

Why Your Membership Matters to the South Wedge Planning Committee

By Jennifer Posey, Executive Director, South Wedge Planning Committee



The South Wedge is more than a neighborhood—it is a community. It is made up of residents, families, local businesses, organizations, volunteers, and neighbors who care about where they live and want to see the South Wedge continue to grow and thrive.

At the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC), we believe that strong neighborhoods are built when people come together, share ideas, support one another, and invest in their community.

I know firsthand how important that support can be. Nearly 20 years ago, long before I started to work at the South Wedge Planning Committee, I was trying to start a business with an idea and a dream.

I was working on the business plan for Hedonist Artisan Chocolates and participated in a SWPC small-business program that helped me develop the tools and knowledge I needed to turn that idea into a successful business. What made a difference was that I wasn't doing it alone. I had the support of the South Wedge Planning Committee and the people in this community. The guidance, resources, encouragement, and connections I received helped me take the next steps and build a business that became a part of the South Wedge community for the last 20 years! That experience has stayed with me.

It is one of the reasons I believe so strongly in the work SWPC does today.

The programs and services that we provide are not simply activities on a calendar. They can be the starting point for someone's next opportunity. A workshop can give someone the confidence to start a business. A housing program can help someone remain safely in their home. A community event can introduce neighbors who might otherwise never meet. A connection to a resource can help a family through a difficult time.

We have seen again and again how providing people with information, resources, connections, and encouragement can make a real difference.

Why we need your Membership

Today, we are working hard to keep these services and programs alive.

SWPC continues to provide programs focused on housing, health, education, community engagement, small businesses, neighborhood beautification, events, and community connection. We want to continue offering opportunities that help residents and businesses succeed.

But we cannot do it alone.

We need our community to invest in SWPC just as the community invested in me nearly 20 years ago. Membership is one of the most important ways you can help.

When you become a yearly member, you are helping provide the support necessary for SWPC to continue offering programs and services to our neighbors. You are helping us create opportunities for the next small business owner, homeowner, renter, senior, family, volunteer, or community member who needs a place to turn.

Why Become a Yearly Member?

By becoming a member, you can:

- Support a thriving, inclusive South Wedge
- Help sustain programs focused on housing, health, and community connection
- Be part of a network of residents and businesses who care about their neighborhood
- Play a direct role in shaping the future of the South Wedge

Your membership is an investment in the community—and in the people who make the South Wedge special.

Membership Has Benefits, Too!

We want our members to feel connected, appreciated, and proud to be part of SWPC.

All SWPC members receive:

- A South Wedge yard sign to show your neighborhood pride
- Voting rights in SWPC decisions and initiatives
- Priority registration for programs, workshops, and events

- A free neighborhood yard sale listing
- Access to our community resource library
- Invitations to member-only gatherings and events
- Local business discounts
- Access to many free programs and events throughout the year
- The SWPC newsletter, keeping you informed about neighborhood news, programs, events, volunteer opportunities, and ways to get involved

We are also building our collection of SWPC and South Wedge swag, giving members even more ways to show their neighborhood pride. Look for opportunities to purchase and enjoy SWPC-branded apparel and other merchandise while supporting our work.

Choose Your Membership Level

We have membership options for residents, volunteers, community supporters, and businesses, making it possible for everyone to participate in a way that works for them.

MEMBERSHIP <https://www.swpc.org/membership>

Business & Corporate Memberships

Businesses and organizations are an important part of our neighborhood. Business supporters can participate at several levels.

MEMBERSHIP <https://www.swpc.org/membership>

These memberships and sponsorships help support the programs, events, education, and community-building activities that make the South Wedge a vibrant place to live and work.

Help Us Keep the Work Going

When I think back to writing my business plan for Hedonist Artisan Chocolates nearly 20 years ago, I remember how important it was to have people who believed in my idea and were willing to help me succeed. That is what community is supposed to do.

It gives people a place to start.

It provides resources when they don't know where to turn.

It connects people to opportunities.

And it helps people believe that they can make something happen.

Today, SWPC is working to make sure those opportunities remain available to the next generation of residents and entrepreneurs.

But we need you.

We need members to help us keep these programs and services alive. We need residents and businesses who believe that investing in the South Wedge is worth it. And we need volunteers who are willing to give their time and talents to help our community.

I am proud to be part of an organization that once supported me as a small business owner and that continues to support our community today.

Now, I am asking you to support SWPC.

Become a member. Get involved. Volunteer. Show your South Wedge pride. Help us make sure the programs that made a difference for me—and for so many others—are still here for the people who need them tomorrow.

Your membership matters. Your voice matters. Your time matters. Your neighborhood matters.

Join the South Wedge Planning Committee today.

community engagement

Zoning and Budget Feedback Opportunities Open

Two new opportunities to give the City of Rochester your feedback have opened.

As the zoning code gets closer to a city council vote, each Rochester City Council district representative will host an initial district meeting to hear feedback from their constituents. The new zoning code will likely be up for a vote in November or December this year. Following these initial meetings, City Council will host official public hearings with the Evans administration on Oct. 21 and 22 from 5-8p.m. in council chambers at City Hall.

Initial district meetings are:

South – Oct. 5 from 6-8 p.m. at New Life Fellowship (330 Wellington Ave.)

East – Oct. 13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Ryan R-Center (530 Webster Ave.)

You are also encouraged to fill out the [Rochester City Council Proposed Zoning Code Survey](#)

The City Office of Management and Budget has also opened feedback regarding its spending plan for the 2027/2028 fiscal year beginning next July 1. The city plans to make its budget public and submit it to Rochester City Council in May.

The online budget survey is open through November 9th. The survey asks residents for feedback on a range of city services and programs aiming to boost quality of life and has information about which services the city can and cannot fund. **City of Rochester 2027-28 Budget Survey**



Community Engagement Meeting

All are welcome to attend
Wednesday, September 23rd
5:30-7:30pm
at the SWPC Office
224 Mt Hope Avenue

You're invited to the
NBN6
FALL MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
5:30-7:30PM

Olmsted Lodge
in Highland Park

171 RESERVOIR AVENUE

GUEST SPEAKER:

CAPTAIN JUSTIN STEWART,
GOODMAN SECTION ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

**meal will be provided*



SWPC BOARD MEETING

All are welcome to attend
Tuesday, October 20th
at 9:00am-11am
SWPC Office
224 Mt. Hope Avenue

ZOOM Registration

Thanksgiving Meal

Nov 26 2026

12:00 PM - 3:00 AM

683 South Ave

Tru Yoga is hosting a free community meal Thanksgiving Day and needs your help. If you are available to volunteer or donate, please email hello@truyogaroc.com



Upcoming Events!



Rochester Fringe Festival

Check out the events happening right here in the South Wedge this week for Rochester Fringe Festival!

South Wedge Fringe Festival

NEEDLE FELTED BANNER WORKSHOP

**WITH
LITTLE
BUTTON
CRAFT**



THURSDAY 09/24 6-8PM

**ABUNDANCE CO OP
571 SOUTH AVE**

\$10 SUGGESTED DONATION
REGISTER ON LITTLEBUTTONCRAFT.COM



Lunch-N-Learn

"Leo and Leo Make Some Film"

Presentation by Gerry Szymanski

We all knew and loved Kodachrome, but did you know that it was
invented by two guys who happened to be both called Leo?
And that they were both classical musicians?

This lively talk will reveal how a violinist and a pianist created the
most famous color film, right here in Rochester!

Wednesday, September 30

12:00 p.m.

River Edge Manor

535 Mount Hope Avenue

Rochester, NY 14620



Episcopal
SENIORLIFE
Communities

MENU

PESTO CHICKEN SANDWICH

TOMATO SOUP

BROCCOLI SALAD



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

Registration required by September 24th



Bring a friend!

INTRO TO HOME BUYING WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 30TH

4PM - 5:30PM

free class!



CENTRAL LIBRARY OF ROCHESTER

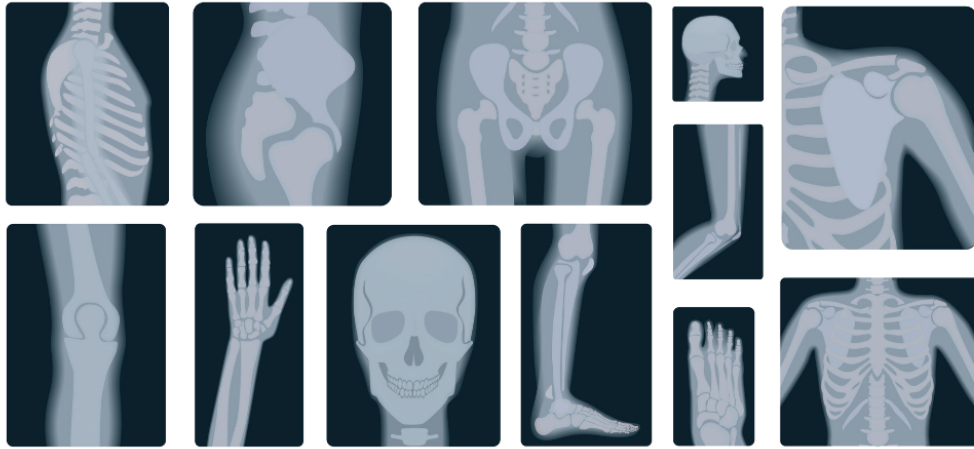
115 SOUTH AVENUE

INFO@SWPC.ORG

NeighborWorks®
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

BONE AND JOINT HEALTH

free LUNCH AND LEARN



with CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

OCTOBER 1ST 12PM - 1PM



INFO@SWPC.ORG

ABUNDANCE FOOD CO-OP
571 SOUTH AVENUE



Vegan on a Budget

with Bubbie Staron

Who says eating plant-based has to break the bank?

Join us for a fun, high-energy cooking class where flavor meets affordability. We'll show you how to whip up mouth-watering meals using everyday ingredients that won't empty your wallet.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3 12-1 pm

What's on the Menu?

Grocery Store Hacks

Master the art of budget shopping and bulk buying

Hands-On Cooking

Learn recipes that taste like a million bucks but cost pennies

Feast & Chat

Enjoy the delicious samples of the recipes we share



Meet Bubbie Staron

Your friendly guide to vibrant, plant-based eating!

As a certified Food For Life instructor, Bubbie has been teaching fun, accessible cooking classes since 2015. Driven by her deep love for animals and the environment, her true passion is teaching people about vegan food and sharing delicious meals.

This Class is **FREE** and open to the public. **Space is limited.**
Registration is required. Scan the QR code or visit: bit.ly/4ycRT08



Cooking Series
brought to you by:



571 South Ave Rochester NY 14620 (585) 454-2667
abundance.coop hello@abundance.coop

NIGHT OF THE LIVING WEDGE

An evening of tricks & treats

**4:00 PM: TRICK OR TREATING FOR
THE KIDS IN COSTUME**

**6:00 PM: PUB CRAWL FOR ADULTS
IN COSTUMES! CASH PRIZES!**

**THURSDAY
OCT. 22ND**

LOCATIONS FOR KID'S TRICK OR TREATING 4-6pm

ABUNDANCE CO-OP
AXOM HOME
BOULDER COFFEE
CHEESY EDDIE'S
EQUAL GROUNDS COFFEE
HAPPY EARTH TEA
HEDONIST ARTISAN CHOCOLATES
HIPOCAMPO CHILDREN'S BOOKS
HISTORIC HOUSEPARTS
MARILLA'S MINDFUL SUPPLIES
OLD STONE TAVERN
SECOND LOOK BOUTIQUE
STEVERS CANDY
STUART'S SPICES
THE SUDSY SNOUT
TRU YOGA
(more being added)



SOUTHWEDGE.COM

PUB CRAWL SCHEDULE SWIFTWATER BREWING 6:00

MARTINE 7:00
ANGELINAS 8:00
OLD STONE TAVERN 9:00
CAVERLY'S PUB 10:00
PRIZES 11:00



JOIN US!

for SOUTH WEDGE STEPS

FREE
EVENT

Rain or shine!



TUESDAYS *and* THURSDAYS
MORNINGS *at* 8:30AM

MEET OUTSIDE OF ABUNDANCE FOOD CO-OP
571 SOUTH AVENUE, ROCHESTER



INFO@SWPC.ORG

WALK AROUND *the* WEDGE WITH US
and GET YOUR STEPS IN

(APPROX. 30 MINS, ROUTES WILL VARY)



Thank you

Thank you to Boulder and High End for helping with our Comfort Street Clean Up!
We appreciate you helping us to keep our neighborhood looking great!



HIGH END
— NEW YORK —

GO SOUTH WEDGE



South Wedge Planning Committee | 224 Mt Hope Ave | Rochester, NY 14620 US

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