

ROLAND PARK news

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Eighty-Eight • Spring 2023

VLP Turns 25

Lower
Stony Run
Strategic
Plan Update

Hillside
Park
Update



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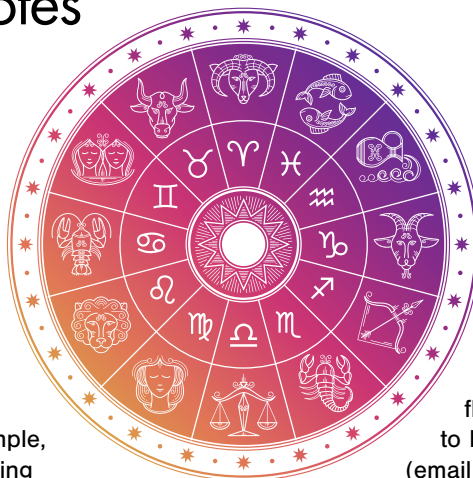
Editor's Notes

By Martha Marani

Whether you're a believer or not, it can be interesting to look at the characteristics associated with a particular astrological sign and consider whether there is any truth in them. For example, people born under spring signs—Pisces, Aries, Taurus and Gemini—are said to have many admirable qualities (according to tenthousandvillages.com/mosaic/your-guide-to-the-12-zodiac-dates-traits). Pisces, born Feb. 19-Mar. 20, are said to be “independent and strong-willed, an asset to any team you join or cause you support.” Aries, born Mar. 21-Apr. 19, are “a force to be reckoned with! You love nothing more than an exciting new goal to tackle.” Taurus, born Apr. 20-May 20, are thought to have “determination and attention to detail [that] will take you far in life.” Gemini, born May 21-Jun. 20, has an “ability to get along with a wide variety of people.”

If these descriptions are true, then consider this a call to action for all spring-born Roland Parkers! Use your gifts—determination, passion, precision and team spirit—to volunteer for a cause that holds meaning for you. In this issue, Liesje Gantert, executive director of the Village Learning Place (VLP), makes a great argument for getting involved with the 25-year-old Charles Village non-profit that offers educational programs, enrichment opportunities and informational resources for Baltimore City residents. Read Hilary Paska's conversation with Gantert and find out how you can help VLP fulfill its mission (villagelearningplace.org/get-involved/volunteer).

Mary Page Michel, chair of the Community Foundation and one of the driving forces behind Hillside Park, outlines all the ways volunteers can get involved in the once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a new public park in Baltimore—a truly democratic place that honors the Olmsted tradition of



making green space welcoming to everyone. Are you committed to diversity, equity and inclusion? Have a talent for administration, fundraising or event planning? Interested in flora or fauna? Volunteer to be part of Hillside Park (email communityfoundation@rolandpark.org)!

Or help take care of Centennial Park by volunteering to water newly planted trees, pull weeds and pick up trash. Read more about it in Kate Culotta's article on page 11 and email her at krculotta@msn.com to volunteer. Cylburn Arboretum (cylburn.org/volunteer) is also always looking for volunteers to help with gardening and trail and deer fence maintenance. You could train to serve as a Cylburn docent, learning how to lead tours of the grounds, gardens and mansion. Other local opportunities include volunteering with the Friends of Stony Run (stonyrun.org/get-involved), which will be participating in the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's annual Project Clean Stream on Mar. 31 (allianceforthebay.org/project/project-clean-stream).

Whether yours is a spring sign or not, Baltimore City needs your help. If none of the opportunities mentioned above appeals, look back to our winter issue (rolandpark.org/news/roland-park-news) for a list of local charities that would welcome your time and talent.

Consider the words of our new governor, Wes Moore, who said in his first State of the State address, “At a time when civic bonds are frayed, where many feel more disconnected from their neighbors than ever before, service is the antidote to the epidemic of loneliness and otherness.”

Roll up your sleeves, Roland Park. Spring is the perfect time to start serving or to renew your commitment. Dig in! ❖

The Village Learning Place Turns 25

By Hilary Paska

I reached out recently to my neighbor, Liesje Gantert, executive director of the Village Learning Place (VLP) to find out more about the 25-year-old organization.

RPN: VLP celebrated its 25th anniversary in November 2022. Tell us how VLP came into being and why?

LG: I love the Village Learning Place—affectionately referred to as VLP—origin story. The story of the organization began with community building and organizing, which is one of the reasons it is so special. In 1997, when the Enoch Pratt Free Library (Pratt) announced it was closing several of the smaller library branches throughout the city, this included Branch 6 in Charles Village, and a group of neighbors rallied to save their local library. They signed petitions, staged a funeral march, and sued Baltimore City—all to keep the library open and available for the neighborhood. While they did not win (we are no longer a part of the Pratt), they were able to create something special—a completely independent 21st century library that exists apart from the system. This group of neighbors was also visionary. They drafted our mission statement and set the course for creating a community-based library that would reflect the needs and wants of the residents through programming and resources, and serve as a safe community gathering space and neighborhood anchor.

RPN: What have been some of VLP's most significant achievements over the last 25 years?

LG: The organization has celebrated lots of successes over the last 25 years. From the start, a group of neighbors—meeting in each other's living rooms in a rowhouse—raised over \$1 million in seed funding to renovate the library, hire the first staff members, and design and implement programming for the new library.

Partnerships. Over the years, some of our greatest successes and endeavors have come out of partnerships. There have been many over the years—too many to detail here! I'll highlight just a few of our older partnerships then fast forward to more recent ones.



VLP transformed what was the Pratt's Branch 6 in Charles Village into a 21st century library that serves as a community gathering space and neighborhood anchor.

Photo courtesy of VLP

Johns Hopkins University (JHU). VLP has partnered with JHU from [the organization's] inception. Our founding board included a librarian from the JHU Sheridan Library as well as the director of the Center for Social Concern. With expertise from JHU volunteers, our library collection and circulation policies were built and the framework and curriculum for our youth out-of-school



VLP honored its past and celebrated its future at the 25th Birthday Bash last November. Photos: Harry Connolly ©2022

programming was established.

Spaghetti Disco. One of our long-standing and most fun community outreach events began in partnership with neighbors. In 1998, Charles Village residents Rebecca and Chris Bruce, Andy Thomas, and Halle Van der Gaag

created the Spaghetti Disco. Their modest goal was to raise sufficient funds for playground equipment at nearby schools and community open spaces. They rented a space, found a DJ, invited neighbors, served spaghetti and meatballs, and started a phenomenon that continues today. After several years (and

VLP TURNS 25

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

when the playground improvements were completed), no one wanted to see this winter staple end so the volunteers partnered with VLP in 2004 to ensure the Spaghetti Disco would continue to benefit neighborhood youth. After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the 23rd annual Spaghetti Disco is back and will take place on Mar. 11, at The Garage at R. House (301 W 29th St.).

Central Baltimore Community Center Council. The Council, established in 2018, is composed of five out-of-school-time providers working collaboratively with Central Baltimore Partnership, which provides technical expertise and coordination. These organizations operated independently prior to 2018, but now serve as a collective partnership to amplify the impact of our individual centers. The Council has collaborated for staff professional development, community outreach events, neighborhood resource fairs and vital basic services during the pandemic, from food access to computer distribution.

Historic Preservation. Our historic building is a source of pride for the organization and we continue to invest in its upkeep. Although City-owned, VLP has a long-term lease for \$1 per year and we are on our second 20-year lease term. After raising \$1 million at the start and making needed building improvements to ensure handicap accessibility and updates to mechanic



LINK Leaders empowers middle and high school students to stay engaged academically and to practice leadership. Photo courtesy of VLP

systems, VLP continues to make building renovations to preserve the library building. In the past two years, capital funds were used to make much-needed repairs to VLP's historic building, originally Branch 6 of the Pratt and now an independent library and symbol of community pride. Work included repointing masonry, restoring the original slate roof, replacing missing copper downspouts, replacing classroom flooring, repairing plaster, and painting the entire library interior walls and ceiling.


Expansion of Programming to Middle and High School. VLP programming for youth has grown and expanded over the years to serve more students and deepen the impact. One of our successes is the creation of our Let's Invest in Neighborhood Kids (LINK) Leaders program for 7th to 12th grades. Before 2013, VLP youth programming ended at 6th grade. We found that many of our LINK graduates kept visiting the library or stopping into their old classrooms to connect with teachers and friends. Clearly there was a need for programming for older youth. So, in 2013, VLP conducted a focus group of over 65 LINK students, families and community members. Using input from these stakeholders, VLP's education team redesigned its programming for older youth. In summer 2015, thanks to successful fundraising efforts, VLP piloted a new program model, LINK Leaders Summer, which now serves 25 to 30 7th to 12th graders and expanded to LINK Leaders School Year programming in 2019. Age-appropriate enrichment clubs, mentoring, service learning and field trips all help to engage and retain older students.

LINK Leaders programming empowers middle and high school students to stay enrolled and engaged academically and to begin practicing leadership roles. LINK Leaders was designed to prioritize enrichment, adult interaction and individualized projects while delivering a curriculum that moves older students towards college and career readiness. Tactics including student choice, meaningful service learning, employment experience and low teacher-student ratio—all among recognized best practices in out-of-school education for older youth. LINK Leaders connects students with their local and global community to develop citizenship.

We're excited to share that we celebrated our first LINK graduates in May 2022. We had our first three long-time LINK students graduate from high school. All of them are now attending college as first generation students. Our board of directors established a LINK College Fund during the past year

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to support LINK students and their families for college expenses as well as funds to establish \$25 starting contributions to Maryland 529 College Savings Plans for any younger students currently enrolled in the LINK program.

RPN: *VLP offers a wide range of programs to the community. Could you share some examples of programs that you feel have made the greatest impact? Can neighbors and other local businesses participate?*

LG: Yes! VLP started our Career Exploration series by inviting community volunteers to come into our LINK Leaders classroom for career explorations—a one-time visit where volunteers share their occupation and schooling/training with our students. By accident, we discovered that our career explorations are more impactful when we visit on-site rather than limit our explorations to our LINK classroom. Our Career Exploration Field Trips started in summer 2021 with a visit to The Sagamore Pendry Hotel to hear from employees in sales, management, food and beverage service, and even the valet service (a black-owned independent contractor at the hotel). This in-person experience was invaluable to our students. Read more at villagelearningplace.org/career-mode-more-than-just-a-panel.

VLP is always looking for local partner businesses and corporations to host our group.

RPN: *Promoting cultural awareness is a key part of VLP's mission. How does VLP achieve this?*

LG: Our mission is to promote literacy, cultural awareness and lifelong learning, so this is an integral part of our organization. We have also deliberately and strategically decided to accept the broadest meaning of “cultural awareness” to include two aspects of this definition.

VLP defines cultural awareness as the understanding and appreciation of the sciences and humanities, which include literature, languages, the arts and social sciences, as well as their various functions in life, history and culture. VLP also defines cultural awareness as the use of insight and sensitivity in understanding our own culture, as well as the differences between ourselves and those from other backgrounds, especially differences in attitudes, perceptions, behaviors, values and approaches to life.

VLP honors cultural awareness through its diversity of programming as well as its focus on equity and inclusion. VLP has been a model inclusion site since 2012, when we partnered in a pilot program with Disability Rights Maryland and the Family League of Baltimore. We rely on restorative practices in our program and have adopted the Virtues Project (virtuesproject.com)—a global initiative, inspiring the practice of virtues in everyday life—as part of our character education program for youth as well as part of our organizational culture.

RPN: *What are some of the best ways for the community to support VLP in 2023?*

LG: VLP has been a collaborative effort from its start. For the past 25 years, VLP has been bringing together educators and



learners; technology experts and human service providers; literacy advocates and master gardeners—all to enhance urban living through information and education. We are always looking for volunteers who want to lend their skills to our work. We are currently recruiting volunteer board members to advance our mission; committee volunteers for the special events committee, our Second Wednesday program committee and garden work group; and partners for our LINK Leaders career exploration field trips.

VLP launched several new projects this winter, including an eBook catalog, a new Seed Library and a Library of Things. We are looking for donations of seed packets, and gently used or new bakeware and small kitchen appliances (e.g., air fryers, Instant Pots) to support these new projects. If you have an idea for a donation, please contact us at VLPnews@villagelearningplace.org!

VLP welcomes donations to support our programs and services at any time. Gifts to the annual fund are welcome to sustain operations, or donations can be made to specific projects such as the LINK College Fund and our Neverending Stories Capital Campaign to sustain our historic building. ❖

To find out more about VLP, visit villagelearningplace.org, or connect on Facebook and Instagram ([@villagelearningplace](https://www.instagram.com/villagelearningplace)) or Twitter ([@thevlp](https://twitter.com/thevlp)). You can reach Liesje Ganter at director@villagelearningplace.org.

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Message from the Civic League: PayHOA

The Civic League acknowledges the tremendous response from our neighbors who have paid their Civic League dues and annual requested maintenance fees (currently set since the 1980s at eight times one's required fee). The following reflects payments as of January 31. We are currently seeking 2022-

23 payments from approximately 250 neighbors. If you don't see your address on this list, please contact us at **Office@rolandpark.org** or 410-464-2525 for assistance. We want to acknowledge you as well! ❖

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311 Edgevale Rd.	401 Somerset Rd.	4412 Roland Ave.	4824 Roland Ave.	520 Woodlawn Rd.	6 Elmhurst Rd.	608 Edgevale Rd.	8 Club Rd.
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325 Hawthorn Rd.	4200 Somerset Pl.	4612 Roland Ave.	5 Beechdale Rd.	546 W. University Pkwy.	603 Edgevale Rd.	641 W. University Pkwy.	9 Beechdale Rd.
325 Woodlawn Rd.	4200 Wickford Rd.	4614 Roland Ave.	5 Club Rd.	550 W. University Pkwy.	603 Somerset Rd.	647 W. University Pkwy.	9 Midvale Rd.
326 Woodlawn Rd.	4202 Somerset Pl.	4615 Roland Ave.	5 Elmhurst Rd.	556 W. University Pkwy.	603 W. 40th St	7 Beechdale Rd.	9 St Johns Rd.
329 Hawthorn Rd.	4203 Roland Ave	4700 Roland Ave.	5 Englewood Rd.	560 W. University Pkwy.	603 W. University Pkwy.	7 Club Rd.	900 W. University Pkwy.
33 Merrymount Rd.	4204 Somerset Pl.	4701 East Ln.	5 Harvest Rd.	562 W. University Pkwy.	603 Wyndhurst Ave.	7 Elmhurst Rd.	902 W. University Pkwy.
33 Springhouse Path	4204 Wickford Rd.	4701 Keswick Rd.	5 Longwood Rd.	564 W. University Pkwy.	604 Edgevale Rd.	7 Englewood Rd.	903 W. University Pkwy.
35 Merrymount Rd.	4205 Roland Ave.	4701 Roland Ave.	5 Merrymount Rd.	568 W. University Pkwy.	604 Somerset Rd.	7 Harvest Rd.	908 W. University Pkwy.
3816 Beech Ave.	4208 Wickford Rd.	4702 Keswick Rd.	5 Midvale Rd.	570 W. University Pkwy.	605 Edgevale Rd.	7 Longwood Rd.	909 W. University Pkwy.
3824 Beech Ave.	4209 Roland Ave.	4703 East Ln.	5 St Johns Rd.	572 W. University Pkwy.	605 Somerset Rd.	7 Midvale Rd.	910 W. University Pkwy.
3827 Keswick Rd.	4212 Wickford Rd.	4703 Roland Ave.	500 Edgevale Rd.	578 W. University Pkwy.	605 W. 40th St	701 W. University Pkwy.	912 W. University Pkwy.
3833 Keswick Rd.	4213 Wickford Rd.	4704 Roland Ave.	500 Hawthorn Rd.	580 W. University Pkwy.	606 Edgevale Rd.	703 W. University Pkwy.	914 W. University Pkwy.
3900 Beech Ave.	4215 Wickford Rd.	4705 Keswick Rd.	500 Overhill Rd.	582 W. University Pkwy.	606 Somerset Rd.	705 W. University Pkwy.	916 W. University Pkwy.
3901 Keswick Rd.	4217 Wickford Rd.	4706 Keswick Rd.	500 Woodlawn Rd.	6 Beechdale Rd.	606 W. 40th St	711 W. University Pkwy.	920 W. University Pkwy.
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3904 Beech Ave.	4220 Wickford Rd.	4710 Keswick Rd.	5005 Falls Rd. Terrace				
3907 Keswick Rd.	4225 Wickford Rd.	4710 Roland Ave.	5007 Falls Rd. Terrace				
3908 Beech Ave.	4229 Wickford Rd.	4711 East Ln.	501 Edgevale Rd.				
3912 Beech Ave.	423 Hawthorn Rd.	4711 Roland Ave.	501 Hawthorn Rd.				
3913 Keswick Rd.	4233 Wickford Rd.	4712 Club Rd.	501 Overhill Rd.				
3914 Beech Ave.	4233 Wickford Rd.	4712 Keswick Rd.	501 W. University Pkwy.				
3916 Beech Ave.	4239 Wickford Rd.	4712 Roland Ave.	501 Woodlawn Rd.				
3920 Beech Ave.	4243 Wickford Rd.	4713 Keswick Rd.	5011 Falls Rd. Terrace				
3923 Keswick Rd.	4245 Wickford Rd.	4715 East Ln.	5015 Falls Rd. Terrace				
3925 Beech Ave.	4247 Wickford Rd.	4717 Keswick Rd.	5017 Falls Rd. Terrace				
3925 Keswick Rd.	425 Hawthorn Rd.	4721 East Ln.	502 Edgevale Rd.				
3927 Keswick Rd.	4300 Roland Ave	4721 Keswick Rd.	502 Somerset Rd.				
3928 Beech Ave.	4300 Wickford Rd.	4800 Roland Ave.	502 Woodlawn Rd.				
3929 Keswick Rd.	4301 Roland Ave.	4800 Wilmslow Rd.	503 Club Rd.				
3937 Keswick Rd.	4301 Wickford Rd.	4801 Keswick Rd.	503 Overhill Rd				
3939 Keswick Rd.	4302 Wickford Rd.	4801 Roland Ave.	504 Edgevale Rd.				
3940 Beech Ave.	4303 Wickford Rd.	4803 Keswick Rd.	504 Overhill Rd.				
4 Beechdale Rd.	4304 Wickford Rd.	4804 Keswick Rd.	504 Somerset Rd.				
4 Boulder Ln.	4307 Wickford Rd.	4806 Keswick Rd.	505 Edgevale Rd.				
4 Club Rd.	4308 Roland Ave.	4806 Wilmslow Rd.	505 Hawthorn Rd.				
4 Elmwood Rd.	4310 Roland Ave.	4808 Wilmslow Rd.	505 W. University Pkwy.				
4 Englewood Rd.	4312 Roland Ave.	4808 Wilmslow Rd.	506 Woodlawn Rd.				
4 Hillside Rd.	4314 Roland Ave.	4808 Wilmslow Rd.	507 Edgevale Rd.				
4 Longwood Rd.	4316 Roland Ave.	4809 Roland Ave.	508 Woodlawn Rd.				
4 Merryman Ct.	4320 Roland Ave.	4814 Keswick Rd.	509 Edgevale Rd.				
4 Midvale Rd.	4322 Roland Ave.	4815 Keswick Rd.	509 Hawthorn Rd.				
4 Upland Rd.	4325 Wickford Rd.	4816 Keswick Rd.	509 Woodlawn Rd.				
400 Overhill Rd.	4326 Roland Ave.	4817 Keswick Rd.	5102 Roland Ave.				
400 Woodlawn Rd.	4328 Roland Ave.	4818 Keswick Rd.	5102 Falls Rd. Terrace				
4000 Linkwood Rd.	4330 Roland Ave.	4819 Keswick Rd.	5105 Falls Rd. Terrace				
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401 Edgevale Rd.	4406 Roland Ave.	4822 Roland Ave.	514 Woodlawn Rd.				
401 Hawthorn Rd.	4408 Roland Ave.	4823 Keswick Rd.	516 Woodlawn Rd.				

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Hillside Park Update

By Mary Page Michel, Chair, Roland Park Community Foundation

Thanks to the incredible generosity of more than 650 donors, the Community Foundation has a contract to purchase 20 acres of undeveloped land along Falls Road, between Hillside Road and Plover Lane, to create Hillside Park—the first public park of its size created in the city in more than 100 years. The Baltimore Country Club (BCC) will retain the clubhouse and 12 acres of land. The closing will happen in the second half of this year, once the subdivision process and environmental remediation is complete. The environmental remediation, which is commonly required with old golf courses, will take place this spring. The earth-moving equipment you will see on the property will be working to ensure we will have a clean, safe property for a park.

The next major project is to hire a landscape architect. A group of people drawn from different neighborhoods, all with strong backgrounds in landscape, parks, streams, Olmsted and planning, will select the firm, and then there will be a robust outreach effort to gather input about what the community hopes to see in Hillside Park.

We are currently at an important moment because Hillside Park is about to be born and we need volunteers to help ensure a smooth delivery. If you are interested, please reach out to communityfoundation@rolandpark.org and let us know how you want to help. And keep in mind that all the work on Hillside Park thus far has been done by volunteers, so we have proven that we can do great things!

We will need all kinds of help, some physical, some mental, but all fun. What follows is a list of areas where we need help. You don't need to be an expert in any particular area, just interested enough to remain engaged. This will be a great way to hone your skills or develop new ones. Please also note that there is no rulebook for this, so the needs may change over time.

Administration. We will need help with an advisory board, bylaws, park rules and guidelines. If you are a lawyer or think strategically, we



Committed to diversity, equity and inclusion? Have a talent for administration, fundraising or event planning? Interested in flora or fauna? Volunteer to be part of the planning of our new park! Photo: Sally Foster

could use your help here. There are a million parks to learn from, so some research will be needed if you enjoy that type of thing.

Animals and wildlife. There is a lot of wildlife on the property. There are foxes, deer, bunnies, groundhogs and more than 75 documented bird species. When Hillside Park opens, there will be a lot of dogs being walked through the space. If you love animals and want to help come up with strategies for nurturing wildlife, transitioning an unused space into a loved space, and ensuring people and wildlife can coexist peacefully, this is the group for you. Research will also be important for this group.

Diversity and inclusion. We will need help making sure the park is inclusive and welcoming. This will include research on how other parks achieve these goals. Guiding the physical appearance of the park as well as determining appropriate programming in the park will be a big part of this effort. If you care about this issue and want to be on the team that will make a difference, this is the group for you.

Events. The Great Lawn at Hillside Park is a gorgeous, expansive space that is perfect for bringing people together in a wide variety of ways, from outdoor concerts and theatrical performances to fundraising parties. Are you creative and organized? Do know how to find great music? This might be the spot for you.

Fundraising. We will need help with fundraising and grant writing. There are funds available for stream restoration, playgrounds, trails, etc. Whether you have written dozens of grants or never written a grant but would like to learn, this is the spot for you.

Landscaping. We will need help with landscaping, tree care and invasives. There are more than 500 trees in Hillside Park and lots of invasives. We will need to plant new trees, trim trees and remove dead ones. We will hire a landscape firm to manage the grounds, but they will need guidance and their work will need to be supplemented by volunteers. If you enjoy getting your hands dirty or talking about and working with plants, this might be the place for you.

What an incredible opportunity to be part of something special from the very beginning. Please email us at communityfoundation@rolandpark.org and let us know where you want to contribute. We look forward to hearing from you. ❖



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Topping Out

By Brooke Fritz, Director of Development, Cylburn Arboretum Friends

In early January, Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF) joined with Lewis Contractors, Ziger|Snead Architects and Intreegue Design to celebrate a major milestone in the building of our Nature Education Center. The roof structure was adorned with an evergreen wreath to celebrate the construction process in a traditional Topping Out Ceremony.

As Head Gardener Brent Figlestahler notes, "Cylburn is a special collection of trees and people. Adding a building to this hallowed landscape takes a great deal of grit, committees and a little alchemy. The topping out ceremony is a great way to invoke the traditions and character of this property."

Traditionally, builders nail a tree branch to the topmost beam in this celebration. The tree is the key symbol and has been used by many different cultures throughout the years. In Egypt, using a tree honored those who had died during construction. In Scandinavia, a tree at the highest building point is thought to appease the tree-dwelling spirits. In America, erecting a tree on the top of a new building reconciles with the Native American belief that no building should be taller than a tree.



Cylburn celebrated a time-honored tradition with its Topping Out Ceremony in January.

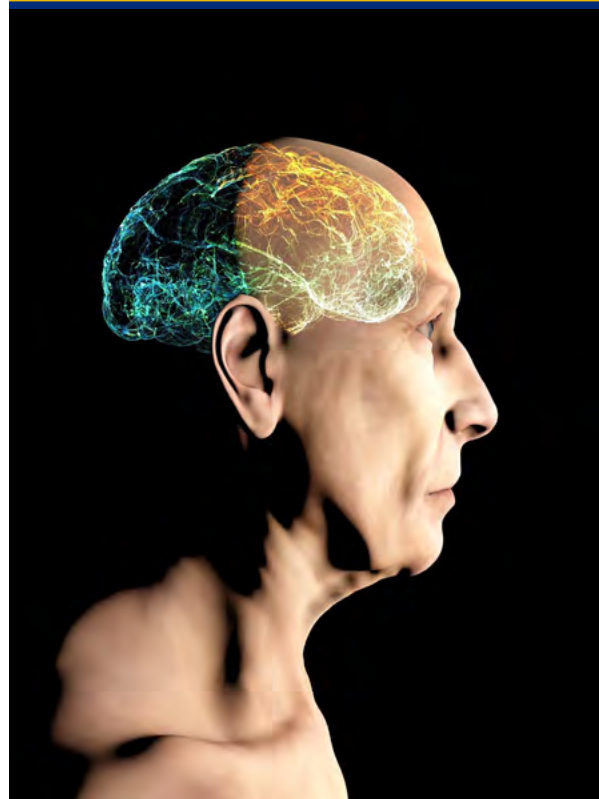
CAF Executive Director Patricia Foster noted that the evergreen wreath symbolizes good luck and continued growth.

Photos: Alan Gilbert

"At Cylburn Arboretum, trees are of utmost importance," says Patricia Foster, CAF executive director. "The evergreen symbolizes positive momentum for our project—good luck, continued growth and pride in what is to come. We are all so excited for our next phase and the future Nature Education Center, which will have a soft opening this coming spring." ❖

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.

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Questions of Stewardship in an Era of Climate Disruption

By Devra Kitterman

Despite decades of intentional misinformation, apathy and science denial, many of the residents of our planet have finally noticed that climate change now seriously affects every living being on earth. As the jet stream has slowed and become greatly destabilized, storms, average temperatures and weather patterns have become more intense and dangerous, which resulted in several powerful and destructive weather events and deaths in the U.S. last year alone. While about 48 percent of the country was in drought during 2022, global drought could impact more than 75 percent of the world population by 2050 ([Earth.org](#)). Drought is already negatively affecting agriculture worldwide. In the U.S., the citrus industry has been detrimentally affected by a disease called citrus greening, as well as by hurricanes and frost damage. This is climate change, and it seems to have accelerated intensely over the last five years.

Fossil fuel industrialists are desperate to continue with business as usual, and despite multi-media “greenwashing” (deceptive publicity disseminated by an organization so as to present an environmentally responsible public image) by companies that include ExxonMobil, BP, Volkswagen, Coke and Pepsi (search the Internet for “greenwashing” to see examples from some of the worst culprits), many of the rest of us are trying to figure out

what changes we can feasibly and affordably make to lessen our carbon footprint, including switching to electric vehicles and making our homes more energy efficient. We’re also trying to get a reality check on the true cost of water and food.

What are some of the important considerations when deciding what we can or should do to make tangible changes toward more energy efficiency in an historic neighborhood? First, think stewardship—the concept of protecting the character and structural integrity of our historic homes—and then consider how to reduce energy consumption, enhance weatherization with better windows or storm windows, seal gaps in the structure, evolve to electric appliances, add or improve ceiling fans and ventilation, and benefit from passive solar, all while maintaining the character of our homes. The National Trust for Historic Preservation’s website offers “6 Low-Cost, Energy-Saving Tips for Homeowners” ([savingplaces.org/stories/6-low-cost-energy-saving-tips-for-homeowners](#)) as a helpful guide.

Restrictions about housing alterations and property usage have been changing quickly recently. A notable example is the legal victory of a Columbia, MD, couple, Janet and Jeff Crouch, who eliminated their turf lawn, altruistically replanting their yard as a beneficial natural habitat. After being ordered by their homeowners association to replant the turf, the couple sued and won. Their victory was also a win for the environment, wildlife and common sense. All across our nation, people are reconsidering their unbeneficial, often chemically treated turf lawns, and opting for natural, and hopefully attractively designed, habitat. Often parents and pet owners falsely believe that children and pets require turf lawns to play on, rather than curvy pathways or through leafy shrubbery “hides”. The false lawn paradigm is literally shifting beneath our feet.

So too, the increase in the installation of solar panels on homes in our area is notable, and will likely become more tolerated as climate and energy reality has set in (including recent and continuing domestic terrorist attacks on our electrical grid). It was not that long ago that solar panels were not approved for homes in Roland Park. Historic and preservation websites still try to downplay the use of solar panels on older homes, but reality may lead to compromise. I personally react with consternation to the idea that we have become completely oblivious to our polluted skylines, which are filled with power, cable and Internet lines, 5G Internet modules, blinding street lights, and telephone and high-power poles, but we might somehow be offended at the sight of solar panels on homes, which draw inexhaustible amounts of power from that gigantic nuclear device in the sky, the sun.

It is also worth examining that, for 40 years, ExxonMobile, Marathon Petroleum, BP and other oft-merged oil companies not only purchased, developed, patented, tested and ultimately buried then up-and-coming photovoltaic cell technologies, but investigations show that “(Exxon) understood the science before it became a public issue and spent millions to support misinformation” (*Scientific American*), which continues to this day. How is it that we are still fighting big corporate interests for the use of such a valuable renewable energy source? Imagine if, during the 40 years that photovoltaic technology was essentially

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shelved by oil companies, research and innovation instead had progressed to better performing and unobtrusive photovoltaic roofing materials and battery systems to maximize power storage for homes. Forty years were wasted due to avarice and mendacity. This perhaps calls out for memorialization of our worst human tendencies.

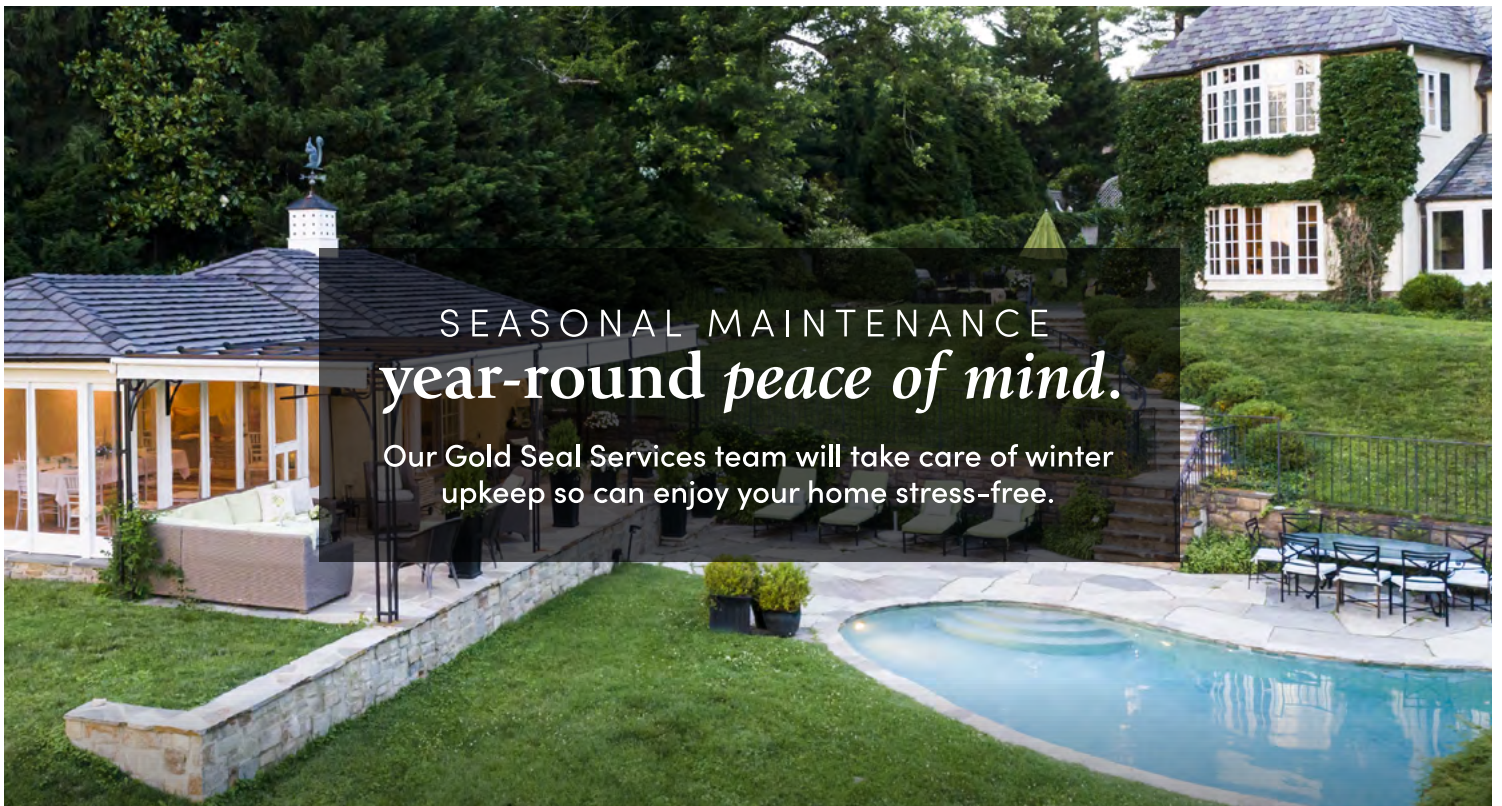
In 2022, the Maryland legislature passed the Climate Solutions Now Act, SB0528, which includes calls for the reduction of pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, increased energy efficiency of buildings, movement toward the use of electricity powered by clean, renewable energy sources, electric vehicles to be used by the State, and tax incentives. SB0528 is not perfect, with some beneficial provisions removed as more pollution restrictions were sought, but we Marylanders are a progressive lot and our state government has led in addressing these concerns and will hopefully continue to tweak the laws with a little helpful prodding by us, its constituents.

It is incumbent upon us to communicate more with our elected officials, and request that every opportunity to produce and store renewable energy for our homes be encouraged. Urge our representatives to see to it that the manufacture of renewables happens here in Maryland, along with the technology to make such options available for all. Many homes all over Baltimore City are very old, and would benefit from smart, renewable energy options. Extreme heat and cold will worsen in the coming years.

We can all do more to prepare ourselves now with our voices and votes.

Lastly, to bring up stewardship once more, consider that we've lost many of our oldest and largest trees—those 100 years and older—over the last two decades. These are among the trees whose shade allowed Roland Park and the surrounding area to be approximately 10 degrees cooler than downtown Baltimore during the heat of summer. They also fed pollinators and sheltered many generations of creatures, with leaves that were absorbing carbon dioxide and creating oxygen, and providing materials on which insects laid their eggs. Unfortunately, these trees are not always being replaced with similar species of oak, tulip poplar, tilia, maple, American holly and other large trees, if they are being replaced at all. Anything we plant now will not be particularly large for years to come and will likely experience growth challenges as temperatures become more extreme, so it is critically important that we replace (and regularly water) trees for the future. Remember, too, that trees must be managed periodically and that we should make all attempts to keep leaves from blocking our storm drains. Removing leaves from the storm drains near your home is part of the civic duty of property owners. Hopefully, too, the City will soon return to regular street cleaning to assist in this leaf debris removal.

Remember, we live in a park, and trees are the lungs of the earth. ❖



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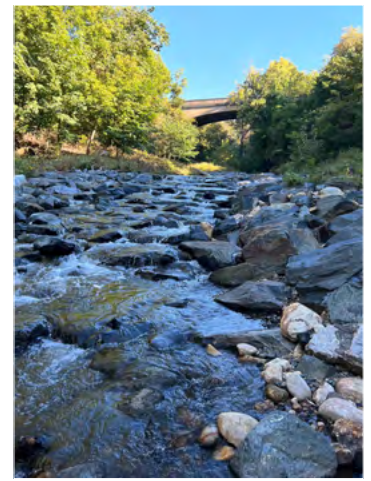
Lower Stony Run Plan Update

By Tom McGilloway, Mahan Rykiel Associates and Wyman Park Resident

The development of a Lower Stony Run Strategic Plan (the Plan)—an effort led by Friends of Stony Run (FSR) in partnership with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks and Johns Hopkins University—has been underway for over a year and is nearly complete. It builds on the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan that was developed by the Roland Park Community Foundation and serves as a guiding document for protecting and enhancing Stony Run and its associated park spaces. The scope extends from Overhill Road in the north to the Jones Falls Trail trailhead and Druid Hill Park to the south. While the Plan identifies new ideas that emerged during an extensive stakeholder process, most of it documents projects and efforts already underway through City and volunteer efforts, placing these efforts in a holistic context.

Community stakeholders provided valuable input through roundtable discussions, site walks, public meetings and an online survey that guided plan recommendations. The pathway network, its upkeep, additional connections and accessibility; woodlands and continued replacement of invasive plants with natives; protection of open spaces for gathering; improvement of water quality; and designated areas for off-leash dogs rose to the top as important priorities. Respondents

Vision: Stony Run is an urban oasis—an ecologically protected enclave appreciated and enjoyed year-round by people of all backgrounds, interests and ages. It connects North Baltimore communities and welcomes visitors, serving as a friendly meeting ground and venue for primarily passive recreation and neighborhood events.



Site walks were conducted as part of the planning effort. Photos courtesy of FSR

also stressed the important role that Stony Run plays in fostering a sense of community among different park user groups.

In addition to many of the general recommendations included in the Upper Stony Run Strategic Plan that are also applicable to the Lower Stony Run, the Plan features five capital projects that serve as its cornerstone. Implementation of these capital projects will complete gaps along the Stony Run Walking Path. During the 2022 Maryland General Assembly, FSR successfully garnered \$1.5 million towards these projects with the help of Delegate Maggie Macintosh and leaders in the community. With funding in hand, implementation of these projects is in the early planning stages while the Plan is being finalized.

This is just a snapshot of what is included in the Plan. Please visit lowerstonyrun.weebly.com to review past presentations, maps and survey results. A draft will be posted this winter and will go before the Planning Commission this spring. ❖

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Centennial Park Stewardship

By Kate Culotta, Landscape Committee Tree Coordinator, Civic League

In 2020, the Landscape Committee began a project to rejuvenate Centennial Park, the green dell located between the lanes of University Parkway. Using old landscape plans found in the Roland Park office, the committee embarked on a plan to plant additional shade and flowering trees, following in the Olmsted tradition.

Centennial Park is a complicated green space. The soil is dry and compacted on the slopes, and the valley is wet and boggy, due to naturally occurring artesian springs. After researching the original Olmsted design, we determined that a large number of the original shade trees had died and those that remain are reaching the end of their natural life. Several of the shade trees planted under the guidance of Olmsted were European species common to Victorian gardens. Wanting to maintain a more native park, the Landscape Committee updated the list of acceptable trees with native species that will thrive in Baltimore's climate and soil. The large shade trees planted since 2020 include black gum, red maple, oak, catalpa and American hornbeam. In keeping with the Olmsted design, the new trees have filled in empty spots on the slopes and the center of the park has been left open so that views can be enjoyed as you look across the dell. The yellow brick path was designed to create two rooms within the dell, using small and mid-sized flowering trees to divide

the space. To that end, white fringe trees were planted in 2021 and 2022. A dozen white flowering serviceberry trees planted around the edge of the lower bog have flourished in the damp soil, as does a swamp white oak tree, grown from an acorn found at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York City. Flowering redbud and witch hazel were planted on sunny slopes mid-park.

There are plans to continue adding trees to Centennial Park but these cannot be accomplished without volunteers. The Landscape Committee is looking for people who live along or near University Parkway to act as stewards of the park so that trees planted during the next phase can flourish. We also hope that nearby residents are willing to provide supplemental watering to newly planted trees, pull weeds from root ball areas, and keep the park free of trash and debris. As mentioned, we prefer to plant along the park's rim to keep the view across the park open, but that is also the driest area. Mother Nature doesn't provide enough rainwater during the hot summer to allow the trees to become established. Currently, there are plans to add additional trees in spring 2023, but this is only possible with the additional help of volunteers to take care of newly planted trees.

If you are interested in volunteering for gardening time in Centennial Park, please contact me at krculotta@msn.com or 410-804-4750. ❖

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Finding Their Place at Gilman's New Fitness Center

Fitness has always been top of mind at Gilman. For the past several decades, the school's weight room had all the basics: free weights, benches, treadmills. Many athletes of Gilman's past remember spending countless hours there, encouraging their teammates and pushing themselves toward their personal fitness goals.

"I spent every summer of Upper School lifting there to prepare for football," says Director of Athletics T. Russell Wrenn ('96). "I remember the space as a place where we developed bonds with each other through hard work and perspiration."

But over time, the school has grown and the athletic programs have evolved and expanded. More recent graduates and current students may recall having to wait to use a popular machine or feeling cramped in the tight space when a large team trained there together.

"The room upstairs was not originally designed to be a weight room," says Wrenn. "As things changed over the years, we had to shoehorn what we could."

Recent years have renewed focus on not just athletic participation but on wellness as a whole at Gilman. To that



The C. Markland Kelly, Jr., Health, Wellness, and Fitness Center opened at the beginning of this school year. Photo courtesy of Gilman

end, the start of the 2022-2023 school year brought with it the opening of the C. Markland Kelly, Jr., Health, Wellness, and Fitness Center.

"We equipped the space to meet as many of the boys and other constituents exactly where they are," Wrenn says. The center features performance turf for agility and power exercises, a large strength and conditioning area, TRX [a Total Body Resistance Exercise system], kettlebells, bands, and a level with cardio and metabolic training equipment.

"Boys doing team workouts are fairly advanced, but we also have folks who are in there for the first time," Wrenn says. "We try to make it accessible for everyone. Fitness is a lifetime sport."

Diego Matorras has been the head strength and conditioning coach at Gilman since 2016. "The difference between the old weight room and the new fitness center is a complete 180," he says. "The atmosphere has changed. It's enjoyable to be here."

It's not just interscholastic teams who are benefitting. Matorras has worked with a group of boys who are not affiliated with fall team sports but who, he says, have "found their place" in physical activity at Gilman through training at the center. "They are very motivated. They are seeing results. And I've watched their confidence grow."

Wrenn and Matorras are excited to be able to better support both the physical and mental aspects of wellness through the opportunities offered by the fitness center. They have plans to continue to educate the community about how to use the various equipment so that even more people feel comfortable coming in for a workout.

"Having a physical outlet is so helpful to give the boys a break from daily stresses. It gives them another chance for camaraderie with their coaches," says Wrenn. The path to wellness, Matorras adds, is through "nutrition, exercise and rest. We provide the space and time for the boys to do that." ❖

Read the full version of this article at gilman.edu/findingtheirplace.

Gilman School (gilman.edu) is a pre-kindergarten through 12th grade independent school in Baltimore 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: Learning and Growing

Mid-winter might have been gloomy and boring outside, but inside the walls of Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS), there was brightness and a buzz of activity.

In January, some of the children participating in the Afterschool Strings Program traveled to The Ashokan Center in upstate New York with students from The Friends School of Baltimore. They spent a weekend together learning to play music, dancing to fiddle tunes and doing some wonderful outdoor activities.

The budget process for the 2023-24 school year began in January and school administrators will continue to work with parents and teachers through March to prioritize needs and goals, including implementation of the Kirwan Blueprint for Maryland's Future. This thoughtful process is putting the consideration of equity as a priority so that all children at RPEMS have the same opportunities and receive the support they need to take advantage of them.



February brought the return of important Black History Month lessons and activities, including the annual program led by the talented members of Stepping into Sisterhood. Children performed step pieces, dance, music, poetry and more for a moving celebration of Black life and history.



This year, RPEMS students learned about pioneers of all kinds during their National History Day projects.

The PTA held the annual Roland Park After Dark fundraiser at the Mill Dye House in early February, with a Mardi Gras theme. The evening of auctions and food is the biggest PTA fundraiser of the year, supporting a broad range of activities for the school community. Donations are always accepted, even after the fundraiser. Contact rolandparkpta@gmail.com to find out how to support the PTA's work.

During January and February, students in the middle school worked on National History Day projects. This year's theme was "Frontiers in History" and the children learned about all sorts of pioneers, from those who traveled across land and sea, to those who were first to discover something, break race and gender barriers, or push the envelope of knowledge. They also

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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Dynamic Experiences at Park Camps This Summer

At Park Camps, children ages three-and-half to 15 are invited to join in dynamic camp experiences in the tradition of The Park School of Baltimore (Park). The school's unique approach to learning and growing flourishes amid the beauty and wonder of its 100-acre wooded campus.

In Park's traditional day camp, children are grouped by age into "dens", which allows the staff to adjust activities to suit the interests and needs of individual campers, who enjoy a variety of things to do, both indoors and out—especially pool time! All campers head to the pool daily, either for free swim for our older campers or swim lessons taught by certified lifeguards for younger campers. In addition to the activities guided by their excellent camp leaders and counselors, Park faculty and activity guests enrich the camp experience by offering workshops in a variety of special programs, including Music and Movement, Nature Exploration, and Sports and Games.

New this year, Park is offering eight exciting focus camps, including:

Park Basketball Camp. Young basketball players will enjoy a week filled with games and drills to improve individual basketball skills. This camp will help prepare players for school tryouts, travel teams and recreation leagues. During this week-long camp, players will practice shooting, dribbling, passing, defense,



Pool time is a favorite activity among Park campers. Photo courtesy of Park

rebounding and much more. This is a great opportunity for young athletes to build sportsmanship and leadership aptitude, and to form lasting bonds and strong character.

- June 26 to June 30 for ages 11-13
- July 24 to July 28 for ages 7-10

Cultures of the Spanish Speaking World Camp. In this program, students will learn about the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world through music and food. They will learn some Spanish, to sing and to dance to music like the salsa, merengue and bachata.

They will also learn about different Latin American foods and drinks like arepas, tostones and horchata, and how to make them. They will learn about ingredients that are native to the Americas and reflect on the impact of those ingredients in the cuisines of the world (the concept of decolonizing food).

- June 26 to July 7 for ages 11-13

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

PARK CAMPS

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GFS Offers a Modern Boarding School Experience

What is a boarding school experience like? At Garrison Forest School (GFS), which offers a residential program for students in grades 8 through 12, it's a pathway to learning compassion, confidence and independence in a supportive environment. The residential program can be an important component to each girl's unique path to success—one that bridges her academic experiences and preparation for life beyond high school while allowing her to gain important skills like time management, responsibility, social awareness and communication.

On its 110-acre campus, GFS boasts four student dorms, with more than 20 faculty members living on campus. While some students come from other states and countries, some local students choose to live on campus even though their home base is nearby. With a flexible program, students can also opt



Along with the support they're afforded and the life skills they gain, the GFS residential program is fun for boarders. Photo courtesy of GFS

for temporary boarding for a semester, during a sports season, or while participating in a theater production or an intensive academic program. Whatever their reasons for joining the residential program, all students find a welcoming, supportive and caring place to thrive.

"The cornerstone of our residential life program is the connections that students form with one another and with our

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



Offerings for boys and girls ages 3 and up!

GRIZZLY DAY CAMPS
SPECIALTY CAMPS
RESIDENTIAL EXPERIENCES



gfs.org/summer



Garrison Forest School

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LEARN MORE: gfs.org

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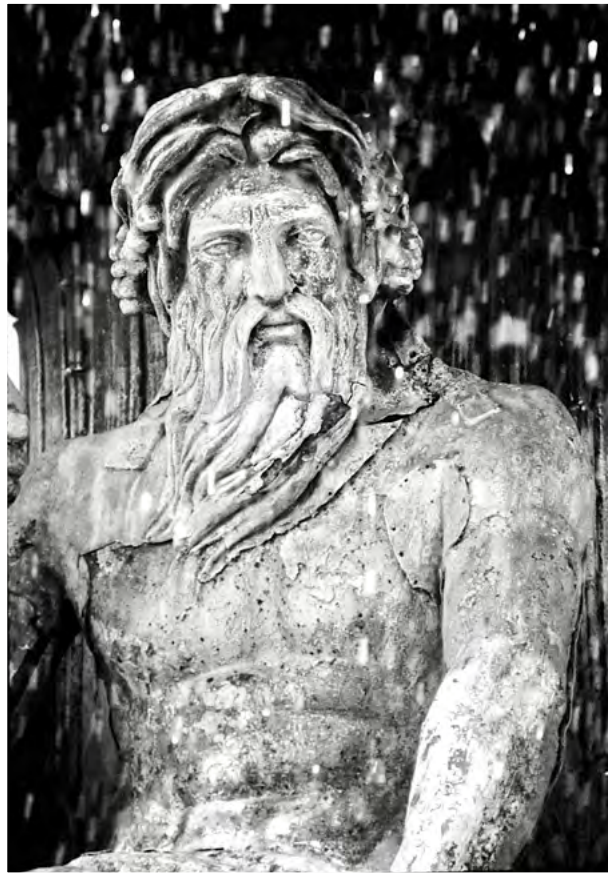


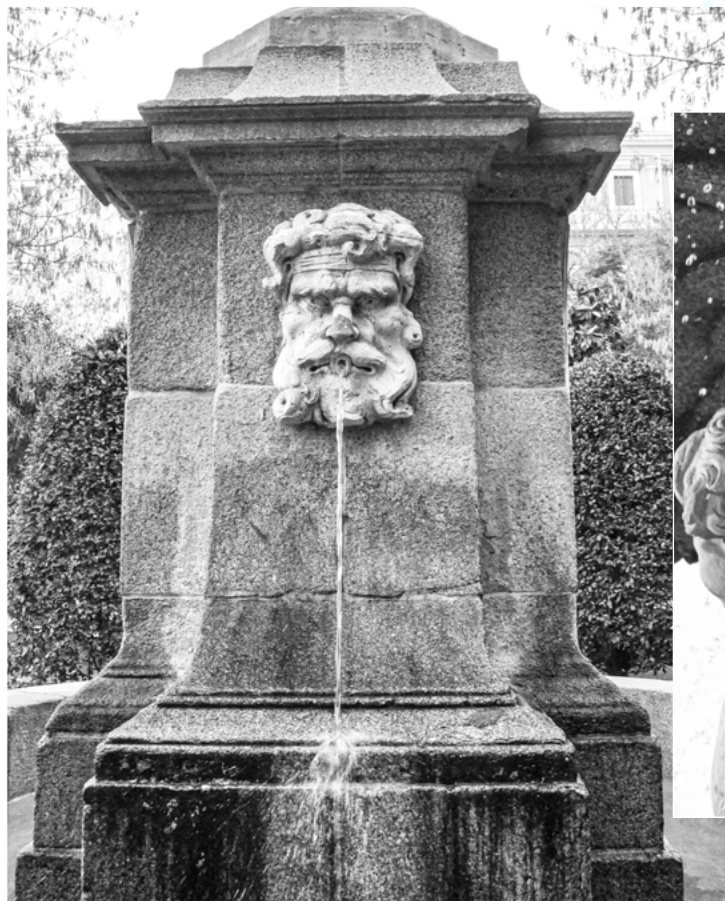
Photo Essay: A Study of Fountains

By Anne Stuzin

When I travel, my camera in hand, I am always drawn to fountains. They are among my favorite things to photograph as I explore a new place. I love to linger and spend time examining a fountain's architecture and creative flourishes—human faces, animals, fish, shells and fantastical creatures. Often, the water is flowing out of their mouths, which almost makes them come to life. I walk around and around, and observe the movements of water, and the way light plays and reflects with each drop or spray. The passage of time and the elements have weathered some stone surfaces and added a patina to bronze elements. It's amazing what you see when you get close and look at the little details.

We can thank the Romans for the first decorative fountains, and it should come as no surprise that Rome was soon nicknamed the "city of fountains". The Trevi Fountain is probably the most famous and oft-photographed fountain in the world.

Here are a few of my favorite fountains in Paris, Madrid, Rome, Porto and Saratoga Springs, NY. Find yourself a favorite fountain on your next trip!



Photos: Anne Stuzin. Follow her on Instagram @thestuziens.

RPCS Alums Return to Campus to Share Career Advice

Earlier this winter, 10 Roland Park Country School (RPCS) alumnae from the classes of 1994 to 2017 returned to campus for the school's annual Professional Connections program. Organized by the Alumnae Office, the RPCS graduates met with small groups of upper school students, discussing how they chose their respective careers, offering sage advice for handling life's challenges and revealing how being a student at RPCS helped prepare them for life after graduation. For example, Virginia Hodges Jeffery ('94), a project manager for The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, credits RPCS for giving her the confidence and academic skills to excel at the University of Virginia, where she studied mechanical engineering and was one of three women in her program.

Several alumnae also advised upper school students to explore career possibilities by paying attention to what



RPCS alumnae (left to right): Dr. Morgan Dvorkin, DVM ('09), Dr. Tala Al-Talib ('01), Shawn Slotke Brown ('01), Stasia Thomas Nardangeli, ('99), Aurélie Graillet ('02), Maya E. Hairston ('12), Virginia Hodges Jeffery ('94), Grace Calhoun ('17) and Liz Lenrow ('06). Not pictured: Madeline Kaufman ('12). Photo courtesy of RPCS

interests them now. "What are three things that you are curious about? What did you love to do when you were 10 years old?" Shawn Slotke Brown ('01), a health and wellness coach, asked her groups. She encouraged the students to write down these thoughts in a journal before leading them through a breathing exercise.

"College is your opportunity to explore fields that you enjoyed in high school," Dr. Tala Al-Talib ('01), a cardiologist and RPCS parent, told the students. She also encouraged them to travel abroad to immerse themselves in different cultures to gain new perspectives. Liz Lenrow ('06), executive director and banker at J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Baltimore, explained to the students how she tried a few internships and classes in college before ultimately finding what interested her professionally. "Follow your passions and don't give up," she told the upper schoolers.

Another recurring theme among the presentations was advice for building connections and community. "It's key to have community in life, but also in your career," professional musician Maya Elizabeth Hairston ('12) advised the students. "Have people around you who remind you to have the confidence from within, when you feel you do not."

Corporate attorney Stasia Thomas Nardangeli ('99) urged the upper schoolers she spoke with to seek a mentor. "Find someone a little bit further along in the process of doing what you want to do and talk with them, get to know them." Nardangeli also noted how she has always been able to connect with a community of women because of her time at RPCS and still considers her classmates as sisters today. ❖

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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Fun with Bee-Bot and KIBO: Coding with Our Youngest Learners

By Andy Hanes, Friends School's Lower School Technology Integrator and Educator. *This article was originally published in Friends Magazine*



Andy Hanes teaches coding using robots Bee-Bot and KIBO. Photo courtesy of Friends

One of the hallmarks of Friends School of Baltimore's (Friends) curriculum with regard to technology is how we introduce computer science and coding to our youngest learners. Having our students understand that coding is our ability to talk to, communicate with, and control computers and robots is the foundation of our coding program.

Science teacher Steve Mickletz and I partner with homeroom teachers in kindergarten to teach coding through our robot friend, Bee-Bot. Bee-Bot is a robot that is controlled by inputs such as forward, backward, left turn, right turn and pause. It travels on a grid mat that is six feet square. After a user types in a sequence of directions, Bee-Bot travels on its coded path. Once they understand how to "talk to" Bee-Bot, our students are able to engage their creativity and problem-solving skills to build algorithms so Bee-Bot travels on the mat to spell words, practice Spanish vocabulary, skip count, retell stories and do whatever else that we can connect to our existing curriculum.

Another robot friend we use with our youngest learners is KIBO. KIBO is a robot that is controlled by scanning barcodes on actual building blocks. Students build their sequenced algorithms with the blocks, scan the barcodes with KIBO and then press the play button. KIBO then moves according to the programmed sequence. What makes KIBO unique is that there are different modules that can be attached (e.g., lights, sounds, even a catapult!) that allow students to integrate making skills into the coding process. For example, pre-1st students sent LEGO Mae Jemison on a coded KIBO ride throughout our solar system made in the Makerspace, the school's space that is intentionally designed to serve as a wood shop, garage, science lab and art studio. KIBO was also coded to travel the migration path for red knot birds (also made in the Makerspace) from South America to

Delaware to Canada. In these projects, students learned basic coding skills from events, sequenced algorithms and simple loops, and were introduced to conditional if-then-else statements.


Having our youngest learners be fluid in their understanding of coding and the various "languages" of our robot friends serves them well as they advance through our lower school computer science curriculum in grades 1 through 5. In addition, the eruption of cheers and excitement when they get to interact with Bee-Bot and KIBO makes the learning journey all that more fun and engaging for all! ❖


Friends School of Baltimore (friendsbalt.org) is a private coeducational Quaker school founded in 1784 and serving students in Pre-K through 12th grade.



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RPEMS GROWING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

worked on their Science Fair projects, which you might already know if you have been asked to participate in some of the creative experiments the children have developed.

Members of the Roland Park Annual Fund and PTA want to make sure teachers know their hard work to educate and nurture children who are still recovering from the pandemic's disruptions are appreciated. The groups jointly held a Valentine's Day lunch catered by Leftovers, a local Black-owned catering business. It was just one of several events this school year to support and nurture teachers.

Musicians from beginner to advanced, from singers to band to strings, held live holiday and winter performances in December, January and February, while thespians at RPEMS had a roaring return for their musical play in the fall, which sold out every show. The return of live events and performances in the third year of the pandemic has been enormously important to the school community and will continue with MayMart, an event that has been entertaining the whole neighborhood for almost 100 years. Remember, all are welcome to the May 6 event! ❖

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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(NOVEMBER 2022 – JANUARY 2023)

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4508 Roland Ave.	\$ 780,000	\$ 750,000
5015 Falls Road Ter.	\$ 859,500	\$ 850,000
4710 Roland Ave.	\$ 825,000	\$ 825,000

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Bryn Mawr: Believing in Baltimore's Best

Sixth graders at Bryn Mawr School (Bryn Mawr) are on the move as part of a place-based learning program, Believing in Baltimore's Best, aimed at inspiring the next generation of community leaders. Throughout the year-long program, middle schoolers engage with the history, arts and culture of the City of Baltimore, both on and off campus.

Middle school science teacher Lora Peters is one of the faculty members spearheading the project. She believes in Baltimore and wants Bryn Mawr students to learn more about the city so that they can be committed to and invested in its future. One of her goals for the program is "to instill a love of our city in our students so that they become aware of the possibilities and go beyond the headlines."

Believing in Baltimore's Best promises students "hints of history, acres of art, dollops of drama, morsels of math, snippets of science and loads of leadership" as they explore the city, and ignite teamwork, engagement, agency and community involvement. "Our faculty has so many creative ideas to bring the geography, demographics, history, art and culture to life for our students in authentic ways," says Middle School Director Amanda Macomber.

The program started with a service learning component, as 6th graders organized a middle school Socktober sock drive to benefit the House of Ruth. Students were encouraged to bring in items of clothing that can be overlooked in donation drives, specifically socks and undergarments for women and girls.

This winter, they attended *The Nutcracker* at Baltimore School for the Arts. The performance was a reimagined production set in Baltimore's Mount Vernon neighborhood. The class then fanned out to other Baltimore gems, including the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the Peabody Conservatory and the Walters Art Museum, connecting with Bryn Mawr alumnae, parents and faculty at each location.

Sixth grade Baltimore resident Demi Myers opted to visit the Walters Art Museum during the field trip, and enjoyed sketching in her sketchbook and learning about the history of the museum. "I think it's important for the students to know that their school is in Baltimore and to know the community around Baltimore," Myers explains.

This spring, the class will focus on science and environmental conservation with a visit to the Inner Harbor. They'll also stop by Camden Yards to see the Orioles play.

To culminate the program, 6th graders will complete a hands-on project during which they design their ideal Baltimore City while reflecting on the knowledge and perspectives they gained throughout the year. Students can create a 3-D printed scale model using recycled materials, a website, a guidebook or a video to present their city. "I always love finding ways for our students to see their own agency in the world. They have big hearts and bold ideas, and I want them to have the confidence to put these things together now and in the future," Macomber says.

The Bryn Mawr School (brynmawrschool.org), founded in 1885 as the first college-preparatory school for girls in the U.S., is an independent, nonsectarian all-girls school for grades K-12, with a coed preschool.



Bryn Mawr 6th graders visited the Walters Art Museum as part of the school's Believing in Baltimore's Best program. Photo courtesy of Bryn Mawr



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- Summer Session for coed 9-12th graders
- Wizards, dancing, music and more!

Children's Garden Bread at Waldorf

If you need a hand with supper this weekend, remember that your child(ren) can help with the bread baking!

In the Children's Garden at the Waldorf School of Baltimore (Waldorf), where purposeful work is modeled joyfully and wholeheartedly, preschool and kindergarten children bake bread rolls from scratch one day each week—on "bread day". They mix, knead, sing and form their dough into creative shapes with glee and gusto.

Preparing food and eating together is an important community- and skill-building activity, and a true treat for the senses. Scooping the powdery flour, counting the cups of water, pushing and pulling the squishy dough, and breathing in the universally loved, grounding aroma that is fresh bread baking in the oven.

In such a fast-paced world, it does children a great deal of good to simply slow down. To see how food is made. To set the table. To light a dinner candle. To pause for words of gratitude. To learn and grow in places where childhood is respected, protected and nurtured.



Waldorf students bake bread rolls from scratch every week. Photos courtesy of Waldorf



Children's Garden Bread Recipe

Makes about 20 small buns.

1 T. instant yeast	2 T. oil or melted butter
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup warm water	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup honey or maple syrup	$3\frac{1}{2}$ cups whole wheat pastry flour (or a mix of all purpose and whole wheat flours)
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup boiling water	

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Dissolve yeast in warm water and let bloom for 5 minutes.

Mix honey or maple syrup with boiling water, and oil or butter. Once it cools a bit, stir that mixture into the yeast mixture.

Add flour into the wet mixture, stirring to form the dough. If it's too sticky, add a bit more flour. Knead a few times before pinching off pieces to knead and shape into small buns

Place buns on a greased cookie sheet and bake for about 15 minutes, until the tops are golden brown. Enjoy warm, topped with golden butter, honey butter or sunflower butter.

Waldorf Bread-Kneading Song

"This is the way we knead the dough

Do it with rhythm and very slow

Push it down with the palm of your hands

Then you start all over again" ❖

Voted Parent's Choice, Best Preschool, the Waldorf School of Baltimore (waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org) is tucked behind Cylburn Arboretum at 4801 Tamarind Road. Their Children's Garden serves children two-and-a-half to 5 years of age. A Parent and Child Program is available for families of children 10 months through 3 years. The school also has elementary and middle school grades 1 through 8.



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Building Learners: Boys' Latin Uses Brain Science to Better Understand How Students Learn

By Joyce Barnett

At Boys' Latin School of Maryland (Boys' Latin), our goal is not only to improve student achievement, but for students to grow in confidence and independence as they come to understand how they learn and put strategies to use. To that end, we instituted a program called Building Learners. Now in its third year, this highly individualized program is taken by all 9th graders.

"It allows boys to begin their high school experience grounded in information on their own brain and how they learn best," explains Sara Rosiak, director of educational support services and upper school learning specialist.

Using Mindprint, a standardized test that provides details on how the individual's brain processes and stores information and then organizes it for practical use, each student makes decisions on how to learn most efficiently. Does he process information more efficiently verbally or visually? Visual learners understand, process and remember material using charts and graphs, while verbal learners use language—hearing and seeing it. Teachers are then able to work with students and tailor lessons to how they process information.

Ninth grader Logan now knows that "I am better at verbal reasoning, so if I hear information or see it in words, I learn better. If I have a diagram of how a cycle works, if I write it in a paragraph, I will understand it much better."

There are three main areas of focus in Building Learners: knowing your brain, memory and study skills, and executive function. Research has shown that strong executive function skills are the number one predictor of success. Three areas—inhibition, working memory and flexible thinking—play a role in every aspect of our lives. The skills students develop at Boys' Latin will allow them to be successful not only while they are in school, but in whatever career they choose to pursue.

Two key modules inherent in Building Learners are growth mindset and mindfulness. Each session begins with mindfulness—slowing down the brain to be more open to what is going on around you. "Boys are able to recall what they have learned. As an advisory, sometimes we have free time, and I have had kids ask if we can do meditation," says Latin teacher Theresa Burke.

Clayton Willets notices the difference in his 10th and 11th grade history classes. "Students are more self-aware and self-advocate a lot more. We are all using the same vocabulary, such as neuroplasticity, working memory and neural pathways. For example, when I say to study something multiple times, this strengthens the neural pathways so you can access that information a lot more readily—they know what it means."



Using Mindprint, Boys' Latin students learned how they process, store and organize information. Photo courtesy of Boys' Latin

Rosiak concludes, "We know our students, but we strive for them to know themselves. Understanding how they learn best and the tools that the boys are using will help them far beyond their time at Boys' Latin. No matter what career they choose and where their post-high school journey takes them, what they have learned in Building Learners will help them be successful." ❖

Boys' Latin School of Maryland (boyslatinmd.com) is an all-boys, university-preparatory school. Founded in 1844, it is the oldest independent, nonsectarian secondary school in Maryland.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

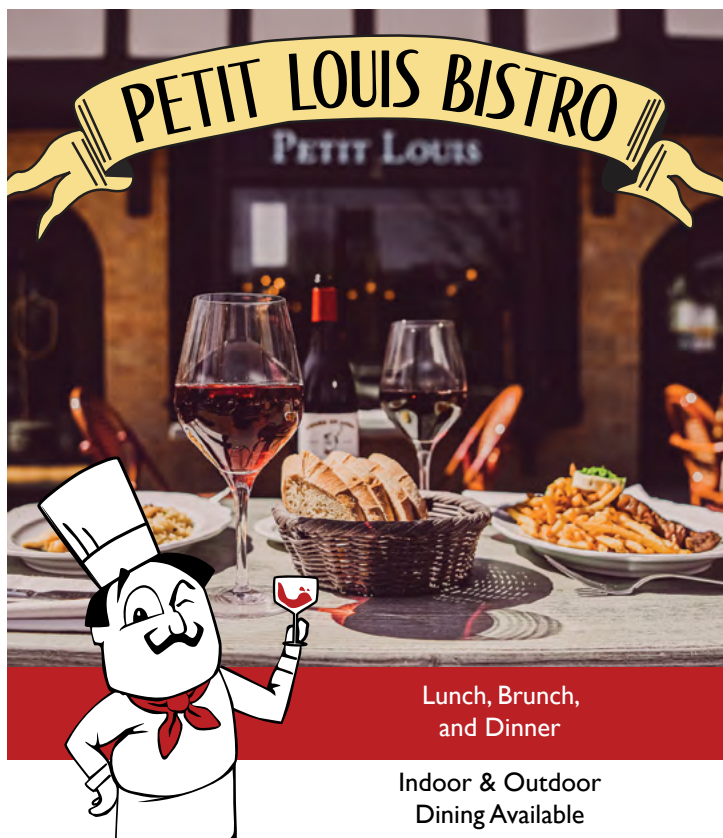
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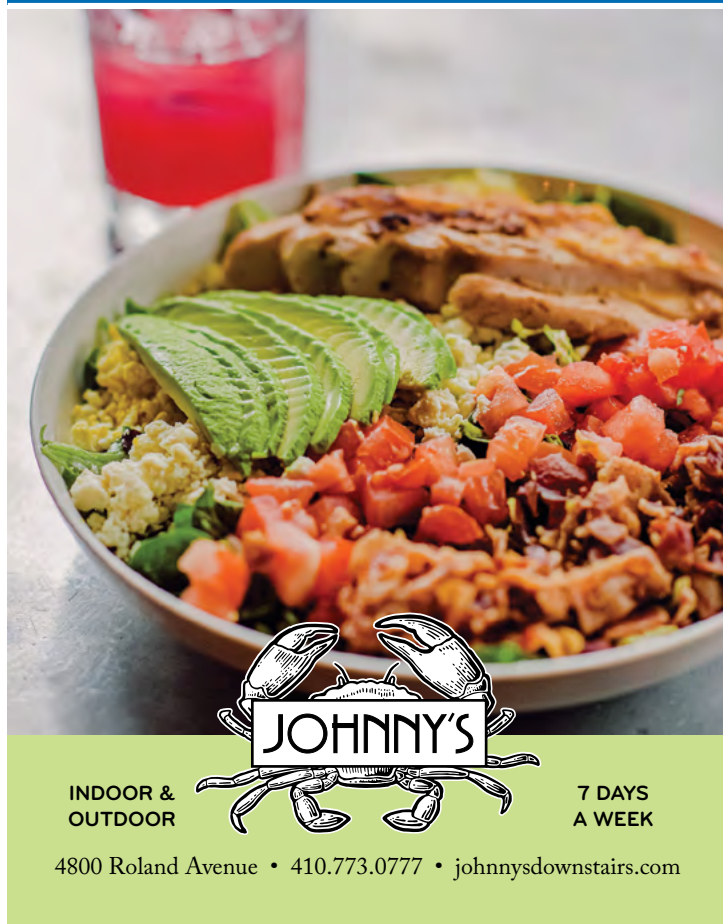


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PARK CAMPS THIS SUMMER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Leadership Development/Counselor-in-Training Camp.

Through Park's Leadership Development Camp, campers will receive extensive training in childcare, including discovering fun games and activities to do with kids, what to do in an emergency, and even tips on how to get a babysitting job. Participants will gain hands-on experience working with young children at Park Camps.

During the second week of the camp, campers will have the opportunity to apply their training from the previous week by working directly with campers in the mornings. In the afternoons, campers will be asked to process their experience with each other and a lead instructor. Through this experience, campers will learn to become stronger leaders. After completing the two-week Leadership Development program, campers may apply to intern for the remainder of the summer.

- June 26 to July 7 for ages 12-15

Registration is open! Learn more about all of our summer programs at parkschool.net/park-camps. ❖

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.

GARRISON FOREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

residential life faculty," says Interim Director of Residential Life Rachel Waller. "Students have after-hours access to faculty through more formal programs like study hall and also through things like sharing meals together, laughing in the dorm common spaces or bonding over similar interests. It allows our faculty to really get to know each student and take an active role in their development."

Prioritizing character development, global competency and wellness, the residential life program at GFS can provide unique preparation for life beyond campus. In addition to the many opportunities to stand out as a leader as a GFS student, residential students can take on unique leadership roles as prefects. Living and leading in the residence halls is an unparalleled way to not only develop their sense of self, but gain many of the soft skills they'll need in life.

Of course, there's a simpler reason many students enjoy the residential program at GFS. In addition to the support and life skills, it's fun! From weekend trips and excursions to afternoon Starbucks runs, residential students have plenty of space to explore.

Learn more about the residential program at gfs.org/boarding. ❖

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.

Shrimp Salad Sandwich

Miss Shirley's Café

Serves 4.

Ingredients

- ½ cup mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. Old Bay
- ¼ cup, celery, diced small
- 2 T. red onion, diced small
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 5 tsp. freshly chopped dill
- 5 tsp. freshly chopped parsley
- 1 lb. 26/30 shrimp, cooked and peeled
- 4 brioche buns
- 1 red tomato
- 1 yellow tomato
- 1 head Bibb lettuce



Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

Roughly chop shrimp into large pieces. In a bowl, mix together mayonnaise, lemon juice, old bay, dill and parsley. Add celery and red onion. Fold in chopped shrimp until just combined. Refrigerate.

Split brioche buns and lay out on a sheet tray. Toast in a 350 degree oven for 2-3 minutes. Remove from oven and layer two to three pieces of Bibb lettuce on the bottom layer of each bun. Slice each tomato into four slices. Top the lettuce with one slice of red tomato and one slice of yellow tomato. Top the tomato with a scoop of shrimp salad. Add top bun and dust with old bay. Serve immediately. ❖

Black-Eyed Susan Cocktail

Since 1873, this has been the official drink of the Preakness Stakes, which will be held on May 20. Its yellow color is meant to mimic the petals of our state flower.

Ingredients (from [SouthernLiving.com](#))

- ½ cup orange juice
- ½ cup pineapple juice
- 1 shot vodka
- 1 shot light rum
- ½ shot orange liqueur, such as Grand Marnier or Cointreau

Combine ingredients, pour over ice and garnish with an orange slice and maraschino cherry.

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Brunch Tartine with Ricotta and Smoked Salmon

Eddie's of Roland Park

These open-faced, rustic sandwiches of crusty sourdough bread, whipped ricotta, fluffy eggs and delicate smoked salmon are the perfect brunch entree for spring.

Preparation time: 10 minutes. Cook time: 10 minutes. Serves 4.

Ingredients

4 slices crusty sourdough bread, lightly toasted	1 tsp. fresh chives, minced
1 cup whole milk ricotta	4 whole chives for garnish
zest of 1 lemon	6 oz. smoked salmon, thinly sliced
4 large eggs	1 T. capers, drained
1 tsp. butter	coarse kosher salt

In a small bowl, whip ricotta, a pinch of salt and lemon zest together and set aside.

Prepare scrambled eggs by whisking together the eggs with 1 tablespoon water and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Heat a medium skillet over medium-high heat. Add butter. When melted, add eggs and

stir with spatula until eggs are cooked and no longer liquid. Add minced chives to eggs and set aside.

To assemble, place bread slices on a platter. Spread a heaping tablespoon of ricotta mixture on the bread. Add scrambled eggs, then top with two slices of smoked salmon.

Serve tartines on a warm platter, garnished with capers and fresh sprigs of chive.

Pair with Laroche le Petit Chardonnay. ❖

Eddie's Tip: For a delicious variation, try topping ricotta and eggs with prosciutto and fresh avocado.



Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park

**LOCAL ROOTS.
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FRESH NEW STORE.**

Eddie's is in Bloom

Walk Around Salad Bar | Self-Service Soup Bar
Online Sandwich Ordering | House-made
Ice Cream Sandwiches | Freshly Brewed
Zeke's Coffee | Upgraded Fixtures & Amenities

History is on Display at Eddie's of Roland Park

Have you been to Eddie's of Roland Park lately? After 17 months of construction, it seemed almost overnight that the construction crews moved out and the barricades were removed, revealing a beautiful new exterior storefront just in time for the holidays. We spoke with Michael Schaffer, vice president and third generation owner and operator, about the recent updates to his family's historic Roland Avenue store.

RPN: *What were the primary goals you communicated to the architect, Ziger Snead?*

MS: After the success of the Charles Street renovation, we were eager to update and modernize the amenities at the Roland Avenue store while working to maintain its historic character.

Longtime residents of Roland Park might remember our family's original market, which opened in 1944 in the Morgan Millard Shopping Center. Victor's Market was named for my grandfather, Victor Cohen. Grandpa opened Eddie's 10 years later in the building we are in now and, in 1976, he combined Victor's and Eddie's into one store. We still give a nod to that original store with the Victor's Prime Meats section at our butcher counter—a part of history and a unique department that only exists at Roland Avenue.

RPN: *Did you uncover any other bits of history during construction?*

MS: We found many historic and interesting items: uniform pieces like hats and name tags, product packaging from the 70s and 80s, old advertising, and equipment with a vintage, Art Deco-like style. Most of our finds were down in the basement. We ended up cutting a cross-section out of a defunct oil boiler that was a great example of the beauty of old cast iron. Eventually, we would like to put these items on display so our staff and customers can enjoy them, too. The history we have in this neighborhood is an extraordinary thing. We have local families and staff members who have been with us through multiple generations.

RPN: *How pleased are you with the construction team?*

MS: It was a challenging project. Lewis Contractors, in partnership with Ziger|Snead, was able to help us transform the store's sales floor, back-of-house spaces and main entrance. Everyone went above and beyond to help keep us open throughout the entire process.

RPN: *With what aspect of the renovation are you most pleased?*

MS: Where do I start? The new vestibule and awning add sales space and customer amenities, and the huge windows bring so much natural light into the store. Customers are probably most excited about the new larger salad bar and self-service hot soup bar, and the staff loves our new state-of-the-art kitchen and energy-efficient refrigeration and freezer cases. The gourmet-to-go, deli, and meat and seafood staff are also very pleased with their larger workspaces. We were able to prioritize functionality and employee comfort with this new design.



Eddie's transformed its main entrance. Image courtesy of Ziger|Snead

RPN: *You mentioned the new kitchen, what else is the staff excited about?*

MS: We added a new oven behind the bakery counter, so our bakers have more options during busy times. Everyone loves the smell of fresh bread and cookies wafting through the store.

Speaking of cookies, our candy department has recently started selling ice cream sandwiches made with freshly baked cookies and Taharka Brothers Ice Cream. As you can imagine, that has been a huge hit. It all started with an idea to add a soda fountain, which spurred the idea for ice cream floats. We are still waiting for the soda fountain to arrive. In the meantime, our team has gotten creative with ice cream sandwiches.

As a small business, we can be nimble and try new things that we think will delight our customers. Where else are you going to find an old-fashioned candy counter, ice cream floats and handmade ice cream sandwiches all while you do your grocery shopping?

RPN: *What work remains to be done?*

MS: Due to supply chain challenges, we are still waiting on our new registers, a few merchandising fixtures, shopping carts and our permanent outdoor signage. We expect everything to be wrapped up by the end of March or early April.

RPN: *What feedback have you heard from your customers about the renovated Eddie's?*

MS: There has been a lot of excitement. People seem to love the new fixtures and the open feeling of the store. Every department has been updated and improved, yet our traditional Eddie's favorites have not changed. All the new spaces really help to show off our staples, like crab cakes and shrimp salad, while giving us the ability to bring in new and exciting things.

RPN: *What's next for Eddie's of Roland Park?*

MS: This multiphase renovation was a huge undertaking and could be a little noisy and chaotic at times. Now that construction is complete, we cannot wait to share our brand-new store with everyone. We plan to host some grand reopening events this spring to celebrate all we have accomplished but, in the meantime, we hope everyone will come in to experience the new store for themselves. ❖

The Book Nook

By Greg Fromme, Branch Manager, Roland Park Branch, Enoch Pratt Free Library

Welcome to The Book Nook! Allow me to introduce myself, as this is my first contribution on behalf of the Enoch Pratt Free Library (Pratt) following the lengthy tenure of Julie Johnson. My name is Greg Fromme and I was the branch manager at the Herring Run branch of the Pratt for more than eight years before taking the post here in Roland Park. Prior to that, I worked as a librarian at the Reisterstown Road branch and as an English instructor at Community College Baltimore County, Baltimore City Community College and the University of Maryland.

Without further ado, please see the following for a list of programs coming up at the Roland Park Library, as well as reading recommendations from the library staff.

Programming (calendar.pratt library.org)

For Kids

- Beginning Mar. 1, Wednesdays at 10:30am. **Baby & Toddler Storytime.** Stories, movement, play and songs for babies in arms and toddlers with a favorite adult. Playtime follows. All abilities welcome. Groups of five or more, please call 410-396-6099 to register.
- Beginning Mar. 1, Wednesdays at 11:30am. **Family Storytime.** Stories, movement, songs and our most fun activities. Come ready to move, laugh and learn together. For families with children ages 2 to 5. All abilities welcome.
- Mar. 15, 3-5pm. **March Wind Chimes.** As the saying goes, "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." Come make a wind chime to celebrate the windy month of March. While supplies last.
- Apr. 12, 3-5pm. **April Showers Bring May Flowers.** Come decorate your own tiny planter to take home. A peat disc, chia seeds and instructions are yours to take home so you can grow your own plants. Supplies are provided for up to 60 participants. While supplies last. *Caution: chia seeds are a choking hazard.*

For Teens

- Mar. 8, 12pm. **Anime Club.** Not sure what to do on an early release day? Visit the library! Join us for Anime Club to catch up on old episodes or discover a new series.
- Mar. 14, 3-4pm. **Pi Day Plushies.** Join us to make your own adorable pie plushie.
- Mar. 22, 3pm. **DIY Tabletop Basketball Game.** March Madness is fast approaching! Pop in to make your own tabletop basketball game!
- Apr. 11, 3-4pm. **STEM Day: Ready...Set...Peep!** Who says you can't play with your food? Swing past to make a catapult and launch Peeps in the library
- Apr. 25, 3-4pm. **Spring Fairy Lanterns.** Join us to make your own spring fairy lantern

For Adults

- Mar. 8, 11am. **Library Tech: PressReader.** Bring your tablet, smartphone or laptop, and we'll guide you through using the Pratt's PressReader service to browse and read current issues of more than 7,000 newspapers and magazines. Presented in partnership with Keswick Wise & Well Center for Healthy Living. On the Keswick campus (700 W. 40th St.) for a socially distanced (masks are required) class or from the comfort of your home. Please call 410-662-4363 to register.
- Mar. 25, 11am and 2pm. **Film Series: Hoosiers.** A disgraced basketball coach takes a job at a small Indiana high school and leads the squad on an improbable run for a state championship. Meanwhile, he helps the town drunk, a former basketball player, redeem himself.
- Apr. 22, 11am and 2pm. **Film Series: Dead Poet's Society.** A staid but well-respected prep school is enlivened by a newly arrived, charismatic English teacher, who inspires his students with unconventional methods and philosophies.

All Pratt libraries will be closed Apr. 7 for Good Friday, Apr. 11 for National Library Workers Day and May 29 for Memorial Day.

The following reading recommendations have been submitted by members of the Roland Park Library staff or gleaned from published reviews:



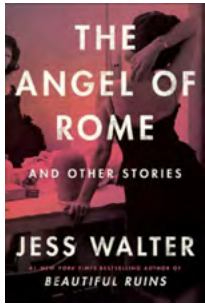
When We Cease To Understand The World

by Benjamin Labatut (recommended by Gregory Fromme, Branch Manager). This is a fascinating "novel" that reads like a history of major scientific and mathematical discoveries of the 20th century. Labatut humanizes the characters/inventors in the book by providing personal anecdotes from their lives and contextualizing them in world history—particularly in relation to major events such as global war. One "character", Fritz Haber, is reviled by many

for having invented and optimized Sarin gas, which was used to devastating effect as a chemical warfare agent during World War I. Conversely, the same scientist invented a process by which nitrogen-based fertilizers could be produced artificially, saving millions of lives from famine. Author Geoff Dyer calls the book "a thrilling account of theories of physics, and as a series of highly wrought imaginative extrapolations about the physicists who arrived at them." *When We Cease To Understand The World* was a National Book Award finalist and was included in the *New York Times*' 10 Best Books of 2021.

Lapvona by Ottessa Moshfegh. "*Lapvona* flips all the conventions of familial and parental relations, putting hatred where love should be or a negotiation where grief should be...Through a mix of witchery, deception, murder, abuse, grand delusion, ludicrous conversations and cringeworthy moments of bodily disgust, Moshfegh creates a world that you definitely don't want to live in, but from which you can't look away," says Maya Chung of *The Atlantic*.





The Angel of Rome and Other Stories by Jess Walter. “From the No. 1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Beautiful Ruins* and *The Cold Millions* comes a stunning collection about those moments when everything changes—for the better, for the worse, for the outrageous—as a diverse cast of characters bounces from Italy to

Idaho, questioning their roles in life and finding inspiration in the unlikeliest places.

“We all live like we’re famous now, curating our social media presences, performing our identities, withholding those parts of ourselves we don’t want others to see. In this riveting collection of stories from acclaimed author Jess Walter, a teenage girl tries to live up to the image of her beautiful, missing mother. An elderly couple confronts the fiction writer eavesdropping on their conversation. A son must repeatedly come out to his senile father while looking for a place to care for the old man. A famous actor in recovery has a one-night stand with the world’s most surprising film critic. And in the romantic title story, a shy 21-year-old studying Latin in Rome during ‘the year of my reinvention’ finds himself face-to-face with the Italian actress of his adolescent dreams.

“Funny, poignant, and redemptive, this collection of short fiction offers a dazzling range of voices, backdrops, and situations. With his signature wit and bighearted approach to the darkest parts

of humanity, Walter tackles the modern condition with a timeless touch, once again ‘solidifying his place in the contemporary canon as one of our most gifted builders of fictional worlds,’ according to *Esquire*.

Our Wives Under the Sea by Julia Armfield (recommended by Thalia Richter, Public Service Liaison). Miri’s wife has recently returned from an extended sea voyage. Leah is a scientist and this isn’t the first time she’s been gone. She goes under the sea in submarine missions to study life at the deepest parts of the ocean. Miri is almost used to this. But this time, Leah was gone for much longer than she was supposed to be and, now that she’s *back*, she isn’t all the way back. Something is deeply wrong with Leah. The novel is split in two, alternating chapters of Miri’s life after Leah returns and Leah’s journal entries during her time trapped in the submarine. It’s slow, angry at times and heartbreaking. There are elements of horror—teeth falling out, mysterious agencies that don’t return calls, awkward conversations with polite acquaintances—but I wouldn’t call this book *horror*. It’s both romantic and cynical, full of love, but also loss. This book explores what it means to love someone and lose them, how the people we love can become unknowable, and what hides in the depths of the ocean. ❖



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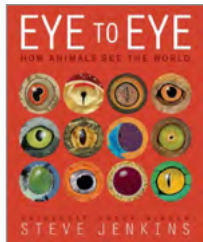
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KidLit Picks

By Rona Sue London, Children's Literature Specialist, The Ivy Bookshop

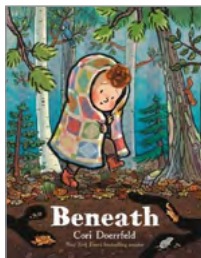


Picture Books (Age 3-6)

Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World by Steve Jenkins. Caldecott Honor-winning Steve Jenkins explores the way in which animals' eyes function to keep them informed and safe, including an animal that possesses more than 100 eyeballs, another who has eyes that can look in two directions at the same time and one with eyes the size of a

basketball. This unusual nonfiction picture book peers into a new world with fresh eyes (yeah for puns!). With beautiful illustrations, it lets us take a glimpse at how glorious, varied and amazing animal eyes really are.

Beneath by Cori Doerrfeld. Finn is having a bad day, but is convinced no one understands. When Grandpa suggests a walk, Finn grudgingly agrees. As they meander, Grandpa points out how trees have roots below the surface, lakes contain fish swimming in the depths and a nesting bird cares for babies. The book concludes with the beautiful sentiment, "Everyone is more than what you see. Beneath appearances are experiences. Beneath actions are explanations. Beneath what's different is what's the same." And, of course, sometimes beneath the surface is someone who understands.



Early Readers (Ages 6-9)

Ways to Share Joy by Renée Watson. Ryan is in the middle. She is between her baby sister and older brother, and between her two dear friends. With lessons on the value of being a "true" friend rather than a "best" friend, how to show kindness even when you might not feel it, and the difference between momentary happiness and deep-down joy, the normal ups and downs of childhood are navigated with a huge heart and a lot of love.



Billy & Rose Forever Friends by Amy Hest. Billy and Rose are dear friends. They also quarrel, disagreeing over chores, the fault when a game of catch goes awry, and in whose house to have their sleepover. When they get angry, each storms off. Then they realize that nothing is more important than their relationship, coming back together to figure out ways to resolve their disagreements and differences in this sweet, quiet story of compassion, compromise and understanding.

Upper Middle Readers (Ages 10-13)

The Adventure is Now by Jess Redman. Mighty moles and voles! After living through "The Most Totally, Terrible Horribly, Heinously Rotten Year of All Time," Milton's only passion is video games. Now, he is visiting his naturalist uncle on The Lone Isle, which is about to be sold to developers. Milton and other friendless island children set out to rectify this situation, discovering magic everywhere, while learning to be brave and bold on their way to true friendship, recognizing that real life is infinitely better than video games.

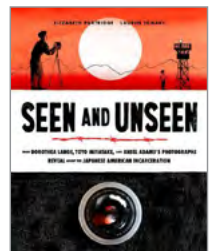


The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander. Kofi, 11, is worried about his coming-of-age Ashanti initiation into his Ghanaian village but, in the meantime, there is daily life on which to focus. He has a teacher who loves Shakespeare and Kofi's intellect, and he is infatuated with a neighborhood girl, enjoys hanging around the river with his best friend and frets over an annoyingly competitive cousin. Everything changes when Kofi's brother accidentally kills a neighboring

chief's nephew in a wrestling match during the King's Festival. The fallout will affect Kofi in unimaginable ways when he is abducted as revenge in the age of slavery. Storytelling in the tradition of his grandfather may be his only way out. The first of a historical fiction trilogy written in verse stunningly crosses all barriers with themes of love, community and hope.

Seen and Unseen: What Dorothea Lange, Toyo Miyatake, and Ansel Adams Photographs Reveal About the Japanese American Incarceration

by Elizabeth Partridge and Lauren Tamaki. Three photographers captured the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII. While on assignment for the War Relocation Authority, Dorothea Lange was sent to prove prisoners were treated humanely, but who found the opposite. Toyo Miyatake smuggled his camera into the camp where he was captive, at great personal risk, documenting the reality of the situation. Ansel Adams took idealized photos palatable to the U.S. government. This graphic novel does an amazing job of contextualizing a painful episode in history in a poignant and age-appropriate way.



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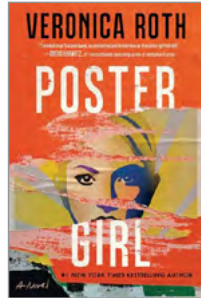


Playing Through the Turnaround by Mylisa Larsen. Everyone is carrying baggage and searching for home. These 8th graders have found that sense of belonging in Jazz Lab. So, when they learn their legendary teacher has quit and the school board is considering drastic budget cuts, the musicians are moved to action. Though the adults ignore them, the students must figure out a way to be heard. This incredibly moving story celebrates

the power of knowing when to boldly speak up and when to respectfully listen.

Young Adult (Ages 14-18)

Poster Girl by Veronica Roth. In this breathless page-turner, the tension between technology and morality is tangible. Sonya was the Poster Girl for the Delegation, but that was in the past. Now, the Triumvirate is in control and she is a prisoner, implanted with Insight—devices that monitor and inform, reward and punish. When given the chance of freedom in exchange for finding a missing girl, Sonya’s preconceptions of right and wrong unravel, leaving her, and us, questioning the role of surveillance in our lives.



IvyKids Event

May 21, 12pm. **A Celebration of Friendship with Thanhha Lai and When Clouds Touch Us** (sequel to the National Book Award-winning *Inside Out and Back Again*), The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. Perfect for ages 8 to 12, this free in-person event will be held on the patio. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website. theivybookshop.com

The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen by Isaac Blum. Longlisted for the National Book Award, this wonderful, smart and funny book deserves the accolades. Hoodie, 15, an Orthodox Jew, moves with his congregation to a new town that is not welcoming. When Hoodie falls for Anna-Marie Diaz O’Leary, the mayor’s daughter, things become complicated. Anti-Semitism escalates and Hoodie’s own community ostracizes him. Hoodie must weigh being true to himself, his loyalty to his Jewish community and the possibilities of the outside world in this ripped-from-the-headlines story exploring what it means to belong. ❖



As The Ivy Bookshop’s Children’s Book Curator, Rona Sue London loves matching every youngster with his or her perfect read. The Ivy (5928 Falls Road) is Baltimore’s independent literary bookstore, carrying a broad range of titles with an emphasis on new fiction, non-fiction, biography, art, interior design, cooking and, of course, children’s books. theivybookshop.com



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Calendar Highlights

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 7:30-8:45 pm, 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: Countertechnique 9-10:15am, downtown campus. For more information, visit peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/dance/training/openclasses.

March

- Starting Mar. 4, 10am-4pm. **Regular Saturday Hours**, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd. firemuseummd.org
- Mar. 4, 10am-4pm. **Annual Waldorf Fair**, The Waldorf School of Baltimore, 1408 Tamarind Rd. Adults will find a fabulous selection of unique, handcrafted goods in the Artisan Market and children will enjoy heartwarming crafts and activities. waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org
- Mar. 4, 10, 10am-4pm. **Family Safety Day**, Fire Museum of Maryland. Children will learn about fire safety and different First Responder careers.
- Mar. 11, 5:30-11pm. **Spaghetti Disco**, The Village Learning Place (VLP). The Spaghetti Disco at The Garage at R. House (301 W. 29th St.) is an endearingly wacky tradition that's all about spaghetti, sequins and supporting a good cause! All proceeds will benefit VLP. Disco attire is encouraged! Tickets at bit.ly/SpaghettiDisco23. villagelearningplace.org.



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Little League...Big Fun!

By Caroline Mapp, Lifetime Trustee,
Roland Park Baseball Leagues



As we approach the spring season, Roland Park Baseball Leagues (RPBL) is thankful for our coaches, volunteers, sponsors, vendors and umpires. Above all, we are grateful for the families who make our league so successful in helping us achieve our goals of ensuring a positive, fun and safe way for kids of all ages and skill levels to enjoy baseball.

Visit rolandparkbaseball.com/program/56023/spring-recreation to register for the spring rec program. There is a sibling discount of \$25 per additional player for families with more than one player. Scholarships are available for those needing financial assistance.

Calling all coaches! RPBL runs on volunteers. Thank you to all RPBL coaches who have generously given their time. We'd love to have you. Visit rolandparkbaseball.com/program/56023/spring-recreation to sign up as a coach.

Spectacular sponsorships! RPBL offers some of the most affordable and effective sponsorships in the Baltimore area. Team sponsorships start at \$600 a season. Visit rolandparkbaseball.com/sponsors to make a meaningful marketing decision to drive your message home.

Batter up! Our spring recreational season runs from early March to mid-June. RPBL Picture Day is scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 4, at Gilman School (5407 Roland Ave.). RPBL Opening Day is scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 1, Gilman School.

Questions? Feel free to reach out to rolandparkbaseball@gmail.com.

- Mar. 16, 10:30 am. **Spring Lecture: Captivating Container Combinations**, Ladew Topiary Gardens, 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. Guest speaker: Nancy Lowry Moitrier, Head Designer, Designs for Greener Gardens. \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission and refreshments). \$120 for members and \$160 for non-members for five-lecture series. Advance registration required. ladewgardens.com
- Mar. 23, 10:30 am. **Spring Lecture: Water in the Garden; Modest to Marvelous**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Guest speaker: Kelly Billing, lotus and waterlily grower, water garden consultant, designer, author, speaker and artist. \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission and refreshments). \$120 for members and \$160 for non-members for five-lecture series. Advance registration required.
- Mar. 26, 3:30pm. **A Salute to Sondheim**, Baltimore Musicales, 25 Stevenson Ln. \$25 for general admission. baltimoremusicales.org
- Mar. 30, 10:30 am. **Spring Lecture: Birds of Ladew: ID Clues and Natural History of Common Species**, Ladew

Topiary Gardens. Guest speaker: John Canoles, Principal Ecologist, Eco-Science Professionals. \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission and refreshments). \$120 for members and \$160 for non-members for five-lecture series. Advance registration required.

April

- Apr. 6, 10:30 am. **Spring Lecture: Small Space Garden Design**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Guest speakers: Kathy Jentz, Editor and Publisher of *Washington Gardener Magazine* and host of “GardenDC” podcast, and Teri Speight, former Head Gardener, City of Fredericksburg. \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission and refreshments). \$120 for members and \$160 for non-members for five-lecture series. Advance registration required.
- Apr. 13, 10:30 am. **Spring Lecture: Native Groundcovers: Living Mulch**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Guest speaker: Duncan Himmelman, horticulturist. \$30 for members and \$40 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission and refreshments). \$120 for members and \$160 for non-members for five-lecture series. Advance registration required.
- Apr. 16, 1-5pm. **Garden Work Days**, VLP. Volunteer in the VLP community garden. Tasks will include weeding, watering and beautification projects.
- Ap. 22, 7-10pm. **Read Between the Wines**, VLP. VLP’s extraordinary annual fundraising event. Enjoy live jazz music, fantastic food and drink, and silent and live auctions in the historic library and community garden. Advance tickets are \$60 and tickets at the door are \$75. Until Mar. 9, early bird tickets are \$50, available only at bit.ly/SpaghettiDisco23.
- Apr. 25, 7pm. **Earth Week Speaker Event (Virtual): The Decline of Outdoor Play and the Rise in Sensory Issues—How Unrestricted Outdoor Play Makes for Strong, Confident, and Capable Children**, The Waldorf School. This free event will feature Angela J. Hanscom, a pediatric occupational therapist and founder of TimberNook. Registration required and available at waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org.
- Apr. 30, 10am. **Hands On Holiday: May Day**, The Waldorf School of Baltimore. A morning full of themed seasonal songs, crafts and storytelling with Waldorf School Early Childhood Teachers. Registration required and available at waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org.

May

- May 4, 6pm. **Jonathan Jarvis and T. Destry Jarvis: National Parks Forever**, The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. This free in-person event will be held on the patio. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website. theivybookshop.com
- May 6, 10, 10am-2pm. **Annual Steam Show**, Fire Museum of Maryland. Hose wagon rides, hand-drawn and horse-drawn apparatus demonstration, steam engines, antique models, kids’ activities and working draft horses. Food vendors.

The Civic League meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in person at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church at the corner of Roland Avenue and Upland Road (4801 Roland Ave.).



The **Annual Meeting** will be held on May 3 in the multi-purpose room at Roland Park Elementary Middle School (5207 Roland Ave.). **Mayor Brandon Scott** will be the guest speaker.

- May 6. **MayMart**, Roland Park Elementary Middle School, 5207 Roland Ave. The annual festival and PTA fundraiser includes carnival games, food vendors, uniform sales and more. Funds support instructional needs for teachers and students, enrichment activities and community-building events
- May 7, 3:30pm. **Phenomenal Women**, Baltimore Musicales. \$25 for general admission. Inspired by Maya Angelou’s poem, “Phenomenal Woman”, this program honors the incredible contributions of women composers and poets from around the world. ❖

Please send calendar announcements to magazine@rolandpark.org.

ROLAND PARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pursuing Justice · Practicing Hospitality · Engaging Curious Faith

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

April 9, 10:30 a.m.

in person and online



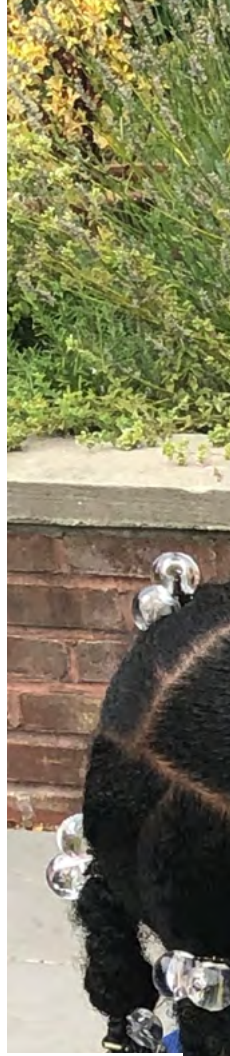
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