

ROLAND PARK news

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Eighty-Nine • Summer 2023

**Social Studio
Expands!**

CFG Bank
Exhibit
Hall



**Beyond the Pages: *Making
Stained Glass Mosaics***

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Tribute to David Blumberg: Bill and Vivienne Wilson Community Service Award Recipient

By Susan Newhouse

As he prepares to move away from our community, I want to highlight some important aspects of David Blumberg's community leadership during his years of service to Roland Park.

David's leadership was not egotistical. He did not think he knew best and should impose his vision on the community. He did not think that he alone could fix it. It was not about David and his power. David believed in working together as a way to accomplish good for the community.

David often led with a self-effacing, self-deprecating sense of humor, which led some people to underestimate him. Nevertheless, by using his humor, he was effective at deflecting and defusing conflict as well as lightening the mood of meetings that were at times dull or, at other times, tense with conflict.

David was fair and even-handed. He heard people out, even if they were expressing negative feelings. Through his fairness, David communicated respect for different perspectives.

He encouraged people with different perspectives to get engaged. He was masterful at finding the right position in the organization for each person's interests and talents, all with the goal of getting the job done for the community.

In between board meetings, he often would check in—one-on-one—with board members, where he listened, soothed ruffled feathers, calmed tensions and provided support, all of which encouraged civility in the Civic League meetings.

In all of these specific ways, David supported community participation, facilitating a truly democratic process for our community association. This is not something to take for granted. Truly informed community participation cannot be perfunctory; it has to be the real deal. To make it happen in a

meaningful way, I know it takes a tremendous amount of hard work from dedicated volunteers. *David showed us that it can be done and that it is worth it.*

I want to share with you a couple of stories to illustrate how this actually worked with David.



David Blumberg. Photo courtesy of David Blumberg

My first impression of David came from the Civic League's annual meeting in 1997, which occurred right after the 4803 Roland Avenue Assisted Living controversy. There were two slates of nominees—one official slate and, in an out-of-the-ordinary move, a second alternative slate—to be presented at the meeting. As president of the Civic League at that

time, David knew what was up. He prepared for that meeting, setting up the important details in advance. For example, he invited a parliamentarian, the first time I had ever seen that at any Civic League meeting. He ran the meeting strictly by Robert's Rules of Order, as confirmed by the parliamentarian. He ran it fairly, giving all candidates the opportunity to speak. Throughout the meeting, David's approach was tempered, of course, by his inimitable humor. The tense meeting ran smoothly and with civility; no one could question its fairness and, in the end, we had some new blood on the board of the Civic League.

Over the next 10 years, I came to know David well as we worked together on the Roland Park Library project. At the beginning, our library was in danger of being closed by the Pratt as being too small. With the support of David as president, the library committee of the Civic League took the community through a transparent, participatory planning process about the renovation and expansion of our library. In a series of town meetings, the community made the basic decisions: choosing to retain the library on the current site, selecting which library services should have priority and deciding which schematic design made most sense for the site. Having participated fully in the planning process,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Social Studio Expands!

By Martha Marani

When Genie Arnot, founder of Social Studio, announced she was expanding, the community celebrated. *RPN* asked her for the details.

RPN: Please tell us the history of Social Studio, including what inspired you to open the business in Roland Park?

GA: EXPLORE: Discover the limitations and possibilities.

There's a picture book called *What Do You Do With an Idea?* by Kobi Yamada that describes the creative process and how, like a seed, an idea will grow. It will grow regardless, but learning to tend to it, understand it, protect it, and make time and space for it is the work of the creative. Social Studio is one of those ideas. In the late 90s, I'd come home from work and hand-stitch baby quilts at a large table in my Brooklyn apartment. For the hours that amounted to many stitches, I thought how much more fun this would be if I was stitching with kids after they got out of school. In 2002, I volunteered at The Children's Museum in Manhattan, a place where you could go to make art in various art forms, build with blocks and learn from other artists. This is when the idea for Social Studio started. I wanted to create a creative space. I carried the idea around for decades, teaching camps in my home, after-school and in start-up schools while getting my Masters in Education at Bank Street College, a graduate program in New York City for progressive education. When I moved back to Baltimore, I taught art for 11 years at Bryn Mawr lower school, developing concept curriculum, a creative culture and the creative process.

Part of nurturing and growing an idea is sharing it with others. In one of my summer classes, I described my idea to the group of kids. One of them exclaimed, "It's like a social studio!" Now, the idea had a name. That was a catalyst for the next step. A few summers later, in 2019, I was looking for a space and writing a business plan for Social Studio. For years now, I've imagined a Social Studio in all the neighborhoods, but wasn't sure where to start until I visited 737 Deepdene Road. It still had the storied history and palpable energy of The Children's Bookstore in its walls and it was on a side street with other women business owners, Bethany Magliacane at laboratorie and Amy McManus at Crimson & Clover Floral Design. The building owner, Nancy Cohen of Eddie's of Roland Park, has a reputation for supporting women business owners. I loved the big glass storefront windows. The location was in the immediate vicinity of over a dozen schools and across the street from Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS). It was clear that is where the idea could grow.

RPN: How has the community responded to Social Studio since you opened in 2019?

GA: ENGAGE: Consider a connection. In late August 2019, two weeks before it opened, Social Studio was on fire, literally. This experience was the first feedback that it was in the right place! There is no better test to how things work and how people work together than a little emergency—on a rainy Friday afternoon, with



(left) Nash drawing during STUDIO SKETCH after-school class. (right)

Sondra Spencer holding her first acrylic canvas painted in OPEN STUDIO. Photos: Genie Arnot

three fire trucks and a crowd. The community and landlord were so responsive and supportive.

The community has welcomed Social Studio not just as a place for creativity and for children, but as a concept—as a creative space and place. People walk in to say hello and ask how they can be a part of the project. Many neighbors donate supplies, everything from their monthly collection of bottle caps and tea tins to fabric scraps and knitting yarn. Other neighbors sign up for classes and make fast connections with other artists. Many kids and adults alike can say, "I didn't even know them before Social Studio." The community has definitely made it a place to make art and friends.

Since the beginning, the Roland Park Civic League has served as a communication conduit, connecting Social Studio and its offerings to the community. Immediately upon signing the lease, I was invited to introduce Social Studio at the Civic League's monthly meeting and Kathy Hudson wrote about it in the *Roland Park News*. Martha Marani and Anne Stuzin included Social Studio's schedule in e-newsletters and advertised online classes during COVID.

A major neighborhood highlight was the Art Walk. Neighbor, community organizer and art enthusiast Sara Meadows Shawe put together an outdoor and porch event in the fall of 2020, with an interactive map, signage and innovative showcases. People shared their creativity from the months of lockdown. Social Studio participated with a sidewalk gallery, framing work otherwise only seen on screens.

The community art project we are working on now is a mural for the large wall facing RPEMS on the corner of Deepdene and Roland Avenue. This is a meeting place for so many people, whether they are walking a dog, or going to Starbucks, school, the bank, post office, Eddie's, flower store, salon, home, work... it is a point of engagement and a place to celebrate diversity, inclusion, kindness, creativity and community. The mural project is being led by Whitney Frazier, an activist, artist and educator who facilitates projects in communities all over the city. We look forward to seeing this project through this summer!

SOCIAL STUDIO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

RPN: How did you operate during the pandemic?

GA: **EXPRESS Show and shout.** The key word during the pandemic was “pivot”. The first six months we were open, from September 2019 to March 2020, I figured out the studio schedule, offering after-school classes, weekend workshops, preschool

programs and parties. In April 2020, I had to translate what I was doing in the studio into

Zoom rooms. Moving to a “social media studio” platform became a very formative phase for the business. The challenge was to figure out what was at the heart of the Social Studio experience. The answer couldn’t be art supplies or the studio space.

What I came to understand more deeply from the pandemic is that learning and growing is a social project. Teaching online provided an opportunity to test and refine the Creative Process Framework—a teaching and learning framework that uses the creative process to transform ideas into action. Social Studio teaches the creative process in six phases: EXPLORE, ENGAGE, EXPRESS, EXPAND, EXCHANGE and EMPOWER. We believe



Elizabeth sharing her tree house design from AFTERSCHOOL STUDIO.

commitment to your creative process cultivates connection and EMPATHY (the better understanding of self and others).

We use this framework to plan lessons, workshops and weeklong camps. We also teach a course devoted to it called the “Creative Process Seminar”. During the first spring of the pandemic, I worked with a Park School senior for her spring internship to develop this course and others. Each week of the course moves the participant through a phase of the creative process, with sketchbook prompts, video and book content, and reflections. By the end, participants have a creative habit and newfound confidence in their creative process. All Social Studio interns and teachers take the course to gain personal experience with our mission statement: Commitment to your creative process cultivates connection and EMPATHY. The course is also available to others as a one-on-one or small-group experience.

RPN: Please describe the newly expanded space and explain what it will allow you to offer in terms of expanded programs.

GA: **EXPAND Expect change.** Starting small has great advantages. It was proof of concept, required low overhead and, when the pandemic stopped all in-person business, Social Studio could transfer its teaching and learning to an online platform. Starting small also provided the numbers and experience to replicate and scale Social Studio in other neighborhoods. But it was too small and there was an opportunity to expand next door!


Andy Niazy Architecture and Wil Hylton of Dovetail Builders are the dynamic duo behind the design and construction of the new and improved space. The building has some unique features, like the roof trusses that will be painted sunshine yellow. The completed expansion and renovation will include an “art bar” with stool seating for a more intimate class setting and meeting space for 10, which will double as a space for stand-up easel painting. There will be a small kitchen for easy catering of events like art parties, art shows and space rentals. The new design also includes an office/studio and ADA accessible bathroom. The front of Studio739 will have work tables and a large work wall that can be used as gallery space for art shows.

A real need in the community is after-school options for young kids. By expanding, Social Studio can increase its offerings to serve more families from 2:45 to 5pm. The new space includes a smaller studio, Studio737, for children in preschool to 2nd grade. There are easels, blocks and work tables, as well as children’s books and many choice-time options. The teacher for this space, Marian McLaughlin, supports both individual growth and community values with innovative arts integration projects, leveled learning experiences and mindful choice activities. Older kids meet in Studio739 in small groups of 10 to 16 kids. These classes cover a variety of mediums that teach fundamental art-making and observation skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, fiber arts, and 3D sculpture and design.

RPN: Please describe the summer offerings for adults and children, including any special events.

GA: **EXCHANGE Dare, share and care.** Some of the new offerings include a “Cultivate Empathy Series”—workshops that cultivate empathy through conversation and community connections. Our first workshops are in June with Jessy Molina, neighbor, teacher and facilitator with Molina Consulting. We will co-teach a diversity, equity and inclusion workshop called the “Story of Your Name” on Sunday, June 4, from 2 to 4pm.

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In the fall, we will follow with six once-a-month workshops, using personal storytelling to connect and change. This is an amazing opportunity to support your personal commitment to the work of anti-racism and allyship. We are also hosting Be Kind Signs from the Infinite Love Project for a mindfulness workshop on Fathers' Day, June 18, from 2 to 4pm. This event will involve painting three-foot wooden, crayon-shaped signs that can be installed at your school, work or neighborhood.

Other summer class and event offerings include "Your Hands on Art", a wine and cheese art-making event one Wednesday a month from 6:30 to 8:30pm. People can also gather for a casual happy hour event called "Cocktails & Critique", during which two or three artists will be invited to share their work in process with others, building a creative community and supporting the creative process.

Preschool camps will run in the mornings, from 9:30 to 11:30am, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks of the summer. There are eight weeks of camps, alternating between ages 6 to 9 and 9 to 12. Kids will have a chance to really get into their work and play during these original and innovative-theme based camps.

We will also have special classes with guest artists throughout the summer. Mary Skeen, a photographer and teacher, will teach



Liam posing in front of his Keith Haring-inspired street art painted in ART INTEGRATION.

an afternoon class called "Learn to See (With Your Phone Camera)", which will be July 10 through 14 and July 24 and 28, from 5:30 to 7pm for ages 12 to 16. Zach Thorton will teach figure drawing and painting (details TBD).

We will be continuing to expand the creative team, which will allow us to offer more voices and choices for summer and fall! To keep updated, follow along on social media @socialstudiobaltimore or join the e-letter mailing list at socialstudioart.com.

RPN: *What's next for Social Studio?*

GA: EMPOWER. Present and represent. What's next? Another fire! But this time a metaphorical one that spreads the combination of a business opportunity and creative community into other neighborhoods. I would like Social Studio to be an option for entrepreneurial educators, a franchise that gives artists an opportunity to build community in their own neighborhood.

Diana Spencer, a friend and avid artist at Social Studio, recently said, "I know the space isn't finished, but it very much already exists. You have created a community, a mindset, a vision. It is inclusive and growing. I wonder if you originally envisioned all that it is." ❖



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Hillside Park Update

By Mary Page Michel, Chair, Roland Park Community Foundation

The Community Foundation will settle this fall on the purchase of the land for Hillside Park, which will be transformed into a 20-acre park, with mostly passive recreational space, in the undeveloped space along Falls Road across from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Western High School. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and we are close to the finish line!

We are waiting for the Baltimore Country Club (BCC) to complete two requirements before we can determine a settlement day. BCC must submit the property to the City for subdivision and must complete the environmental remediation of the property. Once started, these two items will take a few months to complete.

In the meantime, the Community Foundation team continues to fundraise for the final dollars for the purchase of the park. We received some excellent news from Annapolis recently. We were awarded a \$250,000 grant for the buildout of the park. Huge thanks to our delegation—Senator Jill Carter, Delegate Sandy Rosenberg, Delegate Dalya Attar and Delegate Tony Bridges—for their help in obtaining the award. Additional kudos to John C. “JR” Reith and his team at Rifkin, Weiner, Livingston, Levitan &



Silver, LLC, which helped us in Annapolis. We could not have done it without these folks so, if you see them, please thank them!

If you have not made a gift, now is the time. This is the biggest green space project in our community in 100 years and our initial investors have made this possible. More

than 650 families have given and we need you. Please email communityfoundation@rolandpark.org or visit rolandpark.org/hillsidepark to learn more.

The Community Foundation team has formed a legal advisory committee and is establishing a Friends of Hillside Park 501(c)(3) charitable organization, which will take on the maintenance of the park, programming and events. We are so lucky that folks have stepped up to volunteer and give us legal advice.

The next milestone is the hiring of the landscape architect. We have been delayed a bit as BCC has not completed the subdivision, but look for communications soon and get involved.

If you have expertise or interest in any area of the future Hillside Park, please reach out to communityfoundation@rolandpark.org. We need assistance in fundraising, landscaping, animals and wildlife, diversity and inclusion, events and administration. Have you ever helped start a park from scratch? We want and need your help! ❖



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The Year of the Paths

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ho reads the

bylaws of organizations that they're involved in? I do.

Going into my third year as

president of the Civic League, I have read the bylaws and affiliated documents (you too can read them at rolandpark.org/organizationscommittees/civic-league/bylaws-and-standing-policies) as I navigate the issues of our civic governance. I'm thankful for all my predecessors who worked to create governing documents to guide us in managing our beautiful neighborhood.

Our bylaws require us to hold an annual meeting, and we just held the most recent one on May 3. This was our first annual meeting in an in-person setting since the pandemic! We gathered at Roland Park Elementary Middle School (thank you, Principal Amanda Brown, for hosting us), with a crowd of approximately 65 attending. The annual meeting is the Civic League board's chance to give our impression of the state of the neighborhood, and I'm happy to report that the state of Roland Park is good.

We welcomed Mayor Brandon Scott as our guest speaker. The mayor answered several questions about issues specific to the neighborhood. If you have a question that you would like addressed and were unable to attend, please email me at CivicLeaguePresident@RolandPark.org.

We welcomed Mayor Brandon Scott as our guest speaker. The mayor answered several questions about issues specific to the neighborhood. If you have a question that you would like addressed and were unable to attend, please email me at CivicLeaguePresident@RolandPark.org.

Following Mayor Scott, we acknowledged our own local celebrity, David Blumberg. David, who has lived in Roland Park for almost three decades, was presented with the Bill and Vivienne Wilson Award for Community Service (see the inside front cover for more about David's great work over many years). David and his wife Ellie will be moving to Baltimore County this summer. We also said goodbye to outstanding board members Rachel Dawson, Martha Holleman and Andy Niazy. I look forward to working with new board members Jen Viglucchi, Chris Cortwright, Madeleine Driscoll and Pat Terranova.

The last year has been one of transition. We made numerous changes regarding how we operate. Our goal was to create efficiencies and raise sufficient revenues to address much-needed maintenance to our 18 historic walking paths that wind throughout the entirety of Roland Park. As a result, I'm happy to report that we are now fiscally healthy.

In the fall of 2022, the Civic League took the step to move to an online platform called PayHOA. Fortunately, our decision to do so paid off. We have been successful in identifying more than 75 percent of our neighbors via email and asking them to pay their annual invoices online. (We have a working group tasked with identifying and working with the remaining 25 percent over the next year.) As a reminder, the Civic League—through its subsidiary Roads & Maintenance—collects required and requested fees for maintaining our public green spaces. This includes the landscaping of our medians, paths and Centennial Park, as well as snow plowing of our lanes. To cover such costs, Roland Park relies on neighbors to pay a "required" fee. This fee was set in the early 1900s in your deeds, is not adjustable



ROLAND PARK CIVIC LEAGUE



Mayor Brandon Scott spoke at the annual meeting in May. Photo: J.J. McQueen

for inflation and, in many cases, is less than \$10 per year. Each year, the Civic League also proposes a voluntary "requested fee" that is a multiple of the required fee. Thanks to our increased efficiency in collection because of PayHOA, we now have sufficient funds to address some of our long-outstanding maintenance needs.

The Civic League is pleased to announce that 2023-2024 will be dedicated as "The Year of the Paths." With a budget of \$50,000, we have identified three initial projects to begin our campaign. Andrew Marani, who chairs our maintenance committee, estimates that the deferred maintenance of our paths is in excess of \$125,000.

The three projects are: the yellow brick paths in Centennial Park (the park between the two roads of University Parkway), which are in major disrepair, requiring \$30,000 to restore one; Laurel Path, which needs major repair to its sidewalks, at an estimated cost of \$8,000; and broken and worn-out path signs, which will be replaced with remaining funds. Each of the 18 paths in Roland Park have beautifully-crafted metal and wood signs at both ends. We estimate that 30 signs are in need of replacement.

We'll keep you posted as these important projects get underway.

Claudia Diamond, President ❖

Communications Lead

The Civic League extends its heartfelt thanks to Anne Stuzin, who served as our communications lead for nearly five years, volunteering her time and talent to the community. Stuzin's gifts as a storyteller helped Roland Park navigate some stormy seas, through words and pictures. She kept neighbors engaged and strengthened the connections that are the foundation of the healthy community Olmsted envisioned so many years ago.

Tim Hreha, the representative for Plat 4, has stepped into the role. As communications lead, he will pick up where Stuzin left off, handling the Civic League's social media presence (i.e., Facebook, Instagram, Nextdoor Roland Park and Twitter). The monthly e-letter and any News Page announcements on the website (rolandpark.org/news/news-events) will be created by the office manager.

Sneak Preview: CFG Bank Exhibit Hall

By Brooke Fritz, Director of Development, Cylburn Arboretum Friends

Cylburn Arboretum Friends (CAF) has been devoted to cultivating a beautiful and educational environment in Northwest Baltimore for many years. We provide a variety of environmental and horticultural education programs. The Arboretum is a wonderful resource—a living laboratory, a place to get real-world experience in horticulture, a learning environment where students of all ages can make the abstract concrete.

The Nature Education Center, opening this summer, will have an exciting exhibit hall dedicated to the hidden world of trees. What are some things you may have never considered about trees?

We offer you a “sneak preview” of the CFG Bank Exhibit Hall. Our hope is that this exhibit will pique the curiosity of our guests and enrich their explorations of the Arboretum, helping them come to a deeper understanding of the hidden complexities of the arboreal world.



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Dr. Nancy Sonti and a team of scientists examined the growth rate of trees in both urban and rural forested areas.

The study found that in recent decades, the trees in Baltimore's forest patches have been growing faster than their rural counterparts!

Core Samples


Scientists take core samples from living trees to understand both the health of the tree and the history of the climate where that tree grows. The core samples are small — usually, smaller than the diameter of a pencil.

These white oak and red maple tree core samples were collected in Baltimore city's Herring Run Park as a part of this study.

Here are the birth years of the trees, based on counting the rings in the cores.

- 1. White oak: **1801**
- 2. White oak: **1793**
- 3. White oak: **1927**
- 4. Red maple: **1932**
- 5. Red maple: **1937**

Pull out this core sample and compare it to the key at right.



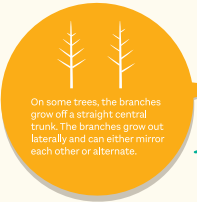
The Nature Education Center at Cylburn will be open on Saturdays and Sundays this summer, 10 am to 2 pm. We will expand to include weekday hours this coming fall. We hope to see you all at Cylburn! ❖

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.

From learning about the root systems of trees, to the inner workings of each species, to the forest canopy as a whole, the Nature Education Center will have something for everyone to explore as visitors dive into the hidden world of trees. Images: Metcalfe Architecture & Design

How do branches grow?

When you're outdoors, look at the different ways that different trees grow.



On some trees, the branches grow off a straight central trunk. The branches grow out laterally and can either mirror each other or alternate.

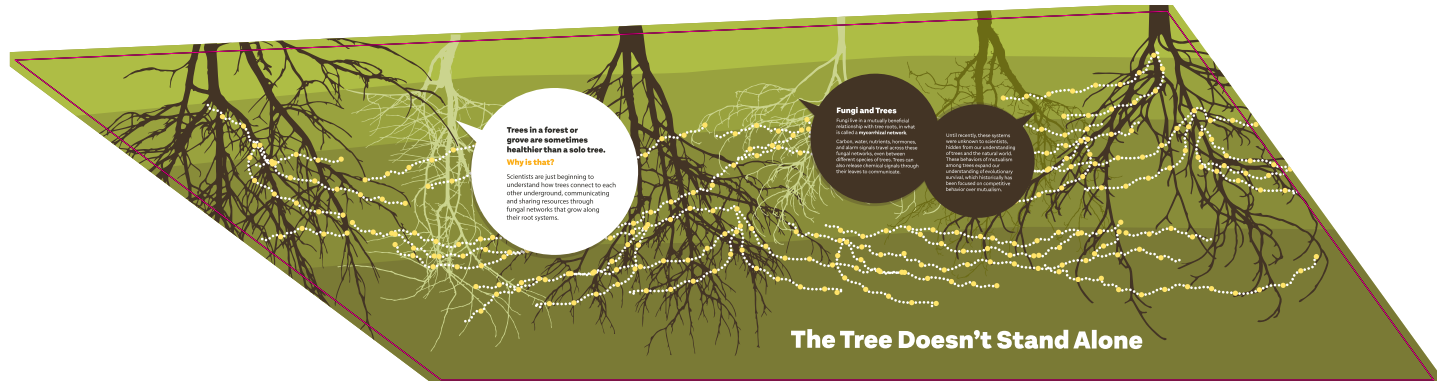


On other trees, the trunk and branches split off as they grow, up and out, creating a series of branching modules.



Canopy Shyness
When you're in the forest, look up!
"Canopy shyness" describes how tree canopies don't touch each other in their pursuit of sunlight. The first tree will grow branches that stretch wide. The trees that follow have to find room in the remaining space. So these younger, later trees may be more narrow and tall.

Canopy



Trees in a forest or grove are sometimes healthier than a solo tree. Why is that?

Scientists are just beginning to understand how trees connect to each other underground, communicating and sharing resources through fungal networks that grow along their root systems.



Fungal and Trees

Research is revealing that trees and fungi form a symbiotic relationship. Fungi help trees absorb water and nutrients from the soil, while trees provide the fungi with carbohydrates.



Until recently, these systems were considered mysterious. Fungi form a web-like network of hyphae that connect trees and other plants in the forest floor. These networks can help trees share resources and even warn them of danger.

The Tree Doesn't Stand Alone

DAVID BLUMBERG

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Roland Parkers responded to the fundraising challenges with enormous generosity. We raised \$2.7 million, which we used to leverage more funding from the City to make the renovation happen. David led the way, serving as president of the Roland Park Library Initiative, our fundraising organization, from 1999 through 2008, at which time the construction was complete. *Many people thought it could not be done but we did it. And David would be the first to say: we did it together, the whole community, all of us!*

So, as David and his wife Ellie prepare to leave Roland Park, we are saddened to see them go. But we can remember David for showing the community what can be accomplished through a Civic League dedicated to true democratic process, where the community members are fully informed and involved in making critical decisions about the community's future. And we can remember David by one very tangible manifestation of what democratic process yielded under his leadership: at the heart of our community, we have our renovated and expanded Roland Park Library.

David, we will truly miss you but you have left us enriched. Thank you. ❖

This tribute was read during the annual meeting of the Civic League, at which David Blumberg was named the Bill and Vivienne Wilson Award recipient. The award is given annually in recognition for longstanding service to the community.

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Thoughts and Tips on Yard Management

By Devra He'ui Kitterman

For the Mid-Atlantic region, this past winter was the warmest on record. It is for that reason, along with the plentiful rainfall, that gardening enthusiasts are starting out on a positive footing for our 2023 gardening aspirations. Some thoughts and tips about yard management follow.

Pinch Back!

Do you ever wonder how plants for sale at retail outlets look so great and uniform in shape and size? During the growing season, plants are pinched back, which forces them to put more energy into filling out not only the important root systems, but the plant structures themselves, ultimately enhancing their overall performance and flowering.

At The Perennial Farm in Glen Arm (perennialfarm.com), a wholesale business that offers Retail Saturdays for

all customers, crews are busy not only potting up thousands of new plants daily, but efficiently pinching back previously planted stock. Seeing these pinched-back plants comforts me, because I know they haven't been treated with growth regulators—a practice followed by some very large growing outfits. I was surprised to find that some farmers use growth regulators (i.e., hormones) on our corn and other food plants. (Google the dangers of growth regulators.)

Mid-May to late June is the time to somewhat assertively cut back Joe-Pye weed (*Eupatorium purpureum* 'Gateway' or 'Little Joe'), goldenrod (*solidago* 'Fireworks' and others), and asters and chrysanthemums, among others. It is also the time to selectively pinch back catmint (*Calamintha nepeta*), hyssop (*Agastache*), sedums (especially the taller Autumn Joy types), sunflowers (*Helianthus*), ox-eye sunflower (*Heliopsis*) and sage (*Salvia nemorosa* 'Caradonna'), and remove the older, lower leaves of coral bells (*Heuchera*) species. A few plants fail after being cut back, like lavender. The outcomes for cutting back catmint have had mixed results for me, so I just cut the plant back fairly hard to keep it from flopping over and to encourage new foliage and repeat flowering.



Sage. Photo courtesy of Missouri Botanical Garden



Sedum. Photo courtesy of Missouri Botanical Garden

Mulch

As I have questioned in the past, how much longer can we sustain the cutting down of millions of trees annually, nationwide, just to make mulch? This past fall, I decided to put my money where my mouth is and mulch my entire yard heavily with leaves. I mooched the leaves from five of my lovely neighbors' yards, with some of their generous help, and scrounged bagged leaves from the front of several other houses and from crews that were

Greater Roland Park Home Sales

(FEBRUARY–APRIL 2023)

	LIST PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
6 Upland Rd. #1B	\$ 199,000	\$ 160,000
544 W. University Pkwy.	\$ 489,989	\$ 490,000
4302 Roland Ave.	\$ 499,900	\$ 525,000
6 Upland Rd. #B-1	\$ 529,000	\$ 536,000
115 Hawthorn Rd.	\$ 675,000	\$ 686,000
608 W. University Pkwy.	\$ 649,900	\$ 720,000
4809 Keswick Rd.	\$ 798,500	\$ 823,000
502 Somerset Rd.	\$1,195,000	\$1,090,000
303 Oakdale Rd.	\$ 985,000	\$1,250,000

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Asters (left), Joe-Pye weed (right).

Photos courtesy of University of Maryland Extension

Coral bells (below).

Photo courtesy of Missouri Botanical Garden



removing leaves from neighbors' properties, and put at least a foot of leaves in all my beds and all over my yard, spraying and watering them down to lock the leaves together to minimize them moving around in the wind. The excellent result was natural protection. Protection and insulation of our ground-nesting native bees and insects like lightning bugs and many others, and cover for many birds that hunkered down in the leaf litter from the cold and wind. Leaves carry the eggs of insects and, when we bag or mow or burn them, we destroy millions of important insects that help to pollinate plants and feed birds, fish, bats and, really, all manner of wildlife.

The result of my leaf mania has been excellent. The leaves have broken down to half of their original height, as they have gone through the process of becoming soil, and all my plants have emerged through the leaves. I have a couple of bare spots from squirrel and bird activity, but I have a spare cache of leaves to use or I can put some Leafgro® on them. I saved trees and a lot of money for mulch, and helped the environment at the same time.

If you want to see fantastic, artfully designed gardens that use leaves for mulch, be sure to treat yourself to a very worthwhile and educational visit to Chanticleer Garden (chanticleergarden.org) in Wayne, PA. Take a picnic lunch with you and be amazed.

Hedges

An exhilaratingly beautiful full-moon evening stroll through the 'hood provided me with an important reminder for folks to think twice before planting a hedge along a street-facing sidewalk. There are now many, many hedges in Roland Park that have encroached upon or almost completely covered sidewalks, blocking access for pedestrians and creating hazards for people trying to negotiate past overhanging hedges (and branches).

Hedges should be planted at least three to four feet back from the sidewalk. Some, like green euonymus, can grow up to 10 feet wide. Other hedges can scratch the eyes and faces of people passing by, and I have watched on at least two occasions blind people having to use their arms to shield their faces as they tried to negotiate sidewalks with a cane.

Remember, too, if you have the hedge planted at an appropriate distance from the sidewalk, less frequent hedge trimming or shearing will be required over

the long haul. You will also be surprised at how effective and beneficial it is to fertilize your hedges with a granular, organic fertilizer periodically. Trimming the tops will encourage thicker, fuller growth. Birds love hedges for nesting, by the way.

Landscape management is a reality that all homeowners must face. Why not make it easier on yourself? ♦

Devra He'ui Kitterman is a Baltimore City beekeeper. She formerly owned and operated He'ui Horticultural Services, which provided commercial interior plant services and exterior landscape design and maintenance for 27 years. To receive her free pollinator plant list, contact her at devra.kitterman@gmail.com.

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News From Stony Run

By Janet Felsten, Nature Sacred Firesoul (i.e., bench steward) and Friends of Stony Run Board Member

In late April, our new, white oak Journal Bench was installed near Oakdale Meadow, thanks to Nature Sacred Foundation and the fabricators, Baltimore Fallen Lumber Company. It was immediately lauded by passersby. Grateful inscriptions filled the journal that resides under the seat for any folks to sit and read, or add their thoughts.

As April turned to May, the last fall's plantings started making their appearance, with four types of ferns unfurling, and heuchera, echinacea, goldenrod, spiderwort and more showing their first leaves. As summer progresses, we hope to see American beautyberry, swamp milkweed, Joe-Pye weed and other native



Enjoying the Journal Bench near Oakdale Meadow and reviewing grateful inscriptions in the journal that resides under the seat.

Photos: Janet Felsten



Fall planting (above), Keswick resident Larry Grubb with the Little Library he designed & fabricated. (right)



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First patrons to the Little Library, soon after it was installed. (above). Boy Scouts from Troop 1000 help spread wood chips along Stony Run path. (right)



Troop 1000 Boy Scout Jeremy Dakota Davis organized more than 30 volunteers to spread wood chips along the Stony Run path between Wyndhurst and Cold Spring Lane. His Eagle Scout status is well-earned! Thanks, also, to Davey Tree Expert Company for the chips!

The Roland Park Community Foundation, Nature Sacred Foundation and Friends of Stony Run partner to make these amenities possible. ❖

pollinator plants in bloom. Thanks to the efforts of the 18 volunteers who helped set over 75 ferns, sedges and perennials into the meadow areas, we'll be on the lookout for butterflies, moths and bees enjoying the bounty.

Down at Linkwood Park, Friends of Stony Run celebrated the installation of a new Little Library, designed and fabricated by Keswick resident Larry Grubb. Note the convenient height for young folks to make selections! It took less than a minute for the first curious children to open its doors.



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The Story of GBALI: Gilman Black Alumni Give Back and Gain Purpose

// We wanted to find a way to give back,” says Kumasi Vines (1996). He and classmate Chaz Howard (1996) had seen different kinds of alumni clubs at their respective universities, and it inspired them, “to organize Black alumni of Gilman and to create a vehicle that would allow for giving back to the next generation,” Howard says. That was the impetus in 2005 for the two friends founding the Gilman Black Alumni Leadership Institute, known as GBALI.

“Our experience at Gilman showed us how folks from different backgrounds, given the opportunity to be in the same space, can develop great relationships,” says Vines. So Vines and Howard, along with Terrance Whitehead (1995), Karlo Young (1997), and other classmates, met with leaders at Gilman, who gave them an immediate green light on using school facilities for the program. Howard notes that the administrators who came later deserve credit as well. “Not only have they permitted GBALI, but they have affirmed it and cheered for it. I think that’s a testament to the school’s desire to be a welcoming place.”



(left to right) Terrance Whitehead (1995), Rev. Chaz Howard (1996), Kumasi Vines (1996) and Karlo Young (1997) at GBALI's 10th anniversary celebration in 2015. Photo courtesy of Gilman

In GBALI's first year, the program ran nearly every Saturday from October through March to lead a coed mix of 12 high school students from Gilman and surrounding public and private schools. After that first year, GBALI began to expand, in numbers, outreach, leadership and content. In recent years, the roster has hovered at around 35 to 40 students.

At each Saturday session, after breakfast and an icebreaker game, they get right into the content, which consists of a presentation followed by related hands-on activities. “On paper, it sounds like school, but we pride ourselves on not being like school,” says Whitehead, who, notably, travels to Baltimore from northern Virginia nearly every Saturday GBALI is in session.

The topics include navigating college admissions, learning money and time management, developing a network of authentic connections, and building relationships. In addition to lessons at Gilman, a large part of the institute is exposure, a concept Young introduced, in part because he did not have anything like it when he was growing up. They take the students on field trips to college campuses and different places of business. Howard says, “It creates possibilities. It creates dreams.”

It's not just students who gain value from their GBALI experiences. The leaders running the program are equally moved. Reflecting on what motivates Whitehead to wake up early to drive nearly two hours to Gilman on many Saturdays for nearly two decades, he talks about his life's journey. Having grown up in west Baltimore, transferring to Gilman for upper school, matriculating at the University of Pennsylvania and moving up in his tech career to his current position at Google, he notes, “Through that entire process, someone helped me.”

Howard points to his Gilman education as the inspiration for the institute. “Our teachers tried to instill in us the importance of service, and that's what I think of when I think of GBALI,” he says. “It's a spot where we pour into the generation that's coming up after us just like people poured into us.” ❖

Read the full version of this article at gilman.edu/the-story-of-gbali.

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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Self-Expression Through the Arts at GFS

At Garrison Forest School (GFS), students find ample opportunities to explore their interests in the arts. From the visual arts to dance, music and theater, students can express and embrace their authentic selves while being mentored by caring faculty.

"The arts departments at GFS are so special because of our teachers," says Caitlin Selzer, upper school visual art teacher and visual art department chair. "Not only are they experts in their artistic fields, but they are also amazing teachers. They are responsive to student needs and are perpetually learning and working to make themselves better teachers and artists."

Visual Arts: From painting and photography to jewelry-making, artists of all skill levels and interests are celebrated and



The GFS spring musical this year, Mamma Mia, was a huge success. Photo courtesy of GFS

supported in their endeavors. Artists have access to a photo lab, woodworking and jewelry-making equipment, and a Maker Space equipped with 3D printers and other devices. The love of art and creation extends to the youngest student artists, who are often working on interdisciplinary projects designed to weave art into the broader context of what they're studying. Each year, GFS

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



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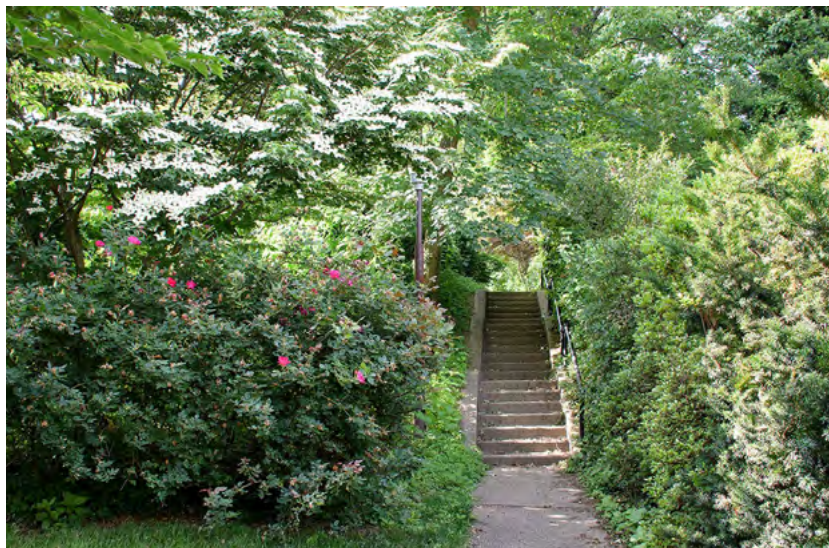
Hudson's Corner

By Kathy Hudson

Some call them the secret paths of Roland Park. But there's a reason that the network of footpaths in our community is not easily seen. For the most part, these 18 paths traverse the interior streets of the neighborhood. They are a hallmark of Roland Park, one of the first "garden suburbs" in the United States, accessible to the city by public transportation since its inception.

The footpaths were the brainchild of the Olmsted brothers, who became involved in the design of Roland Park 10 years after its 1891 beginnings. Instead of seeing the hilly terrain and ridges as a liability, John C. and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., turned them into an asset. They followed the natural topography to create picturesque, curved streets and cul-de-sacs, minimizing disruption during construction, maintaining the woodland and reducing building costs.

The footpaths were part of a classic design concept of the Olmsteds' father, Frederick Law Olmsted: a hierarchical, well-integrated network of roadways to create aesthetically pleasing central boulevards (University Parkway and Roland Avenue) with wide sidewalks, curved residential side streets with less



Roland Park's footpaths connect neighbors. Photo courtesy of Roland Park Civic League

wide sidewalks, service lanes behind the houses and single-file footpaths that connected residents to public transportation and to one another. Since their installation, they have been used continuously, albeit for different purposes.

Being able to walk easily through the neighborhood was important to the Olmsteds. They believed that community was an extension of family. Connection was important. They also believed that being in touch with nature benefitted human beings. Their philosophy makes their Roland Park design relevant today and one that is studied by urban planners worldwide.

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Roland Park Footpath Map

For a map of the footpaths, go to rolandpark.org/community-resources/maps-paths and click the link to download a PDF.

The footpaths were an intimate and charming feature. Like the street names, footpath names had a country ring: Hilltop, Tulip, Squirrel and Laurel. Others were decidedly British: Audley End, Tintern, St. Margaret's and Litchfield—names of English country houses. The Roland Park Company thought that creating a bucolic neighborhood within reach of the city would draw residents to their first Baltimore development.

Footpaths were also practical. They cut across the ridges and reduced the walking distance from one street to the next. They made it easier to visit other families and to reach community churches, schools, businesses and stables (later, car barns). Most importantly, they made it easier to reach public transportation to the city: the Lake Roland Elevated Railway that ran down Roland Avenue, the Baltimore and Lehigh Railway (later, "the Ma and Pa") along Stony Run, and the Baltimore and Northern Railway on Falls Road.

Today, some footpaths have been discontinued for security reasons. Several leading to Keswick Multi-Care Center and the former site of Roland Park Country School, where Roland Park Place stands today, have been closed, as has one next to our Ridgewood Road house that originally provided access from Long Lane to Cold Spring Lane and Evans Chapel Road, where one of the community stables stood.

Today, fewer residents use public transportation, yet footpaths continue to take us to bus stops on Roland Avenue and Falls Road. Students use them to reach Baltimore Polytechnic Institute and Western High School, and to reach the schools on Roland Avenue. Residents use them to reach the bank, clothing shop and restaurants at the Roland Park Shopping Center, first designed as the "business block" to keep a commercial area in one central spot. Residents still use the paths to reach others' homes and for exercise.

Walking the footpaths has taken on new meaning for my husband and me since COVID began. For years, our daily walks were primarily along Roland Avenue, up and back to the Roland Park post office, occasionally down Roland Avenue to Somerset Road and home again.

During COVID, Roland Avenue was so crowded it felt as if we were walking in an Easter parade. On days when we felt isolated, Roland Avenue was a perfect antidote. We'd see dozens of neighbors, extending our walk from an hour to at least two.

On days when exercise or continued solitude felt best, we switched to Long Lane (the longest in Roland Park), then Beechdale Road to Roland Avenue. Sometimes, we walked Ridgewood Road to Boulder Lane, then up Sunset Path (good cardio) to Tulip Path, Upland Road, Carlowe Road (which resembles a lane) and the ancient steps at the back of Carlowe Road. Those steps once connected residents to the community stables that later became a community car barn and today is the Roland Park Condominiums garage. The steps lead to Sumac Lane then Long Lane.

These back routes on side streets, lanes and footpaths are usually quieter and quicker. They have fewer pedestrians and offer a variety of scenery and terrain.

In 1991, to celebrate the community centennial, Roads & Maintenance refurbished the paths. Most were marked by cedar posts and handmade white oak replicas of the original breadboard signs. Now, almost 30 years later, the signs and paths again need refurbishing.

At the annual meeting of the Civic League in May, Board President Claudia Diamond said the coming year would be designated "The Year of the Paths." Slated for refurbishment are two, possibly three paths. The first is the winding yellow brick path, Kittery Path, which runs from the north side of University Parkway across Centennial Park, through the dell, to the south side of University Parkway. It's always reminded me of the yellow brick path to Oz, but its magic is fading. Its bricks are a jumble.

A second path slated for repair is Laurel Path in the northwest section of Roland Park, where the paths are steeper and often link one to another. Laurel connects to Squirrel, which connects to Hilltop. Unsurprisingly, Laurel is still bordered by mountain laurels and rhododendron. If funds permit, Squirrel Path may also be refreshed.

The canopy of the shade trees over the footpaths keeps them cool and green in summer. Walking them feels like a quick trip to the country, with the bonus of an architectural tour of Roland Park. Walking the doglegs, steps, hills and flat stretches of the footpaths never grows old. ❖



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Ecojustice and Outdoor Education at Friends

By Edith Dietz, Friends School Class of 2016
Article originally published in *Friends Magazine*

Friends School recently offered an Ecojustice and Outdoor Education course, taught by Nina Dietz (2016). A “lifer” at Friends, Dietz was thrilled to “come home” and have the opportunity to pass on her passion for environmentalism to the next generation of students. Working closely with Joshua Ratner, upper school English teacher who has worked extensively with the school’s Native Plant Teaching Garden, Dietz designed the course to introduce interested students to climate justice and local ecology.

With a small initial cohort, the course was tailored to the interests of the students. The group took a keen interest in the stewardship of the Friends campus, which led to an



The course was tailored to the students’ keen interest in the stewardship of the Friends campus. Photo courtesy of Friends



Friends School
BALTIMORE • 1784

extensive restoration of the trail running from the school’s tennis courts to Stony Run. This involved clearing the trail itself; cutting “windows” in two invasive species, English ivy and porcelain berry, so the invasives die back and the surrounding trees can thrive; and, most importantly, clearing back the poison ivy at least four feet on either side of the trail. The trail became a clearly defined

and appealing alternative to trekking across the muddy field on rainy days. With the addition of wood chips, the trail will remain accessible for years to come.

One student took a particular interest in the local water systems, which then led another to look into the litter-collecting trash wheels in Baltimore. A broader look at plastic pollution in the Chesapeake Bay inspired the class to embark on research into the corporations most responsible for plastic pollution. The class found that 90 percent of plastic pollution worldwide can be traced back to just 10 plastic producers, the largest of which is ExxonMobil. They decided that, as citizens of Baltimore, they wanted to create greater civic engagement around this issue, so the students, with guidance from Dietz, submitted an op-ed to *The Baltimore Sun* imploring the City to sue ExxonMobile for the plastic pollution accumulating in the Chesapeake Bay.

Dietz was proud of the initiative her students showed in pursuing real-world results of their in-class efforts. “High school, at least at a place as special as Friends, is all about figuring out who you have the potential to be when you have the warmth and support of a nurturing community. It is important to take advantage of that environment to empower students to use their voices in the wider world. If you can demonstrate the power of civil disobedience and instill the instinct to stand up against injustice when people have the backing of a strong community, they will carry that confidence with them even when they are on their own. More than climate science, land restoration or environmentalism, I want my students to come away from this course with insight into their power of self-determination.” ♦

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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Word of Mouth: Recommended Contractors

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

ARCHITECTS

Melville Thomas Architects, Inc.	mtarx.com	410-433-4400
Mark Mobley Architecture	mmarchitecture.com	410-385-8570
Andy Niazy Architecture	andyniazyarchitecture.com	410-803-3396
Oak Hill Consulting, Jody Westerlund		410-382-1057
Penza Bailey Architects	penzabailey.com	410-435-6677
Place Architecture: Design	placearchitecture.com	410-337-5299
Vincent Green Architects	vgarchitect.com	410-366-9982

ARBORISTS

A-AAA Tree Service	treeworkmd.com	410-321-0921
A&A Tree Experts	aatreexperts.com	410-486-4561
Carroll Tree Service	carrolltreeservice.com	410-998-1100
Castlewood Tree Service	castlewoodtree.com	410-321-1130
The Davey Tree Expert Company (also lawn & landscape contractors)	davey.com	410-377-4002
Lasbury Tree & Shrub	lasburytree.com	410-363-8070

CARPENTERS

Greg Gensheimer	greggensheimer.com	410-961-5436
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CHIMNEY SWEEPS/REPAIR CONTRACTORS

Ace of Diamonds Chimney Sweeps Inc.	aceofdiamondschimney.com	410-477-9144
B&H Chimneys	bhchimneys.com	410-800-4298
Charmed Chimney Service	charmedchimney.com	443-286-9337
Clean Sweep	cleansweepmaryland.com	410-558-1111
Mark & Buttons Chimney Sweeps Inc.	markandbuttons.com	410-655-4367
Swift Chimney Service		443-992-5629

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Gurley Electric	gurleyelectric.com	410-668-9627
Heubeck Electric		410-235-4095

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Atlas Exterminator Company Inc.		410-296-1212
Brody Brothers	brodybrotherspestcontrol.com	443-379-8148
Pest-A-Rest		410-600-3113
Western Pest Services	westernpest.com	410-356-7128

GUTTER CLEANING AND REPAIR

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The Gutter Guys	thegutterguys.com	800-GUTTER-1

HANDYMEN

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Ray Simmons		410-978-3376

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Carrington Heating and Air Conditioning	carringtonheatandair.com	410-893-7971

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Perry Hall Heating and Air Conditioning	perryhallhtg.com	410-256-7285

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American Contracting	american-contracting.com	410-494-0900
ATH Home Repair and Improvement	athhomeimprovement.com	443-690-5129
Bay State Contracting, Inc.		410-812-9225
Bob Tuttle Roofing & Remodeling		443-418-4067
Juan Caceda		410-564-4641
Crossroads Building Inc.	crossroadsbuildingmd.com	410-472-2754
Custom Requirements of Maryland	customrequirementsofmarylandinc.com	410-542-9628
DeGraw Design + Build	degrowdesignandbuild.com	410-329-3500
Delbert Adams Construction Group	dacgllc.com	410-583-7575
Dennis Designs		240-535-2546
Design to Finish	design2finish.net	717-495-9997
Diggian Renovation Inc.	diggianrenovation.com	410-254-1074
Federal Hill Kitchen, Bath & Closet	federalhillkbc.com	410-783-1992
Fick Bros. Roofing & Exterior Remodeling Co.	fickbros.com	410-889-5525
FitzGerald Design Build/Patrick FitzGerald	fitzdesignbuild.com	443-838-4095
Franklin & Alexander	franklinandalexander.com	410-494-1635
Fulton Construction, Inc.	fultonconstructionmd.com	443-463-4775
Greenbuilders Inc.	greenbuilders.com	410-472-7072
Greenleaf Construction/Greenleaf Home Services	greenleafbaltimore.com	410-207-0344
LAB Restoration, Louis Blankenship		410-303-8554
Plumb Construction	plumbconst.com	410-557-4310
Pyramid Homeworks	pyramidhomeworks.com	443-829-2738
Randlett Construction LLC	randlettconstruction.com	443-277-8290
Rock Solid Builders	rocksolidbuildersonline.com	410-486-1955
Rodgers Home Improvement		443-929-3761
SouthFen	southfen.com	410-526-6008
Taylor Made Custom Contracting	taylormadecontracting.com	410-557-0322
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Lela Knight Interiors	lelaknightinteriors.com	410-303-5806
Redhead Design	redhead-design.net	410-440-2065

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Broadleaf Nurseries	broadleafnurseries.com	410-343-0169
Green Fields Nursery and Landscaping Company	greenfieldsnursery.com	410-323-3444
Hemphill's Garden and Aquatic Center	pondpals.com	410-803-1688
HMD Landscaping	hmdlandscaping.com	410-243-9993
The Lawn Crew		410-882-3356
Maple Creek Landscapes	maplecreeklandscape.com	410-790-3901
Ismael Martinez		443-806-6628
Maxalea Inc.	maxalea.com	410-377-7500
Michael's Irrigation Inc.	michaelsirrigation.com	410-557-8580
Pinehurst Landscape Company	pinehurstlandscape.com	410-592-6766
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Summer at RPEMS

Summer is busy at Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS) in 2023, with some big changes on the horizon and some big projects in the works.

The process to replace Brown has begun, with the hope being that a new principal is there to greet the students returning to school in August.

After two years of raising money to update the RPEMS library, the project gets underway this summer and will be completed by the return to school. The library will be reorganized with new furniture, from seating to shelves, paint, books, technology and more. Designers who specialize in projects like the library have planned a bright, cheerful refresh and update that will surely make a warm welcome for our students.

In May, the school celebrated the 95th annual May Mart with a festival of games and prizes, food, vendors and fun. The annual tradition has helped raise money to support a variety of activities for decades. One beloved feature is the uniform sale. Families donate used uniform pieces and band performance clothes, which are then resold at May Mart at very reasonable prices, saving families money and keeping clothes in use and out of the landfill. Everything that is left at the end of the sale is donated to other schools that use the same uniform colors.

Another annual school tradition is the Roland Park Annual

Fund (RPAF) fall fundraiser, running and walking together at the Baltimore Running Festival. Anyone interested in being a team sponsor with a company or business logo on the team's shirts should reach out to aprilspraynewton@gmail.com to get started. The shirts will be seen on 150 backs at the race and will be in circulation for years afterward throughout the city.

The RPAF will spend summer reflecting on a successful year of supporting field trips for several grades and showing RPEMS teachers how much the community appreciates their dedication to students with regular luncheons and treats just for them. In addition, RPAF and PTA collaborated on events all year long for everything from dances for every grade, including the tiniest of our students, incentives for some grades to enjoy special activities and events for positive behavior, and the Spring Clean that spruced up the school grounds from front to back.

The community is enjoying some summer fun now while work continues at the school building so we will all return refreshed and ready to learn in August. ❖

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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Bryn Mawr Launches STEM Fellowship

Six rising seniors have been selected as the inaugural participants in Bryn Mawr's new STEM Fellowship Program. The opportunity will give students hands-on, real-world research opportunities in some of Baltimore's leading STEM colleges and universities.

With partners at Johns Hopkins Medicine, Stevenson University, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Johns Hopkins University and University of Maryland School of Medicine, students will spend six weeks this summer conducting biomedical research, working in a molecular neurobiology research lab on a project related to brain aging and injury, investigating potential metal pollution in the soil, examining signaling pathways in cancer cells and more.

"The professors our students will be working with are some of the most enthusiastic scientists and researchers I've had the pleasure of meeting. Bryn Mawr students will work alongside current college undergraduates [and] PhD students, and [will] have the opportunity to network and meet potential long-time mentors in their fields," says Shanae Giles, Bryn Mawr assistant director of college counseling and program organizer.

Ella DeLong (2024) will be working in a lab at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy this summer, where she will collect soil samples from throughout Baltimore City to examine the heavy metal content, and make connections between findings and Baltimore's historical past, metal pollution and social justice.

"I applied, hoping to be able to spend some time this summer learning about the professional side of chemistry and biology. I know that, in college, I will probably go into those fields and this will give me first-hand experience," DeLong explains. "I'm really excited because it combines the biochemistry that I'm interested in with social justice issues."

The STEM Fellowships are an action step under Bryn Mawr's new strategic plan, *Bryn Mawr, Beyond*, which aims to "bring Bryn Mawr to the world, and the world to Bryn Mawr."

"This is an exciting step under the Engaging and Extending pillar of our strategic plan, which challenges us to expand experiential learning and broaden opportunities for partnerships in Baltimore," says Sue Sadler, head of school.

Following their six-week summer experience, selected fellows will also meet throughout the year as a cohort to learn from each other and present a symposium-style poster to share with the community following their summer experience. ❖



The inaugural class of STEM fellows from Bryn Mawr: rising seniors Elisabeth Stevens, Bianca Hessler, Aara Sampath, Emily Yang and Ella DeLong. Not pictured, Cadence Cherot. Photo courtesy of Bryn Mawr

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.



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Co-ed infant and preschool

brynmawrschool.org

Waldorf: Constructing the Universe

By David Kandel, Origami USA Board Member and Middle School Mathematics Teacher, Waldorf School of Baltimore

I came to Waldorf School of Baltimore (Waldorf) originally because we enrolled our two daughters in this school. Long before we ever heard the expression “Head, Hearts, and Hands,” we knew we had to find a school that lived this philosophy, which believed in the idea of a beloved community and a just and caring world.

As I watched my daughters in the youngest grades, I was moved by how gracefully and powerfully math and art were woven into the curriculum, most especially over the first five years of the elementary curriculum. The handwork, the eurhythm, the art, the beeswax, the music—singing and instrumental—the games and plays, all had deep elements of “mathematical rhythm” in them.

I had studied lots of child development in college and graduate school, and came from a long line of New York City Public School teachers, so I had—in my genes—come to know about good pedagogy.

What I found in the math curriculum at Waldorf just sang to me. I was a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Their national pedagogical standards are marvelous and common sense, and some of the best for any subject in the country. They fit in and around what was taught at Waldorf. Too bad more schools didn’t have this approach for their students. So when I was approached to examine and refresh the middle school math curriculum all those years ago, I jumped at the chance.

There is so much math to learn in middle school. It is as if our math brain has to be retooled all over again for the larger and more complex world students are coming into from the lower grades. How to fit it all in, how not to be a sausage stuffer, how not to kill and drill, how to be present with artistic impulses that illuminate the beauty of math, and how to excite and challenge students to make math an everyday subject.



Kandel teaches middle school mathematics, including origami, at Waldorf. Photos courtesy of Waldorf



No small task. But it came pretty easily to me, partly from my own excitement and partly from the tremendous encouragement and support of the amazing atmosphere of teachers, students and parents who encouraged flexibility, innovation, collaboration and the infusion of arts in everything we do here.

I will briefly mention two areas of the geometry curriculum that especially inspire me, helped transform me as a teacher, and made being a part of this faculty and school such a richly rewarding experience.

First, compass and straightedge construction—a gift from the Greeks over 2,000 years ago. Just a compass and a straight line (the edge of a book, table, piece of wood). Two simple tools and the mathematical world around us can be inscribed in the sand, as it were. Second, paper folding, or the ancient art of origami. This whole field is being reinvented in part through mathematical origami, which also tries to fold the geometry world around us.

A century ago, one of the marks of an educated person was a comfort and familiarity with geometry. Geometry has suffered over the last century. But Waldorf schools have kept this compass and straightedge tradition alive, rich and vibrant as it has been for over 2,000 years. This topic is now relegated in most middle and high schools to a few pages, at best, in most textbooks. But at Waldorf, I take pride that during their middle school years, on a regular basis, students can be found with these simple tools, walking in the paths of 2,000 years of geometers as they learn to draw the world around them with logic and rigor.

Another area that has been allowed to flourish at this school is origami. When I first taught here, I saw how useful the new mathematical origami studies were—how to fold two- and three-dimensional mathematical figures. By doing this work, students could discover all the basic elements of Euclidean geometry. I became so excited about origami, and studied it so much, that now I serve on the board of Origami USA, this country’s largest origami association. I feel truly blessed to teach mathematical origami at this Waldorf, and to watch with great pleasure as I see students actively engaged in learning the complexities of geometry through their own constructions.



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

Boys' Latin Students Build Confidence Through Public Speaking

By Joyce Barnett

At Boys' Latin, we understand the importance of public speaking in helping students build confidence, develop leadership skills, and express their ideas and opinions. That's why we intentionally focus on public speaking for all of our boys, from our youngest learners through our seniors and every grade in between.

For most people, the thought of speaking before an audience is terrifying. At Boys' Latin, we give our boys opportunities to become comfortable in front of their peers from an early age. Head of lower school Greg Schnitzlein notes that, "We strive to provide opportunities for our boys in all aspects of their school day to confidently share their thoughts and ideas in an environment that celebrates them as individuals. An all-boys environment allows them to feel supported by their teachers and encouraged by their classmates."

Whether it's the kindergartner speaking during morning meeting, a 3rd grader running for the student council or a 5th grader presenting his culminating project about a personal connection to the school's motto, there are myriad chances at every grade level for a student to be heard—to stand before an audience and present his thoughts confidently and clearly.

"We are proud that every one of our boys will formally speak at an assembly before the entire middle school at least once during each school year," says middle school Head Pen Vineyard. Sixth grade students speak on current events, choosing a timely event or person to present. Seventh graders discuss multicultural events, with topics ranging from Ramadan to Black History Month. The culmination of the middle school program is the personal speech given by every 8th grade student on a topic important to him. Vineyard adds, "The boys are incredibly supportive of one another—it is always heartwarming to see classmates



There are myriad opportunities for students to speak before their peers at Boys' Latin.
Photo courtesy of Boys' Latin

approach the speakers when assembly ends to congratulate them on their performance."

In upper school, the opportunities are boundless. Campaign for a class office, present during an assembly, participate in Model UN on the It's Academic team. Again, the culminating presentation is the senior speech. Given before the entire upper school, our seniors speak on a very personal topic, confident in the knowledge that they are supported by faculty and peers alike. ♦

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.

WALDORF SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Archimedes, the famous and very Ancient Greek mathematician, said, "Give me a lever and a place to stand, and I will move the world." I would like to think that, at Waldorf, we can say, "Give me a compass, straightedge and some paper to fold, and I will construct the universe for you." ♦

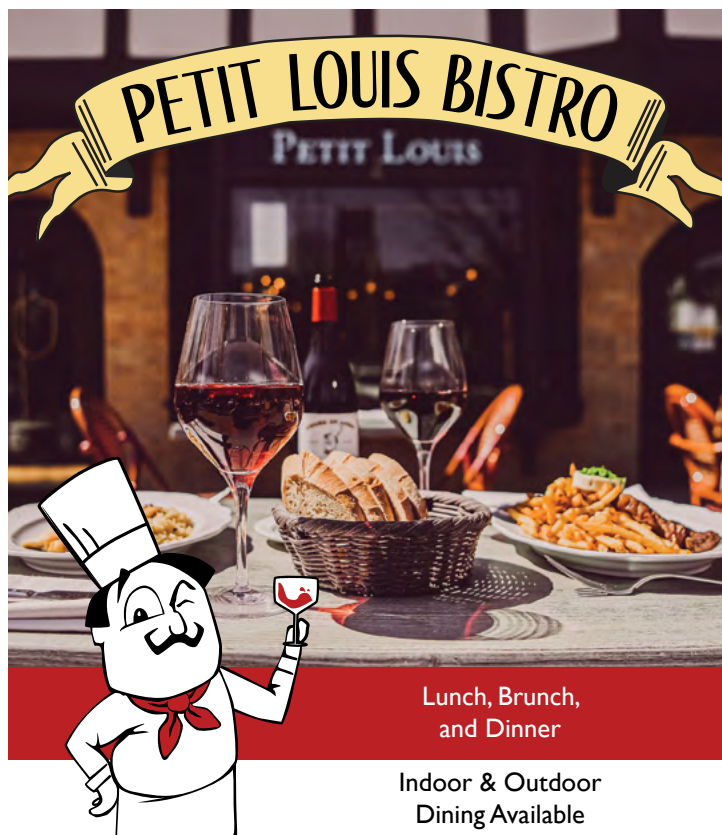
Voted Parent's Choice, Best Preschool, the Waldorf School of Baltimore (waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org) is tucked behind Cylburn Arboretum at 4801 Tamarind Road. Their Children's Garden serves children two-and-a-half to 5 years of age. A Parent and Child Program is available for families of children 10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

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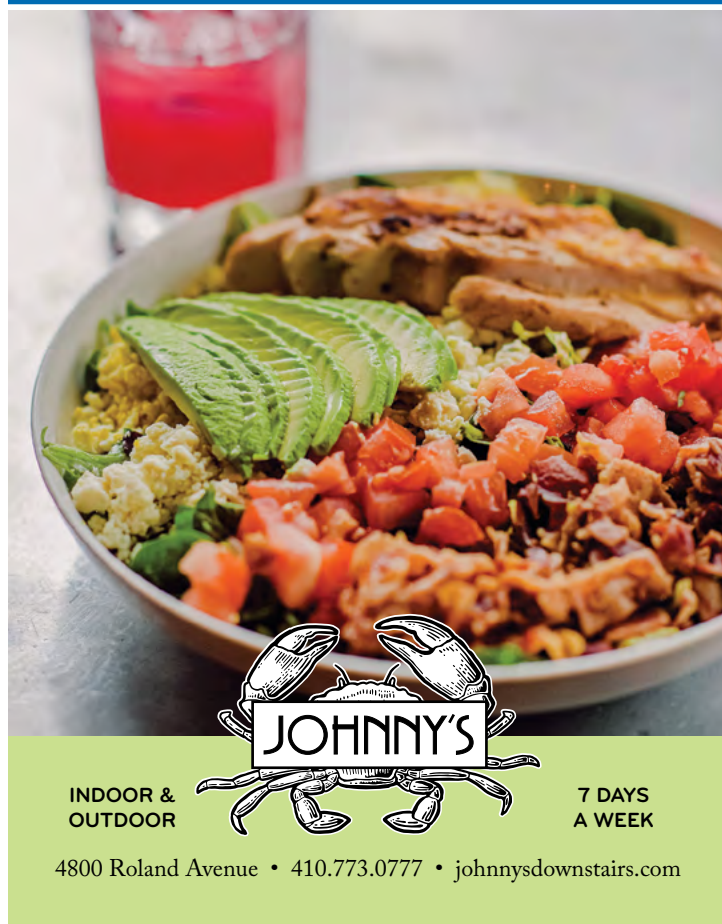


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GARRISON FOREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

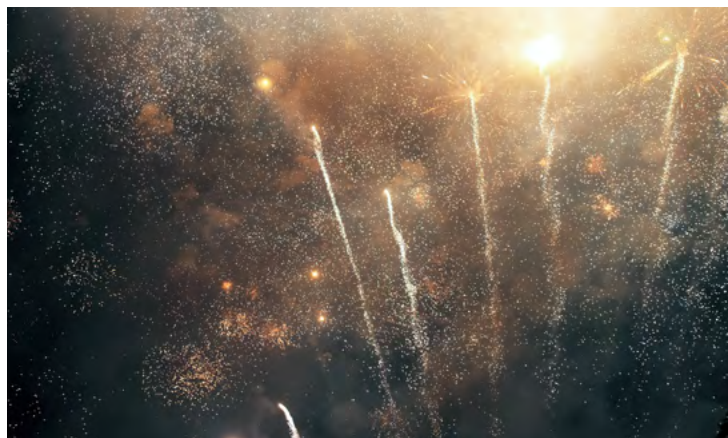
holds a community-wide Art Walk, where work from students of all ages is on display throughout campus.

Dance: Combining creativity, power and grace, student dancers learn proper form and hone their techniques in a variety of dance styles. They're encouraged to embrace their sense of self-expression and creativity, and sometimes even contribute to creating choreography. Dancers can participate at any skill level, and more experienced dancers may join the middle or upper dance companies. Throughout the year, dancers have the opportunity to showcase their talents during performances and programs, culminating in the spring with the annual upper school dance performance. Younger students complete several weeks of dance during Riding, Polo and Dance rotations in 4th and 5th grades. This unique program is meant to introduce younger students to interests they may not have experienced yet.

Music: Across divisions, GFS students have many opportunities to learn about and create music and perform. Older students can choose from several vocal groups as well as bands, while younger students have a rich and robust music curriculum designed to introduce them to music theory and music appreciation. Students of all ages perform at several concerts and shows throughout the year, and the upper school Ragged Robins group traditionally performs at commencement. In addition to classes and clubs, students can choose to participate in the Applied Music Program, taking private lessons in a variety of instruments or voice.

Theater: Whether performing on stage or learning the art of behind-the-scenes work as production coordinators, light and sound designers or stagehands, students can lean into their love of the stage through GFS' robust theater program. Shows range from light-hearted musicals to dramas, and all skill levels are welcomed. Each year, students step out of their comfort zones and into the spotlight, encouraged by friends and faculty as they bravely try something new. In the classroom, students can choose from several classes that will help them in their journey to the stage. ♦

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.



Mango BBQ Shrimp Deviled Eggs

Miss Shirley's Café

Serves 4 to 6.

Mango BBQ Sauce

Ingredients

1/2 ripe mango, peeled and diced (about 1/2 cup),
can use thawed frozen mango

2 cups BBQ sauce

Put diced mango in a blender and purée until smooth (you may need to add a little bit of water to smooth out). Put mango purée and BBQ sauce into a small bowl and whisk together well. Refrigerate until needed.

Deviled Eggs

Ingredients

5 large eggs	1 tsp. yellow mustard
1/2 tsp. celery salt	3-4 dashes TABASCO®
2 T. mayonnaise	sauce

Cover eggs with salted water. Bring to a boil and cook for about 15 minutes. Remove eggs from hot water and let cool, though not completely. Peel eggs, cut in half lengthwise and remove center yolk. Refrigerate egg white halves on a plate.

Crumble cooked yolks into a bowl, using a whisk to break them up. Add the rest of the ingredients and combine well using a whisk. Refrigerate until needed.

Coleslaw

Ingredients

2 cups shredded green and red cabbage, finely chopped	1 tsp. fresh jalapeño, finely chopped, seeds removed
1/4 cup carrots, shredded and chopped	1/4 cup fresh white corn
1 T. fresh cilantro, chopped	1/4 cup mayonnaise
	1 T. lime Juice
	1 T. granulated sugar

Mix mayo, lime juice, sugar and chopped cilantro together well in a small bowl. Roast corn, let cool and remove kernels from cob. Place cabbage, carrot, jalapeño and roasted corn in a bowl with the sauce. Mix all ingredients together well. Adjust seasoning to taste. Refrigerate until needed.

Mango BBQ Deviled Eggs

Ingredients

10 cooked peeled and deveined shrimp (26-30 count)	Coleslaw
Egg mix	Diced cooked crispy bacon pieces
Egg white halves	Mango BBQ sauce



Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

Place egg white halves on a platter for serving. Put deviled egg mix into a piping bag (or a plastic bag with a corner cut off) and pipe into each egg white half. Pipe each egg white half with deviled egg mix. Top each egg with a small teaspoon of coleslaw. Top that with bacon crumbles. Top each with a cooked shrimp. Drizzle mango BBQ sauce on each.

Serve immediately and enjoy! ❖

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Peach and Chicken Picnic Salad

Eddie's of Roland Park



Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park

Fresh peaches, blueberries and goat cheese complement the grilled chicken in this easy, summery salad perfect for al fresco gatherings.

Preparation time: 20 minutes. Cook time: 15 minutes. Serves 4.

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|---|
| 2 boneless, skinless chicken breasts or 4 boneless, skinless chicken thighs | 1/2 cup fresh blueberries |
| coarse kosher salt and fresh ground pepper | 2 peaches, pitted and sliced |
| 1 T. vegetable oil | 1/2 cup sugar snap peas, sliced in half lengthwise |
| 4 oz. local Bowery crispy leaf lettuce | 1/4 cup scallions, sliced |
| 4 oz. local Bowery baby kale | 2 oz. local Firefly Farms fresh goat cheese, crumbled |

Dressing

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 T. Dijon mustard | 1 tsp. fresh mint, chopped |
| 2 tsp. local Hon's honey | 1/2 tsp. coarse kosher salt |
| 2 T. apple cider vinegar | 1/4 tsp. fresh ground pepper |
| 1/3 cup extra virgin olive oil | |

Season chicken with salt and pepper. Heat grill or grill pan for direct, medium-high heat. Brush grates or pan with vegetable oil. Grill chicken on each side for 5 to 7 minutes until juices run clear when pierced and meat is no longer pink inside (about 165 degrees). Remove from the grill. When cool enough to handle, slice or shred chicken and set aside.

Meanwhile, in a small bowl, whisk together all ingredients for the dressing and set aside.

In a serving bowl, combine greens, blueberries, peaches, sugar snap peas and scallions. Top with chicken and crumbled goat cheese. Drizzle with half of the dressing.

Serve salad chilled or room temperature with extra dressing on the side.

Pair with Mirabelle Brut. ❖

Eddie's Tip: For an easy timesaver, use Eddie's rotisserie chicken instead of grilling your own. Serve with Eddie's cornbread for a delicious picnic.o.

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Artist Spotlight: Zachary Thornton

By April Spray Newton

Artist Zachary Thornton loves to get to know people, which he says fuels his passion for painting portraits. The relationship Thornton builds with his subjects is evident in the intimate portraits he creates, full of life and personality.

Thornton, born and raised in Baltimore, attended Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) and then exhibited his artwork for several years in galleries around the United States and in Europe. He eventually grew tired of the “grind” of gallery work, with complicated logistics and constant demands, and slowly turned toward painting portraits, in direct work with clients.

It wasn't an entirely new or unexpected direction for Thornton, who was still at MICA when he began honing his interest in painting people, as opposed to landscapes or abstract work.

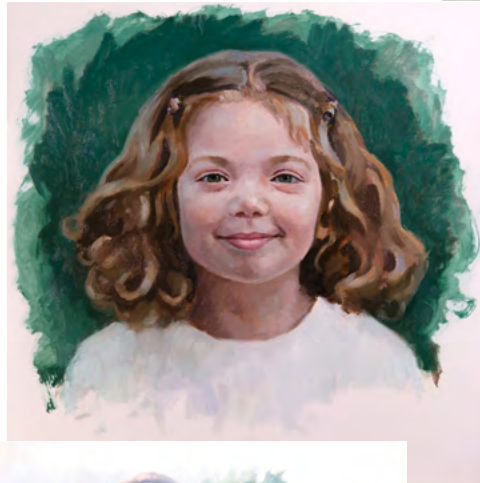
“I'd say in college, toward the latter two years of MICA, I became very into figure and portrait (painting),” he explains. “I think it's just because I'm so interested in people.”

The portraits Thornton paints are expressive and have a modern feel, while still maintaining a deep respect for the portrait tradition. Thornton describes the portrait style he has developed as “sensitive expressionism.” He spends a bit of time with the person whose portrait he's going to paint, taking dozens of photos and having casual conversations. He sees the process as essential to creating a painting that will capture a person, as they want to be seen.

“The reason I get excited about portraiture is that I get to interact with someone new and get their perspective and, in some ways, it's a collaboration,” Thornton says. “I mean, that's what portraiture is, it is a collaboration between the artist and the client.”

Thornton said he works with clients on everything from how a person is positioned in the painting, to the background they are pictured in, to the lighting and colors in the painting. He does the actual painting alone in his studio, using photos and the connection he has made with his model. A typical head-and-shoulders portrait, and the photography session to support it, starts at about \$3,500, with prices fluctuating based on how many people will be in the painting, how much of a person's body is included and how big the painting will be.

When a person contacts Thornton to do a painting, the client may want a portrait of themselves or their child, family or spouse, and everyone involved knows what the plan is and



Zachary Thornton.
Daliah – 16x16” (above left), Emily With Flowers – 36x24”
(below left). Photos courtesy of Zachary Thornton

participates in the process. On occasion, he paints a portrait as a surprise for the person in the painting, working with a client who wants to give the portrait as a special gift. In those cases, he still schedules a photo session, but he and the client work together to make it seem like that is all that's happening.

Like a lot of people who love their work, Thornton gives back by teaching art and some of his students have themselves gone on to MICA. Thornton said teaching is an important way to constantly be engaging with the fundamentals of art and process that have otherwise become second nature for him.

“I love teaching because it is always fascinating when I'm describing something that is very second nature to me, or simple seeming, but when I've tried to break it down for a student, especially to see from their perspective, it's like I'm seeing it again,” says Thornton. “I get really interested in those “simple things” that are actually pretty complex. It keeps things fresh in my mind.”

Thornton believes the complexity and singular nature of a piece of art, including his professional quality photos that are part of his portrait process, are what have helped keep people interested in beautifully painted original portraits, even in the age of selfies and now, artificial intelligence.

“Physically, the hand of the artist can't really be replicated, even with something like AI because there's no soul behind it,” he explains. “I feel like with art, you can feel the time and thought and feeling present during the process, translated into the physical piece that makes it special and unique.”

Thornton's artwork is available on his website at zacharythorntonart.com and on Instagram at [@ZacharyThorntonArt](https://www.instagram.com/ZacharyThorntonArt). To set up a portrait session, he can be reached by email at ztartist@hotmail.com or by phone at 443-413-3662. ❖

Beyond the Pages: Making Stained Glass Mosaics

By Martha Marani

Back in 2020, during the first year of the COVID pandemic, local author Robin M. N. Jones found herself with more time on her hands. Like many of us, she found that she could no longer go about her normal routines, including her work as an art therapist and private art tutor. It was during this forced downtime that she was offered a chance to teach art through a book.

"The timing couldn't have been better," she explains.

The result is *Making Stained Glass Mosaics*, which came out April 1. In it, readers find not only step-by-step instructions, but also inspiration from the examples of Jones' work and that of five other stained glass artists. All are primarily self-taught and, according to the book, "driven by a common desire for self-expression and exploration."

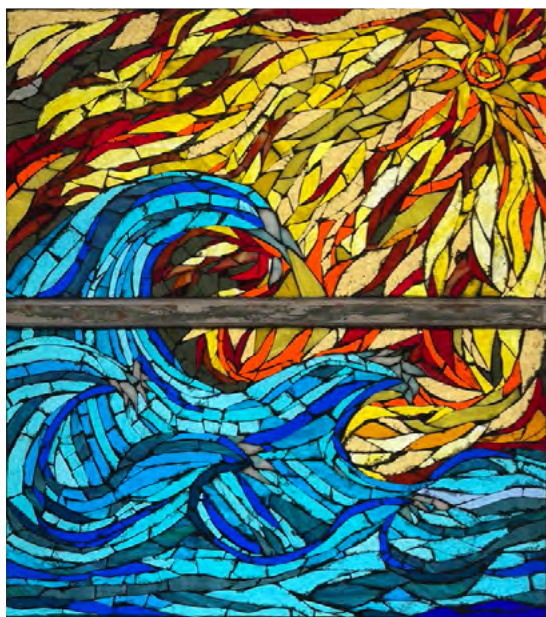
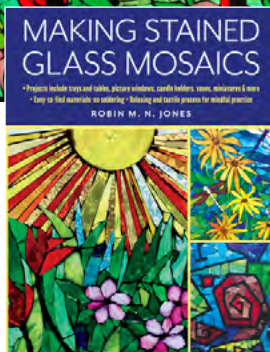
For Jones, who has been creating art for more than 40 years, making mosaics "can serve as a process of self-care, mindfulness, and fulfillment." In her book, she speaks to the novice, the artist with experience in other media (like drawing or painting) and those feeling "stuck or unmotivated" who are looking for a way to "give you a fresh start with a blank slate."

Jones has been creating since she could hold a crayon.

"It was through practicing art therapy," she says, "that I truly learned the power of artistic expression. The art process can provide access to thoughts and feelings that verbal expression cannot."

Building from the second chapter, "Materials and Techniques", Jones takes readers through a series of projects, progressing from basic to more advanced. These include quilt-patterned coasters and trivets, trays and tables, lanterns and windows.

The chapter "Miniature Mosaics" was inspired by Emory Knott. She prefers to work with tweezers and small pieces of glass, applying what Jones calls her extreme detail orientation to create miniature scenes on lockets and pendants.



Jones, a local artist and art therapist, offers step-by-step lessons on the art of mosaic in *Making Stained Glass Mosaics*. Images courtesy Robin M. N. Jones; cover image courtesy of Stackpole Books



Leonor Benitez brings her experience with wood carving, which she did while living in a refugee camp in Cuba in the mid-1990s, to her mosaics. Her tabletops and benches can be found for sale at The Carriage House on Wyndhurst Avenue.

Meredith Ormsby has always been artistically inclined, even while working as an occupational therapist. She created a beautiful mosaic of irises for a home health care client. While Ormsby sells many of her pieces, she will never part with the irises, which the family returned to her after her client's death.

Dan Patrell is a storyteller, having published a magazine on Maryland art and culture. Now he uses his mosaics to tell stories.

"The concept of story in my works is very important to me," Patrelle explains. "Most of my pieces involve some Morse code of some kind." In addition to the dots and dashes of Morse code, Patrell employs color to represent dots and dashes.

Jan Ross did not consider herself artistic, yet her first project was quite ambitious—a five-foot half-moon Victorian window. She also makes jewelry.

The book, with the beautiful work of Jones and the other artists, offers both inspiration and practical advice on how to create stained glass mosaics—something Jones refers to as a meditative practice. According to Goodreads, "Sorting, cutting, and placing glass is both a mental and tactile experience that calms and focuses the mind."

Interested in learning how to make mosaics from glass? Jones will demonstrate—and sign books—at The Ivy Bookshop (5928 Falls Rd.) on July 1 from 11am to 1pm. ❖

The Book Nook

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

Welcome to The *Book Nook*! Please read below for a list of programs coming up at the Roland Park branch, as well as several reading recommendations from the library staff.

Programming (details at calendar.prattlibrary.org)

For Kids

- 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 must call 410-396-6099 to register.
- Thursdays at 10:30am. **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.
- Jun. 1-8 **Celebrate Pride.** Come celebrate Pride Month at the Roland Park branch. Make your own rainbow windsock to show your pride and spread love in your community. All supplies will be provided on a first come, first served basis, while supplies last.
- Jun. 3, 11:00am. **Community Reads: *King & King*.** Community Reads is a non-profit founded to teach kids in grades K-2 about diversity through literature. The program includes reading a book with a main character who identifies with a marginalized community, discussing what's happening to ensure students understand and enjoy it, and creating a fun activity that relates to the book! You can learn more about them at ourcommunityreads.org/reading. Participants will receive a *free* copy of the book. Supplies are limited to a first come, first served basis.
- Jun. 21, 1pm. **Summer Break Baltimore: Bubble Lady.** Join us for a fun, interactive experience. Learn about science as you see a "smoky" bubble, a bubble in a cube and a helium bubble!
- Jul 19, 1pm. **Decorate your Own Bookmarks.** Decorate a bookmark for all of your summer reading fun! We'll provide the bookmarks and all art supplies; you bring your imagination and creativity! While supplies last.
- Aug. 14, 11am. **Trivia Scavenger Hunt.** What is the tallest animal? What is a group of fish called? What is the largest bird? These questions and more will be answered in a scavenger hunt! Search for the answers and win a prize!

For Teens

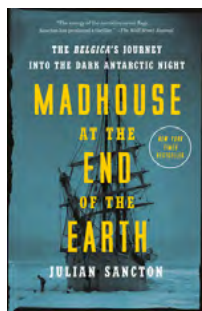
- Jun. 7, 12pm. **Anime Club.** Not sure what to do on an early release day? Visit the library! Join us for Anime Club to catch up on old episodes or discover a new series.
- Jun. 14, 3pm. **Make Candy Sushi.** In anticipation of National Sushi Day, join us at the Roland Park branch to make your own candy sushi! This event is part of Summer Break Baltimore, a fun, free program for all ages that encourages literacy and learning.

For Adults

- Jun. 24, 11am and 2pm. **Film Series: *Minari*.** A Korean-American family moves to an Arkansas farm in search of their own American Dream. Amidst the challenges of this new life in the strange and rugged Ozarks, they find the undeniable resilience of family and what really makes a home.
- Jun. 21, 2pm. **Library Tech: Libby/Overdrive.** Bring your tablet, smartphone or laptop and we'll guide you through using the Pratt's Overdrive/Libby service, a free app where you can borrow ebooks, digital audiobooks, and magazines from your public library. You can stream titles with Wi-Fi or mobile data, or download them for offline use. All you need to get started is a library card. 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.
- Jul. 22, 11am and 2pm. **Film Series: *Hidden Figures*.** Three female African-American mathematicians provide crucial calculations for NASA's space race against the Soviets, all while dealing with the racist and sexist assumptions of their white co-workers.
- Aug. 26, 11am and 2pm. **Film Series: *Stand and Deliver*.** Edward James Olmos stars as Jaime Escalante in this true story about a teacher and the unmotivated East Los Angeles high school students who he inspires, badgers, threatens and humors into learning the most demanding of all math sciences—calculus.

All Pratt libraries will be closed Jun. 19 for Juneteenth and Jul. 4 for Independence Day.

The following reading recommendations have been submitted by members of the Roland Park branch staff.



***Madhouse at the End of the Earth: The Belgica's Journey into the Dark Antarctic Night* by Julian Sancton** (recommended by Gregory Fromme, Branch Manager). This is a compelling story of polar exploration that describes the journey of the Belgian ship, *Belgica*, and its captain, Adrien de Gerlache, on a voyage to explore Antarctica years before the much more famous journey of Ernest Shackleton and his ship, *Endurance*. Several members of

Gerlache's crew, Roald Amundsen and Frederick Cook also played major roles on other polar expeditions. The book traces the epic journey of the *Belgica* across the Atlantic and Southern oceans, before it is trapped in sea ice off the coast of Antarctica. Sancton explores with great detail and insight the trials, both internal and external, the *Belgica's* captain and crew endure while being trapped in the ice during the "long Antarctic night." He also does an excellent job of connecting the dots and placing the *Belgica* voyage in the historical context of other voyages of exploration of the 19th and early 20th century. *Madhouse at the End of the Earth* provides a rich tapestry for those who are interested in the age of exploration—or for those who just appreciate an engrossing adventure story.

BOOK NOOK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

***The World Itself: Consciousness and the Everything of Physics* by Ulf Danielsson**

(recommended by Gregory Fromme). This is a short and fascinating book that blends philosophy with physics and biology and, in fact, makes the argument that human consciousness is just as much a part of the physical world as the trees and rocks we observe in the landscape around us—what Danielsson calls “The world Itself.” The author explores and makes connections between topics that range from the microscopic world of our cells and DNA to the inexplicable vastness of the universe. One of his main arguments is that, even though mathematics and our numerical system are extremely powerful tools, they have limitations and exist solely as a means for humans to make sense of the world. If you enjoy science and philosophy, put this highly readable and concisely argued volume on your reading list.



***The Artist* by Ed Vere** (recommended by Abby Lyon, Children's Librarian). *The Artist* brings a splash of color to a recently released picture book by *New York Times* best-selling author/illustrator Ed Vere (author of the Max the Cat series). A young dinosaur travels to the big city to share her artistic talent. Using the buildings and people as her canvas, she sets to work

creating beautiful pieces of art. With encouragement from her new admirers, she learns that it is okay to make mistakes and to color outside the lines! The illustrations are vivid and will no doubt spark the imagination of many young readers. Perfect for preschoolers through 3rd graders, *The Artist* will inspire kids to unleash their inner artist!

***The Once and Future Witches* by Alix E. Harrow**

(recommended by Thalia Richter, Public Service Liaison. 1893, New Salem. An alternate America, where witches were once powerful and common. Now, after the burnings of witches and their texts, witchcraft is illegal and the language of magic has been lost. Women are searching for power in a new place: the ballot box. When three estranged sisters witness a magical event during a suffragist rally, they start to wonder if perhaps the women's rights movement can include witches' rights. However, they soon discover that New Salem is home to many forces, human and otherwise, who are willing to go to any lengths to ensure that women (and witches) remain powerless. *The Once and Future Witches* is a compelling tale of sisterhood (both biological and chosen), the power of “women's work,” and the necessity of challenging oppressive regimes. Harrow's writing is beautiful and lyrical, and brings the world and characters alive. The novel is a rich, exciting and heartbreaking look at a group of women trying to change what they can about their world, with an added dose of witchcraft. ❖



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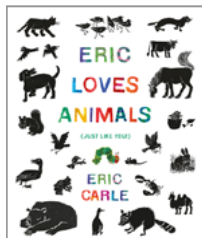
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KidLit Picks

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



Picture Books (Age 3-6)

Eric Loves Animals (Just Like You!) by Eric Carle. No one does picture book concepts better than Eric Carle! Step into his world with this ABC collection of animals, featuring lustrous colors, simple concepts and exuberant creativity. Don't let the primarily black and white cover deceive you. Open its

pages to find a book that is engaging and, simply put, gorgeous. It is a feast for the eyes and a wonderful way for little ones to learn the stepping stones of reading.

A Unicorn, a Dinosaur and a Shark Walk into a Book by Johnathan Fenske.

It is a well-known fact, backed by years of empirical evidence from booksellers and parents alike, that any book containing unicorns, dinosaurs or sharks will be a winner with kids. This one strays from the norm because its adorable tongue-in-cheek story will tickle both adults and children. A rare feat indeed! The adorable pictures and droll wit, sprinkled with a healthy dose of irreverence, will have everyone chortling with delight.



Early Readers (Ages 6-9)



Oh, Sal by Kevin Henkes. Sal, 4, feels really grumpy. She is now officially a middle child, caught between "The Baby" and her older brother, Billy, from Newbery Honor Book, *The Year of Billy Miller*. In the course of one day, New Year's Eve, we see life through her eyes as she looks for a treasured possession and the family searches for just the perfect name for their new baby girl. Pitch perfect, this is a sweet gentle early reader.

Upper Middle Readers (Ages 10-13)

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret

by Judy Blume. It is always dangerous to revisit a beloved book from your childhood, particularly one that had as huge an impact as this one. The risk, of course, is that it won't live up to your memory of curling up and seeing yourself in the story. But with a new movie coming out, the mission was clear and the book is as true and authentic as I remember. While some passages are dated, what emerges, crystal clear, is a young teen grappling with friendship, first kisses, body image, first periods, love and trying to be a good person. It is as groundbreaking and important now as it was then, and as full of heart and honesty. Give this to any preteen in your life and you will be giving them a huge gift indeed.



IvyKids Event

Jun. 10, 12 pm. A **Celebration of Juneteenth with Children's Author Carole Boston Weatherford**, The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. Perfect for ages 6 to 9, this free in-person event will be held on the patio, and will include readings from *Juneteenth Jamboree*, *Standing in the Need of Prayer* and *The Faith of Elijah Cummings*, music from the Roland Park Glee Club and Chorus, and a special Juneteenth craft. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website. theivybookshop.com

A Rover's Story by Jasmine Warga. Rez, short for Resilience, is a typical rover with one exception: he has the ability to learn and to experience emotions. Told in alternating chapters by Rez and Sophia, a scientist's daughter, the book explores the pair's adventures and feelings as they grow, widening their worlds for destinations unknown. With unique perspectives and glorious journeys, this is an intelligent, thoughtful, gentle book that follows a robot and his biggest fan as they grow up and away.



Young Adult (Ages 14-18)

My Fine Fellow: A Delicious Entanglement

by Jennieka Cohen. In a clever twist on *My Fair Lady*, Helena and Penelope are culinarians-in-training in 1830s England when they discover a talented young man selling street food. Making him their final school project, they discover inequities as they try to even the playing field. Each character harbors a secret: Elijah is Jewish, Penny is passing as White, and Helena is an



afterthought to her brother. This novel explores each issue with a light, thoughtful touch and is utterly charming. ♦

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

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

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

On June 7, the **Civic League** will host its monthly meeting at 7pm in person at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church at the corner of Roland Avenue and Upland Road (4801 Roland Ave.). Meetings will not be held in July or August.

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: Open Contemporary 5-6:15pm, downtown campus, Open Ballet 7-8:15pm, downtown campus; Tuesday class: Latin Dance 4:30-5:45pm, downtown campus; Wednesday class: Ballet for EveryBody 5:30-6:45pm, downtown campus; Thursday class: Beginning Ballet 6:15-7:30pm, Towson campus. For more information, visit peabody.jhu.edu/preparatory/ways-to-study/departments/dance/training/openclasses.

June

- Jun. 1, 10am. **Wild Walks: Foraging in our Gardens and Forests**, Ladew Topiary Gardens, 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. How many hobbies offer exercise, the beauty of nature and a tasty meal? Well, foraging provides all of these. Join Nick Spero in exploring Ladew's gardens and forest for some yummy treats. Spero is a biologist and longtime forager who teaches courses on wild edibles for the Natural History Society of Maryland. \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission. Advance registration and payment required. ladewgardens.com

- Jun. 1, 6pm. **An Evening with Hilton Carter: *Living Wild!***, The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. This free in-person happy hour event will be held on the patio. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website. theivybookshop.com
- Jun. 3, 6pm. **Patio Concert to Celebrate *Don't Count Me Out: A Dope Fiend's Miraculous Recovery* by Rafael Alvarez**, The Ivy Bookshop, 5928 Falls Rd. A life-long Baltimorean, Alvarez is a former city desk reporter for *The Baltimore Sun* and screenwriter for "The Wire." He will be joined by local musician Steve Martel. This free in-person event will be held on the patio. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.
- Jun. 10, 12pm. **A Celebration of Juneteenth with Children's Author Carole Boston Weatherford**, The Ivy Bookshop. Perfect for ages 6 to 9, this free in-person event will be held on the patio, and will include readings, music from the Roland Park Glee Club and Chorus, and a special Juneteenth craft. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.
- Jun. 13, 7pm. **Roland Park Presbyterian Church Speaker Series: Rev. Freeman L. Palmer**. Roland Park Presbyterian Church, 4801 Roland Ave. rolandparkchurch.org
- Jun. 17, 10am. **Yoga in the Garden with Deborah Quirk of the Baltimore Yoga Village**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Students will enjoy yoga surrounded by the peace and beauty of the Iris Garden. Beginner to advanced. BYO yoga mat. \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission. Advance registration and payment required.
- Jun. 18, 10am. **Hands-On Holiday: Summer Solstice**, The Waldorf School of Baltimore. Join teachers from Waldorf at The Ivy Bookshop for a festive outdoor celebration of the longest day of the year, including a story time, finger



July 4th Family Parade

Jul. 4, 10am. **Roland Park 4th of July Family Parade.**

The festivities will begin with a reading from the Declaration of Independence on the library steps. The parade will start in front of the library and proceed south down Roland Avenue, led by our local fire truck to the intersection at Upland Road. There will be popsicles for everyone and, if history is a guide, the firefighters will hook up a hose to the hydrant to cool us all down. The Roland Park Presbyterian Church will once again open its doors to offer bathrooms, water and air conditioning for those who need to cool down. Please join us in your brightest and boldest red, white and blue regalia, and be sure to decorate your bikes, strollers and pets! rolandpark.org

plays, seasonal craft and refreshing snack. Best for children up to age 7. All are welcome. \$5 per family. Register at waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org

- Jun. 22, 6pm. **Mary Kay Zuravleff: *American Ending* (in conversation with Marion Winik)**, The Ivy Bookshop. Mary Kay Zuravleff is the author of *The Frequency of Souls*, winner of the American Academy's Rosenthal Award; *The Bowl is Already Broken*, which the *New York Times* called, "a tart, affectionate satire of the museum world's bickering and scheming"; and *Man Alive!*, a Washington Post Notable Book. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.

July

- Jul. 1, 11am. **Stained Glass Mosaics Demonstration**, The Ivy Bookshop. Robin Jones is the author of *Making Stained Glass Mosaics* (see "Beyond the Pages" on p. 28). Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.
- Jul. 11, 5pm. **Evening Birding**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Explore the grounds on this Twilight Tuesday with Ecologist John Canoles to catch a glimpse of the summer resident birds before they tuck themselves in for the evening. \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission. Advance registration and payment required.

- Jul. 10, 6pm. **Sujata Massey Book Launch: *The Mistress of Bhatia House* (Perveen Mistry Novel No. 4)**, The Ivy Bookshop. Sujata Massey was born in England to parents from India and Germany, grew up in St. Paul, MN, and lives in Baltimore. She was a features reporter for the *Baltimore Evening Sun* before becoming a full-time novelist. Register by following the event link on The Ivy website.
- Jul. 15, 10am. **Native Bees**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Did you know there are about 400 native bee species in Maryland? Explore the gardens, meadows and forest in search of the many different species found at Ladew. Clare Maffei is a pollinator biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with a huge passion for native bees. \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission. Advance registration and payment required.

August

- Aug. 17, 10am. **Yoga in the Garden with Deborah Quirk of the Baltimore Yoga Village**, Ladew Topiary Gardens. Students will enjoy yoga surrounded by the peace and beauty of the Iris Garden. Beginner to advanced. BYO yoga mat. \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members for each date (price includes garden admission. Advance registration and payment required. ❖

Please send calendar announcements to magazine@rolandpark.org.

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