Zero Energy Homes and Green Roofs Focus of September Lecture

The Olmsted Society’s Architecture committee will present a two-part lecture on “The Zero Energy Home and Residential Green Roofs” at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, at the Riverside Township Hall Auditorium.

Lecturers include Jerry Marconi and Trevor Wukasch. Marconi, a resident of Riverside, will discuss his sustainable vacation home near Savanna, Illinois. An attorney by trade, Marconi was published recently on this innovative home away from home in The Landmark’s “Going Green” edition. He will go in depth about his current energy saving systems as well as other sustainable materials and methods. He will also review his future plans to expand the sustainability and expand on ideas for all of us at our full-time dwellings.

Wukasch is a landscape designer for Intrinsic Landscaping, Inc. and Green Roof Solutions, Inc., a notable green roof contractor in the United States. He studied Environmental Studies at Augustana College and Landscape Architecture at the University of Illinois and has been involved in large-scale native landscape restoration.

Wukasch has presented several lectures which discussed the specifics of installing green roofs both residentially and commercially. In this lecture he will focus on the residential green roof for the homeowner, presenting in detail about the benefits, materials, installation, impact, costs, and financial incentives of residential green roofs.

We hope you will join us for these informative and innovative lecture topic.

Reflections on Riverside

We are simply delighted by the enthusiasm demonstrated by all the Riverside students who participated in our first annual Reflections on Riverside Student Writing Contest. So many students took our contest theme to heart and created wonderful, original poems reflecting or encouraging reflection upon Riverside’s natural spaces.

The following young Riversiders are the Olmsted Society’s 2007 award winners in their respective schools:


A bound volume containing all poems entered in the Reflections on Riverside contest is being created for the Olmsted Room of the Riverside Public Library. In the mean time, for your reading pleasure, the poems of the first place winners are presented on page 6.

(All poems reprinted with permission of the authors.)
Letter From the President

As the summer heat intensifies and the cicada’s call wanes, I am mindful of our environment and how precious it is to our way of life here in Riverside. My generation marvels at how aware and green-oriented we have become. We find ourselves engaging with more and more “green organizations” with whom we have, as a common goal, the continued stewardship of our lovely planet and, in particular, our “oasis of green” right here in Riverside.

Now that the specter of the TIF has, for the moment, been abated, we are alarmed anew by the sites being shifted to one of our park areas…namely Harrington Park. In the words of our Village officials this is one of our “assets.” With the use of the term “asset” come many interpretations. Is this a commodity to be spent, squandered, built on, or usurped, or is it a valuable and natural green space that villagers can use in perpetuity for recreation and relaxation? One would hope that it is the latter and that common wisdom would dictate that our green spaces remain inviolate…especially here in the midst of Olmsted’s masterwork.

Preservation has been a core value since our inception, but that does not mean that we are mired in the past. It is my firm belief that Olmsted, were he alive today, would be looking towards using modern technologies to preserve what we have while conserving our resources to continue along that path. There have been barbs directed at the Society which made the assumption that we “want nothing to change.” Nothing could be further from the truth! We would like to be mindful of the lessons that history has taught us, while remaining flexible enough to adopt new ideas and methods of preserving our environment for future generations. It is to that end that we aspire.

One of our latest one-to-one “green” efforts was the free plant give-away at the 4th of July celebration. We were delighted upon receiving the “Liberty Award” for the originality of our float, due in no small part to our giant cicada makers Joseph & Owen Connelly, Joey and Nicky Jacobs, Olivia & Evan Gyssler, Audrey Hicks, Skye & Zacary Ozga, and Alex Erickson. We gave away twice as many plants as we did last year. Walking, leafy, personal floats were seen departing from Guthrie Park to the four corners of the Village in baby strollers, bicycles and by foot. Some of the lucky plant winners also scored one-of-a-kind, hand made giant cicadas as a memento of this year’s emergence. It was quite a wonderful sight!

For those of you who can’t get enough of those “green thumb” activities consider coming to one of our landscape workdays. Not only will you feel good about keeping our landscape up, but also there is great camaraderie to be had.

You may not have considered how many of your neighbors you will meet when you give your time to volunteer for one of our committees. Plans are afoot for our House Walk 2008 and there will be many docents needed to complete the task, so if architecture is your forte, let us know.

Our tours of the Village are in full tilt during the warm weather and if you haven’t taken the tour do so! I think you will learn many interesting facts about why Riverside is so special and how it came to be.

Our lecture series has been fascinating and I want to encourage you to attend the next offering on September 27th at Town Hall, 7 p.m. The title is “The Zero Energy Home and Residential Green Roofs.” Jerry Marconi, a resident of Riverside, will present his sustainable vacation home near Savanna Illinois along with Trevor Wukasch a landscape designer for Intrinsic Landscaping, Inc. and Green Roof Solutions, Inc.

For those of you who have never visited our world class collection of Olmsted related tomes in the Riverside Library, I’m delighted to tell you that the collection has been moved to a prominent location on the first floor. Next time you enter take a look for the “Olmsted Collection” demarcation and you will discover some very interesting material that can both inform and enlighten. You won’t be sorry you did!

The Olmsted Society facilitates and encourages your participation in understanding this fabulous landmark that is our home. We know that the more you learn about the special place that Riverside is the more you will cherish its preservation.

James D. Reynolds
fta@sbcglobal.net
Summer Photo Highlights

Olmsted Society members hard at work building this year’s Fourth of July parade float.

What’s this? A cicada in Riverside?

Kevin Hicks doing another float-building “drill.”

Constance Guardi helping with winners of the plant raffle.

…..and more cicadas!

Cindy Kellogg chats with Phyllis Pecelunas during the July 4th festivities.
Patrons and Contributing Members Recognized

Most Riverside residents enjoy the benefits of living in a National Historic Landscape District, yet not all understand the extra work required to maintain and preserve Olmsted’s vision. Olmsted Society members do. They roll up their sleeves on Landscape Workdays and help weed riverbanks, plant native trees and flowers, and give Historic Walking Tours. Additionally, our membership dues, together with funds raised through our Housewalks and Walking Tours, enable the Olmsted Society to promote landscape preservation and beautification efforts in Riverside.

We are happy to recognize members who have gone the extra distance by becoming Contributing members and Patrons. Their generosity is appreciated!

**Patron ($50 and above)**
- Baher, Mary & Bernard
- Bakalich, Ruth & Larry
- In Memory of Lorena Ballard
- Bartholomew, Wayne & Suzanne
- Bell, Lawrence
- Breski, Kate
- Brown, Michele & Don
- Burkhard, Rionold & Kathleen
- Carpenter, Charles
- Cegielski, Jan & Jerry
- Chmell, Sam & Nancy
- Chudara, Debra & Robert
- Cole, Mrs. Pearl
- Corwin, Jill & Bower
- De Rycke, Joan
- DeLise, Nancy & Mike
- Di Natale, Joe & Adele
- Disis, Leonard & Dolores
- Domeier, Mark
- Durkin, Marguerite
- Eastman, Dean & Ella Mae
- Enger, Christopher & Minuyen
- Escobado, Susan Porto
- Feldman, Ted & Marie
- Flaherty, John & Kathy
- Freeark, Ruth & Robert
- Frost, Gilbert
- Gering, Rick & Cheryl
- Gong, Cynthia
- Guardi, Tom & Constance
- Hicks, Kevin
- Huson, Carolyn
- Isaacson, John & Sarah
- Isham, Mr. & Mrs. John
- Jacobs, Thomas & Kim
- Jansky, William & Dorothy
- Johnson, Dean & Ramona
- Kaplan, Sander & Theresa
- Pelletier
- Karlovsky, Maryann
- Kaye, Michael
- Keefe, John & Joanne
- Kelliber, John & Carla
- Kellog, Cynthia
- Kitch, Alfred
- Kotarba, Henry & Dorothy
- Kowalik, Dr. Michael & Linda
- Kucera, Paul & Susan
- Kuratko, Kenneth
- Labelle, Richard & Linda
- Layng, Patrick & Karen
- Legge Kemp, Diane
- Lindahl, Harold & Yvonne
- Litwiler, Thomas
- Lucero, Yvonne & Jim
- Harrington
- Magalotti, Marion
- Mantel, Ed & Bernadette
- Marik, Joseph & Lorraine
- McKeimin, Gail & Mike
- McNally, Don & Carolynn
- Mottl, Rose
- Neumann, Sylvia
- Nie, Anthony & Katherine
- O’Brien, Susie & John
- Ozga, Aberdeen & Timothy
- Pecelunas, Tony & Phyllis
- Petrziika, Jim & Sandie
- Phillip, Russell & Lorelei
- Pletcher, Douglas & Kathleen
- Porter, Cathy & Ted Horst
- Purkey, David & Joanna
- Radigan, Sanlee
- Reynolds, Jim & Chandra
- Richards, James & Diane
- Robling, Christopher & Mary Jo
- Russell, Bruce & Marilyn
- Sacchi, Lonnie
- Schroeder, Dorothy
- Shields, Thomas & Nolrine
- Sikora, Dorothy & Mark
- Smith, Ted & Susan Shipper
- Snyder, Donald & Kathleen
- Steinberg, Jay & Christine
- Anderson
- Szatkowski, Barbara
- Ulrich, James & Donna
- Vahrendvold Moyer, Marianne
- Vollmann, Alison & Thomas
- Vomacka, Frank & Sandra
- Weiland, Scott & Peggy
- Wilhelm, William & Deb
- Zanieski, John & Linda
- Zuschlag, Eric & Beth

**Contributing ($25-$49)**
- Aieta, Michael & Beverly
- Alcatro, Fran & Carlos
- Babka, Bernie & Lllee
- Bandik, George
- Barker, David
- Bednar, Linda & Chuck
- Benande, Theresa & Jim
- Blaa, Ann
- Bloch, Walter & Marguerite
- Blom, Donald & Jeneane
- Bolda, Ronald & Merydythe
- Borja, Geraldine & Ramiro
- Brabec, Norman
- Brownfield, Helen
- Bryniasni, James & Leona
- Hubatch
- Burda, Brian & Dawn
- Cablk, Joe & Valerie
- Cady, Henrietta
- Cardelli, Aldo & Marilyn
- Cook, Judith Lowell
- Cooney, Bill & Julie
- Cray, Mary & Philip Janicak
- De Torrice, Charlie
- DeLeon, John R. & Victoria
- DiMonte, Ernest & Jean
- Dolejs, Richard
- Dragisic, Donald & Patricia
- Dragutinovich, Gwen
- Dunne, William & Jean
- Dvorak, Joe & Nancy
- Engel, Nina
- Sts Peter and Paul Evangelical
- Lutheran Church
- Evans, John
- Gates, Roberta & Mike
- Gieseman, Wayne
- Gill, Patty & Richard
- Goeke, Paul & Cynthia
- Graham, Karen
- Greene, James
- Harford, Frank & Toni
- Hejna, Dr. & Mrs. William
- Herbst, Kristine
- Horn, Susan & Steven
- Humowiecki, Liz & Karl
- Iber, Anne & Frank
- Jackson, Amy & Mark Shervitz
- Jeske, James & Joan
- Judy, Mary & Bill
- Julian, Ruth & Dick
- Kadlec, Randall & Coleen
- Kaplan, Ann
- Kenyon, Carole & James
- Kwiets, Jao & Thea
- Kotchka, Cliff & Teena
- Kublis, Tadas & Ruta
- Kunka, Jane & John
- Leamy, George & Sharon
- Lidd, Bernadine & Francis
- Lofton, Richard & Amy
- Lupfer, Tom
- Machina, Holly & Jason Kinnan
- Marciniak, James & Lisa
- Marik, Dorothy
- McGovern, Roseanne
- McNeal, John & Sharon Rae
- Bender
- Memenas, Mildha
- Metskas, Nanette
- Meyers, Janet & Walter Lukitsh
- Moore, Guy & Kathleen
- Mourek, Anthony
- Murphy, Patrick & Susan Sitter
- Nawara, Tom
- Nessinger, Katharine & Gregory
- Novak, George & Lavergne
- Novotny, Mary & John
- Peters, Nancy & Eric
- Plunkett, John & Mary
- Potokar, Richard & Patricia
- Pyne, Eileen
- Reily, John & Jane Wilhem
- Rio, Bradley & Summer
- Sacharski, Gloria & Mike
- Scanlon, Maripat & Bill
- Sellers, Gail
- Shurtleff, Joan
- Smaller, Scott & Brenda
- Spatny, Don & Iris
- Spilotro, Peter & Sandra
- Sprunger, Robert & Carol
- Stake, Alice & Robert
- Stout, Diane & Christine
- Strubbe, Matt
- Tauber, Geri
- Taus, Elizabeth
- Topolski, Dolores
- Tortorella, Scott & Dawne
- Troiani, Joseph & Terrie
- Tryba, Mary & Richard
- Tuma, Judy & Frank
- Turner, Betty & Tim
- Turnmire, Jean
- Von Heimburch, Abby
- Vuolo, Theresa
- Wang, Daniel & Aldarrey Lewis
Reflections on Riverside

My Home Town Riverside
Marie Morgenthaler, Hauser Junior High School

Riverside Riverside what a wonderful place,
Riverside Riverside you have so much grace,
With curvy roads and winding streets,
From a small town you’ve quickly arose.
Riverside Riverside you have some wonderful parks,
All by themselves they make perfect landmarks.
With so many plants and so many trees,
People can come and leave with glee.
At Swinging Bridge you can see,
Ducks fly around happy and free.
At the Riverside Library you can see the view,
Of Swan Pond, a wonderful place too.
Riverside Riverside with buildings so old,
Their stories still need to be told.
There’s so much to do and so much to see,
Riverside Riverside, you’re the place to be!

A Walk by the River
Lia Paz Gonzalez, St. Francis Xavier Ward Elementary

Oh it is so peaceful,
It is, It is.
It really is so beautiful when
the birds fly high,
And the ducks below.
Oh how lovely is that river.
So quiet, dark and deep.
And as you’re walking down
that river you say,
Isn’t Riverside neat?

By the River’s Edge
Carrie Reilly, Central Elementary

The coolness of the wind
The chirping of the birds
As I stroll across the swinging bridge
I am one with nature.

The rushing of the water
The sweet smell of woodland wildflowers
A gentle river on the prairie
Meandering paths among the trees.

Lazy fishing on the riverbank
Smelling the fragrant grasses
The awesome clear blue sky
Life couldn’t be any better.

Library Collection
Moves

The Frederick Law Olmsted Collection of books has been moved from the basement room that once housed it to a larger space on the first floor of the Riverside Public Library.

The new, and much lighter and more cheerful area encourages browsing, and we are hopeful our members and all Riverside residents will make greater use of this wonderful collection of books. We are very grateful to Library Director Janice Fisher and her Staff for all the hard work and effort the move entailed, and are pleased with the result.

Three books have been donated to the collection by Dr. and Mrs. Frank Iber:

- *Where the Sky Began, Land of the Tall Grass Prairie* by John Madson
- *Prairie Plants of Illinois* by John Voight and Robert Mohlenbrock
- *Roadside Plants and Flowers, A Travelers Guide to the Midwest and Great Lakes Area* by Marian Edsall have all been added

The Library Committee has purchased two volumes of the *Journals of John James Audubon.* These books tell us about the travels of Audubon during his many years searching for birds and mammals in this country and in Labrador. Audubon is a wonderful writer, and his descriptions of early nineteenth century America are fascinating.
Volunteers needed to adopt triangles

Volunteers are needed to help weed and maintain our lovely triangle parks in the Village. If there is a triangle near you, please adopt it. You will work with Michael Collins, the Village Forrester, who will assist you in identifying the weeds. Three to four hours of your time, two to three times per year, is all that is needed to beautify and maintain one of our triangles.

Petition

If you haven't already, please sign the petition to support changing the designation of both Centennial Park and the eastern edge of Harrington Park along Harlem Avenue to Public Park. Without the Public Park designation, either park could be altered from its past and present use as green spaces. The petition and more information can be found at www.riversideinfo.org. Call Holly Machina at (708) 447-0226 or Cindy Kellogg at 708-442-1040.