastic wrap (butter should not be hot, just slightly melted and still a little chunky). Pour cold buttermilk and honey into the melted butter and stir to form lumps.

Finely dice jalapeños. Drain and dry pimentos and rough chop them. Chop green onions into a small dice.

Place all dry ingredients into a large bowl and mix. Add jalapeños, green onions and pimentos, and toss to coat. Add chunks of cream cheese into dry ingredients. Pour in buttermilk/milk mixture and, using your hands, mix dough slightly until all ingredients come together (do not overmix and do not make chunks of cream cheese disappear).

Scoop biscuits onto a baking sheet lined with parchment and brushed with melted butter. Brush tops of biscuits with more butter and sprinkle them with shredded cheddar. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 15-17 minutes until golden brown and cooked through, rotating the tray about halfway through cooking. ❖

In a medium pot, melt butter over low heat and whisk in flour to make a roux. Set aside.

Cut celery, carrot and onion into a small dice. In a large pot, melt butter over medium heat, add celery, carrot and onion, and sauté for 2-3 minutes. Stir in garlic, nutmeg and thyme, and cook for 1 more minute. Stir in wine and cook for 1 minute. Add chicken broth and bring to a simmer.

Cut potatoes into a small dice, leaving skin on. Add potatoes to other vegetables and cook for about 5 minutes. Whisk roux in, mixing well to thicken the soup. Cook for 3-4 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add peas and stir. Add cream and milk, whisking well. Cook for 3-4 more minutes at a simmer. When thickened, finish with diced cooked chicken breast and fresh chopped parsley. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Pimento and Cheddar Cheese Biscuits

Yields: 1 ½ dozen biscuits.

Ingredients

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 cups all purpose flour | 1 oz. honey |
| 3 tsp. baking powder | ¼ jalapeño peppers, finely diced |
| 1 tsp. baking soda | |
| 2 tsp. granulated sugar | 1/2 cup diced pimentos |
| 1 1/2 tsp. salt | 1/2 bunch green onions, diced small |
| 3 oz. cream cheese | 1/2 cup cheddar cheese, shredded |
| 12 oz. buttermilk | |
| 6 oz. unsalted butter | |

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Holiday Cocktail: Autumn Manhattan

Eddie's of Roland Park

Traditional fare meets seasonal flair with this holiday cocktail recipe.

Ingredients

- 3 oz. Bowman Brother's Virginia Straight Bourbon Whiskey
- 1.5 oz. Yzaguirre Rojo Vermouth "Autentica"
- 0.5 oz. Paul Masson Apple Brandy
- 1 Stonewall Kitchen Merry Maraschino Cherry
- Dash of Regans' Orange Bitters

Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park



Pour all liquid ingredients into a shaker or mixing glass filled with ice. Stir for 30 to 40 seconds, and strain into a chilled glass. Serve straight up or with a single large ice cube if you don't want it as strong. Garnish with a maraschino cherry. ❖

INVESTIGATIONS AT PARK SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

MCHC. The two explained in detail how they work with their teams to design and fabricate the exhibition experience for their audience.

As the winter art show approaches, the students are digging into designing and curating the exhibition. As they generate their own research topics, curiosity drives their projects. With one group studying the history of Park's architecture, questions include: Why are there over a dozen unique floor levels throughout the campus? How did our school begin in a building bordering Druid Hill Park and make its way to Old Court Road? One group is studying accessible architecture—how people with physical limitations interact with public spaces. Another team is researching architecture as it relates to Baltimore. The Peabody Library building, cookie-cutter houses and destinations along the light rail are all topics being considered.

The tangible goal of this class is to create a gallery exhibition. The substance of the course is to learn about how architects and designers think about the problems they solve, and then use those tools to create solutions, whether for the exhibition or their architectural coursework. Along the way, students realize that nothing is created or innovated in a vacuum—bringing ideas to fruition involves working as part of a team—so learning to work with others is a valuable skill to acquire. As curators and creators, they are shaping how their audience understands the world. Their work for both this elective course, and for the Park community, will be displayed on the gallery walls in February 2023. ❖

Founded in 1912, The Park School of Baltimore (parkschool.net) is an independent, gender-inclusive, non-sectarian, progressive Pre-K through 12 school located on a 100-acre campus minutes from the city.

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Teaching Teamwork at Waldorf

One of the foundations of the Waldorf School of Baltimore is nurturing the relationship between children and nature. From early childhood, students spend more than half their days outdoors; the curriculum is intertwined with the unique elements of each season. As they reach elementary grades, students continue to hike the urban woodland surrounding the school, study and maintain campus trails and flora, and integrate nature studies into daily lessons. Part of this experience is caring for the school's chickens.

That is, until COVID, when the chickens had to be relocated in order to receive continued proper care. But finally, thanks to the generosity of small local business Anything Wood and Metal (anythingwoodandmetal.com), the path has been paved for their return. Anything Wood and Metal, already well known for their beautiful, natural and solid custom craftsmanship, has partnered with Waldorf to build a new custom chicken coop for the school. This collaboration with students will allow three new chickens to return to campus in the spring after a two-year hiatus.

As Waldorf students progress through the grades, the curriculum broadens along with their natural development. As part of this progression, 3rd grade students in Waldorf schools around the globe collaborate on shelter-building projects. Here in Baltimore, that has taken the form of a new shelter for the school's chickens. The work touched on a wide variety of curriculum topics. Students explored materials, chicken care basics and environmental concerns, and sketched design ideas prior to meeting with the team from Anything Wood and Metal. As observed by Waldorf's executive director, Brenda Wolf Smith, "The class had a blast talking with the team at Anything Wood and Metal about design while contemplating different variables—weather fluctuations, protection from predators, how easy the eggs will be to access for the preschool children, for example. All this, together with the final build day, adds up to an enormous amount of hands-on learning—a hallmark of Waldorf Education"

The students worked hand in hand with a team from Anything Wood and Metal to develop the final plans, which were brought into reality back at the workshop, where the team prefabricated the parts and returned them to the school to complete the build together with the class.

"It's an act of kindness to build the coop so that the whole school can enjoy the chickens, and an act of kindness for Anything Wood and Metal to donate their time and materials. In our 3rd grade curriculum, we do a lot of cooking and gardening. The children are excited about collecting the chicken eggs,



Third graders worked with Anything Wood and Metal to build a new home for Waldorf's chickens. Photos courtesy of Waldorf

making food from the eggs and sharing that food with the school" says 3rd grade teacher Kathleen McCullough.

Indeed, thanks to the amazing generosity (all time and materials were donated by Anything Wood and Metal) and talent of the team at the local woodshop, the school was able to gift its students with a powerful lesson in not only shelter building and animal husbandry, but in the power of

kindness and community as well. ❖

The Waldorf School of Baltimore educates and inspires children to think, feel and act, with depth, imagination and purpose. For information on upcoming community and admissions events visit waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org or call 410-367-6808.

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Senior Game Designer Visits RPCS

In honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, the RPCS Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion recently invited Elaine Gómez-Sanchez to talk with middle and upper school students about her career as a senior game designer for Brass Lion Entertainment and cofounder of Latinx in Gaming. She also spoke about the importance of representation, relationships and giving back to the community.

As a Latina from Puerto Rico who was raised in New Jersey, Gómez-Sanchez shared her immigrant story of moving to the U.S. and the difficulty she faced fitting into her new environment among peers who did not understand her culture. Listening to punk music and playing games daily as a coping mechanism to deal with those difficult teen years, Gómez-Sanchez persevered academically and attended



Gómez-Sanchez shared her story with RPCS students. Photo courtesy of RPCS

Rutgers University for her undergraduate degree.

It was at Rutgers where she met her mentor, Dr. Joe Sanchez, who signed her up for a game and design summer program that changed the focus of her studies and career path. "Life is hard sometimes, so surround yourself with people who support you and want the best for you," she explains. With a mentor behind her and a strong sense of self-confidence, Gómez-Sanchez earned a Bachelor of Arts in

"Representation matters, not because we need tokenism, but because we need each other. We need to empower each other."

Elaine Gómez-Sanchez



Information Technology from Rutgers and continued her graduate studies at one of the best programs for game design at the University of Southern California, where she earned a Master of Fine Arts in Interactive Media and Games.

Gómez-Sanchez's personal story resonated deeply with RPCS students. She started her day talking with upper school students involved in computer science and with student affinity groups to discuss her career and to listen to students' aspirations. The day continued with a presentation to our sixth graders, who are currently taking a game design class, where Gómez-Sanchez shared her personal project of a gaming code and interfaces of her creations. To wrap up the day, she made a presentation to the entire upper school.

It was an unforgettable day of inspiration to have Gómez-Sanchez on campus to share her personal story and exciting career that combines science, math, logic and art. We are grateful for her honesty and energy with the students and the deep impact she made on our community. ❖

Roland Park Country School (rpcs.org) believes that young women who build each other up will thrive. As an independent school in Baltimore for girls in grades K-12, the all-girls culture is rooted in the notion that female empowerment begins with young women empowering one another. This enables RPCS students to build courage and confidence in an environment where female leadership across all areas of study is the norm, not the exception.

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Beyond the Pages: A Q&A with Authors Jonathan and Destry Jarvis

National Parks Forever: Fifty Years of Fighting and a Case for Independence, written by Roland Park resident, T. Destry Jarvis, and his brother, Jonathan B. Jarvis, was published by The University of Chicago Press in June. In it, these two men who have dedicated much of their lives to the conservation of the country's national geographic and historic resources, share their experiences, their "front row seat to the disastrous impact of partisan politics on conservation over the past 50 years—and offer a bold vision for the parks' future."



Delicate Arch at Arches National Park (above).

Destry Jarvis' wife Barb hiking on the Appalachian Trail in Shenandoah National Park (left). Photos: Destry Jarvis

Jonathan Jarvis was the 18th director of the National Park Service (NPS), serving under President Barack Obama from 2009 to 2017. Before that, he served for 40 years in numerous roles with the NPS—as a ranger, biologist, and park superintendent in eight national parks. He also co-wrote *The Future of Conservation in America: A Chart for Rough Water*, which has been called "a clear and compelling guide for the future of conservation in America."

Destry Jarvis' lifelong dedication to conservation includes his leadership roles at the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), Student Conservation Association, NPS, and the National Recreation & Parks Association. He is currently vice president of the U.S. National Committee for the International Council on Monuments and Sites (usicomos.org), a non-profit, non-governmental organization that promotes the conservation of world heritage and stronger connections to the global heritage community through advocacy, education, and the international exchange of people and ideas."

RPN: Ken Burns said the national park system is "the Declaration of Independence written on the ground." What does that mean to you?

JB: To me, it means that the national parks are intended to be available to everyone, regardless of their socioeconomic status or ethnicity. As the director [of the NPS], I worked hard to ensure that the national parks, their stories and visitors reflected the diversity of the nation. It also means that the National Park System has a responsibility to help the nation live up to the ideals and values stated in the Declaration of Independence.

TDJ: There are units of the National Park System in every state, DC and the territories. With additions to the system over the past 50 years that brother Jon and I have vigorously supported, the system includes sites that are broadly representative of the many cultures that comprise our national melting pot. No doubt there are more sites that ought to be added to the system, but its present composition allows all Americans to benefit from its many pleasures, and to be better educated about our very diverse heritage while doing so. Along with the Smithsonian Institution and the National Archives and Records Administration,

the national parks preserve in perpetuity the nation's treasures, that are owned by all Americans

RPN: You include a Wallace Stegner quote in the book's foreword: "National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst." Given the long history of political interference with the NPS' mission told in the book, does Stegner's sentiment still hold true?

JB: In 2016, the NPS hosted 320 million visitors, more than all of Disney, [the] National Football [League, basketball, baseball,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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JARVIS BROTHERS Q&A

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

soccer and NASCAR combined. All of those visitors were not one political party. The national parks are still places we can come together as a nation. The political interference we recount comes from a small subset of individuals who do not value the national parks, but also do not reflect the values of the public at large.

TDJ: The simple answer is that this question does not differentiate between the NPS—the federal agency that manages the parks—and the national park system—the 426 places that comprise our nation’s best and most important natural and cultural sites.

Stegner’s observation about the values and purposes of the national parks still holds true today, despite the intense politicization of the NPS over the past 50 years that we document extensively in our book; the distinction here is to point out the difference between the parks themselves and the agency that is intended to preserve them in perpetuity for Americans to enjoy. At times, the agency is not allowed to do its job effectively and fully but, by and large, the resources of the parks can endure longer if allowed to do so. For example, when Congress shut down the government during the Obama Administration by not passing the annual budget, the parks were closed to the public and the resources thus protected. However, when the country was beset by COVID during the Trump Administration

and federal employees, including NPS rangers, were sent home, Trump ordered the parks to be left open; as a result, the parks were trashed, trees cut down, [off-road vehicles] ran rampant off roads, resources were heavily damaged.

RPN: *Most people who visit national parks likely don’t think about how politics and politicians have made their marks on these public lands and our experience of them. What are some of the most significant examples—negative and positive—of the impact any particular politician has had?*

JBj: Historically there have been politicians and political appointees from both parties who have been good stewards of our national parks. Examples include Nat Reed, Frank Church, Lisa Murkowski, Bruce Vento, Ken Salazar. Then there are the others who view the national parks as mere commodities and would sell them to the first bidder: Rob Bishop, Mike Lee, Gale Norton, David Bernhardt, James Watt. Examples of the negative:

- Congressman Duncan Hunter attempted to legislate Channel Islands National Park into a private hunting ground.
- Congressman Jason Chaffetz introduced legislation to sell 3 million acres of parks and public lands to private individuals.

Examples of the positive:

- President Jimmy Carter used the Antiquities Act to protect over 40 million acres of Alaska.
- Senator Rob Portman led the effort to pass the National Parks Centennial Act.

TDJ: Every Republican administration in the past 50 years has tried to cut the NPS budget and reduce the number of NPS rangers and other employees, often, but not always, successfully when the Congress goes along. When the NPS budget is cut, potholes in park roads grow, trash is not picked up as often, education programs (e.g. campfire talks) are not conducted, natural and cultural resources deteriorate at a faster rate. Other than the President or the Secretary of the Interior, individual politicians can rarely take any action by themselves, which in general is a good thing, though both Presidents and DOI Secretaries often have adverse impacts on the national parks, as is documented in the book.

RPN: *Most of the criticism detailed in the book is aimed at members of Republican administrations. Has there been any blowback from this?*

TDJ: Not yet, but there will likely be if the premise of the book—to make NPS an independent agency—gets any traction. Taking the action that we propose will not happen without broad support, especially from champions in Congress, and from the hundreds of organized constituencies advocating for the national parks, such as the 1.5-million-member NPCA and the dozens of non-governmental organizations that focus their attention on individual parks.

RPN: *Can each of you share which is your favorite national park and why? In what way could that park be better if the NPS were an independent federal agency?*

JBj: My favorite, now that I am no longer director, is Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska. An independent NPS would prevent the interference by the Department of the Interior in the regulations of hunting, subsistence, access and

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“The history retold by these two brothers, each outstanding in his lifelong dedication to parks, is compelling and instructive, as well as a very good read.”

Margaret J. Wheatley, author of *Leadership and the New Science* and former member of the National Parks Advisory Board

relationships with the State of Alaska. With each change in administration, the policies shift almost 180 degrees, creating confusion in the field by the staff and the community.

TDJ: I have visited and worked on issues affecting well over 300 of the 426 units of the National Park System over the past 50 years, so it's impossible to pick just one. That said, I have spent more time in Shenandoah and Acadia national parks than others, and have to rate them at the top of my list. Having served there, I love the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in DC. I love the fact that Freedom Riders and Birmingham Civil Rights National Monuments are units of the system, and tell the full story of events there and the changes that these places have had on the course of American history. In the intermountain West, I love Canyonlands National Park, and, in Alaska, I love the abundant wildlife viewing, and the fact that these 44 million acres of national parks are and will be *wild*.

RPN: *You've both been staunch advocates for the conservation of significant lands in the U.S. for decades. Where do you see the conservation movement heading?*

JBj: The future of conservation (which I wrote about in my previous book) is about partnerships with non-traditional entities such as the religious community, Native Americans, ranchers, etc. The goal will be to work across multiple jurisdictions at a landscape scale to build ecosystem resilience in light of climate change.

TDJ: The conservation movement is stronger today than it has ever been. NPCA has 1.5 million members; National Audubon Society has 600,000; The Wilderness Society has 1 million; Sierra Club has 400,000 (and it is not tax-deductible). These long-standing organizations are complemented by many newer groups that are increasingly effective and visibly influential. The Biden Administration's embrace of the 30x30 initiative—aimed at protecting 30 percent of America by 2030—is a rallying cry for all Americans to join.

RPN: *For years, Roland Park has been working toward the goal of establishing Hillside Park—the first public park of its size in Baltimore for more than 100 years. Do you have any advice on how best to approach planning for the park in order to achieve the goal of it being “absolutely democratic”, following the Frederick Law Olmsted tradition of making park space welcoming to everyone?*

JBj: The concept of “build it and they will come” is no longer viable. The most important step is to actively engage the

community in what they want to see, do and preserve within Hillside Park. People support “that which they create,” and will be staunch supporters if they have valued input into the park design and operation. Engage the community that is not currently using the local parks and determine why not and use that information to plan a park that is welcoming to everyone.

TDJ: I have played a significant role in urban park matters throughout my career. I advocated long and hard in 1978 for the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Act (that became law) and was a founding board member of the City Parks Alliance in 2001. The NPS has managed an especially effective urban planning assistance program—technical assistance to local park organizations and urban grants from the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program (\$100 million per year at present). These NPS staff of the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program are scattered around the country to provide local support—one even serves Baltimore. Baltimore's Olmsted-designed parks do indeed serve as a national model but, like virtually all urban parks, suffer from lack of funding and staffing priority for the City and State.

Any new park, especially an urban one, needs to begin with public scoping that engages *all* possible constituencies at the earliest phase of the planning process. In too many instances that I have seen, park planning begins with pre-conceived decisions that agencies and advocates are reluctant to change, and that are likely to engender the most objections from people left out of the process. ❖

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Here are some of my favorite new books, any of which would make a great holiday gift for the child in your life. Happy holidays! ❖

Babies (ages up to 3)

It's Not Time for Sleeping (A Bedtime Story) by Lisa Graff

Little Treasures, Endearments from Around the World by Jacqueline Ogburn



Birding for Babies: Backyard Birds: A Numbers Book by Chloe Goodhart

Our World: A First Book of Geography by Sue Lowell Gallion

Inch by Inch: A Lift-the-Flap Book by Leo Lionni

Here and Now by Julia Denos

Ours by Ruth Forman

The Thank You Book by Danna Smith

How it Works: Human Body by Amelia Hepworth

Dream Machine by Joshua Jay

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Gary Paulsen

Picture Books (ages 3-6)

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Good Night, Little Bookstore by Amy Cherrix

What Are Words Really? by Alexi Lubomirski

Mouse Calls by Anne Marie Pace

I Was Born a Baby by Meg Fleming

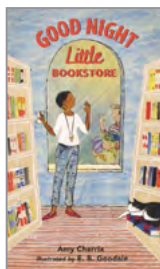
To Make by Danielle Davis

Books Aren't for Eating by Carlie Sorosiak

The Coat by Séverine Vidal

The Little Book of Joy by Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu

The Sour Grape by Jory John



Lower Middle Reader (ages 6-9)

Wednesday & Woof: Catastrophe by Sherri Winston

Surely Surely Marisol Rainey by Erin Entrada Kelly

Billy & Rose: Forever Friends by Amy Hest

The Sheep, the Rooster and the Duck by Matt Phelan

Franklin Endicott and the Third Key by Kate DiCamillo

One Smart Sheep by Gary D. Schmidt



A Secret Shared by Patricia MacLachlan

Oh, Sal by Kevin Henkes

Cornbread & Poppy at the Carnival by Matthew Cordell

In Aunt Lucy's Kitchen by Cynthia Rylant

Upper Middle Reader (ages 10-13)

Answers in the Pages by David Levithan

Kaleidoscope by Brian Selznick

The Adventure is Now by Jesse Redman

Stay by Bobbie Pyron

The Golden Swift by Lev Grossman

The Lost Whale by Hannah Gold

Room to Dream by Kelly Yang

One Kid's Trash by Jamie Sumner

Honestly Elliott by Gillian McDunn

Operation Do-Over by Gordon Korman



Young Adult (ages 14-18)

Summer of Lost Letters by Hannah Reynolds

The Fountains of Silence by Ruth Sepetys

We Are Inevitable by Gayle Forman

Mary Jane by Jessica Anya Blau

The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb

Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue by Mackenzi Lee

Why We Fly by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal

Victory. Stand! Raising My Fist for Justice by Tommie Smith, Derrick Barnes and Dawud Anyabwile

The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen by Isaac Blum

Poster Girl by Veronica Roth



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Calendar Highlights

Houses of Worship Please call or visit the websites of these Roland Park area houses of worship for information about their service dates and times.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP	PHONE	WEBSITE
Bolton Street Synagogue , 212 W. Cold Spring Ln.	410-235-5354	boltonstreet.org
Cathedral of Mary Our Queen , 5200 N. Charles St.	410-464-4000	cathedralofmary.org
Cathedral of the Incarnation , 4 E. University Pkwy.	410-467-3750	incarnationbmore.org
Church of the Redeemer , 5603 N. Charles St.	410-435-7333	redeemberbaltimore.org
Congregation Beit Tikvah , 5802 Roland Ave	410-464-9402	beittikvah.org
First Christian Church , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-1506	rolandparkcc.org
First Church of Christ, Scientist, Baltimore , 102 W. University Pkwy.	410-467-7974	christiansciencebaltimore.org
The Gathering of Baltimore , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-252-7816	thegatheringbaltimore.org
Grace United Methodist Church , 5407 N. Charles St.	410-433-6650	graceunitedmethodist.org
Mt. Olivet Christian Church , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-1506	rolandparkcc.org
North Baltimore Mennonite Church , 4615 Roland Ave.	410-467-8947	www.bmoremenno.org
Roland Park Presbyterian Church , 4801 Roland Ave.	410-889-2001	rolandparkchurch.org
St. Andrew's Christian Community , 5802 Roland Ave.	410-435-9470	rolandparkcc.org
St. David's Church , 4700 Roland Ave.	410-467-0476	stdavidsrolandpark.com
Stony Run Friends , 5116 N. Charles St.	443-703-2590	stonyrunfriends.org

The **Baltimore Police Department Northern District Commander's Monthly Crime and Community Meeting** is held on the second Wednesday of the month at the Northern District Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Ln. All are welcome.

The Peabody Institute's Preparatory Dance Open Program offers classes in ballet and contemporary dance for students of all ages and abilities who love to dance and want high-quality instruction with a flexible class schedule. Classes are offered in the downtown campus at 21 E. Mt. Vernon Pl. and in Towson at 949 Dulaney Valley Rd. Monday classes: **Latin Dance** 5-6:15pm, downtown campus, **Open Ballet** 7:30-8:45pm, downtown campus; Tuesday classes: **Jazz Dance** 7:30-8:45pm, downtown campus, **Contemporary Dance** 7:30-8:45pm, Towson campus; Wednesday classes: **Ballet Levels 2/3** 7pm-8:15pm, downtown campus, **Ballet for Everybody** 7pm-8:15pm, downtown campus; Thursday classes: **Beginners Ballet** 7:15-8:30pm, Towson campus; Saturday classes: **Advanced Contemporary Dance** 12:30-2pm, downtown campus. For more information, visit peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/dance/training/openclasses.

December

- Starting Dec. 3, 10am-4pm. **Regular Saturday Hours and Holiday Week (Dec. 27-30)**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd. firemuseummd.org
- Dec. 3, 10 and 17, 10am-4pm. **Holiday Train Garden**, Fire Museum of Maryland.
- Dec. 8-10, 2-7pm. **A Ladew Christmas**, Ladew Topiary Gardens, 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. Includes Christmas in the Manor House tour and Holiday Greens Sale. \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission). Advance registration required. ladewgardens.com
- Dec. 6, 6pm. **Evans Paull, Stop the Road: Stories from the Trenches of Baltimore's Road Wars**, Bird in Hand Coffee & Books, 11 E. 33rd St. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website. theivybookshop.com

- Dec. 10, 10am-1pm. **Rabbi-Led Oneg Shabbat Service**, Congregation Beit Tikvah, 5802 Roland Ave. Join Congregation Beit Tikvah for warm, participatory, egalitarian year-round Shabbat Services and for High Holiday services with Yizkor Memorial. Beit Tikvah is a Kehillah Mekabelet—a Welcoming Congregation. We welcome families, couples, and individuals of all races, heritages, ethnicities, gender identities/expressions, and sexual orientations. Our building, bima (ark podium) and facilities are wheelchair accessible. The building (Roland Park Community Center) is home to five congregations, leading to interfaith activities. beittikvah.org
- Dec. 10, 11am. **Children's Book Signing: Angela Dale, Bus Stop**, The Ivy Bookshop. This in-person event will be held on the front porch.
- Dec. 17, 4:30pm. **Hands on Holiday: Winter Solstice**, The Ivy Bookshop and The Waldorf School of Baltimore. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.
- Dec. 18, 3:30pm. **Songs of Celebration**, Baltimore Musicales, 25 Stevenson Ln. Beloved carols and Hanukkah songs, excerpts from Handel's Messiah, and seasonal gems by Peter Cornelius, Aaron Copland, Roger Quilter, Samuel Barber, Hyo Geun Kim and more. \$25 for general admission. baltimoremusicales.org
- Dec. 23, 7:30-9:30pm. **Chanukah Party**, Congregation Beit Tikvah

January

- Starting Jan. 7, 10am-4pm. **Regular Saturday Hours**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd.

February

- Starting Feb. 4, 10am-4pm. **Regular Saturday Hours**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd.
- Feb. 12, 3:30pm. **Love's Messenger**, Baltimore Musicales. An early Valentine's Day celebration with gorgeous art songs and arias.

Please send calendar announcements to magazine@rolandpark.org.



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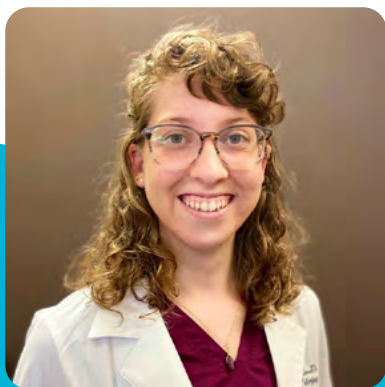
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