

# The WEDGE

The Official Newspaper of the South Wedge Since 1982

## Peter Monacelli Receives Betty Strassenburg Award for Activism

by Paul Minor

When Peter and Gloria Monacelli moved into an apartment on South Avenue in the South Wedge in 1976, the neighborhood was the second most violent in the City of Rochester. Within a year, he and four neighbors (and their spouses) opened the “Wildroot Gallery” across the street at 783 South where he displayed his art for five years until the gallery closed. Meanwhile he practiced his craft of carpentry and began to work on abandoned properties around the city.

Since that start Monacelli estimates he has been involved in the construction or renovation of 250 regional properties. His hand can be seen in the walls of the Hochstein School of Music, the historic Wilder Building, the

to translate vision to reality. The award recognizes an individual or organization which demonstrates a deep personal commitment to implementing visible change in a community, while inspiring others to pursue challenging paths to a productive end.

In presenting the award, Frank Hamlin, CEO of Canandaigua National Bank, praised Peter for his tireless investment in the community, saying he had returned more than 220 abandoned properties to the tax rolls, revived buildings and neighborhoods and built lasting partnerships through generosity and good design.

“His enthusiasm, creativity, and skill shine through in his work as a contractor, which is characterized by his willingness to operate within an “impossible” budget where other contractors would not,” said Hamlin.

Peter started building with his father at age 15. Art didn’t come into his life until 1967 when he attended Monroe Community College at the old downtown campus where he studied Art Essentials along with Music, still keeping his hands in working with wood; today he is back at MCC as a teacher.

In the South Wedge he moved first to Benton St. and later Ashland Street in 1981. It was then he and several other local developers started acquiring these distressed properties from slumlords and rebuilding them into habitable residences. Given the opportunity to deconstruct an old Italianate home—he collected the beautiful hand-crafted brackets, marble fireplaces, doors, and other parts—and reinstalled them in homes scattered all over the city, adding a special character to these houses that could only come from a craftsman and true artist.

Peter is revered by his past clients as a hard worker and creative problem solver, passionate about the historical value of Rochester’s buildings and deeply committed to improving our neighborhoods. His legacy is not one simply of quantity, but of quality. Through his vision and generosity, he has changed the face of Rochester, while serving as an example for his peers and neighbors.

The Betty Strassenburg Community Activism Award is but one more to add to awards from the Rochester Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, MCC, the City of Rochester, the South Wedge Planning Committee and many others.

We are all so fortunate to have Peter as our neighbor, making the South Wedge and the City a better place to live!



**Somewhere in Rochester** Sure when you see snowmen participating in “the wearing of the green” can St. Patrick’s Day or Spring itself be far behind? (Photo by Michael Lill)

## Wedgepoint Apartments Gets Go Ahead

The South Wedge community received great news when they learned that Wedgepoint Apartments, a mixed-income/mixed-use revitalization project in the South Wedge at 390 South Avenue, is set to fill a vacant lot once home to the dilapidated Downtown Motor. The Wedgepoint Apartments project finally received funding in early January.

PathStone Senior Vice President of Housing Monica McCullough expressed her excitement when she learned New York State would provide \$13 million in resources.

The Wedgepoint, which will be located on South Avenue and Byron Street, will have 60 units and three commercial spaces. A total of 48 units will be affordable to families earning 60 percent less than area median income (AMI), and 12 units will serve households earning between 61 and 90 percent of AMI.

Two million is still needed to fund the \$15.4 million project. The City of Rochester will provide \$400,000 and about \$500,000 will be contributed from PathStone, a nonprofit community development

organization providing services to low-income families and economically depressed communities throughout New York.

Thirty-six one-bedroom apartments will range in size from 621 to 728 square feet; the 18 two-bedroom apartments will be 847-949 square feet; and six three-bedroom apartments from 1,261 to 1,310 square feet. Each apartment will have a dishwasher and central air conditioning.

Seven of the apartments will be set aside for people with disabilities. Others will serve individuals and families with incomes ranging from \$20,000 to \$54,000 a year. A playground and community garden for residents is also planned for the property.

At the time of publication rents with utilities are expected to run from \$515 to \$923. All utilities are included in the rent for the residential units. Income limits will range from \$23,400 - \$40,320. Rents and income limits are subject to change.

Wedgepoint Apartments are designed to meet Enterprise Green Community standards and will

utilize the NYSERDA’s Multi-Family Low Rise program. The building design includes high efficiency Energy Star furnaces, appliances and light fixtures; water conserving fixtures; low volatile organic compound paints and green label floor coverings.

Nathaniel General Contractors will serve as General Contractor. SWBR Architects and Passero Engineering provided design and technical services. The property will be managed by PathStone Management Corporation.

Wedgepoint will also feature a community room, on-site property management and maintenance staff, a coin-op laundry room on each floor, elevator, tenant storage on each floor, indoor and outdoor bike storage and ample surface parking. In addition, recreational space will be provided for all ages, including a playground and a rooftop patio with seating and raised garden.

For more information, contact PathStone Corporation, 340-3306.

Architectural rendering on page. 12



Peter Monacelli

Little Theater addition and gallery, the SWPC building and countless residential homes.

For this he was awarded the 2014 Betty Strassenburgh Award for Activism of the Community Design Center of Rochester at their annual Awards Luncheon on December 2.

The Strassenburgh Award is named in honor of Rochester activist Betty Strassenburgh to celebrate civic spirit, persistence, and the determination required



**Friday, March 20,**  
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**Enjoy a fantastic night of City Love. Join with others who want to build a better community and listen to great music of Bill Tiberio, dance, nosh on delectable hors d’oeuvres, desserts and enjoy drinks at a cash bar. Proceeds benefit NSC Community Development, The South East Area Coalition and the South Wedge Planning Committee. To purchase tickets contact E. Thomas at 256-1740, ext. 103 or e-mail [jknoth@swpc.org](mailto:jknoth@swpc.org)**

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

**The Wire Wheel Shop Welcomes Edge of the Wedge See page. 5**

**The South Wedge Planning Committee, Inc.**

**February/March Calendar**

Meetings are held at 224 Mt. Hope Ave.  
The community is invited to attend all meetings.

**SWPC Board Meeting**

james.papapanu@gmail.com  
Tues., 3/17, 4/21, 6 p.m.

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

jknath@swpc.org  
Wed. 2/18 & 3/18, 6 p.m.

**Finance Team**

tsciarabba@hotmail.com  
Wed. 2/11 & 3/11, 12:30 p.m.

**Housing & Structures**

Meets every other month  
Wed., 2/4, 5:30 p.m.  
E-mail donna.roethel.lenhard@gmail.com to confirm.

**SW Victory Garden**

felann@frontiernet.net  
E-mail for dates and times.

**Join SWPC in Community Building**

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) invites you to join with this dynamic nonprofit organization in making a difference in southeast Rochester. Join our board of directors or serve on a committee. We have lots of ways you can help.

Founded in 1978, SWPC acts as a conduit for federal or state repair grants to help keep people in their aging homes. It aided

the development of the very vibrant South Avenue business corridor and works in a myriad of ways to build community through its South Wedge Farmers Market, Victory Gardens and *The Wedge Newspaper*.

Your time, talent and passion can help us in continuing SWPC's work. If interested, please call at 256-1740 or e-mail jpage@swpc.org.



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Nancy O'Donnell  
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**Copy Editor**

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**Writers**

Drew Beeman, Maria Fisher,  
Trevor Courneen, Nathaniel Mich, Paul  
Minor, Nancy O'Donnell, Dr. Alexie Cruz  
Puran, Lisa Reagan, Kimberly Wright

**Photography**

M. Warren Holden, Christina Jones,  
Michael Lill,  
Nancy O'Donnell, Ira Srole

**Comic**

Justin Hubbell

**The Wedge Newspaper**

(585) 256-1740, ext. 105 or 978-9638.  
Fax (585) 256-1497  
E-mail staff, type 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. Its mission is to provide accurate coverage of community 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) with a circulation of 6500. The newspaper is 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.*



Jennifer Baldwin (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

**Meet Jennifer Baldwin**

by Nancy O'Donnell

In January, Jennifer Baldwin joined the South Wedge Planning Committee as its first female construction manager. Despite working in a field that is overwhelming male, Jennifer isn't concerned about gender issues on the work site.

"I don't have problems with other people's expectations," said Jennifer. "I appreciate the different aspects men and women can bring to the table. I can't put a job together by myself, and I don't pretend I know something when I don't. People in the field, in the trades, have years and years of experience. They have wonderful ideas, and they're willing to collaborate. They're very generous with their knowledge."

Jennifer grew up in Genesee County and went to the Rochester Institute of Technology to study interior design. While at RIT, she lived in the Monroe Avenue area.

After graduating, she moved to New York City to study Historic Preservation at Columbia

University.

She stayed in NYC for 14 years. Working with architectural consultants and preservation contractors, she took part in some notable construction projects such as Grand Central Station, the Apollo Theater and Yankee Stadium. ("I never met a Yankee.") Jennifer also worked on smaller jobs such as preserving a historic mill in Stonnington, Connecticut.

"I also worked with commercial contractor working on interior fit outs, basically remodeling the interiors of modern condos or towers," said Jennifer.

She met her future husband, Kevin Budziszewski, while both were students at Alexander High School. They lost touch until 2004 when they "bumped into each other" and discovered they were both living in the NYC area.

Three years later they married and for a while they had a long-distance marriage when her husband, a software engineer, got a new job in Western New York.

**The Wedge Newspaper**



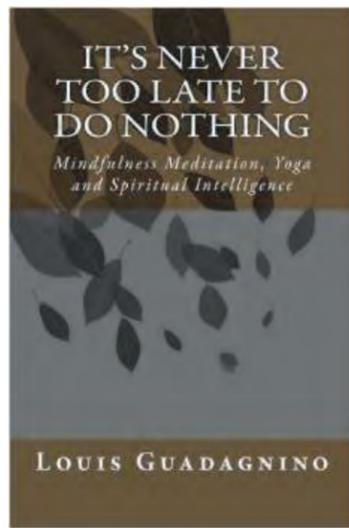
**We're sorry...**

We're very, very sorry...

Photographer Michele Macirella was not given credit for the lovely photo of Christine Wagner, director of the St. Joseph Neighborhood Center in our page 1 story in the December/January issue.

And Lou Guadagnino, author and owner Living Stress Free Wellness Center, inexplicably became Bob in a story about the Center opening at 131 Gregory Street. He writes: "We really appreciate [the story] For future press I would like to clarify one issue. My name is not Bob Guadagnino. Everyone at the center is now calling me Bob!"

To make up for this error, we are all going to buy Lou's new book, *It's Never Too Late To Do Nothing: Mindfulness Meditation, Yoga and Spiritual Intelligence*, now available on Amazon. Published in December, it's described as a book that: "breaks barriers when it comes to



understanding and learning how to practice mindfulness meditation and yoga for personal growth... it offers a new wellness model based on Buddhist, Yogic and Taoist principles and practices." The author teaches readers a method of learning mindfulness meditation and yoga without using concentration."

When they decided to start a family, they knew they'd need to move closer to their families, and Jennifer left NYC. Son Bennett was born four years ago.

Today they live in Attica, but the Baldwin-Budziszewski family is looking for something in between Jennifer's job in Rochester and

Kevin's in Seneca Falls.

Back upstate, Jennifer first worked for an architectural firm in Buffalo. More recently, she was project manager for the University of Rochester's River Planning Design and Construction

*continued on pg. 8*

**Interested in Joining a Great Community? Become a SWPC or SEAC board member**

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) and the South East Area Coalition is seeking individuals to serve on the boards of both organizations. Help us build a better Rochester. For more information, please contact SWPC Executive Director John Page at jpage@swpc.org

**Subscribe to The Wedge!**

For over 30 years, *The Wedge Newspaper* has chronicled the lives and times of our vibrant South Wedge neighborhood.

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ing by sending a check or money order to the address below.

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## Community Builders



Jesse Knoth (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

### SWPC Welcomes Jesse Knoth

The South Wedge Planning Committee welcomed Jesse Knoth as its new Community Engagement Specialist in early January. Along with fundraising, Jesse will head the South Wedge Farmers Market come June, along with planning and promoting SWPC events throughout the year. Currently, he's organizing the SWPC and SEAC (South East Area Coalition), NCS Community Development annual fundraiser "City Love," which will be held at the Academy of Medicine on March 20.

Jesse was born in New York City but grew up in Shandaken, a small town in the Catskill Mountains. In 2005, he moved to Rochester to study Computer Science at Rochester Institute of Technology.

While Jesse was a junior in college he "stumbled into" community service.

"I was living in the 19th Ward, and I saw a flyer for a block meeting for Barton Street. There was no date or telephone number, but somehow I showed up, and I was elected president. I was the

only one willing to say, 'yes,'" laughs Jesse.

He liked the diversity of his neighborhood—"college students, single-parent families, lots of kids," and he was ready to support it.

With a budget of \$20, he organized a block party for the kids. He got the City permit and worked to get donations from Foodlink and NeighborWorks.

"Neighbors brought out the speakers, a basketball hoop, and we had a party," Jesse says.

At the same time Jesse began a co-op at Thomson Reuters as a software programmer. "My main task was to format information from something like 1,000 page publications. It was pretty boring. I asked myself 'is this what I want to be doing?'"

His plans for a career in computer technology changed after he enrolled in a Sustainable Community class at RIT taught by Dr. Ann Howard.

"She talked about what a community needs to be vibrant and how a community can meet its needs with what it already has. It's called ABCD or Assets-Based Community Development," explains Jesse. "For example, a

*continued on pg. 11*

## South Wedge Holiday Home Decorating Winners!

A special thank you to area residents who decorated their South Wedge homes during holiday season 2014. The winners were chosen by members of the Community Engagement Committee.

### Winning Houses

54 Comfort Street  
290 Hamilton Street  
63 Bond Street  
5 Menlo Place  
191 Sanford Street

117 Linden Street  
203 Cypress Street  
27 Hickory Street  
69 Poplar Street  
780 South Avenue

### Winter Reminders

Please remember that the South Wedge is a very walkable neighborhood—we love that—but it's not so great when you're walking through deep snow and ice on the sidewalk. It's especially hard for those who use walkers, wheelchairs or canes.

Please be a good neighbor and clear the sidewalks in front of your house and help your neighbors do the same if they're elderly or unable to shovel. City of Rochester code requires all property owners or commercial property tenants to keep the sidewalks on their properties free of snow and ice. Come spring, remember that while snow hides dog droppings

beautifully, it all looks awful when the thaw sets in. Be a responsible pet owner, carry a bag and pick up after your fur buddy this winter. We'll all be glad you did.

### 'How to Ride the Bus' Training

Using public transportation can be a challenge for individuals with a disability or special needs. That challenge can discourage some completely, further increasing their isolation and resulting in reduced independence.

To make it easier for special needs individuals to access public transit, RTS will hold a "Train the Trainer" session for social service agency workers, 9 a.m. to

noon, Monday, Feb. 16, at RTS Administrative offices, 1372 East Main Street.

An RTS Customer Service Representative will walk participants through all steps of riding an RTS bus. A test ride is also included.

The "Train the Trainer" workshop is free but advance registration is required. RTS also provides free Transit Orientations for the public throughout the year. For more info, contact RTS Customer Service at (585) 288-1700 or email at Monroe@myRTS.com. Visit the website at www.myRTS.com.

Regional Transit Service (RTS) provides public bus transportation service in Monroe, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne and Wyoming counties. RTS's 900+ employees proudly enjoy serving the customers who count on us for nearly 18.5 million rides each year. For more information, visit myRTS.com (http://www.myrts.com).

### Making a Difference for 25 Years Just \$1 at a Time

This Fe-blue-ary, 469,685 blue envelopes will arrive in mailboxes across the region asking for "just one" dollar to help thousands of kids and adults with special needs served by Al Sigl Member Agencies.

Al Sigl Community of Agencies is a collaborative community network that provides high-quality, cost-effective real estate and

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## WARNER CASTLE OPEN HOUSE

- Home of the Rochester Civic Garden Center -
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Mon Mar. 16, 2015  
6:30 - 8:00 P.M.

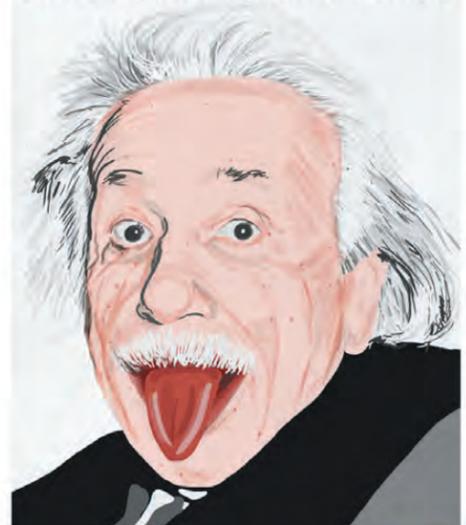
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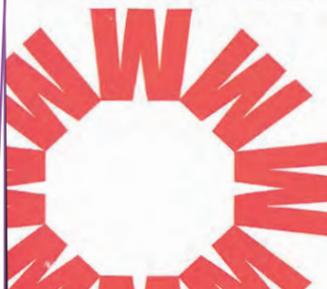


The hardest thing to understand in the world is the income tax!

- Albert Einstein

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### The Wire Wheel Auto Repair on South Clinton Avenue Ready for Edge of the Wedge Residents

New Edge of the Wedge residents have another benefit to renting a loft or apartment.. Directly across from the new development on South Clinton Avenue is The Wire Wheel, an auto repair shop for domestic and import cars. Wire Wheel Auto Repair, a neighborhood institution, has been servicing the southeast

neighborhood since 1994. "I'm very excited about the development in the area especially the Edge of the Wedge," said owner Jim Mills. "I look forward to developing new customers for my auto repair business." 742 South Clinton Ave, 442-3575, www.wirewheel.com.

## Randall Pollok

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## Get Lovestruck at Hedonist Chocolates

by Trevor Courneen

On Friday, February 6, Hedonist Artisan Chocolates will host a chocolate tasting event for their new truffle collection, Lovestruck. The collection features Hedonist's Valentine's Raspberry truffles adorned with festive designs created by local artist Gretchen Spittler.

Though Spittler has been making art all her life, the Lovestruck collection is one of her first major ventures into the world of graphic design. Hedonist conducted an interview with the artist to get her thoughts on inspiration, super powers, and of course, love.

### What is your earliest memory of being inspired to make art?

My mother is an artist. She has an MFA in printmaking and was an art teacher, so our house was

always full of art supplies when we were kids. We were always creating something. I remember an abstract drawing I made with markers in second grade. It filled an entire 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper. I was so proud that I titled it, signed it, wrote a dedication and hung it on my bedroom wall as though it were a framed masterpiece.

### Besides graphic design, what other medium do you dabble in?

Dabble is actually a really appropriate word to describe my graphic design which I am teaching myself as I go. My formal arts training is in sculpture, ceramics, and textiles, but, graphic design is a much more accessible medium for my life at the moment. Having a small child does limit one's ability to work on any project not destined to be chewed on or played with,



or involving tools, small pieces, or pointy bits. Graphic design provides me with an ongoing creative outlet which is important.

### Is there a story behind the designs for Lovestruck?

When I fell in love with my husband it was not so much a warm, gentle glow as a swift kick to the head. I experienced this same physical jolt the first time I held

my daughter. My love for her hit me over the head – Ka-Pow! The two loves of my life changed me forever with such force and speed that I can only describe it as being lovestruck.

For this design I started with the idea of words on candy, like a traditional Valentine's conversation heart. Then, to convey the idea of being playfully and metaphorically

smacked across the face by love, I pulled visual references from the '60s Batman TV show. The colorful riff on the campy fight scenes is a silly and nostalgic conveyance of the lovestruck idea. Like being delightfully coldcocked by Cupid.

### Do you have a favorite comic book character/super hero?

I do love Linda Carter's Wonder Woman.

### Is love the greatest super power there is?

Love is the greatest anything there is. Love conquers all. But, I wouldn't mind being able to fly, too.

The Lovestruck Chocolate Tasting Event will be held on Friday, February 6 from 6:00-9:00 PM at Hedonist's shop at 674 South Ave in Rochester. Attendees can meet Gretchen Spittler and the Hedonist chocolatiers while they indulge their senses with chocolate and art.

## Rochester Police Department Crime Prevention Tips

by Officer Brian Bannerman

Tax Identity Theft is when an identity thief uses your Social Security number to get a tax refund or a job. Contact the IRS if they send you a notice (by mail) saying their records show: you were paid by an employer you don't know or more than one tax return was filed using your Social Security number.

Help protect yourself from Tax Identity Theft by following listed guidelines:

- File your tax return early in the tax season, if you can.
- Use a secure internet connection if you file electronically, or mail your tax return directly from the post office.
- Shred copies of your tax return, drafts, or calculation sheets you no longer need.
- Respond to all mail from the IRS as soon as possible.
- Know the IRS won't contact you by e-mail, text, or social media. If the IRS needs information, it will contact you by mail.
- Don't give out your Social Security number (SSN) unless

necessary.

- Research a tax preparer thoroughly before you hand over personal information.

- If your SSN has been compromised, contact the IRS ID Theft Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490.

- Check your credit report at least once a year for free at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com) to make sure no other accounts have been opened in your name.

More information about tax identity theft is available from the FTC at [ftc.gov/taxidtheft](http://ftc.gov/taxidtheft) and the IRS at [irs.gov/identitytheft](http://irs.gov/identitytheft).

Package theft is a common occurrence in the city of Rochester. Many of these incidents are crimes of opportunity.

An offender may not intend to target a particular home, but walks or drives by an area and sees an easy target where something of perceived value can be quickly

taken without notice.

On occasion we hear about thieves who trail a delivery truck, stealing packages as they are dropped off. Not only is an untended package that is visible from the street vulnerable to theft, but it may indicate that no one is home, making the home a possible target for burglary.

There are a number of delivery options available to the consumer that can help reduce package theft.

Some options to consider:

- Ship your package to a location where someone you know will be available to receive it, which may include your work address or a relative, neighbor, or friend's home. Some shipping companies will allow you to choose a preferred time and date as well as to change locations when the package is in route.

For more information, contact the Southeast Neighborhood Service Center, 430 N. Goodman Street at Village Gate, 428-7620.



## Groove Juice Swing Jazzes Highland Hall

The third floor ballroom at 389 Gregory Street, in the historic Weider Building, has been a prime location for dancing for over a century, and continues under the management of Groove Juice Swing.

Groove Juice Swing celebrated their 10th year anniversary in October with the unveiling of the venue's new name: Highland Hall. There is historical significance in our name choice - the ballroom was called this for three decades during the Jazz Age. There is record of Highland Hall in 1927 and again in

1956, and Groove Juice Swing is proud to return to it in 2014.

Groove Juice took over the space after Tango Cafe, the former dance studio moved to a new location in Corn Hill this summer.

Originally built in 1885, the spacious 3000+ square foot ballroom boasts cathedral ceilings, bright windows, and a slick hardwood floor. A full wall of mirrors caters to dance and fitness classes, while elegant lighting sets the mood for special events.

Swing dancers can be spotted multiple times per week taking classes, social dancing, and partying in the third floor ballroom. Groove Juice Swing continuously offers beginner through advanced Lindy Hop and swing dance lessons, and hosts many special dance events. Mornings and weekends in the ballroom are host to fitness classes such as Zumba and Nia Fitness, a cardio dance group fitness class that incorporates martial arts, dance arts and healing arts. The schedule is rounded out with some private ballroom dance lessons, a couple evenings of Tango, and special events - the ballroom seems to always have something active going on.

The Highland Hall Ballroom and the smaller Highland Dance Studio are currently available for rent by the hour. For more information including schedule and rental rates, contact [doriel@groovejuiceswing.com](mailto:doriel@groovejuiceswing.com), and for more information about Groove Juice Swing visit [groovejuiceswing.com](http://groovejuiceswing.com).

Groove Juice Swing is committed to spreading the joy of swing dancing in Rochester, NY. It offers three yearly workshop weekends, regular public classes, weekly and monthly social dances, and private lessons.

## Accepting New Patients!

### Serban Staicu, M.D.

has joined Highland Hospital's Medical Staff as a Pulmonary and Critical Care Physician.

Dr. Staicu treats a variety of pulmonary conditions including:

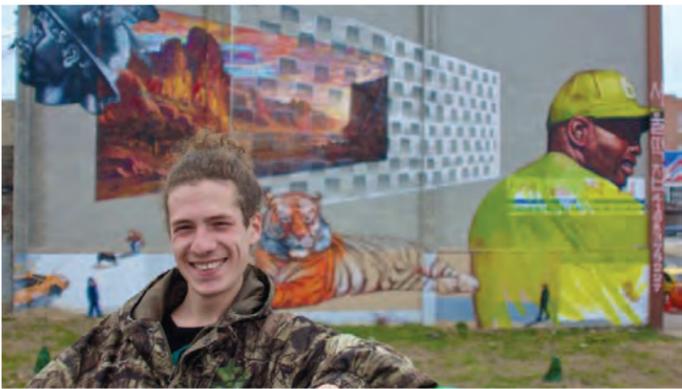
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## Forbes Magazine Names Gaia One of 30 Under 30



Artist Gaia (Photo by M Warren Holden)

During Wall Therapy 2013, artist Gaia painted a mural on the side of the South Wedge Planning Committee building at 224 Mt. Hope Avenue. His spectacular art continues to slow traffic on Mt. Hope Avenue. (You can see it yourself on the SWPC building at 224 Hamilton Street at Mt. Hope Avenue.) Recently, *Forbes Magazine* recently named Gaia one of its "30 Under 30" amazing creators and noted how his art speaks to people from Baltimore to Istanbul. Bravo Gaia!

## South Wedge Wall Therapy Mural Defaced by Graffiti

Christina Jones and Jim Wolff were happy to get Irish artist Conor Harrington to paint the side of their business Historic Houseparts at South Ave. and Hamilton Street (and the side of their delivery truck, too) during Wall Therapy 2013.

Harrington's 18th century gentlemen, victor and vanquished, aka "Rochester Fight Club" remained a somber black and white composition until recently when Jones discovered someone had blasted the neck of the vanquished with a splash of crimson.

Jones went to Facebook to denounce the travesty and received a number of interesting replies. One poster Christopher Camero writes: "One of the purposes of wall therapy is to bring high art to the masses on street level. But you are also elevating graffiti to high art status. I know what you're thinking...but isn't graffiti supposed to get [messed] with, tagged, defaced? I don't approve of this act, but if you make something and put it out there you should be prepared for some piece a shit to [mess] with it. Then again maybe the artist had this done in order to open up a forum on the permanence and impermanence of open air art with humans being the

most corrosive elements." The Wedge Newspaper suggested the artist be consulted, after all the image was violent and maybe he wouldn't mind a little scarlet on it. A few comments later, Jones posted Harrington's response: "Feedback from the artist: I like it!!! I need to start adding colour to my murals anyway."

Jones invited readers to keep the conversation going: "So the artist applauds the vandalism (?) and it does seem to enhance (?) the mural. Knowing that he likes it, does that make this graffiti/vandalism ok? Opinions?"

The consensus remained mixed,



Work by Conor Harrington before (Photo by Christina Jones)

but all hoped no future vandal/graffiti artist decides to add a little something extra to someone else's work."



Work by Conor Harrington after (Photo by Christina Jones)



Paula Howard (Photo by Ira Srole)

## Unitarian Church's Micro-Finance Success Story by Robin Fisher

The First Unitarian Church Micro Finance project was first conceived in 2012 by church members in response to the church's mission to help rebuild and revitalize our urban communities through micro financing assistance and related financial and mentoring services to small businesses. Church members created a Micro Finance and Community Development Task Force in partnership with the Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union to achieve this goal.

Recently Paula Howard, owner and operator of Paula's Essentials, was named the Church's first loan recipient. She was introduced to the Church by its partner, the Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union. The Credit Union saw Howard as a perfect fit for the project.

Howard's line of hair and body care products, and home fragrances, essential oils and

perfumes are sold at her Thurston Road shop, Lori's Natural Market and online at [PaulasEssentials.com](http://PaulasEssentials.com).

Howard grew up in Brooklyn and studied chemistry at Queens College and business at MCC.

She buys her ingredients from Africa through a distributor. She manufactures and packages her products mostly on her own.

Howard first began selling her body care products at the Public Market 20 years ago. She opened a small shop on Thurston Rd. in 2009. Along with retail sales, the space is also used for production of her products. Howard approached the bank for a line of credit to expand her existing business. She wanted to use a loan for equipment and materials. Several task force members met with her and the bank, and were highly impressed by her plans, motivation and passion. Howard welcomed Task Force ideas on ways to improve her business and the offers of assistance from its members. Task Force mentors brought their expertise and experience to help Paula with equipment, insurance, bookkeeping and general cheerleading needs.

Her expansion plans included getting her product in other retail outlets which she is accomplishing.

"We have a unique distinction in that we can match discontinued and special fragrances in all forms such as body oils, body sprays, lotions, etc," said Howard. "We also carry our own popular signature

fragrances: "Purple Lilacs, White Lilacs, Persuasions, Embers, Sensual Embers for Women and Surrender for Men. All have their own accompanying body lotions."

Howard's most popular product line "Renditions by Paula" are versions of any custom or designer fragrance, offered in long lasting fragrance forms. Her home and office fragrances include incense, diffusers and car fresheners.

Recently Howard introduced a new product, "Tattoo Alive," that has generated a lot of interest.

"It brings old and aged tattoos back to life, instantly. This result is accomplished with simple, natural, ingredients and one spray application with no fragrance, no greasiness or heaviness," said Howard. "The accompanying product is our "No Itch Stick" with roll-on applicator. The "No Itch Stick" is used after a new tattoo application to provide fast, effective, relief and healing to new designs (allowing it to breathe throughout the healing process).

Visit Paula's Essentials on Facebook for updates, special promotions and show information. To learn more visit [www.paulasessentials.com](http://www.paulasessentials.com). To learn more about more about the Unitarian Church's Task Force, visit [www.uuseed.org](http://www.uuseed.org).



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## Children's Health Corner -- Button Batteries -Small in size, a Big Problem if Swallowed

by Alexie Cruz Puran, MD

More than 3,000 button batteries are ingested each year in the United States. It may be as frequent as every three hours that there is a child in the emergency department somewhere in this country for a battery-related emergency issue. Button batteries are small, shiny and appealing to children. However, button batteries can result in major injuries and even death if ingested.

Button batteries are the small round batteries found in small electronics. They can be found in remote controls, thermometers, games, toys, hearing aids, calculators, bathroom scales, key fobs, electronic jewelry, cameras, holiday ornaments and many others. With the increase use of small electronics, the risk of these batteries getting into the hands and mouths of curious and crawling infants and young children increases.

When a child ingests a button



battery, their symptoms could be virtually absent or similar to those of a common infection. This makes it challenging for health care professionals who are evaluating the child. When a button battery is placed in the nose or the ears, drainage or pain may be noted, which is not unique to button batteries. Non-specific symptoms combined with an unwitnessed placement can lead to a delay in diagnosis and even greater injury. When a button battery is swallowed and lodged in the body, the electric

currents can cause significant tissue injury even within 2 hours. Death can result from significant bleeding.

If a parent or caregiver suspects their child ingested a button battery, the child needs to be taken immediately to an emergency room. The diagnosis of button battery ingestion can be confirmed on x-ray images. The treatment for a button battery stuck within the body is urgent removal in order to minimize local tissue damage.

Parents and caregivers need to be aware of the risk posed by button batteries in their home. In many products, the battery is easily accessible or can fall out when the product is dropped. Make sure that the battery compartments of all electronic items are taped shut and loose batteries are always stored out of children's reach.

Remember: Keep batteries out of reach, Get help fast and Tell others of the possible dangers of button batteries.

## Swing Batter, Batter, Batter, Swing!

Southside Little League invites you to come on down to The Cinema, 957 S. Clinton Avenue, to register for 2015 leagues and then stay for a free showing of the family baseball classic Little Big League on Sunday, February 8. Concessions and registration start at 11:30 a.m. and the movie starts at 12:30 p.m.

A Chartered member of Little League since 1954, Southside Little League is a youth baseball and softball organization that

emphasizes fundamentals, fitness, friends, family, and fun. Baseball and softball programs are available for boys and girls ages 4 to 12. Southside Little League's region covers the City of Rochester areas east of the Genesee River and south of East Avenue, including the following neighborhoods: East End, Park Ave., Cobb's Hill, Upper Monroe, Pearl-Meigs-Monroe, Swillburg, Highland Park, South Wedge and the Strong.

Additionally, any children who

attend schools in the region of Southside Little League are also welcome to sign up, including School #1, #12, #15, #23, #35, and Genesee Community Charter School.

Can't make it? Registration also available online at [www.southsidelittleleague.com/registrati...](http://www.southsidelittleleague.com/registrati...) For more details, please visit our online flyer at <https://www.smore.com/fz9an> 957 Clinton Avenue South.

**The Fundraiser will feature a D.J., Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Dinner and Bowling. Tickets \$20. Tickets will be available at St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, 402 South Avenue and South Wedge stores. Funds collected go to support the Dorothy Day House on South Avenue. For more information, e-mail [joesworkers@gmail.com](mailto:joesworkers@gmail.com).**

**Save the Date**  
**Dorothy Day House Fundraiser**  
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## Children Need to Play!

by Drew Beeman

Children have an inborn need to play. They will do it naturally. They will explore whatever they can get their little hands on. I am not talking about playing soccer, or a musical instrument, though that's not so bad. I am not talking about hurrying them from one "learning activity" to another, either. What I am talking about is child-lead, child-initiated free play. Studies have shown that children learn best through long periods of uninterrupted "free play." This is the kind of play you see them engage in when they are left to their own devices--using toys, props, and other materials to explore, experiment and pretend.

Hara Estroff Marano, editor-at-large for *Psychology Today*, wrote an incredible book entitled "A Nation of Wimps." In it she articulates the importance of play and explains the detrimental effect on children and society when it is hindered. She writes "...in the animal kingdom, play increases, rather than decreases, with increasing brain complexity. If play is more prominent in advanced species, could it be that play itself plays a major role in advancing the species?" She quotes neuroscientist Jaak Panksepp, who adds, "We need play to become fully human."

Children learn so much as they play. Their little brains are forming neural pathways through their experiences, as ideas become solidified through trial and error, experimentation, and exploration. As they repeat processes and build upon what they already know, those neural pathways survive the "pruning process" that naturally occurs in their brains and knowledge is retained, and solidified.

Some of the most important learning takes place in the prefrontal cortex of the brain; it has been identified to be the area where Executive Functioning skills develop. Executive Functioning skills are considered to be the key indicators of success in school and throughout life. Self-control, delaying gratification and resisting temptation, reasoning, focusing attention, problem solving, and cognitive flexibility are some of these skills.

A recent study by a team of researchers lead by Yuko Munakata



Children play at Progressive Early Learning booth Harvest Hootenanny (Photo by Drew Beeman)

at the University of Colorado and the University of Denver suggests that the greater amount of time children spend in self-initiated, self-lead, unstructured free play, the greater their Executive Functioning skills. The reverse is also true, more time spent in structured, adult initiated and adult lead play, the less children exhibit Executive Functioning skills.

As long as adults do not interfere or intrude in children's play, children will explore and experiment at their own direction and pace. Of course we need to be present to allow our children to feel safe and secure and to help facilitate their social interactions, but we can do that without intruding on their learning process. The adult's role in children's play should be that of an observer and occasional facilitator. We can provide stimulating materials and activities, and a stimulating learning environment, then step back and watch the magic happen. Dr. William Crain, professor of psychology at the City College of New York, called this idea an adult's "unobtrusive presence" in his book entitled "Reclaiming Childhood: Letting Children Be Children In Our Achievement-Oriented Society."

As our culture has become fast-paced, and over-scheduled, we should remember to stop and smell the roses and let our children do the same. We should make time for our children to simply be and to simply play. We should take a step back and take a breath and enjoy this wonderful time that is childhood.

Drew Beeman is founder of Progressive Learning. For more information about learning through play-, check out [www.ProgressiveEarlyLearning.com](http://www.ProgressiveEarlyLearning.com)

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## Jesse Knoth

*continued from pg. 3*

community looks at what skills it already has, what assets it has like churches and school.”

That fall NeighborWorks sent him to a Community Leadership Institute in Milwaukee, “I thought maybe this could be a career.”

From there Jesse turned his attention away from his major. He took a fundraising class and a public policy class taught by former Mayor Bill Johnson. He began an independent studies project with Dr. Howard and worked as a youth coordinator in “Bridge to Wellness,” a health initiative created by the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, at the Jordan Health Center. Now committed to a career in neighborhood development, Jesse worked with a local artist Alison Nichols to paint a mural on the exterior of R Community Bikes. He also worked with neighbors to paint a colorful fence around Sunshine Garden at Bernard and North Streets.

“It made the street more colorful, and I saw the impact on people. People would tell me what a difference it made.” When the grant that funded the program ended in October 2014, Jesse was out of a job.

“I saw the name SWPC and knew how they collaborated with Neighborhood Leadership Program with PathStone, so I was excited about working them it.”

After attending the NeighborWorks training, Jesse began an arts and crafts program for children at the Westside Farmers Market on Genesee Street.

“The kids would do crafts and get a snack from one of the vendors,” says Knoth. “It got them excited about the market, and the kids started dragging their parents with them so they could do the crafts.”

When he read that SWPC was looking for a community engagement specialist who would run the South Wedge Farmers Market, he jumped at the chance. Outside the office Jesse keeps his lifestyle sustainable. He bikes every day, even in winter, to the SWPC’s Mt. Hope Ave. office from the 19th Ward home he shares with his cat Franti.

In cold weather, Jesse heads to the ski slopes including an annual trip to Colorado. No matter the weather Jesse can be found on one of the area’s many disc golf courses. “It involves throwing Frisbees into baskets a few feet off the ground,” says Jesse. “I’d love to get an 18 hole course in Highland Park. It’s an amazing, inexpensive sport that anyone can play.”

Jesse’s also enjoys the local craft beer scene. (Tap & Mallet and now Stillwater Brewing Company are now South Wedge favorites.)

Jesse enjoys another activity that makes him the most beloved man in the room. During the holiday season, Jesse packs on the stuffing, puts on his “Grandpa’s old Santa suit from the 70s.” and “ho ho hoes” his way through Breakfasts with Santa at the Gantt Community Center. He also makes appearances at Marshall Street and Salinger’s bars.

To learn about ways you can get involved in the community, give Jesse a call at 256-1740 ext. 104, (cell) 210-9140 or email [jknoth@swpc.org](mailto:jknoth@swpc.org).

## Community Builders

*continued from pg. 3*

business services, while fostering community awareness and philanthropic support, to a growing array of nonprofit organizations that serve children and adults with disabilities® and special needs.

This unique idea, which turns 25 this year, raised more than a few eyebrows when it was first announced. Yet the simplicity – ask everyone in the community and ask for an amount that anyone can give – took hold.

In its first year, Al Sigl Community of Agencies received over 12,000 responses to its call for JustOne. Last year, the organization received that number in the first week, with nearly 1,000 envelopes received the very next day after being delivered to area homes. Many include handwritten thank-you notes expressing appreciation for being asked to give an amount that lets everyone get involved or remembering the help a friend or family member received from an

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Al Sigl’s mission of inclusion and collaboration. Funds raised through JustOne help Al Sigl provide service environments like classrooms, diagnostic testing suites, and therapy rooms as

well as shared spaces like pools, gymnasiums, and playgrounds adapted to meet the unique needs of the more than 50,000 children and adults of all abilities and their

*continued on pg. 9*

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Researchers hope to learn how varying amounts of carvedilol, including doses lower than typically prescribed, affect patients with mild high blood pressure.

**Qualified participants may receive up to \$200 for their time and effort.**

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about this study, contact Robin Stuart at: 585.341.7764 or email [Robin\\_Stuart@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Robin_Stuart@urmc.rochester.edu)



Heart & Vascular

## Star Tracks - Venus Love Signs

by Kimberly Wright

In honor of Valentine's Day, we hope this gives you special insight into understanding your lover! If you'd like to find out your Venus Sign, visit astrology.com for a free natal horoscope.

**Sun/Venus in Aries** have a very direct, aggressive, masculine, upfront approach to love. Aries can be quite self obsessed! They love to work out and are often amazing athletes. They are playful and flirtatious and very impulsive. Aries is the "hunter" of the zodiac and therefore loves the "chase". They'll sweep you off your feet with their incredible charisma. They love the opposite sex! In most cases, Venus in Aries are not known for having long-term relationships. Once the chase is over, and they feel they have "caught" their partner, they may become bored and begin chasing someone else. Once cupid's arrow's hits, they commit. And if you keep your spark of independence alive, they will never stray.

**Sun/Venus in Taurus** tend to be stable, loyal, solid partners. Material comfort and financial security are very important to them. For marriage, they need you to be on board with a solid paycheck, property and a 401K. Taurus revels in sensual pleasures, like cuddling, delicious food, fine wine, comfortable surroundings, etc.. Taurus natives are very earthy, sensual lovers who can spend many hours devoted to pleasing their loved one. Food, wine, music, candles, aromatic scents, dimmed lights will set the stage for a Dionysian dream any Taurus would revel in. Taurus is a fixed sign, so Venus in Taurus natives are often slow to commit, but when committed, they tend to "hold on" to their partners and will mate for life.

**Sun/Venus in Gemini** need variety and excitement in their relationships. Communication is paramount so intellectual stimulation is very important to them. They are incredibly charming and flirtatious and will wow you with their repertoire of knowledge. Venus in Gemini natives bore very easily and crave change so it is easy to get frustrated by their inattention. They are often prone to talking about their relationship endlessly. Communication is key with these individuals, as they

require intellectual stimulation to keep their interest. Supply them with the latest technology and they will love you to no end. No one can sext better than a Gemini! They love to experiment with new hairstyles and clothing, in keeping with their ever-changing nature.

Sun/Venus in Cancer will win you over with their caring, nurturing nature. Cancer rules the house of Emotions and the Home, so security and feelings are important to them. Cancer is a very intuitive sign, and will pay more attention to your feelings than your words and actions. They can be prone to mood swings in love and are turned off by anything impersonal. They are not afraid of confrontation and if you hurt them, they will have a difficult time forgetting this. Cancer is a rather insecure sign so partners must strive to make them feel secure and loved. When they deem you worthy of their love, they will defend you to their death.

**Sun/Venus in Leo** expect and require a lot of attention from their mates. Leo is the ruler of the house of Romance and Creativity. They are high-energy lovers, who thrive on excitement and passion in their relationships. They abhor unions that become impersonal, boring, or inactive in any way. These individuals don't like to separate love from sex, and require both in a relationship; sexless romantic relationships or loveless sexual relationships just won't do. Venus in Leo natives require loads of respect and appreciation from their mates. Partners must ensure they maintain the same amount of enthusiasm as their Leo mate displays towards them, as any hint of disinterest will send their Leo lover running!

**Sun/Venus in Virgo** can be very devoted and hard-working in relationships. Virgo rules the house of Work & Health so these natives have a desire to be of service to their mate. They will take note of everything so expect them to take care of the "business" of the relationship. Communication is key. Stop talking or listening and they WILL turn into a nagging bitch. They are turned-off by show-offs or boastful individuals. To please them you must be very well groomed, well dressed and keep the wild stuff behind closed doors. Carefully stroke their sensitive nature with poetry books, great talks, help in the garden or a trip abroad and they're yours.

Sun/Venus in Libra look for peace and harmony in their relationships. Libra rules the house of one-on-one relationships, so they are naturally relationship-oriented. They are kind, fair lovers who dislike brashness and aggression when it comes to expressions of love. Relationships are very important to these individuals and they truly despise being alone. Venus in Libra likes to share and has the uncanny ability to put themselves in their lovers' shoes. They are afraid of confrontation and dislike confrontational mates. They are very attractive to the opposite sex and know how to dress to attract a partner. They are usually very well-mannered, polite, well-spoken and socially-graceful. They need intellectual/social stimulation or they can become a worry-wort. They tend to mate for life.

**Sun/Venus in Scorpio** look for intensity in their relationships. Scorpio rules the house of Intimacy. They are very loyal partners who crave intimacy and dislike superficiality and game-playing in their relationships. They give their partner undivided attention and expect the same in return. They are intense, magnetic, adventurous partners. In love, Venus in Scorpio can be very obsessive, possessive, jealous, controlling, and suspicious of their mates. They have tremendous sex appeal and are not afraid of commitment. Once committed, they are extremely loyal. But if their partner strays, there will be no mercy. A Scorpio can forgive, eventually, but they never forget.

**Sun/Venus in Sagittarius** craves adventure and excitement in relationships. Sagittarius rules the house of Expansion, Travel, Beliefs, and Higher Learning. They are suffocated by routine and co-dependency in relationships which eclipses their roaming, restless nature. They are very friendly, open-minded and flirtatious and need a partner who can keep up with their need for variety, social engagements and love of travel. They are not fond of commitment, as they dislike feeling "boxed in". They need a partner who shares in their "belief" for a better life and wants to travel the world, in mind, body and spirit, to make it happen.

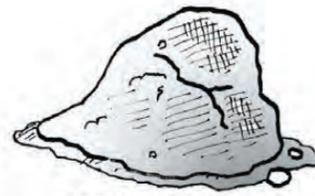
**Venus in Capricorn** craves stability and loyalty in love.

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ANGEL

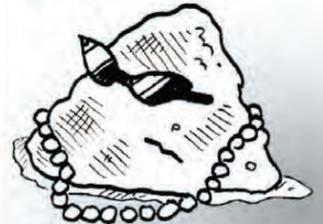


ANGEL'S TWIN



CHUCK

GLADYS



## The North Wedge by Justin Hubbell

Capricorn rules the house of Responsibility and Career. Naturally, they are attracted to successful, older partners (or if they are older, younger partners are attracted to them). They are slow to enter relationships, as they need to be 100% sure their mate is a loyal, responsible person they can trust before they make a commitment. Venus in Capricorn suffers from a strong fear of rejection, and is petrified of getting hurt. They also fear vulnerability, so outward displays of affection and emotion are not their cup of tea. Winning over a Venus in Capricorn individual requires patience and understanding, as well as reassurance. They tend to think long-term when it comes to relationships, so short-term flings are not favored with this placement. When they do commit, however, they are loyal, responsible mates. They show their love by doing things for you, rather than through words and physical displays of affection.

**Sun/Venus in Aquarius:** craves unconventional, unusual relationships. Aquarius rules the house of Friendships. Thus, they

generally make better friends than lovers and often become partners with a longtime friend. They dislike tradition, routine, and emotional displays in their relationships. They are often attracted to individuals of different cultural backgrounds and are fond of long-distance relationships. They also dislike restrictions and can appear aloof and uninterested to their partners. They require intellectual stimulation in their relationships and enjoy being recognized for their brilliant minds and uncanny intuition. They are often way ahead of the crowd with their insights and seductive humor. Being a fixed sign, Venus in Aquarius is quite loyal once they have made a commitment. They require low-maintenance, secure mates who give them the freedom to be with their friends.

**Sun/Venus in Pisces:** is capable of unconditional love. Pisces rules the house of Mystery and Dreams. As a result, they are usually very idealistic about their relationships and have difficulty

*continued on pg. 10*

### Jennifer Baldwin

*continued from pg. 2*

Management.

Jennifer did her share of renovating classrooms and halls, but her personal favorite was renovating the Frat quad.

"I was super excited about it," said Jennifer. "It was a very residential scale. The frat included six brick buildings, built in the 1930s. We renovated the first floors [of each], upgrading, adding kitchens and baths."

When she saw the SWPC job posting, she quickly applied. Part of SWPC's mission is to rehab houses and sell them to income-eligible new homeowners and aid current homeowners to make necessary repairs. Over the last five years, SWPC has completed projects on at least 100 houses.

As constructions manager, Jennifer will inspect houses, write up lists of jobs requirements, oversee the bidding process and ensure the best contractors are selected for the project and finally "push the schedule" to make sure the required work is done.

Jennifer will also work closely with the City of Rochester and Greater Rochester Housing Partnership in improving the housing stock in the city.

Jennifer is looking forward to her new job in the South Wedge. While at RIT, she lived in the Monroe Avenue area. "I was always drawn to the South Wedge. It had a fun vibe. I'd drive through over the years and enjoyed the changes. I love the restaurants."



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# Talking with My Mouth Full- Dragon Sweetie Cafe

by Nathaniel Mich

The smell of fresh-baked bread, dear reader. Nothing beats it. It is, delightfully, the first thing that greets you upon entering Dragon Sweetie Bakery Café, followed only a moment later by a smiling and cheerful welcome from the owner, Yuting “Tina” Yuan.

Dragon Sweetie opened just a few months ago, in the space formerly occupied by Tango Café. While still clearly growing into its space, I can tell you, as someone who still pines for the days of long-gone Rudy’s Bakery, it feels so good to have a bread bakery in the Wedge again.

In order, I imagine, to keep the clouds of flour at bay, the once open floor plan of Tango Café has been divided by a partial wall behind the retail counter. Adorned with a chalk illustration of Dragon Sweetie’s logo, it makes the shop part of the bakery feel cozier (as of this writing, they were waiting a few more pieces of seating furniture to complete the effect). The mess of the production side was hidden behind the wall, though the stacks of fifty-pound flour bags beside the display case are a reminder that real work is happening here.

Dragon Sweetie offers about a dozen different items: the racks along one wall showcased a few kinds of bread, cookies, scones and several kinds of filled croissants, while the glass display case had slices of cake, individual tarts and other delicate frosted confections. Disposable plates,



brown paper bags and pizza slice boxes allow you to pick your self-serve weapon of choice. A tureen of butternut squash soup rounded out the ensemble – by the time of publication, there will be a lunch special menu with more soups and paninis as well (I’m assuming/hoping they’ll be on house-made bread). And so my mother and I ambled in for a pastry brunch on a bizarrely sunny January afternoon and picked out half a dozen goodies to sample.

Let’s start with the croissants, which appeared to be second only to the tiny frosted tree stumps in Yuan’s lavishing of attention. We picked out red bean, almond and chocolate. The pastry portion of all three were consistently quite good. The croissants had a satisfyingly flaky and shattering exterior that yielded to a tender, layered inside. Mild in flavor, they were still buttery and rich enough to feel decadent. While the fillings were delicious – both the red bean paste and the marzipan are housemade –

we agreed that there was just not enough of them. In the case of the almond croissant in particular, it was just a tiny morsel tucked inside the layers. Of the three, the red bean croissant was my favorite. With a scattering of black sesame seeds clinging to its egg wash, I enjoyed both its novelty and the interplay of flavors – the earthy sweetness of the red beans wove neatly with the butter and wheat.

Next in our pizza slice box of treats was the ginger scone. About five inches in diameter and over an inch thick, this was a hefty pastry,

but yielded a delicate flavor. I loved the fragrance, and the tidbits of crystallized ginger scattered throughout. The next item – the chocolate chip cookie – was my favorite overall. Now, I know that everyone has their own idea of the perfect chocolate chip cookie, but this really hit my sweet spot. Just crisp and crunchy enough around the edge, the center was smooth and tender and buttery, piled high with chocolate chips. I could have eaten a great deal more of those cookies. A chocolate raspberry tart – dark chocolate custard in a crisp shortbread crust, drizzled with raspberry preserves and a sprinkling of white chocolate – was a decadent coda to the outing.

Leaving with a still-warm loaf of five-grain bread under my arm, my blood sugar elevated several degrees and the sun still shining, I will say this in closing: Dragon Sweetie has totally charmed me, and I look forward to future visits.

## Community Builders

*continued from pg. 7*

families served by Al Sigl’s six independent Member Agencies each year.

Please watch for your blue JustOne envelope in the mail or donate online at [www.alsigl.org/justone](http://www.alsigl.org/justone). Envelopes will also be available at locations throughout Rochester, including area Wendy’s Restaurants. To follow this year’s campaign on social media, please visit [www.facebook.com/alsiglcommunity](http://www.facebook.com/alsiglcommunity) or @alsiglcommunity on Twitter and share how just one act of kindness, or just one dollar, can make a difference in our community.

Also, please mark your calendars to join the Al Sigl Council on Wednesday, February 25th at Ox and Stone for JustOne Night. From 5:30 P.M. - 7:30 P.M., ten celebrity bartenders will compete for tips to help raise funds and celebrate 25 years of JustOne. Please visit [alsigl.org](http://alsigl.org) to learn more.

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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 [www.literacyrochester.org](http://www.literacyrochester.org) for up-to-date information. Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, Inc, 1600 South Avenue, 473-3030.

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## In Memoriam - Felicia "Bo" Clark

### June 3, 1932- December 12, 2014



by Nancy O'Donnell

Those describing Felicia "Bo" Clark's very full life can leaf through a list of titles: girl scout, community organizer, volunteer extraordinaire, animal advocate, special education teacher, nonprofit board member, real estate agent, housing grants specialist, good friend, wife and mother and grandmother.

Long-time friend Cathy Martin first met Bo bounding up the steps into the SWPC (South Wedge Planning Committee) office. "She'd left her chocolate lab in the car. and when she came upstairs she saw mine and for a minute she thought her dog had gotten out of the car."

The pair bonded over their Labs and remained friends until Bo's death.

"She was a fascinating person to talk to because she had so many stories. She loved to talk about dogs. She loved the South Wedge. She loved its mix of people. She loved its welcoming community, and she practiced it [herself]. She rented an apartment to the Lost Boys of Sudan in the late 1990s."

Over the years, Bo lived with her husband, James, in a variety of neighborhoods-- the Azalea Neighborhood, Pittsford, but she always considered herself 100% South Wedge.

"She hated Pittsford," said Martin. "She'd say, 'I'd be driving down Gregory Street and say, 'I'm home.'"

After her husband died, and her children finished school, she moved back to Gregory Street and later Pinnacle Place where she discovered her old friend Cathy Martin also lived.

Bo graduated from East High School and attending Hiram College in Ohio. In 1954 she earned a B.A. in Art/Art Studies. Later, she earned a M.A. in Special Education to teach for a time at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Henrietta. From teaching she began a new career working for Prudential Real Estate from 1991-2003, and later worked with the Girl Scouts of Western New York

Bo was a committee and board member for a number of organizations. In fact, she often was out two or three nights a week going to board meetings. She began working with the South Wedge

Planning Committee in 1998.

She served on the board of the Delphi Chemical Dependency Treatment Center, the Jewish Federation and the Eastern Star. She was a lifetime Girl Scout and also volunteered for Altrusa International, Inc., a humanitarian organization. She was a long time advocate for people with special needs and a member of Grace Community.

Several years ago she applied and was accepted for a two-year position in Americorp.

One of Bo's greatest pleasures in life was travel. She travelled to Ireland and camped around the U.S. One trip she never stopped talking about a trip to Israel with Bishop Clark.

"She said she was a little Scotch, a little Jewish," so she was very excited about travelling to Israel," said Martin.

Her interests were many. She loved to cook, and she became famous for her rum balls and cheesecake. Her LinkedIn page

lists a few more: reading, counted cross stitch and knitting.

She was a long time parishioner at Christ Church Episcopal. On Christmas 2013, before a stroke in 2013 limited her activities, she went Christmas caroling with friends at Christ Church.

She only stopped driving her car when she was 80 years old.

Despite her last physical limitations, they never diminished her love for great conversations and her newest dog, "Sur," short for "Surrender."

A year later another stroke led to her move to the Episcopal Home on Mt. Hope Avenue. Because her parents were involved in running the home, and she herself volunteered there, she "felt she was going home," said Martin

Bo is survived by her two sons, Jamie and William, and four grandchildren and a host of good friends who remember her with love. A memorial service is being planned for later in Spring.

## Star Tracks

*continued from pg. 10*

setting boundaries between themselves and others. They can generally find something they like about every person they meet and tend to see the best in people. It is easy for them to fall in love with a romanticized version of a person rather than their actual self. This can lead to choosing partners that are not good for them, who use them and take advantage of their compassionate nature. Instead of acknowledging this, Venus in Pisces makes excuses for their mates' faults in order to keep the dream alive and as a result, Pisces natives may find themselves in abusive relationships, love triangles, and the like. They also may even choose partners who have serious problems

(i.e. mental health issues, addicts, etc.) with the goal of "saving" that person, as they are willing to sacrifice their own happiness to be of help to others. Venus in Pisces has an idealistic view of relationships and love in general, and is on a constant search for their soul mate. They daydream about their ideal mate, and the kind of relationship they envision is other-worldly. Venus in Pisces natives are attracted to the unattainable. Their best traits are their ability to woo their lover through poetry, art, dance and music; in an intoxicating whirlwind of fantasy and love.

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## Stillwater Brewing Company Open for Pouring on Mt. Hope

by Nancy O'Donnell

Brewer Andy Cook has been waiting for this day for two years. He opened his doors to a long line of neighbors and beer lovers (and several brewers) from all over Rochester to line up to the 67-foot long black walnut bar he built from wood from the woods near his father's 2,000 head dairy farm, Aurora Ridge Dairy. Two days after he had emptied two tanks of beer.

The whole enterprise has been one of collaboration from Cook's friend Chris Perri to brother Luke and wife Eileen. Eileen comes straight from her teaching job to help behind the bar. Another friend Patrick Meehan helps with brewing and bartending.

"I saved a ton of money because everyone helped out. [Friends] sanded, dry walled and painted."

"Everyone has been really supportive," said Cook. "Joe McBane from Tap & Mallet, Roc City Brewing.

"I'm super excited. The response has been really positive and people are really enjoying it."

Behind the bar are the stainless steel fermenting tanks where Cook and helpers brew some 217 gallon batch early each week. "I'm usually working from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. It's a lot like cooking.

A sampler of Stillwater's delicious brews, offered the first week of operation, included Dark Porter, "Saison," described spicy boozy Belgium, a IPA with its bitter, citrus flavor and Thai PA, "super flavorful" with Thai chilies that imparts a unique Thai basil chicken flavor. Each come nestled in a wooden flight board made from



scraps of lumber. When a favorite is found, a 12-oz. pint is the next step. All of these brews can be taken home in 64-oz. growlers. But, Cook is planning to "change it up."

"Everything will change when we're done," Cook said. "We're not afraid to switch it up."

Brother Luke Cook, a computer science student at RIT, is helping out behind the bar when it gets slammed when it opens at 4 p.m. He explains how Stillwater aims for sustainability and currently sends the spent grain mash or "tun," not to a landfill but to Silver Creek Farms in Pittsford which feed it to their stock.

O'Begley's whiskey is also on the menu.

Cook plans to add a kitchen, but not your typical pub grub—fried chicken wings need not apply.

Most likely he'll stock cheese plates from his father's dairy or his friend's Keeley Cheese from Kings Ferry. In the meantime visitors are welcome to bring food or order takeout while they're downing a few draughts.

378 Mt. Hope Avenue, Wed., Thursday, Fridays and Sundays 4-11 p.m. Saturdays noon -11 p.m.

## Meet the Musicians



Artists performing in the 2015 series include: Harold Pannell & Friends, Patricia Sunwoo & David Brickman, The Charlie Mitchell Group, and the Amenda Quartet

The Highland Park Neighborhood Association and the South Wedge Mission are pleased to announce the 2015 series of "Meet the Musicians" concerts. This series consists of four very special evenings with music, great acoustics and musicians conversing about their art. The program includes two concerts with Jazz and two with Classical Music.

All four concerts are at the South Wedge Mission at 125 Caroline Street and scheduled for a Saturday evening at 7:00 pm. Each event is an opportunity to enjoy a performance and also, in the words of series Classical programmer, David Brickman: "a chat about music in a comfortable, informal and intimate environment".

"Meet the Musicians" concerts are free with donations appreciated but entirely optional. Each evening's social time will include refreshments at intermission.

Major funding is provided by the supporting members of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association and also via the Neighborhood Spirit Award for 2014 that was part of the Rochester Regional Health System's Flower City Challenge. Other funds and assistance are contributed by the South Wedge Mission.

For more information contact Michael Tomb: arts@highlandparkrochester.org or look for updates on each event at highlandparkrochester.org.

### Concert Schedule

- February 21, Harold Pannell and Friends present an Evening of Jazz.
- March 14, 2015 Jazz from the Charlie Mitchell Group
- March 28, 2015 Violin Duo Patricia Sunwoo & David Brickman
- April 25, 2015 The Return of the Amenda Quartet

### Rochester Civic Spring Garden Symposium - March 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

The RCG Annual Spring Garden Symposium, will be held at the Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Avenue on March 7. Featured speaker **Roy Diblik**, author of *The Know Maintenance Perennial Garden*, is recognized as a perennial plant expert, grower, designer and speaker, specializing in highly aesthetic, sustainable plant communities for all seasons. He is well-known as the plantsman behind Piet Oudolf's midwestern garden designs, including the Lurie Garden at the Millennium Park in Chicago; other

noteworthy projects include the contemporary perennial gardens at the Chicago Art Institute and the Shedd Aquarium. *Perennial Plant Communities - The Know Maintenance Approach*: In this lecture Roy explains how to create gardens that are both strikingly beautiful and easy to care for. Roy will concentrate on specific plants in detail, discussing the reasons for using them and how they relate to each other and your site. **Cass Turnbull** is the founder and president of Plant Amnesty, a 1000-member nonprofit

organization whose purpose is to "end the senseless torture and mutilation of trees and shrubs caused by mal-pruning." Her principles are clearly and entertainingly explained in her book, *Cass Turnbull's Guide to Pruning: What, When, Where, and How to Prune for a More Beautiful Garden. How to Prune and Renovate the Overgrown Garden*:

Ticket allows all-day access to the Memorial Art Gallery exhibits. Members \$48, non-members \$58. Call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.



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## Roch. Community Acupuncture Celebrates Sixth Anniversary

by Nancy O'Donnell

Rochester Community Acupuncture Clinic (RCAC) owners Janeane Munn and Angela Pauling celebrated their sixth anniversary and expanded location at Village Gate.

When they first opened in the South Wedge, RCAC was especially unique in the area. The owners modeled their business on Working Class Acupuncture in Portland Oregon, a clinic providing low cost quality services for the community with the goal of making

“acupuncture accessible to Everyone” and provide health care that empowers patients builds community and breaks down class divisions.”

Today RCAC still offers treatments on a sliding scale (\$15-\$35) after an initial \$25 intake treatment.

302 N. Goodman Street, Suite 403, 287-5183 Appointments can be made online at [www.ercommunityacupuncture.com](http://www.ercommunityacupuncture.com)



Buddhahood celebrates the life and good times of Tony Cavagnaro (Photo by Jesse Noth)

## Buddhahood Heats Up the South Wedge at January Thaw

Celebrating the life music and birthday of the late Tony Cavagnaro, January Thaw was held on January 24 at the Historic German House. The evening started out with singer-musicians Teresa Wilcox and Nate Coffey and then roared into life with a Buddhahood conga line.

They were joined on stage by a procession of musician, including Tony's young son Calvin. All proceeds from the annual tribute to the former bandmember go to a scholarship fund at the Hochstein School of Music and Dance.

--Jesse Knoth

## Highland Library February Events for Kids & Adults

### Storytime Thursdays

February 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 10:30 AM.

Join Miss Sarah for stories, rhymes, songs and more! Recommended for children ages 1-3 years old. Siblings are welcome!

### Cardio for Kids

Friday February 6 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM.

Join Miss Lani from StudioMove for a special cardio

lass for kids! This will be tough but fun, so get ready to work! Due to space restrictions, there is a limit of 15 children for this program. Please call 428-8206 to register.

### Fitness Friday,

February 13 at 3:00 PM.

Be active at the library with fun fitness challenges. Registration not required.

### Yoga for Kids

Friday, February 27 from 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

Join Miss Nora from Flower City Yoga for a special yoga class for kids. Relax and stretch after a long day. Due to space restrictions, there is a limit of 15 children for this program. Please call 428-8206 to register.

### Book Sale

Monday, February 2 and Tuesday, February 3

Stop in to see our monthly book sale. All books are 25 cents each. CDs and DVDs are \$1.00 each and magazines are 10 cents each. We have a range of Adult, Young Adult and Children's books.

### Healthcare Navigator

Thursday, February 12 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

A certified Application Counselor will be available to assist you in enrolling for health insurance through the New

York State of Health Exchange (Affordable Care Act). Please be sure to bring photo ID, the previous year's tax return and the social security numbers and dates of birth for all members in your family that are enrolling. Please note: this is on a first come first serve basis.

### Pinterest for Beginners

Friday, February 13, Noon to 1:00 PM

Interested in learning about the visual board website Pinterest.com? This class will teach you how to create boards, find items and send boards to friends. Participants are required to have a valid email account. Please note: this class takes place during closed library hours. Only registered participants will be allowed to enter into the building. To register, please call, 428-8206.

### Adult Book Group

Wednesday, February 25, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Join us in a discussion of *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. A young man born of Indian parents in America struggles with issues of identity from his teens to his thirties. Registration is required, please call (585) 428-8206 or stop in to register.

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## SWPC TRAFFIC SAFETY MEETING UPDATES

by Lisa Reagan

Some thirty residents gathered for the third South Wedge Planning Committee's (SWPC) Traffic Safety Meeting in December, sponsored by City Councilman Adam McFadden, to focus on their ongoing concerns regarding heavy trucks and buses, speeding cars and aggressive drivers cutting through residential streets between Mt. Hope and South Avenues.

John Borek, McFadden's legislative aide, represented the Councilmember at the meeting moderated by Judy Bennett, a member of the SWPC Community Engagement Committee.

Borek applauded this "important initiative of neighbor involvement." He described the process as a laboratory for solutions to problems such as traffic safety that affect the City as a whole.

Erik Frisch, City traffic transportation specialist in the Architecture & Engineering Bureau, reported good news and bad news in response to the neighborhood's concerns. The City did work with Monroe County traffic engineers, who also act as the City's traffic engineers, to study the neighborhoods' requests for traffic safety tools including weight limits, crosswalks and stop signs. Frisch said weight limits are generally applied when there is a structural issue or the street is an isolated cut-through. He said that the traffic load studies conducted during a four-day period in April/May 2014 did not support weight limits on any of the streets besides possibly Linden Street, where there is a structural issue. In addition, weight limits would leave only two options, Alexander and Gregory, for truck traffic. The City does not have a weight limit policy at this time. In the interim, the City uses its commercial traffic routing plan,

to be developed in the next few years, to address truck traffic flows.

However, on January 6, Frisch notified the SWPC's Community Engagement Committee that the City approved weight limits for Linden and Sanford streets, and new signs should be installed by mid-February. Frisch added that "exceptions were made for these two streets due to structural concerns with the pavement sub-base that are being exacerbated by the presence of large vehicles." However, if and when these streets are reconstructed, it is possible that these weight limits would be removed.

During the meeting Frisch announced that the request for a stop sign at Hickory and Averill and for a crosswalk at Averill and Ashland were denied, but a crosswalk at Hickory and Ashland was approved.

Several streets have presented petitions for a reduction in the speed limit to 25 MPH in specific areas. Petitions with the signatures of 60 % of the properties were submitted for Hickory and Linden Streets at the meeting, with a petition to follow from Averill Street. Other streets in the area are in the process of collecting signatures. Speed reduction to 25 MPH has been used effectively in Irondequoit and Brighton, but it has not yet been tried in the City of Rochester. There is currently an effort to change the statewide speed limit as well.

Officer Millspaugh, of the RPD's Traffic Enforcement Unit, reported that there were 150 tickets issued on Mt. Hope Avenue in November alone. He indicated that RPD traffic enforcement will monitor the streets that change to 25 MPH. There are currently six cars in the Traffic Unit for the entire City.

A representative from the Episcopal Senior Life Community spoke of the challenges for residents and staff of entering and exiting their facility by car or walking. Crossing Mt. Hope Avenue at both Cypress and Ford Street crosswalks is dangerous, and the lights are not long enough to enable safe crossing for the elderly.

Jim Pond, a Monroe County Traffic Engineer, explained that pedestrians are supposed to cross when the walk light blinks while the flashing "don't walk" indicates that a person should continue crossing but not start to cross. He said studies show that a person should have had plenty of time to cross by the time the static "don't walk" signal shows. This was followed by a discussion of the difficulty of crossing Ford Street at Mt. Hope because of the yield lane at Mt.

Hope combined with the right-angled at Wilson Blvd. That is treated by cars as a right-with-no-stopping. Mr. Pond said that cars should be stopping for pedestrians using the crosswalk in the yield lane, but they don't necessarily stop if you are on the curb and not yet crossing. The trick is to start crossing when there is a break in the traffic, which happens infrequently during certain periods of the day. This provoked some consternation for the residents attending.

South East Service Center Administrator Nancy Johns-Price reported on the Voice of the Citizen Project's traffic calming "demonstrations" staged by adult-sized green plush "Traffic Calming Turtles" named Moe and Flo, as well as traffic education initiatives. Price also confirmed that two speed monitors were purchased with the

grant for use in the South East Quadrant and that the monitors would still be available to the South Wedge even after the RPD reorganizes in the coming months.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the group emphasized that the City representatives need to let City Council, the Mayor, and the Rochester Police Department know that traffic enforcement is needed in the area to make the new safety tools effective for the neighborhood.

For more information about SWPC Community Engagement Committee, please contact Judy Bennett at judybennett@frontier.com

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## May the Pride Be with You!

Christopher Hennelly, co-chair of Rochester Pride, announced the theme for this year is Sci-Fi Pride with the slogan, "May the pride be with you."

"It takes well over 200 volunteers and at least seven months to pull together Rochester Pride Week," says Hennelly.

"We always need help. Over the months, working

to bring this great event together, volunteers get a greater sense of commitment to their community and the well-being of their brothers and sisters in the LGBT community as well as our straight ally friends."

To volunteer, go on online to [gayalliance.org](http://gayalliance.org) and click on "Volunteer" or call Tristan Wright at the Gay Alliance 244-8640.

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# Wedge January



*Al Cabral and Ann Duckett of Little Bleu Cheese Shop*



*Sean, Violet, Christine O'Connor*

**All photos by Nancy O'Donnell**



*Star Tracks Columnist Kimberly Wright and Lennon Wilton*



*Phillip Borrelli, Becca Webb, Andria Borrelli and Gary Loitsch*



*SWPC board member Amanda Conner and Christine*



*Drew Beeman of Progressive Early Learning Center*



*SWPC Executive Director John Page and Paul Minor*



*Dianna Webb, RCN, and Kim Webb from Kim Webb Grooming Salon*



*Madelyn Kerber and Jennifer Posey of Hedonist Artisan Chocolates*



*Kim Niethe and SWPC Board Chair Jim Papapanu*



*Nicole Inzana, PathStone Senior Vice-President, Monica McCullough, Tom Kicior and SWPC member Mark Greisberger*



*Curtiss and Tonja McNair of HeadzUp Hats*



*Monroe County Legislator Josh Bauroth and Alex White of Boldo's Armory on Monroe Avenue*



*SWPC Chair Jim Papapanu, Ben McDonald and*

# Me In ary 24



Ann and Felton Culbreath, co-managers of the SWPC's South Wedge Victory Garden



Judy Bennett and Jayne Morgan



Christine Conner



Stratis Christakis and Community Engagement Committee board member Judy Bennett



Eric Zukauskas, photographer Michael Lill, Christopher Hennelly of the Christopher Group and Nathaniel Mich



Shaggy to Chic Pet



Nancy Johns-Prices, administrator for the City of Rochester Southeast Neighborhood Service Center



New SWPC Member Lisa Scheuermann



President of Housing and SWPC Co Treasurer



Nicole de Viere of Yoga Drish Ti and poet Ryan Cornwall



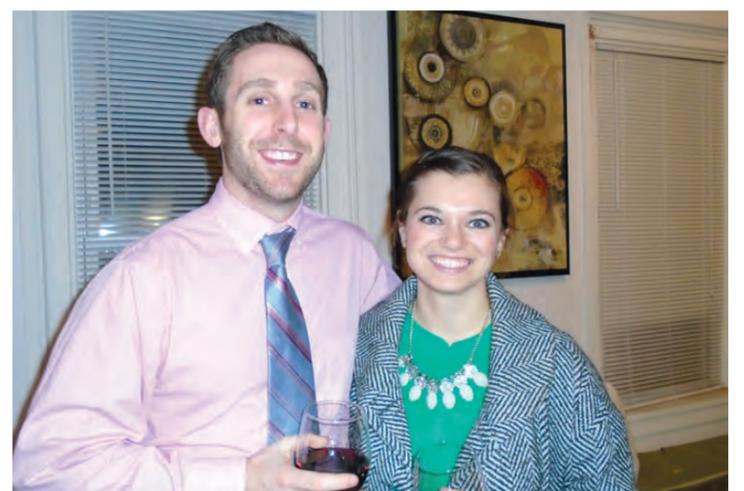
Wedge Talking with My Mouth Full Food columnist Nathaniel Mich and Lynnette Robinson, NeighborWorks



and Ulp



Rev. Matthew Martin Nickoloff of South Wedge Mission, Kristine and Marvin Mich



Mark Greisberger and Nicole Inzana

## Think Spring! Sign up for Rochester Civic Garden Events

All events are held at Rochester Civic Garden Center, Warner Castle, 5 Castle Park unless noted. For more info, call 473-5130.

**Saturday, February 14:** RCGC 4th Annual Book Sale, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Stock up on gardening books and enjoy refreshments and conversation with other gardeners and book lovers. The Library will be open for browsing and borrowing. Gently used and vintage gardening books at bargain prices, free seed catalogs, free back issues of magazines. Open to the public.

**Wednesday, February 18:** Perfect Paperwhites, 1:30-3 p.m., Rochester Civic Garden Center. Has your experience with growing paperwhites been a "flop"? In this workshop with designer Christine Froehlich you will plant paperwhite narcissus bulbs in an attractive glass container embellished with flowering branches to take home (think Williams-Sonoma), along with lots of information on how to successfully grow them for an upstanding, fragrant and beautiful harbinger of spring. All materials included. Members \$25, non-members \$30. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Thursday, February 19:** Rochester Civic Gardener's Certificate, Rochester Civic Garden Center. Basic training for gardeners of all experience levels. Six classes

**Thursday, February 19:** Botany for Gardeners – The Green Plant, 6-9 p.m., Rochester Civic Garden Center. This lively, informative class is designed for students new to botany as well as those desiring a refresher course. Topics to be covered include the structure and function of stems, leaves and roots; photosynthesis and growth; and plant adaptations to different conditions. Members \$40, non-members \$50. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Monday, February 23:** Terrarium Workshop, 6:30-8 p.m., Transform an ordinary glass container into a beautiful living accent for your home in this class with Joe Gallea, co-owner of Gallea's Tropical Greenhouse and Florist. Bring a glass container to class (or purchase one from an assortment available that night at Gallea's). Materials provided include 3 plants, the planting media, and decorative stone. There will be a special discount on the night of the class if you'd like to purchase additional materials for your terrarium. Class takes place at Gallea's, 2832 Clover Street, Pittsford (corner of Clover and Jefferson Rd.). Fee \$35. Preregistration required, call 473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Tuesday, February 24:** Propagating Woody Plants, 6-9 pm,



Wedgepoint - View from Byron Street and Clinton Ave  
Conceptual Rendering



## Wedgepoint Apartments at Byron and Clinton Avenue

Rochester Civic Garden Center. Instructor Ted Hildebrant is owner of Coldwater Pond Nursery, a wholesale nursery in Phelps specializing in the propagation and growing of woody ornamentals for gardeners, collectors, landscapers and nursery/garden centers in central and western NY. A component of the Plant Propagation Certificate series, but class may be taken separately if space allows. Members \$32, non-members \$42. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Thursday, March 5: Soils,** 6-9 pm, Rochester Civic Garden Center. The first requirement for

a great garden is good soil. Andy Joss, former head gardener at the George Eastman House, will lead you through the basics, including soil types, chemical composition, common soil problems, soil amendments, etc. Bring a pint of soil from your yard and learn to test it yourself for soil texture and pH. Members \$36, non-members \$46. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

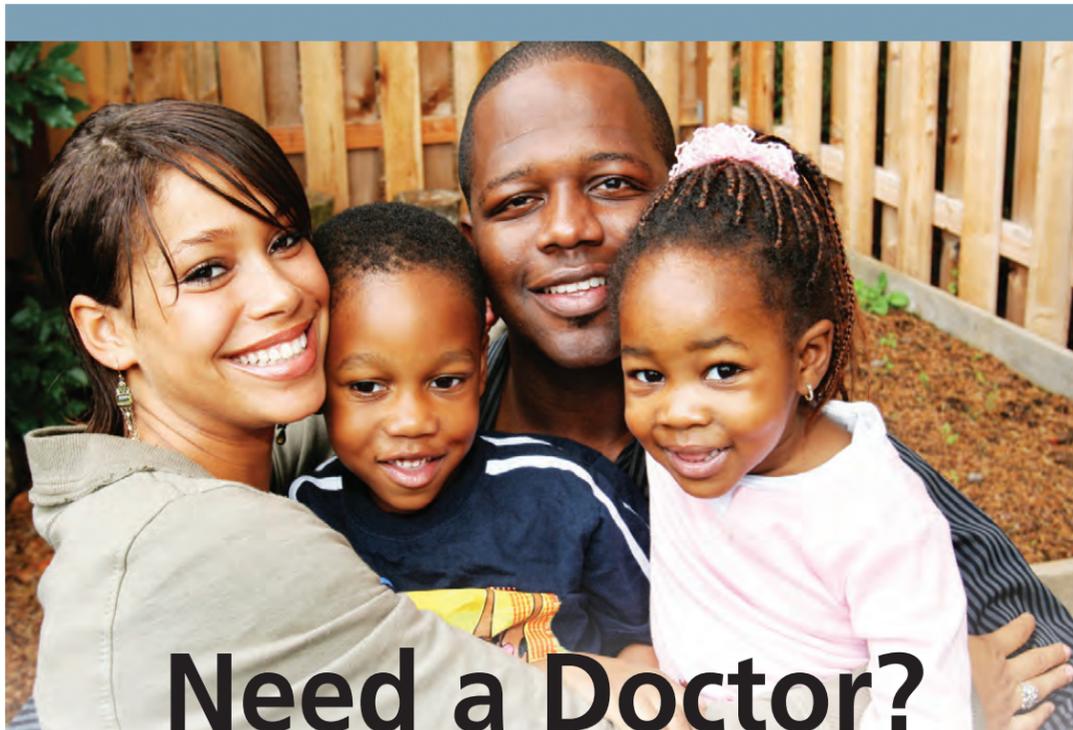
**Tuesday, March 10:** Starting from Seed, 6-8:30 pm, Megan Meyer, of 'Gardens Through the Seasons' garden design and maintenance, will cover the techniques for sowing annual, perennial and vegetable seeds, the merits of buying seed versus collecting your own, timing for indoor and outdoor plantings, and indoor seed-starting setups. Hands-on experience in preparing and planting seeds will be included. Members \$25, non-members \$35. Preregistration required, call 473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Tuesday, March 10:** Hypertufa Workshop, 6:30-8 pm, Rochester Civic Garden Center. Pat McCullough and Dee Marsh will guide you in creating a hypertufa planter in this hands-on class.

Hypertufa is a wonderful medium for planters of all sizes and shapes - you'll learn the basic techniques to create a great addition to your garden, limited only by your imagination. All materials are included; bring rubber gloves such as dishwashing gloves to class. Class takes place at Gallea's, 2832 Clover Street, Pittsford NY 14534 (corner of Clover and Jefferson Rd). Fee \$45. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

**Tuesday, March 12: Herbaceous Perennials,** 6-8:30 p.m., Marcella Klein, landscape designer and author of Rochester's Favorite Perennials, will give you an in-depth look at the best perennials for home landscapes in upstate New York. Class will include a slide presentation of recommended perennials, discussion of planting and maintenance techniques, handouts, and a bibliography. Members \$30, non-members \$40. Preregistration required, call 585/473-5130 or visit rcgc.org.

To learn more about March classes, contact Rochester Civic Garden.



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