

- Music Review - The Fragile Fate's "Lilliam Ocean"
- Parents Crazy for School #12
- Holiday Wines for your table
- Our Life Together after Trump's election
- Food Review Tips a Cup at Mad Hatter's Cafe
- Rochester People's Climate making a difference and so much more...



Image © 2016 Michael Tomb. From the series "House of Glass". More images available at Lamberton Conservatory and at Studio Michaelino 137 East Avenue, Suite 203. See studiomichaelino.com for more information

Students Help in Imaging Rochester 4.0 City Plan & the Future

Glynis Valenti

Solar towers? Water parks? Utilizing the Genesee River? Students at Francis Parker School 23, 170 Barrington St. are imagining a Rochester 100 years in the future.

As part of the Rochester City School District's Extended Learning program, this Future Cities elective class meets every morning for imagining, discussing and building



School 23 students discuss solar panel scenarios for a future Rochester. From left, Marlie, 11, Gregory Kunzer, teacher, Mima, 11, Roger Brown, from the CDCR, and John, 10.

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

their vision in conjunction with the "Rochester 4.0 Our Neighborhoods Our Future" comprehensive plan process. The students are also preparing for competition against nearly 100 other students from 12 other Rochester schools on January 9 for a place at the regional show in February.

Future Cities is a national program for fifth through eighth grades that presents issues in sustainability for students to solve. This year's topic is "The Power of Public Spaces," but past years' competitions have addressed urban agriculture and green energy, for example. Students are required to build virtual city designs from software developed by National Geographic as well as build physical scale models, write a 1500 word essay and present the plan to

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judges at the competition. Students learn about engineering and city planning as they brainstorm ideas, research the options and determine the feasibility of solutions. The final project has to be unanimous, according to program advisor and fifth grade teacher Gregory Kunzer, so students are honing their debating skills and building a team through the process.

"Since the topic is about public spaces, this group really wants to focus on a healthier environment," Kunzer adds. "That includes looking at air pollution and energy solutions."

A design and planning professional is assigned to each team to assist with technical information. Roger Brown, of the Community Design Center of Rochester, is this team's mentor and is helping them with plans for a segment of Rochester's riverfront. Student discussion has included the pros and cons of using the river as a power source and installing moveable solar panels on downtown rooftops.

"They're learning about sustainability," says Brown. "But they're also learning that they can be involved in

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SWPC & SEAC Invite Community to Join in Building a Better Rochester in 2017

Jesse Knoth

The South Wedge Planning Committee and the South East Area Coalition are preparing for the New Year with two community meetings and inviting the community to learn what they can do and how they can help build better communities in the new year.

On Thursday, January 12, SEAC will be hosting an Open

House for neighborhood groups at 6 p.m. Then on January 27 SWPC invites the community to its annual meeting, Wedge Me In. Both gatherings will be held at 224 Mt. Hope Ave and Hamilton Street.

SEAC has been working for some time to re-establish itself as the go-to agency for southeast Rochester neighborhoods and

continued on pg. 7



Save the Date!

Jan. 27, 2017
6 - 9 p.m.

Meet & Greet SWPC Boardmembers

Learn Ways You Can Help the Community

Win Cool Stuff in a Wedge Me In Raffle!

Brief Membership Meeting followed by food & drinks
224 Mt. Hope Avenue

The Wedge Gets Read!



Flash your Wedge Card

Join SWPC today, and you get a Wedge Card to show your neighborhood pride and get discounts when you shop local! You can use the card at your favorite local business, and the list of participating businesses keeps growing! Using the card is simple, and you can always check the inside cover of *The Wedge* for up-to-date listings of local business who participate

In addition, Wedge Card

members receive the *Wedge Newspaper* delivered to their door. The Wedge Card also gives you voting rights at our Annual Meeting. To sign up, simply complete the card below, visit SWPC at 224 Mt. Hope Avenue or contact Jesse Knoth, jknoth@swpc.com, 256-1740 x 104 with any questions. Are you a business owner interested in participating in the Wedge Card discount program? Let us know!

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473 South Avenue,

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The Wedge Newspaper
585.256-1740, ext. 105 or 978.9638.
Fax 585.256.1497
E-mail staff, type first initial and
last name@swpc.org

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

SWPC 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.

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.

Printed bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December), The Wedge has a circulation of 5300. The newspaper is distributed to area businesses, retail shops and other drop-off points in the Southeast and Greater Rochester area.

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 585.256.1740, ext. 105 or 585.978.9638.

South Wedge Planning Committee, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620, (585) 256-1740
Before recycling the Wedge, please share with others.



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The South East Area Coalition Needs You!

We are looking for new board members and want to know, are you interested? SEAC serves Rochester's southeast quadrant. Our main purpose is to participate in the City's Owner-Occupant Rehabilitation Program. Through this program, SEAC works with income-qualified home owners to address major repair needs. We find financial assistance to help pay for the repairs, and we act as project managers to ensure that the repairs are completed properly. We also sponsor and support programs and events such as City Love, Clean Sweep, Day of Caring and the Street Manager Programs on South Clinton and Monroe Avenues. We do all of this and much more with the goal of sustaining and improving the quality of our neighborhoods. Please join us in our efforts! If you would like to be considered for a board position, please contact coconnor@hselaw.com.

Join us in Community Building

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) invites you to join with our dynamic non-profit organization in making a difference in southeast Rochester. Join our board of directors or serve on a committee. We have a variety of ways you can help. Founded in 1978, SWPC acts as a conduit for federal or state repair grants that help keep people in their aging homes. It aided

in the development of the very vibrant South Avenue business corridor. SWPC works in myriad 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 256-1740 or e-mail jpage@swpc.org.



South East Area Coalition
South Wedge Planning Committee
December 2016/January 2017 Calendar
Meetings are held at 224 Mount Hope Avenue,
The community is invited to attend all meetings.

SEAC/SWPC Board Meets Tues. 12/20 & 1/17
5:30 pm. SEAC, 6 p.m SEAC/SWPC, 7 p.m. SWPC
SEAC contact: coconnor@hselaw.com
SWPC contact: flogan@rochester.rr.com

Community Engagement (Neighbors & Block Clubs)
jknoth@swpc.org
Wed. 12/28 & 1/25, 5:30 p.m.
Finance Team
tsciarabba@hotmail.com
Wed. 12/14 & 1/11, 12:30 p.m.

Housing & Structures Meets bimonthly
Wed. 12/7 & 1/4, 5:30 p.m
gvalenti@swpc.org
SW Victory Garden
jelann@frontiernet.net
E-mail for dates and times.

Fundraising Committee
(SEAC/SWPC) Tues. 12/14 & 1/11, 12:30 p.m.

Call for ad rates
256-1740, ext. 105
or 978-9638.

Join SWPC & Get the Wedge!

For 35 years, *The Wedge Newspaper* has chronicled the lives and times of our vibrant South Wedge neighborhood and beyond. If you enjoy reading the *Wedge*, please consider subscribing by joining SWPC. Just send a check or money order to the address below.

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____ \$25 SWPC membership
Please mail this form along with your donation to: 224 Mount Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620.

Swillburg Shout Out

Mike Henry



With Thanksgiving still in our thoughts this seems an ideal time for Swillburg neighbors to reflect on their good fortune as residents here. No doubt our greatest community asset is our willingness and ability to pool our individual energies and further weave our neighborhood unity. Nothing exemplifies this better than our Taste of Swillburg event, held on October 6th at Artisan Church. With great stewardship from neighbor Judy Hay, many people worked hard to make this happen and from many individual efforts came an evening of great food in the form of a pot luck dinner (great cooks among us!), socializing and interesting presentations by a number of guests.

The Swillburg Neighborhood Association would like to thank
continued on pg. 5

Please join us . . .

seac
south east area coalition



Tell us about your needs.

Learn how SEAC can help.

Help us select our next neighborhood project.

SEAC offices | 224 Mt Hope Avenue | Rochester, NY
Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

- | | |
|--|--|
| NBN6 | CHAP21 |
| COBBS HILL | CUE |
| LILAC NEIGHBORS | AZALEA NEIGHBORHOOD |
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| MAY STREET BLOCK CLUB | UPPER MONROE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN |
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| ABC STREETS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | EAST END BUSINESS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION |
| NORTH WINTON BUSINESS ASSOC | HIGHLAND HEIGHTS |
| PARK CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN |
| POCKET NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | CANTERBURY HARVARD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN. |
| PARK-MEIGS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | LOCK 66 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN |
| PEARL-MEIGS-MONROE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | BASWA BUSINESS ASSN SOUTH WEDGE AREA |
| PHILIPS PRIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | MONROE AVE MERCHANTS (MAMA) |
| NORTH WINTON VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN | MONROE VILLAGE TASK FORCE |
| | NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE ARTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN |
| | PARK AVE MERCHANTS ASSOC/PARK REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE |



Swillburgers meet for lunch at White Swans Asia Cafe on South Clinton Avenue (Photo by Dave "Bippy" Boyer)

Give a Holiday Gift of Dignity & Hope

Nancy O'Donnell

Furnished 4 Life invites all to give an extra special gift to those in need in the Southeast community...the gift of pride in parents able to provide affordable gifts this holiday season to their children and loved ones.

Consider donating a toy or a gift to our Christmas Store in the Wedge Market or make a financial donation to Project URGE, Inc. 46 Mt. Hope Ave., Rochester 14620. (Please write F4L- Christmas Store in subject line.)

Furnished 4 Life's Christmas store will be open Friday, December 9, 3-6 p.m. and Saturday, December 10, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. Donation Ideas (new & unwrapped gifts, please) include: Toys (infant and school age) Baby items (diapers, formula, wipes) Infant & toddler clothing (premie to 18 months) Books, Store gift cards, Jewelry Perfume and cosmetic, sports equipment. Volunteers are



also needed to pick up and sort donations, price gifts, stock shelves, assist customer, wrap gifts, supervise children in the Kids Korner while parent shop. For more information, Call (585) 348-8596 or email: furnished4life@gmail.com



Lamberton Conservancy (courtesy of Dan Dangler Photography)

You're invited to the Highland Park Conservancy Holiday Party. Enjoy the Conservatory bedecked in all its holiday finery. The annual event will be held at the Lamberton Conservatory on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Meet old friends and make new ones as wandering minstrels provide music and you snack on delicious refreshments. Free and open to the public. Parking is available outside the Conservatory at 180 Reservoir Avenue, Rochester.

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For an appointment:
Call 585-245-5429
or email Norm Karsten at karsten@geneseo.edu

The Wedge Gets Read!

The Feb/Mar. issue advertising deadline is Jan. 14ish. Please call for info about our very reasonable rates -256-1740, ext. 105 or 978-9638.

Our Life Together after Election 2016

Rev. Matthew Martin Nickoloff

Many of us will undoubtedly remember where we were and how we felt on November 9th, the day after Donald Trump was elected the 45th President of the United States of America.

I woke up early that morning. Not on purpose. Not even out of anxiety. If anything, I was feeling high and hopeful from the previous night. Over 150 folks gathered at my church, the South Wedge Mission, for an incredible Election Night Communion service, which brought together communities from across the political spectrum to center on the Gospel, commune with one another, and commit to resisting injustice, no matter who won.

The Rev James Simmons of BaberAME Church on Meigs Street led us in a fist-raising rendition of the Negro National Anthem. A gay member of the Mission stood up and read the Gospel lesson to a crowd that included conservatives and liberals alike. The night ended with us singing the old spiritual, "Down By the Riverside," with the words echoing into the night: "won't study war no more."

I think it was that experience of solidarity that dampened the impact of the news, at least, at first.

I saw that the man I had not voted for, and hoped would not win, had. It wasn't unheard of. I regularly disgust my liberal friends when I tell them I am a regular listener of talk radio shows hosted by the likes of Limbaugh and Lonsberry, and that I do so because I want to hear voices different than mine. I am after all, a Lutheran-Episcopal pastor, and my broader family of faith extends beyond the border of the South Wedge, and includes sinners and saints from the Southern Tier, the Bible Belt, and from across the world. I regularly travel to preach at their churches on Sunday mornings. It's not just a need to be open-minded – it's part of belonging to the family.

So I wasn't unaware that the support for the president-elect was greater than those of us in the liberal echo chamber wanted to believe. I knew it in my head. But the reality didn't hit my heart until I walked my son to James PB Duffy School #12 on South Ave later that morning. As we passed by the Frederick Douglass Memorial Library, the weight of the sadness and shock my own wife, who teaches bilingual education in 12's Hola program, finally reached me.

I started to cry, there in the rain



A mural of Frederick Douglass was recently added to the newly renamed South Avenue library. Artist Shawn Dunwoody invited children who use the library to help him create the mural. (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

and the cold. I thought of all the refugee and migrant children who would feel afraid that their families might be deported. I thought of the black children, who would experience these results as yet another in a long line of insults and indignities against their color and their person. I imagined the school staff having to remove the portrait of President Obama on January 15th and in its place hoisting a picture of a candidate whose campaign was fueled by rhetoric and realities that would stare students in the face every day as they passed it by.

I cried also for those folks in the Southern Tier who I've preached for, in Dansville and Cohocton and Corning and Bath, the ones who inspired me to write a song about the Kraft plant on Route 390 closing down, leaving nothing but fast food and convenience store jobs and little else. And I cried for my friends from my CrossFit gym, mostly police officers and veterans, nearly all Republicans. I cried because I knew that they too had felt this way when President Obama was elected, and every time smug liberals declared them ignorant and backwards and racist, "clinging to their guns and their religion."

I cried, and then I took my son to his classroom, and then, got back to work. It was a busy day for

a priest and a parent, and while I was tempted by self-centered self-pity, I knew that in many ways, the times were a-changin', and we were made for such times as these.

Because that's the thing about community, and the complex web of relationships that both sustains and frustrates us as citizens of a country, neighbors in a place, members of a faith or group. We live under the illusion that we get to choose those upon whose lives we depend, and whose lives depend on us. This election, if nothing else, proved the power of that illusion, and also its futility.

The Sunday before had been the Feast of All Saints, the Christian attempt to capitalize on the pagan celebration that would come to be known as Halloween. In it, we celebrate a rather inconvenient truth about Christianity--the "communion of saints." Regardless of whether we affirm or believe in an afterlife, this particular doctrine, part of our central creed, plays an important spiritual function in our practice. As in Hinduism and Buddhism, in which all things are believed to be interwoven by Brahma or Dharma or causality, so in Christianity, the communion of saints reminds us that we don't get to choose our family. There is no such thing as separation - only a complex interdependence that stretches back to the creation and transcends all of space and time.

Which means that any system that seeks to label and divide, or utilizes such means as a path to power, is not only spiritual harmful. It is also a lie against the spiritual truth that all of reality is an ecology of interlocking lives, individuals that are each infinitely valuable and cannot be reduced or determined by votes or opinions.

While we experience ourselves as divided, the deeper magic is that we are, in fact, not. Which muddies things up quite a bit. Because it means that as much as we'd like to think otherwise, not all Trump voters are racists, and not all Hillary voters are baby-killers - nor are all Stein and Johnson voters (necessarily!) hopeless dreamers. We cannot with one breath when wearing our environmentalist hats or our mindfulness shoes that all of life is a web and an ecosystem and then in the other claim that we don't need

parts of this ecosystem. We need each other. Now, more than ever.

An (atheist) religious ethics professor at Princeton who also happened to be a community organizer used to constantly ask us this question: "in whose interest is it that we remain divided?" It is the tactics of tyranny and false power to try to perpetuate the illusion that we can somehow live in an either/or world, when in fact, the spiritual masters of every tradition continually strive for the heights of non-dual both/and thinking.

In whose interest is it that the cops at my morning gym and the black folks at the Gantt Center where I work out in the evenings continue to believe the other group is out for their blood? In whose interest is it that poor country folks and poor inner city folks are told they are locked in a death match for scarce resources, when there is not only enough abundance to be shared, but that they share the same desires for that abundance to be given to their children?

Division does not serve our interests. Labels and blaming and momentary rushes of power do not end exclusion, but only allow for an ephemeral exchange of control over the arsenal. We were made for more than this. We were made for each other. More so than any election results, I cried that day because the tragic reality became unavoidable: I saw people giving up on the unity for which we were made.

A week later, I was once again walking my son to school, past the same Frederick Douglass library, when something new caught my eye. Where a week before had stood a plain brick pillar now rose the majestic figure of the Black Lion himself. Around Mr. Douglass' famous mane was written a quote, a prophecy, a sermon in one simple sentence: "I would unite with anybody to do right, and with nobody to do wrong."

Over a century before, the Douglass homestead stood where the beautiful newly renovated School 12 building now resides. His house was burned down, most likely due to arson, and in its place is a memorial to a white man. Within a few block radius is the entire nation in microcosm. To the south, up the hill by Highland Park, you'll find

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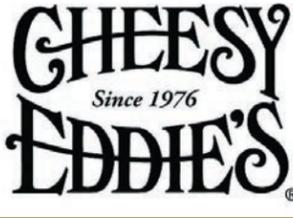




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South Wedge Sudoku

STR8TS

Medium

3		7						
		9						
	8			6				1
8				5				
4					1			
2			5					7
				2				
								9
1			7			8	6	

How to beat Str8ts – Like Sudoku, no single number 1 to 9 can repeat in any row or column. But... rows and columns are divided by black squares into **compartments**. Each compartment must form a **straight** - a set of numbers with **no gaps** but it can be in any order, eg [7,6,9,8]. Clues in black cells remove that number as an option in that row and column, and are not part of any straight. Glance at the solution to see how 'straights' are formed.

SUDOKU

Very Hard

				7				4
5								2
	7	2				8		9
		5			7	1		4
	8		6		1		9	
7		1	9			3		
2		8				4	1	
1								3
	5			8				

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit www.sudokuwiki.org for Sudoku and www.str8ts.com for Str8ts.

If you like Str8ts and other puzzles, check out our books, iPhone/iPad Apps and much more on our store.

Sparkling Wine for the Holiday

Glynis Valenti

Popping the cork on a bottle of Champagne is synonymous with celebration. Most often used for special occasions, Champagne is traditional and elegant, but it can be a bit pricey. This holiday season it's possible to bring "special" to every party with some bubbly that is festive and affordable.

First, a little about sparkling wine. Technically, only wines produced in the French region of Champagne are sanctioned to be called Champagne on the label. The label may also say "blanc de blancs," which means the wine is produced with 100 percent white grapes, generally Chardonnay in Champagne for example. "Blanc de noirs" is made from a combination of white grapes and red grapes, for instance Pinot Noir and/or Pinot Meunier.

Bubbles in Champagne were originally considered undesirable, a result of the region's fluctuating seasonal temperatures affecting the fermentation process causing bottles to explode. When the nobility took notice of the interesting new wine, however, winemakers began crafting this second, in-bottle fermentation to insure that bubbles and bottles remained intact. By the 19th century, "methode Champenoise" (or "methode traditionnelle") had been refined, and Champagne houses like Veuve Cliquot de Ponsardin, Krug, and Bollinger were supplying bubbly to the world.

Outside of the Champagne region, French sparkling wines made with the second bottle fermentation process, or methode traditionnelle, are usually designated as "cremant." While different regions have their own specifications to use the term, all cremant grapes must be hand-picked and whole-bunch or destemmed pressed; they have the same dosage (sweetness) requirements as Champagne; they are aged at least nine months on the lees and an additional three months before release.

Alsace produces 50 percent of France's cremant which is made from Pinot Noir, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Riesling, Chardonnay or Auxerrois Blanc. While its flavors may differ slightly from Champagne because of the grape varieties, cremant's texture and profile is similar—a little softer—and it can be less than half the price. Try Charles de Fere Cuvee Jean-Louis or Lucien Albrecht Cremant d'Alsace Rose.

Prosecco is Italian sparkling white wine (though a very small percentage of Prosecco still wine is produced.) It must be made from

at least 85 percent of Glera grapes, but can also include Verdiso, Glera lunga, Chardonnay, Pinot Bianco, Pinot Grigio, Bianchetta Trevigiana, Pinot Nero and Perera. There are nine designated areas of production in the regions of Veneto and Friuli Venezia Giulia. The production method, the Charmat method, is different from that of Champagne and cremant. The second fermentation, which creates the bubbles, is done in stainless steel tanks. The resulting sparkling wine is filtered and bottled.

Years ago Prosecco was considered sweet wine like Asti Spumante but has evolved into relatively dry, light wine. Most sparkling wine will be labeled "brut," "dry" or "extra dry." Another good value that is readily available, Prosecco can have a range of flavor qualities: citrus, apple, honey, minerals, lemon and florals. Look for producers La Luca, Famiglia Pasqua and La Marca for affordable examples.

Relatively new Cava is Spain's premier sparkling wine. It wasn't until the 1870s when a vintner named Josep Raventos produced a sparkler after he heard about methode Champenoise while traveling through France. It is still the means used to make cava today. By law, cava is only made in Catalonia using Macabeu, Parellada, Xarel-lo, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Subirat grapes. Rose cavas are made by blending in red Garnacha or Monastrell grapes.

Nancy Andrews, owner of Fort Hill Liquor on Mount Hope Ave., says that both cava and Prosecco have gained in popularity over the past few years.

"They are definitely a good alternative," she adds. "Champagne can be very expensive, but there is some very nice cava and Prosecco on the market that is both good quality and affordable."

As an example, Andrews recommends Casas del Mar Brut Cava, a "light and refreshing" sparkler with "citrus notes" and calls it "a favorite" at the store. Many of the sparkling wines available from France, Italy and Spain are priced between \$10 and \$20 per bottle.

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Swillburg News

continued from pg. 3



all of those who contributed to our night of community, they include:

Monroe YMCA for joining us with an information table as well as Monroe Branch Library who also featured an information table. Georgie's Bakery and Cafe and Salvatore's Old Fashion Pizza for their generous food donations, as well as Wegmans for donating paper and plastic dinnerware.

Also, we enjoyed many raffles throughout the evening with gifts and baskets from Wegmans, Tipsee Light Company, Shade Tree Greetings and Jack of Mars (Jack Mars) Artisan and Craftsman, Progressive Barber Shop and Dave's 1048 Barber Lounge for gift certificates. Thanks to all of you, your generosity added much fun to the night!

Of course, a big thanks too goes to Pastor Scott Austin and his congregation at Artisan Church for allowing us use of their wonderful sanctuary, for a second year in a row!

To our speakers, Steve DiMarco (Mark IV Enterprises),

Sarah Farmer (South Clinton Merchants Association); Bob Day, (Rochester Police Department) personnel; Deputy Chief Wayne Harris, Captain Lloyd Cuyler, Lt. Frank Alberti, Officer Gaston also go big thanks! More thanks goes to neighbors Joyce Nakada and Dave Ferguson who shared their appreciation for living in a neighborhood with a strong association of neighbors and encouraged people to join the SNA.

We'd also like to thank the many merchants who provided us places to post our event announcements; McCann's Local Meats, African Food Center, Zemeta's, Addis Ababa, White Swan Restaurant, South Wedge Restaurant, The India House and Stuart's Spices.

In addition many neighbors also managed to get together on October 27th for a luncheon at the White Swan restaurant on South Clinton. It's always fun to visit over food prepared locally. Our neighbor Dave "Bippy" Boyer took the photo depicting our get together. If you haven't ever dined at the White Swan I strongly encourage you to do so, food was really good and service excellent as well.

So, will sign off for now. Hope everyone has a Happy Holiday!

Here's a recipe from *Stuart's Spices*

Cranberry Relish with Mulling Spices

Cranberry relish dull? Not anymore! Watch everyone reach for seconds at all your holiday dinners.



Ingredients:

12 oz. package of fresh cranberries, rinsed and drained
20 oz. can crushed pineapple, packed in juice
6 oz. can frozen orange juice concentrate, undiluted
3/4 cup sugar (can use less)
2 Tablespoons **Stuart's Spices** Mulling Spices, wrapped in cheesecloth
3/4 - 1 cup raisins

Directions:

- Drain pineapple over bowl. Combine pineapple juice, orange juice concentrate and enough water to make two cups. Pour the two cups of liquid into a pot, stir in sugar and add the cheesecloth bag of mulling spices. Bring to a boil, then lower heat and simmer uncovered for 10 minutes.
- Add the cranberries, stirring occasionally. Cook an additional 8-10 minutes, or until cranberries pop.
- Remove cheesecloth with the mulling spices. Add pineapple and raisins. Cook 5 minutes.
- Pour into a bowl and refrigerate for at least 3-4 hours. The recipe can be made up to two days in advance.

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DrishTi Yoga Offers Tips to Stay Warm



DrishTi Yoga on Caroline Street (Photo by NicolE deViere)

Nicole deViere

Are you still eating salad? Raw and cold was balancing for the heat of this past summer, and even tolerable through this warm fall weather. Now, the time is upon us where days are shorter, darker, and cooler. Take a few moments to stop and adjust your diet, lifestyle, and exercise with the shift. Like those fluffy slippers and oversized sweaters you are now starting to snuggle into, warmth is the principle; keep that theme with you. Here are a few simple suggestions.

Diet: Just as you adjust your wardrobe seasonally [like it or not], the diet is another thing that should naturally change with the environment. Keep the simple principle of warmth, just like adding a layer of clothing if you

are chilly; consider switching from raw to cooked food, or foods that can be more easily digested and stoke the agni [digestive fire]. Also, incorporate grounding and earthy foods like potatoes, beets, carrots and parsnips. Make the crockpot or a big stockpot your best friend and cook simple one pot meals, like stews, soups, chili, and rice. Use seasonal, native, and organic ingredients that have the most vitality.

Lifestyle: The most obvious shift is that of our wardrobe, to switch over from lighter fall fabrics to heavier and denser items that have more coverage and ability to layer. Invest in some warm socks; taking care of your feet will keep you happy. In your personal care,

set aside [cooling] eucalyptus and peppermint. Reach for [warming] rosemary, lavender, citrus, and resin oils [frankincense, patchouli, myrrh] to keep warm. For added comfort in body and space, place blankets in seating areas and use area rugs on bare floors. Place your home thermostat on a timer and set it to start warming you up 30-45 minutes before you wake up.

Exercise: Always, start your practice off with several minutes of warming breath. Inhale deeply and quickly from the low belly, exhale the same way, this practice is known as the breath of fire and will aid in digestion and create warmth and comfort in the body, mind, and spirit. Turn the heat on in your movement space before your activity so the body is not shocked by extreme temperature changes and remains steady and comfortable. Layer up with items that are easy for you to maneuver on and off as you warm up and cool down in your routine.

Making simple adjustments as we experience cooler temperatures will leave you feeling calm and collected instead of short and restricted. Schedule a personal holistic wellness session for additional suggestions and routine based on your specific body type, *Nicole deViere, RYT/Holistic Wellness Counselor, is the owner of Yoga DrishTi Community WELLness located at 159 Caroline Street in the South Wedge/Highland Park neighborhood. www.YogaDrishTi.com*

Tis the Season to Prepare for Newness

Michele H. Martell



Michele H. Martell

This time of year, filled with so much sparkle and allure, is a time of preparing for newness. During the hustle of the holiday season, there is concurrently a newness brewing beneath the surface; that if we take some time to notice, we'll find.

In Christianity, the Christmas Season originated with the celebration of the birth of Christ Jesus. Recall the arduous journey of Mary and Joseph, and what must have been a most difficult birthing in a rustic manger. Yes, but that struggle, that difficulty was preparation for the newness of the birth of Jesus, signifying new life and new hope for the world.

Winter time can often be a dreaded season. Luscious foliage fades away, animals and people hibernate, and a greyness permeates our days and nights. The nebulous sense of death and barrenness leads many to understandably experience feelings of sadness and loss. Nevertheless, this truly is a time of preparation for newness, for new life and new beginnings to burst forth upon completion of this necessary phase. And this is, in essence, the way of life, really. Everything is a phase, in preparation for the next. Gloomy intervals that we may experience, similar to the winter season, can feel like a penetrating eternity. But nothing is permanent. If we keep the faith, we can see that it is truly a phase, a stepping stone, a preparation for the newness that awaits us.

Nature's shedding of worn-out foliage and yesterday's growth can be a symbolic example of our own evolution. Sometimes letting-go of old paradigms and more that are no longer healthy may feel scary and like a death; yet it is all in preparation for the newness to help

us grow into who we were created to be. And when we are growing in the authentic direction that is meant for us, we will see the signs and synchronicities that we are on the right path if we are open to them.

Regardless of how we may view the onset of northern winters, viewing the season's first new snow is awe-inspiring magic. And with the commencement of winter, the season is full of newness: new flickering lights on the new Christmas tree, new holiday events and recipes, new holiday outfits and concert performances. And although not the genuine meaning of Christmas, there are new Christmas presents, especially for children. Witnessing the sparkle in a child's eyes upon finding Santa's leavings is a priceless memory. Receiving new holiday cards can be a cheerful experience of catching up with others who hold a place in our hearts. And these greetings can bring further newness to our world environmentally via recycling once the season winds down.

Finally, symbolizing the end of the annual Holiday Season is New Year's, a time for reflection and solutions for a new year of new blessings. What better time is there to prepare ourselves for the newness of 2017 and new life to come? Tis the season to prepare for newness. Let's take full advantage of this time of preparation and relish the opportunities so that we, as nature, will be ready to blossom into our full splendor and magnificence.

Michelle Martell has a M.A. in Business Administration, loves being a mom and an independent consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics.

City Official Take Pace Car Program Citywide

Nancy O'Donnell

With a backdrop of Lake Avenue cars speeding by in front of Lake Tower, Mayor Lovely Warren held on press conference on Nov. 15 to announce that the grassroots Pace Car Program would go citywide on Nov. 15.

Mayor Warren was joined by City Council members Molly Clifford and Lucille Scott, Police Chief Michael Ciminelli, neighborhood activist Michael Tomb of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association Place Making Team and Renee Stetzer of Re-Connect Rochester.

"[This is] a citizen-in-action movement, with citizens leading by example, helping to calm traffic and raise awareness of the need for livable streets," said Mayor Warren. "By signing the pace card pledge, [drivers] are telling the drivers behind that they are a Pace Car, a car that won't drive over the speed limit, will yield to pedestrians and be courteous to bicycles."

Mayor Warren emphasized the "life and death" importance of slowing drivers down, pointing to several pedestrian fatalities that occurred on Lake Avenue in the

past year. "Last night, a three-year-old was killed in a hit and run on Parsells Avenue," said Warren.

The Pace Car program was a grassroots effort spearheaded by the Highland Park Neighborhood Association's Place Making team, Traffic Calming and Quality of life committee. Marcia Zach, a member of the team, researched programs around the world that help to build safer, more walkable neighborhoods for "pedestrians, bicyclists, children and pets." The group borrowed an idea invented by David Engwicht of Creative Communities International in Australia and developed the Pace Car Program. The Place Making, Traffic Calming team was joined in their efforts by Re-Connect Rochester. Next, the group worked with the City's Southeast Quadrant's Voice of the Citizen and began distributing the yellow stickers in August 2015. In earlier promotional literature, the Pace Car Program described a pace car as a "moving speed bump."

Pace car drivers pledge to adhere obey speed limits; slow speeds near schools, playgrounds, parks

and streets where children may be present; yield to pedestrians; obey stop signs and not to tailgate or block walkways, bike lanes or driveways when parking. Pace drivers also pledge to consider alternative means of transportation and consolidate car trips to lessen traffic. With the pledge, drivers then can display a yellow Pace Car bumper sticker on their car.

Councilmember Clifford remarked that the event "was a great announcement rather than [the usual ones on Lake Avenue] to talk about another fatality."

"People are driving at higher speeds with more distractions," said Renee Stetzer. "Speed is the biggest contributor to fatal crashes

and most vulnerable are pedestrians and cyclists." Of course, the risk is amplified when the pedestrian is a child or older person."

Stetzer emphasized the importance of reducing speeds. "A pedestrian hit by a car going 40 mph has only a 10% chance of survival. At 30 mph, their survival rate is 50%. At 20 mph, a person struck by a car has a 90% chance of

survival," Stetzer said.

Pace Car advocates hope that drivers who take the pledge might lead by example, "helping to calm traffic and raise awareness of the need for livable streets."

To receive a pace car sticker and sign the pledge, visit rocpacecar.com or visit your local city quadrant office.



South Wedge Sudoku Solution

Str8ts Solution

3	8	7	6	5	4			
6	9	8	4	7	3	5	2	
9	8	7	6	5	4		1	
8	9		4	5	1	2		
4	7	5	6		1	2	3	
2	6	5	3	4			7	
5	4		1	2	3		9	8
6	5	4	3	1	2	8	7	9
1	3	2	7		9	8	6	

Sudoku Solution

8	3	9	2	7	6	5	4	1
5	1	4	3	9	8	6	7	2
6	7	2	4	1	5	8	3	9
9	2	5	8	3	7	1	6	4
4	8	3	6	5	1	2	9	7
7	6	1	9	4	2	3	5	8
2	9	8	7	6	3	4	1	5
1	4	6	5	2	9	7	8	3
3	5	7	1	8	4	9	2	6

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Music Review - "Lilliam Ocean" by The Fragile Fate

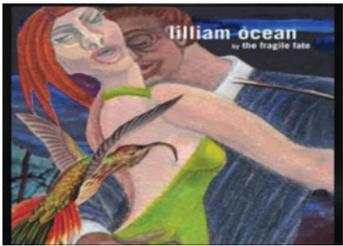
Jeffrey K. Wahr

I like to listen to music. Lots of it. Frequently. In general, however, I rarely deviate from what I would describe as "popular" (early country & western, rhythm & blues and rock holistically). Oh sure, there's the occasional weekend when I firmly believe that the ancient practitioners of dub reggae were the last true innovators of sound; but, for the most part, there is nothing particularly unique about my preferences in recorded music. Simply stated, I like music you can shake your ass to.

So upon learning that the subject of this review of The Fragile Fate's debut CD "Lilliam Ocean" would be covering what is loosely categorized as ambient music, I quickly realized that I suffered from a fundamental impediment: I knew the absolute bare minimum about the genre and had certainly never taken the time to listen to any of it, for it is non-ass-shaking music.

Even after listening to the CD, I experienced a different level of frustration and dread: I didn't think that I could write a cogent and meaningful assessment of it.

To compensate for my musical ignorance, I began to immerse myself in the recent history of what is considered ambient music. Most musicologists believe the phrase to have been first used in 1978



when Brian Eno (former member of the art-rock group Roxy Music) issued what is generally known as "The Ambient Manifesto" (in reality it was simply the liner notes to his solo album "Music for Airports," but it sounds cooler if you say that he issued a manifesto).

Tired of what rock music had become, Eno deliberately set out to create an entirely new style of music. This form favored sound over structure, mood over meter, tone over rhythm, more drifting than driving. It was largely instrumental and was primarily designed to give the listener room to think rather than beat him or her over the head with a message, histrionic guitar solos or even a rudimentary 12-bar blues. The mood of the listener would be allowed to create the meaning or importance, not lyrics or traditional



The Fragile Fate - Jerry Marotta Rupert Greenall and Eric Taylor (photo courtesy of Eric Taylor)

song structure or instrumentation. In the most telling characterization of what ambient music is and what it isn't, Eno himself suggests somewhat dismissively that it is "as ignorable as it is interesting."

The Fragile Fate didn't make a conscious, trilateral decision to record an ambient CD. That just sort of happened. Over the course of several weekends sequestered in the Woodstock, NY studio of Jerry Marotta, the songs took shape and then morphed again as new ideas were implemented. Marotta has a lengthy career in modern music having been recruited by dozens of artists for his drum contributions. He is, however, best known for his work on the early Peter Gabriel solo albums and subsequent tours.

Having sat unproductively staring at a blank notebook and coming up empty after repeated listens to "Lilliam Ocean," I emailed Marotta a plea for help. I assumed that my classic rock upbringing was impeding my ability to open up to ambient music the same way his must have at some point.

Serendipitously, on the day I emailed him, he's playing in Henrietta with his band The Security Project, and he suggests that I come to the venue before showtime to talk. When I locate him inside, I find that Marotta possesses none of the outward appearances or conceits of one of rock's great drummers: he's clad in dungarees, nondescript t-shirt and sandals with wisps of black hair flapping overhead. He looks like anyone else inside Lovin' Cup at that time. And, after securing a quiet table in a corner, he patiently begins to answer my neophyte questions with an eager friendliness.

On most of "Lilliam Ocean" there are no raging drum solos or

intricate fills (towards the end, there is something more akin to a traditional drum presence). Marotta's contributions are largely in the form of muted percussion draped over an elusive beat. So my primary question for Marotta was one that had beleaguered me since I began my investigation into ambient music: how does a renowned rock drummer make the transition from providing bombast to providing atmosphere?

Marotta is extraordinarily appreciative and proud of his years in the studio and on the road with Peter Gabriel, but he has grown to relish the more relaxed pace of his current career: spending time in his Woodstock studio and offering his services to a number of recording musicians ("I'm a drummer-for-hire," he says with not just a little humility).

His response to my question was one of a man who is wholly content with the work of his past but renewed by a chance to lend something different in a foreign genre; pounding the daylights out of a drum kit night after night is no longer required to bring him artistic satisfaction.

Within The Fragile Fate, he is unfettered by the conventions of the percussion involved because he was largely unaware of them. "We had no agenda," he says about the sessions which ultimately yielded the CD "Lilliam Ocean." There was just an exploration of sound and commitment to letting the music just sort of happen.

You can detect this throughout the course of the CD. Each song is somewhat nebulous and relaxing. The vibe is unobtrusive and firmly rooted in creating an atmosphere rather than coming right at you directly.

Music reviewer Jeffrey K. Wahr lives quietly in Alden, NY amassing a collection of records and cassette tapes.

SWPC/SEAC

continued from pg. 1

business association. The open house will focus on neighborhood groups from ABC Streets, Azalea, Canterbury Harvard, Neighborhood of the Arts, NBN6, North Winton Village, Park-Meigs, Park Central, Pearl-Meigs-Monroe, Philips Pride, The Pocket, Swillburg, Upper Monroe, Wadsworth Square, Chap21, Cobbs Hill, CUE, Highland Heights, Highland Park, Lilac, Lock 66, and area block clubs.

"SEAC is a not-for-profit that works to insure that our

neighborhoods are the best places to live, work, play and learn. We are excited to host our first Open House in several years, and we can't wait to meet the people we serve and learn how SEAC can provide financial and volunteer support for projects in our service area. We want to meet you, listen to you, and partner with you," said SEAC board chair Christine O'Connor.

SWPC's Wedge Me In on Jan. 27 is not your typical annual meeting. The business part of the evening is kept to a minimum before festivities begin with the usual Wedge flare.

"Our annual meeting is a way to let the community know about the

projects we're currently working on and possible future projects," said Frank Logan SWPC board chair. "It's also provides an opportunity to get feedback from the community. We want to build an organization that's reflective of the residents of the South Wedge, so we can tackle projects that are important to them."

Maybe in 2017 you'll get involved with the South Wedge Farmers Market or decide you want to farm a plot in the Victory Garden. Discover businesses that give discounts when you show you Wedge Card! Want to see a story or a photo in the Wedge? Chat with

The second question that I needed answered was: how do songs such as these come together especially songs that seem to lack a concrete structure? For this question, I reached out to another member of The Fragile Fate: native Rochesterian, Eric Taylor.

Taylor (owner/operator of Abbott's on Park Avenue) was raised a drummer and has played in several local rock bands. He has, however, moved to role of synthesist in The Fragile Fate, a duty he shares with Rupert Greenall, who achieved notoriety as keyboardist in The Fixx. You might initially think that two synthesizer players would step all over each other in such a cosmic soup; but Taylor and Greenall do a remarkable job of weaving effortlessly with one another to the point where it frequently sounds like one instrument.

In terms of song creationism, Taylor indicates that each of the three band members would come to the sessions with some sort of pre-recorded idea or pattern; in most cases, these were unfinished and took shape once all three of them worked on "decorating" them until "something in the room had changed." There were no limitations to dictate their direction so, with no arbitrary destination in sight, the sessions were largely free-form and improvisational. As far as song composition is concerned, Taylor answers me somewhat cryptically, saying, "The structure is the lack of structure."

This is evident on all of "Lilliam Ocean" where sound shapes and patterns emerge slowly, twist in on themselves and then devolve completely. For most people with a traditional sense of song structure, this will be hard to appreciate on first listen. But over time and with an understanding of where this music comes from and what it wants to provide to the listener, it becomes a little easier. This is music to be used not just passively absorbed; it affords the listener and opportunity to do something else - think, relax, focus or merely not be sonically assaulted.

I listened to it repeatedly while writing this piece and I believe it worked better than having Van Halen blaring in the background, for example. That would have only had me shaking my ass. **The Fragile Fate's debut CD 'Lilliam Ocean' is available for purchase at www.thefragilefate.bandcamp.com/album/lilliam-ocean.**

the Wedge Newspaper editor about becoming a contributor. Want to attend the exciting night of City Love, you can buy your tickets early.

So mark your calendars, we'll provide the food and drink, you provide ideas for neighborhood projects, advocacy issues, and ways that SEAC and SWPC can support the work maybe you are already doing. See you at the meetings!

Rochester 4.0 Plan

continued from pg. 1

the city planning process."

Ted Capuano, assistant to the director in the Bureau of Communications, echoes Brown's thoughts, noting that student response to Future Cities has been "enthusiastic" and that the Mayor's Advisory Committee and the five Planning Area Committees will be reviewing the final student presentations for ideas and solutions to incorporate into the Rochester 4.0 plan.

The Rochester 4.0 comprehensive plan update is in progress and hosted the latest round of community stakeholder meetings during November. Information and updates can be found online at www.cityofrochester.gov/comprehensiveplanupdate or by contacting the relevant Neighborhood Service Center (NSC.) In the southeast quadrant, Nancy Johns-Price is the NSC administrator, and the office is located at 320 N. Goodman St. The phone number is 428-7640.

Capuano adds, "Mayor Warren is very happy to involve city school children in this process. She understands the value of teaching civic and social consciousness and wants them vested in the city they will inherit from their parents."

Students are excited about participating, too. The School 23 group is not only hoping that they'll see some of their ideas in action, but plan on using what they learn for their own development. For instance Marlie, age 11, says she became involved with this class because she "likes building things" and is planning on taking some new skills to pre-theater tech classes at the School of the Arts.

Kunzer describes his students as "passionate about what they believe," adding that they all have their own opinions.

"One of the most important things they're getting is a background on how a city operates—like transportation and water," Kunzer explains. "They have to think like city planners and engineers. It involves testing, discussing, re-vamping and, finally, coming up with solutions and something that works."

Want to see your photos in the Wedge? Have a story idea? Give us a call at the Wedge Newspaper 585.256.1740, ext. 105. We welcome contributions!

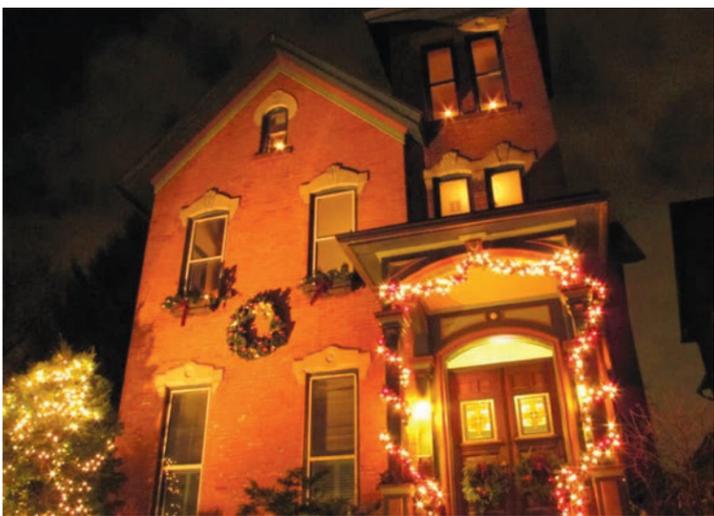
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--Judy Bennett

Peace on Earth ..Good will to All



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Shanti

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Why the annual Free Gift Guide?

The Wedge Newspaper started the tradition of giving free space to local shops and services several years ago to say **Thank You!** to our loyal advertisers --we mean you Cheesy Eddie's, Abundance Co-op, Bauman's Barber, Renewing Massage, Fatima Bayram Sable at Paislee Boutique and Silk Bridal, Assemblyman Harry Bronson, The Petix Group, St. Boniface, Southview Towers, Schrader's Garage, The Trading Post, realtor Susan Sanford, Highland Manor and Highland Market and so many more--and also to support local businesses who haven't and maybe will never buy an ad.

As a small nonprofit newspaper, we will always stand behind small local businesses that make the **South Wedge** the warmest, most wonderful, embracing, coolest, diverse neighborhood in the ROC.

The Wedge wishes you a Happy, the Happiest of New Years in 2017! Pace

MISE EN PLACE

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Things Get Wild in the Wedge (Photo by Michael Lill)



RPCC Works for Action on Climate Crisis

Rachel Larson

The Rochester People's Climate Coalition (RPCC), an inclusive, non-partisan, network of organizations united by the urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of global warming, recently defined Four Action Pathways that represent the most significant local responses to greenhouse gas emissions.

These pathways include: Building Efficiency, Renewable Energy Transition, Green Transportation, and Sustainable Land Management/Food Choices. Within each pathway, the coalition will educate and mobilize the public, facilitate collaboration, increase media coverage, and influence community leaders to implement meaningful climate solutions.

Eliminating greenhouse gas emissions will involve increasing energy efficiency and also shifting our building heating and transportation needs to electricity while also ensuring that the electricity is supplied through renewable, carbon-free sources.

The RPCC has selected Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) as the area of focus for

the Renewable Energy Transition action pathway. When our transportation and building heating needs come from electricity, even with conservation, the demand for electricity will increase. Establishing a CCA can ensure that new demand is met with renewable supply. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) was piloted in Westchester County, where they successfully lowered electricity rates and moved 14 communities to 100% Renewable Energy supply.

In April, the Public Service Commission issued rules making this strategy possible throughout the state. In simplest terms, a CCA is like a buying club for electricity. Local municipalities decide to join a CCA to benefit their residents and small businesses. The energy demands of these small users, is aggregated together, and the large number of consumers creates more negotiating leverage. The goal is to secure lower fixed-rates and a clean, renewable energy supply. In addition, CCA programs can be designed to create local jobs through the growth of local renewable energy production. By



Members of RPCC united in the fight (l-r) Chris Fonda, Abby McHugh-Grifa, Theresa McGowan, Sue Hughes-Smith, and Linda Isaacson-Fedele

ensuring the purchase of new, local renewable electricity, a CCA can encourage investment in large-scale projects. The goal is to use market incentives to shift entire communities to green energy sources while also reducing energy rates for the customers. This RPCC team has been educating community leaders about the new policy and will be holding public information sessions in the coming months.

Today RPCC's diverse membership includes business, faith, civic, labor, and environmental groups. RPCC first coalesced during the weeks leading up to the 2014 People's Climate March in NYC, when over thirty organizations in the Greater Rochester Area joined together to mobilize citizens to participate in the march and to demand action on climate change. After the march, representatives from these member organizations collaborated to define the mission, goals and structure of the new coalition.

Initial efforts were focused on increasing attention on the

climate crisis. RPCC helped mobilize over 600 people to turn out for the Sierra Club forum with James Hansen; held the first candidate forum focused on the climate crisis where 12 candidates running for local office shared their goals; and galvanized over 400 people to participate in a march calling for a strong global accord in Paris. Soon the coalition was receiving invitations to participate in conferences with local and state government officials. Most notably, the RPCC participated as a stakeholder as the City of Rochester developed the draft of their Climate Action Plan and which must still be approved by the City Council.

Now almost a 100 member organization, the RPCC continues to expand and evolve. If you are interested in getting involved in making our community more sustainable, contact the RPCC leadership team at rocpc@gmail.com or visit RPCC's website at rochesterpeoplesclimatecoalition.org.

Teach Your Pet Polite Season's Greetings

Mario Cerasulo & Rachel Leavy

We've made it through Thanksgiving, but tensions are still running high in many households this year. With the upcoming holiday approaching quickly, I know many people are stressed from all the chaos. Pets are natural stress relievers (if they are well-mannered). By teaching our pets to behave around guests – get-togethers will be much less stressful.

Greetings:

Master the sit cue. I suggest using a hand signal and not just the verbal command. Be sure to treat frequently during the teaching process. The dog must completely understand the sit cue before adding distractions.

Practice having the dog sit when other people are around. Treat frequently. Ask the dog to sit, have someone pet the dog, but remove the person if the dog breaks the sit. The idea is that the dog only gets greeted if he remains in the sit. When guests arrive, keep the dog on a leash or in a different room. Once the commotion settles, have family members greet one at a time until the dog has calmed.

Guest Preparedness:

- Exercise! Before having family over, wear pets out. If they're tired, they will behave much better amidst all the distraction.
- Keep counters clear or dogs out of the kitchen. They may have never counter-surfed before, but with the chaos of the holidays – there's a first time for everything.
- Keep shoes and purses out of the way (same idea). Poinsettias are toxic to dogs so keep them out of reach.
- Teach your dog 'leave it' to ignore gifts, food, the tree or guests who aren't pet people.
- Get your dog a special treat to keep them calm while guests are around. The Natural Pet Food shop has a ton of long-lasting bones to keep dogs occupied.
- Separate pets while eating. You can't expect guests to observe the 'no people food' rule.

The best thing we can do for our pets during the holidays (besides spoil them with gifts), is to remember to stay patient with them. Our animals absorb our stress, and it can have negative effects on them. If tensions are running high, take a deep breath and pet your dog, and remember the holidays are about family and unity.



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CORRECTION

In last month's issue of the *Wedge*, Rachel Larson was incorrectly identified as founder of Rochester People's Climate Coalition.

Here are the leaders of RPCC:

- Brittany Baxter, Working Families Party
- Sue Hughes-Smith, Mothers Out Front
- Linda Isaacson Fedele, Sierra Club
- Bill LaBine, Airtight Services, Inc.
- Rachel Larson, Sustainable Energy Developments, Inc (SED)
- Theresa McGowan, Pachamama Alliance
- Abigail McHugh-Grifa, Rochester Climate Action
- Sarah Mittiga, Citizens' Climate Lobby
- George Payne, Gandhi Earth Keepers International

We apologize for this error.



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Area Parents Taking a Second Look at School #12

Rachel Larson

It is a given that one of the first things said to people moving to the Rochester area is “what suburb are you moving to?” Such a question, premised largely on the misconceptions surrounding Rochester city schools, means young families moving to the suburbs have become as predictable in our town as folks wanting to touch a pregnant lady’s belly, grandparents spoiling kids and husbands’ plans for football Sundays.

It nags at me every day how easily urban public education in America has been thrown under the bus in America. I grew up with public education, rural and urban. I am a semi-productive, happy citizen. I am raising two children in our urban city schools and am very proud of the quality education they receive in my neighborhood. And I have met many young adults who graduated from city schools who I would be honored to call my neighbors and friends.

So where is the break-down between what people perceive to be reality and the reality of students in our neighborhood school, James PB Duffy, #12? I wish I could pinpoint this black hole. So far, my efforts are futile. What I can do is describe to readers how amazing my children’s education has been to date and leave young parents to use their own hearts and brains to make positive choices together for our school, our neighborhood community and our city.

Schools must have dedicated teachers and #12 does! This school has 47 full-time amazing classroom and special subject teachers, and 20 full-time terrific support teachers for reading, speech and occupational therapies. There is not a school day that goes by that I do not feel humbled by their patience and limitless skills with our students.

Schools must have proven leadership and #12 does! The Wallace Foundation invests serious money in our city school district for summer education



School #12 PTA and students box 42 meals for school families during the holidays

loss prevention programs. As a leader in educational successes, the foundation emphasizes the need for strong principals focused on classroom education. School 12 has that leadership in our principal, Dr. Jennifer Grkourlias and her staff! She has an open door policy with parents, helps track student performance and is always up for advocating and expanding successful programs that challenge her students.

Schools need parent involvement and #12 has it! The School #12 Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) is one of the strongest in the city. Together parents support vital programs like the current Greater Rochester Health Foundation grant that seeks to change the culture to include more recess and nutritional education. The parent volunteers manage the community volunteers, support the teachers in the classrooms and raise money for books, musical instruments and field trips.

Schools need community support, and #12 is blessed with over 70 volunteers, several business supports like Rochester Midland Corporation and Xerox. Our 70 plus community volunteers tutor one-on-one with students in reading and math and support teachers in classrooms. Xerox donated over \$2000 for more robotic equipment. Rochester Midland Corporation provides mentor volunteers and countless pencils given to students for perfect attendance. And the Greater Rochester Health Foundation has spent over \$600,000 to upgrade our playground, support

recess during school, after school clubs, teacher trainings and numerous family-focused events to promote healthier students.

Schools need amazing educational programs and #12 is the only public school system in Monroe County with a full bilingual program. HOLA immerses students in 50% Spanish and 50% English instruction. This program is over 25 years old at #12.

Another exciting, inventive pilot program, ACE- Academic Challenge & Enrichment, seeks to update the 50-year-old district MAP program for students who need more content to accelerate their education. And School 12 is home to five special needs classrooms with two teachers and smaller student enrollment to devote more time to student success.

So share this article with neighbors with small children, and if you would like more information about School #12 or other great city schools, please email me at tastejustice@yahoo.com. I’d love to chat!



Enjoy “Elf” at the Cinema Theater Free Matinee on Saturday, December 17. Courtesy of the South Clinton Avenue Merchants Association.

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SW Farmers Market Works with National Federation on Season 2017

Jesse Knoth

With the South Wedge Farmers Market season over, its time to plan growing season 2017, and that begins with the Farmers’ Market Federation of New York’s annual Market Managers Conference. This year, the conference was held in Ellicottville, NY, at the Holiday Valley Resort. Over 70 managers from across the state as well as a few out-of-staters converged for three days of workshops, farm tours, and networking. Workshops focus on all areas of market management, including vendor management, food safety, media relations and SNAP programs. Outside the conference, we toured the Eden Valley Regional Food Hub, Blue Hill Farm/White Cow Dairy and Canticle Farm CSA.

With the SWFM’s SNAP numbers up and our participation in the USDA SNAP support grant, we were asked to be part of a panel on SNAP. We share the good news that SNAP sales have increased 17% in 2016 season and our SNAP shoppers received a 70% bonus through our participation in the

NY State FreshConnect Program. We talked about how to identify SNAP shoppers, the importance of promoting at the market, and ways to increase a sense of ownership with your shoppers. Even though it wasn’t directly related to SNAP we also showed off our new veggie path that was painted by community members, which resulted in many question from managers about how they could do similar projects at their market.

If you are interested in learning more about the Market Federation check out their website at www.nyfarmersmarket.com. The Farmers’ Market Federation of New York is a grassroots, membership organization of farmers’ market managers, market sponsors, farmers and market supporters. Together, we have developed a spectrum of services to increase the number and capacity of farmers markets and producers. They have great resource for farmers, managers and customers including offering the Farmers Market Manager Pro certifications.

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Happy Holidays from our family to yours!

Talking with My Mouth Full Visits Mad Hatter Restaurant & Bakery

Mary Rice

“High tea” might not mean much to most people this side of the pond – indeed, the phrase may induce some amount of confusion – but for the folks at The Mad Hatter, this British custom is something of an art form. The restaurant, bakery, and tearoom, which re-opened in its new location on Goodman Street in summer 2016, is making a name for itself with its formal tea service available Monday through Saturday. If you’ve ever dreamed of having yourself a right proper tea party, this is (quite literally) going to be just your cup of tea.

Walk through the door of The Mad Hatter and you’re greeted by a cheery, tinkling bell announcing your arrival. At the counter, all manner of baked goods – muffins, cupcakes, cake truffles, six-layer bars – are heaped on silver platters and under glass cake domes. This is the Hatter’s bakery. When we arrived for our 3 p.m. reservation (though high tea officially begins at 3:30, the owner was kind enough to squeeze in our party of two), a server led us through a door off to the right of the bakery shop, and into the main dining room.

As you may have inferred from its name, The Mad Hatter draws inspiration from the famous Alice in Wonderland character and his “Mad Tea-Party” in chapter seven of Lewis Carroll’s literary classic. Just a glance around the dining room reveals the influence of Alice at work in the restaurant’s décor: from antique clocks and keys to the wall of looking-glasses near the kitchen entrance, The Mad Hatter is a whimsical yet modern homage to the beloved novel. Even the elegant booths that line the walls are upholstered in the exact shade of bright blue seen on Alice’s dress.

My dining companion (in this instance, my own lovely mother) and I were seated at a table draped with white linen and set with vintage, whimsically mismatched china. A bowl of sugar cubes, a pitcher of cream, a teapot, a butter dish, and two types of jam were already awaiting us, immediately setting the scene for this most formal of tea rituals.



A right proper high tea
(Photos by Mary Rice)

Before I go any further, it’s probably best to clear up exactly what high tea is (and isn’t). This formal affair, steeped in etiquette and ritual, traces its roots back to 19th-century English aristocrats. Back in the 1800s, lunch for the well-heeled members of British society was a light meal around noon, and supper was served no earlier than 7:30 p.m. Legend has it that the Duchess of Bedford, feeling peckish in the mid-afternoon, ordered tea and snacks delivered to her bedchamber to curb her hunger pangs. The habit stuck, and before long the practice of afternoon tea became fashionable in aristocratic circles.

Today, you can still order a “proper” high tea at upscale hotels and tearooms all over England. Typically accompanied by dainty finger sandwiches, miniature desserts, high tea can be a light nibble or a hearty snack depending upon your appetite. Having indulged in many such teas during my time living in England, I was eager to see how the tradition would translate across the ocean right here in Rochester.

The centerpiece of high tea is, naturally, the tea itself. The tea menu at The Mad Hatter is indeed impressive, with some 30 to 40 teas handily organized by caffeine content. The list includes such classics as Earl Grey and green as well as more unconventional offerings such as German chocolate cake, coconut gingersnap, and peach cobbler. I opted for a light-bodied Darjeeling, but later switched to a more robust English breakfast to balance out the sweet morsels served alongside.

In somewhat of a departure from the traditional British tea service (at least the ones I’ve experienced), high tea at The Mad Hatter is served in courses rather than all in one go. At the time of booking – high tea is only available through reservations – you choose a tea package from the menu available online. We chose the Queen of Hearts tea (\$17 per person), which includes three courses: scones, two finger sandwiches of your choice per person, and assorted petite desserts. Each course is brought out separately, and cleared away before the next is served.

I was most excited for our first course, and it did not disappoint. The freshly baked almond scones were still warm and fragrant, and hardly needed the addition of clotted cream or fruit preserves (though of course I added them anyway!). Unlike many American scones, which tend to be dry, tough triangles of dough adorned with icing, The Mad Hatter’s scones were the real, English deal. Tender, delicate, and just the right amount of lumpy, these generously-sized delights were taken to a whole new level of sublime with the addition of apricot and raspberry preserves and a healthy dollop of clotted cream (a thick cream somewhere on the spectrum between butter and pure bliss).

I admit I approached our next course with some degree of trepidation. When finger sandwiches come to mind, I usually think of the cold, soggy, uninspiring morsels that are offered up at baby showers and such. I might have to rethink my assessment, because the finger sandwiches served at the Mad Hatter are actually craveable. I loved the warm, shredded turkey on my turkey-Swiss sandwich, while my mother

delighted in the oregano-laced chicken salad with green apples.

At this point in our meal we were feeling comfortably content, but there was still a dessert course to come. Our petite sweets arrived, as did our other courses, on a two-tiered china platter, adding extra elegance to an already sophisticated scene. My favorite by far were the delicate palmiers, a French pastry consisting of flaky puff pastry coated in butter and sugar and then rolled and folded into a shape resembling a heart or elephant ear. I have to imagine that no matter how delectable the dessert, it’s probably frowned upon to lick your fingers at high tea (oops).

Though the palmiers stole the show for me, the dessert course also featured a brownie layered with peanut butter ganache, as well as carrot cake petit fours coated in white chocolate. By the time we had polished off the last crumb of the desserts, we were both happily full and satisfied (although somewhat sheepish that we had just ruined our appetites for dinner). Our light afternoon nibble had turned into a full meal, which is a chance you must take when it comes to high tea. It must be said that the sheer experience of it all – dining on white linen under chandeliers, drinking from delicate floral-patterned china – makes it worth going to, even if you’re not particularly hungry between lunch and dinner.

I might add that throughout this repast, we both enjoyed bottomless pots of tea, brewed with a loose-leaf strainer and three-minute hourglass timer. If tea doesn’t strike your fancy, you can substitute it for coffee, hot chocolate, lemonade, or iced tea. Similarly, if you’re seeking something savory rather than sweet, you can opt for tea packages that include home made quiche, beet and goat cheese salad, or cheese and baguette. Here, The Mad Hatter has tinkered with the traditional afternoon tea to make it more accessible to the modern-day eater. After all, we can’t all be duchesses...although an afternoon at The Mad Hatter just might make you feel like one.



Sweets from the Hatter’s bakery

Poems by

John George



The Brim

Hats of all shapes &
Colors & sizes
Hats for our Moods
And many disguises
Hats for tomorrow
Hats for today
Hats for the brothers
We missed on the way
Hats for the morning
And late, late at night
Hats for peace and when
We’re ready to fight
Hats for the old & hats
For the new
Come on in I might have
A hat just for you
A hat that fits nicely
And rests on your ears
A hat you might want
To keep for some years
A man’s whole life

Fuzz

Walking down the street in the middle of the night half dressed in a wife beater and a pair of jogging shorts that were new ten years ago he stumbles too high to care about the stares and the laughter.

Too many murders
Too many rapes
Too many child molesters
That made their escapes

Long gray hair
And beard the same
The drinking and drugging
No longer a game

The memories of blood
Spattered on a city street
Day after day the same
Stories just repeat

How much can one man take
All these horrors he’s collected
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A city detective

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Have a Hedonistic Holiday

Mary Rice

At Hedonist Chocolates, it's nearly always the most wonderful time of the year. The holiday season, a busy one for for nearly everyone, is especially so when you're in the chocolate business. The rush of shoppers seeking the perfect gift for their chocoholic loved ones means that Hedonist starts preparing for Christmas once the weather shows the first signs of cooling off.

Behind the storefront bedecked with garlands and string lights, a kitchen team of just three people works at full tilt to keep the shelves stocked and holiday shoppers satisfied. As one member of that team, I have a front-row seat to the Christmas chaos.

The holiday season is by far the most productive time of year at Hedonist, with about 40% of our sales occurring between November 1 and the new year. Seasonal favorites such as candy cane bark and the five-flavor holiday truffle collection return annually, though our year-round staples – such as our perennially popular salted caramels – see a big spike come Christmastime as well. This means that we not only need to produce those festive faves, but we also have to boost our supply of nearly everything else. That's not to mention seasonal ice creams such as pumpkin, gingerbread, eggnog, and peppermint.

At Hedonist, holiday planning – setting production schedules, placing ingredient orders, lining up arrangements for corporate gifts



A rapturous box of holiday truffles (Photos by Mary Rice)

– can begin as early as August. So, while you're still enjoying backyard barbecues and trying to eat your ice cream before it melts, we've already got eggnog, candy canes, and figgy pudding on the brain.

Unlike other retailers, a chocolatier like Hedonist can't call on vast inventories to meet zooming holiday demand. That's in part due to Hedonist's handmade, small-batch production model, but just as much due to our commitment to selling fresh goods. Chocolate is a delicate and organic substance, and although it may be more shelf-stable than, say, your Thanksgiving leftovers, it is best eaten fresh. This means that while our planning may begin early, our actual holiday production takes place in large part in the six weeks preceding Christmas – because no one wants chocolate past its prime.

We hit peak production levels around mid to late November, making about 5,000 to 6,000 truffles per week, not to mention some forty

pounds of chocolate bark per day. Candy cane bark is particularly popular. Having personally produced all of the candy cane bark for the 2016 holiday season, I estimate I made eight to ten batches of the stuff each day for two weeks. (I hope it'll be enough).

And the star of this festive show? That's undoubtedly the holiday truffle collection, a five-flavor chocolate experience that will bring all your favorite Christmas memories to mind. The spicy-sweet taste of the ginger molasses truffle echoes the sugar-coated molasses cookies that are a staple at this time of year, while the pungent nutmeg and brandy tones of the eggnog truffle evoke more adult-friendly Christmas treats. That's not to mention orange clove, fig, and pomegranate champagne, each a burst of holiday nostalgia.

Like all of our truffles, this collection is made in small batches and hand-dipped by chocolatiers such as yours truly. And that's only the half of it. Each handmade confection must then be boxed or bagged by hand, tied with a bow and tagged and labeled. Imagine Santa's team of elves wrapping gifts in the workshop at the North Pole, and you'll get a sense of what our shop looks like in November and December.

So once Christmas is over, we can relax right? Not quite. While you're still digesting Christmas dinner, we'll be moving onto the next big thing: Valentine's Day.

Meet Ian Eglad

Nancy O'Donnell

This year's Hedonist Artisan Chocolate featured artist Ian Eglad for its annual Halloween collaboration between artists and chocolate.

This year, Eglad, a custom screen painter and founder of Kitty Box Press, created chocolates for using the image of his favorite animal, the cat in the guise of mummies, witches and Frankenstein.

"I like cats. I have three: Calloway, Sophie and Loofa," said Eglad.

The Albion, NY native moved to Los Angeles after graduating from high school. For a couple years he sold merchandise for bands before moving back to Rochester in 2001.

"I'm self-taught," said Eglad of his art. "This was my first time working with chocolate."

Eglad describes his mission on his website to give customers "the most positive screen printing experience..."



Artist Ian Eglad gazes into a brilliant future of chocolates, cats and art. Eglad's custom kitty t-shirts hang on Hedonist Chocolate's walls (Photos by Nancy O'Donnell)

using environmentally friendly, comfortable and quality materials."

Eglad advertises products that are "hand pulled and hand crafted" using water-based dyes on textiles, paper and other materials.

At the time of publication, Eglad's cat chocolates were still available at Hedonist. To learn more about Eglad's screen printing, visit www.kittyboxpress.com.



Artist Ian Eglad Creates Chocolates with a Side of Meow

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Candy cane bark (Photo by Mary Rice)

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MCC Professor Offers Safe Space After Presidential Election

Nancy O'Donnell

With nearly two million people (the popular vote) in mourning and fear after the recent presidential election, Athesia Benjamin decided that people needed to feel safe. She called Equal=Ground Coffee House on South Avenue and asked them if they could provide a "safe space" where people could "be in community and be supported."

"I heard of a number of very disheartening incidences of harassment just prior to the election and since the election," said Benjamin, a Monroe Community College professor in the Visual and Performing Arts department. "I thought of the event as a form of art therapy."

"On Nov. 9th, it was like trying to be at work and hearing that someone you loved had died. I needed to cry and not feel so crazy. One thing I could do is create an event, post-election group therapy. I was thinking of a good central downtown location, and then I called John [co-owner of Equal=Grounds]. He said it would be great."

"It was almost like an experiment. I put it on my Facebook page, sent it out to my personalized tribes," Benjamin said. "How many people would come? I had no idea [State Assemblyman] Harry Bronson would be in our midst and provide words of wisdom."

Benjamin was joined by State Assemblyman Harry Bronson

and 75 or more people who stopped by to share their thoughts.

One woman was handing out safety pins. The pins copy a movement in Great Britain that grew out of an enormous spike in reported hate crimes before



State Assemblyman Harry Bronson

and after Brexit. People wear the pin on their lapels to send a message to minorities that they can be counted on to do something if an individual in a targeted group is attacked or harassed.

"I've begun seeing hate closing in," said Benjamin. She tells a story-- she can't confirm it's true-- but a friend told her about an elderly black woman shopping in Pittsford Wegmans who was approached by someone after the election who asked, "You're still here? When are you going back to Africa?"

Toni Robbins stopped in Equal=Grounds after a walk in Highland Park with her

cousin. She stayed to listen. "Pence and Trump fostered this rise of hatred," said Robbins. "Now it's okay to say these things he got away with saying. We're seeing repercussions."

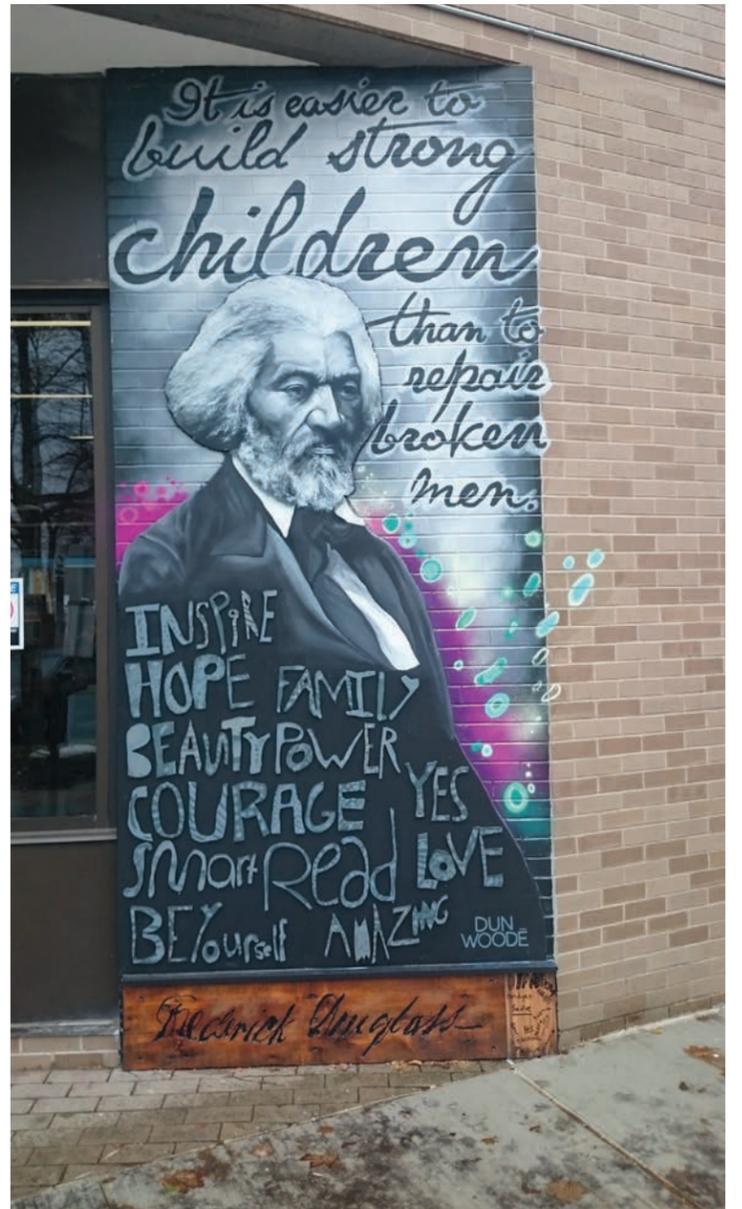
Throughout the afternoon men and women shared their stories. Behind each was the realization that the VP-elect had a long problematic history with the LGBTQ community. During a 2000 congressional run, Pence's website supported "conversion therapy" which claims that an individual's sexual orientation can be changed. While an Indiana Congressman Pence objected to efforts to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, open gay ban in the military. In 2014, Governor Pence tried to amend Indiana's constitution to ban same-sex marriages. A year later in March 2015, Governor Pence signed into law a measure that would allow businesses to turn away gay and lesbian customers in order to protect the "religious freedom" of their business. Indiana was the first state in the nation to do so. Only after corporations like APPLE and faith-based organizations threatened a boycott did Pence sign a new version of the bill the following month that prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual organization.

One participant emphasized that a virtual Pandora's box of hate--racism, homophobia, xenophobia and misogyny--had been unleashed with the election of Donald Trump and it can't be addressed in a "day, not a month, it's a fight of lifetime."

"I passed around a sheet of paper and asked people to put down their emails if they were willing to do something," said Benjamin. With a filled sheet of emails of people looking for community, she's thinking about holding another event where people can "check in where they are" after the holidays.

Life Together

continued from pg. 4



Artist Shawn Dunwoody brings to life Frederick Douglass, the former slave who rose to greatness as statesmen, abolitionist, author, lecturer. The Frederick Douglass library stands on the South Avenue location of his home. It was later destroyed, most likely by arson. (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

beautiful houses and the splendor of the lilacs. Across the street, the hospital, source of neighborhood discord but also of healing, staffed and utilized by a vast array of humanity's diversity. Turn north, and walk up South Ave towards the city. On your left, you'll pass Highland Manor, and if you're like me up until a few months ago, you may never have walked through, and seen the rainbow of refugees and migrants, speaking Spanish and Swahili and Karin and Arabic, all hoping for a better life than the one they left behind. Past Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, where yesterday's immigrants are today's hosts, where several birka-clad women wait for the bus after receiving aid from Refugees Helping Refugees. Further up, on the left, you'll pass several communities serving veterans, many of whom might be homeless otherwise. On the right, as you cross Caroline St, Equal=Grounds Coffeehouse flies its multicolored flags, and offers haven and empowerment to the Wedge's vibrant GLBTQ community. Further on, past the boutique shops and historic houses and the section 8 high rise at the corner of Alexander St., you'll start to meet homeless persons, making their way to St. Joseph's House of Hospitality, or to the tent city under the highway overpass.

If you take this walk with eyes to see, how can you not be convinced of our own communion of saints and sinners, here in our neighborhood? Rich and poor, black and white,

citizen and refugee, and maybe even a handful of conservatives mixed in the cauldron of liberals, libertarians, anarchists and undecideds. In whose interest is it that we remain divided?

Certainly not our own. From the mural on the library pillar, one of Frederick Douglass' hands reaches out, three-dimensional in plaster, as if from the past, pleading, inviting, exhorting. He begs us to take his hand, to transcend our two-dimensional dichotomies and our divisions. He begs us to listen to his gospel, forged in the brutal consequences of our refusal to accept the reality of our unity. "I would unite with anybody to do right, and with nobody to do wrong."

No matter how we voted, we know what is right. We see it all around us. We hear it speaking in the Manor, and we hear it laughing in the school yard. We hear it sharing coffee in the cafe and sharing war stories in the counselor's office. I hope we are hearing it from our churches, from our activists, from our families, and I know we hear it whispering, groaning, pleading from the depths of our divine human hearts.

We cannot control if the rest of the country goes to hell. We can commit to one another, in our place, this place, and remember the day, not that Trump divided our nation, but when we chose to stop the division game altogether. In whose interest is it that we are divided? Not ours. May it never be. Our lives and those of our children depend on it.

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Home Sweet Home Fundraiser Showcases Area Pastry Creatives

Glynis Valenti

(Photos by Glynis Valenti)



Scratch Bakery's intricate floral cake



Premier Pastry's Teddy Bear received the highest bid of \$85



Cheesy Eddie's in the South Wedge decorated and donated this cake



Goodness Cakes said Welcome Home at the Home Sweet Home event

NeighborWorks Rochester hosted "Home Sweet Home" at the Rochester Colonial Showroom in early November. More than 100 people attended the annual fundraiser to bid on sweet treats made by local bakeries. The Southeast was well-represented with these local participating bakeries: Cheesy Eddie's Bake Shop, Hedonist Chocolates, Goodness Cakes, Scratch Bakery, Premier Pastry, Sinful Sweets, Baker Street Bakery, Hillside Catering, Something Delicious Bakery, Open Face and Chef's Catering.



This red velvet cake was courtesy of Chef's Catering.



Sinful Sweets' new "Sinister Spud" cupcake was a hit



The Hillside Catering program sent this Peanut Butter and Chocolate cake to the event.



Waddlers donated socks for St Joe's



Wedge Waddle organizers Gretchen Arnold and Jennifer Posey



Waddlers came in all shapes and sizes Athena Lill dressed for her waddle



First time waddler Miss Natalie R.

Wedge Waddle Nov. 24, 2016

(Photos by Nancy O'Donnell)

Savor the Flavor in the South Wedge

In 2005, The South Wedge Planning Committee formed a volunteer Cookbook Committee to plan a SWPC cookbook that could be sold to support its many community programs. The team of volunteers (Nanett Cepero, Lauren Daley, Philip Duquette, Tracy Saville, John vanKerkhove and Tanya Zwahlen) collected recipes and designed the layout of the 118-page cookbook. It include everything from appetizers to desserts, many of them coming from family recipes

To celebrate the hard work of committed volunteers, *The Wedge* will be printing one of the recipes from the cookbook every issue.

This issue we're including sweet recipes from former South Wedge Planning Committee executive directors Dan Buyer and Bob Boyd.

Dan Buyer's Snowballs

- 1 c. butter
- 1/2 c. confectioner's sugar
- 2 1/2 c. flour
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 c. finely chopped nuts
- cream (no exact amount was given. Be creative)

Cream butter. Add sugar, vanilla and cream. Sift flour with salt. Add to creamed batter and work well with ands. Add nuts. Chill for about 1 hour. Roll into small snowballs, around 1/8 inch. Bake in 400 degrees oven for 12-14 mins. Roll in powdered sugar while hot. Let cool and then roll again.



Snowball cookies

Filling:

- 1 c. confectionary sugar
- 1/3 tsp. vanilla
- 6-oz. cream cheese
- 4 T. butter

Beat eggs at high speed for five minutes. Gradually beat in sugar. Stir in pumpkin and lemon juice. Fold dry ingredients into pumpkin mixture. Spread into a jelly roll pan (15 inches by 10 inches by 1 inch) which has been greased, wax papered and greased again. Top batter with 1 cup chopped walnuts. Bake at 375 degrees for 15 minutes. Turn out onto a towel that has been sprinkled with confectionary sugar. Roll towel and cake together to cool completely.



Bob Boyd's Pumpkin Cake Roll

- 3 eggs
- 1 c. sugar
- 2/3 c. pumpkin
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 3/4 c. flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. ginger
- 1/4 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Chopped walnuts

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First Community Interfaith Institute Inc. will be holding First Fruits/Kwanzaa activities through January 1. The first event is their Kwanzaa Appreciation Program will be December 1, 5:30 p.m. at 219 Hamilton Street. This is the kickoff event for their First Fruits season. To learn more call 461.0379.

jcm

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a Year in the Wedge...



School #12 was rehabbed adding cozy light-filled zones throughout the school (photo courtesy of RCSD)

(right) In 2016 we said goodbye to premiere cartoonist Justin Hubbell who went international



South Wedge Ajani Jeffries went from entrepreneur owner of Goldn Road to runway model at Rochester Fashion Week. Here with partner Sage Cruz Field. (Photo by Brandon Vick)



City Council member Carolee Conklin and granddaughter Alexis are long-time attendees at Wedge Me In. Maybe because Alexis is extraordinarily lucky in winning raffle items.



Many South Wedgers attended University of Rochester #NotMyAmerica protest after the election



Joseph Gray speaks to the crowd at UR #notmyamerica rally



Southside Little League with Joywave supporters



South Wedge Farmers Market Manager Jesse Knoth invited kids to a #PlayRoc event that resulted in a bright sidewalk full of veggies & fruits



John Borek, playwright, producer and aide to City Council member Adam McFadden represents at Open Letter Books fundraiser at the German House

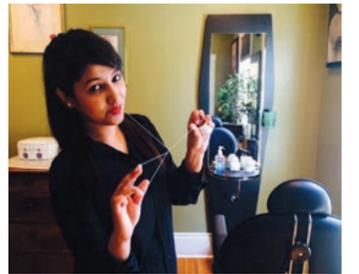


(Above) Wedge Waddle runners huddle before the run on Thanksgiving morning (left) The Mambo Kings wowed the crowd at City Love 2016 at the German House (below) The South Wedge Farmers Market brought a whole lotta serenity to Thursday afternoon as Tru Yoga teachers held classes during teh weekly market

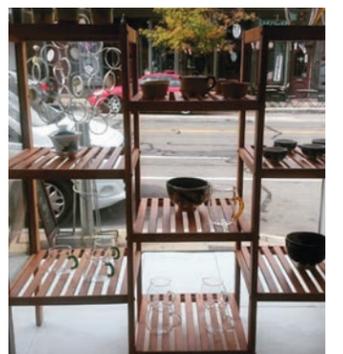


Highland Library changes name and recognizes South Wedge hero (and world famous notable) Frederick Douglass

WE WELCOMED NEW BUSINESSES IN 2016



Sujana Beauty Brows, South Ave.

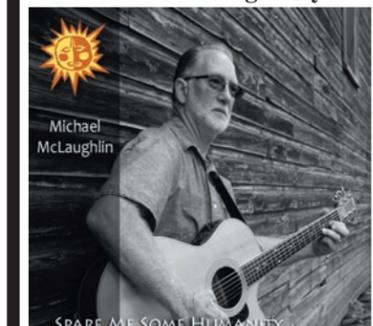


New Leaf Tea Bar,, South Avenue



IN MEMORIAM

In 2016 we said sad goodbyes



SPARE ME SOME HUMANITY
Mike McLaughlin



Richard Reagan - The Mayor of Cayuga Street



Tim O'Connell



A magic bus of music from Firebrand parks outside of New Beale Cafe in the South Wedge two nights a week (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)