

The WEDGE

The Official Newspaper of the South Wedge Since 1982

FREE

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(c) Studio Michaelino. Scene from the short film: "A Decade of Highland Park" available at studiomichaelino.com

City Love 2019

Joan Brandenburg

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) is busy planning the sixth annual City Love on Friday, May 3. It will be held in the heart of the South Wedge at the Historic German House, 315 Gregory St. from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The annual event showcase SWPC projects and programs and our community partners and businesses. It's also the night when one special person will receive a City Love Outstanding Community Service Award.

Year round SWPC works to revitalize Rochester neighborhoods through home repair work, small business assistance, community engagement, a neighborhood farmers market and community gardens. Add to that the WEDGE Newspaper which has chronicled the lives and times of the historic South Wedge and beyond since 1982.

This year, City Love features live music from *Uptown Groove*, a Rochester band, famous for



Now Congressman Joe Morelle stopped by SWPC's City Love last April while campaigning for Congress.

its great Funk style music.

Along with moving to the groove, City lovers can enjoy a wide array of food tastings, sips and desserts from local businesses, wine and beverage merchants, live and silent auctions and a complimentary photo from Good Day, Sir Custom Photo booth.

Tickets are \$25 and available through at RocCityLove.com or at SWPC office, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue. All proceeds will be reinvested in Rochester by preserving owner-occupied homes, helping families eat healthier, assisting small businesses, and saving vacant houses.

We hope that you'll join us for a wonderful evening with friends and neighbors as we celebrate the wonderful neighborhoods, business and people that make us love to call the ROC home.

For more information call 585.256.1740, ext.. 5 or email info@swpc.org.



Group fun from Good day, Sir Custom photo booth at City Love 2018



City Love viewed from above

Modern Day Role Model Has Local Connection

Nancy O'Donnell

Over the last year, heroes seemed hard to come by. American, the beautiful, grew less so with every newspaper headline and email blast. Twitter feuds laced with obscenities and invective. A massacre in a Jewish synagogue. Dancers at a Country and Western concert mowed down on the dance floor. Emboldened white nationalist signs posted on area colleges and utility poles.

When it seems that a cruder, crueler culture is growing, it's important to reflect on role models who faced evil with goodness and bravery. Now especially during the season of peace and goodwill, we can find inspiration in the story of a Polish resistance fighter told by local community activist Susan Mars. The tribute to her cousin was posted on Facebook on October 31st. Helena worked for the Polish Resistance and was executed by the Nazis in 1941.

Helena Marusarzówna

By Susan Mars

Helena Marusarzówna, my cousin, was born on January 17, 1918 in Zakopane to the family of Jan and Helena Marusarz, one of six children. As a young child, Helena competed in the ski competitions organized by Kornel Makuszyński (today the Koziolok Matolek Memorial). She won them several times, receiving a book with a writer's dedication.

At the beginning of January 1935, she was admitted to the Skiing Section of the Polish Tatra Society (SN PTT), and in February she was the vice-champion of the country in the Alpine combination. In the following years, she also won in the slalom and downhill.

"It was thanks to my older brothers, my father and my uncle Jan, that Aunt Helena was such an outstanding skier. They made her first skis for her. They trained her



Helena Marusarzówna (Photo courtesy of Susan Mars)

and then they wrote to SN PTT," recalled Magdalena Marusarz-Gądek, daughter of a four-fold Olympian and world runner-up in ski jumping (Lahti 1938). In January 1939, due to injury, Helena did not take part in the international FIS ski competition in Zakopane. However, in March in German Feldberg she took second place in the slalom.

"Dad, who also competed in these competitions, told me that they saw what Fascism means in them, which resulted in such a huge, negative impression that it was an additional impulse to take part in a courier operation just after the outbreak of the war," emphasized Magdalena Marusarz-Gądek Wojciech Szatkowski, a historian from the Tatra Museum in Zakopane and the author of books on the history of skiing in Poland. Along with Helena's sporting achievements, she was also known for her extraordinary beauty.

"Slim, about 176 cm tall, blue-eyed with beautiful blond hair, I know that she aroused admiration, and when I add character to it, I admit that it is worth remembering that she was shot at the age of only 23."

Another relative of Stanisław Marusarz emphasized the aunt's beauty. "It can be seen in the pictures, and Daddy also proudly said that she played as a double in the film version + Halka +. In 1939, she was offered a performance at a fashion show in Warsaw, and she won the first prize." After the outbreak of World War II, Helena joined the ranks of the AK-ZWZ "Zagroda" section and started her courier activity with her siblings, transferring, among others, through the Tatras to Slovakia and then further to Hungary, many valuable underground materials. She also conducted through the mountains at least a few dozen people threatened with German arrests. From September 1939, she participated in the Polish Resistance, acting from October as a secret courier of the "Zagroda" cell of the Koncziorny Communications Department of the SZP-ZWZ KG to the "Romek" base in Budapest, moving mail and carrying people through the mountain route. She was captured in March 1940 by the Slovak gendarmerie and handed over to the Gestapo. She was imprisoned in Muszyna, Nowy Sącz, in the Zakopane headquarters of the Gestapo Palace, in Tarnów and Krakow on Montelupich. Tortured on multiple occasions, she did not disclose any of the secret information, but the Gestapo found a Hungarian letter in her luggage and after many months it was associated with [another fighter in the Polish Resistance] Stefania Hanauskin.

On March 25, 1940, along with several other couriers, she was captured by the gendarmes working with the Germans. After a few days, she was handed over

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

The Wedge Gets Read!

Flash your Wedge Card

Buy a Wedge Card to show your neighborhood pride and get discounts when you shop local businesses. You'll also get the *Wedge Newspaper* mailed to your home! Using the Wedge card is simple, just check the inside cover of each *Wedge Newspaper* for listings of participating businesses.



or contact Glynis Valenti, gvalenti@swpc.com, 256-1740, ext. 2. Are you a business owner interested in participating in the Wedge Card discount program? Let us know!

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378 Mt. Hope Avenue

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For 36 years, *The Wedge Newspaper* has chronicled the lives and times of the vibrant South Wedge neighborhood and beyond. Please consider subscribing. You'll get the newspaper delivered to your home & a Wedge card, too. Fill out the form and send a check or money order to the address below.

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SWPC Board Notepad - Tony Sciarabba

SWPC Treasurer Looks back on 25 Years of Service

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) has been serving the South Wedge neighborhood for over 45 years, and I have been a part of that for the past 25 years. The South Wedge has gone through many positive changes over the years. Housing quality has improved and commercial businesses continue to come into the area. The SWPC office itself moved from Sanford Street to its present location on Mt. Hope Avenue. The appearance and safety of the neighborhood are good and continue to get better. These things just don't happen on their own. Many people have helped over the years; maybe you are one of them. A lot of people have come and gone on the Board and its Committees. Some people join for a few years to help out and do their share to improve the neighborhood; some join for a short time to deal with a specific issue they are concerned about, and others stay for a longer time after they realize the satisfaction that comes with giving back to your community.

I was open to a community involvement activity when I was working for a local bank. SWPC contacted the bank for a financial person to join the Board and the bank brought the opportunity to

me. I was familiar with the area from past years frequenting bars such as Laws (then on corner of South & Gregory) and stores like Cheesy Eddy's. In addition, I was driving through the neighborhood multiple times per week as I went from my job downtown to my MBA classes at U of R. It seemed like a good fit. Throughout several jobs changes and other life events I have stayed with the organization.

I attended my first meeting in late 1992 and was officially elected to the Board in March 1993. I made many new friends over the years. I even have a part-time job in the South Wedge now. During tax season you can find me at the Liberty Tax office on the corner of South & Gregory.

I have been the Board Treasurer, for the vast majority of the time, with only a one year period where I was a Finance Committee member. In my capacity as Treasurer, I review the monthly financial results and report to the Board at the monthly meetings. I also review the annual financial statement with the Auditors and help prepare the annual budget.

It's been very rewarding to be involved in the South Wedge

community, and I invite others to get involved

Watching the South Wedge area improve over the years has provided a sense of satisfaction. The neighborhood is well known and admired. It is a desirable location to own or rent a home. The important thing is to keep it that way. It doesn't just happen by itself. It takes the effort and dedication of the individuals who live, work and play there. Is there an issue you feel that needs to be addressed? What improvements or additions to the neighborhood would you like to see? Get involved and help make your neighborhood better. We have openings on the SWPC Board as well as on various Committees. We also always need for welcome volunteers to help with our events. Call or e-mail us and see how you can get involved with. And, of course, attend all the events; especially those that are fund raisers. Corporate donations aren't what they used to be, and there are fewer grant programs available. SWPC needs your financial support to keep the neighborhood thriving. Please consider making a tax deductible donation today.

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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. 4 or 585-978-9638.

Before recycling the *Wedge*, please share with others.

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

Join SWPC in Community Building

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) invites you to join us in making a difference in southeast Rochester. Join our board of directors or serve on a committee.

Founded in 1978, SWPC acts as a conduit for federal or state repair grants that help keep

people in their aging homes.

SWPC works in a myriad of ways to build community through the annual South Wedge Farmers Market (June-October), South Wedge Victory Gardens on Hamilton and Cypress Streets and The *Wedge Newspaper* that

publishes six issues each year.

Your time, talent and passion can help us in continuing SWPC's work. If interested, please call 256-1740 or e-mail gvalenti@swpc.org or board chair Frank Logan at flogan@rochester.rr.com

South Wedge Planning Committee

Meetings are held at 224 Mount Hope Avenue,
The community is invited to attend all meetings.

SWPC Board Tues. 12/18, 1/15, 6 p.m.

contact: flogan@rochester.rr.com

Community Engagement
(Neighbors & Block Clubs)
gvalenti@swpc.org
Wed TBA & 1/22, 5:30 p.m.

Housing & Structures
Meets bimonthly
Wed. TBA, 5:30 p.m.
gvalenti@swpc.org

SW Victory Garden
felann@frontiernet.net

Swillburg Remembers Harvest Dinner

Mike Henry

When I consider the idea of community I think of people living in proximity to one another, and more importantly by virtue of their proximity, interacting. Going beyond that, I think of my life in towns much smaller than Rochester where I knew only a few people. One would expect then that in a more populous place my connections might be far less. Not so. I'm fortunate to live in the Swillburg Neighborhood, a place of strong community, not by virtue of proximate living but, wonderfully so, by virtue of neighbors' collaborative efforts to be connected. Such efforts were greatly evident on Thursday, November 8th at our fourth annual Harvest Fest at the Artisan Church. The culmination of months of planning brought nearly eighty neighbors together for a potluck dinner and to hear presentations by representatives of RPD, the Southeast Quadrant Neighborhood Service Center as well as from Mark IV Enterprises. As shown in the photo below, the setting was festive and plentiful with great food offerings - emblematic of the social tone and

tenor of warmth and friendship.

The Swillburg Neighborhood Association would like to thank all who participated and contributed to our fun event. Pastor Scott Austin of Artisan Church, opened their sanctuary once again to us. Many donors contributed to our very fun raffle: Wegmans, The University of Rochester Simon School, Stuart's Spices, Dicky's Corner Bar, Progressive Barber Shop, Lounge Barber Shop, Natural Pet Food, Jack Mars, and Tom and Ana Page. Also a big thanks to RPD representatives Deputy Chief LeRon Singletary and Captain Lloyd Cuyler, and to Nancy Johns Price, Administrator of the Southeast Quadrant Neighborhood Service Center, and Mark IV Developer, Steve Di Marzo, who updated us on his construction of a Karges Place apartment building. As well, thanks to Jesse Knoth for donations of tableware.

Thanks also goes out to our neighbors who created this event, Judy Hay (for facilitating our planning), Sara Gaudio (for her great coordination and delivery of the fun raffle), and Frank TenBroeck, Linda Lazore, David Fergusson, Josh Jacobs, JoAnn O'Neil, Josh Bossman, Sharon Price, Joyce Nakada, Kelley Mariano, Bob Palmer, Ward Pedde, Stephanie Jakas and yours truly.

Such events build community, as Judy Hay, our master of ceremonies, pointed out in her opening remarks. On this night we made lots of new acquaintances, deepened friendships, established connections with key city agencies and just tightened our community weave.

Kudos to the Spirit of Swillburg!



Keyera Gissendanner-Scott cuts a ribbon and Anna Murray Douglass becomes the official name of School #12. Keyera is joined by Liz Hallmark, school board member, and Sandra Simon from the City of Rochester, Director of Special Projects and Educational Initiatives in back row. Jacqueline Sprague stands next to Keyera (on left). Hanif Abdul-Wahid from Monroe County, Community Liaison for Neighborhood Initiatives, Monroe County Department of Planning and Development on far right.

School #12 Renamed to Honor Anna Murray Douglass

A number of community members joined in a ribbon cutting celebration on Thursday, October 4, 2018 to rename the school in honor of Anna Murray-Douglass, the wife of Rochester icon Frederick Douglass. The school at 999 South Avenue is located on the site of Douglass' former home. Many know the story of the famous abolitionist, writer, and statesman. The former slave, and Rochester native, is studied and celebrated around the world. But his wife, Anna Murray-Douglass, also played an important role in our nation's history.

Anna Murray was born in Maryland in the early 1800's. Unlike her seven older siblings who were born into slavery, Anna was born free. Her parents were released from slavery a month before her birth. As a teenager, Anna worked as laundress

and housekeeper in Baltimore. She later met Frederick, and her freedom inspired him to escape slavery himself.

Murray helped Frederick escape slavery, and the couple soon married. She shared her husband's dedication to the abolitionist movement, becoming an instrumental member of the Underground Railroad and establishing a headquarters in Rochester, NY.

As a free woman during a time of slavery, Anna Murray-Douglass stood up for social justice, equity, and education. She believed education can lift families and communities to new heights. Nearly two centuries later, her work and passion still serve as a great example for Rochester City School District students.

The Rochester City School District thanked renowned Frederick Douglass historian Dr. David Anderson, Jacqueline Sprague, and members of the Douglass family for their "many years of persistent work to lead this fitting tribute and for working tirelessly to help rename School No. 12 the Anna Murray-Douglass Academy."



Andrew Soto-Bareis, Tamar Marshall, Jerianys Vega Gonzalez and Thea-belle Gillette join in celebrating



Swillburg Harvest Dinner (Photo by Bob Palmer)

Buy an ad for the Feb/ Mar. issue. Call 256-1740, ext. 4 or 978-9638. Deadline January 18ish

The Wedge Newspaper

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For Immediate Release
 Contact: Kelly Hallenbeck
 585-325-4170, Ext. 4705
 khallenbeck@nwrochester.org



Do you know a Good Neighbor? Nominations open for Celebration of Rochester Neighbors

(November 5, 2018 Rochester, NY) NeighborWorks® Rochester is organizing its 4th Annual **Celebration of Rochester Neighbors**, to be held in **June of 2019**. The free event, will be held at the City of Rochester Public Market, and celebrates the great people that make our neighborhoods strong. Volunteers who are making a difference in each of the city's four quadrants at neighborhood level, as well as one leader in the overall Rochester community will be recognized. City of Rochester residents who exemplify a vision for a better Rochester, who work to better their neighborhood or spark change by engaging others will be considered. Full nomination details are available on the webpage: <https://nwrochester.org/Celebration-of-rochester-neighbors/>.

The event will recognize four Community Champions - individuals from each of the four quadrants of the city for their contributions to their community. The Community Leadership Award award, which recognizes volunteer leaders who work to improve the entire community of Rochester. Support for the event comes from The City of Rochester Public Market, The City of Rochester, Bank of America, Heveron & Company, and SiteHub

Celebration of Rochester Neighbors is much like a block party for the entire city. The event will also kick off NeighborWorks® Week in Rochester and will feature live music, food, and children's activities.

Admission to the event is free. NeighborWorks® Rochester, a non-profit organization, builds strong neighborhoods by educating and counseling new homeowners, providing loan services and energy-savings programs to homeowners and targeted neighborhood revitalization through the Healthy Blocks Neighborhood Initiative. Volunteers who wish to help with the event, or local business interested in sponsorship can contact Kelly Hallenbeck, Regional Resource Development Manager at 327-4170, or khallenbeck@nwrochester.org.

#

Opinion - The Power of Redemption

Matthew C. Ludgood



Matthew Ludgood

What does redemption mean to you? Who are you willing to forgive? A while back I saw a mind-blowing TED Talk, "A Tale of Two Americas, and the Mini-Mart Where they Collided" by author Anand Giridharadas. In his talk, Giridharadas spoke about how America has been misrepresented to the rest of the world. The speaker discussed how some Americans are left impoverished while big corporations are excelling. He discussed how poverty and corruption have bred fear and discouragement among fellow citizens. He taught strategies how to overcome the biased nature of American culture by using a story about a conflict between two men. The speaker left his listeners in awe as he used this illustration to support his thought with the intention to bring about change in society. The TED Talk successfully convinced the audience that the wounds of bleeding America can be healed through forgiveness and redemption.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave one of the most historic speeches, "I Have a Dream," but he wasn't the only man with one; an immigrant named Raisuddin Bhuiyan had one as well. Giridharadas states that "he dreamed of a fresh start in America." After he moved from Bangladesh to Dallas, TX, Bhuiyan worked as a store clerk. He was saving for college and preparing for marriage when the unexpected happened. On September 11, 2001, America suffered one of its most horrific tragedies, the bombing New York's World Trade Center Twin Towers. An Islamic Terrorist group Al-Qaeda, led by Osama Bin Laden, was responsible for this attack. During this time of turmoil, America's prejudice towards those from the Middle East increased significantly. Not long after 9/11, a Caucasian male named Mark Stroman walked inside the store where Bhuiyan worked

and opened gunfire on him in an ethnically biased attack. Stroman shot him in the head with a shot gun and fled the scene. Bhuiyan was left fighting for his life, but he survived. Afterwards, he was in debt, single and homeless, but he felt that God had given him another opportunity. Stroman went to prison.

Years later, Bhuiyan became a pious Muslim and worked as a waiter. After months of service in this humbling position, he obtained a six figure job as an IT professional. He never gave up on his American Dream. Meanwhile, his assailant was on Death Row.

While some believed Stroman deserved severe punishment, he had begun his journey to redemption. It is amazing how faith can heal and restore relationships. Through their search for internal transformation, both men began to have sincere compassion. Bhuiyan was so filled with purpose that he reached out to Stroman. Both men reconciled before Stroman was executed. Bhuiyan had advocated for his attacker against a capital punishment sentence. Although the judicial system penalized the inmate for his crimes, some believed he died years before the injection because of his environment.

During the TED Talk, Giridharadas emphasized how America was broken up into two societies. In one society, people

were thriving with success. In the other society, people were impoverished with no promise of prosperity. He suggested that Stroman was a product of that second society. Giridharadas argued that many people like Stroman never had a fair opportunity. He disclosed how their environment played a significant role in cultivating an unbroken cycle of failure. Although Stroman's background doesn't excuse his violent actions, the author believed it had a great impact on his mental stability. The author argued that the perception of these two worlds can change if each citizen reevaluates their biases and prejudices towards others.

Giridharadas effectively uses the rhetorical strategy of pathos to evoke pity and sadness in order to persuade the audience. When he describes Bhuiyan's redemptive path, he says that "he would ask what he could do to repay his God and become worthy of this second chance." In the description of the attack, he states that "His family in Bangladesh begged him, 'Come home.' But he told them he had a dream to see about." This statement gives a clear description on how passionate Bhuiyan was about his American Dream.

Another emotional moment in the TED Talk was when Giridharadas speaks of Stroman's childhood. He says, "He entered the world through the three gateways that doomed so many young American men: bad parents, bad schools, bad prisons." While Giridharadas persuaded the audience with the emotional details, he has a deeper intention. His purpose is to educate people on the reality of America. Giridharadas reminded his audience that we must not overlook the divisions of people within society. We must be able to forgive and overlook injuries no matter how severe the offense. Granted, there are people in America

who are born into generational wealth. We must be mindful that everyone deserves equality and an opportunity to experience equity.

This TED Talk was very inspirational, and the speaker was passionate in convincing the audience about the following qualities of redemption: seeking a higher power, forgiveness, and taking advantage of second chances. Giridharadas uses the story of the two men for the listener to not only appreciate life and to take advantage of second chances.

The author was very effective in telling the men's stories and then the deep connection between the two unequal societies. His speech is intriguing and leaves the listener in deep thought afterward.

Throughout one's life, every individual should stare into the mirror of redemption. Redemption allows us to see error and feel conviction.

Conviction allows us to reflect on our past offenses. By addressing previous transgressions, we can accept the gift of forgiveness and begin a healing process.

When we have begun the journey of recovery, then we are able to aid others.

The TED Talk spoke volumes, to not only divided America, but to our often unforgiving human race.

After listening to this lecture, I began to realize that being redeemed is deeper than attending a spiritual gathering or performing repetitious rituals. This lecture taught me that true repentance can lead to genuine love and unity between friends and foes. Change starts within and spreads abroad.

Matthew C. Ludgood is a community activist, a health care professional and a student at Monroe Community College with a vision to obtain a Ph.D.

City's Marijuana Policies Must be Reformed

George Payne

Whether readers make the personal choice to smoke pot or not, the decades long war against marijuana in Rochester has been an unmitigated disaster. A series of recent studies have revealed just how devastating this war has been for people of color in our community.

According to the Division of Criminal Justice Services, in Monroe County, from 2012-2016, there were 1,811 total marijuana offenses. Those charged numbered 373 whites and 1,241 blacks. That's 68% of all arrests weighted against people of color. In Rochester, the total number of pot related arrests was 1,483. Of those 157 were white people. 1,164 were black. That's 78% of all arrests weighted against African-Americans. Put in another way, African-Americans make up 8 in 10 city pot arrests. This is a travesty of justice that is both unacceptable and untenable.

Perhaps the Partnership for Public Good in Buffalo and Erie County has encapsulated the social justice aspect of this crisis the best. They have stated: "For communities of color, marijuana prohibition has justified an invasive police presence that damages citizen's relationships with law enforcement. And it brings a violent, underground economy into their neighborhood, that cannot be governed by rule of law or regulated as an industry. For immigrant communities, arrests for marijuana possession can lead to deportation. This has happened on a large scale; simple marijuana possession was the fourth most common cause of deportation for any offense in 2013. For young people, the stakes of a marijuana arrest are particularly high, due to the long term costs of early involvement in the criminal justice system."

What makes this such a blatant act of social injustice, is that study after study has shown blacks and whites to purchase, consume, and sell pot at the same rate. Why are blacks arrested at such disproportional rates? The only explanation seems

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Holiday from Friends of Historic Calvary St. Andrews

Sunday, December 9, 4-5:30 p.m.

Bell Choir Concert- Seasonal Songs by the Third Presbyterian Church bell choirs,

Free, \$10 donations are appreciated. Every donation helps preserve this historic building.

Historic Calvary St. Andrews, 95 Averill Avenue. Parking on street and at Postler & Jackle lot at South and Averill Avenue.

www.calvarystandrews.org

South Wedge Sudoku

STR8TS

SUDOKU

Medium

Very Hard

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

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

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.

2	1	4	5
6	4	5	3
4	5	2	1
4	3	6	2
3	5	2	1
2	1	3	

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.

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It's About Time

Glynis Valenti

"The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once." Albert Einstein

Everyone knows about time, but no one knows for certain what it is. Scientists are not sure of its origins—if it is fundamental (an entity existing on its own) or emergent (as temperature is generated by movement of atoms.) Time isn't tangible, but it is quantified. Categorizing is how the mind wraps itself around an abstract concept.

The word "time" is Middle English, rooted in Old English "tima" and Old Norse "timi." It is also related to Old English "tid" or tide, which used to mean a "space of time." According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, the word "time" has 14 definitions for the noun, five for the verb and three for the adjective. The fact that something one cannot touch has so many qualities and definitions is demonstration of its complexity and universality.

Psychologically, physically and by definition, as the brain registers the "now," it is already the "past." It takes about 80 milliseconds for the brain to process simple signals. Theoretically, the concept of time is more difficult to pinpoint. Scientists versed in quantum physics study time's relationship to space, and Einstein himself leaned toward a fourth dimensional rather than a three dimensional world when considering each individual moment holding not only the present, but all of the past before it and all of its implied future as well. It is the human brain seeking order and explanation that divides time into increments and lines them up.

It is also true that each person has his own time clock incorporating biorhythms, experiences and perceptions regardless of what the clock on the wall says. Time flies, drags or even stops perceptually. Traveling through space, the body clock slows as speed increases and approaches the speed of light, though decades could be passing on earth. According to Joseph R. Givoe, executive producer of the "Shift of the Ages" project, 20th century writer, philosopher and artist Guy Murchie offers one of the plainest descriptions of time in his book *The Seven Mysteries of Life*. Murchie, while looking at the world as a whole, says that time is the relationship of each thing to itself. One looks at oneself "now" as compared to "then," and time is the measurement of that relationship's reality. He defines space as the relationship of one thing to other things.

"Think in the morning. Act in the noon. Eat in the evening. Sleep at night," writes poet William Blake

Outside of physicists and mystics who comprehend time as infinite and simultaneous



Time piece (Glynis Valenti)

(past, present and future, forever one,) most humans see time in measurements: nanoseconds, minutes, hours, years, eons, etc.

This most likely began with dawn and dusk. Millions of years ago hunters and gatherers gauged their tasks and journeys around the position of the sun in the sky. Later inhabitants noticed changes in the moon's appearance on its nightly trip through the heavens. These basic components have not changed much. Days measure the position of the sun in the sky. Months (or "moon-ths") are, roughly, lunar cycles every 29.53 days. A year is a measurement of Earth's trek around the sun and encompasses the four seasons.

For 3,000 years calendars were conflicting and inconsistent calculations of lunar and astronomical cycles, harvest celebrations and religious observances. In the sixth century, Dionysius Exiguus, a scholar charting a 19-year cycle of Easter holidays, established the birth of Christ as the beginning of the new Christian calendar, termed Anni Domini Nostri Jesu Christi—or A.D. What he didn't establish, however, was the actual birth date of Christ. Because of said conflicting records, lack of information and several hundred years' passage, the "beginning" of the calendar is still technically arbitrary, but accepted.

Julius Caesar tried to standardize the system by creating months with fixed numbers of days (including a month named for himself,) but after his death those continuing the process miscalculated start dates and began adding a day every three years instead of four years as designed. The most widely used calendar today is the Gregorian calendar presented in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII. Its cycle actually covers 400 years and was developed by Pope Gregory's predecessor in an effort to re-align the Easter celebration with the spring equinox—a result of the Julian calendar debacle.

In 1752 the Crown decreed that all of Britain and its colonies (including America) would use the Gregorian calendar. There are about 40 different calendars in use today, most of them culture and religion-based. The Gregorian

calendar is the worldwide standard for civil use though holidays vary with cultures and countries.

Comedian Stephen Wright quips: "I went to a restaurant that serves 'breakfast any time.' So I ordered French toast during the Renaissance."

In general, humans accept time as it is and only obsess over it when holidays, deadlines and appointments loom. There are, however, people who do take a greater interest in time and offer some time trivia as proof.

The Oxford Dictionary reports that "time" is the most used noun in the English language, followed by "person," "year," "way," and "day." "The" is the most used word overall.

Months that begin on a Sunday, such as September and December in 2019, always have a Friday the 13th. Also, approximately 50 percent of bank robberies happen on Friday.

Noon used to be 3 p.m. According to Dictionary.com, the day was sectioned into two 12-hour segments long before clocks were invented in the 1300's. A town bell rang every three hours beginning at daylight (around 6 a.m., called prime.) It rang again three hours later at 9 a.m. (terce), six hours after prime at 12 p.m. (sext), and nine hours after prime at 3 p.m. (none.) Catholic monks said prayers at terce, sext and none. As traditions changed, the none prayers moved closer to 12 p.m. as did the midday meal, and the Latin "none" became the Old English "non" evolving into today's "noon" by the 1500's.

Finally, those traveling by Concord from London to New York City for the holidays will have extra time to celebrate. Because of the time zones and speed of the jet, passengers can actually arrive at their destination two hours before their departure.

This month the world celebrates the start of the New Year just as ancient cultures have celebrated the winter solstice. Time marks a fresh start with a clean calendar, new goals, and moving out of the dark of winter toward lighter days.

Powerless over Breakfast Pizza

Stratis Christakis

You have to go to Old Stone Tavern and eat their breakfast pizza. I don't usually like to hype food because ultimately it will increase your expectations and decrease your likelihood of being impressed. Lucky for you this won't happen. I am a self-proclaimed breakfast pizza connoisseur. I walked into Old Stone for Saturday morning brunch in early November with very high expectations and they were met. Oh, so met. First off, there's a great atmosphere in the Old Stone, rich and golden brown like the breakfast pizza experience I am about to share with you. A long bar, high tops, comfy benches and bright from the floor to ceilings windows that overlook South Ave.

Second, \$2.50 mimosas. I'm not a mimosa guy. I can't even tell you the last time I had one, but I went for it. I was served in a nice size wine glass. Quality OJ and enough bubbly to give a nice tingle. Made me ask myself, why don't I drink Mimosas more often? Let's get to the pizza. I can confidently say it's the best breakfast pizza in Rochester, Monroe County, New York State, and potentially beyond. As I looked over the Brunch menu, I knew I was getting the breakfast pizza before even coming in. I did some re-con and read about their cold fermented homemade dough that takes days to make and offers more complexity in flavor and texture. This is not a gimmick. The crust was crispy, chewy, bubbly, light, rich, and somehow chunky, like tearing a garlic knot open at its seams. All this being said, the rest of the brunch menu looked amazing, specifically the "Fried Egg Sandwich" that boasts a crispy hash brown pancake in it or the "Southern Fried Chicken and Buttermilk Waffles" that come with house seasoned tots So they answered the question how to make chicken



Photo by Stratis Christakis

and waffles better. ADD TOTS.

Back to the pizza. When I ordered, the waitress asked how I wanted my eggs on it. This caught me off guard as I'm accustomed to Scrambled eggs on my breakfast pizza. She threw out some options, over easy, sunny side up, "You know, that runny yoke, dip that crust in it," she said with a lift of the brows. "Yes. Sunny side up," I nodded.

The 10" pizza came out piping hot. Its rolling edges were cooked to golden brown perfection. The ridges of thick cut cherry wood smoked bacon, chunks of seasoned sausage and crispy crunchy potato hash settled into a melted mix of mozzarella and cheddar topped with two sunny side eggs ready to break open and pour all over this goodness.

One bite and I knew. This breakfast pizza is unmatched.

Go experience this. I want to write more about how this crust somehow held the density of toppings with just a little fold and no flop. How the cold fermented bubbles in the crust made for perfect micro cups for yoke to settle in. I want to describe how pulling the crust apart and cleaning off my plate was a Zen like experience. But, I won't do it justice. Only \$9 dollars for this pie seems wrong. It was enough to feed 2, but you're going to want the whole thing.

I'm happy that Old Stone Tavern brings something of such delight to me, The South Wedge and you.

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'Tis the Season to Help Others Be Jolly

Michele H. Martell

'Tis the Season to be Jolly... Fa La La La La, La La LA LA!! Or is it?! I suppose it all depends upon our personal perspectives and current stage in life.



Michele Martell

Some of us are so excited about the holiday season, that our decorations go up right after (or even before) Halloween...enjoying Christmas music and Hallmark Channel Christmas movies while October is still in full swing.

In contrast, some of us dread the holiday season. There is so much going on worldwide that's not so positive or peaceful. Not to mention politics and tweeting--please, enough is enough already! Just watch the news, and it's enough to suck the life out of anyone. And just about every person I know is facing a personal challenge.

It's good to remember we are each where we are, and we are being imperfectly human. Whatever our mood, we can proactively take ourselves out of the equation and create some new traditions to bring more joy to the Season for others and discover we can bring more joy to ourselves

So let's manifest some new traditions. Let's start with shelters. Google online the wish lists posted by shelters for animals and humans alike. We have the chance to be a real-life Santa to a beautiful being in need.

For example, our Rochester City Animal Shelter on Verona Street, Rochester Animal Services, is volunteer-run and dependent upon donations for all the amazing work it does. The shelter posts on its website at vsas.org a wish list, as well as other ways to contribute.

I started an annual holiday tradition several years ago with my kids to stop by with gifts for the pooches in need. This tradition hopefully had somehow helped to implant into their impressionable minds that the holidays are about giving. Domestic violence shelters are

incredible sources of support to our community, and we can make a beautiful difference in so many lives. Gifts of toiletries, comfort items, various services, would be a welcome solace to women ready to move on to better lives with their children. Willow Domestic Violence Center (willowcenterny.org/) is holding a

Purple Box toy drive during the holidays. The items on the wish list must be brand new. The purple boxes will be placed at law enforcement facilities throughout the community including: Rochester, Brighton, Irondequoit, Gates, Greece, and Ogden Police Departments, and the University of Rochester's Department of Public Safety.

Cancer centers, Golisano Children's Hospital, hospice facilities, nursing homes, veterans, active service personnel and their families, churches, kids' organizations, missions, the list is endless. So many can benefit from even a few minutes of time that to many of us may seem trivial. Take a few minutes to write a letter or postcard, pay a visit, sing a carol, donate an article of clothing. Each of these acts of kindness may make all the difference

in the world to someone who feels especially alone during the otherwise "joyous" holiday season.

Spectrum News online in 2017 estimated that some 5300 people were homeless for at least one night in Rochester. Check out the many homeless shelters listed in Rochester. A new tradition could be serving a meal at these shelters, or helping out in other needed ways.

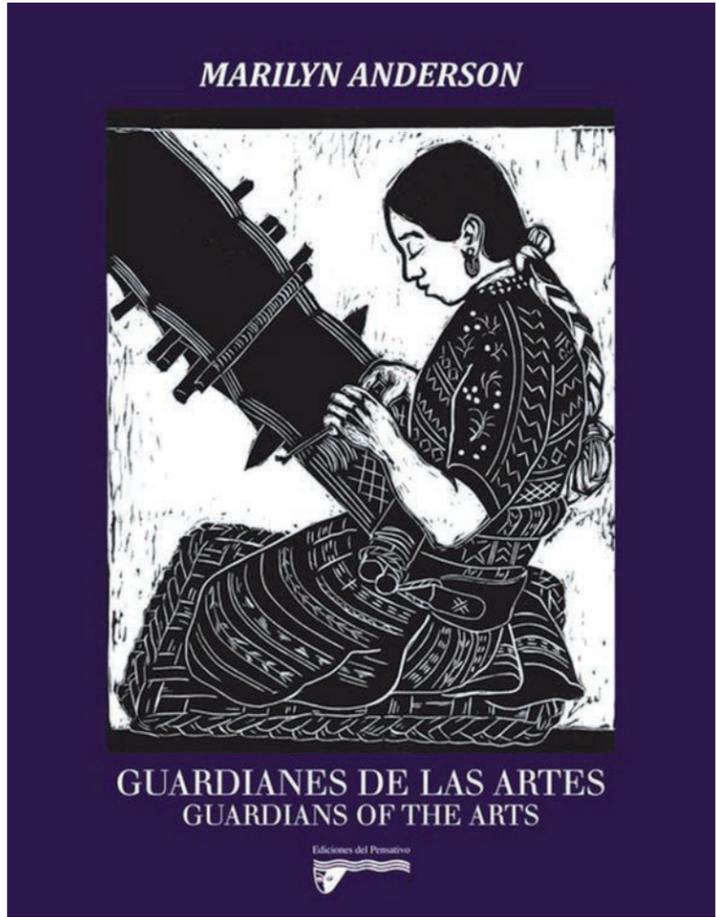
How about an elderly and/or infirm neighbor, who cannot safely shovel their drive or clean their walkways or take out their trash? Perhaps giving a hand to them could be a new tradition that would take us out of ourselves and into a more giving place.

And we all have a friend in need - who is suffering either physically or emotionally, who would truly benefit from support without judgment. Because life changes quickly, and that person seeking support could become you overnight. Maybe a new tradition could be identifying such a person in our lives who needs a little encouragement.

If there is a cause that is dear to your heart -- that is a calling to you to focus your attention in that direction.

A new tradition could be something as simple as sincerely giving gratitude for each day, making an earnest effort to do better, and doing things that bring a little sparkle to others. After all, isn't that the true Spirit of the Season? Although not the ultimate purpose, this sparkling for others always brings to our lives more sparkle and joy. And what a beautiful way to end the year and to start a new one.

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a Blessed New Year.



Writer Reflects on Genesis of Book

Marilyn Anderson

A new book always has a story about its beginning: its genesis. It can be in the subconscious or from everyday life. A photograph can inspire a book. The writer may only understand her motivation after the book is done. Now in 2018, I realize that my newest book has origins dating back to the mid-1960s. What follows is some background about its inspiration.

With its woodcuts and text about the artists and artisans, *Guardians of the Arts: Prints of Guatemalan Artists and Artisans* / *Guardians De Las Artes: grabados de artistas y artesanos de Guatemala* (Ediciones Del Pensativo, Antigua, Guatemala, 2016) is a tribute and appreciation of these ancient arts, their place in today's world and to the skills of the makers.

Of course, in 1965, I did not have a broad view of their meaning when I first lived in Jacaltenango, a remote Guatemalan town, near the border of Mexico. Without a road allowing cars, to come and go, its inhabitants and those in outlying villages used paths and trails and walked or rode horses. My then husband, an anthropologist, our two young children and I, rode horses into Jacaltenango from where a small bus would let us off in the nearest larger town. We had started our journey two days before from the capital, Guatemala City.

In our new home, where we lived for a year, Jacatecos spoke their own Mayan language. Men, more often than women, also spoke Spanish. Its remoteness from other places encouraged natives to use their mother tongue. But its isolation affected us, as outsiders, in another way. Because of the difficulty of travel, once there, we did not leave often. A positive result of that

situation contributed to how I was able to understand and appreciate my environment. Another reason that I was happy there harkened back to a longing I had, even as a child, to live in a simpler time. Our rented house fulfilled that wish; it had no running water. Water had to be fetched and stored in a large earthenware jar. No electricity, and we used a clay wood stove and pottery for cooking. I did my marketing using a basket. The sellers of vegetables often used large gourd and basket containers to display them. No plastic containers or bags were in sight. When I bought tortillas, the seller put them in a towel, that I provided, and wrapped them up for me to reheat at home.

As an artist and photographer, my new environment inspired and amazed me. I found what many would consider unremarkable scenes, to be beautiful and noteworthy. They inspired me to photograph them as "still life." Such motifs were interiors of people's houses, the streets, the market and even their window sills. I photographed Mayan women weaving — the most noteworthy of women's activities — which went on everywhere around me. On the porches and inside houses up and down streets, women wove using their backstrap looms.

From the beginning of my stay their weaving and their looms fascinated me. I had never woven before, but when I expressed interest and asked an expert weaver to teach me, I did not realize that learning to weave would change my life around and cause me to leave behind painting and drawing for several years. Quickly, it became my obsession. Back in the US, by

continued on page 9

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Working with you to make ours the best community possible!

You're Invited! Highland Park Neighborhood January Thaw Party

The Highland Park Neighborhood Association is hosting "January Thaw" on Tuesday, January 29, 6-8 p.m. at ButaPub. The neighborhood association will provide free appetizers. Dinner items and drinks are available for you to purchase from ButaPub's regular menu. HPNA's January Thaw party

will double as the Annual Meeting where board officers will be elected. Interested in joining the HPNA board? Go to <https://highlandparkrochester.org/call-for-board-members/> Join HPNA on January 29 to get to know your neighbors! Children also welcome!

Highland Park Neighborhood Launches New Website!

Thanks to Highland Park resident Roxanne Townsend, HPNA has a new website! It includes up-to-date information about the neighborhood, news, events, and resources. Check it out at HighlandParkRochester.org.

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 (board meetings, small yoga groups, etc)

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Sudoku Solution

continued from pg. 4

Str8ts Solution

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

Sudoku Solution

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

Home for the Holidays

Cecie Valleri

The holiday season is filled with traditions, and food is often central to these. When family and friends gather round the table to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and other get-togethers, there are certain foods many have come to expect. Two such food traditions with their own unique history are cranberries and sweet potatoes.

Cranberries are a wild fruit native to North America, grown in sandy bogs and marshes. They are usually harvested mid-September to mid-November, making them perfect for Thanksgiving. Colonists would boil the cranberries with sugar for a sauce to eat with their meat. Sound familiar?

The cranberry sauce "log" became available nationwide in 1914. Every holiday season, 5 million gallons of jellied cranberry sauce are eaten by Americans. While only 5% of cranberries are sold as fresh fruit, many people opt for fresh, homemade cranberry relish for their holiday table. These homemade relishes generally incorporate what we consider fall spice flavor profiles, such as allspice, nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves. These spices bring out a sweetness to temper the slightly sour taste of cranberries. When used in the right combination, less sugar is needed in many recipes to achieve the same perceived sense of sweetness, and they also round out and deepen the flavors of the food. Cinnamon, in particular, helps to pull together flavors of other spices to create complex, harmonious flavors.

Another holiday classic is sweet potatoes. Sweet potatoes originated in the Americas, specifically in Peru. It is a very hardy crop and is versatile in cooking. One of

the first cookbooks published in the United States was authored by Amelia Simmons in 1796. Her cookbook, *American Cookery*, included sweet potato recipes. In 1918, Fannie Farmer included recipes for glazed sweet potatoes in her cookbook. Sweet potatoes grew well in the southern states, Packed with flavor and nutrition, they stored well for months. Sweet potato pies became a fixture on the holiday tables of all southerners. Then when did the marshmallows, soft and gooey, gently melting on top of the sweet potato casserole enter the picture? In 1917, when the Angelus Marshmallow company hired someone to help them develop recipes that included marshmallows to sell more of their product! Sweet potato casseroles and pies incorporate similar spices as the cranberries. Cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and even ginger brighten up the naturally sweet and earthy tones of the sweet potato.

Stuart's Spices at 754 South Clinton Avenue carries all of the traditional fall spices including cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice and ginger to make every holiday dish sparkle. Blended seasonings of Apple Pie Spice, Pumpkin Pie Spice and mulling spices are also a hit at this time of year, each one perfectly balanced for just the right flavor for your holiday table. Everything at Stuart's is produced on site, in small, handcrafted batches. Each blend is an original recipe and the business is proud to use only premium quality spices. Stop by, and you'll discover about 200 spices and blends, with sample jars to open and smell. Whatever your traditions, Stuart's Spices staff are happy to help you find the perfect seasoning for your holiday meals.

Frederick Douglass Library Events

Children's Programs

Movie Mondays Mondays, Dec. 10, 17, and 31 at 3 p.m. Join us for a fun family movie, all ages, no registration required.

Get in the Game, Fridays, December 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 3 p.m. Stop in for some fun with games: board games, card games, picture puzzles, and more. Get ready for some competition! All ages, no registration required.

WXXI Science Friday

Friday, December 14 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Stop in for a fun surprise science project with WXXI! All

ages, no registration required.

Adult Programs

Essential Oils Bracelets with Denise Lennox, Wednesday, December 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Make your own essential oils bracelet with Denise Lennox! You'll create your own bracelet design and then add a custom essential oils blend to finish. This free program is designed for participants ages 18 and up with one bracelet per person. Maximum of 10 participants, please sign up at the circulation desk or call 428-8206.

Sister City Exchange Brings US & Russian Teachers Together

Nancy O'Donnell

Colin Coffey and husband Michael Brundage recently hosted a brunch for Linkages, the official Sister Cities committee dedicated to fostering ties between Rochester, New York and Velikiy Novgorod, Russia. Guest of honor was teacher Irina Morozov from Valdai, Novgorod Oblast. During her stay Morozov visited area suburban high schools, MCC and Nazareth College. "I'll be observing," said Morozov. "I want to learn different methods to teach English. And improve my English."

Linkages sends two Rochester area teachers to train Russian teachers of English at the Velikiy-Novgorod Regional Institute of Educational Development. In turn, one Novgorod teacher visits Rochester every other year to improve English fluency and observe a variety of methods and practices in area schools.

Kristine Frederick, who twice participated in the teacher exchange program, said the program stresses the importance



(l-r) Linkages Education Committee and past Linkages Fellowship Recipients: Rob Allen (Spencerport CSD), Tanya Schueler-Choukairi (RIT), Kristine Frederick (RCS), Irinia Morozova (visiting Russian teacher), Michael Brundage (RCS), Marina Sweany (Rush Henrietta and RIT) and Kumba Sankoh (Rush-Henrietta)

of peer to peer research, "citizen diplomacy" and increased community internationalization.

When in Russia, the two Rochester-area educators deliver seminars designed for Russian elementary and secondary teachers of English.

A Linkage Fellowship covers airfare from Rochester to St. Petersburg, Russia and onto Velikiy Novgorod and offers a small stipend for teaching materials. Educators pay for room and board.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for two Rochester area educators to work with our Russian Sister City partners providing English language practice and pedagogical training using communicative and participatory methods," said Frederick. "In addition, our Russian counterparts look forward to learning about US culture from our teacher ambassadors.

To learn more, visit www.linkagesrochester.org.

Holiday for Heroes - Veteran Outreach Center Holiday Event

Joan Brandenburg

It was an all hands on deck event at Veterans Outreach Center annual Richards House Family and Friends Dinner to celebrate the holidays and the success of house residents. VOC operates both Richards House and Otto House in the Wedge to serve homeless male veterans. The facilities accommodate up to 28 residents in a safe homelike environment, where they receive vital mental health services and addiction treatment as first steps toward making positive, long-term lifestyle changes.

The U.S. Housing and Urban Development office estimates there are over 40,000 homeless veterans on any given night in our nation. "The isolation and separation that veterans face can largely be attributed to the loss of camaraderie and family they once had," explains VOC Director of Residential Services, Alec Andrest. The festive event was dedicated to connecting veterans with friends, family and community supporters. Pastor D. R. Klotzbach of Geneva delivered a heartfelt blessing,



VOC Executive Director Laura Stradley and Alec Andrest, Director of Residential Services

calling on everyone to support a veteran in need during the holiday season. A homespun meal was cooked and served by members of Elks Lodge #24 in Henrietta to over 100 guests. Lodge members presented each veteran resident with a gift bag filled with small

tokens of appreciation and a gift card to be used toward the purchase of much needed personal items.

Veterans Outreach Center serves over 1,000 men and women veterans each year. Donations of food, clothing and gift cards are being accepted now. To drop off donations, contact Lindsay Chambers, Lindsay.Chambers@vocroc.org (585) 295-7804 or visit the VOC website throughout the year to make an on-line donation: www.vocroc.org



Elks Lodge #24, Henrietta



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Racism & Hate Re-branded In Rochester

Nancy O'Donnell

From colleges to street corners, white supremacist groups are active in getting their message out. Recently, a young Muslim woman who sits in the same seat in an MCC classroom discovered a typed note on the desk that read "America has enough Muslim immigrants. Go back to where you came from. #MAGA." Earlier this year, a swastika was scribbled on dorm walls at two other campuses. The one at Nazareth College never made the papers.

Increasingly, city residents are alerting neighbors to white nationalist messages stapled on neighborhood utility poles, a sign of a movement to rebrand and normalize racist messages.



Emily Clare found posters in Genesee Valley Park and recycled them

Last summer, an alt-right group posted a sign in the South Wedge. It warned residents of Antifa action in response to neo-Nazi incidents and slammed the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. In October, a Next-Door Neighbor member shared a photo of a sheet with the words "It's Okay to Be White" hanging on a pole on Laburnum Crescent in the Upper Monroe neighborhood. In response to the



White supremacy rebranded and posted on Park Avenue

post, one member dismissed the cloth as free speech while another posted a link to a worrisome *New York Times* article entitled "U.S. Law Enforcement Failed to See the Threat of White Nationalism. Now They Don't Know How to Stop It." The article argues that the slogan is a "white supremacist marketing ploy" hiding its secret agenda under a more palatable message. It's not that people of color are bad, it's that whites are o.k."

Most people in the thread expressed concerns and urged that the sighting be reported to the police. On Nov. 11, again on Next Door, a member posted a photo of an Identity Evropa on a utility pole at the corner of Park Avenue and Somerton Street. The group's posters, posted in Genesee Valley Park, were sighted in late November.

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) lists Identity Evropa as a SPLC Designated Hate Group. According to SPLC, Identity Evropa is white nationalist group that recruits white, college aged men with the plan to "transform them into the fashionable new face of white nationalism. Rather than denigrating people of color, the campus-based organization focuses on raising white racial

consciousness, building community based on shared racial identity and intellectualizing white supremacist ideology." They're not racists, but "identitarians" who want to preserve "Western culture" i.e. white." Members of the group took part in the 2017 Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville that resulted in the death of Heather Heyer, an anti-rally protester.

Rev. Matthew Martin Nickoloff, pastor at South Wedge Mission, discovered the anti-BLM poster in front of his church

"It's important for people to report it to neighborhood organizations, so a better message can be heard," said Nickoloff. "We should take [the posters] down. Don't leave it to the people [targeted]."



Cloth hung in Upper Monroe Avenue neighborhood

Opinion: Marijuana Reforms

continued from pg. 4

to be prejudicial and racial profiling. In the words of author/activist Michelle Alexander, "We arrest these kids at young ages, saddle them with criminal records, throw them in cages, and then release them into a parallel social universe in which the very civil and human rights supposedly won in the Civil Rights movement no longer apply to them for the rest of their lives...They can be discriminated against [when it comes to] employment, housing, access to education, public benefits. They're locked into a permanent second-class status for life. And we've done this in precisely the communities that were most in need of our support."

Added to the grotesque fact that African-Americans are nearly four times more likely than white individuals to be arrested for marijuana possession, as Alexander alludes to, the amount of money to be made from legal pot sales can be reinvested in the communities hardest hit by the failed War on Drugs. A recent study conducted by the New York Department of Health found that if marijuana was sold between \$297 to \$374 per ounce, it could generate between \$248 million and \$678 million in tax revenue for the state. A different study released by the New York

City comptroller's office pegged the state's marijuana market at \$3.1 billion, with tax revenues yielding about \$1.3 billion annually at the state and city levels. That's a lot of money that can be redirected towards underfunded schools, after school programs, job training, public health, and neighborhood revitalization.

Mayor Warren, with all of that being said, what else do you need to know? The time to push for statewide legalization is now. Decriminalization alone won't stop the illegal drug trade. And we all know that black and brown people in Rochester are being decimated by the status quo. Something needs to change. When it comes to the social justice imperative of marijuana legalization, whose side are you on?

George Cassidy Payne is an independent writer, social justice activist, and adjunct professor of philosophy at SUNY. He lives and works in Rochester, NY. George's letters and essays have been featured in a wide range of domestic and foreign outlets including The Toronto Star, The Havana Times, The South China Morning Post, The Atlantic, The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Buffalo News, and the Albany Times Union. Locally, George is a frequent contributor to Rochester indymedia, City Newspaper, the Minority Reporter, and the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.



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Are you bothered by someone else's drinking?
 Call 585.288.0540 or visit www.aisrochester.org
 for a list of meetings.

Writer Reflection

continued from page 6



1975, with a New York publisher, my co-author and I produced a how-to book: *Backstrap Weaving*, that taught how to construct and use backstrap looms.

In Jacaltenango, observing and photographing the work of men and women in an indigenous agrarian society also gave me insights into their lives and made me ponder its differences from our industrial society. At the same time, I realized that some Jacaltecos felt ashamed of what they perceived as their own "backwardness," and sadly, envied our mobility and other advantages. But what they might have thought backward, I appreciated in another way, for it was a quite self-sufficient society. Many grew the corn and beans which formed the basis of their diet. Many were artisans. The candles they used were handmade locally, sandals they wore by a leather worker down the street, bags they carried were fabricated from fibers of a plant in their backyards.

Nearby, hats were fabricated by the town hat maker. A potter made the cooking ware they use, and a silver smith made the earrings they wore. Town carpenters made the chairs and tables they used. Making things was part of their lives. How much that was a natural activity to them was driven home to me by this instance: when I could not find a wooden spoon in the nearby market, I told a neighbor about it. She went to our yard, found a piece of wood and on the spot with a kitchen knife, carved a simple spoon. My consumer instinct, of course, had been to buy one.

These first experiences almost fifty years ago, and the research and photography I did in later decades, made me want to share with others my love of arts and crafts and impelled me to produce *Guardians of the Arts / Guardians De Las Artes*. These arts represent a heritage dating back thousands of years which should not be forgotten. And many Guatemalans agree.

Another dimension of arts and crafts tells us that their use offers an ecological alternative to industrially produced items, made as their replacement, which are often plastic. Cultural "imperialism, often emanating from the U.S., plays a role in convincing Guatemalans that factory-made goods are to be preferred over the handmade.

I have been writing about how my book came about. Now a few words about the book itself: it contains reproductions of forty-three wood

and linoleum prints as well as drawings of different arts and crafts of Guatemala and text about each.

Doing precise woodcuts is "slow art" causing me to spend more than ten years to complete the series. Even if not working full time on it, the total effort took over my life--making the prints, writing the text, contacting Spanish translators, finding readers, and communicating with editors and designers.

I was fortunate to collaborate with a fine Guatemalan publisher to print my book. They took great care with every detail. It was expensive to produce and required funding from a foundation to help support the printing costs. Throughout, I wrote countless emails in Spanish to my editor and designer.

Doing work to support culture, to help keep it alive and appreciated always was my impulse through the years of my effort. I believe that, especially in this digital age, we can learn to appreciate the importance of the "handmade" and doing that changes one's life. It helps us to understand that the "everyday things" of life matter and have meaning. Crafts can connect us to other peoples and cultures. Readers of my book can decide what other meanings they have.

If readers wish to see my book, Greenwood Books, downtown on East Ave (owned by South Wedge resident Franlee Frank) always has some copies. Or if you wish to buy it on line, go to my website: www.pnoartemaya.org.

Marusarzówna

continued from page 1

to the Gestapo in Muszyna. In spite of repeated interrogations and tortures, she did not tell her tormentors anything about underground and courier activities.

A relative of other Resistance fighters recall her bravery. Irena Jezierska writes: "She did not say a word, although she was caught at the same time as my parents, and in Muszyna she was in a cell with my mother." Another one writes: "They, perhaps because of her silence survived, she did not succeed."

Muszyna Marusarzówna was transported to the prison in Nowy Sącz, and then to the death cell in Tarnów. On September 12, 1941, along with other inmates, she was shot in the forest in around 12 km from the city of Tarnow, Wola Pogórska. On September 12, 1941, Helena was shot in Pogórska Wola near Tarnów (another version said she was shot on July 23, 1941 in the Kruk forest in Skrzyszów together with Janina Bednarska and Stefania Hanauskówna and three other women).

After the exhumation of her remains, Helena was officially buried on November 27, 1958 at the Zasłużonych Cemetery in Pęksowy Brzyzku in Zakopane.



Marusarzówna's final resting place at Pęksowy Brzyzku cemetery in Zakopane

Posthumously, she was given the Cross of Valor and the Order of *Virtuti Militari*.

In February 1945, SN PTT was reactivated. In the minutes of the meeting it was noted that each year the club will organize a jumping competition for the memory of the deceased in the concentration camp in Oświęcim Bronisław Czech and the memorial run of women of Helena Marusarzówna. These competitions under the collective name of the Memorial of Bronek Czech and Helena Marusarzówna are held in Zakopane to this day.

Final note: My father changed his name after World War II, and before he married my mom; he shortened it from Marusarz to Mars.

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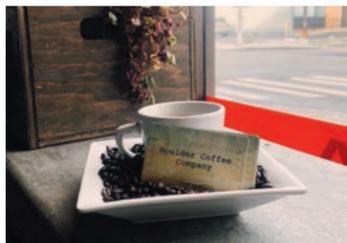
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BAUMAN'S BARBER

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Try their famous wings, fresh deli meats and cold subs. Call in order. 709 South Clinton Avenue, 473-8383.

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Have someone else cook for you during the holidays. Full kitchen open until 1 a.m. 938 South Clinton Avenue, 413-1125.



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CHRISTOPHER GROUP

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COFFEE CONNECTION

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



THE CUB ROOM

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BRADLEY JAMES

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South Wedge Annual Holiday Elf aka Christopher Hennelly leaps into immortality (Photo by Gretchen Arnold)

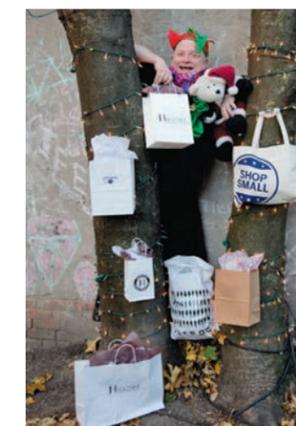
EQUAL=GROUNDS

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



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THE ARTFUL GARDENER

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Family holiday photos are expected, but this year best friends, "The Boys" at Java's Cafe at MCC," decided to create their own photo Christmas card. Upper right David DeGennaro, "an around good guy and Michael Tarantelli, a graphic artist, sit next to the Christmas tree.

Ho! Ho! Ho!

WIDE HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



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TAP & MALLET

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A YEAR IN THE WEDGE



Ryan Acuff spoke with Southview Apartment tenants over below standard housing. City Councilmember Adam McFadden (in orange jacket) listened to tenants list the issues.



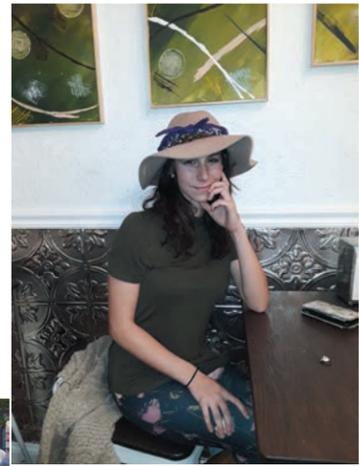
Within a few months owner Elliot Landsman, with state funding, starts renovation of Southview and renames the building E.L. Towers. (Photos by Nancy O'Donnell)



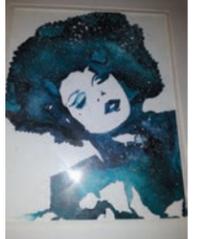
Ithaca vocalist SingTrece, and Kenneth McLaurin bring their show, *Singing Notes and Slings Jokes*, to South Wedge's newest theater, Focus Theater, on December 8.



(on left) NFL star, and Rochester native, Roland Williams encouraged Nativity Academy students to live his motto to "Be All In!" with their studies, their extra-curricular activities, and their personal enrichment.



(On right, artist Miss CM Artist exhibited her work at Hedonist Artisan Ice Cream shop. The South Wedge business promotes local artists throughout the year



Miss CM Arthur's art (photos by Nancy O'Donnell)



Longtime South Wedge activist Dave Halter died in 2018. He is now remembered by a SWPC Award.



South Victory Garden co-manager Ann Culbreath on Hamilton Street



Hundreds of Kelly O'May friends mourned her sudden death in June. O'May, aka Penny Scandall, was a member of burlesque group Sirens and Stilettos. (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell)

Rep. Louise Slaughter 1929 - 2018



The South Wedge mourned the death of longtime Congresswoman Louise



(l-r) former SWPC director John Page and SWPC Board Chair Frank Logan award Judy Lee Hays with the first David Halter Community Award



Emergency Housing opened in the South Wedge celebrated by Mayor Lovely Warren, NYS Assemblyman Harry Bronson, Rochester Housing Authority Executive Director Shawn Burr and the family who inspired the project



Earth Day Celebration on South Avenue



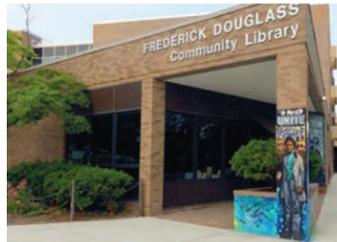
Coupe de Villes entertain at City Love 2018



Scot, Lindsey and Reece Poe travelled all the way from North Carolina to take part in the annual South Wedge Waddle. (Photo by Maya Reagan)



South Wedge artist Robert Marvin added color to Gregory Street



Highland Park renamed Frederick Douglass



The South Wedge said goodbye to Minister Lawrence L. Evans whose philosophy of "Doology" helped to guide and many young men and women in the community.



Natalie Reagan drops off socks for St. Joseph's House of Hospitality clients-the price of admission to the Wedge Waddle. (Photo by Maya Reagan)



Each Dec. 1, World AIDS Day, Equal=Grounds Coffeehouse owners remember by hanging panels of the National AIDS Quilt.

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