



# The WEDGE

Official Newspaper of the South Wedge Since 1982

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## SWPC Snares Starring Role in City Video

By Nancy O'Donnell

George Lorson, South Wedge Planning Committee Real Estate Development Coordinator, takes a leading role in a City of Rochester video journal featuring Home Rochester projects, *Your New Home: Disaster to Dream*. The videos follow the rehab of the three city homes that will later be sold to first-time home buyers.

The City acquires the houses from HUD after foreclosure, and in partnership with the Greater Rochester Housing Partnership, rehabs them.

"We want to provide quality homes for first-time home buyers," said Lorson, who was invited to join the cast by GRHP because of his expertise in rehabbing houses for the South Wedge Planning Committee.

Narrated by City Communication Producer Shiera Coleman, "Disaster to Dreams" films the "ugly dirty truth before the makeover" of three area houses--39 Lark and 54 Lozier Streets and 120 Bidwell Terrace. While the human inhabitants may be gone, a couple of the houses were home to wide assortment of critters in the earliest videos. The project was started in September but faced delays when asbestos was found in each of the

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South Wedge resident Robert Lauterbach captures the Genesee River's Upper Falls in all its frozen beauty in 1966. "As I recall my father (Harold), mother and sister got into the 1960 red Econoline Ford van on Christmas morning just to get out of the house. Besides going to the High Falls bridge, we visited Lake Ontario beach and Highland Park."

## The South Wedge Planning Committee Needs You in 2013!

As an active neighborhood group with a budget of nearly \$1 million and numerous programs and activities in operation--such as the South Wedge Farmer's Market, the Victory Garden, the Wedge newspaper, the Wedgestock Festival, a tool library, community engagement efforts, block club support, housing rehab and development programs both inside and outside of the Wedge, among many others--the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) is always

in need of good volunteers and community leaders!

SWPC is able to do all of this work for the neighborhood with a staff of five and many, many volunteer hours. There are many different volunteer opportunities with SWPC depending on your time availability, interests and abilities.

One important area where SWPC is seeking volunteers is for membership on the board of directors. The SWPC board

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## School #12 Moves to K-8

South Avenue's James P. B. Duffy School #12 whose mission is "to engage [students'] minds, develop [their] bodies and lead with [their] hearts to be academically ready, socially mature and responsible citizens" will expand their student body to grade 8 in fall 2013.

On the school's website, Principal Mrs. Alampi writes that over the course of the next few months, the school will be

asking the school community for their input to make this transition to K-8 as smooth as possible and as meaningful for the needs of our families. "I had the opportunity to speak directly to Dr. Vargas about this move to K-8 and due to funding restraints and the cost to modernize our facility we will be moving to the K-8 framework. Please watch for future updates and meetings on this topic."

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South Wedge Planning Committee  
224 Mt. Hope Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14620

## Long Season Winter Farmers' Market Open until Dec. 23

By Sue Gardner Smith

Despite the chill in the air, there is still plenty of great, local food to be found at the Long Season Winter Farmers' Market, held Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m., through December 23. A collaboration between the South Wedge and Brighton Farmers' Markets, it's held inside Brighton's Brookside Center.

Inside you'll find a wonderful selection of fresh food, including apples, pumpkins, winter squash, carrots, beets, turnips, potatoes, onions, garlic, leeks, kale, chard, radishes, lettuce, fresh herbs, field mix, certified organic meats, dairy, baked goods, maple products, fresh and dried pasta, sweets, herbal products, honey, and



baking mixes. There are also plenty of choices for gifts and holiday feasts.

The market is located at 220 Idlewood Road with a second entrance off S. Winton Road just south of the Westfall/S. Winton intersection. More information can be found at [www.swfarmersmarket.org](http://www.swfarmersmarket.org).



## Letter to the Editor

### Go Bistro Zeppa!

If you're in Rochester right now you know that the season of "comfort" is here. Comfortable sweaters, get-togethers with friends and loved ones and, of course, comfort food. And with comfort in mind, there's no better time to introduce you to the newest restaurant at the German House, Zeppa Bistro.

Our family has owned the German House at 315 Gregory Street in the South Wedge, for more than 25 years and never have we been more proud of a tenant.

The space has been completely renovated which included uncovering more original brick of our 100+-year-old building. It features a spacious bar and seating spaces for an intimate date or larger gatherings. Their "Room 47" can accommodate up to 47 people; the auditorium holds up to 225 for a reception or gala or 550 for a concert or lecture.

Chef/owners Seth Lindahl and Casey Holenbeck bring their extensive culinary experience in Rochester and an ar-

ray of cultures and countries to Zeppa Bistro. They have created a unique menu that blends California cuisine with Italian and French influences.

What impresses me every time I'm there--and I'm there a lot--is how obvious it is that every item on the menu is created from the freshest local ingredients of the season. If you've ever had dinner with me you know my usual order to the waiter is, "Surprise me." At Zeppa, I've never been disappointed.

So, when you're seeking some comfort this season, I urge you to give Zeppa Bistro a try. And because you read this letter to the end, my friends at Zeppa have a reward for you too. Rip out this letter and bring it with you when you visit Zeppa Bistro (563-6241), and you will receive an appetizer of the chef's choice or a dessert on the house.

Thanks for reading and I, and the entire Maier family, wish you a fun and comfort-filled holiday season.

*The Maier Family  
Ron, Norma, Shawn, Shana*

### The South Wedge Planning Committee, Inc.

#### December 2012/January 2013 Calendar

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

#### SWPC Board Meeting

MMcCullough@dor.org  
Tues., 1/15, 6 p.m.

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

amaroselli@swpc.org  
Wed. 12/19 & 1/16, 6:30 p.m.

#### Finance Team

jason.curtis@edwardjones.com  
tsciarabba@hotmail.com  
Tues. 12/11 & 1/8, 12:30 p.m.

#### Housing & Structures

tomkiciorjr@gmail.com  
Wed., 12/5 & 1/2, 5:30 pm  
E-mail to confirm.

#### SW Victory Garden

james.papapanu@gmail.com  
happenrose@hotmail.com  
E-mail for dates and times.



A South Wedge House Tour is now being planned for June 2013. If you'd like to be join in the planning, please call 978.9638 or email nynancyo@frontiernet.net.

## Ways to Help Your Community

### Love your neighborhood? Love your library? Make it your cause!

Highland Branch Library is recruiting people for a Friends Group. We meet once a month for about an hour to brainstorm ways that the library can be an integral part of our community.

If you'd like to join us (we usually meet at a local coffee shop or restaurant) let us know. It's a small amount of time well spent in the community.

For more information, call 428-8206 or just stop by.

### Calvary St. Andrew's Food Ministry Needs Support

People in need of food within the 14620 zip code can come every three months for emergency food. Numbers of those in need are climbing, and food cupboard stock is declining. To contribute canned food or paper products, please call 325-4950 or e-mail staff@calvarystandrews.org.

### St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center Wish List

All kinds of volunteer opportunities are available. Items always welcome include: personal hygiene products, kitchen supplies, office supplies and equipment and cleaning supplies. For more information, call 325-5260.



**CORRECTION:** In a photo caption in the Oct./Nov. issue of the Wedge, the rest stop salon used during the Compeer Walk was incorrectly named. The Wedge apologizes to owners Jenny Lind and Tammy Lind Cruppe of Salon Paragon for the error.

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## SOUTH WEDGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

### Officers

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Jason Curtis, Co-Treasurer  
James Papapanu, Secretary

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Felicia "Bo" Clark, Neighbor  
Dave Halter, Business  
Sarah Johnstone, Neighbor  
Tom Kicior, Neighbor  
Paul Minor, Neighbor  
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Assistant Director Eileen Thomas  
George Lorson, Alexandra Maroselli,  
Nancy O'Donnell, Sue Gardner Smith

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SBDC SUNY Genesee  
Deb Ferris, Bookkeeper

### Wedge Newspaper

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ADNet Printing,  
Messenger Post Media

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To reach The Wedge, call (585) 256-1740,  
ext. 105 or (585) 978-9638.  
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first initial last name@swpc.org

South Wedge Planning Committee  
224 Mt. Hope Avenue  
Rochester, New York 14620  
(585) 256-1740

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**  
**January 14**  
 Call 256-1740, ext. 105  
 or 978-9638  
 for details.

## Get the Holiday Spirit!



Gregory St. wins Best Block in 2010

SWPC'S Community Engagement Committee is happy to announce the third Annual South Wedge Holiday Decorating Contest! Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza or New Year decorations will be considered. All homes and blocks in the South Wedge are eligible. Renters, please don't be shy, you can win too!

Best Block will receive \$100

for Block Club projects in 2013. All decorations must be up by the end of Wednesday, December 19 to participate in the contest.

Remember though fancy lights are nice and bright, you don't need them to win. Judges consider all decorations: wreaths, flower boxes, windows, the whole holiday package. Winning homes and blocks will be announced on December 22 on SWPC's Facebook page, swpc.org and southwedge.com and also be featured in the next *Wedge* Newspaper.

For more info, contact Alexandra Maroselli, Development and Community Engagement Committee Chair at amaroselli@swpc.org or call 256-1740, ext. 104.

## SWPC Seeks Volunteers & Boardmembers

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is responsible for overseeing the administration of the organization and ensuring that SWPC fulfills its mission. The board sets the general direction for the organization through activities such as strategic planning, financial management and oversight, approving the budget, hiring key staff, engaging auditors and ensuring that rules and regulations related to not-for-profit corporations and our funding sources are diligently followed.

The operation of SWPC's board is governed by the organization's by-laws. SWPC's by-laws require that the majority of board members are residents of SWPC's service area. The remainder can be made up of individuals who own or are employed by businesses that serve the South Wedge, or by community stakeholders who represent churches, social agencies, apartment complexes or neighboring community groups. At least one SWPC board member must reside in the Highland Park neighborhood, and SWPC's nominating committee would like to have representation on the

board from all neighborhoods directly surrounding the South Wedge. All SWPC board members must be in good standing, including having a paid membership.

A slate of board members is initially proposed by a nominating committee, made up of three existing SWPC board members and SWPC's Executive Director, John Page. This year, SWPC's board chair, Monica McCullough, is serving as the nominating committee chairperson. A slate of directors is presented to the membership at large for a vote at the annual meeting. The 2013 annual meeting will be held on January 25 at 6 p.m.

If you are interested in serving on the board of directors, or in any other volunteer capacity, please contact John Page at jpage@swpc.org. SWPC will be circulating an interest form for prospective new board members to complete and return by December 31, 2012. You can obtain this by calling the SWPC office at 246-1740 or by emailing information@swpc.org.

## South Wedge is Best!

Once again *City* Newspaper's Best of Rochester 2012 contest recognized what South Wedgians already know...the neighborhood is the best in the city. Here's a list of other reasons why the South Wedge, and its neighbors, Swillburg and Highland Park, make it a great place to live, work and play.

### Best Specialty Pizza

Napa Wood Fired Pizzeria  
573 South Clinton Ave.

### Best New Retail Store

NeedleDrop Records  
304 Gregory St.

### Best Barbershop

South Wedge Barber Shop  
720 South Ave.

### Best Clothing Store

Thread  
654 South Ave.

### Best Place to Play Hooky

Highland Park  
171 Reservoir Ave.

### Best Bar for Beer

Tap & Mallet  
381 Gregory St.

### Best Bartender

Phil Rawleigh, Lux  
666 South Ave.

### Best Outdoor Art

South Wedge

### Best of Rochester 2012: Critics' Picks

Harry G's New York Deli & Café  
Pittsburgh Sub  
678 South Avenue



From l-r: Andrew Crossed, Executive Vice President, Conifer Realty, LLC; Scott Schmid, Vice President, J.P. Morgan Chase; John Page, Executive Director, South Wedge Planning Committee; Joan K. Spilman, Field Office Director, Buffalo HUD; Mayor Thomas S. Richards; Timothy Fournier, President & CEO, Conifer Realty, Monroe Co. Executive Maggie Brooks; Joseph E. Robach, Senator, 56th District, New York State Senate; Marian Zucker, President, Office of Finance & Development, New York State Homes and Community Renewal; Allen Handelman, VP, Conifer Realty, Richard Mueller, Sr. Vice President, Rochester Division, M & T Bank

## City, State and Local Officials Attend Erie Harbor Ribbon Cutting

Mayor Tom Richards and County Executive Maggie Brooks joined developers, builders, neighborhood officials, residents and supporters to celebrate Erie Harbor, a one of a kind apartment and townhome community on the east bank of the Genesee River in the South Wedge.

The Erie Harbor complex contains 131 apartments and townhouses. Residents enjoy

complimentary clubhouse amenities that include a professionally equipped fitness center and Great Room with river front roof top terrace. Apartments are highly energy efficient with an on demand tankless water heater and low-e windows, fast fiber-optic internet and cable service.

The complex is also surrounded by park land on three

sides with many apartments offering lovely river and city skyline views. Residents enjoy easy access to the Genesee Riverway Trail. Erie Harbor has been developed by Conifer Realty, with financial support from the City of Rochester, New York State Homes and Community Renewal, and M&T Bank.

## Literacy Volunteers Seeks Tutors

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester has several one-hour preview sessions scheduled for anyone interested in becoming a tutor. After attending a preview, you may participate in one of our training workshops. Many adults are waiting for a tutor to help them to learn to read, write or speak English, or to improve their math skills. To become a tutor, it is not necessary to have prior teaching experience or knowledge of a foreign language. For more information, please contact our office at 473-3030, or check our website at [www.literacyrochester.org](http://www.literacyrochester.org). LVR Previews at our office at 1600 South Ave - December 4, 5:30 p.m. December 12, noon and December 15, (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.

## Highland Park NA Block Club Initiative

Interested in finding out more about being a Highland Park Neighborhood Block Leader? Are you already a formal or informal leader on your street and have ideas to share? Or do you know someone who would be perfect for the job? The Highland Park Neighborhood Association is looking to identify a resident on every block of the neighborhood who will keep neighbors in touch by maintaining a street roster, bring people together at some kind of annual social gathering and act as the liaison with the neighborhood association.

Please visit our Block Leader Initiative webpage at [www.highlandparkrochester.org/projects/block-leader-initiative/](http://www.highlandparkrochester.org/projects/block-leader-initiative/)

## Highland Branch Library Fundraiser

Barnes & Noble Book Fair will be supporting the Highland Branch Library on December 7.

If you mention the program, purchases made on that day will divert some of the money to the library. Books may be purchased online from Dec. 7-12.

For more information about ways to support your local library, call 428-8206 or visit the library at 971 South Avenue.

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# Holiday gift buying made easy by the Wedge!

## ABUNDANCE MARKET

Not just a food market, it's a way of life. Healthy groceries and grooming aids for everyone. Give the gift of a membership or gift yourself. 62 Marshall Street, [www.abundancecoop.com](http://www.abundancecoop.com).



## THE ARTFUL GARDNER

If you think The Artful Gardener is a flower shop or garden center, you've got it all wrong! It's a unique "see it to believe it" kind of place. Handmade items from local, regional and national artists pottery, jewelry, steel sculpture, fused glass, soaps and candles and more. Fair trade decorative arts from Haiti and Nepal and fabulous ornament and frost proof containers for the garden, too. Tues.- Fri. 11 - 6; Sat 10 - 5. 727 Mt. Hope Avenue, 454-2874.



## BANZAI SUSHI

Gift certificates for great sushi always make great holiday gifts. Or celebrate yourself for dinner with a full bar (craft cocktails, wine, beer and sake) and an assortment of specialty rolls, nigiri and sashimi, soups and appetizers like edamame. 682 South Avenue, 473-0345.

## BAUMAN'S BARBER

A free haircut can be the best kind of gift for the man who has everything. 697 South Ave., 473-6061.

## BEALE STREET CAFE

Give a gift of the best barbecue and Cajun cuisine around. Blues played throughout the week. 689 South Ave. 271-4650, [bealestreetcafe.com](http://bealestreetcafe.com).

## BOULDER COFFEE CO.

Spread the happiness into 2013 with a gift card for spiked coffee cocktails, wine and beer and yummy sandwiches, ground coffee beans. 100 Alexander St., 454-7140

## BREAD FOR ALL

Help change lives and eat good organic, preservative-free bread- Whole Wheat and Old World Amish White - on a subscription basis: \$40 for a loaf a week for a 10-week subscription. Subscribers can pick up at the bakery, 220 Mt. Hope Ave, next to the SWPC

offices. And residents of the South Wedge community can have their loaves delivered by bicycle to their door. A great holiday gift! For a list of holiday treats, call 775-9135 or Peg 313-6674.

## CALVARY ST. ANDREW PARISH FOOD BANK

Give the gift of food this holiday season. Donate to the parish food cupboard in a family or friend's name. 95 Averill Ave. 325-4950.

## CARPET CARPET!

New carpet sales and service, vinyl hardwood laminates and more. 754 South Clinton Ave., 303-4141.



Invite friends and family to enjoy a pint of Guinness; it's better than egg nog! 741 South Ave. 278-1289.

## CHEESY EDDIE'S

Cheesy Eddie's "Over-the-Top" line of cheesecakes is exactly that in every way! These cakes take our cheesecake to the next level of decadence. The OTT Sampler has 16 slices of Eddie's six most popular flavors. 602 South Ave. 473-1300, [www.cheesyeddies.com](http://www.cheesyeddies.com).

## CHRISTOPHER GROUP

Stop killing yourself over taxes and bookkeeping. Let the Christopher Group suffer for you and do the work. 473 South Ave., 325-7351.

## CINEMA THEATER

Bring a friend to watch a double feature at Rochester's Oldest Neighborhood Theater. Buy a book of tickets for 2011. 957 South Clinton Ave., [www.cinemarochester.com](http://www.cinemarochester.com).

## COFFEE CONNECTION

Fair trade coffee (organic, shade grown and fresh roasted). Handcrafted gifts from Peru. 681 South Ave., 442-2180.

## DEPAUL'S TEE FACTORY

The not-for-profit business offers silk screening and embroidery. Personalize memory boxes, award plaques and steins. "No job too small." 150 Mt. Hope Ave. 325-2900, [www.tshirtfactory.org](http://www.tshirtfactory.org).



## EQUAL=GROUNDS

All people are created equal, all coffee is not! Equal=Grounds Coffee House offers fair trade and organic coffees and teas for sale by the pound and half pound. Open 7 days a week until midnight! 750 South Ave. 256-2362, [www.equalgrounds.com](http://www.equalgrounds.com).



## ECHO TONE MUSIC

Check out these out: Takimine jasmine acoustic guitar \$99, Stentor Graduate violin outfit \$299, Dean playmate guitar for Kids \$139 Ddrum drum kit \$39. 571 South Avenue, 454-2160, [www.echotonemusic.net](http://www.echotonemusic.net).

## FORT HILL LIQUOR

Save with a 10% off coupon in the Wedge Newspaper or any purchase while you're stocking up on your holiday libations. 1520 Mt. Hope Ave., 244-6160.

## FULL MOON VISTA BIKES

Bikes and accessories for the whole family. 681 South Ave., 546-4030.

## GLOVERS BARBER SHOP

Haircuts for seniors (\$6) and college students (\$8). 700 South Avenue, 244-8928.

## HARRY G'S NY DELI

Nosh some great big subs, sandwiches or something hot off the grill. Also pick up gift certificates for giving. 678 South Ave., 256-1324.

## HEADZ UP HATS

Top off the year with gifts of caps and accessories, hair products and more. 524 Mt. Hope Ave, 442-7680.

## HEDONIST CHOCOLATES & ICE CREAM

"Our bags of chocolate bark or tins of drinking chocolate make delicious stocking stuffers that will surprise and delight," says co-owner Zahra Langford. And take home some artisan ice cream, too! 674 South Avenue, 461-2815. [www.hedonistchocolates.com](http://www.hedonistchocolates.com).

## HIGHLAND BODY WORKS

Give the gift of health this holiday. Choose from a variety of gift certificates for acupuncture, massage, Pilates and Yoga. 249 Highland Avenue, 242-9642.

## HISTORIC HOUSEPARTS

Salvaging nostalgia since 1980. Architectural salvage, restoration supplies and decorative accessories, antique and new. Gift certificates available. 540 South Ave. 325-2329, [www.historichouseparts.com](http://www.historichouseparts.com)

## JOHN'S TEX MEX EATERY

Buy a gift certificate for your favorite Tex Mex chowhounds. 489 South Ave. 232-5830, [www.JohnsTexMex.com](http://www.JohnsTexMex.com).

## LIN'S GARDEN

Delight a friend with a few evenings of takeout Chinese and Thai cuisine. Gifts cards and catering available. 420 Mt. Hope Ave. 232-8320.

## LITTLE VENICE

Pizza pies and chicken wings all make great dinners when you're too busy wrapping. 742 South Ave. 473-6710.

## LUX LOUNGE

A laid back little neighborhood bar with a funky flair. Gift a friend with a visit. 666 South Ave. 232-9030, [Lux666.com](http://Lux666.com).

## MAGIX BOUTIQUE

Woman's clothing and more. 653 South Ave. 244-3370

## MARIANNE'S

Upcycled high fashion gently used clothing and footwear. 792 South Ave. 442-6910.

## MGOS DANCE ACADEMY

Irish, ballet, tap, jazz and classes for children with special needs. 700 S. Clinton Avenue, 738-7592 or 489-6087. [www.mgosrochester.com](http://www.mgosrochester.com).

## MISE EN PLACE

Gourmet takeaway prepared meals and lots more consumable groceries and gifts for the holidays. 683 South Ave. 325-4160.

## NAPA WOOD FIRED PIZZA

Fresh, original artisan pizzas. Gift certificates available. 573 South Clinton Ave., 232-8558

## OPEN FACE SANDWICH EATERY

The sandwiches! The cookies! Open your mouth and order a lot. Try a "Cookie Splits" or two. 651 South Avenue, 232-3050.

## PLASTIC

Designer toys produced in limited quantities by artists and designers. Plastic, vinyl and other materials such as wood, resin. 650 South Ave., 563-6348.

## PERIOD BATH SUPPLY CO.

Vintage style and modern convenience, antique and new bathroom fixtures and accessories, plus organic bath and body products. Gift certificates available. 528 South Avenue. [www.periodbath.com](http://www.periodbath.com). 325-2264.

## PREMIER PASTRIES

Beautiful to look at, delightful to chew. Pastries made for all occasions. 433 South Ave. 546-1420, [www.premier-pastry.com](http://www.premier-pastry.com).

## RENEWING MASSAGE

Holiday gift certificates for a Renewing-Massage are a great way to take the stress out of the holidays - for you and for the person you give to! Simple, easy and greatly appreciated at only \$50 for an hour or \$30 for 30 minutes. 709 6725, [www.renewing-massage.com](http://www.renewing-massage.com).

## ROCHESTER COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE

Give the gift of wellness this holiday. Choose affordable gift certificates to enhance your loved one's health. 728 South Ave., 287-5183. [www.rochestercommunityacupuncture.com](http://www.rochestercommunityacupuncture.com)

## SOLERA WINE BAR & CHEESE UPSTAIRS

Give the gift of an evening out at the divine Solera Wine Bar or upstairs at Cheshire. Order the cheese plate! 647 South Avenue, 232-3070.

## SOUTH WEDGE BARBER

Gift the whole family with a trim cut, color or curl at The South Wedge Barber Shop, 720 South Ave. 473-5570.

## SOUTH WEDGE COLONY BAR & GRILL

Treat a friend to beer and wings. 503 South Avenue.

## SOUTH WEDGE SPIRITS AND WINE

Choose from a wide selection of wines: everyday wines for as little as \$6 a bottle and nicer selections for treating yourself, special occasions and gifts. We also have a liquor section with popular choices and some special labels you won't find in other stores. free wine tastings weekly. 661 South Ave., 319-5159.

## ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

Donate in a friend's name and buy a meal for the hungry. 402 South Ave. 232-3262.

## ST. JOSEPH'S NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Buy the gift of good health for someone else. 417 South Ave. 325-5260.

## TANGO CAFÉ DANCE STUDIO

Give a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year. Sign up yourself too for beautiful beginner-friendly classes. 389 Gregory St, 271.4930 [www.tangocafedance.com](http://www.tangocafedance.com), [tangocafedance@yahoo.com](mailto:tangocafedance@yahoo.com)

## TAP & Mallet

Rochester's destination for fine beers and freshly cooked pub food. Voted Rochester's Best Beer in Best of Rochester 2010 contest. 381 Gregory Street, 473-0503, [www.tapandmallet.com](http://www.tapandmallet.com).

## THREAD

Find men's and women's clothing, accessories and original art you won't find in the mall. 654 South Ave, 232-7110, [www.shopatthread.com](http://www.shopatthread.com).

## ZAK'S AVENUE

The "go to" gift store offers jewelry, home decor, soaps, candles, art and much more. 661 South Avenue.

## ZEPPA BISTRO

Give the gift of a good meal, appetizer or dessert this holiday season. 758 South Avenue. 474-0958, [greenzebracatering.com](http://greenzebracatering.com).



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Financial  
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Available

by Nancy O'Donnell



RIT Professor Alex Lobes (immediate right of sign) and students at Bread for Life (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

### Students Compete To Build a Better Breadbox

South Wedge's Bread for All provided Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) students in a Consumer Design course with a learning experience, and in return, the bakery got several prototypes of bread boxes they can use for their unique service of home delivery.

Bread for All, established in association with St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, provides job training to members of the community who want to return to the work force through baking organic breads and desserts. Loaves are sold on a subscription basis and can either be delivered to South Wedge residents or picked up.

The RIT project was headed by Professor Alex Lobes, assistant professor in RIT's Department of Industrial Design. Lobes, a Fulbright Scholar with a M.F.A. from the University of Notre Dame and a B.I.D. from Universidad Rafael Landivar in Guatemala, challenged his 16 students to create a communal bread box.

"Sixteen students worked in pairs to build bread boxes that could hold up to 10 loaves of bread. [The boxes] could be used to serve a block of subscribers, sit on one of [subscribers'] porches and used as a

meeting point for subscribers," said Lobes.

The students were charged with creating a design that could be easily replicated to be "made as inexpensive as possible" said Lobes. Some used thrift store materials; others recycled materials such as bleached wooden pallets. One got a donation from a local linoleum store while another team used cardboard and duct tape.

Lobes said many of the students were excited by the project. "They feel part of the South Wedge," said Lobes, "So many live close to here."

Bread for Life has not announced which design or designs they'll use, but the students were still "excited about creating a product for a consumer's good but at the same time one with a social impact," said Lobes.

To learn more about RIT's Department of Design, "a human-centered discipline which requires an understanding of the complex relationships between culture and commerce," visit [www.industrialdesign.cias.rit.edu](http://www.industrialdesign.cias.rit.edu). To sign up for bread, contact Rachael at 775-9135 or email [st.joes.bakery@gmail.com](mailto:st.joes.bakery@gmail.com). Bread for All, 220 Mt. Hope Avenue at Hamilton Street.

### Southview Towers Holiday Luncheon

Southview Towers on South Avenue hosted their annual pre-Thanksgiving luncheon for the tenants on November 16. Tenants and their families enjoyed a huge feast. Former SWPC director Bob Boyd was on hand helping to carve the three turkeys he provided for the event.



Jamanique Roundtree and Deon Wilson share a festive meal



August Youngstrom harvesting squash (Photo by Robert Lauterbach)

### Sanford Street Super Squash Harvest

Robert Lauterbach sent in a photo of his grandson, August, who helped him harvest winter squash this season. Lauterbach reports that he thinks he collected about 200 lbs. from his garden.

"I actually have another 100 lbs. already in my barn. Great thanks to Bob Carr whosE land we grew the squash, and used his water during the dry times."

The Lauterbach passed out some of their squashy largess, but kept some for pies and soups.



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## Facing an Energy Emergency? HEAP and EAP Can Help

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) is a federal grant program that helps income eligible households with energy bills, repairs and weatherization. Households may receive one regular HEAP benefit per season and may also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits. The number of emergency benefits varies per season depending on the availability of funds. The 2012-2013 HEAP season opened on Nov. 19. Emergency HEAP opens Jan. 2, 2013. For more info, visit

[otda.ny.gov/main/programs/heap](http://otda.ny.gov/main/programs/heap).

RG&E's Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is designed to help eligible customers gain control of their energy bills. The program has two levels of assistance: EAP Basic Benefit (monthly bill credit) and EAP Limited Benefit (arrear forgiveness).

For more information, visit [rge.com](http://rge.com), click on "Your Account" and then "Energy Assistance: HEAP and EAP Can Help."

### Erie Harbor Public Art Proposals Deadline Extended

The City of Rochester, in partnership with the New York State Department of State, invites qualified, experienced New York artists to submit proposals for permanent commissioned works of outdoor public art as part of the Erie Harbor Public Enhancement Project.

The artwork will be selected by open competition. Up to

three artists will be selected to enter into a contract with the City. Total funding available for the public art is \$150,000.

The prospectus is online at [www.cityofrochester.gov/erie-harbor-enhancementsART](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/erie-harbor-enhancementsART).

The deadline to submit proposals is 5 p.m., Thursday, January 3, 2013.



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

**ST. BONIFACE CHURCH – 330 GREGORY ST.**

December 24 CHRISTMAS VIGIL 5:00 P.M.  
December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:00 A.M.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH - 534 OXFORD ST.**

December 24 CHRISTMAS VIGIL 5:00 P.M.  
December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE 11:00 P.M.  
December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 A.M.

**ST. MARY'S CHURCH – 15 ST. MARY'S PLACE**

December 24 CHRISTMAS VIGIL 3:30 P.M.  
December 24 CHRISTMAS VIGIL 6:00 P.M.  
December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10:00 P.M.  
December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:30 A.M.





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Paid for by Friends of Matt Haag

by Nancy O'Donnell



Ms. Librada Paz, winner of the prestigious Robert F. Kennedy 2012 Human Rights Award.

### Harvesting Justice Dinner

Rural & Migrant Ministry hosts the Harvesting Justice Dinner to benefit the Justice for Farm workers Campaign. The event features a keynote address by The Reverend Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, President of the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and an integral figure in struggles for social, racial and economic justice. The dinner will also honor Ms. Librada Paz, the 2012 Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights Laureate, and will feature music by the *Justice for Farmworkers* Musicians. This event will take place at the Temple B'rith Kodesh at 2131 Elmwood Avenue. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. on December 4, 2012, followed by a dinner at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$50. For further information and sponsorship

opportunities, please contact Laura Lecour at (845)-485-8627 or at [rmmllecour@optimum.net](mailto:rmmllecour@optimum.net) or visit our website [www.ruralmigrantministry.org](http://www.ruralmigrantministry.org).

### Anywhere is walking distance if you have the time...

Rochester Walks!, with a grant from the New York State Department of Health, is advocating for environmental improvements that promote walking, labeling safe and interesting walking routes, and establishing walking clubs to bring neighbors together for fun and fitness. Learn more here: [www.cityofrochester.gov/rochesterwalks](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/rochesterwalks).



### Darn Good Cookie Co.

East House, a mental health and chemical dependency rehabilitation agency, recently opened Darn Good Cookie Co. Along with teaching jobs skills to recovering people, the shop offers a cookies beyond the regular chocolate chip and peanut butter. Look for "I Want Candy" Cookie, Red Velvet White Chip, and Ranger cookies.

All proceeds from the sale of the cookies goes to East House.

982 Monroe Ave. 473-2181 or visit [www.darncookies.com](http://www.darncookies.com)



Paul Morrell

### SBDC Director Named

Paul J. Morrell has been named director of the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at SUNY Geneseo. The SBDC provides confidential, one-on-one counseling services and group training for the public that are either free or very low cost.

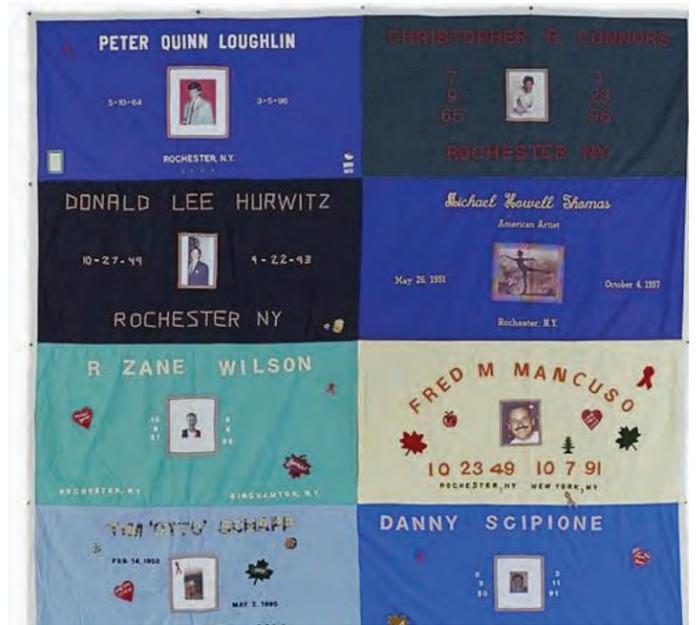
"Our job is to help entrepreneurs see all the possibilities to make them successful," said Morrell. "We offer tools and information for start-up, successful operation and expansion of small businesses. Our work reinforces individual enterprise and promotes economic development in New York."

Morrell is executive director of Morrell Associates, providing consulting expertise in sales, marketing, government relations, business development, real estate development, engineering and technical training services since 1989. Prior to that, he worked in the public sector for eight years and held several management positions in Rochester City Hall.

SBDC assistance is available through the South Wedge Planning Committee. For more info, call 256-1740, ext. 103.



The South Wedge Victory Garden gardeners and guests celebrated the bounty of their hard work at a Fall Harvest Lunch in the South Wedge Planning Committee office. From (l-r) Felton, Ann, Jim, Heather, Brandy, Alex, Meredith, Marta, Sharon, Nancy, Scott, Nathaniel, Cait and Derek (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)



### Equal=Grounds Coffee

presents the 6th annual Rochester AIDS Memorial Quilt in honor of World AIDS Day, December 1. This is the only opportunity to see the AIDS Memorial Quilt in the Rochester area through December.

The four quilt panels will be at the shop through Fri., December 7.

Questions regarding The AIDS Memorial Quilt can be sent via email to [john@equal-grounds.com](mailto:john@equal-grounds.com)

750 South Avenue. 256-2362



Azalea Neighbor Association celebrates on Oct. 6. (l-t) Morey DeMay, David Day, Barb DeMay, Kathy and Larry Hirsh, Barbara Zinker, Glenda McPherson and Deb Cardillo. (Not pictured Linda Beyer and John Rooker)

### Little Free Library Opens

Community activist David Day recently celebrated Azalea Neighbors' first Little Free Library. The structure was built by David Haight.

"Our Little Free Library's inaugural books include about thirty-four books, mostly a broad range of novels, mysteries and non-fiction titles," said Day. "I encourage parents of young children to donate age-appropriate titles to share with

other neighborhood kids. We like to boast of our library's unique solar-powered light, so that when you open the door, a small light goes on, thanks to the ingenuity of the property-owner and his wife, Morey and Barb DeMay. Pretty cool! We are planning to decorate the little library for the upcoming holidays. The library serves as an especially nice "way-station" for all our dog-walkers, too!"

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by Nancy O'Donnell



Nick Grammatico (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

## Banzai Sushi & Cocktail Bar Opens on South Avenue

Tokyo meets Paris in Banzai Sushi & Cocktail Bar on South Avenue. Co-owner and chef Nick Grammatico brings his own take on sushi, blending traditional sushi ingredients with Charcuterie techniques.

"I approach sushi as a French chef not a Japanese chef," said Grammatico. "I use ingredients, cooking techniques foreign to traditional Japanese chefs. I season all the fish in a Japanese way but I treat it like cappachio [fish or meat pounded to its thinnest width]."

In the Surf and Turf maki roll, seared beef goes on top of the snowcrab, cucumber and avocado after Grammatico uses a blow torch to cook the thin pieces of beef. Along with the beef, he squirts a dash of ponzu sauce, a soy citrus mix, that he makes himself.

"We age it in the basement," Grammatico said. "This one is five years old."

Grammatico opened his first sushi restaurant, Pirhana, on Park Avenue in 2008. At that venue he fuses Southeast Asia and Central America flavors.

"My favorite dish on the menu is spicy tuna taco," said Grammatico.

The chef started his love affair with food when he was a young boy.

"I was lucky that I grew up a part of the time in New York City, so I could experience all kinds of ethnic food. I used to play restaurant when I was four years old."

He took to the restaurant business as a career in 1997 at California Rollin'. In 2006 he left to study at the Culinary Institute of America, the oldest and most prestigious culinary school in the U.S. "I liked Charcuterie which is the art of preserving, curing, brining and smoking meats."

Along with traditional sushi, maki rolls, bento boxes and dim sum, soup and salad, the restaurant has an impressive drink menu which will change with the seasons. On the current menu, mixed drinks include the Kentucky Pumpkin Patch which blends Old Weller Bourbon, Snap Organic liqueur, butternut squash and brown sugar. Other distinctive cocktails include Walking Dead (silver and dark rums, X Rated Fusion in juices) and the Green Buddha (Tyku Soju, St. Germain, Charbay Green Tea Vodka and lemon) which join a long list of wine and beers. Next Banzai Sushi initiative is to add a wider selection of saki that currently numbers nine on the cocktail list.

Grammatico thought about opening a second restaurant in the South Wedge after talking to frequent Pirhana patron, Lyjha Wilton, who owns the Boulder Coffee House Empire and the building he now rents. With his brother Matthew, Grammatico started making plans as Wilton gutted the building.

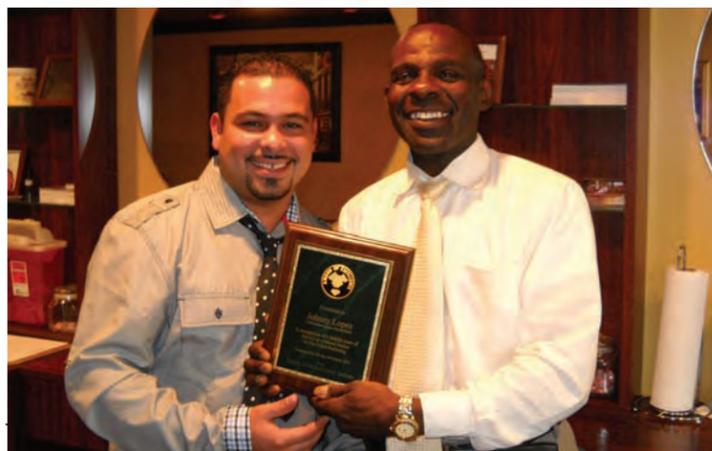
"[South Wedge business] neighbors were really supportive," said Grammatico. "They even wrote a letter [of support]

to city planning.

Grammatico has also considered moving his home from Irondequoit to the South Wedge if the house is large enough for

*continued on page 8*

## Wedgies by Justin Hubbell



### Exemplary Employee Honored by Owner

Top Notch Barbering owner Johnny Scott recently recognized barber Johnny Lopez for "six faithful years of service at the South Clinton Barbershop."

"Johnny has a Master Barbers License from the State Board, and he's done a flawless job," said Scott, noting that Lopez has not missed one day of work in six years.

Lopez, a father of five boys, while grateful for the plaque doesn't see any great achievement in "doing my job."

Lopez's hopes to eventually own his own shop, but now he's perfecting his cutting techniques which includes "lots of taper, free style designs and color stencils."

One of his masterpieces involved creating "a chess board style of a client's head" and clipping a "Puerto flag" on another's.

"I'll give them anything they ask for," said Lopez. Top Notch Barbering, Inc. 970 South Clinton Ave., 473-1640.



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## Winter Flu Ends with You!

By Alexie Cruz Puran, MD, FAAP

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.

In the Northern hemisphere, winter is the time for flu, but the exact timing and duration of flu seasons vary. While flu outbreaks can happen as early as October, most of the time flu activity peaks in January or later.

People can get the flu many times in their lives. Flu viruses are always changing over time and from year to year.

People with flu can spread it to others up to about far as six feet away. Most experts think that flu viruses are spread mainly by droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze or talk. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Less often, a person might also get flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth or nose. To avoid this, people should wash their hands often with soap and water.

Most healthy adults may be

able to infect others beginning one day before symptoms develop and for a week after becoming sick. Children may pass the virus for longer than a week. Symptoms start one to four days after the virus enters the body. That means that you may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick.

The flu is different from a cold. The flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms: a sudden fever, chills and body shakes, headache, body aches, and being a lot more tired than usual, sore throat, dry and hacking cough, or stuffy and runny nose. Some children may have vomiting and diarrhea.

Most people who get influenza will recover in a few days to less than two weeks, but some people will develop complications (such as pneumonia) as a result of the flu, some of which can be life-threatening and result in death. Pneumonia, bronchitis, and sinus and ear infections are three examples of complications from flu. The flu can make chronic health problems worse. For example, people with asthma may experience asthma attacks



Dr. Alexie Cruz Puran

while they have the flu.

Anyone can get the flu (even healthy people), and serious problems from influenza can happen at any age, but some people are at a higher risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick. This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), pregnant women, and young children.

The best way to protect yourself from the flu is to get the flu vaccine every year. Safe vaccines are made each year to protect against the flu. This year's flu vaccine protects against one strain from last year and two new strains. These are Influenza A (H1N1), Influenza A (H3N2) and Influenza B.

The number of vaccine doses your child needs this year depends on his age at the time the first dose is given and

his flu vaccine history. Children 6 months through 8 years of age should get two doses if they haven't been vaccinated for the flu vaccines twice since July 1, 2010, or only one dose if they have. Children 9 years and older need only one dose.

Everyone should get the flu vaccine each year to update their protection. Yearly flu vaccine provides protection that lasts about 6 to 12 months. Also, the virus strains in the vaccine change, as they did this year, so your protection usually needs updating.

Vaccination also is important for health care workers and others who live with, or care for, high risk people to keep from spreading flu to them. Children younger than 6 months are at high risk of serious flu illness, but are too young to be vaccinated. People who care for them should be vaccinated instead.

The best time to get the flu vaccine is the early fall or as soon as it is available in your community. If your child does not get the flu vaccine right away, it is still important to get it anytime. The flu virus infects people in the fall, winter, and well into the spring each year. Your child can still be protected if she gets a flu vaccine as late as March, April, or May. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about the flu vaccine.

## "Disaster to Dream"

continued from pg. 1

houses.

In the second video in the series, Lorson as construction manager of Lozier Street explains to Coleman the steps needed to restore the homes to their former beauty. First, Lorson evaluates every room in the house, takes photos and measurements that help him ascertain the extent of the repairs. This step may take some 8-10 hours, Lorson said, before he returns to the SWPC office to prepare specifications which may take up to two days to complete. "Some specs can be up to 40 pages in length," said Lorson.

"We try as much as possible to keep the natural ambiance of the homes," Lorson said, noting the crown molding, hardwood floors and French doors that remain in Lozier Street despite its disrepair.

You can watch the videos available on the city website, cable public access Channel 12 and YouTube.

## Banzai Sushi

continued from page 9

Charley, a mixed breed that includes some "very active pointing Griffon" that he rescued. If Grammatico has any down time he's most likely reading classic books (Charley got his name after Grammatico read John Steinbeck's book *Travels with Charley*). "Last week I worked 105 hours. My last vacation was in 2008."

Banzai Sushi will welcome Rochester City officials for a ribbon cutting on December 12, 10:30 a.m.

*Banzai Sushi, 682 South Avenue, 473-0345. Hours: Mon.-Wed 11:30 a.m. - 2 a.m. (Sushi served until 10 a.m.), Thursday -Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. (Sushi served until 1 a.m.), Sunday 4 p.m. - 2 a.m. (Sushi served until 10 p.m.)*

## MCC Foundation Honors Peter Monacelli

The Monroe Community College Foundation inducted Peter Monacelli into its Alumni Hall of Fame. Monacelli graduated from MCC in 1973. He is now President and CEO of Monacelli Enterprises, Inc. He also works as an adjunct faculty member in MCC's Visual and Performing Arts Department.

## Help School #12 Blows Its Own Horn

The instrumental music program at James P.B. Duffy School #12 on South Avenue continues to grow under the direction of the wonderful music teacher, Mr. Todd Dennis. Unfortunately, the school doesn't have enough instruments. Fifty-

two students had to be turned away this school year, unable to participate because there was no instrument for them to use. We are short instruments for 21 flute, 10 clarinet, 12 trumpet and 9 percussion students. If anyone has an instrument hang-

ing around that they would like to donate that would be fabulous (and it is tax deductible). If you don't have an instrument, consider purchasing a Save Around/Enjoy the City Coupon Book for \$20. It's full of great local deals. For each book sold, \$10 will be directed toward our music department. To buy a book stop by the main office at school during school hours or contact Lori Bryce (242-9795 or [leclair@frontiernet.net](mailto:leclair@frontiernet.net)). Books are available through the month of October - unless we sell out first!

## 5 Reasons Why You Should Live in the South Wedge...

By Miss Maya Reagan

1. We have delicious restaurants like Mise En Place and Little Venice Pizzeria.
2. We have great shops like The Swedge Shop, Zak's Avenue and Thread.
3. We have the best farmers market ever from June through Oct.
4. We have good bars including Caverly's, Dickie's and Lux. (I'm not allowed to go in for another 11 years.)
5. Great coffee shops like Boulder, Equal=Grounds and Coffee Connection. (I usually get hot chocolate.)

Maya Reagan is a 5th grader at Seton Catholic School. Maya plans to be a pediatrician when she grows up.



Art by Paula Peters Mara

Equal=Grounds Art Gallery "Beautiful Ruins" by Paula Peters Mara is the featured exhibit in the Equal=Grounds Coffee Shop Gallery through January. She especially loves mixed media, where she can experiment with different techniques and utilize her collection of vintage ephemera and cast-offs. Some of her favorite subjects include Catholic saints, cemeteries, abandoned buildings, pre-1960s advertising and design, cellular structures, deep space, life in the bottom of the oceans, wabi-sabi, vintage anything, rusted metal, and melted wax.

### Happy Holidays

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Rep. Harry Bronson greets neighbors at Wedgestock 2012. (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

## Harry Bronson Wins 2nd Term in State Assembly

by Nancy O'Donnell

South Wedge resident Harry Bronson returns to Albany after winning his second term at the State Assembly.

"I am grateful for the support I have received from those that live, work and play in the South Wedge," said Assemblymember Bronson. "I am honored to represent the families of Monroe County. With your help we have been able to accomplish so much, but there is still more to be done. I am ready to tackle the issues that matter the most to you, including fighting for the state to live up to its commitment to educate our children, partner with private sector to retain and create jobs, and ensure that our hard-working families are not over-

burdened with unnecessary taxes, while protecting those who are least able to protect themselves."

Democrat Bronson represents the NY 131 District which encompasses parts of the city of Rochester as well as the towns and villages of Chili, Churchville, Mumford, Riga, Rush, Scottsville and Wheatland.

Assemblyman Bronson co-owns Equal=Grounds coffee house on South Avenue with John White, and he serves as an adjunct professor at Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations in Ithaca.

He is the first openly LGBT member of the New York legislature from upstate New York

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## More Wedge Business Buzz



Tonja McNair (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

### Tonja's Personal Touch Featuring HeadzUp

City Council Member Elaine Spaul joined business owner Tonja McNair, of Tonja's Personal Touch featuring Headz Up Hats for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate its new location at 524 Mt. Hope Ave.

"Tonja's Personal Touch featuring Headz Up Hats is certainly a welcome addition to the neighborhood," said Mayor

Thomas S. Richards. "This kind of establishment, with an emphasis in fashion and art adds a new facet to the character of Mt. Hope Avenue."

After a decade at 674 South Avenue, McNair moved to the rejuvenating section of Mt. Hope Avenue at Cypress Street.

Tonja's Personal Touch featuring Headz Up Hats was touted on the City's website for her

ability to grow her small local business over time: "[McNair] originally employed three staff members. With this expansion and move to the Mt. Hope Ave. location, Ms. McNair has doubled her staff to six, and hopes to hire 3 to 5 additional employees over the next several years."

HeadzUp sells a wide assortment of hats and caps for men, women and children.



Tonja's collection of men's hats (Photo by Johannes Bockwoldt)

Tonja's Personal Touch featuring Headz Up Hats, 524 Mt. Hope Ave, 442-7680. Visit her on Facebook. Hours: Mon. through Wed. from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thurs. and Fri., 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sat. from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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To learn more contact 461-4250 or visit [www.ebns.org](http://www.ebns.org)

### Hedonist Chocolate Heats Up the Holiday

Now along with artisan ice cream specially flavored for the holidays, Hedonist Chocolate has added drinking chocolate to the menu. Choose from bittersweet and cinnamon chipotle. Holiday ice cream flavors include candy cane, pumpkin with sugared pumpkin seeds, egg nog, apple pie and cranberry sorbet. Get ice cream Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Fri./Sat. 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Hedonist Artisan Chocolate and Ice Cream, 674 South Ave., 461-2815. [www.hedonistchocolates.com](http://www.hedonistchocolates.com)

### Winter Wine Dinner at Zeppa Bistro

Forty lucky patrons can enjoy Zeppa Bistro five-course Winter Wine Dinner on Tuesday, January 15 at 7:00 pm. At print time, Bistro owners Casey Holenbeck and Seth Lindahl were still tweaking the menu, but they promise beautiful pairings of wine and food. The price is \$60 per person, tax and gratuity included. Visit Facebook

for a sneak preview of the menu at a later date. Reservations are needed by January 10. Visit Zeppa Bistro on Facebook. 315 Gregory Street, 563-6241

### Supporter Launches Indigogo Campaign to Restore Thread

Soon after Antonio Esteves learned that South Avenue boutique, Thread, had been robbed of an estimated \$20,000 of merchandise in early November, he turned to Indigogo, the website that gives "everyone the opportunity to raise money."

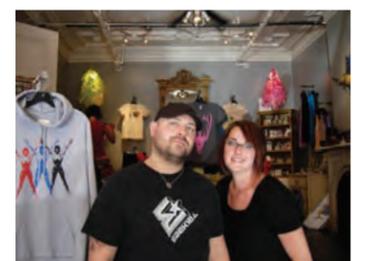
Owner of a custom apparel printing company, Tiny Fish, Esteves launched "Thread Restore Project" to raise \$10,000 for Thread owners Mike Ford and Sandy Brazis to help them "make up for the lost sales and increase the store's security."

"Thread is more than just a trendy clothing boutique, Thread is a part of our community. It's also an opportunity for local artists to connect with local customers. Thread is a whimsi-

cal window display in an area of once boarded up store fronts. It stands as a testament to the recent progression of the South Wedge," writes Esteves. "With this campaign, we intend to send a strong message of hope to Sandy and Mike to let them know they are not on their own. The community they believe in is here to repay the favor - we're here to help rebuild and restore."

At print time, the Restore Thread campaign had over 1,100 visitors and had raised approximately \$4,132 in donations. The fundraising ends near Dec. 20.

To learn more or to donate visit, [www.indigogo.com](http://www.indigogo.com), "Thread Restore Project."





## Red Hot Holiday Ball



Groove Juice Swing's 6th annual Red Hot Holiday Ball on Dec. 14 is a swing dance dedicated to all the newest swing dancers in the community, and best of all, it's free!

Free admission, free beginner lesson, free refreshments, and free holiday cheer. Bring a few extra bucks to enter a raffle for a chance to win goodies from all the best local establishments.

The evening will also fea-

ture a few special swing era dance performances by Groove Juice Swing and the Flower City Follies.

The Holiday Ball starts at 7 p.m. Dance lessons are as follows: Free Beginner Swing Dance Lesson 7-8 p.m., Swing Dancing and Holiday Cheer 8-11 p.m.

*Tango Cafe Dance Studio (Third Floor Ballroom), 389 Gregory St, Rochester NY 14620.*

## Wedding Announcement

Philip Monacelli & Damien Cordero



Philip and Damien

Damien Cordero and Philip Monacelli were joined in marriage on October 13, 2012. The ceremony and reception was held at the private residence of a family friend and reflected classic fall themes and colors. The couple, wearing matching charcoal tuxedos, was married under falling golden leaves while 100 guests looked on. The reception was a relaxed and intimate celebration of candlelight, bonfires and dancing.

The couple met through mutual friends around Christmas 2009 at a local bar. However, unlikely it is to meet "the one" in a bar, the couple fell fast in love and moved in together

six months later.

Damien and Philip became recent homeowners with the purchase of "a little red house in the South Wedge."

Philip is the owner of Salon 113 on Park Avenue while Damien works as a scientist at Bausch & Lomb. Their family is rounded out by their adorable black lab mix puppy, Aiden.

The couple plans a "cliche honeymoon excursion" sometime in late winter. Damien is the son of Adriene Yingling, a resident of central PA, and Philip is the son of Peter and Gloria Monacelli, also South Wedge residents.



South Clinton 1903 - "Looking south along South Clinton Avenue from Averill Avenue. In the background is the intersection with Gregory Street. An automobile and a horse-drawn wagon are in the street. Streetcar tracks can be seen in the brick-paved street." From the collection of the Rochester City Hall Photo Lab."

## A Brief History of the South Wedge

by Michelle Finn, Deputy Historian, City of Rochester

Recently featured in the *Democrat and Chronicle's* "Retrofitting Rochester" column, the South Wedge is a popular urban neighborhood with a rich and compelling history.

Nestled between the Genesee River and what was once the Erie Canal (and is now Interstate 490), the Wedge was settled in conjunction with the canal's construction in the early 1820s. As the canal trade grew, the area developed into a neighborhood of laborers, skilled craftsmen, shopkeepers and their families. Boat building became a major industry.

One of Rochester's most historic districts, the South Wedge was originally a part of Brighton. It was annexed by the city in 1834, the year that the New York State legislature granted Rochester its first charter. Since that time, it has undergone great changes, becoming a vital and dynamic part of the city.

In 1838, the area had the distinction of hosting the nation's first municipal Victorian cemetery, Mount Hope. Across the street, pioneer nurserymen George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry set up shop in 1840, transforming the area into an idyllic landscape with blossoming fields and blooming hot houses. The Ellwanger and Barry Nurseries were so impressive that they soon attracted a nationwide market, ensuring Rochester's status as the Flower City.

By the 1860s, the popularity of the cemetery and the nurseries necessitated a trolley line along Mount Hope Avenue. This was the city's first street railway.

Home to the famous abolitionist and human rights advocate, Frederick Douglass, the South Wedge neighborhood was also a stop on the Underground Railroad, the network of people and places that conducted enslaved blacks to freedom in the decades preceding the Civil War.

The area continued to grow

throughout the nineteenth century, gaining residents, businesses, roads, churches, a school, a hospital, and a most impressive public park complete with a reservoir and a three-story pavilion. By the turn of the twentieth century, the Wedge was a particularly strong and bustling community, which thrived into the 1940s.

Sadly, the neighborhood declined after World War II. As residents left the city to establish homes in the suburbs, many businesses closed their doors. Abandoned houses and buildings soon deteriorated and absentee landlords were not inclined to improve them.

As local historian Jeff Ludwig explains in the *Democrat and Chronicle*, the South Wedge hit its all-time low in the early 1970s. Crime and hardship filled the streets of the once-vibrant community south of downtown. The hope, vision, and strong work ethic on which it was built, however, remained.

"Holdover South Wedge residents refused to surrender their neighborhood to decay,"

Ludwig notes. Forming the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) in 1973, they enlisted the help of community groups, private investors and government agencies to revitalize the area.

Today the South Wedge thrives anew. Successful SWPC initiatives focusing on safety and beautification have attracted an influx of residents and businesses that have contributed to the neighborhood's resurgence.

"The Wedge combines atmosphere and attitude," Ludwig observes, "making it a unique, charming slice of the city." Indeed. Characterized by its charm, diversity, hipness, and community pride, the South Wedge is once again a neighborhood known and loved by many Rochesterians.

To read Ludwig's full article and listen to his brief narration, visit the D&C's website: [www.media.democratandchronicle.com/retrofitting-rochester/old-south-wedge](http://www.media.democratandchronicle.com/retrofitting-rochester/old-south-wedge).

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# Make Your Own Fruitcake

## Nathaniel Mich offers a recipe for a fruitcake you won't toss out!

by Nathaniel Mich

Fruitcakes get a bad rap in this country. A classic unwanted gift, there is even an annual Great Fruitcake Toss in Manitou Springs, CO, where those who dread fruitcakes from relatives can get rid of them in spectacular fashion. And if you've only ever plucked a fruitcake off of a shelf or picked one out of a catalog, I can't say I blame you for not liking them. Those cakes are often dry and crumbly and packed with neon candied fruit – not exactly mouth-watering.



But you can redeem the fruitcake in your own kitchen. This recipe, adapted with liberal modifications from Joy of Cooking (2006 edition, Scribner), yields an aromatic, moist, and not-too-sweet fruitcake with a layered and intense flavor, punctuated by spirits and spice. All it takes is quality ingredients and a bit of elbow grease.

### Dark Fruitcake

Preheat your oven to 275F and have all ingredients at room temperature. Grease two 8 1/2 x 4 1/2 or 9 x 5 inch foil pans and line the bottoms and sides with wax or parchment paper.

#### Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 Tablespoon cinnamon
- 1/2 Tablespoon cloves
- 1/2 Tablespoon allspice
- 1/2 Tablespoon nutmeg
- 3/4 teaspoon mace (freshly ground spices are best)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 1/2 pounds of dried fruit and nuts. In equal parts: Med-jool dates, black mission figs, currants, golden and dark raisins, crystallized ginger, pineapple, walnuts, and pecans. Pit the dates and cut the large fruits into chunks with kitchen shears. Toast, coarsely chop, and cool the nuts.
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 1 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 6 eggs, separated
- 1/4 cup brandy

- 1/4 cup molasses
- 2/3 cup brandy
- 2/3 cup rum
- 2/3 cup honey

Reserve 1/2 cup of the flour. Whisk the remainder with the spices and salt in a large bowl.

Toss the fruit and nuts with the reserved flour to coat and set aside.

Beat the butter in a very large bowl until creamy. Gradually add the sugar and beat on high until light and fluffy.

Beat in the egg yolks one at a time.

Mix in the flour-spice mixture in three parts, alternating with the 1/4 cup brandy and the molasses. Stir in the floured fruit and nuts.

Beat the egg whites in a large spotless bowl with clean beaters until stiff peaks form. Fold a quarter of the whites into the batter to lighten it, then gently fold in the remainder.

Divide the batter between the prepared pans. Bake until the cakes have shrunk a bit from the sides and a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, about 1 1/2-2 hours. Allow the cakes to cool on a rack for at least an hour, then unmold them, remove the paper, and let cool completely.

Blend together the honey, rum, and brandy and heat in a microwave or saucepan until hot but not boiling. Pierce the

cakes multiple times on all sides with a thin skewer and pour the liquor mixture, drop by drop, over the cakes, until all the liquid has been absorbed.

Return the cakes to the pans and wrap tightly with plastic wrap and aluminum foil. Store in a cool dry place. The cakes can be eaten fresh, but if allowed to age for a month or so, the flavors will develop and mature.

Liquor-soaked fruit cakes can be crumbly, so chill before cutting and use a long serrated knife. Bring the slices back up to room temperature before serving.

*Born and raised in the South Wedge, Nathaniel Mich is the Head Chocolatier and Ice Cream Maker at Hedonist Artisan Chocolates and Ice Cream, where he has worked since 2008. Eating food is his favorite hobby, closely followed by talking about food.*



### SWPC Thanks Wedgestock Supporter

South Wedge Planning Committee Director John Page and Board Member Frank Logan presented Nathaniel Construction President and CEO Frank Andolino with a plaque and thanks for acting as supporting sponsor for the WedgeStock Festival for three years. (l-r. Bart J. Noto Executive V.P., SWPC Executive Director John Page-Frank Andolino President/CEO)



### Continental Breakfasts: Photographic Collaboration

South Wedge photographer Lisa Baker and friend Anna Peters Wehking display a two-year artistic collaboration entitled, "Continental Breakfasts", at The Yards Collaborative Art Space through January 12. The entire

project now amounts to over 2000 photographs. Open market hours through January 12, Tues., Thurs. and Sat., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 50-52 Public Market (upstairs from Flour City Bread and Java's) Visit [www.facebook.com/events/298824190233038](http://www.facebook.com/events/298824190233038).

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