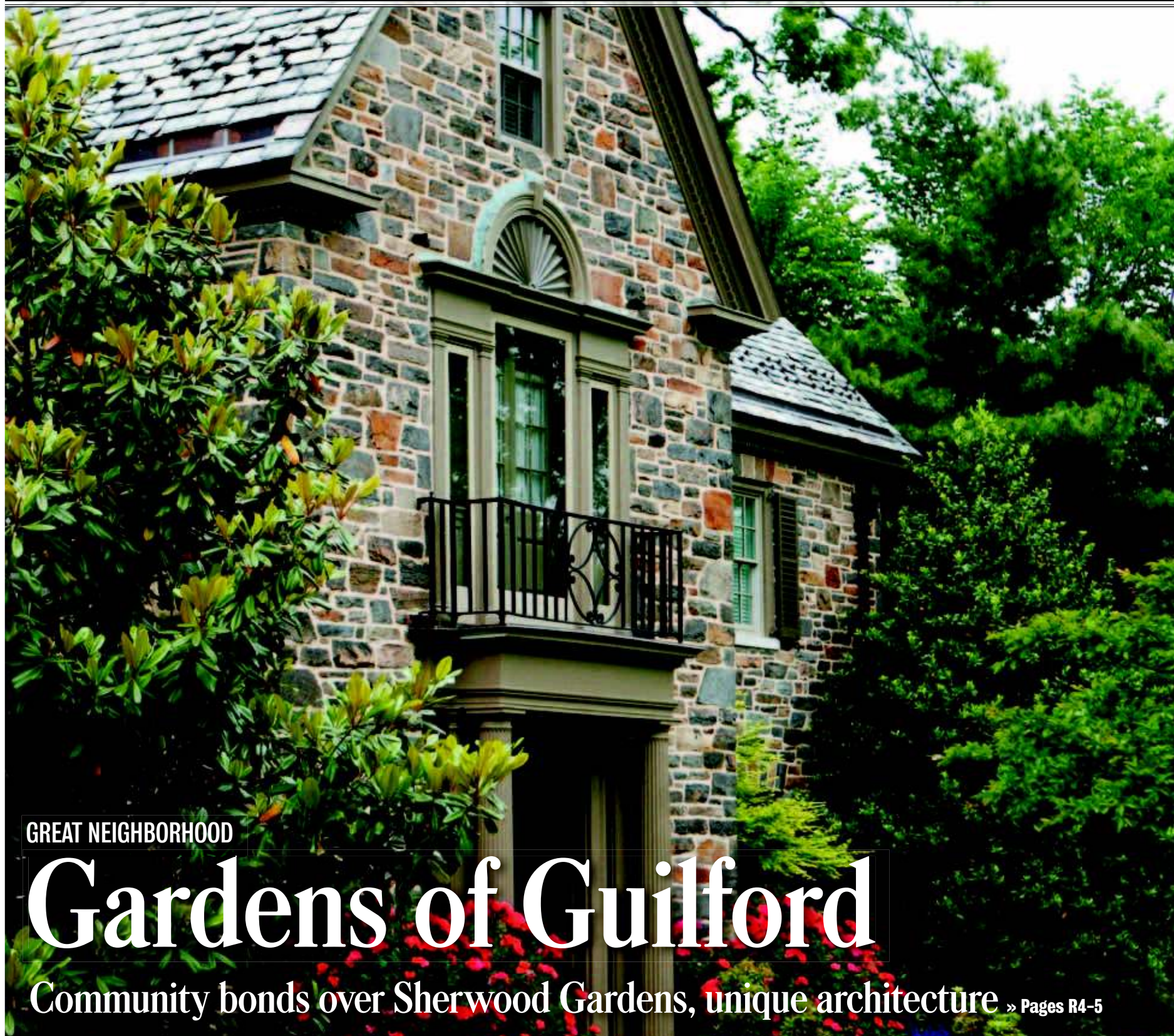




Luscious landscaping

Finksburg home boasts waterfall, ponds. » **Page R18**



GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD

Gardens of Guilford

Community bonds over Sherwood Gardens, unique architecture » **Pages R4-5**

» **ASK ALLEGRA** » PAGE R2

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READY, SET, AUCTION

BSO decorates

The 7,800 square-foot home built in 1896 selected as the Baltimore Symphony Associates' 32nd annual Decorators' Show House. » **Page R12**



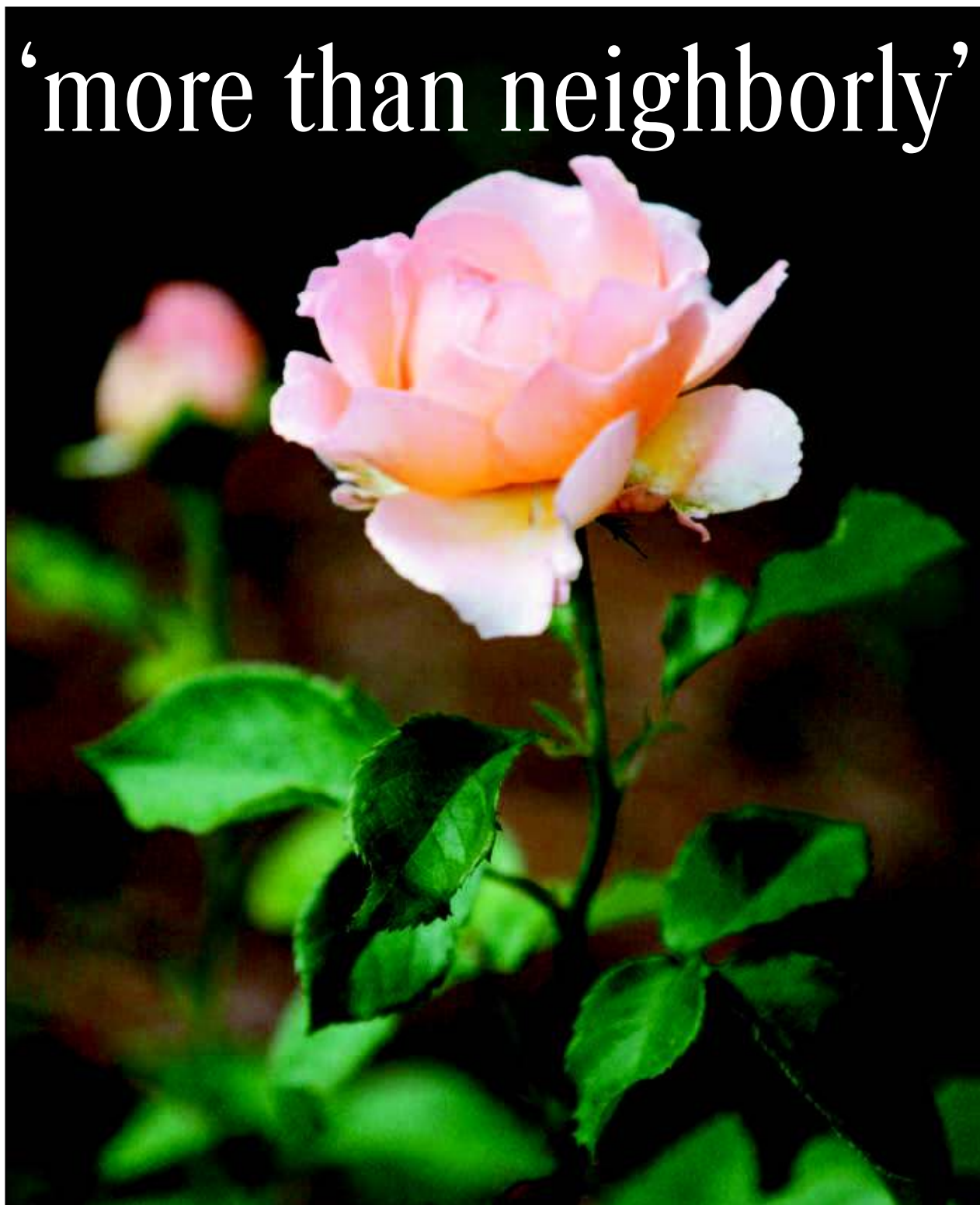
NEW HOMES

Finding a deal in Frederick

Fields at White Marsh's "enormous" homes are selling out fast. » **Page R19**

GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD

Guilford is 'more than neighborly'



By Terri Kearns
Examiner Correspondent

While stunning architecture and a prime location are high on Guilford's list of accolades, it's Sherwood Gardens that unites the neighborhood, making it a community of friends rather than just a place.

"You meet a lot of people either by helping to raise funds, or plant flowers, or just wandering through," said Bruce Barnett, 31-year resident and Chair of the Sherwood Gardens Committee. "[Sherwood Gardens] encourages neighbors to come out and talk."

Sherwood Gardens gained recognition in 1956 when National Geographic drew attention to the acres of unique tulips that bloom every spring in this north Baltimore City neighborhood.

According to Barnett, maintaining Sherwood Gardens costs the Guilford Association roughly \$100,000 a year. To fundraise, residents plan, organize and participate in dinners, progressive wine tastings, family days and other

community events.

The Guilford Association also maintains three other parks, architectural control over the homes and neighborhood security.

"We recognize that a low crime rate is one of the most important things," said Lynda Riley, 11-year resident and President of the Guilford Association.

The Riley's love Guilford's location, minutes from colleges, downtown Baltimore and neighborhood restaurants like Donna's, Tamber's, Brasserie Tatin and Golden West Café.

"We routinely walk to dinner on Friday nights," said Riley, whose teenage son often skateboards to Charles Village for ice cream after school.

"It's unique to find a community with a suburban feel but classic architecture that's so close to the city," said Tom Hobbs, 30-year resident and Chair of the Architectural Committee.

The Olmstead brothers, famous for Central Park, designed Guilford's curvy, tree-lined streets in the early 1900s. Most of the homes were built between 1915 and 1925.

"Some of the finest architects of the

time were employed to design the houses," said Hobbs citing designers of the National Gallery and the BMA as Guilford architects.

"We have Tudors and some Italianesque, brick Georgian or Federal style homes like those developed in England, and there are a lot of stone and stucco homes," said Hobbs.

"No two houses are alike," said Rudy Strukoff who cited architectural individuality as one of his top motivators for moving to Guilford. "It's just stunning."

The close-knit community Strukoff moved into was an unexpected, but happy surprise.

"We knew we'd picked the right place on the first day when we moved in and people started knocking on the door bringing cookies, cakes, teas and introducing themselves," said Strukoff.

Ten years later his neighbors on Wendover Street are his close friends. They dine together, share beers together and even spend the holidays together.

"It's more than being neighborly," said Strukoff.

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THINGS

GUILFORD



LEAFY GREENS

In addition to Sherwood Gardens, Guilford has three other parks and a number of community green spaces. Mature trees and colorfully landscaped yards complete Guilford's curvy, Olmstead-designed streets.

COMMUNITY GROUP

Guilford residents pay dues to the Guilford Association based on the size of their land. That money maintains the green spaces and funds the security patrol. Learn more about the community at guilfordnews.com.

GET SCHOOLED

Guilford Elementary/Middle has two new playgrounds courtesy of donors and FANS-Friends and Neighbors of the School. Additional donations are funding more greening of the exterior and various educational programs like the Foreign Language Project.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!

Guilford residents walk to the Waverly Farmer's Market, the Baltimore Museum of Art, Johns Hopkins University and various restaurants and shops in Charles Village and Hampden.

PARK IT

Sherwood Gardens got its start in 1927 by John W. Sherwood. Even then, the line between personal and public property blurred as visitors from all over came to enjoy Sherwood's hobby. When he died, the community purchased the 6 acres and continues his flowering traditions. The public continues to enjoy the garden, especially each spring when the tulips bloom.

FAMILIES THAT PLAY TOGETHER

Guilford families stroll Sherwood Gardens after dinner, "adopt-a-plot" to share their own green thumbs and enjoy holiday events in the garden like the Spring Egg Hunt, the Halloween Parade and the Holiday Tree.

"SENSE-SATIONAL FRENCH"

Brasserie Tatin is Guilford-resident owned and just a short walk from the neighborhood. Tatin was Baltimore Magazine's Best New Restaurant in 2006 and made the list of Best Restaurants again in 2008. To make reservations, visit brassrietatin.com.

TULIP DIG

Residents and visitors head to Sherwood Gardens the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend each year to dig up the bulbs, which sell for 30 cents. If you're going, take your own gear and be ready to dig for what you want.

SUMMER IN THE PARKS

Summer means movies in the park at Guilford's Sunken Park on Charles and Overhill. June also means Dinner at Dusk in Sherwood Gardens and Sunday in the Park, an old-fashioned event with a moon bounce and sack races. Both events raise money to pay for the park.

WENDOVER

Residents on Wendover Street are particularly social with annual block parties, pool parties and impromptu get-togethers over pints at nearby establishments. There's also the Women of Wendover who get together for dinner, the opera and other events.

