



SWPC is a neighborhood organization funded for and by the South Wedge community

## St. Joseph's House of Hospitality New Facade Boosts South Ave.

by Nancy O'Donnell



New St. Joseph's House of Hospitality Facade. (Photo courtesy of MRA Architecture)

A long-awaited renovation to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality on South Avenue begins in October. The renovation will include restoration to its historic façade and a new side entrance for waiting guests. The construction was made possible through a grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation and an anonymous donor.

St. Joe's, as it's known by staff and neighbors, is the oldest Catholic Worker facility in the U.S. still based in its original location. It's been in operation at 402 South Avenue since 1941. Dorothy Day, the founder of the movement that began in

1935, came from New York City to help launch the house. The center is one of only two locations in the Rochester area that provide hot meals seven days a week, clothing and shelter for "the needy, the hungry and the homeless."

St. Joe's President Tim Sigrist described the process of renovation as an "odyssey" that involved a number of delays.

"The planning exceeded two years," said Sigrist. "At first we thought we'd do it ourselves—a bit of paint, put in some new wood—until we talked with George Lorson, [SWPC's Real Estate Develop-

ment Coordinator] who said he'd help us get a grant."

Earlier the staff had felt that applying for grant money would take time away from their mission. "We put all our energy in caring for the homeless," said Sigrist.

The building's history—a dry goods store with huge front windows—added to the delay. The building was constructed in 1850 for a family-owned "grocery and provisions" store operated by brothers David and Issac Abeles, Sigrist said. For many years it also doubled as the residence for the owners.

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## Wedge Three Vie for the Golden Hammer

This year three South Wedge-based community activists were nominated for Flower City Habitat for Humanity's "Golden Hammer Award": John Billone, Jr., president of Flower City Management, South Wedge Planning Committee Executive Director Robert Boyd and Wilton Enterprise (Boulder Coffee owner) Lyjha Wilton.

The Golden Hammer Award recognizes "a business or individual who has made a significant contribution to the City of Rochester in the areas of economic development and/or neighborhood revitalization." Billone's green sensibility is well known in Rochester. Flower City Management renovated the Medical Arts Building at 277 Alexander Street as a green, sustainable

mixed-used facility. The 10-story Art Deco structure, constructed in the late 1920s, now uses a geothermal heating and cooling system as well as other energy conserving features. Billone received the award on Sept. 16 at a luncheon in honor of the nominees.



Robert Boyd, John Billone Jr., Lyjha Wilton at the award ceremony

## Indie Music Festival to Rock the Wedge



by Nancy O'Donnell

Rochester Independent Music Festival (RiF2) expands in both the number of bands and nights of music when it moves to the South Wedge October 1-3. From a one-night/six act debut at Water Street Music Hall in 2008, RiF2 has grown to three ticketed nights at The German House and the Keg on Gregory Street and Boulder Coffee Company on Alexander St. The Bug Jar on Monroe Avenue will also host bands.

"This vibrant neighborhood has been so welcoming and supportive," said RiF Executive Producer Ned Corman, a major catalyst in the launch of the Rochester International Jazz

Festival. The City of Rochester joins the excitement, moving the giant symbol of its 175th anniversary celebration—the Big Wish Globe—from the Public Market to the Wedge for the festival.

"The second year of the Rochester Independent Music Festival – part of the City's special 175th Coming Home celebration – is yet another dynamic event for Rochesterians and beyond to enjoy," said Mayor Robert J. Duffy.

See RiF2 info on page 5, page 12 for the exciting line up of performers, or visit [www.rochesterindiefest.com](http://www.rochesterindiefest.com)

## The BASWA Holiday Decorating Contest

Decorate your shop and win a prize! Decorations should be installed by November 30. A three-member panel of judges from City Hall, the Neighborhood Service Center and the neighborhood will pick the winners on Dec. 9.

First prize \$300, Second Prize \$200, and Third Prize \$100. For more info, visit <http://baswa.org>.



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**Indie Music Festival Oct 1 -3.  
See schedule on page 12.**

# Star of the Wedge - Dave Halter

by Nancy O'Donnell

Dave Halter is a South Wedge lifer. Sure he took time off to be a Navy pilot and Disco Party Planner, but after all his adventures, he returned to his childhood neighborhood and to help in its transformation.

Halter grew up on Mt. Vernon Avenue and went to school at School #24. Along the way he studied engineering at the GM Institute, flew SNJs and T28 Navy planes out of Florida, and earned a B.S. in Industrial Arts from Buffalo State University.

"I got married and had my two girls. Lisa lives in Woodstock, N.Y. and Kira lives in Pasadena, California," said Halter.

After a divorce, Halter entered his "disco phase." "I had a house with 16 rooms, and I ran parties with bands and beer," said Halter. "They just kept getting bigger and bigger. At one I had 400 people."

Once he rented the Avon-Livonia train and had it stop in a cornfield where parties danced to an electric band.

Other Halter enterprises included a wholesale warehouse where he sold brass and copper pipe fittings. Once he got into real estate development, he turned his eye to his old neigh-



Dave Halter. (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

borhood and moved from Westminster Street to Caroline Street and began buying properties on South Avenue.

"Most of the Wedge was ragged [in 1986]," said Halter. The building he bought for his home [the old Geissner's Meat Market], required massive renovation. "I found the kitchen floor had three layers of linoleum."

Halter's next transformation was as general contractor and woodworker, and he began rehabbing his properties one at a time. He leapt into community activism and began volunteering at the South East Area Coalition (SEAC) and the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC).

"I worked with SWPC on U of R Wilson Days [students volunteer for community projects] and used my skills with a backhoe to build the SWPC

patio." Halter also worked with others in creating Star Alley out of "an empty dirt lot between two South Avenue businesses," filling it with sunflowers and garden benches. He also helped in the redesign of Marie Daley Park.

Halter especially enjoyed rehabbing the boarded over facade of the SWPC headquarters on Mount Hope Avenue, then boarded over.

"John Dennis and I started pulling down the boards, and we said, 'Oh, my God!' There were giant windows from the 1880s totally covered over inside and out. We realized what a fantastic front we've got."

Halter can say he'll never really ever leave the Wedge.

"I'm bronzed," said Halter. A statue of him (*aka* Nathaniel Rochester) sits in Nathaniel Square Park at South Avenue and Alexander Street.

"When we working on the design of the park and talking about putting up a statute, the sculptor, Pepsy Kettavong, said to me 'you look just like [Rochester],' said Halter.

"He took some photos and I sat for him. I try not to get a bloated head," laughed Halter. "No one recognizes me. I kid people if they ask me where I am, I tell them I'm sitting in the park."

After 20 years working on revitalizing the South Wedge, Halter says it's exactly as he envisioned it would be when he

first moved back. Despite that some investor-owners of "nice 1880s building feel they should be able to do anything they want to their property"; "You don't just let [an owner] gut the heart and soul of a neighborhood," said Halter, who is excited by the new Wedge.

"It's a very cohesive neighborhood with its original elements, 1880 married to the 1900s and to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We've preserved the real feel of a neighborhood," said Halter.

Halter isn't slowing down. He's still involved with Mt. Hope Avenue projects, keeping a presence that reminds builders not to "block over views of the river" that were lost for decades. He's also doing a major research survey—"all the facts and figures" of all the buildings on the East Side of the Mount Hope Avenue from Gregory Street to Byron Street.

Halter doesn't hesitate to praise the people he's worked with to rebuild his South Wedge.

"One of the things that I'm most proud is the quality of the projects and the quality of the people in the South Wedge," said Halter. "And by the amount that we've been able to bring back. It's a very viable neighborhood. It's a safe place and lots of fun to live in. The merchants take care of the front of their stores. People live here, and they care."

## Letters to the Editor

[Editors note: Ben Kendig responds to Tom Cantin's story about house moving in the Wedge (Aug/Sept issue).

As regards the houses I relocated in the South Wedge in 1981-1982, the real credit should go to Julie Everitt. Julie [now working for Pathstone] was a long time City employee in community development. More than any other person, she had a sense of who could "finish a job". So, when this program came about, she called a few of us that she knew would get the job done, thereby not embarrassing the City.

It was a complicated process to jack up the house and trundle it along city streets to finally "seat" it onto a new waiting foundation. No matter what phase of the project you look at, there were issues to deal with. Traffic lights, overhead wires, light poles, old foundations, abandoned utility pipes and wires, abandoned foundations and debris and more.

Also, there was the issue of adapting the old house to new building codes; always a challenge!

The program worked, but was too expensive to refund year in year out.

It is always easy to forget the contributions of the "support troops". Media credits, for

example, usually points to the developer. From my perspective, though, the behind the scenes people are the real story.

Julie Everitt was a huge force in making these programs work. The City Code Enforcement personnel, inspectors, and engineering staff really came through. The subcontractors like Harry Rapp, F & S Electric, and Art Barber were unbelievably creative and adaptive.

[Mayor] Tom Ryan, much like our present Major was someone you always knew really cared about how things turned out. It was all a fine example of Rochester at work!

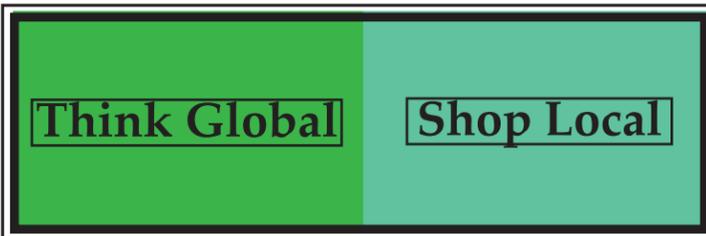
Ben Kendig

I am writing in response to your Wedge article, "Public Cheers and Jeers Canalway Trail" [Aug./Sept. 2009].

You wrote that the trail project seemed to be an "an issueless issue." Two possible translations of "issueless issue" is that the trail project was "much ado about nothing" or that the folks who were there were making "a mountain out of a molehill." The residents who attended the meeting were genuinely concerned for their neighborhood and for the safety of those who will use the proposed trail. Please do not dismiss or minimize the insight of

*continued on page 4*

**Correction:** The Heart of the City column (Aug./Sept. issue), incorrectly listed the Pacho Lane's home-based business. Information about Ethnoscope Film & Video is available on the web at [www.docfilm.com](http://www.docfilm.com). We apologize for the error.



### Keep the Heat on With HEAP

HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) helps income-qualified area residents pay their heating bills. The program may help with emergency payments for electricity, gas, oil, coal, propane, wood or kerosene for those at risk of having their heat turned off. Applicants under age 60 may apply for HEAP at the Department of Social Services, 111 Westfall Road. Senior citizen HEAP applications are handled at the Lifespan office at Lac de Ville plaza on South Clinton Avenue. Seniors with questions should call 244-8400, ext. 102.

For more information, call 1-800-342-3009. You can also go online to [www.otda.state.ny.us](http://www.otda.state.ny.us) and click on "Resources for Working Families."

## SWPC Community Calendar by Tracy Saville

All meetings are held at 224 Mt. Hope Ave. except when noted

### \*Housing & Structures

Email: [mmcullough@dor.org](mailto:mmcullough@dor.org)  
Tuesday, Oct. 13 @ 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 3 @ 5:30 p.m.

### \*Commercial Business & Development

Email: [chris@historichouseparts.com](mailto:chris@historichouseparts.com)  
Dates TBD

### \*Community Engagement & Marketing

Held at Boulder Coffee House, 100 Alexander Street  
Saturday, Oct. 11 @ 12 p.m.  
Saturday, Nov. 14 @ 12 p.m.

### \*Marketing & Membership

TBD: email [tsaville@rochester.rr.com](mailto:tsaville@rochester.rr.com)

### Finance

Email contact: [tsciarabba@hotmail.com](mailto:tsciarabba@hotmail.com)  
Tuesday, Oct. 6 @ 1p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 10 @ 1 p.m.

### SWPC Executive Board Committee

Email: [lyjha@aol.com](mailto:lyjha@aol.com)  
Monday, Oct. 12 @ 5 p.m.  
Monday, Nov. 9 @ 5 p.m.

### \*SWPC Board of Directors.

Thursday, Oct. 8 @ 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday, Nov. 12 @ 6:00 p.m.

**\*Open to the Public**



Community Partner



South Wedge Planning Committee  
224 Mt. Hope Avenue • Rochester, New York 14620  
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The Wedge Newspaper, a not-for-profit newspaper, is published by the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC), a grassroots organization serving the South Wedge Urban Village. Its mission is to provide accurate coverage of neighborhood news as well as local, state and national news that affect the area.

Today, the Wedge is printed bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December) with a circulation of 7300. The newspaper is mailed to homes in the South Wedge and distributed to area businesses and retail shops and other drop points in the Greater Rochester area.

Articles in this paper do not necessarily reflect the view and/or opinions of SWPC.

Please send any story suggestions or news releases to Wedge Newspaper Editor Nancy O'Donnell, 224, Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 or [nodonnell@swpc.org](mailto:nodonnell@swpc.org). Please see our complete Advertising Deadlines and Rates online at [www.swpc.org](http://www.swpc.org).

Before recycling this printed newspaper, why not pass it on to a friend or co-worker?



### Our Mission Statement

SWPC builds community in the South Wedge, encourages a full range of housing opportunities, and promotes a diverse, historically significant, and commercially sustainable urban village.

Ad Deadline  
for Next Issue  
November 1

by Nancy O'Donnell

## Olmsted Biographer Visits Wedge

New York City-based writer, **Justin Martin** was in town recently to visit in-laws, **Sylvia Charlesworth** and **Jerry Kressman**, and continue research on Frederick Law Olmsted. Martin's biography of the landscape architect, who designed all of Rochester's parks including Highland, Genesee Valley, Maplewood, Seneca Parks, along with Delaware Park in Buffalo and New York's Central Park, will be published in next year by Da Capo Press

"Olmsted just kind of found me," said Martin. "I was married in Central Park, his masterpiece. I live in Forest Hills Gardens, a section of New York City designed by his son, a noted urban planner. For years, I've enjoyed visiting Highland Park during trips to Rochester to visit Sylvia and Jerry."

Martin has authored two other biographies: *Greenspan: The Man Behind Money* (named a notable book by the *New York Times Book Review* and *Nader: Crusader, Spoiler, Icon*. He is a former staff writer at *Fortune* and a current contributing editor to *Fortune Small Business* magazine.

Martin sees Olmsted and Ralph Nader as similar personalities. "They were both ferocious advocates: Nader for consumers and Olmsted for green spaces." Olmsted as a 19<sup>th</sup> social reformer wanted "people in urban slums" to have access to peaceful green spaces. Olmsted still has lessons to teach added Martin. He points to city officials at the time Highland Park was being proposed asking the park designer why he would pick land so far away from the city. "The main thing [to learn from Olmsted] is to look ahead, think ahead, have foresight," said Martin. "It's never too early because it may be too late."



Justin Martin in Highland Park

## City Welcomes New Owner at Tru Yoga

Tru Yoga's new owner, **Michael Insel**, was officially welcomed to the South Wedge at a ribbon cutting attended by the City's Neighborhood and Business Development Commissioner **R. Carlos Carballada**, Southeast Neighborhood Service Center Administrator **Peter Saxe** and Economic Development Specialist **Matthew McCarthy** along with Yogis, family and friends.

"I'm proud to be part of the South Wedge community," said Insel, who will also be living above the studio. "I couldn't think of a better community to do this in."

Insel, a second year medical student at the U of R, is joined in the venture by third year medi-

cal students **Catherine Trimbur** and **Sara Folit-Weinberg** who will act as managers along with **Amanda Tavelaris**. Tavelaris, a recent U of R graduate with a degree in mental health counseling will also teach yoga at the studio. "We love the space," said Trimbur. "And with four of us here there's a nice division of labor. It's manageable and fun." Insel is an Arizona native with Rochester roots. "My mother and father met here. My brother was born here. I feel I'm returning to my homeland," said Insel.

Insel has expanded the class schedule, which include regular and power yoga along with Pilates Yoga. The yoga quartet is also looking to "create and build community with primary care providers in the area," said Trimbur.

Previous owner **Christi Joseph** held special low cost yoga classes for women taking part in a St. Joseph Neighborhood Center's empowerment group. The new owners hope to continue that relationship with the center.

**Tru Yoga, 131 Gregory Street, 271-3810 [www.truyoga-rochester.com](http://www.truyoga-rochester.com).**



Tru Yoga Ribbon Cutting ceremony (l-r) Catherine Trimbur, Amanda Tavelaris, Gregory Burkett and City's Neighborhood and Business Development Commissioner R. Carlos Carballada. (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

## Saints Place Opens in St. Boniface

Eleven years ago, **Colleen Knauf**, a Brighton wife and mother of five, was moved by the plight of refugees coming to Rochester from Bhutan and Myanmar (formerly Burma). Working out of her basement, she collected furniture and clothing.

Today Knauf's is Executive Director of Saints Place, an organization with some 200 volunteers helping over 650 clients. In 2001, Knauf began offering English classes to her clients' children. The Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit on South Avenue provided her space for a weekly tutoring program.

"We offer one-on-one tutoring to children, whatever the subject," said Knauf. "You don't have to be a teacher, just have a big heart." As the program grew, adult tutoring was added. This fall, classes begin at



Saints Place tutoring (Photo by Dave Snyder)

the former St. Boniface School. It already has a waiting list.

To learn more, call 385.6860 or visit [www.saintsplace.org](http://www.saintsplace.org).

## Swillburg Scene of Rap Music Video

South Clinton Ave. and Meigs Street provided a backdrop for a rap video, "Presidential" that's heating up on YouTube. South Wedge hip hop artist **Decco** (aka **Daniel Antonetti**) provides the lyrics, **Battle Roy** (aka **Roy Battle**) creates the beats and model **Kansas Patrick** appears as love



interest/inspiration. The video was created and produced by RIT Professor and President of Great Atlantic Pictures, Inc. **Mark Foggetti**.

Foggetti said he was so impressed by the First Couple that he wanted to create a video to inspire "young people to see how a couple should be." He turned to **Tony Gross** of GFI Music, who put him in touch with the rap artists. He started filming in May. Cornhill is also used as location in the video.

Look for "Decco featuring Battle Roy 'Presidential HQ'" on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

## South Wedge Barber Adds Gift Shop

It's collaboration all round at the South Wedge Barber shop where owners **Jennifer** and **Gina Belardino** made room for friend **Peg Rubley's** "Shell We Dance" gift shop. She described her inventory as "funky and/or floral wreaths, decorated frames, photography, greeting cards, gift baskets for babies, and painted glassware."



Gina Belardino, Peg Rubley, Jennifer Belardino (Photo by Nancy Straub)

"One of my occupations is to donate to charity auctions throughout the city," said Rubley. "I either create an original piece or enhance an existing piece. I want to make a small profit to be able to buy the materials and continue creating in order to keep donating. All profits will be turned back to the community,

"I am very grateful to Jennifer and Gina for helping me to do this," said Rubley.

"Shell We Dance" Gift Shop, 720 South Avenue, 473-5570

## Greek Fest Gives Gift to Somali Center

After the annual festival tents come down, the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit on South Avenue shares some of its proceeds with organizations in need. This year, the Somali Community and Outreach Center is the lucky recipient of \$1,000.

"The Greek Festival Committee wanted to contribute to people in the South Wedge area," said **Pastor Patrick Cowles**. "We talked to SWPC, and they recommended the Somali Center. So we decided to do what we could to assist them."

**Abdirashid Mohamed**, the center's executive director, said the gift was a welcome surprise.

"We feel wonderful, happy 100%," said Mohamed. "We will

use it to pay for operating costs, rent, electric and the telephone."

The Somali Center recently moved from River Commons to an office at 775 Plymouth Avenue.

## Who Knew Ice Cream Titan Reads the Wedge?

**Patrick Belle-Isle**, owner of **Granny's Ice Cream**, on South Goodman Avenue (at Caroline Street) and promoter of all things Perry, was surprised to receive a letter from One Ice Cream Plaza, Akron, New York, sent by Executive Vice President **Brian Perry**.

The ice cream titan sent a letter of thanks and congratulations to Belle-Isle for an article in the June/July *Wedge* newspaper.

"Thank you for including Perry's Ice Cream flavors in your commentary," writes Perry. "We value the ongoing support of our customers and share in the excitement of Granny's adding some of our new delicious Perry's flavors for your customers to enjoy."

(Since Granny's is seasonal, ice cream parlor hours may have changed by time of publication. Patrick says he'll post a note on the door.)

Open Mon.- Fri. 2 p.m. - 10 p.m., Sat. - Sun. 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

*Granny's Ice Cream, 793 South Goodman Avenue.*

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## By Allison Clark

## SWPC Welcomes New Board members

Three new board members were welcomed to the SWPC board during Wedgestock 2009. **Donna Roethel Lenhard** comes to the SWPC Board after years as a registered nurse and real estate broker. Lenhard was "in and out of the Wedge" until her son-in-law **Lyjha Wilton** opened Boulder Coffee.

"I bought a fixer upper," said Lenhard. "Arguably one of the worst dumps in the Wedge." Her experience led her to SWPC meetings and now the board membership.

"One big issue I want to work on is improving the housing quality and increasing membership in SWPC," said Lenhard. "The more people are invested in the groups that can help them, the better the neighborhood."

**Frank Logan** decided he had time to devote to his neighborhood now that son Bryant is at Fordham and son Evan, a freshman at U of R. A long-time resident of Comfort Street with wife, computer analyst **Anne**, Logan served on SEAC's board for several years. The former Rhode Island native works as a senior marketing consultant for the Stephens Media Group.

"I'm really looking forward to increase the profile of the South Wedge with both residents and nonresidents," said Logan. "I want people to know what a great neighborhood the South Wedge is to live in and open a business. It's important to be pumped up about where you live."

**Rachel Chaffee** has lived in the South Wedge for 10 years. Two years ago, she brought a house on Gregory Street with her husband Christian. Chaffee is a full-time Ph.D. student at U of R Warner School of Education. She also works at Warner, teaching writing courses for other Ph.D. student, coordinating the Writing Support program there, and working as a research assistant.

**Don't Miss the Calvary St. Andrew Parish Annual Auction** Historic Calvary St. Andrew Parish will be holding their 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction on Saturday, October 3 starting at noon. Household items, gift baskets and many other gifts and services will be available for purchase. A live auction starts at 1 p.m. inside the Church, 68 Ashland Street.

## Third Thursday Series Finale on October 15

BASWA completes its Third Thursday Series in October with free concerts at Star Alley Park on South Avenue. **Quartershots** play at 8 p.m. and the **Dudes of Earl** take the stage at 9 p.m. For more info, visit [savourourflavor.com](http://savourourflavor.com).

## Environmentalist Author's Visit Showcases South Wedge Farmers Market

**Julia Butterfly Hill** became famous for her sit-in atop a 180-ft., 1000-year-old redwood tree to prevent loggers from chopping it down (she prevailed). She went on to write about her forest advocacy in *The Legacy of Luna*. On Sat. Oct. 17, Hill will speak at a public forum at Harley School, 1981 Clover St., \$10 suggested donation. She will also be guest chef at a farm-to-table benefit event at breathe yoga in Pittsford. **Chris Hartman**, SWFM founder and director of sustainability programs at The Harley School, will appear with Hill to discuss sustainable food initiatives on the 17th. For more info, call breathe, 248-9070.

## BASWA Halloween Pub Crawl on October 29

Tricks, treats and prizes for Best Costumes begin at 6 p.m. at Beale Street Café, 689 South Avenue and Gregory Street. Seven stops. For more info, visit [savourourflavor.com](http://savourourflavor.com).

## Swillburg's Spooktacular Set for Halloween

The Swillburg's neighborhood's annual Halloween event takes place on October 31, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Artisan Church, 1235 South Clinton Avenue. Kids games, music, mulled cider and food prepared by Swillburgian chefs. For more info, visit [swillburg.com](http://swillburg.com) or call David Chappius at 473-7687.

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Highland Park Neighborhood Halloween Party & Parade

The fun starts at 3 p.m. at the Ellwanger Barry Playground at Linden/Meigs Streets. Children (newborn to 6 years) are invited to dress up for the party. Bring a bag of candy or treat to share. For more information, contact [meghandelred@hotmail.com](mailto:meghandelred@hotmail.com).

## The 2009 History Fair

*Heretics, History and Hallelujas*, will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on November 14 at Calvary St. Andrews Church, 28 Ashland St. CSA parishioners are also cooking up hearty chili, scrumptious soup & tasty breads for sale.

This year's event includes speakers **Alan Illig** on *The Life of Heretic Algernon Crapsey*; **Majorie Searl** on *Artist George Haushalter*; **Valerie O'Hara** on *Stained Glass Art at CSA* and **Cynthia Howk** on *History and Architecture of the South Wedge*.

Expected vendors include Greece Historical Society; Susan B. Anthony House; Friends of Mount Hope; Antique Postcards; NYS Erie Canal Society; Highland Park Neighborhood Assoc.; Rochester Public Library; Cranberry Creek

Herbs; Record Archive; **Rose O'Keefe** and local authors. Friends of Mount Hope will also hold a special tour at Mount Hope Cemetery in the afternoon. While admission is free, donations of any size towards the repair of the church's art work will be gladly accepted. Ample free parking is available at the **Postler Jaeckle** lot on the southwest corner of South Avenue and Averill Avenue. Details will be online at [www.calvary-saintandrews.org](http://www.calvary-saintandrews.org) or call Rose O'Keefe at 244-4558.

## Highland Branch Library Kids Story Times

Great stories, sing-along and more for children under 2-5 every week on Tuesday and Thursday. Call to register at 428-8206. Highland Branch at Library, 971 South Avenue.

## Fall Foliage &amp; Grand Luminaries Tour of Mt. Hope Cemetery

Fall Foliage Tour begins at 11 a.m. on Sat. Oct. 24. Grand Lumenaria Tours will be held Sat. Oct. 24 and Tues. Oct. 27 at 6:30 p.m.. All tours begin at the North entrance (opposite Robinson Drive). Each tour has \$4 admission fee.

## Veterans Outreach Center Annual Dinner

The Veterans Outreach Center 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner will be held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center on Thursday, Nov. 5. Keynote speaker is Gen. Barry McCaffrey, U.S. Army (Ret.). For more info, call 546-1081.

## Mount Hope Cemetery Awarded National Wildlife Certification

Historic Mount Hope Cemetery was recently awarded "Certified Wildlife Habitat" status by the National Wildlife Federation. That means deer, red foxes and dozens of bird species are joining the resident wildlife because of the site's environmental wealth. It provides food (seeds, berries, fruit), water (Sylvan water kettle pool) and shelter (burrows, shrubs and rock piles).

According to the Lilac Neighbors Association newsletter, cemetery volunteers also manage "20 bluebird boxes and nesting boxes for owls."

The cemetery "sustainable gardening practices" also helped to get the certification. The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery Gardening Committee and Adopt-a-Plot volunteers chose drought-resistant plants and mulch to retain water. Hill-side rock gardens and bank stabilization prevent soil erosion and annual fall leaf clean-up provides compost.

## Letters to the Editor

*continued from page 2*

my neighbors by labeling the trail project an "issueless issue." Perhaps one reason the neighbors were "angry" was that the project's printed timeline included one and only one public meeting--July 1, 2009. That was it. Since that meeting, we have learned that the timeline is not fixed and that city residents will have another opportunity to study the proposal and to voice concern. It is interesting that you had a follow-up phone interview with a trail advocate, which you quoted at length. The trails advocate claimed that, "Extra infrastructure to an established trail will make for safer journeys." This is not an "established trail," it is a proposal. Why did you fail to follow up with, and quote, a concerned neighbor?

Why did you not mention that the trail goes through the Azalea and Lilac Neighborhoods and that the "angry residents" will have the proposed bike trail right outside their front doors? I am disappointed in the tone and slant of this article. It makes

light of the genuine concerns of residents in the Azalea and Lilac Neighborhoods.

**Joan Gray Lindberg**  
**Lilac Neighbors**

[Editor's response: Along with many at the July 1 Canalway Trail informational meeting held by trailbuilders Fishers Associates, I was very surprised at the level of emotion from audience members. As a Highland Park Neighborhood resident learning about the canal for the first time, I too had concerns (can two bike lanes really fit on Highland Avenue between So. Goodman and South Avenue?) along with the feeling that connecting the Erie Canal with the Genesee River seems like a great idea for bicyclists and walkers. The Wedge Newspaper welcomes both encomiums and critiques.

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# Boulderfest 2009

This year's weekend Boulderfest was free, but promoter Lyjha Wilton invited the South Wedge Planning Committee to educate the masses about all things South Wedge and accept voluntary donations from the crowd. The take--\$1,020-- will be used to promote SWPC community projects like the Victory Garden and Somali Center Market Day. Other ideas? Give us a call!



The Lobster Quadrille wows the crowd.



Boulderfest fans line up for the music.



Lyjha Wilton and Robert Boyd



Father and child reunion at Boulderfest



Glassmaker Mark Scally



Hulahoopers go wild.



Buddhahood returned to Wedgestock w



SWPC Executive Director Robert Boyd answers Wedge questions.



Kids color, waiting for the next band.

(Photography by Johannes Bockwoldt)

## Wilson Day



Students from the University of Rochester lend a hand to SWPC and Bob Boyd on their annual Wilson Day of service to the community. The reward - a new tool shed and a barbecue.



## Urban Greenspace Day



Green house tour. (Photo by Robert Boyd)



Phyllis Tierney, Alicia Schur, Carlene Woodward, Mary Ann Sliwa. (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)



the Medical Arts Building, a green, sustainable mixed-use Art Deco structure. (Photo by Robert Boyd)

NBN Sector 6 held an Urban Greenspace Conference on Saturday, Sept 19 in Genesee Valley Park, on an autumn day. Participants took tours of green-friendly homes and businesses, biked, canoed and talked about ways of preserving our local green assets.

# Wedgestock 2009



People gathering at the Highland Bowl. (Photo by Robert Boyd)



The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) held its very “not your ordinary annual meeting at Highland Bowl on August 31. The afternoon featured music from *Java*, *The King Pins*, and *The Buddhahood*, Irish dancers from *Rince Na Sidhe* Dance School, a salsa and cookie contest, and games for kids and adults. Thanks to the many who came to help and to enjoy the community reunion.



with their world music (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)



Karee Briggs, Heather McMullen, Kevin McMullen, Patrick McMullen, Joe Clemente, Frankie Clemente, Donato Clemente, Patty Clemente, Helen Briggs (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)



Mark Sandler of Absolute Yoga and daughter Ella (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)



Rince Na Sidhe Dance School (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)



Officer B. T. Goater (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)



Jose Castro and Raquel (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

# Somali Center Market Visit



Somali Children learned how to cook healthy lunches and discovered the South Wedge Farmers' Market with their parents. The program was made possible by the Greater Rochester Health Foundation and Foodlink.



The program ended with a trip to Seabreeze made possible by a grant from Susan Cheshire.

## South Wedge Social Register

By Nancy O'Donnell



Alex and Audrey (Photo by Cindy Welch)

### Chernavsky and Kramer

Alex Chernavsky and Audrey Kramer were married on July 25 at the Cinema Theater on South Clinton Avenue. Sixty friends and family were in attendance along with "Princess Baby," the film theater's resident cat. Judge Melchor E. Castro from the Rochester City Court, 7th Judicial District, officiated. "We love the Cinema," said Alex. "And we love the cat that lives there." The couple, residents of the Highland Park

neighborhood, wanted to keep it local and entirely vegan so they turned to two South Clinton restaurants. Ming's Noodles provided sesame tofu and vegetable-fried rice while Flavors of Asia added fresh vegetable spring rolls and scallion pancakes to the reception.

The cupcakes were made by friend Chris Charles. Three different kinds of cupcakes were served: chocolate & vanilla marble, toasted coconut, and lemon macadamia. The recipes all came from a book called, *Veg-*

### Welcome Charles Vincent Clark

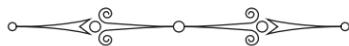
Charles Vincent Clark, son of SWPC Community Organizer Allison Clark and husband Adam, was born on June 25 at 6:24 p.m. Charlie weighed in at 7-lbs., 11-oz. reports Allison. He was welcomed to the family by older brother Thomas.

Allison works as SWPC Community Coordinator, organizing many of its activities. She was integral in the success of the South Wedge Victory Garden.

She also assists neighborhood associations through the South Wedge.



Charlie, Allison, and Adam



*an Cupcakes Take Over the World*, by Isa Chandra Moskowitz said Chernavsky.

The couple honeymooned on Indian Lake in the Adirondack Mountains.

Chernavsky is an IT Specialist and Assistant Volunteer Coordinator at Lollypop Farm, The Humane Society of Greater Rochester, where his wife also volunteers. Kramer owns Kramer Critter Care, a local pet sitting business.

### Munson and Cox

Ben Munson and Kristin Cox are planning a wedding July 2010. Ben proposed to Kristin in Colton, New York at his family's camp during a romantic boat ride on "Highley Flow" last year. "We were in a canoe under the fireworks on the 4th of July," said Kristin. The couple first met at Boulder Coffee in October 2006. Ben is the CEO of newdigs.com, a free apartment listing website which is launching in Rochester this fall. Kristin Cox is a landlord in the South Wedge and also works as a brand evangelist for newdigs.com.



Ben and Kirsten

### St. Joe's

*continued from page 1*

St. Joe's original designs did not include large windows, and the city rejected the plan.

A South Wedge architectural firm, MRA Associates, was hired to create a new facade for the historic building while Passero Associates was asked to design a new side entrance or "a waiting space for guests who often congregate in front of the building," Sigrist said.

"We didn't have absolute documentation for the cast iron store," said architect Martin Rose, RA, AIA. "We basically created our design from what

we found around the door. It's a classic [cast iron] design. It'd be a shame to mess with it."

Along with windows from Flower City Glass, trim paints are based on colors from the early 1900's.

Alvin G. Hazlewood, RA of Passero Associates was pleased to work again in the South Wedge. His firm assisted with renovations at St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center across the street from St. Joe's.

"It's exciting to see the community [on lower South Avenue] make good progress," said Hazlewood.

## School #12 Students

### Eat Healthy

by Nancy O'Donnell

A collaboration between the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC), the South Wedge Farmers Market (SWFM), School #12 Faculty Staff, PTA and Freshwise Farms is bringing healthy eating to schoolchildren in grades K-6 this fall.

Last year SWPC applied for a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation to teach local families about the importance and availability of healthy local produce and vegetables.

Earlier this year, SWPC was awarded a \$5,970 grant and began work developing a program with the SWFM and School #12 PTA Treasurer Lori Bryce. Foodlink joined in by providing a nutritionist to help plan the menu.



The Healthy Food Project was launched on Sept. 18 and continues to Oct. 23. "Almost 500 kids are taking part," said Bryce. "It's great to see the expressions on [the children's] faces when they are exposed to foods they've never eaten before. My favorite was watching them rip up basil

and smelling it, passing around garlic. "This is an opportunity to help kids to try new foods," said SWPC Executive Director Bob Boyd. "And to introduce families to the South Wedge Farmers Market and to the South Wedge. We're especially excited about the Family Night at the Farmers Market on October 7."

## Swine Flu To Do's

Area schools and colleges are preparing for an active H1N1 flu season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend: Good hand hygiene means washing hands with soap and water frequently especially after being in public. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Use tissues when coughing or sneezing. Without a tissue, cough or sneeze into an elbow or shoulder, not into hands. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth

\*Stay healthy: get proper sleep and stay hydrated

\*Know the signs and symptoms of the flu: fever or chills and cough or sore throat. Other symptoms include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting.

\*Use disinfectant wipes to clean common surfaces including steering wheels and shopping carts.

\*Stay away from others for at least 24 hours after a fever has broken. This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications.

\*Get a flu shot if appropriate.



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# Preparing Your Home For Winter

by George Lorson

Now that summer has become a fading memory and the Fall chill is in the air, we think of ways we can make our home warm and cozy as snow begins to fall. The SWPC Staff here has compiled a few how to's prepare for a Rochester Winter. **YOUR FURNACE**

Have your furnace professionally cleaned and inspected to be sure it performs efficiently this season. Purchase a supply of air filters, and change them once a month from October through March. Be sure furniture or drapes do not block the registers, and be sure registers are open to allow for sufficient air flow. Install a humidifier on your furnace and adjust it for the outside air temperature. The proper amount of humidity in your home in the winter will not only make you feel comfortable but will also keep your furniture from drying out.

## WINDOWS

Inspect your storm windows to be sure they are lowered and closed tightly for the winter. Consider purchasing new storm windows to help prevent heat lost. Replace any broken or cracked glass in your window sash. Close and lock your windows for a tight seal. At night, close your drapes to reduce air movement around the windows. Inspect the outside of your window frames to be sure they are caulked tightly to the siding and caulk as needed.

## LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL

Where possible, install compact fluorescent light bulbs to help reduce electrical consumption. Run your dryer and dishwasher on full loads only to achieve maximum electrical efficiency. Turn off lights in rooms that are not being used.

## GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS

Have your gutters and downspouts professionally inspected and cleaned so there will be no standing water in them that might freeze and contribute to ice damming at your roof. Be sure they are fastened tightly to your home

so they do not pull off over the winter. Extend the downspouts away from your foundation in the event they are not tied into the cast iron drain lines at the house. If these cast iron drain lines appear to be clogged, have a plumber professionally "snake" out the lines.

## AIR PENETRATION

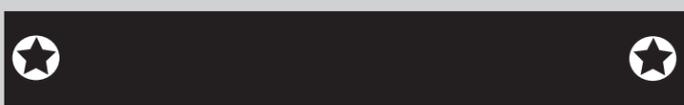
Inspect the rim joist cavity in your basement between the foundation wall and the first floor joists. If there is no insulation, install 6" Kraft paper-backed fiberglass insulation in those areas.

Inspect your exterior doors for tight weather-stripping and install new material if necessary. Inspect your exterior

foundation wall for any cracks or voids. If your foundation is masonry, use mortar to point the cracks. To seal the joint between the wood framing and the masonry, you may want to use the expanding foam that is available in an aerosol container. This may also be used for any pipes that may penetrate your siding. We hope these suggestions are helpful when you are preparing for the Winter season, and if you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at SWPC 256-1740 ext. 101.

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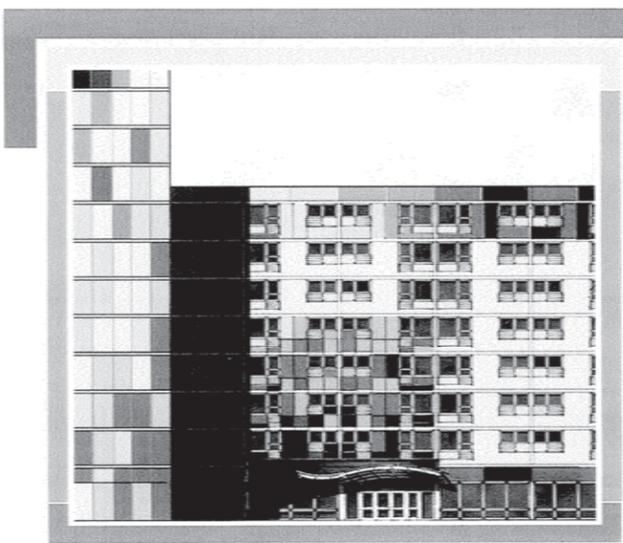
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# ACD Keeps Low Profile But Delivers Big

by Nancy O'Donnell

The Academy for Career Development (ACD) is one of Rochester's best kept secrets among non-profit organizations. Founded by John De Camilla in 1992, it is both a community-based organization and a registered business school licensed by the NYS Education Department. It has offices on South and Dewey Avenues.

ACD programs provide individuals with computer training. Upon completion, students receive a free remanufactured Pentium 3 computer loaded with \$700 worth of software, courtesy of a grant by Microsoft.

"ACD's mission to help disadvantaged and disabled people to become independent with the technology skills that will make them productive," said Public Relations Manager Maria Paris. "All of this has been accomplished with a no frills operation that relies primarily on word of mouth."

"We began by training kids and youth and then we realized that the parents needed the program as much as the kids," said De Camilla.

ACD's NextStep and HelpTech AmeriCorps Programs are currently recruiting part-time and full-time AmeriCorps members. NextStep participants mentor previously incarcerated youth aged 14-17. HelpTech provides Computer/Information Technology Sup-

port and Education services for local underserved communities. AmeriCorps members receive free training and may be eligible for a living allowance (full-time members only), and an education award (full-time and part-time members).

In addition, ACD's CommuniTech Computer Remanufacturing Center is continuously in need of unused working computers (P3 or higher) for remanufacturing and distribution to needy Monroe County residents. Help others and protect the environment by delaying your computer's eventual trip to the landfill. ACD can arrange to pick up equipment or it can be dropped off at its CommuniTech Remanufacturing Center (719-9992, or 232-9160) at 420 Dewey Avenue.

To learn more about both programs, please contact ACD at tel. 244-1430 or visit ACD's website at [www.acdcareers.org](http://www.acdcareers.org). Academy for Career Development, 1349 South Avenue, 244-1430 [www.acdcareers.org](http://www.acdcareers.org)

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Calvary St. Andrew Parish  
Playground Crew  
(Photo by Nancy Straub)

## Neighbors Make Playground Safer

Calvary St. Andrew's Presbyterian Parish on Ashland and Hamilton Streets recently added "certified fall protection mulch" to its playground through the efforts of church members and local businesses: Percon Electric, Kenron Industrial Air Conditioning and Skyworks. Church member Vera Mascaro helped to raise the mulch money.

"The church didn't have the funds in the budget for mulch," said Mascara. She raised the money and then looked around for help in installing the new playground surface. She got a crew together using her sons, children, grandson and friends.

(Top row, 1-r) Manny Colon, Vera Mascaro, Tory Zito and Chris Mascaro (Middle row, 1-r) Sal Zito, Anthony Mascaro, Connor Cerasuolo, (Bottom row, 1-r) James Bansbach and Zach Bansbach. Another helper (not pictured) was Josh Cerasuolo.



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## Lin's Garden Expands Asian Menu to Thailand

by Nancy O'Donnell

Lin's Garden Restaurant, already a South Wedge favorite for its devotion to fresh vegetables bought daily, has expanded its already large menu to include Thai cuisine. "We do great Chinese food and sushi," said owner Vincent Lin. "Lots of customers said they'd be happy if we added Thai. Now one family can make one call, and everybody's happy." Lin, a native of Fujian, China, moved to New York City's Chinatown where he worked learning the restaurant business. He researched Western New York, and decided on making Rochester ("big companies, better schools") as home for his wife and two children. The Lins opened their first restaurant on East Main Street in 2001, and moved to the Mount Hope and



Gregory location in 2006. New to his menu are some 40 Thai dishes from Chicken Satay appetizers to Lemongrass and Coconut based soups. All dishes are made with vegetable oil only. In a recent SWPC taste test, participants devoured a Basil-laden chicken dish in a rich dark broth of scallion, green pepper, carrot, nappa, mushroom and snow peas. The Massaman Curry was spicy in a cozy red hot way and brimming with potatoes,

carrots and peanuts in a curried coconut milk broth. Also notable was the restaurant's version of the national dish of Thailand, Phat Thai, with its thin orange colored rice noodles, crushed peanuts and bean sprouts. (The Seafood version has shrimp, squid and scallops). Repeated visits have only confirmed the SWPC taste test. With Erie Harbor on the horizon, Lin is thinking about renovating the front of his building to include outdoor garden seating in an unused drive through lane that fronts the building. "We'd like to add tables and umbrellas outside," said Lin. Current seating is small. Lin's offers takeout and delivery (\$15 minimum).  
Lin's Garden, 420 Mount Hope Avenue, 232-8320, 464-888.  
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# Linden Street and South Avenue Area Named Historic District

By Nancy O'Donnell

On July 1, eighty-one houses on Linden Street (from South Avenue to Mount Hope), on South Ave (from Linden to Cypress, western side only) and the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit were named the Linden-South Historic District by the National Register of Historic Places, a division of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The new district was officially added to the Register by the Secretary of the Interior on August 26, 2009.

Chris Jones, owner of Historic Houseparts and Linden Street resident, said the new District is significant under National Register Criterion as "an intact collection of late Victorian and early post-Victorian domestic and ecclesiastical architecture in the South Wedge," Jones wrote in the statement of significance paper, which began the process.

Jones worked for two years in close collaboration with a number of neighbors who aided in the research including Anne Kingston, Lisa Reagan, Joe Pasquarelli and Chris Peterson.

"The Ellwanger and Barry Papers in the Special Collections & Rare Books Department at Rush Rhees Library at the U of R yielded a wealth of information about many of the houses," said Jones. "There are construction records outlining expenses and even architectural blueprints for some of the properties."

During the years of research, Jones discovered much about her neighborhood. Several houses were designed by

famed architect Claude Bragdon. Rochester historian and author Henry Clune lived in a nearby house. Charles Paulo Gruppe, a notable fine art painter lived on Linden. Harlan Watson Rippley, a New York State Justice of the Supreme Court, had also lived on Linden. According to Jones, the new Historic District prospered in the fourth quarter of the 19th century in response to an increasing demand for workers housing.

"The buildings in the district represent the type of housing which George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry and their architects thought were fitting for working class people of the day, as many of them were rentals," said Jones. Most of the structures, in fact, were constructed by Ellwanger and Barry Realty Company. The styles that are "eclectically evident" include: vernacular Italianate, Queen Anne, Stick, Shingle, Gothic Revival, Richardson Romanesque, American Foursquare and Colonial Revival.

The Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit is one of four non-residential buildings recognized. Jones described it as late Gothic Revival, English Perpendicular-inspired in a Romantic Revival style popular for ecclesiastical architecture circa 1890-1915. That style is noted for "vertical lines, large windows and Tudor arches." The church, originally Baptist, was built in 1909 and dedicated a year later.

Jones and the Cypress-Linden Block group is looking to

add a visual recognition of its new historic status.

"We will be installing bronze historic district plaques at both ends of Linden Street once we've secured funding for them through grants and private donations," said Jones. (The 18"x 24" bronze plaques will be fitted to a pole. Each can cost up to \$1,600). In addition, Jones plans to start a "plaque program" so that each of the houses on the route can also install their own small plaques.

Currently Jones is now writing nominations for buildings on South Avenue that are eligible for listing.

A complete listing (photos and detailed descriptions of the properties, the significance statement, and a description of the district) will eventually be added to the following website: <http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/nrlist.htm> and also at <http://www.oprhp.state.ny.us/hpimaging/>. For info on eligibility for recently enhanced historic preservation tax credits eligibility, go to <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/shpo/>.

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## Rochester Indie Fest (list as of 9/25)

### Thursday, October 1

**The German House:** (\$10 per day, \$20 three-day pass) *Hotel Reverie* (7:30 p.m.), *Lee Nester* (8:45 p.m.), *The Atomic Swindlers* (10 p.m.).

**Downstairs at the German House:** (No Cover Charge) *Gypsy Meadow* (9:30 p.m.), *Josh Netsky* (11 p.m.).

**Beale Street Café (693 South Avenue)** (No Cover Charge) *Teagan Ward* (5 p.m.)

### Friday, October 2

**The German House:** (\$10 per day, \$20 three-day pass) *The Beaumonts* (7:30 p.m.); *Joe Taylor Group* (8:45 p.m.); *Nevergreen* (10 p.m.).

**Downstairs at the German House:** (No Cover Charge) *The Dan Eaton Band* (9:30 p.m.) *Swati* (11 p.m.).

**Boulder Coffee Co.:** (\$2 Cover Charge) *Action Brigade* (7 p.m.); *Radium Girls* (8:30 p.m.), *Argus Eye* (10 p.m.).

**The Bug Jar:** (\$4 cover charge, 18+)

*The Coach Phase* (6:30 p.m.), *Cavalcade* (8:30 p.m.), *DJ Silly Cutty* (10 p.m.).

**Lux Lounge (666 South Avenue):** (No Cover Charge) *Ancient Youth* (5 p.m.)

### Saturday, October 3

**The German House:** (\$10 per day, \$20 three-day pass) *Walri* (7:30 p.m.); *Mulebone* (8:45 p.m.); *Jack Swift* (10 p.m.).

**Downstairs at the German House:** (No Cover Charge) *Erica Scarano* (9:30 p.m.); *Annie Crane* (11 p.m.)

**Colony Bar & Grille (503 South Avenue)**

(No Cover Charge,) *Strange Montgomery* (5 p.m.)

**Boulder Coffee Co. (100 Alexander Street):**

(\$2 Cover Charge) *Stephen Babcock* (7 p.m.); *New Socks* (8:30 p.m.); *Tin Can Set* (10 p.m.)

**The Bug Jar:** (\$5 Cover Charge, 21+) *Hinkley* (11 p.m.); *Neutral Milk Hotel Tribute* (12:30 a.m.)

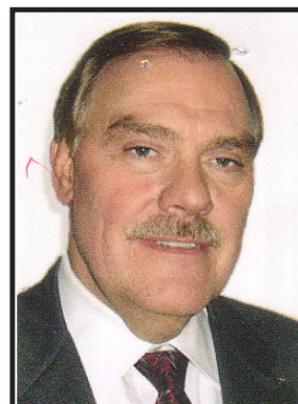


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