

# The WEDGE

Official Newspaper of the South Wedge Since 1982

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## Ellwanger & Barry Park BoulevART Blooms

BoulevART has come to Rochester. On June 10, over 125 of the Highland Park Neighborhood's (HPNA) residents and friends painted a giant mural of flowers, insects and birds in the streets surrounding Ellwanger & Barry Park and the intersection of Meigs & Linden Streets. The design and painting were originally scheduled as a two-day event, but June 9 was rained out. So event organizers were very pleased when enough dedicated neighbors, including whole families and dozens of children, participated so that the entire 350-foot canvas was chalked out and painted in only one day.

Ellwanger & Barry Park's intersection is the first known installation of such a mural painted directly on the streets of Rochester or in Western New York. And this is "Art" intended to go beyond aesthetics and expected to have a traffic-calming effect as well as to engender community building.

Organizers adopted a strategy called "placemaking" which is meant to encompass all of the above. Placemaking

is a fairly recent trend in urban planning that focuses on the quality of life among residents as opposed to just making things convenient for automobiles.

"When you design an area to project a special feeling so it stands out from the usual grid of a city's streets, people tend to treat the area as special and passers-by even slow down," said HPNA Arts & Cultural Team Leader Michael Tomb. "And, of course, it also reinforces the need for caution among so many of us who live in the area and got down on the street with brushes and rollers to create this masterpiece!"

BoulevART Team Leader Marcia Zach feels all of the community building objectives were accomplished: "We worked really hard to get ready and then just got out of the way and watched as the neighborhood, including many children, took ownership and painted these streets. People even added various personal touches here and there that enhanced our original concept. The participation of so many just took this project to



August 18  
South Ave.  
9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Join in the Fun at  
WedgeStock 2012

By Frank Logan

The 2012 WedgeStock Festival returns to the heart of the South Wedge on Saturday, August 18 with Grand Marshal Dino Kay, Fickle 93.3 Radio personality and Razorsharks announcer, as MC for Rochester's only Pet Parade at 9:30 a.m.

The day-long event on South Avenue, between Gregory Street and Averill Avenue, includes music, a bevy of artists and crafters, kids' entertainment and delicious craft beer.

Add to that an especially exciting South Wedge Planning Committee Raffle Extravaganza courtesy of a new SWPC partnership with Bed, Bat & Beyond. If August 18 sizzles, Isaac Heating will keep festivalgoers cool with a spray mister!

Pet Parade founder Kristin Chajka has planned a new and improved parade route that allows participants to show off a bit more in a loop of love.

Marie Daley Park on Gregory St. opens \*only\* to Pet Parade humans and animals at 9 a.m. Parade registration must be completed by 9:30 a.m. for participants to enter to win Pet Parade prizes. The parade begins at 10 a.m. if all cooperate.

Sponsors include: PetSavers, Heathy Pet SuperStore, Camp

Bow Wow, Doody Pack and Pitty Love Rescue. Photographers will also be on hand this year to allow purchase of pooch photos.

Pet Parade prize drawings proceeds will be donated to the Verona Street Animal Shelter. Winners will be announced at the end of the parade on the big band stage.

Special events for kids will let them customize Hula Hoops, compliments of the Home Depot Crew and Jillery Hoops. Face painting and balloons by "The Clowns" add to the fun.

Food vendors include Simply Crepes, the Samwich Food Truck, Nancy's Fried Dough, Napa Wood Fired Pizzeria, Snow Daze and Peppa Pot Jamaican restaurant.

A great line up of music includes the *South Wedge Blues Allstars*, *Temperamental Falcons*, *Nevergreen*, *The Buddhahood*, *The Electro Kings* and *1916*. Music plays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

WedgeStock thanks its generous sponsors--Nathaniel General Contractors and partners Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union, Highland Family Medicine, ABVI-Goodwill, Home Depot, Schuler Haas and the continuing support from South Avenue businesses.

another level."

Members of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association Traffic Calming Team worked for over two years researching and planning the project. Zach collected best practices and requirements by communicating with groups across the country that had successfully created similar murals, such as Portland Oregon's "City Repair" or Minnesota's "Paint the Pavement." Zach also made sure that the art-

*continued on pg. 6*



Panoramic view of Meigs and Linden Steets BoulevART Project (Photo by Michael Tomb)

## SWPC Offers Grants for 1st Time Home Buyers

Are you a first-time home buyer? Are you thinking about making a purchase offer on a house in the City of Rochester? Do you have concerns about major repairs like re-roofing or replacing the furnace? If so, the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) may be able to help.

"The New York State Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC) has a great grant program that enables us to work with people who want to buy a house in either southeast or southwest Rochester," said Eileen Thomas, SWPC assistant director. "If you are an income-eligible first-time buyer, we may be able to assist you with some major repairs. We also can coordinate our grant with other first-time buyers programs you might be using. Basically, our goal is to improve the long-term

affordability of your home."

Through a recent AHC Acquisition-Rehabilitation grant, SWPC will be able to provide up to \$24,000 for major repairs and weatherization. Another \$5,000 is available for down-payment and closing cost assistance. To receive a grant, home buyers must buy a house in southeast or southwest Rochester, agree to live in the house for 10 years and satisfy eligibility criteria. To be eligible for an Acquisition-rehabilitation grant, applicants must:

- Be a 1st time home buyer who is pre-approved for a mortgage
- Be ready to make a purchase offer on a single or double house in the South Wedge, Swillburg, the Highland Park area, the Upper Mount

*continued on pg. 4*

Art ~ Music ~  
Food ~ Pet Parade  
SWPC's Raffle  
Extravaganza  
See items on pg. 10!

**Volunteers Needed! Be a greeter at the gate, staff the volunteer or hospitality tent, sell clown tickets or help with clean up throughout the day. Get a free T-shirt and draft beer. Please e-mail JSMorgan56@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.**

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## Letters to the Editor



Genesee River after the fun  
(Photo by Clarke Condé)

### Revelers/ River Haters?

While I appreciate all the folks that came through the South Wedge for the Independence Day fireworks and the Corn Hill Festival, the river did not look like this before they visited. I ask my friends and neighbors to join me in redirecting our more slovenly visitors elsewhere. If you do see someone throwing trash into the river, please consider encouraging them to follow.

**Clarke Condé**  
Hickory Street

### SWPC Works Hard For the \$

At a recent meeting of the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) Housing and Structures Committee, SWPC Assistant Director Eileen Thomas reported on the status of funding for the Emergency Assistance Repair Program (EARP). EARP is one of SWPC's most sought-after neighborhood programs because it assists lower-income qualified homeowners facing major, urgent repairs to their homes.

Each year more than 300 homeowners, many of them elderly or disabled, call SWPC requesting help. Calls come throughout the week including weekends and after hours. However, despite increasing need for assistance, EARP funding has been reduced in the last three years.

In 2010, EARP provided enough funding to help 34 homeowners in southwest Rochester (Sector 4) and 16 homeowners in southeast Rochester (Sectors 6 and 7), areas served by SWPC under the EARP contract. In 2013, SWPC will be able to work with only 23 homeowners in the southwest and 11 in the southeast, a decrease of nearly one-third.

Much of this decrease is due to cuts to the Community Development Block Grant made by Congress. Some of the decrease is due to changes in priorities within the City.

In June when SWPC accepted applicants' contact information in order to send out applications, more than 60 homeowners called in. For those applicants, the first 23 eligible homeowners from Sector 4 and the first 11 from the southeast quadrant will receive EARP grants. Unfortunately, there won't be funding to help the remaining 16 homeowners or any of the hundreds who will call over the next 12 months. As a result, by the end of June, people calling for housing grants once again heard a message telling them funding was depleted.

*continued from pg. 4*

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## 399 Gregory St. Meeting Unveils Three Designs

By Nancy O'Donnell

Tempers stayed cool despite the stifling heat in Calvary St. Andrew's sanctuary during a City-hosted neighborhood meeting to discuss three design proposals for 399 Gregory Street. The July 12 meeting was one of a series held on differing topics concerning the controversial plot of land, now used as a parking lot by the Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union. Possible construction on the site has riled area residents and heightened tension between neighborhood factions who either favor a building or a larger parking lot.

City of Rochester Senior Economic Development Specialist Rick Rynski opened the meeting with a brief history of the site: a clean-up of the for-

mer brownfield site in 2005, the March 2011 RFP, a January 2012 parking study and lastly offered the audience a look at the top three proposals that may or may not be built by 2014. Rynski emphasized that none of the developers had been "obligated to release their [design] plans to the community," but that they had come forward because of the great interest in the site.

First up was architect Scott C. Powell, Architectura, P.C., representing Brighton developer John Trickey. Trickey owns several historic buildings in the area including the Weider Building that houses the Credit Union and Tango Café.

In meetings last summer, Trickey was a vocal opponent of

*continued on pg 11*

### The South Wedge Planning Committee, Inc.

#### August/September 2012 Calendar

Meetings are held at 224 Mt. Hope Ave., except where noted. The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

#### SWPC Board Meeting

MMcCullough@dor.org  
Tues., 8/21 & 9/18, 6 p.m.

#### Housing & Structures

tomkiciorjr@gmail.com  
Wed., 8/1 & 9/5, 5:30 p.m.

#### Community Engagement (Neighbors & Block Clubs)

a.clark-taylor@hotmail.com  
Wed. 9/19, 6:30 p.m.

#### Marketing & Membership

flogan@rochester.rr.com  
E-mail for dates and times

#### Finance Team

jason.curtis@edwardjones.com  
tsciarabba@hotmail.com  
Tues. 8/14 & 9/11, 12:30 p.m.

#### SW Victory Garden

james.papapanu@gmail.com  
happenrose@hotmail.com  
Mon. 8/27 & 9/24, 6:30 p.m.

**The WedgeStock Festival Needs You!**  
To volunteer, e-mail  
JSMorgan56@gmail.com.

## SOUTH WEDGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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ADNet Printing,  
Messenger Post Media

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Eileen Thomas

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The Wedge Newspaper, a not-for-profit newspaper, is published by the South Wedge Planning Committee, a community development organization serving the South Wedge. Its mission is to provide accurate coverage of neighborhood news as well as local, state and national news that affect the area.

The Wedge is printed bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December) and maintains a circulation of 6500. The newspaper is mailed to South Wedge homes and subscribers and distributed to area businesses, retail shops and other drop off points in the Greater Rochester area.

Articles in this paper do not necessarily reflect the view and/or opinions of the South Wedge Planning Committee.

Please send story suggestions or news to Wedge Newspaper Editor Nancy O'Donnell, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 or e-mail nodonnell@swpc.org.

Advertising deadlines and rates are available online at www.swpc.org or call Nancy O'Donnell at 978-9638.

Before recycling the Wedge, please share with a friend, neighbor 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, commercially sustainable urban village.

**Ad Deadline for Next Issue**  
Sept. 4  
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**The Gallery @ Equal=Grounds Art Exhibit**

Enjoy "bloomed," a photographic exhibit by Beth Bloom at the South Ave. coffee house. The exhibit commemorates Bloom's second anniversary as gallery director. Opening reception will be held on Friday, Aug. 3, 7-9 p.m., 750 South Ave., 676-1985.



**SWPC Home Sale Sat. Aug. 25**  
South Wedge Planning Committee members can shop for free at the SWPC Home Shop on Saturday, Aug. 25, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Select from an array of home goods provided by our donation partner Bed, Bath & Beyond. SWPC "Friend," "Supporter" and "Sponsor" level members are eligible. Bring your SWPC membership card to be admitted. You may also join or upgrade your membership on the day of the sale. For more information, call 256-1740, ext. 103.

**Free Tutoring at Library**

Highland Branch Library will be offering free tutoring help for all ages in the following areas: Math, Reading, Language Arts, Test taking Strategies and GED Preparation. Small group sessions will be offered two afternoons per week. Tutoring is offered by Alan Greene, a certified and experienced teacher. Please call the Library at 428-8206 to register.

**South Wedge Garage Sale  
August 11 & 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.**

For the past 12 years, streets in the South Wedge have been getting together in August to have garage sale. Individuals hold sales at their own properties on this weekend. Register with your street coordinator, and the South Wedge Block Clubs will take care of advertisements in the D&C and City Paper. It's important to let us know you want to be involved, so we make sure to include your street in the advertisements. We'll put signs directing traffic all over the neighborhood the weekend of the sale too. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and make a few bucks! To sign-up on Averill, Hamilton, Bond or Whalin, call Judith VanNess at 271-4457. To sign-up for Gregory, Hickory, Ashland, Poplar, or Sanford, call Angela Clark-Taylor at 944-2677.

**St. Anne's "Next-To-New Sale"**  
The annual St. Anne's thrift sale runs Thursday and Friday, Aug. 16-17, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sat. Aug. 18, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Handicap accessible. Refreshments sold. 1600 Mt. Hope Ave.

**BASWA Announces 2013 Plans**

The Business Association of the South Wedge Area meets Wed., Aug. 8 at the Swedge Shop, 732 South Avenue at 6 p.m. The agenda includes discussion of development of a BASWA/Southeast Area Community Newspaper, recycling stations for our commercial district, South Wedge-ucation and Holiday Festival 2012 Planning. Meetings are open to members and non-members.

**Greentopia Festival Sept. 10-16**

Don't miss this week-long celebration of art, music, organic locally grown food and beverages, ideas and activism.

The expanded event includes "Innovation, Film, Music and Ecofest." Special family activities and a community recycled art installation are planned. 60 Brown's Race, High Falls. For more info, visit [www.greentopia.com](http://www.greentopia.com).



**Paul Minor Joins SWPC Board**  
Paul Minor and Judy Bennett moved to a 140-year-old house

on Averill Ave. from Canandaigua last October with their rescue pets: a black lab, Maggie, and a cat, *Kachuka*, (Lithuanian for small cat).

"I've been an architect in private practice for 36 years, most of that time near Boston" said Minor. "My specialty and passion has been working with existing buildings (residences, churches, commercial buildings) because of the unique challenge in restoring 'tired' buildings and neighborhoods. Preservation and adaptive reuse of our existing buildings is truly the 'greenest' approach to architecture."

In October Minor and AIA Rochester will present a two evening seminar for people thinking about renovation/addition projects or new construction. (More info to follow).

About his move to the South Wedge, Minor says: "I've

wanted to try the convenience and opportunities of City living. I found a much slower pace of life, and the people here have a sense of neighborhood and community here that I didn't feel back in Massachusetts. More citizen participation (and not just carping about problems) is what contributes to success stories like the Wedge. Becoming a member of the SWPC Board was simply a natural extension of who I am and what I do. Think Globally, Act Locally; all politics is local."

**Mt. Hope Cemetery Wants You!**

Volunteers are needed to assist with cemetery maintenance activities every second Saturday of each month. This includes planting, weeding and raking. Individuals and groups are welcome. Adults must accompany volunteers ages 12-17. For more information, call 311 or 428-5590.

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(l-r) CPO Garth Mitchell, CPO Hermino Santos (retired), CPO Michelle Velez, Lieutenant Frank Alberti and CPOs Anthony Belliard, Brian Bannerman and Brian Cannon

#### By CPO Brian Bannerman, Southeast Neighborhood Service Center

The Rochester Police Department wants to alert the public to two recent crime patterns that have occurred recently. There were several recent street robberies, some involving the display or threat of a handgun in the East Ave., Monroe Ave. and South Wedge area. Robberies have primarily occurred between 9 p.m. and 3 a.m. and victims are generally walking home from bars. Suspects are described as two black males, approximately 20 years old, medium build and about 6 ft. +/- tall. The Rochester Police Department advises pedestrians to use extreme caution when walking at night. Here are a few tips to remember.

1. Always stay alert to your surroundings! Whether you are walking down the street or operating your business, be aware of persons and situations around you. Criminals are less likely to commit a crime when they believe someone can identify them.

2. Report suspicious activity to the police immediately. If you observe something that seems like criminal activity, call 911. If you are mistaken in your assessment of the situation, no harm is done by the police looking into it. On the other hand if you are right, you just might prevent a crime or even help to apprehend a criminal!

3. TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS! Whether you are at work, at home or engaged in your favorite pastime, you will usually know what people and actions seem out of place for the situation. If it feels "wrong" to you, it probably is! Get away from any potential danger immediately and call 911.

4. If you do become the victim of a robbery, comply with the criminal's requests for money or property. Your belongings are not worth the risk of being injured. Don't make any sudden moves or do any-

thing to agitate the robber. Try to get a good description of the criminal's clothing and physical features. A good witness is our best hope for making an arrest.

The second recent crime pattern involves stolen vehicles. Approximately 30 Honda vehicles (Accords and Civics) have been stolen throughout the county and City in recent weeks. Nine thefts were in the Southeast quadrant of the City (Garson Ave., Bobrich Dr., N. Goodman St., Anderson Ave, University Park, Upton Park, Green Knolls Dr.) It is possible that the suspects are using a tow truck or similar vehicle during the crimes. Please be sure to lock your vehicles and do not leave your keys in your car. Additionally, use an anti-theft device such as a car alarm or steering wheel lock to further deter these criminals. Please report any suspicious activity immediately by calling 911.

#### Letters to the Editor

*continued from pg. 2*

Recently, we've heard several comments regarding the EARP program which are based on misguided or incorrect beliefs. The facts are:

1. EARP is a first-come, first-served program based solely on when an eligible homeowner submits a complete, correct application.
2. The number of available grants is based on the money provided by the City of Rochester.
3. With the exception of dire emergencies (which are handled as soon as possible), no applicant is given preferential treatment.
4. No large sums of money go to SWPC to facilitate this program.

The lack of funding is as distressing to SWPC staff as it is to homeowners in the areas we serve. SWPC's very mission is to encourage and support a diverse, sustainable housing urban community, and staff are doing the most they can with the increasingly limited funds.

**Donna Roethel Lenhard**  
South Wedge

#### Attention EBT Users

When the South Wedge Farmers Market is open, EBT participants can receive \$5 for the first \$10 they spend. Just stop by the Market's Information Booth and learn how it works. This program is made possible through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and will continue as long as funds are available.

#### Home Buying Grants

*continued from pg. 1*

Hope neighborhood, the 19th Ward, Corn Hill or other neighborhoods in southeast or southwest Rochester

- Have income that is at or below 80% of the Rochester area median income, adjusted for the size of your family
- Have assets of no more than \$15,000, including what you have saved towards down-payment and closing costs. Your car doesn't count towards this limit, nor does assistance you might receive from another first-time buyer program.
- Agree to live in your house for 10 years.

Acquisition-rehabilitation grants cannot be used for purely cosmetic changes or remodeling. However, grants may be used for major repairs such as:

- Re-roofing when the existing roof is within five years of its warranted lifetime
- Replacing a furnace that is more than 10 years old or a water heater more than 8 years old
- Repairing obvious problems with the electrical and/or plumbing systems, and bringing them up to code
- Repairing or replacing the water line
- Cleaning and inspecting waste lines, and repairing/replacing as needed
- Repairing structural issues that affect health, safety or the integrity of the house
- Insulating and air-sealing, as funding allows

Thankfully, most houses will not need all these repairs, which can quickly exceed \$24,000 depending on the size and age of the house. SWPC advises any home buyer to get an engineer's inspection and make your closing contingent on the inspection report.

For more information, call Eileen Thomas at 256-1740, ext. 103 and mention that you are interested in the Acquisition-Rehab grant.

#### From the City of Rochester Fire Dept.... What You Need to Know About Outside Fires

A few safety precautions can keep people and environments safe around open fires.

1. Never leave any fire unattended.
2. Closely supervise children around grills and open fires.
3. Fires in pits, chimineas, outdoor fireplaces, etc., must be a minimum of 15 feet from any structure (including houses, fences, garages, etc.).
4. Fuel piles for outdoor bonfires must be no more than 3 ft. in diameter and 2 ft. in height. They must be 25 ft. from any structure or combustible material.
5. Do not use charcoal grills/other open flame devices on balconies.
6. Avoid fires on dry, windy days. Never use gasoline to start a fire.

For more info, call the City's Fire Department at 428-6739.

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by Nancy O'Donnell



Mike Bauman (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

**Bauman's Journey from Homes to Heads**

Mike Bauman's road to his new career as owner of Bauman's Barbershop began in real estate, moved through garbage disposal before he ended up cutting men's hair on South Avenue.

"I sold real estate on the east side of Rochester," said Bauman, "but it wasn't for me. I thought driving a garbage truck seemed like a cool job. [The drivers] always looked like they were having fun."

Unfortunately, a few months into the job at Youngblood Disposal, he hurt his back and that ended that fun job.

While studying at Shear Ego International School of Beauty, Bauman realized he would concentrate on men's hair styling. "I didn't want to deal with all the chemicals that come with doing female hair."

A Penfield native, Bauman's earliest years were spent in the South Wedge. "I lived on Gregory Street and went to St. Boniface for kindergarten," said Bauman, before his family

moved to the suburbs.

He decided to open his first shop, old-fashioned girly pin-ups included, in the South Wedge because of its friendly feel. "Everyone seems to know each other, and it's up and coming. A lot of the other business owners stopped in for a haircut. I go out and grab a sandwich or what not from them."

And is there a South Wedge look for men's hair?

"I think I do mostly Princetons," said Bauman. "It's basically short on the sides and back and flipped in the front."

After hours, Bauman returns home to wife Elizabeth, a special education teacher, and their three children ages 15, 4 and 1 years old.

While Bauman doesn't plan to have a grand opening, he does plan to host a comedy night in his large back room on September 15. A local comedy troupe, "3 Guys Go into a Bar," morph into "3 Guys Go into a Barbershop" for the evening's performance. For more details, contact Bauman at 473-6061.

**Calvary St. Andrew Partners with Foodlink to Build Alison Clarke Community Garden**

by Rev. Judy Lee Hay



In May Calvary St. Andrew's Presbyterian Parish and Foodlink entered into a new partnership to create a community garden.

The concept, brainchild of Foodlink staff and Averill Avenue resident Mitch Gruber, proposed six pilot community garden sites throughout the city, Calvary's site being one. The idea was to assist 10 food insecure people to raise food. It's also a way to infuse energy and knowledge into the process of how and where our food comes from and how to make healthy life choices.

Garden Coordinator Phinis Horton recruited 10 neighborhood people to participate. Brian Babcock, Foodlink's direct

support staff person, provided the material for the beds, plants and compost. The participants constructed the nine beds, moved mulch and planted the garden.

Foodlink asked that each garden be named. For Calvary St. Andrew's the choice was a no brainer—Alison Clarke, a long time CSA member and community activist, has spent decades on community gardens and sustainable agriculture. Since the early 1970's she worked with groups like Politics of Food (now called Rochester Roots), Peace and Justice, School Community Gardens, the Sustainable Agriculture Working Group, and, most recently, The New York Small Scale Food Processors Association (SSFPA). She has participated in grassroots efforts and ad-

vocated for systemic changes to make the agricultural system, in this country and Latin America, work to deliver nutritious food at affordable prices without harming the environment in the process. The Alison Clarke Community Garden was officially dedicated on July 29.

Our partnership with Foodlink is invaluable in meeting people's food needs. From July 18 - August 22, participants take a six-week cooking classes under the direction of Foodlink staff Heather Tyler. A joint meal is prepared in the CSA kitchen and eaten as a group. Each participant is given ingredients to make the same meal at her/his home. For each class completed, a \$10 voucher to a Farmers Market is awarded. Healthy eating can be fun and can make a difference in people's lives.

Half of the produce raised goes to the participants, the other half to Calvary St. Andrew's Emergency Food Cupboard. Participants are on a rotation schedule to water and weed the garden.

Neighbors helping neighbors is a concept that undergirds the community garden. The South Wedge is a healthy community, and we envision healthy residents committed to sustainable agriculture.



Jeana Tes serve Dogfish Head beer

**The Rochester Real Beer Expo**  
Yet another roaring success for the Business Association of the South Wedge Area.

The event garnered some \$15,000 for BASWA programs and projects was organized by BASWA board members and Tap & Mallet restaurant Joe McBane.

**Newcomers Welcome**

If you are new to the area or experiencing a change in your life, the Newcomers Club of Greater Rochester, a not-for-profit social club, provides a friendly atmosphere and a wide variety of member-run activities to help with your adjustment.

For more information about the club, please call 234-1804 or attend our monthly coffee hour at 10 a.m. on the third Tuesday of every month at the Corner Bakery Café, 3300 Monroe Ave. in Pittsford.



Rosie, Lorrie Sprecher, Sully and Roxxi brought their Syracuse-based band, Misbehavin', to Ellison Park (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

**MzBehavin' Performs at Women's Festival in Ellison Park**

The Syracuse-based band, MzBehavin', performed at Rochester's all-day Women's Festival at Ellison Park in July. Belly dancers, food vendors, and arts and crafts also added to the festivities.

Joining band founder Roxxi was South Wedge regular and author of *Sister Safety Pin*, Lorrie Sprecher on bass guitar.

Misbehavin' wowed the crowd with vocals from Roxxi and Sprecher in songs by Patti Smith, Melissa Etheridge, the

Rolling Stones, Beatles and Creedence Clearwater. Bandmembers Sully and Rosie joined in background vocals.

Sprecher is founder of band, *Sugar Rat*: "which is me and Kurt, my dog."

"I'm currently recording a CD tentatively titled "lesbian raincoat," said Sprecher.

Plans are underway for next year's festival. To learn more, visit facebook at [www.facebook.com/events/313894945339954/](http://www.facebook.com/events/313894945339954/).

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## Children's Health Corner

By Dr. Alexie Cruz Puran, MD, FAAP

### Health Tips For The New School Year

As summer quickly comes to an end much excitement follows and "to do" lists get longer for school clothes and school supplies. One high priority on your "to do" list should be your child's health.

#### Vaccinations

Updating vaccinations, scheduling annual physicals and alerting your child's school about allergies and illnesses are crucial steps to ensure their academic success, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Most children in the United States today lead healthier lives than generations past and this can be attributed to immunizations. Children who are vaccinated and have their immunizations up-to-date will have protection for a lifetime.

Viruses and bacteria that cause diseases like whooping cough, chickenpox and meningitis still exist in this country, and travelers can easily bring other diseases here. Without vaccinations, infections like measles could quickly spread, causing a nationwide outbreak.

Several states have experienced an epidemic of whooping cough. This disease is particularly dangerous to infants, and several children have died.

Also certain parts of the world have seen a resurgence of polio, which could infect children not immunized who come in contact with travelers from those areas.

The best way to protect children from these diseases is by following the recommended immunization schedule. This schedule is designed to work best with a child's immune system. The vaccines are given at certain ages and at specific times when a child is most vulnerable to serious complications from an infection. If a vaccine requires a second or third dose, they need to be given within a certain time frame or the vaccine will not fully protect your child.

While most infections are far more harmful to infants, adolescents and adults need to make sure their immunization records are up-to-date as well. When an entire community is vaccinated, it protects those who are most vulnerable, including people with weakened immune systems and children who are too young to be vaccinated.

The American Academy of Pediatrics also recommends ev-

*Dr. Cruz Puran is a Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellow at the UR Rochester Medical Center.*



Matt Simonis, Erika Guli and Gregory Waldron stopped in at Caverly's Irish Pub for a Wedge Newspaper Meet & Greet and subscription drive in July. Matt and Greg left their home in North Winton Village to grab some South Wedge excitement. They even signed up to volunteer at WedgeStock! (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

ery child between 6 months and 18 years receive an annual flu vaccine.

#### Food Allergies and Illnesses

If your child suffers from any food allergies or health issues that require management during the school day, you should contact the school nurse and update your child's health plan at school. This will ensure that proper steps are taken if the child develops symptoms while at school.

Your child's health can change from year to year or even month to month, so make sure the school is kept updated on how to handle new conditions or restrictions. Schools should also be provided with any special medications your child may need.

#### Annual Physicals

While it may not seem as urgent, a yearly physical exam by your family's pediatrician is an important part of your child's health care. The back-to-school season is a convenient time for putting the exam on your family's schedule.

The annual physical gives the pediatrician a chance to give your child a thorough physical exam. Aspiring athletes should get a sports physical before the start of the season. The annual physical is also a good chance to address important questions parents may have about their child's health.

#### Asthma Alert

The New York City Department of Health issued a health advisory on August 24, 2011 to all health care providers to help prepare children for the fall asthma season. This advisory was issued because childhood asthma often worsens in the fall with hospitalizations rates more than tripling from summertime lows.

You can help protect your child with asthma in the fall by scheduling a visit with your pediatrician. This visit can ensure that your child's asthma is under control, they are on the most effective treatment, and that they have an Asthma Action Plan for both maintenance

*continued on pg. 9*

### HPNA's BoulevArt

*continued from pg. 1*

work conformed at every step to the evolving requirements being designed by the City's Department of Environmental Services. The City provided all of the traffic paint used as well as the required skid resistant additive. Neighbor, resident, and retired graphic designer, Larry Staiger, joined the team in 2011 and contributed the core design. The design radiates from the intersection where a giant yellow, red and orange interpretation of a flower once known as "The Rochester Aster" has taken residence and extends to the adjoining streets via sprawling vines and flowers as well as whimsical insects and birds.

Tomb used digital graphics to project Larry's vision onto scaled, gridded satellite maps of the road surfaces. These served as a master plan. In advance, HPNA Vice-Chair Mike Mahoney created re-usable templates for leaves and petals and then coordinated the layout in an efficient and effective manner. Mahoney also organized the operations on the day of the event so that the flow of neighbors joining in from 8:30 a.m. to

6:00 p.m. acted "like a smooth machine built from the community's intent." Many non-painting volunteers contributed their energy to mix paint, distribute materials and to run a welcome tent dedicated to refreshments. Several local businesses also provided supplies and discounted products.

Ultimately, the BoulevART event resembled a block party, and the mood remained festive throughout every phase of the day. Just like highways' painted broken lines, the mural will need to be re-touched every year or two, but neighbors are already planning to recreate the community event and update their street painting together again. In addition, team leaders are compiling a list of tips from their experience that will be useful to other local community groups looking to paint a "placemaking" masterpiece of their own.

To see a list of contributors along with a short film about the event by HPNA member Bruce "Pacho" Lane, visit HPNA's website at [www.highlandpark-rochester.org](http://www.highlandpark-rochester.org).

## South Wedge Victory Garden Update

By Heather Penrose

Despite a groundhog invasion and essentially no rain, the South Wedge Victory Garden is in full swing!

The garden continues to give folks the opportunity to grow fresh organic produce in our neighborhood and be a meeting place to talk with neighbors and make connections.

The Victory Garden Committee meets once a month, usually on the last Monday at the South Wedge Planning Committee office at 224 Mt. Hope Ave.

Upcoming projects and events include creating a seating area in the garden, planning the build-out of Victory Garden No. 2 and planning our Harvest Potluck.

Anyone in the community is welcome to attend our meetings as we always welcome



*Very cute but a big eater*

new ideas.

Please stop by this beautiful oasis at 122 Hamilton Street to see how our garden grows or visit us on Facebook at "South Wedge Victory Garden".



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Market Interns Stephen Nicholson, Trissha Higa and Sam Coons

## Interns Add New Energy to South Wedge Farmers Market

By Sue Gardner Smith

Young people's interest in sustainability, community, and a local food supply suggests there's reason to be optimistic about future efforts around these issues.

This year, three interns joined the South Wedge Farmers Market, bringing energy, commitment and fresh ideas to the market. Interns Sam Coons, Trissha Higa and Stephen Nicholson are local students with differing goals and backgrounds, but each share a commitment to the market's mission of supporting a strengthened local food supply by bringing sustainably-grown food to members of our community.

Sam Coons enters senior year at Brighton High School this fall and hopes to pursue architecture and urban planning in college. Sam became interested in the farmers market through learning about how our food system became industrialized, the politics that enable that system, and the policy-making that fuels it. Inspired by reading *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan, Sam sought out ways to play a role in helping reform the industrial food system. Sam enjoys seeing how a common belief can bring together so many differing groups of people and foster a community of its own.

"The market has no one self-serving purpose, for the vendors or for the consumers, but exists to serve the community," says Sam. "It's incredible to be able to watch how the market and the community sustain each other, and there's no doubt in my mind that a strong community can overcome any obstacle it faces."

Trissha Higa, from Honolulu, Hawaii, is entering her senior year at the University of Rochester. She is majoring in microbiology, with a minor in dance and a biotechnology certificate. Trissha became interested in sustainability during middle and high school, when the subject was a major focus of her studies. Living in Hawaii, where so much food was imported, she became aware of the higher quality of fresh local produce. Trissha is also interested in teaching children these principles: "I learned from a young age that sustainability is key in maintaining a healthy community. I really want kids to learn this as well, and that is what makes me so happy whenever I see children here at the market. It's really exciting to see kids who are very knowledgeable about fruits and vegetables. I also like seeing the community that forms among the children and parents that come each

week."

Stephen Nicholson was born in Rochester and graduated from Bishop Kearney High School. The eldest of six children, after high school Stephen worked his way up in a global quick service food company, leading the state in sales, growth, and customer service. Although he enjoyed his work, over time he came to feel that he needed to seek a path that would provide more fulfillment, so he enrolled at the University of Rochester. He maintains a demanding schedule, juggling full-time studies in anthropology with a full-time restaurant job, plus tutoring and nannying. Stephen plans to pursue a career in sustainable management or community organization, with the eventual goal of becoming a restaurant consultant, bringing local restaurants and local farms together. According to Stephen, since participating in the farmers market, he eats better and feels stronger than ever before.

"Farmers markets provide patrons with fresh local foods, promote a healthy lifestyle and are wonderful places for strangers to become friends," says Stephen. "Fueling myself with nutrient dense food keeps me on top of my game. Put good in, get good out."

## Comic by Justin Hubbell



## Kids Love the South Wedge Farmers Market



All Paths Lead to the Market by Tess (right)

Local Loving Dinosaur by Anonymous! (left)



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#### Introducing Young Lion

Local urban planners Jason Haremza and Tanya Zwahlen announce their new business venture, "Young Lion," which creates art, clothing and home goods celebrating Rochester and other upstate communities through collaboration with area artists. The business name was inspired by Rochester's early 19th century nickname, 'the Young Lion of the West,' which refers to the city's spectacular growth as America's first boomtown.

"The goal of Young Lion is to promote Rochester and other Upstate New York communities as vibrant places, full of history, culture, and opportunity," Zwahlen says.

Their first project, a map of

Rochester's neighborhoods, was designed and printed locally by Bill Klingensmith, founder of South Wedge design business, mydarndest. More than just a work of art, the map is meant to stimulate discussions about community identity and sense of place in Rochester. A limited edition of four-color screen prints was printed and is currently for sale through the Young Lion website ([www.younglionrochester.com](http://www.younglionrochester.com)) or at the Memorial Art Gallery store for \$40.

#### Hola New Mexican Restaurant

While South Wedgians impatiently await the arrival of Banzai Sushi Café in the space next to Harry G's NY Deli, Boulder owner Lyjha Wilton has plans to open up an authentic Mexican "sit down" restaurant at 93 Alexander Street. More details to follow.

#### Coffee Connection Opens 2nd Café in N. Winton Village

Owner Joy Bergfalk recently expanded her non-profit "conscience in every cup" café to include Green House Café in the North Winton Village neighborhood.

"We use local produce and sell the best quiche in town," says Bergfalk. The menu also includes soup (gaspacho for

now) and a variety of yummy paninis served alongside their trademark rich blend of Fair Trade coffees.

Stop in and check out her newest digs at 2271 E. Main Street. Call for hours at 902-3384.

#### Nicholas Shipper's Got Moxie

"Moxie is a full-service web design startup that helps small businesses take control of their website and learn how to use it to grow," says founder Nicholas Shipper.

Education is a priority at Moxie. Businesses are often trained by creating quick personalized support videos after their website has launched.

"Often, a client will request how to add a page or image to their website, and we'll create a mini screenshot recording of their actions adding the content. The client can then reply and share the video with staff over time. This has helped transfer knowledge of how to use a website and leaving the business feeling more in control of their website." To learn more, visit <http://wearemoxie.com/> or call 721-8196.

#### Joe Bean Coffee Roasters Blends Style with Brew

Presentation is half the fun at Joe Bean Coffee Roasters at

1344 University Avenue. South Wedge resident and coffee roaster Benjamin Turiano has created a destination cafe that takes coffee very, very seriously. Each cup is brewed individually in a slow drip manner and served in a round white china handleless mug. Along with getting an incredibly delicious cup of coffee, visitors come away with a great deal of information.

On a recent visit, "Bourbon, Caturro," was the choice, a varietal grown at an altitude of "1,200-1,650 meters, washed processing," its harvest "November-April" and its soil "volcanic."

"Coffee is the most chemically intricate food matrix in the world," said owner Turiano. "You're dealing with agriculture, fermentation, roasting and finally brewing."

Look also for coffee-flavored beer and organic wines. To learn more, visit online at [www.joebeanroasters.com](http://www.joebeanroasters.com) or

call 319-5279.

#### South Wedge Spirits & Wine Celebrates its First Year

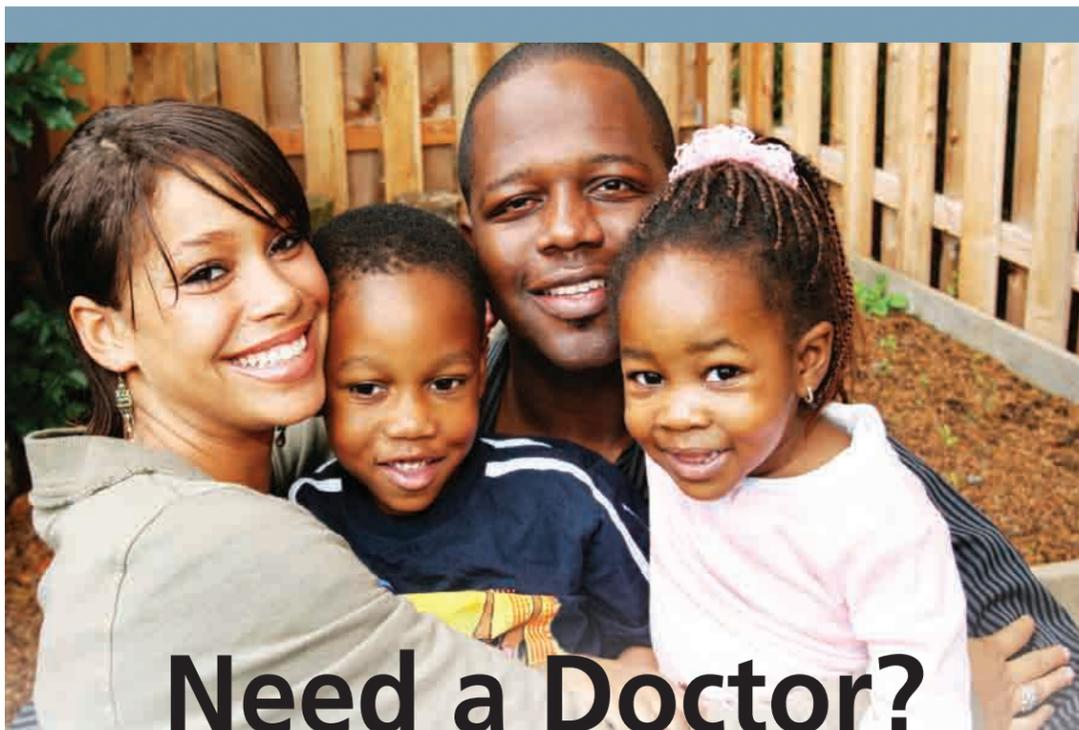
Joel Cera held a tasting and reception in late July to celebrate the shop's first anniversary. For details about the shop's big Summer Sale visit their website at <http://www.southwedgespiritsandwine.com>.

#### A Zak's Avenue Shout Out

Owner Deb Zakrzewski has great news for BICO jewelry fans. "We've expanded to Greece Ridge Mall, right outside Old Navy near Macy's. Zak's will continue to carry Bico and your special orders are welcomed!"

Zak's features 40 local artists, an extensive jewelry collection, soaps, candles, cards, clothing and art.

"We now have a private label line called Zak's Wax, an amazing beeswax lotion in a bar that will totally rejuvenate your skin and make it feel totally awesome," says Deb.



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By Cliff Kemp

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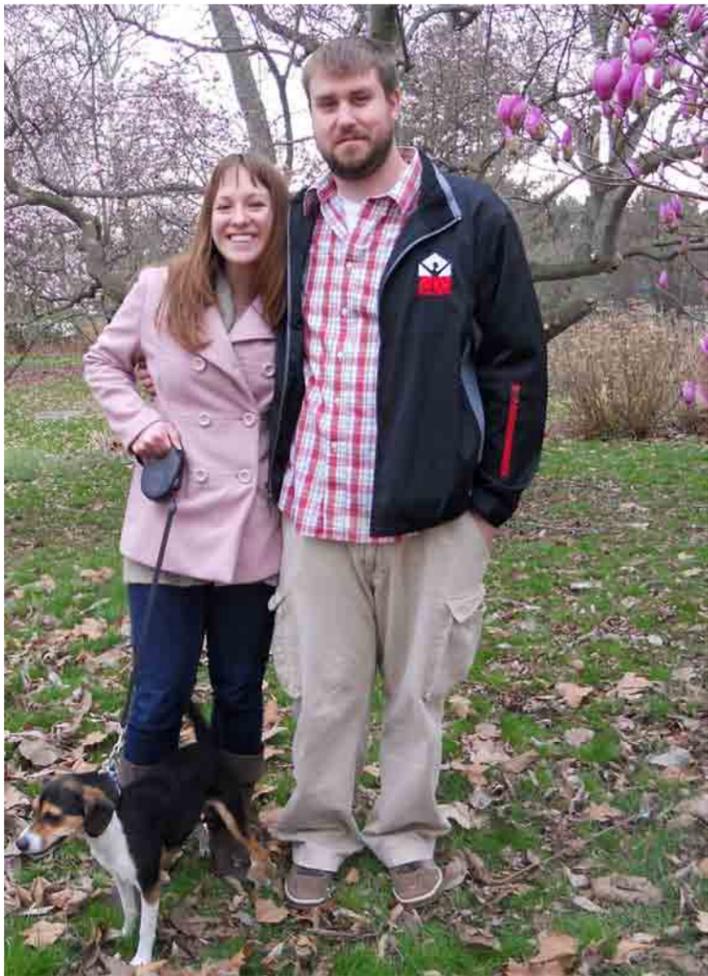
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## They're Engaged!



### Monica McCullough & Tom Kicior

Monica McCullough and Tom Kicior plan to start 2013 in a big way with a wedding on New Year's Eve.

When the couple met while working at the South Wedge Planning Committee's "Strategic Planning Retreat" in 2008, they weren't thinking romance. Although perhaps something sizzled across the table as they discussed community involvement.

"Our love for the South Wedge and passion for neighborhood development is what initially brought us together," says Tom. "Soon after [the retreat] I joined the Housing and Structures Committee, chaired by Monica, and then the SWPC board. After almost three years volunteering together at SWPC, we began dating in February 2011.

The couple say they both love Highland Park and so what better place to get engaged?

"We really love how beautiful the magnolia trees are in bloom. I visited the park alone on a number of occasions in

early spring hoping they would start blooming to fit in with my plan to propose. With some help from the unseasonably hot weather the magnolias started blooming in late March, but the forecasted rain and frost limited my window of opportunity."

"On March 23, I convinced Monica and Cooper (a Beagle-Chihuahua) to go for a walk right after work before the rain came. At the beginning of the walk I steered us to the spot I had picked out under the magnolias and got down on one knee to propose. She said Yes! Cooper was not as impressed by the moment, but still approved. The picture [above] was taken by a kind woman walking in the park just after I proposed."

Monica is now the SWPC Board Chair, and Tom is the chair of the Housing & Structures Committee.

Tom encourages everyone to check out a SWPC meeting. Perhaps they'll meet their soulmate, just as he did, across a conference table.



Amanda and Adam (Photo by Nichole McInroy-Drobnica and B Younique Boutique)

### Amanda Mary Hoch & Adam Ryan Lenhard

Donna Roethel Lenhard, of Bond Street and Earl N. Lenhard, of Rochester, announce the engagement of their son Adam Ryan Lenhard to Amanda Mary Hoch, daughter of Jack and Joanne Hoch of West Irondequoit.

Amanda, a SUNY Brockport graduate, works as an educator for the Center for Youth. Adam is a U.S. Army Ranger, currently serving in Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne Division.

In an e-mail, Adam describes how he met his fiancée.

"I [was in] Special Operations 2/75 Ranger Battalion at Fort Lewis, WA, for over two years. Amanda works with my sister, and in early 2009 she saw my picture at Jillian's house and asked 'Who is that?' My sister quickly thought that we would be great for each other. Jillian

told her she would love me and texted me a picture telling me she found a girl I would marry (I swear). She had a boyfriend at the time, so I thought nothing of it except 'she is beautiful.' Fast forward 2 1/2 years, I was now at Fort Bragg, NC, and I got a random text from my mom saying 'Amanda is single.' I started texting her, and we were talking every day. Mind you we have never met in person."

"Last May I had knee surgery and got two weeks to go home and recover. I left the same day as the surgery, and I had convinced this girl whom I never met to pick me up at the airport," writes Adam.

Amanda remembers that Adam "begged me to pick him up and said if I didn't he would be stranded. I thought there's no way I'm picking up a strang-

er from the airport, but at least he's Jillian's brother, so it makes it o.k., right? He told me he would marry me the second day we hung out," says Amanda.

Adam describes his proposal this way: "Just before Christmas 2011, we went to NYC. The first night we got there, December 16, I took her to Central Park because I love it there. I took her to my favorite bridge, Gapstow Bridge, and proposed. I rehearsed what I was going to say a hundred times, and I was a bit tongue-tied, but she assures me I said all of the right things."

The couple plans a December 1st wedding at Chapel Hill on Prince Street with a reception to follow at Harro East.

Adam is scheduled for additional military training in January 2013, and the newlyweds will relocate to Arizona.

### Children's Corner

*continued from pg. 6*

medications and for handling exacerbations.

#### Back to School Tips

The following health and safety tips are from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Making the First Day Easier

- Remind your child that he or she is not the only student who is a bit uneasy about the first day of school. Teachers know that students are anxious and will make an extra effort to make sure everyone feels as comfortable as possible.

- Point out the positive aspects of starting school: It will be fun. He or she will see old friends and meet new ones. Refresh them with positive memories about previous years, when they may have returned home after the first day with high spirits because they had a good time.

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Woody before beheading



Sculpture before unseating

## South Wedge Mystery-- Woody and Wheels Go Missing

By Nancy O'Donnell

The Business Association of the South Wedge Area (BASWA) took the lead in bringing public art to the community over the last few years. See all the parking meters changed into sculptures, that's BASWA. The utility boxes along South and Mt. Hope Avenue? BASWA again.

Last year, some rat stole artist John K. Archer's "The Big Cheese" steel wedge sculpture in front of the Advocacy Center on South Avenue, but within days it mysteriously reappeared in its berth.

This time damages are much worse. First Wendy Rust's "Woody," a graceful steel and wood pileated woodpecker was decapitated in front of Historic Houseparts, and another vandal rode off with the bike seat and other parts on Matt Crane's freewheeling bike sculpture near to the Beale Cafe. Chris Jones, BASWA co-president,

interviewed by a Channel 13 WHAM about damage to public art in the South Wedge said, "This happens all over the city, all small businesses face this and it's frustrating for all of us, so it does cost money for small business owners who don't need the expense."

Rochester Police Department said that most graffiti goes without complaint but that citizen vigilance and reporting suspicious activity may be helpful catching vandals.

So a heads up to all the bikers, walkers and drivers in the Wedge. Be alert and report any suspicious activity around the art works that are such an important part of the our community.

Send us your ideas on how to combat this crime at Wedge Newspaper, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester. 14620.

## 3 Guys Walk Into a Barbershop



On Saturday, Sept. 15, at 8 p.m., the comedy troupe, 3 Guys Walk into a Bar--Jimmy LeChase, Bryan Ball and Vinnie Paulino--will walk into Mike Bauman's Barbershop back room for an evening of stand up comedy. Tickets for the event will go on sale soon. For more information, call Mike Bauman at 473-6061.

## Spokes & Posters Festival Aug. 25

The 2nd annual art and music festival and celebration of all things two wheeled runs from 12-6 p.m., at the Genesee Center for the Arts, 713 Monroe (and in the Blessed Sacrament Church parking lot across the street).

"In 2011 we drew more than 600 [people] who bought poster art made by local artists, made crafts on our printing presses, listened to four bands, and shopped at vendor booths and local bicycle groups," said Janice Gouldthorpe, the center's executive director. Visit <http://www.geneseearts.org/spokesandink> for more info.

## South Wedge-ucation

BASWA and City Newspaper's annual event brings thousands to the South Ave. commercial district to eat, drink, and shop. Businesses offer "ridiculous" sales from 5-9 p.m. on Sept. 15.

## First Niagara Roc Fringe Festival set for Sept. 19- 23

Over 180 performances of 120 shows in 21 venues over five days. One of the biggest draws will be Bandaloop dancers who perform suspended on the side of One HSBC Plaza, Manhattan Square Park. (Get a sneak preview of their incredible moves [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSukq4GuDY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSukq4GuDY).)

## 399 Gregory

*continued from page 2*

any building on the site, instead suggesting it be transformed into a larger pocket garden. Today, Trickey's architectural plans incorporate a four-story building. The building's second and third floors would house 1-2 bedroom apartments with the roof garden above while the ground floor would open to three street front retail stores. The design also includes a bridge to the Weider Building, making its grand ballroom handicap accessible. Powell said both the material and style would complement the Weider Building's brick exterior and include 59 parking spaces behind.

Next up, was Wedge Redux's urban planner Mark Updegraff whose building would be completely modern in style, but very green: solar panels, wind turbines, a covered green space that would allow for community art fairs or farmer markets. Promised parking spaces for Wedge Redux's design was 35 spaces.

Providence Housing Development executive director and South Wedge Planning Committee Chair Monica McCullough ended the presentation with a brief description of "Wedge

Park," a mixed-use, mixed-income development designed by Plan Architectural Studio as a "workforce housing" targeting employees of public, private and service sectors within the city.

The design includes 14 one-bedroom apartments and first floor commercial retail office space and potential parking spaces numbered at approximately 24.

Southeast Neighborhood Service Center Administrator Nancy Johns-Price acted a facilitator for a brief Q & A afterwards. Surprisingly, the question of parking didn't dominate what was otherwise an amicable discussion. One neighbor expressed concern that the Genesee Co-op would move if a building was built on the site. The evening's most jarring moment came when developer Trickey, asked if he would share some of his land for parking if his design wasn't chosen by the City, gave an emphatic one word response, "No."

Rynski ended the meeting with an assurance that the City would publicize the designs on the city website for the public. The designs were not available at the time of publication, but Rynski said to check back by going to [www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov) and type "399 Gregory Street" in the search box.

## Third Thursday August Concert on August 16

Come out on August 16 to Star Alley Park (next to Lux Lounge) to hear *Billy Joe and the Blues Gypsies*, sponsored by Historic Houseparts and Cheryl Stevens & Doug Root.

The music runs 8-10 p.m. and food and beverages are available for purchase at the park.

This year's concert posters were designed and printed by Bill Klingensmith.

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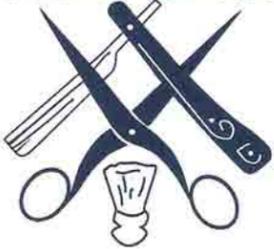
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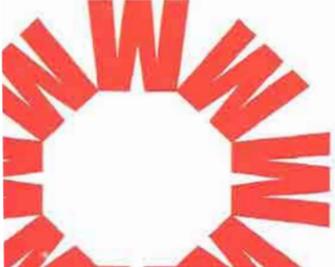
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