

ROLAND PARK news

Quarterly from the Roland Park Community Foundation • Volume Ninety-Five • Winter 2024

Roland Park: How It Got This Way

Charitable
Giving

Holiday
Gift Guide

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- i Wild Geese
- i Mary Pat Clarke (1941-2024)
- 1 Roland Park: How It Got This Way
- 3 Hillside Park: An Update
- 4 I Wish It Would Rain
- 4 Greater Roland Park Home Sales
- 6 Discover the Exciting New Additions at Cylburn's Nature Education Center
- 7 Summer Memories and Fall Fun from RPEMS
- 8 A Love of Languages at RPCS
- 9 Boys' Latin Prioritizes Engagement and Connection
- 10 Young Learners Thrive at Garrison Forest
- 11 Why Bluey's School Feels Like a Real-Life Waldorf Wonderland
- 12 A Legacy of Innovation in Education: Friends' Lower School Transformation
- 13 Gilman Debuts Refreshed Greyhound Mascot
- 14 A Bright Tomorrow: Bryn Mawr's Hazel Vogel
- 15 Recipe: Miss Shirley's Grilled Tomato and Mozzarella Melt with Artichoke Pesto
- 16 Community Building: The "Brilliant" Hilary Paska
- 17 Holiday Gift Guide
- 21 Charitable Giving
- 23 Recipe: Eddie's Pot Roast with Red Wine
- 24 Ask an Angel: Q&A with Rayjean Morgan, Founder of Marley's Angels
- 25 How to Choose an Interior Designer
- 26 The Book Nook
- 28 KidLit Picks
- 29 Calendar Highlights
- 29 Houses of Worship

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Roland Park News is published quarterly by the



ROLAND PARK
 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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

Chair: Mary Page Michel
 Treasurer: John Kevin

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

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

Wild Geese

By Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
 You do not have to walk on your knees
 for a hundred miles through the desert
 repenting.
 You only have to let the soft animal of
 your body
 love what it loves.
 Tell me about despair, yours,
 and I will tell you mine.
 Meanwhile the world goes on.
 Meanwhile the sun and the clear
 pebbles of the rain
 are moving across the landscapes,
 over the prairies and the deep trees,
 the mountains and the rivers.
 Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean
 blue air,
 are heading home again.



Geese Copyright© Kate Marani

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
 the world offers itself to your imagination,
 calls to you like the wild geese,
 harsh and exciting
 over and over announcing your place
 in the family of things. ❖

Source: *Dream Work*, published by Atlantic Monthly Press in 1986. Copyright© Mary Oliver
 Mary Jane Oliver (September 10, 1935 – January 17, 2019) was a National Book Award- and Pulitzer Prize-winning American poet who, in 2007, was declared the best-selling poet in the United States.



Photo: Anne Stuzin

Mary Pat Clarke (1941-2024)

By Mary Page Michel, Roland Park Community Foundation Chair

Mary Pat Clarke exemplifies a true public servant. Many people in Roland Park have stories about everything from her coming to their house to see a problem with a pipe to responding on the weekend to a request. You name it, she was on top of it.

For example, she was critical to the success of the Roland Water Tower restoration and the Stony Run Strategic Plan, two major projects of the Roland Park Community Foundation. In 2008, she stopped the demolition of the iconic tower by having it designated as a City landmark. For the next 12 years, she helped us navigate processes with all the relevant City departments, many of which had little interest in a water tower that did not provide water. From getting the lawn mowed to meeting with department heads, she was all in. A woman with a tiny frame, she was a giant and not afraid to speak the truth. Many people were critical to the project, but Clarke is at the top of the list.

We will miss her sage advice and strong commitment to the city. ❖

Cover: *View from a Roland Park cottage on Merrymount Road in winter. Circa 1910.*
 Source: *A Book of Pictures in Roland Park* by George B. Simmons, Copyright 1912

Roland Park: How It Got This Way

By John Dorsey

Editor's note: John Dorsey, who died in April 2008, was a long-time Roland Park resident and a great champion of our community. He wrote this article for the first issue of this magazine, which was published in the spring of 2001.

Roland Park, begun in the late 19th century and now entering the 21st, has enjoyed extraordinary longevity as a successful planned suburb. A major principle underlying its creation and its continued success is a fundamental kind of balance.

Almost certainly the best work written about Roland Park is the (unfortunately unpublished) 1990 master's thesis by Roberta M. Moudry called "Gardens, Houses and People: The Planning of Roland Park, Baltimore."¹ On its first page, Moudry states, "Roland Park's designers crafted an attractive and stable development that effectively balanced individual and communal interests." Almost 400 pages later, the work's last sentence again describes Roland Park as a "living design which continues to satisfy the human need for both individuality and community."

In between, Moudry shows how every aspect of the development of Roland Park—including its relationship to the city, its topographical layout, its architecture and its socio-civic institutions—was based on some form of balance between individual and collective identity. Let's briefly examine those four aspects of the process and see how balance was achieved in each case.

Relationship to City

Roland Park was begun in the 1890s. From London came the money and from Kansas City the managerial talent, including Edward H. Bouton, at first general manager and then president of the Roland Park Company, developers. Throughout, Bouton was the organizing genius and prime mover.

The planned suburb was formed mainly from several estates in Baltimore County, outside the city. Initially Roland Park was to a large degree self-sufficient, with its own public transportation, lighting, water and sewer services. It was promoted as a peaceful, healthy and beautiful community, distinct from the noise, dirt, disease and crowding of the city.

But Bouton was aware that Roland Park depended on Baltimore for its future, especially on its citizens to become property owners.

Advertisements trumpeting Roland Park's natural beauty, clean air and pure water also emphasized its "close proximity to the city" and its "thorough system of rapid transit—connecting you with the city proper in 20 or 25 minutes."

Later, Bouton was the man behind the creation of University Parkway, connecting Roland Park with Baltimore's principal north/south arteries. The water, sewer, lighting and rapid transit systems became parts of the larger city systems, and the entire development

As we approach settlement day for the purchase of Hillside Park, it is a great time to make sure everyone knows how Roland Park—one of the first planned communities in the country—was designed, down to the smallest detail. When home sales were slow in the late 1800s, recreation space was carved out for a club to

which all residents belonged. Sales took off. Soon, with the creation of Hillside Park, we will honor the planners' original intention—inspired by the philosophy of Frederick Law Olmsted—of creating shared community space.

*Mary Page Michel,
Roland Park Community Foundation Chair*



View over land near Falls Road. Source: A Book of Pictures in Roland Park by George B. Simmons, Copyright 1912

became part of the city when it expanded in the 1910s.

So, Moudry shows, Roland Park gradually became part of the larger community without relinquishing individual identity.

Landscape

In 1891, George Kessler of Kansas City became Roland Park's first landscape architect and laid out Plat One, east of Roland Avenue and north of Cold Spring Lane. In 1898 and after, the Olmsted brothers, son and stepson of the great landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., designed the area west of Roland Avenue and north of Cold Spring Lane—now Plats Two, Three and Six. (Subsequently, they were also responsible for Plats Four and Five, from Cold Spring Lane south to Wyman Park and from University Parkway east to Stony Run.)

The Olmsteds developed more imaginative designs than Kessler's, but Kessler's and the Olmsteds' designs had much in common. They laid out the streets and the lots according to the topography rather than in a grid plan, and created lots of various shapes and sizes, and plantings that emphasized naturalism and variety of surrounding views and larger vistas. As a result, the Roland Park Company could offer for sale an example of felicitous balance: a great variety of individual properties within overall design unity.

Architecture

Roland Park was built over a period of about 30 years, roughly 1890 to 1920. Economic fluctuations and changes in the developers' aims helped determine the kinds of houses that were built. In the 1890s, an economic downturn and the developers' desire to get going resulted in the not-so-expensive shingled cottages dotted through Plat One. A prosperous decade after 1900, plus the developers' eagerness for well-to-do people, resulted in the more imposing Colonial Revival houses on and around Ridgewood Road and Goodwood Gardens. In the 1910s, when the developers were also planning Guilford with its mansions, the emphasis in Roland Park reverted to more middle-class houses, often reflecting the Arts and Crafts style than in vogue. The result of all this is a great diversity of house size, style and siting, producing much visual variety. At the same time, the company placed restrictions on what and how one could build, to assure community standards. A house was required to cost a minimum

HOW IT GOT THIS WAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

amount. It had to be placed a certain number of feet back from the street on its lot, so that streets would be adjacent to lawns rather than walled in with houses. For hygiene, individual stables were banned in favor of “apartment stables” in a central location, and houses had to be connected to the Roland Park sewer system—no cesspools or outdoor privies.

To assure architectural standards, Moudry writes, “All site and floor plans, elevations and exterior color schemes required approval prior to construction. The design review was not used to mandate architect or style: residents were free to employ any architect, or none at all. Rather, these guidelines permitted the company to supervise architectural design on an ad hoc basis, thereby encouraging individualized design that was compatible with the lot, the larger landscape of the physical plan, and surrounding structures.”

Socio-Civic Developments

In this category, a major wrong must be acknowledged: the deliberate (but considering the period not unusual) exclusion of economic, racial and ethnic diversity. The developers, led by Bouton, wanted residents who were white, Gentile and, when possible, of substantial economic and social stature, and



A 1906 photo looking south on Falls Road with the first tee on the left. The streetcar line is to the left of the buggy. Photo courtesy of Community Foundation

systematically prevented Blacks, Jews and people of lower incomes from living in Roland Park. According to Moudry, this extended at one time (though not throughout) to deed restrictions against Black ownership or residence in Plats Five and Six. And Moudry reports that Bouton consistently advocated excluding Jews over more than 30 years.

Other aspects of socio-civic development were

more positive. As Roland Park grew, the developers provided, subsidized or encouraged a number of amenities. These included the shopping block at Roland Avenue and Upland Road; the Baltimore Country Club and the Woman’s Club of Roland Park; the private Roland Park Country School and a (then Baltimore County) public school; and Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches. These individually satisfied a variety of resident needs and collectively contributed to a sense of community. To enhance that sense, they were all placed on or near Roland Avenue within a few blocks north or south of Upland Road (the schools have since moved within the Roland Park area, the rest are where they were).

Finally, in terms of resident involvement in civic institutions, Bouton was at his most far-sighted. He gradually shifted responsibility for the community’s continued stability from the Roland Park Company to civic institutions run by resident volunteers.


The Roland Park Civic League, founded in 1895 and incorporated in 1907, in Moudry’s words “served as a vital and articulate voice for the common good.” It “became the standard bearer of voluntarism and civic awareness” and “promulgated Bouton’s original vision of a comprehensively designed development in which residents ceded a portion of their personal rights to a collective good.”

The Roland Park Roads and Maintenance Corporation was created in 1909 to assume “ownership of roads and public spaces, as well as rights to enforce deed restrictions and allocate maintenance funds.” Essentially, Moudry writes, the Civic League became a “collective voice for residents” and the maintenance corporation “a provider of services,” and with these two groups acting in collaboration “the profile of citizen administration...resembled a developed municipal government.”

Such has remained, in essence true, with the addition in the 1980s of the Roland Park Community Foundation for fundraising and area enhancement. Thus, the civic institutions created as part of Roland Park’s development reflect the balance at all levels between the individual and community aspects of this highly successful suburb. And they exist in part to promote awareness among residents that the continued vitality of the community depends in large part upon the voluntary service of individual residents. ❖

¹ The theme of this article and virtually all of the information in it, quoted and otherwise, comes from Moudry’s thesis, which she generously made available to this writer. The thesis is copyrighted by Moudry with all rights reserved.

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Hillside Park: An Update

By Mary Page Michel, Roland Park Community Foundation Chair

Settlement on Hillside Park is getting closer and closer. The seller, the Baltimore Country Club (BCC), has applied for a subdivision with Baltimore City in order to sell the property. BCC is retaining 12 acres and selling 20, so the land needs to be divided in City records. The process is underway.

The seller is also cleaning up the environmental remediation that is required before settlement. BCC worked with the Maryland Department of the Environment on a remediation plan to move the contaminated soil from the future Hillside Park side over to their side and then buried. The work started in September and was scheduled to take five weeks, so we are hopeful it is nearly finished.

One of the goals for Hillside Park is to create an environmental campus for people of all ages but especially for Baltimore students. The park is not a reality yet but that doesn't mean we have to wait to get students started on furthering their education and advising us.

University of Maryland Baltimore Country graduate students in public history completed a study last year (as reported in the spring issue, available online at rolandpark.org/news/roland-park-news). This school year, we are working with three groups of students on different projects.

A small team of Western High School students will be working with a team of graduate students from Johns Hopkins University's Student Advocacy Workshop Series (SAWS) program. The SAWS program is an after-school high school program that helps students develop critical thinking and scientific literary skills through real-world applications. It also fosters enthusiasm for civic engagement. Each student is matched with one mentor who is a PhD student, usually in the sciences or engineering. The PhD students are future professors, leaders in biotech or researchers who want to practice their teaching skills and to help students think critically. Two project ideas about Hillside Park were pitched and chosen for the SAWS program. More information will follow after the students have met with their mentors and reported back.

Advanced Environmental Science students at Friends School of Baltimore visited the site this fall. The school hopes to use Hillside Park as an environmental learning lab space for investigative projects, with the goal of collecting data to assess questions about the former and future use of the land and its impact on surrounding ecosystems. According to the Friends teacher, students surveyed the area and made observations about what native and invasive species they saw, the climate, topography and layout of the space, the connection of the waterways to the Jones Falls, and neighboring human activity. They identified potential variables that could be manipulated or observed, and their impacts on other types of data that could be collected. Students and faculty look forward to returning to the site throughout the year for general observations, group data collection and independent, long-term research projects that each student will pursue through the course.

Finally, more than 100 Baltimore Polytechnic Institute students



Friends School students survey Hillside Park for potential research projects. Photo: Laura Black



in advanced science classes—AP Environmental Science and Honors Biology—were asked to reflect on what scientific measures we should begin monitoring once Hillside Park is purchased. They were also asked for their ideas for the future park, what classes should use the site, their favorite parks and how much time they spend in city parks. Since the environmental remediation has begun, these students toured the site from across the street, but they were able to see through the fence the future environmental campus that will be.

The goal of creating an environmental campus is to have relationships with students and faculty of all ages from all different schools all over Baltimore for decades. The learning has begun! ❖

To make a donation to Hillside Park, please visit rolandpark.org/hillsidepark.

Join us this Christmas season!



Carols around the Firepit
THU, DEC 19 AT 6PM

Cozy up with us for Caroling around the Firepit on the church lawn as we share songs and holiday cheer.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
TUE, DEC 24 AT 5PM

Join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service in-person or online via Zoom or Facebook Live.

For more information, visit RolandParkChurch.org



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I Wish It Would Rain*

By Devra He'ui Kitterman

The summer of 2024 was historic because we endured an extended period of extreme heat, as did our local wildlife and trees. Three years ago, we had a week or two of very hot weather in the summer. Last year, it was a month. This year, pretty much most of the summer was absolutely hellacious. According to an Associated Press analysis of federal data, an estimated 2,300 people around the world died from heat exposure in 2023, though that number may well be higher as reported causes of death often do not take heat into consideration as a contributing factor. The 2024 numbers haven't yet been compiled, but they may be higher. This, of course, does not include the folks who, sadly, lost their lives due to massive storms, floods and wildfires. Storm effects have increased dramatically and exponentially across the planet, so it'd be wise to consider alternatives to prevent or lessen negative outcomes. In short, plan ahead.

In the Mid-Atlantic, the extended heat wave negatively affected many plants, animals—especially birds—and people. This period of brutal heat was followed by an extended period of extremely dry weather, exacerbated by absolutely beautiful, clear and sunny days with very low humidity. One could almost hear the sucking sound of moisture being pulled up off the surface of the earth and, as I scribble this, we have gone 36 days without




Kitterman installed a large rain garden on her property. Photos: Devra Kitterman


measurable precipitation. Hopefully, folks are thoroughly watering all their recent plantings and street trees because the ground is bone dry today.

This dry period was good for folks working on their properties and roofs. At my house, we finally decided to have our leaky old rain gutters replaced. (A warning to my lovely neighbors: the scaffolding required for this work damaged some of my heavily planted areas, which also made it difficult to find all the nails and pieces of metal on the ground.) My wonderful nextdoor neighbor was kind enough to lend me his Big Magnet on a broomstick

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Greater Roland Park Home Sales

(AUG – OCT 2024)

	LIST PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
110 Elmwood Rd.	\$ 525,000	\$ 535,000
841 W. University Pkwy. W.	\$ 840,000	\$ 840,000
401 Edgevale Rd.	\$ 849,900	\$ 880,000
204 Longwood Rd.	\$ 795,000	\$ 900,000
4603 Roland Ave.	\$1,145,000	\$1,145,000
300 Goodwood Gardens	\$1,249,000	\$1,200,000

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Seasonal Reminder: Leave the Leaves!

Help save our environment! Rather than bagging, mowing, trashing or burning, please consider leaving leaves in your planted beds, as all the remaining flying insects (more than 79 percent are gone, globally) have laid eggs on those leaves, with many preferring specific kinds of tree leaves. For more information about the importance of Leaving the Leaves, visit the Xerces Society's website (xerces.org/leave-the-leaves).

and I went over my yard, finding many, many nails and pieces of sharp metal that could have posed a danger to wildlife and one of my rescue turtles, Carlin, in his outdoor enclosure. Poked eyes and cut paws are not what I want for my critter friends.

One benefit of this renovation was that we were finally forced to deal with the old, blocked drains into which the gutters empty. We opted to have two of them Roto-Rootered. One of the drains pours into the area benefiting a magnificent, 100-plus-year-old tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) next to our house that I am determined to protect, as it is one of the top five pollinator trees and directly benefits many creatures. The other drain provides the largest amount of effluent off the house, but it had been blocked, seemingly, for a few years.

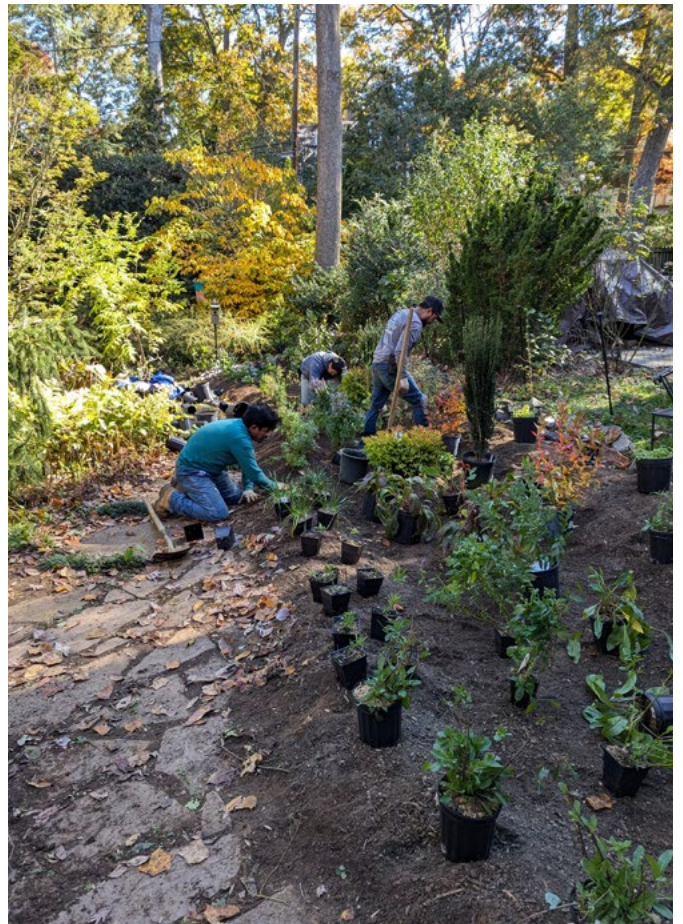
To take advantage of this new potential bounty of rainwater, which one always wants to keep on one's property, I decided to design and install a large rain garden and plant it for pollinators. I was blessed with a fantastic crew from MPM Stonework (contact at 443-547-9422 or Marcos25pineda@gmail.com), who used to staff New World Gardens, and the work was meticulously completed in about four days. I selected and purchased the plants at local wholesale nurseries and the MPM guys relocated some of the original plants in the area. I am looking forward to this rain garden becoming a highlight to provide forage for my four beehives, and the many native bees and other important insects that call my habitat-oriented yard home.

I will also be using MPM to reset our stone-and-brick curb and street gutters that have been sinking and becoming malformed during the last 25 years and that represent a very serious tripping hazard. I definitely do not want the City to come through and replace these historic structures with a concrete curb and gutter.

Finally, none of us know what the future holds for environmental protection in this country, as a new presidential administration takes over in January 2025 that has vowed to eliminate the Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Department of Education, just to start. Please consider what you can do, in actions small and large, to reduce the impact of human activity on the natural world. Please consider not using chemicals on your lawn, reducing the amount of turf grass and planting them for habitat, and saving water. Thank you! ❖

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.

* Editor's Note: "I Wish It Would Rain" by The Temptations, 1967



MPM added new plants and relocated others from elsewhere on the property.

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Discover the Exciting New Additions at Cylburn's Nature Education Center

By Brooke Fritz, Executive Director Cylburn Arboretum Friends

This year, we enjoyed welcoming visitors to our Nature Education Center (NEC) as a new destination on the property. We had 13,834 visitors in our first full year of operation—and many of whom had never been to Cylburn Arboretum before! It also warms my heart to see families, nature lovers and lifelong learners engaging with the new programs we are able to offer because of our new space. I encourage you to visit and take part in all that the NEC has to offer. As I reflect on our 70-year journey as a nonprofit organization, I am thrilled that we are still able to reach new levels.

We continue to introduce new, hands-on components that bring the wonders of the natural world to life for visitors of all ages. We want to be sure that, whether you're a regular visitor or coming for the first time, there's something new for you to enjoy!



Eagle Scout Max Niebauer built the new theater. (top)

The NEC's youngest visitors enjoy the new building blocks. (middle)

Samples from Cylburn trees are tagged. (bottom)
Photos courtesy of Cylburn



Our Puppet Theater: Thanks to Max Niebauer, an Eagle Scout from Troop 1000, we have installed our charming Puppet Theater. Designed for young children (and the young at heart), this interactive space allows visitors to watch or

participate in puppet play with woodland creatures on a stage designed to look like another tree trunk.

Building Blocks: Camp Small produced a set of building blocks for our exhibit hall, made from fallen Baltimore City trees. Visitor Service volunteer David Blois smoothed



them down for little hands and fingers. We enjoy watching visitors build towers, houses and other creative structures—so much fun with nature's building blocks.

Bark and Wood Samples: Ever wondered what makes a tree's bark feel rough or smooth, or how different types of wood vary in texture and scent? At our Bark and Wood Samples station, visitors can get up close and personal with a variety of samples from trees they can find at Cylburn. Bonus: these samples have tree tags like the tags we use.

Pop-Up Displays: You might have seen our Pop-Up Luna Moth or Pop-Up Feather displays. These and other displays give visitors the opportunity to learn about seasonal events happening at the arboretum. Our luna moth display featured vivid, larger-than-life images and real specimens of the moth, accompanied by fun facts about their life cycle, habitat and role in the ecosystem. We all enjoyed watching the delicate insects emerge.

We invite you to visit the NEC to explore these new additions and experience the magic of nature firsthand. See you soon, and happy exploring! ❖

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

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Summer Memories and Fall Fun from RPEMS

By Karen Tong

It has been a busy and productive start to the Roland Park Elementary Middle School (RPEMS) year, as we focus on our theme for the year, "Go for the gold, success is the standard!" In September, the Oriole Bird visited our scholars before a game where we filled the stands at Camden Yards. The PTA organized this community-building fundraiser, which was so successful that Principal Brandon Pinkney was honored on the field before the opening pitch.



RPEMS scholars enjoyed a visit from the Oriole Bird in September. Photo courtesy of RPEMS

The Roland Park Annual Fund had another outstanding turnout at the Baltimore Running Festival. More than 200 students, family members, staff and community members joined our team to raise money for a new STEM lab at RPEMS. Early estimates are that we raised at least \$45,000!

Seeking Sponsors for March 2025 Fundraiser

Our largest annual fundraiser event for adults, Roland Park After Dark, is set for March 14, 2025. We are celebrating the 100th anniversary of RPEMS! Sponsors are needed to support the event. To learn about sponsorships and their marketing benefits, please contact event chairperson Julia Shalen at jshalen@gmail.com.

Community Volunteers Needed at School Library

Library volunteers assist with book checkout, processing new books, shelving, book displays and more. This volunteer opportunity is for Roland Park family, friends, and community members who are over 16. Training is required before volunteering. To sign up for training or volunteer time slots, contact RPEMS library media specialist, Ms. Perkins, at mkperkins@bcps.k12.md.us.

Student Perspectives

In July, some 7th and 8th graders traveled to Costa Rica to explore the culture, history and beauty. Two students describe their experiences.

"This summer, a group of students from 7th and 8th grade went to Costa Rica. We spent eight days there. We got to experience so many new things, like ziplining, going to hot (thermal) springs, hiking up an active volcano and getting cooking classes...One of the main goals of the trip was learning

language by immersion. At least for me, I find it easier to learn any language when I am surrounded by it, which was the case in Costa Rica...Something I learned in Costa Rica was a different Spanish greeting/saying, 'Pura vida' [a quintessential Costa Rican phrase that refers to cherishing life's simplest pleasures]." Tsega Meressa, 8th grader

"From ziplining through the jungle to snorkeling with sea turtles, Costa Rica showed me a side of nature I had never seen before. Beautiful wildlife and a massive variety of plants, animals and insects were everywhere...We learned how coffee and chocolate are made, and saw how skilled artisans created their finest works...Even though I came back from Costa Rica covered in bug bites and full of chocolate, I still smile when I think about the trip and all the memories I made." June Edgar, 8th grader

Roland Park Elementary Middle School embodies the art of quality instruction by fostering wholeness for all stakeholders and authentic learning through collaborative partnerships. We empower a thriving community founded on integrity and fueled by innovation. bit.ly/RPEMS233



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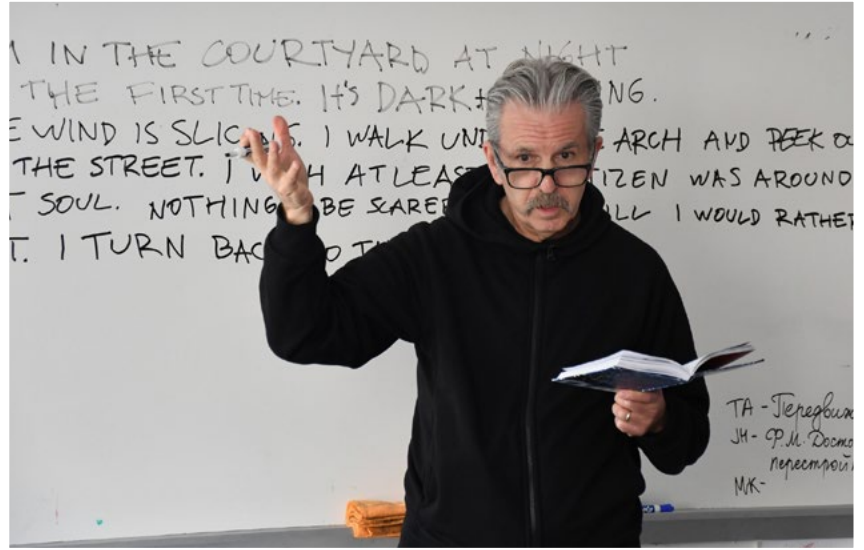
A Love of Languages at RPCS

In our increasingly globalized society, learning a second language is essential. It gives students the opportunity to connect more deeply with communities from different cultures and to learn more about the world around them. It also opens doors to career opportunities in business, national security, teaching, diplomacy, research and translation. At Roland Park Country School (RPCS), kindergartners are introduced to world languages as they learn French and Spanish, and then they focus on one language beginning in the 4th grade. In middle school, students learn Chinese, French or Spanish, and they can also take Latin as an elective in 8th grade.

In the upper school, the school offers seven modern and classical languages. French, Spanish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic are taught on the RPCS campus, and Latin and Ancient Greek are offered at Gilman through the tri-school program. Each student is required to take a minimum of three years of a world language, and they can also study two or more languages through the World Languages Certificate Program.

The Russian Language Program at RPCS

One exciting program at RPCS is a bridge-building initiative with the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East



Author Eugene Yelchin spoke at the school's annual Anne Healy Lecture. Photo courtesy of RPCS

European Languages (AATSEEL) to strengthen ties between the Russian program at RPCS with Russian programs at the pre-college and post-secondary level. Students participate in regional competitions, where they are recognized for their language skills.

“Russian has been designated a critical language for national security by the United States government, but is not spoken by enough Americans,” says Dr. Elisa Frost, World Languages department chair, who is now in her eighth year of teaching

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

Find your path at RPCS.



ALL GIRLS K-12 | COED PRESCHOOL



RPCS students follow their curiosities, pursue their passions, and challenge themselves to excel in an academically rigorous environment. Our students possess a varied range of talents, and their education reflects that diversity.

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Boys' Latin Prioritizes Engagement and Connection

By Stephanie McLoughlin

At Boys' Latin, from kindergarten through 12th grade, we're reshaping how our boys learn, play and interact. We've launched a comprehensive, school-wide initiative designed to help boys be more present, engaged and connected. This initiative features a series of age-appropriate strategies designed to provide boys with an exceptional educational experience that prepares them for college and life beyond school.

Through targeted strategies such as an "away for the day" phone policy for middle and upper school students, an unstructured play space for lower school boys, and a digital citizenship curriculum designed specifically for middle school students, we're addressing challenges facing students today and enhancing their educational experience.

Upper School

Studies show that cell phone usage in schools can hinder learning and academic performance, inhibit social interaction, and contribute to anxiety and depression. In response, we've implemented an "away for the day" phone policy, where boys turn their phones in to advisors each morning and retrieve them at the end of the day. "We began this the very first day of the school year and haven't looked back," says Headmaster Chris Post. "As a result, boys engage more fully with their peers and faculty members. Boys have gone so far as to say that they're grateful for the removal of the distraction in their pocket."

Middle School

When middle schoolers arrive on campus, the first thing they do is to turn in their phones, setting the stage for boys to be fully present and ready for the day. We've restructured mornings to allow boys to settle in with hands-on activities—like building models, playing board games, engaging in pick-up basketball or receiving individualized academic coaching—before diving into academics. This flexible start aligns with research that shows later academic starts can improve mental well-being and focus.

Additionally, the middle school has partnered with The Social Institute to provide lessons in responsible digital citizenship. Through advisory lessons, boys explore the complexities of their social world, both online and offline, and learn to navigate these spaces in a healthy, respectful manner.

Lower School

In the lower school, opportunities for unstructured play, which is essential for children's physical, emotional and social development, abound. Every day begins with 20 minutes of free play outdoors, setting the tone for an active and engaged academic day. Our new Creativity Playground allows boys to build and explore using materials like tires, crates and wood, encouraging problem-solving, teamwork and independence.

In late October, we welcomed award-winning journalist and author Catherine Price to campus for a community event. Price is the author of *How to Break Up With Your Phone* and *The Power of Fun*. Post facilitated a conversation with her on the impact of



An "away for the day" phone policy helps middle and upper school students avoid distractions during the school day. Photo courtesy of Boys' Latin

screen time, the importance of unstructured play, the risks social media poses to children and practical steps families can take to limit screen use. She also shared insights on the power of personal connections and ways to bring more joy into daily life.

Price's time with us exemplifies our commitment to leading the way in this area through targeted initiatives, always squarely focused on ensuring our boys are connected, engaged and thriving. ❖

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.

**SEE FOR YOURSELF
THE POWER OF
OUR SMALL
SCHOOL**

The best way to learn more about Boys' Latin is by visiting campus and spending time with us! Schedule a tour today!

www.boyslatinmd.com/visit

Young Learners Thrive at Garrison Forest

With 110 acres to explore, caring staff, small classes and an educational philosophy that focuses on each student's potential, Garrison Forest School is an ideal place for young children to develop a lifelong joy of learning.

All-Girls Lower School (K-5)

The lower school at Garrison Forest is where girls build confidence and critical thinking skills while learning about friendship, kindness and respect. As they move through the lower school, students encounter a strong, interdisciplinary academic program, bringing in aspects of music, art and more to deepen their understanding of the topics they are exploring. They are building research, collaboration and public speaking skills, which prepares them for middle school and beyond. A financial literacy program, including a real on-campus branch of M&T Bank that is run by 4th graders, teaches students about money mindfulness, saving and investing, while a school-wide digital discovery curriculum helps them learn to create content and build technological savvy while becoming good digital citizens. Afterschool offerings include music, band, athletics, spirit club, robotics, riding, polo, a bee club that takes care of the campus hives and a lower school newspaper.



Garrison Forest offers programs for children starting as young as six weeks. Photo courtesy of Garrison Forest

Co-ed Preschool

The preschool at Garrison Forest serves boys and girls ages 2 through pre-K. It is a magical place that nurtures and values each student's developing personality and interests while giving them space to explore. Caring, dedicated teachers work with each child, instilling a love of learning and embracing their natural curiosity and wonder. With a five-day, full-day program, the preschool also focuses on developmental milestones and introduces subjects like early literacy, math and social-emotional skills. Enrichment experiences like yoga, cooking,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Garrison Forest School

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LEARN MORE: gfs.org/visit



GIRLS' DAY, K-12 / COED PRESCHOOL
GIRLS' NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL BOARDING, GRADES 8-12
300 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117

Why Bluey's School Feels Like a Real-Life Waldorf Wonderland

If you've ever found yourself utterly charmed by the world of the show "Bluey"—and let's be honest, who hasn't?—you might have noticed the show's magical school setting. There's a good reason for that. Rumor has it that Bluey's school, Glasshouse Primary, is based on Glass House Mountains State School, a real-life Waldorf/Steiner school nestled near Brisbane, where the show is set. Whether it's true or just a delightful coincidence, the parallels are hard to ignore, especially for those of us who cherish the gentle, imaginative approach of Waldorf education.

"Bluey", an animated Australian pre-school series created by Ludo Studio and loved by kids and parents alike on Disney Junior, does more than just entertain—it resonates deeply. The show's playful spirit, deep connections to nature and celebration of the small yet significant moments of childhood speak directly to the heart of Waldorf philosophy. Though never explicitly stating "this is a Waldorf school," Glasshouse Primary will feel familiar to any parent who knows the Steiner approach. So, let's take a stroll through Bluey's world and explore why this little blue heeler pup might just be a Waldorf kid after all.

Imaginative Play at Its Finest

Waldorf education lets kids be kids, and nothing encapsulates this better than imaginative play. It's where creativity blossoms, and where a simple stick becomes a magic wand, a boat or a sword. Bluey, Rusty, Coco and their classmates dive into this kind of play with wild abandon. Every episode of "Bluey" celebrates the imagination, whether Bluey and her sister, Bingo, are turning their home into a magical kingdom or transforming a tree stump into a helicopter. It's pure, unfiltered fun—the kind that Waldorf educators know is the true work of childhood.

Learning Life's Lessons, the Fun Way

Forget about sitting still at a desk all day—Waldorf students learn by doing. And that's exactly what happens in "Bluey". Life's big lessons—like how to share, solve problems or practice empathy—are learned through play and everyday adventures. Bluey and her family don't tell kids what's right and wrong; they show them how to draw their own conclusions. It's experiential learning at its best, the kind that sticks with you long after the credits roll.

The Great Outdoors as a Classroom

Waldorf schools have long known the value of the great outdoors, and "Bluey" gets this just right. So many of Bluey and Bingo's adventures take place outside, whether they are in the backyard, at the park or exploring nature at school. These aren't just pretty backdrops—they're integral to the characters' growth and the story's charm. Nature isn't something you visit; it's something you're a part of, and that's a lesson every Waldorf school holds dear.

Where Family and Community Matter

In the world of "Bluey", family isn't just a part of the story—it's the heart of it. Waldorf education teaches that learning happens best when it's woven into the fabric of family and community life.



As in "Bluey", imagination reigns at Waldorf, nature is a beloved teacher, and the rhythms of family life shape the way students learn and grow. Photo courtesy of Waldorf

Bluey's world is filled with loving parents, supportive neighbors and friends who feel like family. It's a beautiful reminder that education doesn't only happen in a classroom—it's something that thrives in every interaction, every shared meal, every laugh.

Respecting Childhood

Perhaps one of the most endearing aspects of "Bluey" is how it respects the pace of childhood. There's no rush to grow up, no pressure to perform. This is very much in line with Waldorf's belief in letting children develop at their own pace. Each episode of "Bluey" takes its time, allowing its young audience to savor the small moments, to wonder, to simply be. It's a gentle, loving approach that says, "You've got time—enjoy it."

So, is Bluey's school really a Waldorf school? Maybe, maybe not. But one thing's for sure: this delightful show captures the essence of what makes Waldorf education so special. It's a world where imagination reigns, where nature is a beloved teacher, and where the rhythms of family life shape the way we all learn and grow. For those of us who treasure these values, "Bluey" isn't simply a show—it's a celebration of childhood, done right. And that's something every parent can appreciate. ❖

The Waldorf School of Baltimore (waldorfschoolofbaltimore.org) is tucked behind Cylburn Arboretum at 4801 Tamarind Road. The Children's Garden serves children 2.5 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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A Legacy of Innovation in Education: Friends' Lower School Transformation

Founded in 1784, Friends School of Baltimore holds the distinction of being the first school in Baltimore. Its journey began not on North Charles Street, but at the Quaker Meeting House located at Aisquith and Fayette streets. Throughout the 19th century, the school transitioned through several locations, moving to the Lombard Street Meeting House in the 1840s and then to the Park Avenue Meeting House.

In 1925, the school purchased the Homeland campus on North Charles Street, originally for athletic fields. A few years later, it made a permanent move from its downtown location. The Lower School East building, constructed in 1928 in the Tudor Revival style, is the second oldest structure on campus and remained largely unchanged for generations. To accommodate a growing student body, the Lower School West building was added in 1990.

Today, the lower school echoes with the sounds of happy chatter over math worksheets, laughter mingling with the clatter of locker doors and teachers engaging 1st graders with captivating read-alouds. Recent renovations have revitalized the



Rendering of the Lower School Library. Image courtesy of GWWO Architects

buildings, providing teachers and students with fresh, inspiring spaces to learn, play and explore.

The multimillion-dollar Lower School Transformation, a three-year project unveiled for the start of the 2024/25 school year, goes beyond mere aesthetics. Each element, from furniture to color schemes, is grounded in the latest brain science about how young learners thrive.

Gone are the traditional groups of desks. In their place, students now work at wheeled tables with innovative shapes, including amoeba-like configurations and noodle designs. Options like standing desks, floor seating and low cushions allow for varied learning styles, while wobbly stools provide opportunities for fidgeting and movement.

Brain-based educational research emphasizes that children learn best when educators have the tools and flexibility to meet their diverse needs. Throughout the day, lower school teachers facilitate group lessons, organize collaborative learning activities, guide research projects and provide individualized support. As our youngest students advance in their academic subjects, they also cultivate creativity, resilience, executive function and socio-emotional skills. The heart of Friends lies in its people—teachers and students alike—and the new classrooms are intentionally designed to support their daily endeavors.

“We had the opportunity to create a space that matched our pedagogy of being in collaborative groups by choosing furniture grounded in brain-based pedagogy,” Pre-K-8 Principal Heidi Hutchison says. “It’s so exciting to breathe fresh air back into a building that has such a beautiful history.”

Highlights of the new buildings include a new makerspace that houses the building and engineering program for the lower school, offering a multipurpose area for creating dioramas, blueprints, 3-D models and more to support class projects. Science labs offer a highly collaborative workspace where students are encouraged to observe, explore, predict and discuss their experiences both inside and outside the classroom. Whimsical murals in the hallway and stairwell celebrate native flora and fauna, bringing a touch of the natural world indoors with a nod to Stony Run. Upholding the school’s commitment to inclusion and stewardship, facility upgrades ensure equitable access to programs by enhancing accessibility routes, installing an elevator and providing accessible restrooms.



The Journey Matters.

Friends School of Baltimore is a private, coeducational, Quaker school founded in 1784 serving students in Pre-K through 12th grade. At Friends, we believe that The Journey Matters and are deeply committed to helping young people discover and become the person they are meant to be.

Schedule your visit today! friendsbalt.org/admission

Gilman Debuts Refreshed Greyhound Mascot

For the first time in decades, Gilman’s mascot, Finney, has a new and exciting look! After making his official debut via an entertaining and electric promo video and appearances at school, the new Finney has been bringing a new level of blue and gray spirit to Greyhound Nation!.

While the age and wear on the old Finney costume—which had been in service for more than a decade and replaced a previous identical costume—were factors in the Marketing and Communications team’s decision to give Finney a refresh, they also wanted to bring the greyhound’s image into alignment with other contemporary mascots like the Oriole Bird and Poe, from the Baltimore Ravens. The team’s vision for the new mascot was one that exudes strength, energy and fun. The final product hits the mark: He has features that are more typical for a greyhound; his powerful physique exhibits stability and resilience; and his own custom Gilman jersey shows his school spirit. In comparison to the old Finney costume, the new one stands close to seven feet tall, is lighter in weight and even includes an integrated cooling system.

Once the new Finney’s design was finalized, the team began thinking about how best to introduce him to the community. As part of Gilman’s Senior Encounter program in May 2024, the



Head of School Henry Smyth shares a moment with Gilman’s new greyhound mascot and his predecessor during the filming of the new Finney’s debut video in August 2024. Photo courtesy of Gilman

team looked to Logan Haerian (2024) and Jamie Howard (2024) for help. While co-writing the original script for the promo video, the pair aimed to strike a balance between respect for the old Finney, for whom they knew firsthand that many students and alumni have a fondness, while drumming up excitement for his successor. Howard got an additional opportunity to bring the project to life when he graciously donned the old Finney costume over the course of two days of filming in early August.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

GET TO KNOW THE PARK SCHOOL
PRE-K — GRADE 12 PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION

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

In science class one day, I was dissecting owl pellets and I found three skulls, and a bunch of tibias and fibulas, and I found ribs. *It was not calming — but it was cool!*

I think it is important to try new things — because if you don’t try something, you will always wonder what it was like.

— Berkeley, Grade 1



A Bright Tomorrow: Bryn Mawr's Hazel Vogel

With her big smile and bold voice, Bryn Mawr 6th grader Hazel Vogel is back on the national stage—this time as the iconic title role in the Broadway musical, “Annie”.

After making her mark two years ago as Young Cosette and Young Eponine in the national tour of “Les Misérables”, Vogel is giving audiences a new reason to cheer. Read more about her journey as she navigates singing, dancing and middle school while on tour—and don’t miss her live at The Hippodrome in Baltimore from January 7 to 12, 2025!

How did you learn you'd been cast as Annie?

HV: My parents took a video at my grandparents’ house. They said I needed to sing a song for my voice teacher and acted like they were setting up karaoke when, instead, they handed me an email and I read it and it was really emotional. I was not at all expecting to be Annie. I started crying



Vogel will perform the title role in “Annie” at the Hippodrome in January. Photos courtesy of “Annie”

because it has been one of my dream roles for a long time and I didn’t think it would happen, but here we are!

When you did “Les Misérables”, you were in the 4th grade. How do you think it will be different being in 6th grade?

HV: It works the same way. I travel with my school books and my teachers get everything up on a document by Friday and I do my work the next week. So I’m a week behind, and when I come back I’ll spend two weeks getting back on track. It’s nice because my teachers and Bryn Mawr are really good at understanding that I don’t have time to get things done right away all the time and I might need an extra day. It’s definitely different but it’s definitely working!

How will “Annie” be different from “Les Misérables” for you to perform?

HV: In “Les Mis”, I was on stage for five minutes when I was Young Éponine or I was on stage for 15 minutes when I was Young Cosette. On the other hand, there are only two or three scenes in the whole show that I’m not in as Annie. So it’s very different; I’m on stage a lot more. It’s a lot more work, but it’s a lot more fun to be on the stage more.

How do you balance schoolwork and performing and rehearsals?

HV: For performances I’m only doing the night shows. I never have to do a double-show day, but I’m on stage most of the time, so it’s tiring to be Annie. But I’ll have most of the morning free so I can sleep in, get my school work done and spend time with friends.

What’s your dream role?

HV: Well, it was Annie! But for an older role, probably Éponine in “Les Mis,” or Glinda or Elphaba [from “Wicked”]. ❖

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



To our Roland Park neighbors

Happy Holidays!

THE BRYN MAWR SCHOOL • brynmawrschool.org

Grilled Tomato and Mozzarella Melt with Artichoke Pesto

Miss Shirley's Café

Makes one sandwich.

Artichoke Pesto Yields 16 ounces.

Ingredients

- 1½ cups artichoke hearts, quartered
- 1 T. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. chopped fresh garlic
- ½ cup shredded parmesan cheese
- ½ cup rough-chopped fresh basil
- ¼ cup rough-chopped fresh parsley
- ¼ cup olive oil
- ⅛ tsp. crushed red chili pepper flakes
- Salt and pepper to taste

Drain the artichokes well and place in a food processor. Add parsley, basil, parmesan cheese, garlic, lemon juice and crushed red pepper flakes, and blend until mixed. Add olive oil and blend until all ingredients are incorporated. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to four days, until ready to use.

Ingredients

- 2 slices thickly sliced sourdough bread
- 3-4 slices fresh mozzarella
- 1 slice red beefsteak tomato
- 1 slice yellow tomato
- 2-3 T. artichoke pesto
- Butter and olive oil



Photo courtesy of Miss Shirley's Café

Spread each slice of sourdough with artichoke pesto. Add 1 T. butter and 1 tsp. olive oil to a sauté pan over medium heat and let butter melt to coat the bottom of the pan. Place one slice of bread, pesto side up, in the pan. Layer fresh mozzarella on the bread and top with red and yellow tomato slices. Take the second slice of bread and place on top of the tomatoes, pesto side down, pressing the sandwich down flat. Flip when golden (about 3-4 minutes) and brown on the other side until the cheese is melted and the sandwich is hot all the way through. Remove from the pan and slice in half on a diagonal. Serve immediately. ❖

GARRISON FOREST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

building and exploring the campus's outdoor classroom ensure fun and active movement remains an important component of each student's day. Older students participate in music, gym, science, library, languages and art. Preschool students become a part of the larger campus community, attending special events and often enjoying visits from older students, who read books or lead activities. Each day, they spend time outdoors traversing the expansive campus—including visiting the school's barns and horses and the campus pond.

Co-ed Daycare

The new daycare at Garrison Forest is a five-day, full-day program offering a loving environment for our littlest learners—children six weeks through two years old. Limited enrollment ensures meaningful one-on-one interactions, and a robust curriculum focuses on benchmarks and developmental goals while leaving plenty of time for fun, playing and exploring. Run by professional child care staff, the daycare is nestled in a quiet, tree-lined part of campus that allows lots of outdoor space to play and explore safely. ❖

Garrison Forest School 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. To learn more, visit gfs.org.

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Community Building: The “Brilliant” Hilary Paska

By Kathy Hudson

“Brilliant!” might be the expression that best fits British native Hilary Paska and the no-nonsense, “Keep Calm and Carry On” approach to her work for the Roland Park Community Foundation.

Example: Early on a weekday morning, she climbs from her car, navigates a heavy cast on her leg and pivots to grab the crutches. With a newly broken foot, she’s determined to pick up the mail for the Roland Park Community Foundation. Such is the dedication of one who officially works 16 hours a week, but who does whatever needs to be done, at any time, to guarantee the smooth running of an increasingly busy office.

“I’m the paperwork guru, although most of what I do is online,” she says with characteristic modesty. “I particularly enjoy grant writing and drafting reports on our projects, and surprisingly, preparing for the Foundation’s annual financial audit. [Yes, she enjoys audits.] The Foundation makes every dollar count, and it’s very satisfying to see how much a small community organization can achieve. I also enjoy organizing the events.”

Almost 20 years ago, her husband Tom was offered a position



Photo: Tom Paska

with Constellation Energy and they moved their family to University Parkway. “Reluctantly, I pried myself away from big-city life in Chicago, but now we’re settled in the community.”

The fact that neighbors in her plat come from all over the United States and several different countries is something Paska particularly enjoys. “Everyone has a different life experience, but what they have in common is a ‘can do’ attitude, so they get on with things instead of moaning. There’s a strong sense of community. This neighborhood is forward-looking and dynamic; it’s a great place to live.”

When their two children were very young, Paska attended Johns Hopkins University and received her Master’s degree.

After that, she wanted to be involved in something local and volunteered as a board member of the Roland Park Civic League. “I didn’t really learn how important volunteering was until I moved to Roland Park,” she says.

Paska also taught Sunday School at St. David’s Church, which she, her husband and two children attended. Son Charlie is now a sophomore at Gilman, while daughter Ingrid is a sophomore at the University of Colorado, Boulder, majoring in aerospace engineering.

When Paska became aware of the work of the Community Foundation, she volunteered. Eight years ago, she became the organization’s sole employee. “Green space and walking paths are vital to healthy city living,” she says. “I grew up in Southwest England, in the countryside, close to the moors; we had a lot of hiking opportunities. Public paths are very common there. I was surprised when I moved to the U.S. to discover that some (modern) neighborhoods don’t even have sidewalks, whereas Roland Park is very walker-friendly.”

“When we decided to put a bid in for Hillside Park, we upgraded our software and accounting packages to handle increased demand and tracking,” says Community Foundation Chair Mary Page Michel. “Hilary stepped up and learned the new programs and became an expert. She is truly the wizard behind the curtain and makes sure everything is handled carefully and conscientiously. She’s a jack-of-all-trades, able to handle a huge, diverse set of tasks.”

Community Foundation Treasurer John Kevin works almost daily with Paska. “She is often the first point of contact for donors and enthusiastically engages with residents,” he says.

And it is the organization’s involvement with greenspace, Paska says, that has made her work satisfying. “I think most people involved in the Community Foundation would agree that creating Hillside Park is the most challenging neighborhood project we’ve worked on. It has so many moving parts, from fundraising for the initial land purchase to eventually creating a park that meets the needs of all city residents. Hillside Park is a long-term, multi-generational project, and it’s been exciting to be involved at the start.”

“Hilary represents the next generation of Roland Park residents,” says Kevin. “And she sets a strong example in her community engagement. She’s one of the many unsung heroes who keep our community running.”

“Hilary does it all with her brilliant accent and British vocabulary that make working with her so wonderful,” says Michel. Yet, you’ll likely never hear Paska use the very apt “brilliant” to describe herself. It’s not her way. ❖

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



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

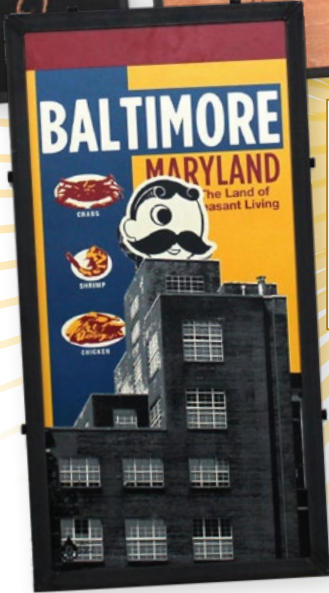
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17



"Crab Diptych," two 24" x 36" silk screen wood panels in welded steel frames



"Domino Sugar Triptych," three 15" x 31" silk screen prints in welded steel frames



Art by Barton
artbybarton.com
 Charlie Barton is a contemporary artist from Baltimore who produces hand-pulled, limited edition silk screen prints on masonite. He lives in Roland Park.

"Brewers Hill," 15" x 30" silk screen print in welded steel frame

"Roland Park Water Tower," 15" x 30" silk screen print in welded steel frame



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Iconic themed ornaments by local artist Caitlin Curtis of Dellwood Designs

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Christmas ornaments and a magnolia wreath

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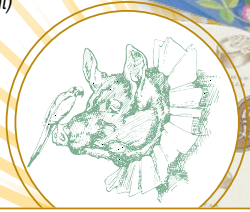
Handmade rope baskets made from cotton rope, fabric scraps, ribbon, thread, fibers and different color dyes by Roland Park artist Janine D'Adamo



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Beautiful Scarves from Paris (below) and Assorted Chocolate Truffles in Heirloom Designer Tin (right)



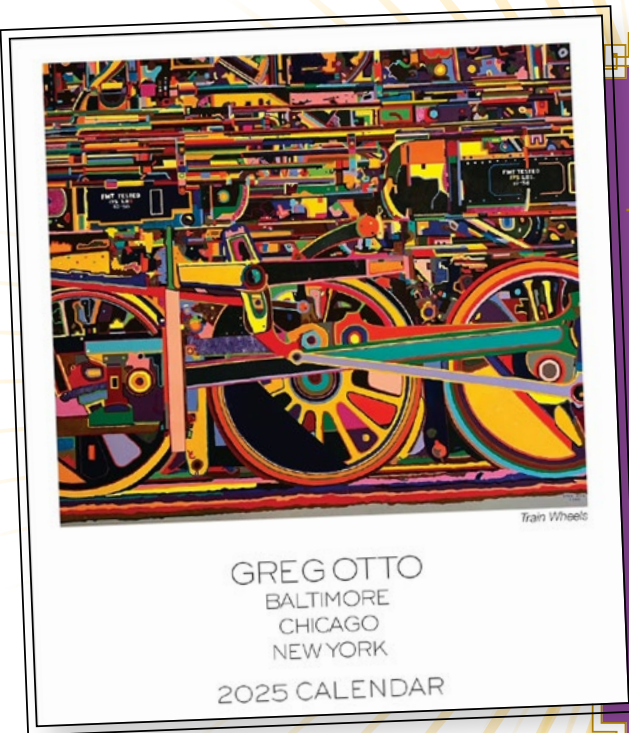
Colorful Salad Bowls with Matching Servers (above) and Pima Cotton Cat's Pajamas (below)

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American artist Greg Otto, who lives in Roland Park, is donating a portion of the proceeds from the 2024 calendar and note cards to The Sweat for Breath Foundation (sweatforbreath.org), which works to help people with ALK+ lung cancer



Charitable Giving

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

- **Roland Park Community Foundation**, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1986 to preserve, maintain and improve the parks, streams, squares, trees and other green spaces in our community. Donate by visiting rolandpark.org/organizationscommittees/roland-park-community-foundation or send a check to P.O. Box 16214, Baltimore, MD 21210.
- **Art With a Heart**, enhancing the lives of people in need through visual art. artwithaheart.net
- **B & Dee's Baltimore Love**, providing life-sustaining resources to the most vulnerable residents of Baltimore City by inspiring others to give back as well. Bdeebaltimorelove.org

- **Baltimore Family Alliance**, keeping families in Baltimore, connecting communities to create an "urban village," and empowering families to advocate for great schools, safe streets and vibrant neighborhoods. baltimorefamilies.org
- **Baltimore Station**, a residential treatment program supporting veterans transitioning through the cycle of poverty, addiction and homelessness to self sufficiency. baltimorestation.org
- **The Baltimore Women's Giving Circle**, empowering women and their families in the greater Baltimore area to achieve self-sufficiency. thebwgc.org

- **Black Women Build**, a homeownership and wealth building initiative training Black women in carpentry, electrical and plumbing by restoring vacant and deteriorated houses in west Baltimore. blackwomenbuild.org
- **Living Classrooms Foundation**, providing access to more equitable education, workforce development, community safety, and health and wellness opportunities that enable individuals to achieve their aspirations and build safer, stronger, and healthier communities for all. livingclassrooms.org
- **Loyola Early Learning Center**, providing a scholarship-based education for children of Baltimore City families of limited means aged two through the 2nd grade. loyolaearly.org

- **Maryland SPCA**, an independent, local nonprofit operating out of one small but mighty campus in Baltimore. mdspca.org
- **St. Ignatius Loyola Academy**, a tuition-free private Jesuit school transforming the lives of boys in grades 5 through 8 from underserved neighborhoods through education. saintignatius.org
- **Santa Claus Anonymous**, a unique volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) organization raising money to give every child a Christmas. santaclausanonymous.org
- **Weekend Backpacks for Homeless Kids**, improving the lives of students affected by food insecurity in Baltimore by providing child-friendly, nutritious food directly to children in need over the weekends. weekendbackpacks.org ❖



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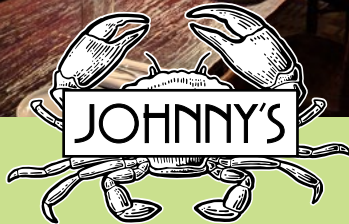
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RPCS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

four levels of Russian at RPCS. “Through our partnership with AATSEEL, we can connect students with programs at a wide range of colleges and universities. These include campuses with Russian Flagship programs that prepare even non-Russian majors to graduate with a professional level of Russian proficiency.”

In the spring of 2024, three graduating seniors planning to continue their Russian studies elected to take the National Examinations in World Languages exam in Russian for college placement or credit. In addition, recent graduate Margaux Kim (2024) participated in a National Security Agency-sponsored Russian immersion program for 30 high school and college students called Russian STARTALK. Through a series of debates, discussions and community service opportunities, students learn topics relevant to U.S.-Russia affairs to prepare them for language careers to meet national security needs.

“Dr. Frost is a wonderful teacher and Russian has been one of my favorite classes since 9th grade,” says Áine Fitzgibbon (2025), who is now taking Russian IV. “I’ve also learned a lot about Russian culture and plan to take at least some Russian classes in college.”

In March 2024, award-winning writer and illustrator Eugene Yelchin visited RPCS for the school’s annual Anne Healy Lecture. Among his many books is the memoir, *The Genius Under the Table*. Yelchin, a native of Russia, met with students in all divisions, including the Russian II class in the upper school, to discuss different literary elements of his books. ❖

Roland Park Country School (rpcs.org) believes that young women who build each other up will thrive. As an independent school in Baltimore for girls in grades K-12, the all-girls culture is rooted in the notion that female empowerment begins with young women empowering one another. This enables RPCS students to build courage and confidence in an environment where female leadership across all areas of study.

FRIENDS SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

New mechanical, electrical, plumbing, sprinkler and security systems, along with energy-efficient windows and lighting, enhance sustainability and efficiency.

In shaping this next step in the school’s evolution, Friends is not just enhancing its facilities; it is deepening its commitment to nurturing every student’s potential. By embracing innovative practices and honoring its rich history, the school continues to create an environment where learning thrives. This dedication ensures that future generations will benefit from a Quaker education that prioritizes growth, innovation, creativity and community—a legacy that will endure for years to come. ❖

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

Eddie's Pot Roast with Red Wine

Eddie's of Roland Park

Preparation time: 20 minutes. Cook time: 4 hours. Serves 6.

Ingredients

- 4 lb. boneless chuck roast
- Coarse kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 2 T. canola oil
- 1 large sweet onion, cut vertically in 1-inch wedges
- 2 T. tomato paste
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups dry red wine*
- 2 cups beef stock (low sodium preferred)
- 4 large carrots, cut on the diagonal into 2-inch slices
- 8 oz. shiitake mushrooms
- 4 sprigs fresh thyme
- 3 sprigs fresh rosemary
- 1 lb. small Yukon gold potatoes, 1-inch dice
- 2 T. fresh Italian parsley, chopped

Heat oven to 325 degrees. Season chuck roast generously with salt and pepper. Heat canola oil in a Dutch oven over medium-high heat. Brown roast on all sides, about 4 minutes per side. Remove beef to a plate.

Reduce heat to medium. Add onion and cook until tender and translucent, about 5 minutes. Stir in tomato paste and garlic and cook for 1 minute. Stir in wine and beef stock. Be sure to scrape up any brown bits from the bottom of the pan.



Photo courtesy of Eddie's of Roland Park

Return beef to pot. Add carrots, mushrooms, potatoes, thyme and rosemary. Season vegetables with salt and pepper. Be sure to immerse the vegetables in the liquid. Cover pot and bake in the oven for 3 hours until the beef is tender.

Transfer the beef to a platter and surround with the carrots, potatoes and mushrooms. Spoon some of the sauce over the beef and serve the rest on the side. Garnish with freshly chopped parsley.

*Pair with Mas la Chevaliere Pinot Noir. Great for both braising and drinking. ❖

Eddie's Tip: Leftover beef is perfect for preparing birria tacos.

GILMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The roots of the Gilman greyhound go back to 1961, when the student newspaper offered a \$5 prize—worth a little more than \$50 in 2024—to the student who could come up with the best nickname for the school. That spring, the year-end issue announced that from hundreds of entries, John Sheldon (1962) had won with the entry “Greyhounds”.

Gilman archivist Johanna Schein says that the exact dates of when the mascot received his name—named after Redmond C.S. Finney (1947), the school's 10th headmaster—and started formally appearing in costume are both currently unknown. However, the archives does have photos of Finney as far back as the 1990s, and alumni with older photos or firsthand knowledge about the history of the mascot costume are welcome to share with the school by emailing archives@gilman.edu. The old costume has become a part of the archives, available for viewing upon appointment.

Watch Finney's debut video at gilman.edu/finney24. ❖

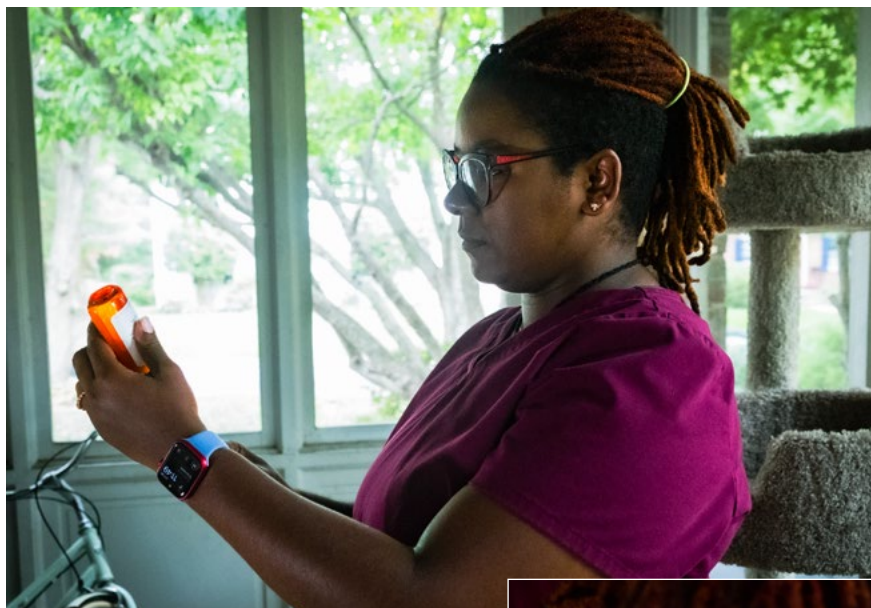
Gilman School (gilman.edu) is a pre-K through 12th grade independent school, with an enrollment of approximately 1,000 boys. A diverse community dedicated to educating boys in mind, body and spirit, Gilman seeks to produce men of character and integrity who have the skills and ability to make a positive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

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Ask an Angel: Q&A with Rayjean Morgan, Founder of Marley's Angels



Pet owners often say that their furry family members are “angels without wings”, sent to give them comfort, companionship, protection and joy. Studies have shown that interacting with a pet can lower stress levels and blood pressure, boost the “happiness hormone” oxytocin and the antibody immunoglobulin A, and enable people suffering from heart disease, for example, to live longer lives.

What happens, though, when your pets get sick? Enter Rayjean Morgan, founder of Marley's Angels Mobile Vet Techs (marleysangelsrvt.com). Morgan is a registered veterinary technician who has a decade of experience providing emergency care and services related to internal medicine, nutrition, dermatology and preventive medicine for animals in the Baltimore area. Having seen the anxiety many pets experience during visits to the vet, she brings these services to her clients' homes.

“I know how hard it can be to bring your fur baby in, knowing it's going to be a stressful experience for them,” she explains. “I'm here to do what I can to reduce your *and* your pet's stress by providing veterinary nursing services in the comfort of your home.”

Morgan continues, “If your dog's quality of life is improved by a new medication, but it's stressful to take them to the vet to have them give it, I'm here for you. If your cat loves to make biscuits on your chest, but you wince in pain because their nails are so sharp, and they won't let you trim them, I'm here for you.”

Audrey Barker, VMD, who owns Evergreen Veterinary Care, has known Morgan for years. “I am ecstatic for Rayjean and Marley's Angels because she is providing a much-needed service and there's no one better for the job. There are so many animals that need medical care on a regular basis, like allergy or arthritis injections, blood glucose checks, blood pressure monitoring, etc., that it can be overwhelming, if not impossible, for owners to do them at home by themselves.”

We asked Morgan a few questions so that people can understand how she got her “angel wings”.

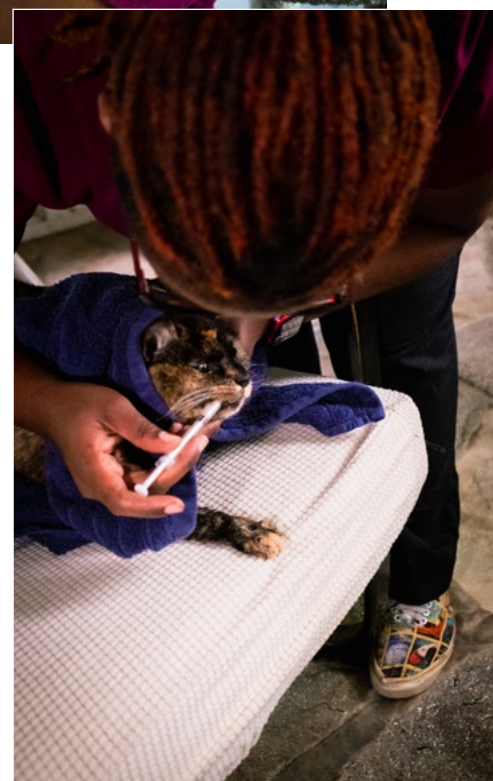
RPN: When and why did you first consider offering your services in people's homes?

RM: Two years ago, at a previous job, a friend of mine would go to an elderly woman's home once every few months to get her cat's blood work samples and she would take them back to the hospital to run the sample. She asked for my help and it went really well. I thought that was a great idea and believed being able to help people in their homes with veterinary services was a win for the owner and their pets. They can both save a stressful

Rayjean Morgan founded Marley's Angels to bring potentially stressful medical care into her clients' homes.

Photos courtesy of Morgan

trip to the vet by a service coming to their home to perform nail trims, medication administrations and other things that a large number of pet owners bring their pet in for. They schedule “Nurse” or “Vet Tech” appointments when they have difficulty giving medications at home.



RPN: What services do you offer and what services do your clients have to continue to get at a brick-and-mortar vet clinic?

RM: As a registered technician, I cannot diagnose or prescribe medication, but I can help give prescribed medications, help pet owners understand diet recommendations, and perform care that will help maintain a good quality of life, such as matted fur removal, nail trims and ear cleanings.

RPN: Do you have any favorite pet clients?

RM: I can't choose favorites; I love all of my pet clients. I do love a satisfying nail trim though.

RPN: Tell us about your pets, if you have any.

RM: I have an eight-year-old neutered male domestic shorthair

How to Choose an Interior Designer

By Emilie Schiller, Home Methods Interior Design

Hiring an interior designer can be a huge help when tackling a home project of any size. From smaller projects, such as choosing a new paint color, to larger-scale renovations, an interior designer can help you save time and money, act as a qualified liaison between you and various vendors, and give you a functional, customized space that is unique to you, all while worrying about the details so you don't have to.

Because this is a relationship that will last over months or even years, it's important to ask some key questions, both of the designer and yourself, before starting this partnership.

- **Tell me about your process.** You may know what your end goal is, but how will you get there? Asking the designer to explain how they will manage your project, from the initial consultation through the project execution, is key to a successful relationship. The answer will also give you a sense of their project management and time management skills, and how you can expect to see those show up for your job.
- **How do you charge and can you work within my budget?** Designers charge in various ways, and it's important to know when you can expect to see invoices. Also, designer fees and markups will impact your overall budget, so you'll want to know early on what that impact will be. Not only that, it's important to understand how your budget will be respected and approached throughout the project.
- **Who will be working on my project and how do you work with vendors and contractors?** Understanding how vendors will be selected, what say you will have in who those people are, and how you can expect to see them show up in your space are all crucial to understand when engaging a designer and their team.
- **How do you collaborate with clients?** The reality is that this is your house and a good designer should be focused on making it comfortable for you. You should feel comfortable sharing your feedback and thoughts with your designer, and they should be open to accepting that feedback. Understanding how the process works and having the ability to participate in it as much or as little as you like is important for both parties to know going in.
- **How do I feel about sharing intimate details with this person or people?** An interior designer is someone who will peek behind the curtain and see and ask you about how you live, talk with you about money and generally see you in your most personal environment. How you feel about this person getting up close and personal with you in all those ways is a strong indicator of whether or not that designer is the right fit for you. ❖



Hiring an interior designer that fits your needs and personality is an important part of any home project.
Dining room photo: Constance Gauthier
Bathroom photo: Amanda Archibald



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The Book Nook

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

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

All Pratt libraries will be closed December 25 for Christmas, January 1 for New Year's Day, January 20 for Martin Luther King Day and February 17 for President's Day.

Programming at the Pratt

(details at calendar.pratt.library.org)

For Kids

- Wednesdays at 10:30 am. **Baby and Toddler Storytime.** Stories, movement, play and songs for little ones under 2 with a favorite adult. Playtime follows. All abilities welcome. Groups of five or more must call 410-396-6099 to register.
- Thursdays at 10:30 am. **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.
- Dec. 4, 3 pm. **Snowman Popsicle Stick Bookmarks.** Make a snowman bookmark to hold your place in your wintry read!
- Dec. 21, 11 am. **Winter Wonderland Crafternoon.** Spend an afternoon making wintry crafts, including snowflakes and penguins.

- Jan. 6, 2:45 pm. **Snow Scene Winter Cups.** Draw a winter scene on a plastic cup.
- Jan. 23, 11 am. **Cotton Ball Snowmen.** Join us after story-time for a craft. We'll make snowmen inside, with cotton balls.
- Feb. 1, 2 pm. **Paper Bag Groundhogs.** Make a paper bag groundhog puppet just in time for Groundhog Day!
- Feb. 13, 11 am. **Beary Fun Cards.** Create a card and share the love for someone "beary" special. All materials provided.

For Teens

- Dec. 12, 3 pm. **DIY Hot Chocolate Kits.** Make a batch of hot chocolate mix for yourself or gift it to someone special.
- Dec. 16, 3 pm. **Printmaking: Winter Cards.** Learn about printmaking and make winter-themed cards.
- Jan. 16, 3 pm. **Sweet Kicks.** Stop by the library after school to create a custom 3D shoe design based on your favorite candy.
- Jan. 30, 3 pm. **Sphero Battle Botz.** Build the baddest robot in the land and battle in the arena for the title of Top Bot.
- Feb. 20, 3 pm. **Anime and Manga Bingo.** Swing by the Roland Park branch and try your luck at Anime and Manga bingo.

For Adults

- Dec. 16, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: *Memory of Departure* by Abdulrazak Gurnah.** Hassan Omar is a gifted young man, with a potentially bright future but a past marred by poverty. In the wake of a national uprising and with a new government in place, he is denied a scholarship to a university abroad and deprived of the opportunity to study further. Instead, Hassan travels to Nairobi to stay with a wealthy uncle, in the hope that the uncle will release his mother's rightful share of the family inheritance.
- Dec. 21, 11 am and 2 pm. **Film Series: *The Public*.** A librarian helps a group of homeless people take refuge from a brutal winter night by staging a sit-in at the free public library. A misunderstanding causes his noble act to wrongly escalate into a hostage situation. Rated PG-13.
- Jan. 25, 11 am and 2 pm. **Film Series: *Twisters*.** Daisy Edgar-Jones stars as Kate Carter, a former storm chaser haunted by a devastating encounter with a tornado during her college years who now studies storm patterns on screens safely in New York City. She is lured back to the open plains by her friend, Javi (Anthony Ramos) to test a groundbreaking new tracking system. Rated PG-13.
- Jan. 27, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: *North Woods* by Daniel Mason.** When a pair of young lovers abscond from a Puritan colony, little do they know that their humble cabin in the woods will become the home of an extraordinary succession of human and nonhuman characters alike.
- Feb. 22, 11 am and 2 pm. **Film Series: *Fences*.** This film is an adaptation of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play about Troy Maxson, a black garbage collector in 1950s Pittsburgh. Bitter about his lot in life, Maxson frequently takes out his frustrations on his loved ones. Rated PG-13.
- Feb. 24, 6 pm. **Book Discussion: *Chain-Gang All-Stars* by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah.** This is the explosive, hotly-anticipated debut novel from the *New York Times*-bestselling



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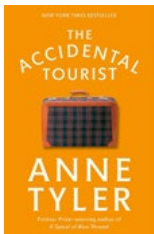
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author of *Friday Black*, about two top women gladiators fighting for their freedom within a depraved private prison system not so far-removed from America's own.

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



The Accidental Tourist by Anne Tyler (recommended by Abby Lyon, children's librarian). As someone who lives and works in Baltimore, I'm always interested in reading books that take place here. How accurate is the depiction? Did the authors do their homework on landmarks and culture? Did they capture what makes the city unique?

With Tyler, I never have to question this. This Pulitzer Prize-winning author's novels are a tribute to Baltimore; she includes all the quirks and oddities that make it inimitable and distinct. Set in leafy Roland Park, *The Accidental Tourist* is no exception, beautifully chronicling the story of lonely Mason Leary, a travel writer who hates to travel, and who must rebuild his life after tragedy. Tyler's well-written characters are poignant and bittersweet, yet comic and touching. Don't miss the 1988 movie adaptation (filmed in our very neighborhood!), as it faithfully and authentically brings the novel to life. Everything Tyler writes is wonderful; look for her latest novel, *Three Days in June*, to be published in February!

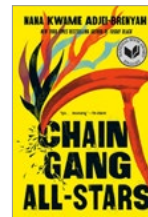
What Storm, What Thunder by Myriam J. A. Chancy (recommended by Gregory Fromme, branch manager). Chancy's book chronicles a 7.0-magnitude earthquake that



hit Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in 2010 and killed 250,000 people. Each chapter is told from the perspective of a different character, many of them victims who lost loved ones along with their homes and possessions. Some of the narrators are Haitians who returned to their country in the aftermath of the earthquake.

Chancy does an excellent job of interweaving the lives and points of view of her characters, each of whom has a unique perspective on this enormous tragedy. She also succeeds in depicting many of the challenges that Haitians faced (and still face) before and after this catastrophe. *What Storm, What Thunder* is this year's "One Maryland One Book" (OMOB) selection. OMOB is an annual program sponsored by Maryland Humanities.

Chain Gang All-Stars by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah (recommended by Gregory Fromme, branch manager). Adjei-Brenyah's novel tells the harrowing story of a dystopian near future in the United States in which the privatized prison system has created a gladiatorial "sporting" event where prison inmates fight each other to the death for the slim chance to obtain their freedom. Adjei-Brenyah succeeds at depicting the complexity and humanity of his main characters, who are forced to make harrowing choices in a system that is bereft of morals—where profits and television ratings are the only priorities. Along the way, the author tackles the complex subjects of technology, privacy and the entertainment industry in a novel that has disturbing connections to our own present day society. Highly recommended. ❖



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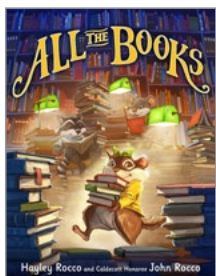
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KidLit Picks

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The following recommendations are from the November/December 2024 Kids Indie Next List, which features the top nominations from independent booksellers across the country. To find out more, visit indiebound.org/kids-indie-next-list.



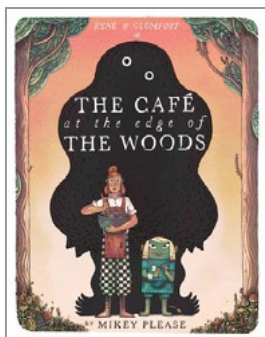
Picture Books (ages 3-6)

All the Books by Hayley Rocco, illustrated by John Rocco. "Piper Waterstone loves her books! She loves them so much, she wants to keep them forever. When she discovers the library, she learns the art of sharing and friendship in this beautiful picture book." Rae Ann Parker, Parnassus Books, Nashville, TN

Frostfire by Elly MacKay. "Frostfire is a winter-tastic picture book for young readers! The illustrations are beautifully done. Detailed yet allowing readings to get lost in the whimsical winter following sisters in a snowy kingdom. A book for imagination lovers." Sophie Murray, Tsunami Books, Eugene, OR



The Café at the Edge of the Woods by Mikey Please. "Oh my goodness, what an endearing, quirky little folktale. It's goofy in a subtly clever way, with instant-classic feeling illustrations to boot. I think adults will get a kick out of it as much as children." — Leah Atlee, Bright Side Bookshop, Flagstaff, AZ



Middle Readers (ages 10-13)

The Hotel Balzaar (The Norendy Tales) by Kate DiCamillo, illustrated by Júlia Sardà. "This gorgeous little puzzle-box of a tale has everything: a parrot with loads of personality, the mystery of a missing father, and glittering nuggets of magic.



Marta's life inside the colorful Hotel Balzaar has plenty of heart." Ellie Ray, Content Bookstore, Northfield, MN



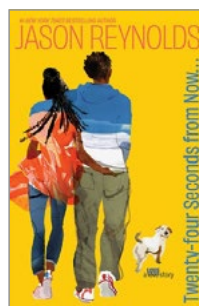
Jasmine is Haunted by Mark Oshiro. "Latinx main characters! Age-appropriate LGBTQ+ themes! Paranormal activity! Mark Oshiro beautifully delivers this story of grief, moving on, and finding a community who understands." Karen Fiorini, Little Shop of Stories, Decatur, GA

Bye Forever, I Guess by Jodi Meadows. "Never want to say goodbye to Bye

Forever, I Guess! The perfect middle grade novel about the changing nature of friendship, finding your fit while remaining true to yourself, and where to sit at lunch. Plus, a focus on nerdy girls rocks!" Susan Williams, M. Judson Booksellers & Storytellers, Greenville, SC

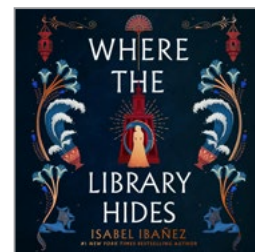


Young Adult (ages 14-18)



Twenty-Four Seconds from Now...: A LOVE Story by Jason Reynolds. "Jason Reynolds' first love story could not be more pitch-perfect. Neon and Aria are fully-developed characters with lives, school, families, friends, responsibilities, and aspirations. Start the clock, sit down and read this book." Gemma Speight, Changing Hands, Tempe, AZ

Where the Library Hides: A Novel (Secrets of the Nile #2) by Isabel Ibañez. "This highly anticipated sequel did not disappoint. This melds genres of historical fiction, fantasy, romance, and mystery. Inez and Whit's journey through the book kept me guessing and there were so many unexpected twists." Vanessa Brennan, Books Inc., San Francisco, CA



For She is Wrath by Emily Varga. "Varga's Pakistani-inspired retelling of *The Count of Monte Cristo* is a fierce, compelling tale of sisterhood, adventure and vengeance. Fans of Chloe Gong will love this enemies-to-lovers romance!" Alyssa Raymond, Copper Dog Books, Beverly, MA ❖



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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 holiday 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	redeemberaltimore.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	stdavidsbaltimore.org
Second Presbyterian Church , 4200 St. Paul St.	410-467-4210	secondpresby.org
Stony Run Friends , 5116 N. Charles St.	443-703-2590	stonyrunfriends.org

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

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.

- Saturdays from September through June, 10 am-4 pm.
Regular Hours, Fire Museum of Maryland, 1301 York Rd.
firemuseummd.org

December

- Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 12 pm, and Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 10 am. **Holiday Train Garden**, Fire Museum of Maryland. Enjoy the annual display of O-scale trains and free selfies with Santa. firemuseummd.org
- Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22, 1 pm. **Weekend Workshops**, Social Studio, 737 and 739 Deepdene Rd. Ages 9 to 11. These mixed-media workshops are designed to give artists a full immersion into the creative process while developing drawing, design, tool and problem-solving skills. Each month has a different theme: December is printmaking. \$45 per class. socialstudioart.com
- Dec. 1, 2:15 pm. **Sound Bath**, Baltimore Breathwork, The Roland Park Community Center, 4300 Roland Ave., No. 304. Tickets are \$55. baltimorebreathwork.com

The Civic League meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Roland Park Presbyterian Church at the corner of Roland Avenue and Upland Road (4801 Roland Ave.). The next meeting will be December 5.



- Dec. 1, 3:30 pm. **Baltimore Symphony Musicians and Friends**. Community Concerts at Second, 4200 St. Paul St. Enjoy the works of Maconchy, Tansman and Beethoven. Free, but donations are welcomed. cc2nd.org
- Dec. 2, 6:30 pm. **Humanities in the Village, Patchen Barss: The Impossible Man**. Bird in Hand Coffee & Books, 11 East 33rd St. In this December edition of Humanities in the Village—an event series in partnership with the Alexander Grass Humanities Institute at Johns Hopkins University—Barss will be joined by William Egginton, director of The Alexander Grass Humanities Institute. RSVP at theyivybookshop.com
- Dec. 5, 11 am. **James Harp: A Celebration of Women**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park, 4500 Roland Ave. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a morning of gorgeous and moving music, with beautiful opera arias and duets featuring the many aspects of womanhood, including Carmen, Juliette, Brunnhilde, Madama Butterfly and more. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
- Dec. 8, 1 pm. **Holiday Open House**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to celebrate the holidays with light refreshments and a visit from Santa. RSVP by Dec. 2 to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org



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- Dec. 7, 11 am, **Art Market Holiday Edition**, Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), 1300 W. Mt. Royal Ave. A three-floor holiday market that provides MICA students, alumni, faculty and staff the opportunity to sell their artwork, craft and artisan-made pieces. mica.edu/annual-events-series/art-market
- Dec. 8, 5 pm. **Second Sundays Live Music: Snehesh Nag**, Social Studio. Nag is a sitar player. \$10-\$20 suggested donation. BYO drinks. socialstudioart.com
- Dec. 11-14, 3 pm. **A Ladew Christmas 2024**, Ladew Topiary Gardens, 3535 Jarrettsville Pike, Monkton. Tour the historic Manor House adorned in festive holiday splendor, each room decorated with fresh flowers and greenery by talented floral designers and garden clubs. Enjoy live carolers and tours of the Woodland Garden, along with a holiday greens sale and Christmas Market, with seasonal food and drink specialties. \$10 for adult members and \$4 for children of members, and \$20 for non-members and \$6 for children of non-members. ladewgardens.com
- Dec. 12, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy the Junior League of Baltimore all-women choral group, The Larks, which will perform holiday classics and lead a caroling sing-along. At 1:15 pm, local celebrity and film producer Vincent DePaul will introduce a screening of *Christmas Couples Retreat*, which was filmed entirely in Baltimore. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org

- Dec. 14, 10 am. **Service Led by Rabbi Doug Heifetz**, Congregation Beit Tikvah, 5802 Roland Ave. Kiddush (dairy/vegetarian/vegan) and discussion, "We Read a Scroll on Purim. Why Not on Hanukkah?" beittikvah.org
- Dec. 14, 11 am, **Charm City Craft Mafia's Holiday Heap**, 2640 Space, 2640 St. Paul St. Holiday market with vendors of all kinds. charmcitycraftmafia.com/holiday-heap
- Dec. 18, 12 pm. **Wednesday Walk: Cylburn History Tour**, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Ave. History tour with Executive Director Brooke Fritz. Free for CAF members and \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Cylburn.org
- Dec. 19, 6 pm., **2nd Annual Caroling Around the Firepit**, Roland Park Presbyterian Church, 4801 Roland Ave. Cozy up to share songs and holiday cheer on the church lawn. Hot cocoa and light refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome. rolandparkchurch.org
- Dec. 21, 12 pm. **Hampden Holiday Markets: Winter Solstice Edition**, St Luke's Church on the Avenue, 800 W. 36th St. Located in the heart of Hampden, this event offers a shopping bonanza with more than 40 individual, independent and unique Baltimore-based artisans, artists, makers and purveyors of tasty eats.
- Dec. 24, 5 pm. **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**, Roland Park Presbyterian Church. Join the congregation in-person or online via Zoom or Facebook Live. rolandparkchurch.org

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

Q&A WITH RAYJEAN MORGAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

named Marley. He's mostly black with a white spot on his neck, some white on his belly and a white tip on his tail. He loves to sleep under blankets and watch the autumn leaves fall. A previous co-worker found him and his littermates and brought them into work with the hopes of some of us taking them home. I couldn't resist.

RPN: Where did you get your veterinary education?

RM: I went to the Veterinary Technology Program at the Community College of Baltimore County in Essex. It is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association and allowed me to take the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE). Passing the VTNE gave me a license to practice as a veterinary technician in Maryland.

RPN: In addition to your education, do you have any certifications?

RM: I am Fear-Free- and Recover Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support-certified.

RPN: Who are the supervising veterinary practitioners with whom you work?

RM: I work full-time at Evergreen Veterinary Care with owner Dr. Audrey Barker, who has been a huge support to my business. For my clients outside of Evergreen, I ensure that they have an up-to-date exam with their primary veterinarian and confirm it's okay to perform the requested services. ❖

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

- Dec. 27, 6:30 pm. **Chanukah Party**, Congregation Beit Tikvah. Bring your channukiot and dreidels. There will be candle lighting and singing, FRIED-foods, etc. beittikvah.org

January

- Jan. 5, 2:15 pm. **Sound Bath, Baltimore Breathwork**, The Roland Park Community Center. Tickets are \$55. baltimorebreathwork.com
- Jan. 9, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Jimmy Potash, director of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, who will review recent developments in research on psychedelics in psychiatry. At 1:15 pm, Julia DiBussolo, director of the non-profit Arts Every Day, will lead an engaging discussion on the role of the arts in K-12 education. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
- Jan. 16, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Michelle Suazo and Rikki Spector of The Food Project, which brings culinary skills, job opportunities, sustainable food sources and hope to the youth of southwest Baltimore. At 1:15 pm, the delightful Colleen Webster will portray Pulitzer-prize-winning poet Mary Oliver. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org

- Jan. 23, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Dr. Lynne Agress, who teaches in the Odyssey Program at Johns Hopkins University and will offer her astute observations regarding the relevance of William Shakespeare's plays today. At 1:15 pm, Barry Rascovar, former *Baltimore Sun* reporter, editor and political columnist, will lead a thought-provoking discussion on today's political landscape. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
- Jan. 26, 3:30 pm. **Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass**. Community Concerts at Second. Enjoy New Orleans jazz, Baroque and classical music with an ensemble that incorporates everything from Broadway hits by Leonard Bernstein to patriotic marches by John Philip Sousa. Free, but donations are welcomed. cc2nd.org
- Jan. 30, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a concert with the Mt. Vernon Virtuosi String Quartet, which will perform selected classical pieces. At 1:15 pm, TWCRP member Susan Dowell, co-author of *Mrs. Kitching's Smith Island Cookbook*, will discuss the food and charming folkways of the remote island, a four-century-old waterman's community. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org

February

- Feb. 2, 2:15 pm. **Sound Bath, Baltimore Breathwork**, The Roland Park Community Center. Tickets are \$55. baltimorebreathwork.com

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- Feb. 6, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Elizabeth Comer, archaeologist and president of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, who will discuss using DNA to connect living people to enslaved ironworkers at Catoctin Furnace. At 1:15 pm, Sheila Helgerson, executive director at Cornerstone Community Housing, will share her organization's twofold mission to help men experiencing homelessness and to change attitudes toward homelessness through outreach and education. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
 - Feb. 13, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Jason Steer, the new executive director of the Creative Alliance, who will share the organization's strategic direction. At 1:15 pm, Elaine Rice Bachmann, co-author of *Designing Camelot: The Kennedy White House Restoration and Its Legacy*, will share behind-the-scenes stories of Jacqueline Kennedy's project as well as insights into the history of Maryland's own executive residence, Government House. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
 - Feb. 19, 5 pm. **"Where Baltimore Grows" Speaker Series: Hilton Carter**, Cylburn Arboretum. Lecture about cultivating growth with Carter, who will illuminate how plant care has shaped his life and relationships. Tickets are \$7.18, including fee. Cylburn.org
 - Feb. 20, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Sarah Oktavec, a self-taught forager, who will discuss how to safely identify edible mushrooms and explain how this knowledge changed the way she sees the natural world. At 1:15 pm, the Alzheimer's Association will discuss warning signs and state-of-the-art care for the disease. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
 - Feb. 27, 11 am. **Thursday Program**, The Woman's Club of Roland Park. Members and prospective members are welcome to enjoy a lecture featuring Mary Anne Jung, who will bring Elizabeth Tudor ("Good Queen Bess") to life in a one-woman performance. At 1:15 pm, the Friends of Jerusalem Mill will share information about Harford County's charming village, which was founded as a grist mill and Quaker settlement in 1772. RSVP to twcrp@comcast.net. twcrp.org
 - Feb. 23, 3:30 pm. **Morgan State University Choir**. Community Concerts at Second. Enjoy one of the nation's most prestigious university choral ensembles, with its wide-ranging repertoire that spans classical, gospel and popular music. The choir is especially acclaimed for their historic and authoritative performances preserving the heritage of the spiritual. Free, but donations are welcomed. cc2nd.org ❖
- Please send calendar announcements to magazine@rolandpark.org.



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