

Rolling Ridge

Retreat and Conference Center

A View From the Ridge – Summer 2018 Newsletter

NEW ENGLAND'S PREMIERE CHRISTIAN RETREAT CENTER

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Spring may have been late in coming, but as it arrived in North Andover, new life has sprung up in abundance. From the newly paved road to the new rhododendrons blooming, big to small, good things are growing at Rolling Ridge.

The first BIG change everyone will notice when arriving at the Ridge is the **newly paved road**. This is a project long overdue, but thanks to generous donors, the funds were raised last year so we could complete the project this spring. Because of conservation restrictions on the property, we were not able to pave the entire driveway. The graveled portions of the road pass through the Rolling Ridge wetlands on the left and our vernal pool to the right. Slowing down when you hit these bumpy sections will remind you to protect these natural environments.

As I connect with local environmental educators, we will soon be launching an ecology center at the Ridge to teach our guests and the community about the variety of eco-systems on our property and to instill in them an ecological consciousness and spirituality that come from being connected with Creator and creation. Special thanks to **Rob Rodgers**, who recently built an information kiosk for his Eagle Scout project at the entrance to the vernal pool, which will teach about the natural environments along the road of the Ridge.



While it is hard to miss the new road, what might get overlooked are the new rhododendrons planted last fall in the Bowling Green. We have 20 different species planted, with staggered blooming seasons so that there will be color from April to July.

John and Sally Perkins, who donated the plantings last year, report that all blooms, including the small ones, survived the winter! While it will take a few years for the bushes to reach full maturity, they are already adding color and restoring elegance to the grounds.

Inside the house, new art is adding to the interior elegance as we received works by nationally recognized sculptor, Mico Kaufman, thanks to **Elsie Howell**, executor of Mico's estate and former nurse at the Ridge. Mico's work, entitled "Youth," now graces the stairwell as a tribute to the many years of "singing in the staircase".

These are just a few examples of the good things growing at the Ridge this spring. I could talk your ear off about the improvements we have made, are making, or planning to make. The back of this newsletter highlights some of them. Be sure to set aside **Sunday, September 30th** for our **70th anniversary and Open House**. This will be the chance for you to see for yourself all the good things growing at Rolling Ridge.



Peace,
Lawrence Jay

The Progress Keeps Rolling Along



SAVE THE DATE! 9/30/18



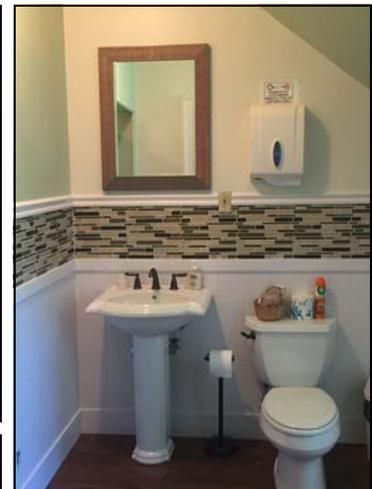
Trophy



Reaching



Sermon



The beautifully renovated bathroom for 7A is the envy of guests everywhere!



Upward



Water

Some of the sculptures of Mico Kaufman placed around the interior of the mansion. We give great thanks to the Mico Kaufman Estate for allowing us to have another piece of artistic history at the Ridge.



A new work station available for staff and guest use, allows for a special place to do work, built with great care by Eagle Scout Duncan Heystek. We thank you!



Four new windows in the Lakeside Gallery Dining Room

We regret an error made in our Winter Newsletter. We give great thanks to the Richard Banks estate for their memorial gift in 2017, and we apologize to Richard and Myrna Evans for the error.



The Vernal Pool



Information Kiosk

The office project has been completed, thanks to your generous support. The staff is once again re-connected enabling our guests to find us, communicate, and put a face to the voice on the phone. Walk down the hall and say "hi" next time you're here!



New Guest Services Counter



Laurie Brown, Reservations Manager



Executive Director, Lawrence Jay



Business office