Neighborhood NEWS

RUXTON-RIDERWOOD-LAKE ROLAND AREA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SPRING • 2014

The 'New' Towson YMCA

by John Baer

The newly opened Orokawa Family Center YMCA in Towson (formerly the Towson Family Center Y) opened its doors on November 11, 2013. It is the result of years of planning and re-imagining about what a Y can and should offer as an important community asset and amenity. The former facility had housed the Towson Y for about 60 years. The new design reflects the diverse input and influences from a wide array of community leaders and organizations, volunteers, staff and members, as well as market research about the purpose and role the Y serves in the community.

This Center is named for The Orokawa Foundation in recognition of its sustained support of the mission of the Y. The Orokawa Foundation, a Towson-based, family nonprofit, is named for Orokawa Bay, a remote peninsula in the Bay of Islands in the far northeast of the North Island of New Zealand.

Look at me now! Photo courtesy Nettie Washburn

The new building uses a socially responsible design and is the first Y in Maryland to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified. Every aspect of the design was developed to uphold environmental standards that meet voluntary U.S. Green Building Council specifications created to assure that developers and builders are good stewards of the earth. This principle is evidenced throughout the Center, including the use of building and interior design materials, sealants, insulation, energy use, and water filtration and lighting. Colorful leaves are posted throughout the building to educate patrons about the socially responsible aspects of this design so integral to the community-focused mission of the Y.

The entrance features a large, open lobby space with a circular fireplace. Just beyond are the cafe/health bar and rock climbing wall. Off to the right side is the state-of-the-art 8,000 square foot fitness center with cardio and strength equipment. There are two saltwater pools (lap swimming and family fun) and a dedicated cycling space, as well as a modern gymnasium and other multi-purpose and group exercise spaces. In addition there are many open and comfortable seating areas for relaxing before or after a workout. The 48,000 square foot facility cost $11 million dollars to construct.

If you are wondering about the small brick building standing alone, it is a Civil War-era structure that is currently being used as the construction office. The Y is working with a historical preservation group and is hoping to get approval for renovations to allow them to use the facility as the office for their summer camp. Once all construction is completed, the mound of dirt will once again become field and green space

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Ruxton-Riderwood-
Lake Roland
Neighborhood NEWS

Spring 2014

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President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

As I write, the outside temperature is frigid, snow covers the lawns and salt seems to permeate the crannies of every road surface! But I heard birds singing outside of my window this morning and it reminded me of the arrival of warmer weather, green grass, blooming plants and outdoor activities. Just as I personally anticipate this seasonal transition, the Association Board is also looking forward to renewed endeavors. Eight new members joined the Board in the late fall and have been gearing up for their new responsibilities. The committee chairs have been working diligently to revise and share our goals and objectives, and each committee has seamlessly maintained their responsibilities. The chairs' knowledge and dedication to task is so strong that the newer members are quickly making significant contributions to our planning efforts for 2014.

We will soon be attending outdoor events such as the RRLRAIA-sponsored road and stream clean-ups, Dumpster Day and the second annual Friday Night Lights neighborhood party slated for late spring. One of the Board's top priorities this year is to capitalize on the synergies created when we bring neighborhood commercial centers and residents together to work towards improving the community. We began this effort in spring 2013 with the first Friday Night Lights event at Ruxton Village and in the fall with a Bare Hills Happy Hour for business owners and employees. At the latter meeting, several Board members presented information regarding concepts in our Community Plan for the area and our request to the State and County to add a traffic light at the intersection of Falls and Clarkview Roads. Meetings such as these help to accomplish the Board's goal to increase and improve communication through community gatherings, whether for social or informational purposes.

Neighborhood enhancement remains another strong 2014 goal of the Board. The Greater Ruxton Area Foundation has done a wonderful job with its current projects, most recently planting new native plants, bushes and grass along Bellona Avenue near the light rail tracks and gas station. We can support the Foundation's efforts by donating our time or financial resources. So do visit their new website at **www.ruxtonfoundation.org** or call 410-494-7757. But we can also improve our own properties, as well as the surrounding neighborhood streetscapes, by suggesting necessary improvements to our Board representatives. Please contact our office if you need the name of your neighborhood's representative. On page 17 you can read an article about planting trees that are native to our climate, a wonderful way to improve our neighborhoods' common areas or our properties.

The Ruxton, Riderwood and Lake Roland communities are so lucky to have Robert E. Lee Park and Lake Roland within their boundaries. Heavily used year round, the Park literally comes alive with flora and fauna at this time of year. Boaters, hikers, dog walkers and nature buffs shake off the chill of winter to take advantage of all the great spring activities the Park has to offer. The Robert E Lee Park Nature Council continues to develop new ideas for the Park, such as organized fishing and boating events and the soon-to-be christened children's playground area, Acorn Hill. We continue to work in partnership with the Council and we encourage our members to discover this wonderful neighborhood asset for themselves. We would also like to acknowledge the selfless contributions of our Board member and the first president of the Nature Council, Dr. Peter Maloney. Peter passed away late last year after a valiant struggle with cancer. His quiet leadership, considerable dedication and enthusiastic vision should remain as testament to what each one of us can, and should, do to improve the world around us.

Check out the crossword puzzle in our children's fun section that was created by an eleven-year-old young man in the neighborhood; he is a budding Will Shorz! I hope to meet many of you at one of the upcoming community events and, as always, I wish you a happy and healthy spring!

Patrick Jarosinski

Neighborhood NEWS is published three times a year by The Ruxton-Riderwood-Lake Roland Area Improvement Association, Inc., P.O. Box 204, Riderwood, MD 21139, tel: 410-494-7757.

Deadlines for copy, including announcements and calendar items, are February 1st for Spring issue, July 1st for Fall issue and October 1st for Winter issue. Advertisers contact: **office@rrlraia.org.**

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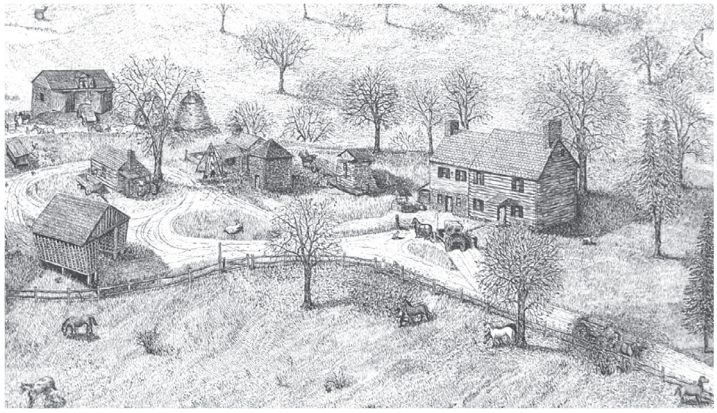
The Greater Ruxton Area Foundation 2013 Year-End Report

by Joseph M. Coale

The Foundation had a successful 2013 with our preservation and beautification program making additional strides. We took a highly visible, long-abandoned space along Bellona Avenue and turned it into an attractive open garden featuring a wide variety of native Maryland plants. This improvement complements the nearby intersection with Malvern Avenue and the adjacent commercial site (see page 20 for more information about the gas station site). In 2014, while GRAF hopes to continue work in additional sections along Bellona, our emphasis will be to maintain and upgrade our existing sites. All of this progress is made possible by the generous contributions of 220 neighbors. If you would like to donate or help with your time and talents, please visit our new website, **www.ruxtonfoundation.org**.



Samuel's Hope originated as a 500 acre grant to Samuel Hooker in 1694. It was the plantation of the Bowen family until the early 1900s. This drawing, by re-creation artist Gordon Callison, pictures the home as it looked in the 1840s but it was actually constructed prior to the Revolution and possibly dates to 1740. It survives under private ownership off Bellona Avenue south of Ruxton Station.
For current photos visit ***http://ruxtonfoundation.org****.*

In 2013 we funded our new, professionally-designed website which showcases a 'before and after' color portfolio of all our projects. In addition, the site provides a catalog of local history articles and photographs, as well as a listing of contributors and updates about the Foundation's activities and management. For the convenience of patrons, we've added a PayPal contribution option. We would welcome further suggestions to make the site even more helpful. We send our sincerest thanks to Paul Hartman of Computer Engineering Group, Inc. in Towson for his patience, professional competence and availability in designing the site to such a high standard. As a communication and outreach tool, this powerful resource will help us build an even stronger community.

Our landscape contractor, Ali Mumtaz, and his son Michael continue to deliver value, service and personal commitment. The Foundation has built a solid relationship with Ali, as the beautiful results will attest. Ali's attention to detail, knowledge of Maryland plants and strong work group have served our community well. The area between Bellona and the light rail tracks presents a unique challenge to any landscaper because the soil has been exposed to railroad coal, creosote, defoliants, infill, etc., for the past 180 years. It is difficult to get desirable plants established in such conditions without a lot of nurturing, but Ali and his crew have done just that.

A special note of appreciation goes to Peggy Squitieri and Amy Mallik who put so much effort into our yearly development campaign. It was a great team effort. The Board of GRAF was expanded in 2013 to include James Knott, Tom Weadock, Ed Taylor, Kathy Mountcastle and Sibley Classen. Foundation by-laws provide a rotating seat for the outgoing RRLRAIA President so we may benefit from their experience; Barbara Guarnieri will be joining the GRAF Board in this capacity for the next year. With regret, Tammy P. Wiggs retired from the Board after four years of meritorious service. We are most grateful for her loyal and productive participation.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

by Shannon Putman

It's always exciting to have new businesses move into our area. In this issue of ***Neighborhood NEWS*** we're highlighting a couple of newcomers located off Bellona Avenue. The Ruxton Station store space containing *V Fashion Towson/My Town Art Gallery* is a lovely warm spot with bright windows and a natural flow between rooms containing art and jewelry. It is hard to leave without buying something due to the unique quality of the goods and their affordability.

The owners of the store, Valerie Lambros Haneberry and Patrick Reid O'Brien, have long been partners in both marriage and careers. Both grew up in Baltimore and attended local schools. Patrick went on to graduate from Saint Mary's College with a degree in fine art, but it was not until his wife encouraged him that he pursued painting full time. In 2004, when it became clear that the couple spent most of their free time at their children's games, Patrick began using his artistic skills to highlight the athletes and their sport. The couple began to sell his paintings at tournaments and games. Valerie notes, "It started with the sport of lacrosse and blossomed from there to horses, dogs and vacation spots." Somewhat overnight, Patrick's affordable art became quite popular and profitable. He is told that the art moves people emotionally (who doesn't love a reasonably priced painting of that special little athlete or favorite vacation spot!) and provides a lasting memory of special events and activities.

A small selection of treasures in V Fashion Towson/My Town Art Gallery

Photo courtesy Jessica Paffenbarger

My Town Art Gallery houses some of Patrick's most popular pieces, including his well-known lithographs of iconic Baltimore sites, as well as many beach-themed canvases. The artwork can be personalized with family names, dates or other specific details to create a one-of-a-kind piece.

Throughout Patrick's art career, Valerie has been at his side. Her real passion is for fashion and accessories and she frequently sold her jewelry and bags at his art shows. When she and Patrick began looking into renting storage space for their extensive retail stock, the idea for a storefront came about. Living within five minutes of Ruxton Station, they saw it as a natural spot for them to open their doors. So, along with the local gallery, they opened a store selling artistic jewelry, handbags, scarves, hats and hostess gifts. The couple really enjoys this neighborhood. Valerie loves that she only

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has to drive five minutes to accomplish most errands in Ruxton. "Here, you can get your groceries at Graul's, your dry cleaning done next door, your prescriptions filled at Ruxton Pharmacy and now we are adding a place to buy art and jewelry."

Valerie describes herself as having a keen eye for fashion. In her frequent travels to gift shows, she has developed a clear idea of what styles are cutting edge in larger cities, such as Chicago, New York, Atlanta and Dallas. She also loves to purchase unique pieces of jewelry or bags from their global travels. She chooses to sell fun items that can complement any style without breaking the budget, ranging from conservative and preppy to bright and bohemian. As Valerie states, "This is not fine jewelry that you will be fearful of losing or damaging." It is for adding whimsy to daily outfits or for bringing a bit of sparkle to evening wear. Many of her pieces are inspired by higher end designer jewelry and are reminiscent of far more expensive pieces in J. Crew and Anthropologie. Bright lucite chain link necklaces, enamel medallion necklaces and charming rhinestone pieces are some of her more popular items. Brand names carried include Susan Shaw, Catherine Cavino, Spartina and Mudpie.

Louise and Melissa in Simply Noted

Photo courtesy Jessica Paffenbarger

Our second new neighbor is *Simply Noted*. In December 2013 Michael Weinfeld, owner and landlord of Ruxton Station, encouraged Melissa Taylor, the former owner of a stationery store in Belvedere Square, to reopen her store in Ruxton. Michael saw that a store offering custom invitations would be a welcome complement to *Garnish*, the wedding boutique down the hall. Thankfully, Melissa agreed! If you ever had the pleasure of visiting Melissa's store, *Simply Noted*, in Belvedere Square, you know what a gem Ruxton Station has acquired. How did she get into this business? Melissa used to work on the wholesale side of the stationery/publishing business, then migrated to selling online advertising and, after moving to this area for her husband's work, she heard about an opportunity at Belvedere Square and opened her first *Simply Noted* store.

Melissa joined forces with Louise Wright, a sales veteran of the Ruth Shaw Store, and the duo has infused fresh life into the sunny space above the Rutland Beard Florist. Louise has a background in fashion – working in retail as a designer sportswear manager and sales rep for designer clothing. Louise first met Melissa when Melissa's first *Simply Noted* shop opened in Belvedere Square and became a loyal client, continuing to use her services even after the shop closed. Last year they bumped into each other in a grocery store, and the rest is history! The elegant new *Simply Noted* space is warm and welcoming with abundant natural light, hardwood floors, simple yet tasteful wooden tables and well-lighted glass shelving.

Simply Noted is a purveyor of all things paper – note cards, custom invitations and stationery. They carry beautiful specialty greeting cards for every occasion, including the elegant letterpress cards from Snow and Graham and the photographic cards from Palm Press. Melissa and Louise also take pleasure in providing cards that make clients laugh out loud such as those written from a dog's point of view by From Frank. Additionally, *Simply Noted* carries lines from local vendors such as the colorful cards with a Baltimore theme from Maggie Steward Design and those of Gilah Press featuring the work of a Hamden-based artist.

Melissa and Louise assist clients with layout, design and printing for custom invitations. Future plans include in-house printing for faster and less expensive custom cards. But most clients are happy to wait knowing their invitations will be uniquely tailored to their tastes.

In addition to paper products, *Simply Noted* also carries an array of chic gift items that can be monogrammed or personalized, from laptop or iPad covers, acrylic trays and melamine plates to designer notepads by favorites like Kate Spade, Jonathan Adler and Toss Design. Melissa and Louise have also filled the store with awesome birthday or hostess gifts and promise to easily satisfy all shoppers in need of seasonal and holiday goodies.

Even if you don't need a thing, stop by *Simply Noted* to see the beautiful new store and meet the personable owners. They want very much to get to know you and help you celebrate special events and relationships. Louise summed it up best, "The art of handwriting notes... is becoming less and less common yet putting words to paper is so important and lasting. We can provide the means for people to reach out and share their gratitude and love." Note-worthy and yet so simple!

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Home Sales in Ruxton / Riderwood / Lake Roland

Sold Properties from October 2013 – January 2014

Courtesy of the Whit Harvey Group
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Address	List Price	Sold price
2 Acorn Hill Lane	536,000	515,000
918 Army Road	785,000	750,000
7205 Bellona Avenue		836,400
7208 Bellona Avenue	2,195,000	1,810,000
7115 Bellona Avenue (lot)	400,000	375,000
8119 Bellona Avenue	424,900	415,500
1210 Berwick Avenue		1,050,000
8205 Boman Court		317,500
109 Brightwood Club Drive	435,000	325,000
8221 Carrbridge Court	394,900	385,000
1719 Circle Road	1,285,000	1,200,000
1751 Circle Road		650,000
1800 Circle Road	700,000	670,000
1805 Circle Road	594,500	545,000
1838 Circle Road	1,750,000	1,400,000
11 Coldwater Court		354,000
6212 Falls Road	175,000	192,500
1413 Gardman Avenue		273,000
514 Greenwood Road	1,349,000	1,250,000
22 Halston Court	565,000	580,301
8234 Jeffers Circle	285,000	280,000
1606 Jeffers Road	350,000	368,000
1103 W. Joppa Road	574,000	540,000
17 Lacosta Court	289,000	280,000
1002 W. Lake Avenue	850,000	805,000
1115 W. Lake Avenue		660,000
1302 Locust Avenue	2,000,000	1,950,000
830 Loyola Drive	324,000	324,000
908 Malvern Avenue	685,000	650,000
1406 Maywood Avenue		775,000
6511 Montrose Avenue		1,981,250
10 Murray Hill Circle	599,900	570,000
3 Railroad Avenue		154,000
414 Range Road	424,900	418,000
1208 Ridervale Road	350,000	350,000
5 Riderwood Station	639,000	620,000
8213 Robin Hood Court		515,000
1812 Roland Avenue		386,000
1010 Rolandvue Road	580,000	570,000
1101 Rolandvue Road	1,200,000	890,000
1926 Ruxton Road	1,895,000	1,775,000
7 Sherbourne Court	675,000	650,000
6021 Stanton Avenue	239,000	220,000
1717 Thornton Ridge Road	1,250,000	1,307,500
807 Trafalgar Road		380,000

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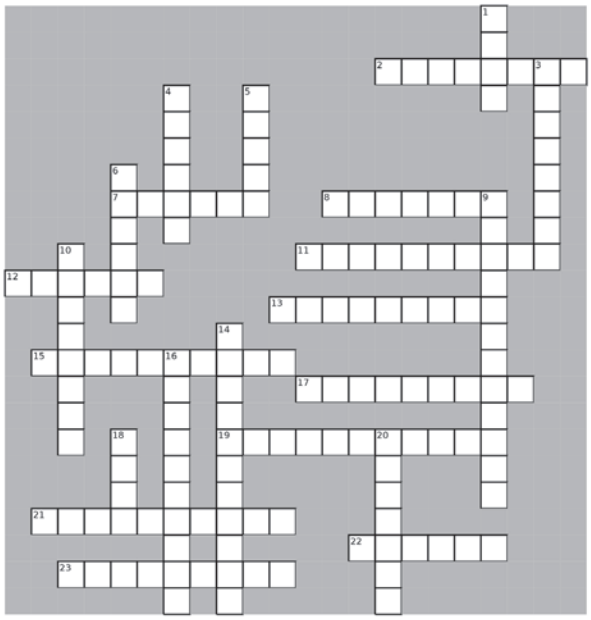
Kids Corner — Ruxton in the Spring



Charlie Nuermberger, age 11

Across

2 Maryland state tree (2 words)
7 Baltimore's professional football team
8 Main road through Ruxton
11 Famous for its fried chicken (2 words)
12 Well-known grocery store
13 Alternative form of transportation (2 words)
15 You may take gymnastics here
17 Local elementary school
19 Local country club
21 Road named for its shape (2 words)
22 Great take-out at Greenspring Station
23 Brought by the Easter Bunny (2 words)

Down

1 Garden pest
3 You get wonderful soup, sandwiches and bread here
4 Locally owned bookstore (2 words)
5 Famous for its pizza
6 Maryland state bird
9 May lead to May flowers (2 words)
10 Yellow bulb that comes up in the spring
14 Make your invitations here (2 words)
16 Park to enjoy hiking, biking and dogs (3 words)
18 Towson hospital
20 Tree with white flowers in the spring

Key to Crossword Puzzle on page 22

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Our Architectural Heritage – The Colonial Style

by Patrick Jarosinski

In the Spring 2013 ***Neighborhood NEWS*** we published the first article on our tour of this community's architectural styles. That piece described the earliest form of house, the Folk house, which was popular in this country from the beginning of urban settlement (1500 to the early 1900s). In this article I shall take you back to the same early time period but this time to explore the Colonial house, which was built from approximately 1600 through 1820. In our neighborhoods, these two styles of architecture overlapped each other throughout our community's history. Although RRLR doesn't have examples from the true Colonial period, we do have some that depict the details of the Colonial style.

Photo 1

You may recall that I am relying on the main architectural categories listed in *A Field Guide to American Houses* by Virginia & Lee McAlester. The book describes all the different styles and provides clear diagrams of the designs and design elements, as well as photographs. The categories include: Folk houses (the earliest houses through ca. 1920), Colonial houses (1600-1820), Romantic houses (1820-1880), Victorian houses (1860-1900), Eclectic houses (1880-1940) and Post-1940 houses.

We are fortunate to have beautiful examples of Colonial architecture dating from the 1800s in this area. The Colonial style has many diverse ethnic roots such as Post-Medieval English, Dutch Colonial, French Colonial, Spanish Colonial, Georgian, Federal and Classic Revival. There were very few Dutch, French or Spanish dwellings in this region. By the 1760s the Netherlands had lost most of its colonies to England as trophies of war. The French and Spanish established their colonies in other parts of the country (Florida, New Orleans and California) or elsewhere on the continent. Since most of the eastern seaboard in America was colonized by the English, British styles were the most popular. Georgian (after three King Georges of England) and Federal style (for which the Adams brothers – Robert, James and John – were primarily responsible, introducing the architectural concept of a uniform style for exteriors as well as interiors) were most prevalent.

Most Colonial style houses in our area were built after the 1820s. One identifying quality of a true Colonial is that the architectural details were handmade. Doors, windows and siding were constructed of hand-hewn woodwork. Bricks were handmade and meticulously laid, often in wall patterns or chimney stacks that were unique to different styles.

Colonial architecture is not typically identifiable by an individual detail, but by the sum of its parts. We have a great example of the Post-Medieval period in Ruxton, ca. 1878, as shown in Photo 1. The massive decorative chimneys, steep roofs with shallow overhangs and small or grouped casement windows are all indicative of this style as shown in Photos 2 and 3.

A Post-Medieval house may also have a projecting tower along the façade. If found on the front of the structure, the tower would typically house the entrance foyer with a bedroom above. If on the rear of the structure, it would typically house the stairwell. Steep roofs were used in the design to allow rainwater to shed more easily. In earlier times the roofs were covered with thatch or wood shingles, making the steep pitch necessary for runoff. As roofing materials evolved, slate and metals were used and the pitch became shallower.

Windows played an important role in the design of a house. Casement windows, which swung outwards on hinges, eventually gave way to double-hung windows, which have a top sash that can move down and a bottom sash that can move up. You see this style of window in most American Colonial style houses. Often the

Photo 2

sashes were glazed with multi-paned leaded glass. Sometimes the panes would be trimmed in wood in a pattern similar to leaded windows. (See Photo 4) The diamond pattern, popular at the beginning of the period, gave way to the small square, which allowed for very small panes of glass to be used. As manufacturing capabilities improved, so did the size of the glass panes. The larger panes allowed the view from the window to be maximized. (See Photo 5)

Photo 3

The Dutch Colonial style might be more recognizable to you. It followed the Post-Medieval style in America. Originally, this style had many of the same architectural elements of the Post-Medieval style, including the steep-pitched roofs, small windows and a second floor overhang. Ruxton has a gem of an example of this style (see Photo 6) in a structure that is quite tiny and tucked away from the street. The house dates to 1878 and boasts the classic gambrel shaped roof (a two-sided roof with a double slope on each side with the upper slope being less steep than the lower).

Photo 4

Photo 5

Although the architects of the true Dutch Colonial style did not originally design houses with this type of roof pitch, it became popular after the 1750s as a way to increase roof span and useful attic space. It remains popular today for the same reasons. These houses were typically one or one-and-a-half stories and very small, making them quite different from today's standards. This particular house was built as a one story, one room structure and is clad in two types of wood siding – cedar shake (top/gable end) and board and batten (first floor level). As the colonial period evolved, so did the size of the houses. Larger structures were often built nearby to be used as the primary living spaces while the smaller original building, either attached or detached, would then be used as an outbuilding or support space such as a kitchen, storage area or even a barn for livestock. This sympathetic addition (or wing) remains a popular option today as homeowners, paying respect to the original design style, renovate and enlarge their home's spaces.

Photo 6

Riderwood boasts a stellar example shown in Photo 7 of a Dutch Colonial house dating back to 1874.

Photo 7

It bears the stereotypical gambrel roof, is built with a combination of stone, wood shingle and stucco, and has the small second floor overhang (see Photo 8), which was borrowed from the Post-Medieval style. At times, the second floor wall overhangs at the end gables can be

adorned with decorative brackets as Sketch 1 illustrates.

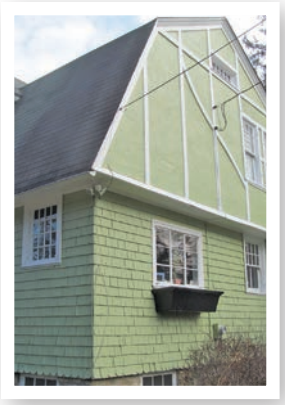
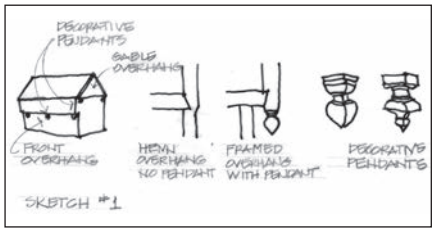


Photo 8

Another important Dutch Colonial design element is a two-part front door, known today as a Dutch door. It consists of both upper and lower half panels that are made in various patterns, from simple vertical tongue and groove boards to the beautiful and unusual door on this house, as shown in Photo 9. These doors were designed to keep livestock out while letting light and air in when the top panel was open. The front door on this particular house is wood with four flat panels on the lower portion and a multi-paned glass insert on the upper portion. You can't get much better than this perfect example of the Dutch door.

Also used in the design was a combination of casement and double-hung windows as shown in Photo 10. The double-hung windows became popular in the late 17th century and were used almost exclusively in Georgian and Federal style houses. This house is charming in so many ways and we are lucky to have it as part of our neighborhood's history.



Sketch 1

Although I could talk about the different styles of Colonial architecture at length, I will end our tour speaking about the most classic and long-lived Georgian and Federal styles. As you drive through our neighborhoods you will encounter many of these houses. Georgian houses in the northern states were primarily built in clapboard, whereas in the mid-Atlantic the houses were built of stone or brick. Stucco and stone, or a combination of both, were seen throughout all regions. The Georgian house typically had a paneled front door with an elaborate crown, or surround, that was held up with pilasters, or flattened columns, and later by full columned porches with decorative mouldings. The front door may or may not have been topped by a windowed transom. These transoms could be stationary or operable; if the latter, they could be opened to allow

Photo 9

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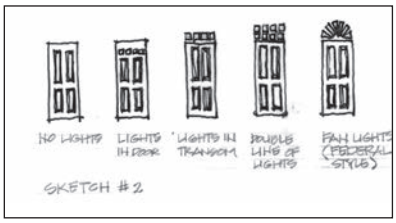
Photo 10

light and air to enter the house's entrance hall. There were various types of light configurations over a typical paneled door, including the lights in the door, lights in the transom, a double line of lights in the transom or a fan light. (See Sketch 2)

As discussed previously, Georgian architecture used double-hung windows which included both an upper and a lower panel. The term double-hung refers to the functionality of the window, not the panel configuration. A single-hung window looks similar but only the bottom sash lifts up. As already mentioned, a double-hung window is designed so that the bottom sash lifts up and the upper sash drops down, giving the window maximum functionality. Georgian double-hung windows were most commonly specified with 9 or 12 glass panes each, with a pattern created by wood muntins. Georgian muntins were typically 1-1/4" wide, while the Federal style muntin was narrower at 5/8" wide illustrated in Sketch 3. They each had a putty profile on the interior because, as the name presumes, they were in-filled with a soft putty material that hardened and could be painted. This made it easier to replace a broken pane of glass if necessary.

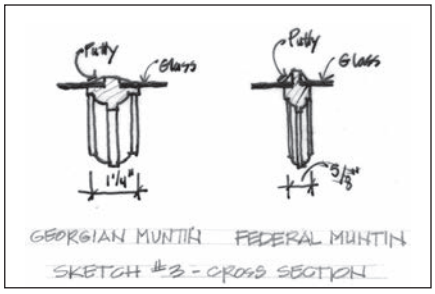


Sketch 2

Photo 11

Our community has a textbook study of the Federal style, shown in Photo 11, a grand stone mansion built in 1826 on a magnificent estate that overlooks Lake Roland and is now a historic treasure.

The home is steeped with history (which would take up a whole article!) but its architectural details are so interesting that we will focus on those. The original structure is three stories, built with stone, wood and slate, in a simple box shape that is two rooms deep – the central part of the house (front door with two sets of windows either side) in Photo 11. Unlike Georgian houses, this Federal style house is modified by symmetrical projecting wings with three Palladian style doors on the first floor and two windows on the second floor. If you look at the organization with which the front door and windows are designed, everything is about symmetry and control. These houses started out with a window pattern that is either three or five across the second floor and one or two on either side of a central entry door. The roof structure of the Federal style can vary, having a side gabled roof, a two-story hipped roof (which this house has), a three-story hipped roof, centered gable and the two or three story town house (or row house). In case you are wondering, a hipped roof is one where all sides of the roof slope down to the walls. The Federal style is often characterized as having more lightness and delicacy in comparison with its close Georgian relatives.



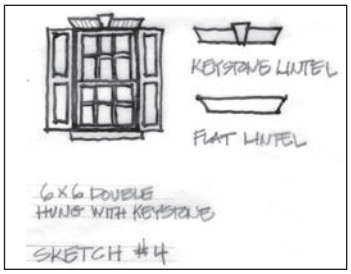
Sketch 3

Photo 12

The Federal front door is typically designed with a transom (usually a small window above a door, but which is a decorative wood element in the house in Photo 12) over the door, with or without sidelights, incorporated into a more elaborate door surround. The head of the door surrounds were square, semi-circular or triangular. This house's door surround (Photo 12) is a combination of the above, with a semi-circular fanlight, sidelights and a triangular head. The Federal style is also known for the large window above the door surround that would often include a triple window with a transom above. As seen in Photo 12, the transom over the window at this house is elliptical, which was very common in this style of architecture. The elliptical shape was also used at times above the front door if it had sidelights.

The windows on this house are six-over-six double-hung, meaning that there are six panes of glass in each sash. The fewer panes of glass in the window the more light would be allowed to enter into the house. Architectural philosophy began to embrace the belief that the outside should be brought inside. The windows are aligned in symmetrical rows both horizontally and vertically. Three part Palladian style windows are common in the Federal style, as highlighted in this house. The use of flat or keystone lintels above the windows was also popular. (See Sketch 4) Note that the Palladian style is based on the architecture of ancient Greek and Roman temples.

In both the Georgian and Federal styles, a cornice with tooth-like dentil moulding was used as decoration at the eaves of the house. The Federal style added another decorative element called a modillion, which extends beneath the roof overhang, adding that typical lightness to the design. (See Photo 13) Larger houses were designed with dormers, which have become very popular today and have taken on many forms. Dormers are windows that are



Sketch 4

Continued on page 18

Bare Hills Business Community Happy Hour

*RRLRAIA Executive Director Peggy Squitieri with Linda Cedrone and Mark DeVilbiss (Mt. Royal Printing, the printers for **Neighborhood NEWS**)*
Photo courtesy Kelley Keener

One of the goals of our *Community Plan 2010* is to promote alliances between our residential and business communities. With this goal in mind last November we sponsored, along with Capital Funding Group and Earth, Wood & Fire, a Bare Hills Business Community Happy Hour. Board members Jeffrey Budnitz and Elise Butler, co-chairs of RRLRAIA's Bare Hills Implementation Committee, spoke with guests about the area's potential as a mixed-use asset and the Association's desire to work with the business and property owners.

RRLRAIA Board members Kelley Keener and Carlton Sexton Photo courtesy peggy Squitieri

At this event, it was announced that Continental Realty Group, Capital Funding Group and Bare Hills Racquet and Fitness Club made a generous donation to Robert E. Lee Park which partially funded the purchase of a skid loader. This collaboration provides one more connection between the Park and Bare Hills.

Lawrence Rief (Continental Realty), Ranger Shannon Davis and Jeffrey Budnitz (RRLRAIA)
Photo courtesy Kelley Keener

Head Park Ranger Shannon Davis, as well as representatives from Continental Realty, Delbert Adams, Gold & Company, Freedom Car, Princeton Sports, BKMA Engineering, Baltimore Sound Engineering, Mind Body Physical Therapy/ Pilates, Mt. Royal Printing and Pepe's all turned out to enjoy this inaugural event.

Michael Weinfeld (Kittredge Properties) and Anne Rouse (RRLRAIA) Photo courtesy Kelley Keener

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Holiday Party in the Woods

by Shannon Putman

Despite unseasonably warm weather and muddy trails, our annual Holiday Party in the Woods was an overwhelming success! We were all relieved that we did not need to cancel this year due to high winds. Held on Robert E. Lee Park's Lake Roland Meadow (formerly known as the old rugby field) off L'Hirondelle Club Road, the festivities brought neighbors together to celebrate with food, music and a blazing bonfire. Children and adults enjoyed freshly grilled hot dogs, delicious cookies, warm apple cider and hot cocoa as they visited with old friends and made new acquaintances.

A jolly visitor brings a smile to Addison Knott as Kelley Keener looks on Photo courtesy Peggy Squitieri

Fire, fire burning bright Photo courtesy Peggy Squitieri

Dianne Benhoff and granddaughter Charlotte enjoy a hot chocolate Photo courtesy Shannon Putman

The highlight of the evening was the arrival of Santa Claus, escorted by Baltimore County firemen, in a four wheel drive vehicle with flashing lights and blaring sirens announcing their special guest. Children of all ages appreciated having one last opportunity to share their secret requests with Santa and to assure him of good behavior. A big thank you to Tom Mooney for the special role he played! The evening concluded with neighbors joining around the magnificent bonfire to sing Christmas carols and to wish each other good cheer. So, next year, consider making this annual neighborhood party in the woods one of your holiday traditions and join in the fun!

Shooting the breeze before lighting the bonfire (from L to R: Board member Keith Murray, Lily Knott, Owen Knott, Weston Boone, Charlotte Knott, Mike Barta and Gardner Boone) Photo courtesy Shannon Putman

Board members Anne Rouse and Kelley Keener setting up the party fare Photo courtesy Shannon Putman

Who Represents You? Election Season After Redistricting

by Nancy Worden Horst

By now you may have noticed the signs, ads and knocks on the door that signal the beginning of Election Season 2014. And some of you may be wondering why your choice of candidates differs from past years. This may be because you have been redistricted – moved to another district with different state senators and delegates, and perhaps congressmen.

Redistricting represents change for both residents and elected officials. Importantly, over the past several months many of our new elected officials have reached out to RRLRAIA in an effort to get to know our communities and have already brought needed resources to support local initiatives such as Acorn Hill, a playground to be located in Robert E. Lee Park. "Understandably, the process of redistricting can be controversial; however, the responsiveness and eagerness of elected officials to immerse themselves in our communities seems to bode well for a bright future," states Patrick Jarosinski, RRLRAIA President.

A glance at your voter's registration card shows your congressional, legislative and councilmanic districts. Up until 2012, most people who resided within the boundaries of our community association lived in the Third Congressional, 42nd Legislative and either the Second or Fifth Councilmanic districts. But the lines were changed in 2012 when Maryland's eight congressional districts and 47 legislative districts were reconfigured. While each congressional district still had close to 710,767 people, and each legislative district contained about 122,842 people, the boundaries were quite different.

So today, if you live west of Charles Street, chances are good that you have been moved from the 42nd to the 11th Legislative District. Your congressman may also have changed.

Not certain who represents you? The Baltimore County Board of Election Supervisors has an interactive map which allows you to enter your address and find your elected representatives: **www.baltimorecountymd.gov/agencies/elections** (or call 410-887-5700). The Maryland Department of Planning at **www.planning.maryland.gov/OurProducts/redistricting** (or call 410-767-4458) and the League of Women Voters/Baltimore County, **www.baltimore.lwvmd.org/flyers/governmentofficials.pdf** (or call 410-377-7738) are also excellent resources.

Why does redistricting matter? Our local, state and federal elected representatives set the rules by which we live. These laws affect the taxes we pay, the food and wine we consume, the roads we drive on and the gas we use, even the very air we breathe. Elections are held to ensure that these representatives listen to us. Since, in most election districts, voters are represented by the candidate who has the most votes in that geographical subdivi-

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Updating Contractors List

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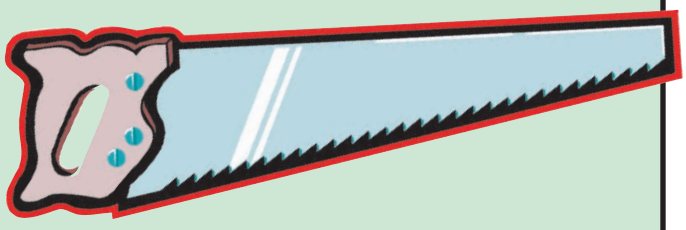
Over the years we've compiled a list of contractors and tradespeople who have been recommended by people in the community and we make this list available to our members. Please help us update this valuable resource by sharing the names and contact information for tradespeople you have used and would recommend.

If you are a current RRLRAIA member and would like a copy of our Contractors List, give us a call or send an email to **rrlraia@comcast.net**.



Neighborhoods in Ruxton, the Lake Roland area and Riderwood were all in the 42nd District prior to redistricting. Since redistricting, neighborhoods have been split: the area in blue is District 11, area in red is District 42B and the area in yellow is District 42A (map courtesy Maryland Department of Planning). For more detail and an interactive map, go to: ***http://planning.maryland.gov/Redistricting/maps.shtml****.*

sion, the way voters are grouped into districts has a huge influence on who represents whom, and what policies they champion, according to the Brennan Center for Justice.

An example of how things get changed around is evidenced in the change in the make-up of congressional districts in recent years. In 2000 there were four Democratic and four Republican congressional districts in Maryland but, following redistricting in 2002, we ended up with six Democratic and two Republican districts. Towson was represented by one councilman in 2000, but in the 2002 redistricting sweep, Towson ended up divided in half: most of the portion of the 21204 zip code from the west side of Charles Street to Falls Road was put into the Second Councilmanic District while the area on the east side of Charles Street to York Road is in the Fifth Councilmanic District.

In Maryland, decisions about who gets to vote for whom have been determined by elected officials nominated by the Governor. In the past, the Governor has appointed a commission comprised of five elected officials, including the President of the Maryland Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Following the 2000 census, the League of Women Voters (LWV) studied the issue and put forth a plan that would have depoliticized the process by making the redistricting commission independent and nonpartisan. The idea was that members of the redistricting commission be appointed by the Governor, the General Assembly and the Court of Appeals; that it be bipartisan, geographically representative and not include any current state elected official; and that the resulting redistricting plan be based on substantially equal population and geographic contiguity and compactness. This plan, however, was not supported by legislators and thus was not pursued.

With the coming primary in June and general election in November, perhaps more change is in our future. We are looking forward to continuing to work with all of our elected officials to ensure further improvements to our communities. If you would like to learn more about this subject, other resources include the Maryland General Assembly (**www.redistricting.state.md.us/maryland/default.asp)**, National Conference of State Legislatures (**www.ncsl.org)** and Brennan Center for Justice (**www.brennancenter.org/content/resource/a_citizens_guide_to_redistricting)**.

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The 'New' Towson YMCA

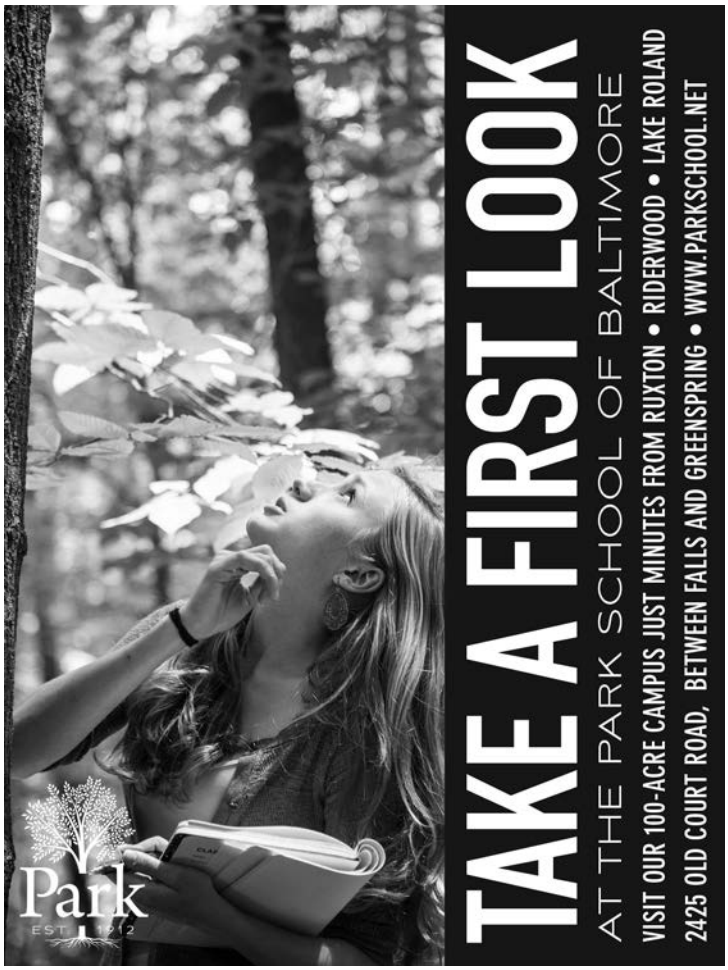
Continued from page 1

for camp and youth sports activities. The pavilion will also be available for use by camps and by members.

The Y is a charitable organization focused on "youth development, healthy living and social responsibility." A full one third of their operating budget is re-invested in the community through grants and financial aid, which enables children and families living at the Federal Poverty Level throughout Central Maryland to enjoy equal opportunities for enrichment, support and healthy living. Program and membership information can be found at ***www.ymaryland.org/towson****.*

Construction on the fast track Photo courtesy Nettie Washburn

A warm welcome awaits you Photo courtesy Nettie Washburn



Dues Reminder!

We're beginning work on our Membership Directory that will be mailed to all members. If you have already paid your 2014 dues, thank you! If not, please send them in so you will receive a copy of the Directory. Plus, if you provide us with your email address you will receive notices of upcoming events as well as other information you may find useful.

PayPal

Please send your check payable to RRLRAIA ($75 or $140 for two years) to P. O. Box 204, Riderwood, MD 21139. You can also pay via PayPal from our website **www.rrlraia.org**. Thank you for your support.

Trees, A Sign of Hope

by Frances Horich

Planting trees is a noble occupation for so many reasons: it's not just about you, but generations to come. As the bones of a landscape, the architecture of a garden, they come for the long haul and should not be considered lightly.

When thinking about planting trees, you must first ask yourself why. Certainly, their structure and seasonal ornamental attributes like leaves and flowers come to mind. It's about one's reaction to seeing something. We want to add beauty to our lives. Many years ago, I read an article in the *Trust For Public Land* magazine called "The Geography of Health" by Francesca Lyman, which I have never forgotten. She quoted Dr. Howard Frumkin who said "the human relationship with nature….might be a component of good health." It's a quality of life issue. Other reasons for planting trees might be for shade, as a windbreak or screen, for the environmental services that trees provide (such as decreasing soil runoff, filtering water, cleaning the air and providing oxygen) or, perhaps most importantly, for wildlife habitat.

If we look at each of these reasons, there will be many different options in terms of which trees to plant. So let's walk through the process. Do you want something beautiful to look at out the living room window? The number one consideration is how much space you have. The most often committed mistake in siting a tree is not thinking about its ultimate size. What might it run into? That's the practical consideration and the aesthetic consideration is what kind of scale is appropriate. If you have a good sized property with plenty of room and a large tree will be in scale with the house and surroundings, you might consider a beech tree – *Fagus grandifolia*, the native or *Fagus sylvatica*, the European. Both have incredible presence, architecture and symmetry about them. The dense branches, which form an oval rounded shape, come almost to the ground and the massive and shallow root system allows little to grow in its space. A mature beech is a majestic sight (50-70 feet or more and with equal spread). Every tree has cultural requirements that must be provided in order for the plant to thrive. For a beech, well-drained, moist, acid soil in full sun is called for. If you don't have that, this one's not for you.

My favorite tree is a Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*). Its elegance and grace blow me away and in maturity it can be 60 feet tall with an equal spread. It has two forms, one more upright, the other spreading. The somewhat heart-shaped leaves open a beautiful reddish purple and then go to blue-green. Fall color varies from yellow to apricot, often with both represented and, as if that isn't enough, the leaves in fall have a unique burnt sugar kind of fragrance. The winter aspect is open with smooth bark in its youth and shaggy bark in maturity. This tree wants to live in rich, moist, well-drained soil in the sun or partial shade. It does not tolerate drought well and might need supplemental watering. The shallow roots are aggressive so care must be taken not to plant one near anything that could get in its way.

Let's look at another ornamental situation. You want a tree to enhance a view on a smaller scale. The first thing I think about is that I want the tree to give me something in every season. Apple Serviceberry (*Amelanchier x grandiflora* 'Autumn Brilliance') is just such a plant. Its growth habit is multi-stemmed and quite refined, from 15 to 25 feet, with smooth grey bark. It blooms in the spring with drooping clusters of white flowers, bears fruit in the summer and turns, as the name implies, brilliant orange/red in fall. This is a plant that can fit into most places, is adaptable to a variety of soils and can take sun or partial shade. It is also drought tolerant, but it does not like the wind.

How about if you want a tree to provide shade? The Trident Maple (*Acer buergerianum*) is an excellent candidate because of its moderate size (35 to 45 feet with a 25-foot spread) and overall adaptability. It is particularly useful in urban settings because it copes well with compacted soil, something many plants reject. Its yellow/green flowers have some ornamental quality and the fall leaf color makes it a standout.

Trees for screening take us beyond deciduous trees to evergreens. That is not to say that deciduous trees can't provide a screen and, given enough room, a combination is often the way to go. But let's talk about a native needled evergreen tree, the Eastern Redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana* 'Emerald Sentinel'). This narrow columnar tree (25 x 8 feet) is tolerant of adverse conditions and only requires full sun.

I'm going to group the last reasons for planting trees together because I think environmental services is probably what we should all be thinking about first if we want to be good stewards of the

Continued on page 22

Our Architectural Heritage

Continued from page 11

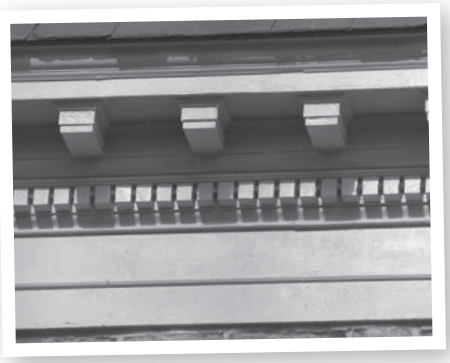


Photo 13

built into the slope of the roof to create a third floor of usable living space typically called the attic. The dormers of the Federal style typically had arched windows with a decorative muntin pattern as shown in Photo 14.

Photo 14

Many of the same decorative motifs found in a Georgian house are found in the Federal design. They include swags, garlands, urns and classic geometric patterns. These motifs will continue to be used in the next Colonial style, Classic Revival. Although it is a style that is considered Colonial, it spoke more to Greek architecture than to English. Many of the settlers arriving after 1776 wanted to distinguish themselves from the English founding fathers. I will speak more about the revival styles in the next article on Romantic Architecture and we have many examples in our neighborhoods. I hope you enjoyed this trip through our local Colonial style and that you will make a game of spotting some of the stylistic details mentioned on homes in your neighborhood!

Thank you to our homeowners for letting us use photographs of their homes to illustrate this discussion about RRLR architecture.

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Baby Arugula Salad with Citrus Vinaigrette

Ned Atwater, of Atwater's fame, has generously shared one of his favorite spring salad recipes with us. Enjoy!

Salad Ingredients:

- ¼ lb baby arugula
- 2 oz Toma cheese (*can substitute tomme or feta*)
- 1/2 Clementine, peeled and sectioned
- 4 - 6 pitted Kalamata olives
- 1 Tb pomegranate seeds

Citrus Vinaigrette Ingredients:

- 2 Tb roasted lemon juice*
- 1 Tb freshly squeezed orange juice
- 1 clove roasted garlic, minced
- Pinch of fresh vanilla bean, scraped from inside of pod
- 1 tsp maple syrup
- ½ C olive oil
- 1 tsp honey
- 1 tsp balsamic vinegar
- ½ tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 pinch fresh rosemary, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

Combine all the vinaigrette ingredients, except the oil, in a food processor. Pulse and slowly add the oil to emulsify. Set aside. Combine salad ingredients in a large bowl and add dressing to taste. Serve immediately.

**Cut one lemon in half, drizzle with olive oil and season generously with salt and pepper. Roast at 350°F for 10-12 minutes.*

Dumpster Day 2014

When: Saturday, April 26, rain or shine

Time: 8:30 a.m. until noon

Where: Riderwood Elementary School
1711 Landrake Road
Towson, MD 21204

Why not start your spring cleaning at our annual Dumpster Day? Baltimore County will again provide RRLRAIA with dumpsters for disposal of your bulk trash items. The dumpsters will be located in the parking lot nearest to the tennis courts at Riderwood Elementary School. The following items will NOT be accepted:

- Large stumps or wood/logs in excess of 8" in diameter or 6' in length
- Flammable/hazardous materials/ liquids, paint, pesticides
- Tires or any appliances

In addition to dumpsters, a Goodwill truck will accept donations of used clothing, toys, furniture and operational household items. The Loading Dock, a non-profit building material re-use center, will collect useable home construction items until noon or until their truck is full. So pass along unneeded or old lighting fixtures, doors, flooring, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, etc. Check out acceptable new and used building materials at **www.loadingdock.org** (click on tab 'Donate', then click on tab 'Materials Donations') or call 410-558-3625, ext.17.

We are always happy to have volunteers help with this event. Please contact our office at 410-494-7757 or **rrlraia@comcast.net** if you can help for an hour or two. Volunteers should bring a pair of work gloves with them!

Dumpster Day 2012, Brian Rogers and Board member Scott Murphy at your service Photo courtesy Tracy Miller

Giving Ruxtonites a Little Gas

by Bliss McCord

Leigh Brent and Bobby Goldsborough want to give their neighbors in RRLRAIA a little gas. No, they aren't going to pump out satirical witticisms about folks from our area. They literally want you to fill your vehicle's tank at the Bellona Avenue CITGO Station that they purchased in 2012, following the death of its former owner, Riderwood's Dave Bowerman.

Goldsborough and Brent join a list of people who have operated some form of transportation-related business on or near this site for nearly 200 years, beginning with Thomas Ford's blacksmith shop in the mid-19th century (see Fall 2013 ***Neighborhood NEWS***). With the advent of the automobile, 'horsepower' connoted a different set of needs and, in time, service station attendants replaced the smithy in attending to the travelers of Bellona Avenue.

After Dave Bowerman died a few years ago, the Shell station stopped selling gasoline but continued its service and repair business. When Dave's widow, Barbara, finally decided to put the property on the market, there was much community speculation as to the future of this parcel of land. Would it remain a gas station? A coffee shop ('The Filling Station')? A convenience store?

What made the offering unusual – and more valuable – was the fact that it included not only the gas station but also the two acres of land it sat upon. In addition, Bowerman had been co-owner of Ruxton Valley Towing, which contracted with the Maryland State Police to tow vehicles from I-695 and I-83 and store them in the fenced yard next to the station.

Three years passed as interest in the property waxed and waned. In late 2010, Bobby Goldborough approached his old friend Leigh Brent to see if he would be interested in partnering in the purchase of the business, not far from Brent's home. It should come as no surprise that Goldsborough would be interested as he has owned gas stations in Baltimore for the last 25 years. But why Brent, whose career is in insurance? Those who know him probably weren't surprised, for Leigh, like his father before him, has loved cars since childhood. Judging from the 15 antique models he has stashed around the city, that boyhood interest has morphed into a serious passion. And guess whose service stations often had a Brent antique on a lift?

Although it took close to two years, a deal was finally struck and the property sold in June 2012. Luckily, the three employees, Mike

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Mozelack and brothers Kenny and Jerry Shifflett, who had a loyal following, wanted to stay on. Mike and Kenny, it should be noted, had started there as teenagers many years before.

The first and obviously most expensive order of business was the replacement of the overhead canopy, the pumps and, most importantly, the very old underground delivery system. CITGO became the new brand at the station. Next was the matter of the towing business. The new owners simplified life by terminating the partnership, although the remaining owner of Ruxton Valley Towing still maintains a contract with the Maryland State Police and now just leases the area where the towed cars are stored.

One physical change customers are bound to enjoy at the CITGO station is the renovation of the old cashier/waiting area. It has been redesigned and now boasts an L-shaped coffee bar where customers waiting for an oil change can relax with the morning paper while sipping a free hot java. Woe to the patron with a hankering for junk food, however, as health-conscious Goldsborough has replaced sodas and chips with healthier alternatives. Long-term hopes for this area include a small patio with a table or two sporting umbrellas for those waiting for car service on warm spring and fall days.

Another improvement is the addition of a unisex restroom. Unlike most stations where a key must be retrieved from the cashier in order to unlock an "accommodation" on the outside of the station, this new marble-floored restroom is accessed from the waiting area where employees can keep an eye out for misuse.

The sale of gas resumed in September 2012 and, according to Brent, the business has steadily grown as people hear about the new owners and service. In fact, the owners plan to add a fourth repair bay soon. So stop in sometime and check out the 'new' gas station and amenities and enjoy the reinvigoration of this corner of Ruxton.

Postscript: Observant passersby may well have noted another improvement to the area, just north of the CITGO station. Last summer, the Greater Ruxton Area Foundation was granted permission by the station owners to install a native plant garden on the strip of land across the street from Malvern Avenue. What was formerly a forlorn spit of macadam, blown trash and scraggly trees was planted and tended with loving care through the serious drought of last year. With Mother Nature's help, this garden, just as others planted by the Foundation, should grow into yet another asset to our community, enhancing not only the roadside but the approach to the gas station as well.

Towson Happenings

Towson Gardens Day – Thursday, May 1

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Towson Courthouse Fountain Plaza and adjacent West Pennsylvania, Baltimore Avenue and Washington Avenue.

For more information or for inclement weather please check **www.towsonchamber.com**.

Enjoy wonderful summertime foods (ranging from pit beef to ethnic delights and from cheese steaks to roasted corn and funnel cakes), beautiful flowers and plants, unique crafts and jewelry, entertainment from three singing groups from area schools and a children's dance group and more. Gather in front of the Old Court House at 11:00 a.m. for the Court House Garden tours led by professional landscape designers Carol Oppenheimer and Avery Harden.

Towsontown Spring Festival - Saturday, May 3 and Sunday May 4

Time: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 8 p.m., Sunday 1 – 6 p.m.

Location: downtown Towson – York Road to Bosley Avenue and Susquehanna Avenue to Allegheny Avenue.

For more information visit **www.towsontownspringfestival.com** or call 410-825-1144.

Food, carnival rides and games, free musical entertainment, antique classic cars, local farmers' produce, rock climbing wall, mechanical bull ride and much more.

Feet on the Street – Starting Friday, May 16

Time: 6 – 9:30 p.m.

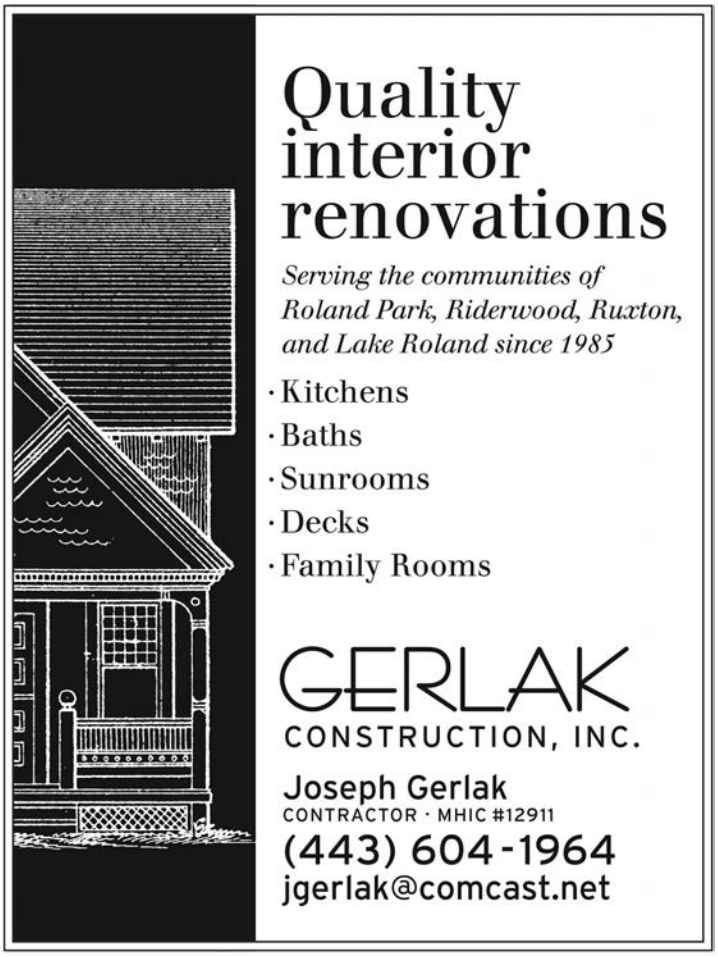
Location: Allegheny Avenue, near the traffic circle

Towson's Friday night block parties – food from local restaurants, children's activities and live music.

Towson Farmers Market – Starting Thursday, June 12 through November 20

Time: 10:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Location: Allegheny Avenue between Washington Avenue and York Road.



Trees, A Sign of Hope

Continued from page 17

earth. Since trees do all the things mentioned earlier, we should be planting them whenever and wherever we can, always considering if the tree we want fits the situation we have. I'm going to highlight a native tree here with a great capacity to add to our habitat in many ways. The Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*) is a small tree (10 to 25 feet) with a horizontal growth habit and it thrives in moist, acid, well-drained soil in many different exposures to sun. It provides beauty with its yellow/white flowers, foliage and horizontal and tiered branching habit; its root system holds soil well and its fruit is an excellent source of food for wildlife.

Let me restate our reasons for planting trees which might include: to help increase biodiversity and sustainability in our ecosystem, to organize our landscapes into comfortable, interesting and varied scenes and to make us feel happy and healthy by having living and beautiful views available everywhere we can. When you have assessed your site in terms of soil quality, water availability and retention and space available above and below ground, and researched the needs of the trees you wish to plant and have planted them carefully, you will have achieved your goals. Below is a list of trees I have loved and recommend looking at when you are moved to start planting. It is by no means complete, just the top of the hit parade:

Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) – native, large and tolerant of wet conditions

Shumard Oak (*Quercus shumardii*) – native, large and tolerant of adverse conditions

Japanese Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata* 'Village Green') – large shade tree, tolerant of clay, soil compaction and a wide range of pH

Yellowwood (*Cladrastis lutea*) – native, medium shade tree of distinction in flower and winter form

Lace-bark Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*) – medium shade tree of great elegance in form and tolerant of many conditions

American Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*) – native, medium understory tree, tolerant of shade and wet sites

Carolina Silver Bell (*Halesia tetraptera*) – native, small to medium flowering shade tree

White Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*) – native, small flowering tree tolerant of wet conditions and air pollution

Tea Crabapple (*Malus hupehensis*) – small flowering, four-season tree with graceful growth habit

White Redbud (*Cersis canadensis 'Alba'*) – native, small flowering tree with graceful form and attractive heart-shaped leaves

Japanese Cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica 'Yoshino'*) – medium needled evergreen with graceful habit and pyramidal shape, tolerant of a variety of growing conditions

Koehne Holly (*Ilex koehneana 'Lassie'*) – broadleaved evergreen with good pyramidal form, lustrous leaves and great fruit set, developed at McLean Nurseries here in Baltimore County

Frances V. Horich, a landscape designer and horticulturist since 1982, designs gardens for clients throughout the Baltimore area. She can be contacted at ***fvhorich@aol.com*** *or 410-925-9383.*

Crossword Puzzle Answers

Across

2. White Oak
7. Ravens
8. Bellona
11. Royal Farms
12. Graul's
13. Light rail
15. Coppermine
17. Riderwood
19. L'Hirondelle
21. Circle Road
22. Poulet
23. Easter egg

Down

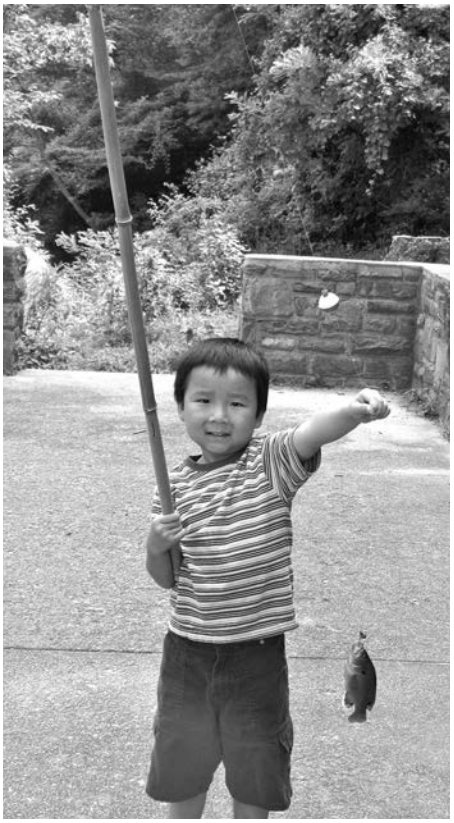
1. Deer
3. Atwaters
4. The Ivy
5. Pepe's
6. Oriole
9. April showers
10. Daffodil
14. Simply Noted
16. Robert E. Lee
18. GBMC
20. Dogwood

A Fish Tale

by Nancy Worden Horst

When he was a Cub Scout, our son enjoyed making a fishing pole from a stick and some string, baiting the hook with a worm or some bread and fishing in the streams that fed into Lake Roland. Sometimes he caught a sunfish!

So you can imagine how pleased I was to introduce my grandson to the delights of old-fashioned cane pole fishing at a program run by the affable rangers at Robert E. Lee Park.



This look says it all! Photo courtesy Shannon Davis

Park rangers provide cane poles and bait and teach the children how to rig the poles, bait the hooks and fish like an expert from the shores of Lake Roland. They may not be guaranteed a fish, but they'll catch a lot of fun.

Cane pole making and fishing are planned for May 8 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. and July 12 and 13 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. A fishing derby is planned for June 14 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. For more details and to register, call 410-887-4156 or email **releepark-rp@baltimorecountymd.gov** to make a reservation.

Hanging out with a friend Photo courtesy Shannon Davis

*Note: participants aged 16 and older need a state fishing license. To apply for a license, visit the Department of Natural Resources website **www.dnr.state.md.us/service/license.asp** to order online, or telephone 1-855-855-3906 or write to DNR, Annapolis Service Center, P.O. Box 1869, 1804 West Street, Suite 300, Annapolis, MD 21401.*

Watching her float Photo courtesy Shannon Davis

Native Plant Sale

Where: Robert E. Lee Park

When: May 3, 2014, 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Rain date: May 4

Location: Near the dam

The sale will feature plants native to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. There will be opportunities to learn about the importance of planting native species and the best place to plant them. Native plant experts will advise those with questions and will be happy to discuss your specific garden if you bring photos or sketches.

The plant sale is co-sponsored by the Robert E Lee Park Nature Council and the Guilford Garden Club. For more details visit the RELPNC website at **http://relpnc.org/**.

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