

CONTACT NAME: Lisa Hamm
PHONE: 410-561-8886
E-MAIL ADDRESS: lisa@barbclapp.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Story of a Family and a Baltimore Landmark

As a child, accompanying your mom or dad to work is a thrill. Not many children, or their parents, probably ever think that they'll end up working together when the child grows up. Rolf Novak, a key member of the construction team renovating the Tremont Grand, ended up not only working with his dad, but was also trained as his apprentice.

In the 1970's, Winfred Novak, Rolf's father, was one of the craftsmen who worked to convert a small apartment building on East Pleasant Street into Baltimore's first all suite hotel, now known as the Tremont Park Hotel. It was during this time, that Winfred began to train a young carpenter, his son Rolf.

According to Rolf Novak, it was an experience like no other. He learned more from his father, both about the carpentry trade and about life, than he would have ever learned from another craftsman. After studying under the guidance of his father, and upon completed construction of the Tremont Park, Rolf struck out on his own. But as fate would have it, in the mid-80's, Rolf and his father came together for work again, this time as equals, on a project known as the Tremont Plaza Hotel. The success of the first hotel convinced the property's owner, WC Smith Company, to convert a much larger building on Saint Paul Place into their second downtown hotel. Winfred once again played an integral part in the transformation. Winfred's original woodwork can still be seen today throughout the Plaza. The work of the Novak duo can be seen in the Plaza's wood paneled lobby and grand staircase that spirals from the third floor into the lobby.

Now, as the Tremont family expands to welcome its newest property, the Tremont Grand, the Novak father and son team is back again. Winfred Novak came out of retirement to conduct the preliminary site surveys for the Grand, and Rolf is a key member of the construction team. As the Tremont Grand nears completion, it's great to look back, not only on the legacy of the Tremonts as a Baltimore institution, but also on the legacy of those who helped to construct the buildings.

Other Tremont properties:

Tremont Plaza Hotel

The Tremont Plaza Hotel, Baltimore's largest full-service, all-suite hotel, is located minutes away from the Inner Harbor and Charles Street. It's convenient city center location situates the Plaza in the heart of the city's business, cultural, historic, entertainment and shopping districts. The Tremonts have built a skywalk connecting the Plaza to the soon to debut Tremont Grand meeting and banquet facility. Whether traveling for business or pleasure, its refined and sophisticated atmosphere makes for the perfect visit to Baltimore.

Tremont Park Hotel

Baltimore's first all suite hotel, the Tremont Park Hotel, offers affordable luxury in a quiet setting. The 58 suite hotel, just steps off of Historic Charles Street, is located in Baltimore's historic and business districts, and is within walking distance to the Inner Harbor, the Baltimore Convention Center and the theater and restaurant districts.

For more information, call Lisa Hamm of Barb Clapp Advertising and Marketing at 410-561-8886.