

Roland Park E-letter

Web Editor's E-letter

January 29, 2012

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1. Important Community Meeting: City Infrastructure in Greater Roland Park.

Thursday, Feb 2, 7-8:15 PM, Roland Park Presbyterian Church, 4801 Roland Avenue

Living in an historic community is fantastic but not when you are talking about historic city infrastructure! All living and working in Greater Roland Park are invited to attend this weeks Civic League meeting when we focus on the sewers and storm water management and ask experts the following questions:

- *What is the impact of infrastructure deficiency on water quality focusing on streams such as the Stoney Run or the Jones Falls?*
- *What is the condition of the sewer and storm water systems throughout Greater Roland Park?*
- *What is the plan to improve City infrastructure in our community? What has happened so far and what is planned?*
- *How much will improvements cost and how will they be financed? What do we currently pay in our water bills for these improvements?*
- *What are effective community based restoration efforts and educational programs?*
 - *Major transportation improvements are planned in Greater RP. How will these projects be coordinated with necessary improvements to the sewer system?*

On hand to field these questions (and others) are:

Bill Stack, P.E., Deputy Director of Programs, Center for Watershed Protection

Halle Vandergaag, Executive Director, Blue Water Baltimore

Art Shapiro Chief, Maintenance Division, Baltimore City Dept of Public Works (DPW)

Wazir Qadri, BC Water and Wastewater

Kim Burgess, Chief, Surface Water Management, Baltimore City DPW

ALL ARE INVITED! We encourage students in the community who have studied these issues to participate. We also invite commercial stakeholders who have been impacted to attend as well.

2. Go from Chilly to Chili at the Greater Roland Park Chili Cook-Off!

Calling all chili chefs and lovers! Join us for a chili cook-off to benefit the Roland Water Tower on Saturday, February 25th, 2012 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys (5100 Falls Road).

Chili Chefs, do you have a great chili recipe? Be one of 10 chefs to compete for “Top Chili Chef” honors in two categories: judges’ favorite and people’s choice. The winner will go home with a trophy, plus bragging rights! Please contact Kate Culotta by February 6th for more information on entering the contest: krculotta@msn.com or 410-889-4095.

Chili Lovers, the Greater Roland Park Chili Cook-Off is a great way to chase away winter’s chill! Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids ages 2 to 13 (kids under 2 are free). Sample a variety of chili recipes and pick your favorite for dinner. Homemade cornbread, soft drinks and desserts will round out your meal. There will be a cash bar.

Seating is limited, so reserve your spot now! You can pay for your tickets at the door. Please RSVP by February 17th by emailing Chili@RolandPark.org or calling 410-889-4095 (Kate Culotta). For the very latest on the Chili Cook-off, visit the Chili page at <http://www.rolandpark.org/chili.html> for more details

For information on the Roland Water Tower Campaign, please visit www.RolandPark.org/WaterTower. To get involved in the preservation effort, please contact the Friends of the Roland Water Tower at RolandH2OTower@yahoo.com or visit the group’s Facebook page: [apps.facebook.com/causes/298295](https://www.facebook.com/causes/298295). Tax-deductible donations can be made at the Chili Cook-Off or mailed to the Roland Park Community Foundation, c/o Roland Water Tower Campaign, P.O. Box 16214, Baltimore, MD 21210.

3. Baltimore Police engagement with the community - a Roland Parker’s view.

Anne Porterfield prepared the following report on the recent meeting of the Baltimore Police Department’s Northern District Community Council Meeting. Future dates of these meetings are tracked in the Community Calendar at the Roland Park web site (http://www.rolandpark.org/calendar_rp.html).

I attended the meeting of the Community Council of the Northern Police District on Wednesday night January 18. These bi-monthly meetings are designed to create a forum for dialogue with our police leadership team as well as to learn more about public safety issues that affect our lives in the Northern District. The meetings are held on the third Wednesday

of every other month, the next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2012. The meeting was opened and led by Major Tapp-Harper, the commanding officer of the Northern District. Various members of the Northern Community asked about specific crimes which have occurred in the District and the Major and her team gave detailed updates on the outcomes. It seems if our community members have questions or want follow-up to certain issues, this might be the forum in which to do that.

Following the questions by community representatives the commander of the Family Crimes

Unit spoke of the initiatives the Department is taking with domestic violence. Through a partnership with the House of Ruth and the Johns Hopkins University, the department has created an assessment method to help the officer on the street judge the level of danger an abused person has of being killed by their intimate partner. The use of this 'Lethality Assessment' has helped reduce the level of domestic violence in the NE, N, and Southern Districts and will go city wide in 2012. The officers send the House of Ruth(HOR) copies of their assessments and HOR follows up with the victim depending on the assessed level of risk. This method is more effective than simply police work as domestic violence victims often are unwilling to participate in the criminal justice system. Consequently, the HOR, health care professionals and other advocacy groups offer effective alternatives. Domestic violence homicides have been reduced from 14 in 2008 to 6 in 2011. A flyer from the Family Crimes Unit was distributed.

Major Tapp-Harper came to the December RPCL meeting to introduce herself and her Community Relations Officer, Doug Gibson (Douglas.Gibson@baltimorepolice.org). The Major became the commanding officer of the Northern district in the summer of 2011. The Major began her career as a police cadet and is a 25 year veteran of the Baltimore Police Department. She actually lives in the Northern District- in Coldspring-Newtown with her husband and three children. She has a BS from Coppin State University in Criminal Justice and a Masters in Applied Behavioral Science from Johns Hopkins. At the meeting she addressed specific questions by certain community members and introduced Douglas Gibson as an important liaison for individuals in the District. Gibson encouraged participation in the Operation Crime Watch (application here: http://www.rolandpark.org/civicleague_docs/CrimeWatchApp.pdf).

4. Apply for review before making any exterior changes to your property.

Paula Dubé, President of Roland Park Roads and Maintenance, writes with the following reminder.

Before initiating any changes to the exterior of your property, including fences, parking pads, patios, hardscape, decks, windows, painting, and, of course, additions, please make application to the Architectural Review Committee of Roland Park Roads and Maintenance. The application is available under the "Roads and Maintenance" tab on the Roland Park website (<http://www.rolandpark.org/roads/roadsApp.html>). Landscaping (trees, shrubs, lawns) is at your own tasteful discretion.

5. Cylburn Arboretum offers summer camps.

This summer, there will be two camp programs offered at Cylburn Arboretum-- the classic Cylburn Nature Science Camp for children ages 6-11, and the Science Nature Quest Camp for 10 and 11 year olds. Both camp programs were developed to capitalize on the Cylburn environment and natural resources. Local outdoor educators from the Jemicy School, St.Paul's School for Boys, Baltimore Green Map, Loyola College, and Baltimore City helped in the development of the curricula. The all details and an application can be found at <http://www.cylburnassociation.org/subpages/CylburnNatureScienceCamp.html> .

6. Ravens sponsor college scholarships..

The Ravens All Community Team Foundation, in conjunction with the CollegeBound Foundation, is now accepting applications for the 2012 Ravens Scholars program. Public high school seniors can apply for \$5,000 renewable college scholarships by visiting www.BaltimoreRavens.com/scholarships. Applications are due March 1.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Phip Spevak, Anne Porterfield, and Paula Dubé contributed to this e-letter.

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