

## **Roland Park E-letter**

**Web Editor's E-letter  
January 6, 2010**

### **1. Mayor-to-be Stephanie Rawlings-Blake to Attend Jan. 7 Civic League Meeting on Firehouse Closings.**

*What and when:* Roland Park Civic League, Thursday, Jan. 7, 7 p.m.

*Where:* Roland Park Presbyterian Church, 4801 Roland Avenue.

*Issue:* Forum on frequent closures of Roland Park firehouse.

As we mentioned last week, Thursday's Civic League meeting will feature a discussion about the city's policy of rotating closures at the Roland Park firehouse, for the renovation of which the community raised thousands last year.

We have received word that City Council President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake will attend, along with Councilwomen Sharon Middleton and Mary Pat Clarke. President Rawlings-Blake will take over as mayor upon Sheila Dixon's Feb. 4 resignation. All these officials and more can be contacted through RolandPark.org's elected officials' blast e-mail page at <http://www.rolandpark.org/RPReps.html>. Also present will be Fire Chief James Clack and Fire Commissioner Stuart Nathan.

### **2. Second Master Plan Charrette.**

This Friday and Saturday are sessions 1 and 2 of the second Roland Park area master plan community forum or charrette.

Session 1 — Friday, January 8, 7 to 9 p.m.,

Session 2 — Saturday, January 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Both meetings are at Roland Park Elementary/Middle School, 5207 Roland Avenue. The sessions are sequential, which is to say that the second is not just a repeat of the first. The purpose is to refine strategies for addressing the issue areas under study. The issues in question are:

- Commercial & retail matters.
- Housing, historic preservation & architectural standards.
- Infrastructure.
- Livability, education and intergenerational issues.
- Green, open & recreational space (including the water tower).
- Transportation.

The planning process is soliciting area residents' views on zoning and land use, historical preservation and resource sustainability, and many other issues. The idea is to turn these views into a comprehensive plan that in turn can be used to inform city zoning regulations for this area.

The effort is not restricted to Roland Park proper. Other area neighborhoods — Evergreen, Tuxedo, Keswick, etc. — are encouraged to participate. We're all in this together.

The master plan dedicated web page is at: <http://www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlan>. A number of new postings have been made to this page over the past couple of days, including detailed city

Department of Planning demographic profiles of the constituent neighborhoods of greater Roland Park (thanks to Seema Iyer).

The master plan's on-line forums are here: <http://www.rolandpark.org/MasterPlanMetaBlog>. There are nine very-easy-to-use forums upon which residents may post their views. Forum use is free.

Last, we have opened a new "Urban Life Reading Room" web page, to which many interesting journal articles about garden suburbs, urban parks and other pertinent topics have been posted. (Thanks to Mike McQuestion for providing most of the article PDFs.) The reading room is at: <http://www.rolandpark.org/UrbanLibrary.html>.

### **3. Our Daily Bread Casserole Program at Bolton Street Synagogue.**

Looking for an opportunity to engage your family in an activity serving the larger community? This past fall, Bolton Street Synagogue, located on Cold Spring Lane, started a monthly casserole program to help provide food to Our Daily Bread's hot-meal program. Our Daily Bread, located near downtown, currently serves more than a quarter-million meals to the hungry of the city each year.

The synagogue would like to invite members of the greater Roland Park community to join with them in addressing hunger and homelessness in our city. Participants in the casserole program make a once-a-month casserole in their homes by choosing one of two recipes and delivering the homemade and frozen casseroles to the synagogue the fourth Sunday of each month in the morning. Alternative arrangements for delivery can be made as well. If you are interested in participating (and no you don't have to do it every month), please contact Claudia Diamond at [ClaudiaADiamond@gmail.com](mailto:ClaudiaADiamond@gmail.com) or (410) 662-4734. This is a great activity for kids!

### **4. National Art Honor Society ArtAid Silent Auction.**

The National Art Honor Society at Roland Park Country School is soliciting work from local artists to auction at a fundraiser for Baltimore City Public Schools Visual Arts programs. The silent auction called ArtAid will be held on February 3 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Woman's Industrial Exchange. It will feature the work of local artists and students from public and private schools in the city, including Polytechnic Institute, Western High School, Roland Park Country School, Bryn Mawr School, Gilman, Friends and Boys' Latin.

Organizers are striving to raise \$5,000 for the arts programs in Baltimore City public schools. Artwork for auction will be collected through January 15. Anyone willing to donate a piece of art should contact Roland Park Country School at (410) 323-5500, ext. 2230 or [fairallb@rpcs.org](mailto:fairallb@rpcs.org). Admission to the auction is free but a \$5 donation is suggested.

Best regards,

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