

# The WEDGE

The Official Newspaper of the South Wedge Since 1982  
South Wedge Planning Committee, publisher

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**SOUTH WEDGE FARMERS MARKET**

**Indoor Market**  
Odd Fellows Lodge  
357 Gregory Street  
4 to 6:30pm  
Oct 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>  
Nov 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>  
Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Check @southwedgefarmersmarket or [www.swfm.org](http://www.swfm.org) for more info!

**Chad Flint, Market Manager**

The 2021 South Wedge Farmers Market summer season outdoors ended on September 23, but our fall and winter indoor market launches on Thurs. Oct. 14 at Odd Fellows Lodge, 357 Gregory. The market will have a variety of vendors two Thursdays a month through the end of the year. Stay tuned to our social media accounts, @southwedgefarmersmarket on Facebook and Instagram, as well as our website located at swfm.org and the WEDGE newspaper Facebook page for updates. A soon as details are finalized the South Wedge Farmers Winter Market will begin in October. The 2021 summer season was excellent with many new vendors and many satisfied shoppers each and every week. The market had a wide variety of fresh in season produce and fruit each week in

addition to honey, maple syrup, baked goods, fresh bread, local art and clothing, fresh cut flowers, skin care products, jam, and many other handmade items. Big Boys Eatery joined the market on select weeks and offered tasty BBQ dinners for shoppers to take home and Vetter's Beef brought locally raised beef products for shoppers to take home and have their own backyard BBQs.

We would like to thank all our vendors for being a part of the market this season as well as all of the shoppers who came out and supported the market each and every week! It was a great second season at Odd Fellows Lodge, and we are incredibly thankful to them for giving us a location to hold the market.

We also encourage everyone to join us in thanking (and continuing to support) our 2021 sponsors--UR Highland Hospital, Rochester Gas and Electric, Abundance Food Co-op, Angry Goat Pub and Greenlight Networks. Their support of the market allowed us to have coupons each week, have posters made, and many other things that helped the market have an amazing season.

We are looking forward to our cold weather indoor market as well as next year's outdoor market, both at Odd Fellows Lodge, so we can continue to bring you a great selection of local vendors and all of their amazing products.

**Scheduled dates:**  
**Oct. 14, Oct. 28, Nov. 4**  
**Nov. 18, Dec. 2 and Dec. 16.**



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**Somewhere in the South Wedge**



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

HUNGRY HEDONISTS presents

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**South Wedge Gregory Tract Close to Historic Designation**

Larry Francer



A historic listing brings tax credits to homeowners who make qualified home repairs and upgrades.

The Gregory Tract neighborhood of the South Wedge is closer to completing the steps necessary to become a historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The listing would make homeowners of over 600 properties eligible for a tax credit equal to 20% of qualified home repairs and upgrades. Qualifying costs include but are not limited to: interior and exterior paint, porch repair, roofs, electric, HVAC, floor refinishing, new kitchens and baths, exterior carpentry, etc.

The Landmark Society of Western New York has been working since 2017 with the neighborhood, the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC), the Highland Park Neighbors Association (HPNA), and the South East Area Coalition (SEAC) to obtain funding and submit appropriate documents to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) so a nomination could be completed. The final nomination was brought before the State Review Board in September and was approved. The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc. is one of the oldest and most active preservation organizations in America, serving nine Western New York counties. Formed in 1937, The Landmark Society continues to

protect the unique architectural heritage of our region and promote preservation and planning principles that foster healthy and sustainable communities.

Now that the nomination has been approved by the State Review Board, it will be sent to the National Park Service (NPS), and we hope it will be officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places by the end of the year.

When the final nomination was submitted to SHPO, the neighbors in the Gregory Tract were able to apply for the Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Tax Credits. They will now be able to claim those credits on their New York State tax return.

Grant funding to develop the nomination materials has come through Rochester Area Community Foundation and the Preservation League of New York State's Preserve New York grant program. Preserve New York is a signature grant program of the NY State Council on the Arts and the Preservation League. HPNA also raised funds to support the process.

Becoming a National Register historic district is an important designation for

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# Opinion

## High Cost Upfront Equals a Safer Climate Future

Caroline Kemp



As complex budget and infrastructure bills make their way through Congress, you may wonder about the importance of factoring climate change into legislation, especially when we notice the enormous price tags.

Once we look past the sticker shock and delve deeper, the high up-front cost is not just money for tree huggers, but money that stands to bring us to a self-sufficient, secure future. For those not convinced by the environmental benefits, however, I implore you to consider a few of the positive financial, public health, and economic side effects to such legislation.

**Fighting climate change is good policy for all, no matter how you lean politically.**

**Clean, self-sufficient energy:** Renewable energy sources include solar, wind, geothermal and hydro energy. By replacing fossil fuels with these renewable sources, we can reduce reliance on imported fuel and increase energy self-sufficiency. A 2020 report on state renewable energy indicated that nearly 50% of states already have the ability to produce 100% of their electricity from local resources alone. The technology is right at our fingertips, and we need only implement it to its fullest potential.

**Increased food security:** Climate change brings extreme temperatures and drought that threaten the stability of food production. According to the United Nations Foundation, global food production could decrease 30% by 2050, putting millions of people worldwide at risk of food insecurity. Enacting environmentally sound legislation has the potential to protect our food sources and local agriculture.

**Job creation:** In order to fight climate change, we will need to restructure several parts of our society, including infrastructure and energy. One benefit to this restructuring will be the creation of jobs in order to build and maintain these new systems like a renewable electric grid.

**Public health benefits:** Climate

change wreaks havoc on public health in countless ways, including increasing the prevalence of mental illness, food and water-borne diseases, respiratory diseases, and more. According to the World Health Organization, the cost of direct health damage caused by climate change will reach \$2-4 billion dollars per year by 2030. Further, the pollution released by fossil fuels is a leading cause of cancer, asthma, and other chronic diseases.

By addressing climate change at its core, we can inadvertently address these public health crises and lower healthcare costs.

The positive effects of enacting climate change legislation will impact countless aspects of society. By enacting legislation to combat climate change, the United States can protect its citizens' public health, create new jobs, and become a leader in energy self-sufficiency.

It is time for the United States to harness its innovation and potential to demonstrate to the world that fighting climate change is good for our earth, our health, and our wallets. *Caroline Kemp is a Rochester transplant with a passion for educational and climate justice.*

## Letter to the Editor

Come on people, learn the difference

Stew Epstein

I have never understood why the national Democrats never taught the American people the difference between the term "Social Democrat" (which most of our allies are) and a "Socialist" (which none of the Democrats are). It is so simple.

A "Social Democrat" wants to keep our market-based capitalist economic system but wants to have a lot of federal government social programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and College Student Loans forgiveness in order to help the lower and middle classes. They know that a truly "Socialist" economy has never successfully worked in any large-scale society.

A "Socialist" wants to abolish capitalism and replace it with a genuine socialist economy in which the workplaces are owned and controlled by some kind of entity such as "the state," the government," or "the people." They are not the same thing.

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Stew Epstein

**If you have an opinion you want to share, please send to [thewedge@swpc.org](mailto:thewedge@swpc.org).**



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Free bag on your first visit

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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. Printed bimonthly (February, April, June, August, October and December), The WEDGE has a readership of 13,500. It is distributed to over 140 locations (businesses, retail shops, libraries, restaurants and other drop-off points in the Southeast and Greater Rochester area and suburbs. Online issue ([www.swpc.org](http://www.swpc.org)).

**Print distribution is suspended during the pandemic. Read us online at [www.swpc.org](http://www.swpc.org).**

### SWPC Board Members

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#### 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.*

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

Please send story ideas or news to WEDGE Newspaper Editor Nancy O'Donnell, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 email [nodonnell@swpc.org](mailto:nodonnell@swpc.org). Advertising deadlines and rates are available online at [www.swpc.org](http://www.swpc.org) or call 585.256.1740, ext. 4 or 585.978.9638.

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

### South Wedge Planning Committee

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

**SWPC Board Wed. 6 p.m. ~ Oct. 20, Nov. 17**

contact: [flogan@rochester.rr.com](mailto:flogan@rochester.rr.com)

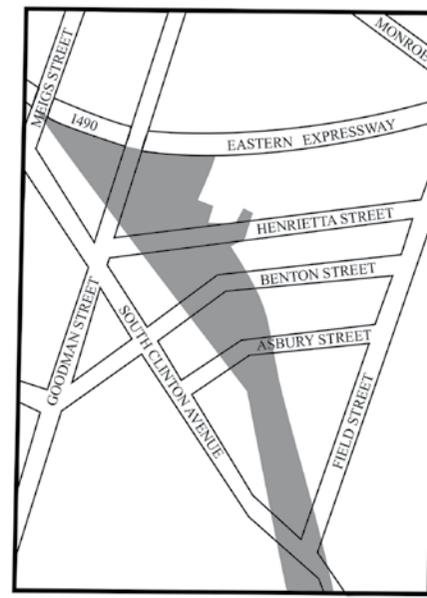
**Community Engagement (Neighbors & Block Clubs)**

Wed. Oct. 27, Nov. TBD 5:30 p.m.  
[gvalenti@swpc.org](mailto:gvalenti@swpc.org)

**South Wedge Victory Gardens**  
TBD

[scott.wagner.ny@gmail.com](mailto:scott.wagner.ny@gmail.com)

# Swillburg Celebrates 1975 Defeat of Killer Expressway



Times-Union

Shaded area shows part of Swillburg, a proud southeast neighborhood that would have been wiped out by the Genesee Expressway.

Imagine a dilapidated neighborhood where few if any houses reflect upkeep. Many had sagging leaky roofs; peeling, chipped paint, broken windows, wobbly steps. That was the general condition of Swillburg homes described in a March 1973 *Democrat & Chronicle* newspaper article.

There was a reason for this. For thirteen years Swillburg residents were told that the NY State Department

of Transportation planned to build an expressway through the neighborhood, acquiring properties under eminent domain.

According to a City of Rochester website, Swillburg's boundaries, for those who don't know, extend to Field Street on the east and Rt. 490 on the north. Its western border is marked by Meigs Street (South Clinton to Rt. 490) and on the south by South Clinton Avenue (east side from Meigs Street to town of Brighton).

Residents were advised that money spent on home repairs would be lost because these financial investments would not be factored into the sale.

Landmark businesses like Rooney's Restaurant would have all been demolished for the expressway.

The proposed expressway (which can be traced back to the Urban Area Report 1947) was twice approved by Rochester City Council and later twice rejected, largely thanks to a coalition of environmental groups, southeast agencies and concerned citizens.

However, in September of 1975, a group of regional power brokers (think Kodak, Xerox, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) made a last-ditch effort to revive construction of the expressway.

Each September I think about the final decisive meeting that convened on September 16, 1975 at East High School, where over a thousand passionate

Mike Henry

highway proponents and opponents gathered. With 124 speakers ready to take the mic, the meeting didn't wind down until the early hours of September 17, and gratefully a 6-3 victory vote saved Swillburg and forever put the expressway threat to rest.

Joyce Nakada, in her 2015 video *The Little Pig that Could*, interviewed many of that era's City Council members who emphasized how narrowly Swillburg escaped given the determination of the regional power brokers. Search Youtube for "Swillburg" to find Nakada's still informative video. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pDgic3J3xWc>).

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## Think Small!

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### Buy an ad for Dec./Jan. 2022 online issue.

Call 256.1740, ext. 4  
Deadline November 19ish

## 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-September), 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 to continue SWPC's work. If interested, please call 256-1740 or e-mail [gvalenti@swpc.org](mailto:gvalenti@swpc.org) or board chair Frank Logan at [flogan@rochester.rr.com](mailto:flogan@rochester.rr.com).

### Time For Wine & Spirits

The only liquor store in the South Wedge!

"Wine in itself is an excellent thing."  
--Pope Pius XII

661 South Ave, Suite D, Rochester, NY 14620  
TEL | 413-3826 EMAIL | [timeforwinespirits@gmail.com](mailto:timeforwinespirits@gmail.com)

### Get the Wedge!

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 emailed to your home and a Wedge card, too. Fill out the form and send a check or money order to the address below.

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## New Office of Neighborhood Safety Opens

The City of Rochester and Recreation and Human Services welcomes a new Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) with Dr. Kiah E. Nyame (Dr. K.) as its coordinator. ONS's mission is to reduce gunfire and associated trauma, and Nyame will develop, implement, and coordinate the community-wide neighborhood safety plan.

This non-law enforcement, civilian-led effort is housed in the City of Rochester in order "to convene and empower community partners and city agencies to work together in the co-production of public safety and prevention of violence through trauma-responsive, healing-centered, and equity-based approaches."

The new office will work toward building and strengthening community partnerships while advancing and supporting initiatives that promote greater neighborhood and community well-being. It will facilitate access to



Dr. Kiah E. Nyame

human and social service resources in the City's most vulnerable individuals and communities, emphasizing the reduction of gun violence.

ONS will also serve as a central hub fostering a city-wide effort to coordinate the development of a Violence Reduction Strategy that will guide public and private sector investments in social programs, including Pathways to Peace, the ROC Against Gun Violence Coalition, and the Youth Advocate Program.

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# Business Buzz

Nancy O'Donnell Hale

## FOMO Brings High End Fashion to the South Wedge

South Avenue has come a long way from its vintage clothing roots. South Wedge say hello to Louis Vuitton, Dior, Burberry, Prada, Gucci, Hermes and Yves St. Laurent now housed in the cozy space once filled by Leaf Tea Bar.

Krista Hanny and fiancé Troy Bennett, glassblowers by trade, opened FOMO, or “forever modern” in July and filled its shelves with gently used lux bags, scarves, sunglasses and ties.

The couple describes their trajectory to FOMO on their website: “we take into account the environmental effects of our decisions and that is one reason why we love and buy all things vintage. Our home and our store are fully furnished with vintage and upcycled items; it has become our lifestyle. It all started a few years ago when we set out to declutter our closet. We found ourselves donating garbage bags of so called “bargains” from our local strip mall. It was a gross and frustrating feeling. So much time, money, and energy was wasted on throwaway items, not to mention the environmental impact. We said never again to “fast fashion” and we vowed to live by the old saying “quality over quantity” and since then life has never been better.”

So, FOMO is not just about stocking high end products. Its mission is to share “timeless vintage luxury.” Sustainability is their governing ethos.

“We curate every pre-loved piece of merchandise,” said Hanny, who has a degree of environmental science. “Each piece of merchandise is authenticated by a third party.”

“I want people to feel confident with the verification, and we want to make the products affordable to people. It’s another way of putting art in people’s hands,” Hanny said.

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*Shopping and sipping prosecco (l-r) Kelli Foster, Simone Boone and Kathy Sugrue oohed and ahed the handbags, scarves, eyeglasses and wallets (Foster bought a subtle dark Fendi wallet with a bright pink lining inside.)*



*Louis Vuitton, Dior, Burberry, Prada, Gucci, Hermes and Yves St. Laurent*



## Sweet Roll'n Yen Cafe Returns to South Ave.

John and Su Syouthoum and family have returned to South Avenue to the space once filled by Pure Soul Nails who's moved to Swillburg.

Roll'n Yen asks customers to “build” their own rolls in a four-step process. Step one involves picking a base (chocolate, vanilla, Thai Coconut, Thai coffee and Green Matcha). Next choice is two mix ins of fruit or cookie or cheesecake bits. Third, pick a topping (sprinkles, gummies, crushed waffles, M&Ms, fruity pebbles or coconut). And, finally, pick a drizzle from chocolate, caramel, Nutella, sweet milk or melba. Whip cream is free. Then there's up to eight specialty rolls.

“We love the community,” said John. “Our style of ice cream is more artsy. You guys [South Wedgers], are the artists. I'm just the paint brush. Each step is a creation. It's how you guys want it, not how we want it.”

Lines were already forming for the café's rolled ice cream, but now they're forming for Lao street food. The Syouthoums have added papaya salad, “Krab Ragoon” (crab meat, cream cheese and scallions), egg and spring rolls and Larb curry friend rice and Banh mi subs to name just a few dishes on a changing menu.

On one hot sunny day, dance teacher Vanmany Banks and her 10-year-old son Alexander had driven from Gates

*Continues on pg. 8*



*Jon Syouthoum*



*Sweet Roll'n Yen Cafe menu*

*Photos by Nancy O'Donnell Hale*

## Hedonist Artisan Chocolate Introduces Annual Halloween Collab with Local Artist

Maddie Posey



*Adam Francey's Midnight Monsters are available for a limited time. Hurry! Hurry!*

Tattoos and Chocolate? Not a likely combination unless you are a Hedonist. This year's Halloween Artist Collection took a new spin when local tattoo artist Adam Francey designed the art for the annual holiday chocolate collection.

“Midnight Snacks” is Hedonist's thirteenth annual Halloween collection and features a dark chocolate caramel made fresh in its South Wedge kitchen by owner and chocolatier Jennifer Posey and her staff.

Golden caramels are enrobed in dark (72%) chocolate and decorated with one of five hungry monster-themed designs created by Francey. His vibrant and eclectic work made for a bright yet spooky collection of chocolates using neon green and neon orange to compliment the dark rich chocolate brown colors of the salted caramels.

Francey, a Syracuse, NY native, moved to Rochester to study Illustration and Fine Art at Rochester Institute of Technology. He obtained his BFA in Illustration in 2003 and his MFA in Fine Arts Painting in 2008. In 2013 he was a Wall Therapy Artist, with his piece now living just down the street from Hedonist Artisan Chocolates on South Avenue.

For the last 20 years, Francey's been living, tattooing and making art in Rochester. He is currently a tattoo artist at Love Hate Tattoo at 47 State Street.

Francey also designed the collection's box hang tags and inserts and both pieces were hand printed on an antique press by Hedonist's in-house printer Madelyn Posey of Posey Letterpress.

“Hedonist exists to provide our customers with the best possible experience” says Hedonist owner Jennifer Posey. “We're excited to incorporate local art from a different source than we ever have before. Adam brings a fresh new look to our chocolate with the bright colors and fun design work. I love how his ideas translated not only to chocolate but to the letterpress as well. I hope our customers feel the same joy and quality from the materials and artwork that we do.”

The “Midnight Snacks” collection is available in 10-piece and 20-piece boxes, for a limited time, and is on sale at Hedonist's storefront at 674 South Avenue, or online at [www.hedonistchocolates.com](http://www.hedonistchocolates.com).



*Francey's neon green and orange monsters*



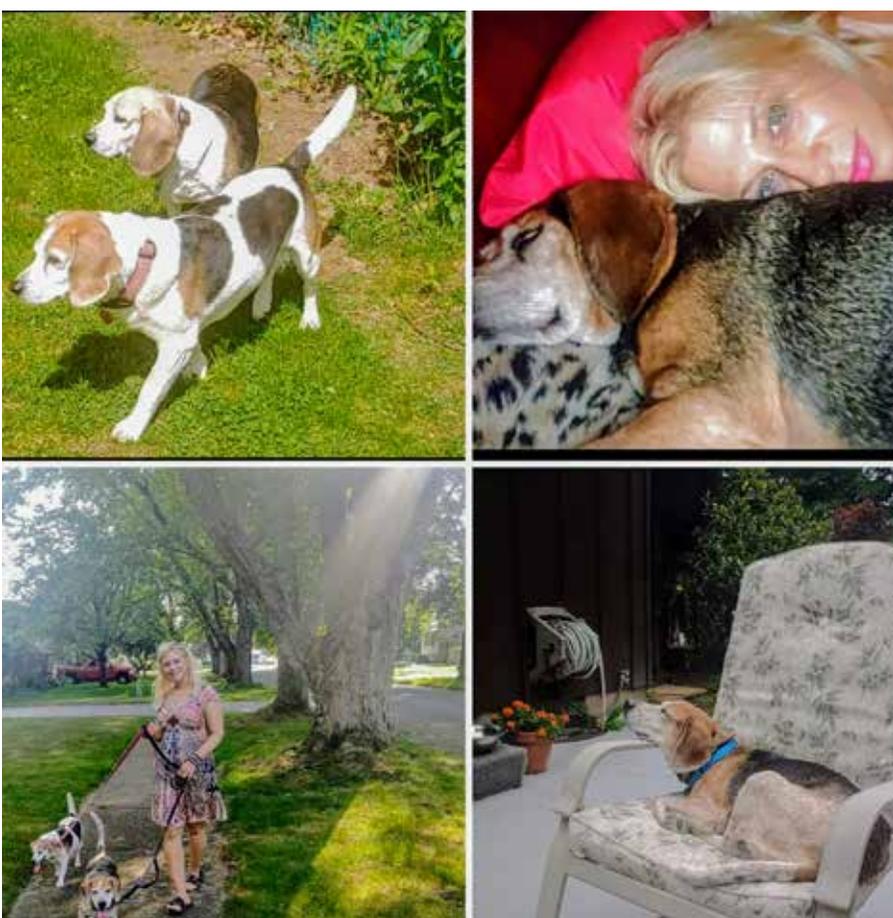
*Adam Francey's South Wall Therapy mural on South Avenue can enjoyed but not eaten.*

# Think Small!

Now more than ever small businesses need your support. Be there for them.

# Create an Attitude of Gratitude

Michele H. Martell



Michele Martell's fur family

Autumn is upon us and with that we can already sense the impending holiday season! Although Thanksgiving is a ways away yet, I was thinking about how giving thanks is not just something for a holiday; giving thanks is an opportunity all year, every day. Studies show that having an attitude of gratitude is good for not just your mental health, but for your physical health.

The inspiration for this article came to me one night recently as I was up late doing laundry, cleaning, getting my house in order for the coming week. I became aware of how exhausted I was, how I really just wanted to rest and go to bed.

As I began to head down the road of frustration, the thought hit me: how grateful I am for my lovely home and for all of the beautiful clothes that my children are blessed to have that need washing. And that I am thankful that I have the physical health and stamina to complete these chores. What an epiphany!

That change in my mindset re-set the trajectory for the rest of my night. I shared my shift in attitude with my kids the next day and discussed how much we have to be grateful for. I asked them what are they thankful for, and they shared their gratitude for our dogs and for each other. At the time I felt it was a casual conversation; however it truly was another learning moment for all of us.

An online website, Health.Harvard.edu, writes that "Gratitude is strongly

and consistently associated with greater happiness. Gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity and build strong relationships." The Oxford Dictionary defines the word thankful as "pleased and relieved." Both of those are great feelings. The dictionary defines the word grateful as "showing an appreciation of kindness." This is where the difference lies; being thankful is a feeling, and being grateful is an action. Any way you look at it, having an attitude of gratitude is a fabulous coping mechanism and has far-reaching benefits that affect our quality of life.

I kept looking for more info about this act of gratitude. According to [newbeginningsfamilylaw.com](http://newbeginningsfamilylaw.com), there are three stages to gratitude: 1: Recognition, 2: Acknowledgement, and 3: Appreciation. These are precisely the stages I used subconsciously in my life in the laundry room, and what a difference those steps made, and not just for that night, but probably for my entire week.

As I grieve the loss of another furbaby, my attempts to find some gratitude in the whole tragedy, along with my faith, have been my stronghold, as in previous heartbreaks. The grief is tremendous, yet I keep asking myself, how can I find gratitude in this situation?

I have the most amazing friends who are there whether physically or virtually. I have my health and my awareness of exactly where my emotions are taking me. And most importantly, I have gratitude for the joy that sweet Stanley, and sweet Zazzy who passed only two months ago, and sweet Gabe a year ago, brought to all our lives. I have gratitude that I could provide these surrendered animals their best life, even if only at the end. And I know that I would have gratitude if someone had done the same for me. And as deep as this grief is, I have gratitude in knowing I would do it all over again. Looking further back to another heart-rending time, I am grateful that I was able to provide my father with comfort and security, knowing that I had his back when there were not many who did and that I did provide him the dignity and respect at the end that we all deserve as living beings.

What are you grateful for today? I have done so much reading on the topic that reiterates how gratitude is a habit and it is something that can be

developed.

One of the best actions to take is to write down each and every day three things that you are grateful for. It does not have to be a time-consuming process. Just a quick jot on some scratch paper or in a journal works. The power of the pen puts your intentions out into the universe and brings back more to you. In other words, the more you express your gratitude, the more that good things will come back to you.

I am so very grateful for the positive people in my life. And the more we sincerely support each other, the more we keep a circle of blessings going. We can also be grateful for those who are not positive, the people who have demonstrated envy, judgement, underhandedness, betrayed us or taken us for granted. Through our experiences with them, we can develop an awareness of how that negative energy may drain us, concurrently increasing our gratitude for those who are real in our lives.

It's important that we especially are aware of those who talk destructively about other friends; it is a red flag to realize that they will inevitably do the same with you, and we can be grateful for that awareness, too.

Life is short and although cleaning house may be a big pain at the time; we can have gratitude for the positive influences that the closed doors make room for. It is a universal truth when you let go of what is not good for you, something good will take its place, leading to more gratitude.

With the world as crazy as it is, how can you express gratitude? Most recently, I have spent sleepless nights viewing the images of people and animals in Afghanistan, abandoned, suffering, losing their lives. I decided to give gratitude to those brave souls who are there continuing rescue efforts. Sadness, anger and fear, while they have a place in our emotions as human beings, do not promote better things to happen in the long run. Sending out gratitude and blessings stimulate what still needs to be done to save the rest.

So, try to instill some gratitude habits to enhance your life and keep it sparkling as the holiday season approaches. Write down what you are grateful for daily. It will give you clarity and strength, whether in good times or not so good.

In the words of Sir John Templeton: "An attitude of gratitude creates blessings." Keep giving thanks and gratitude, keep going, and God Bless You and yours.

## Gregory Tract

*Continued from pg. 1*

this neighborhood. It will be a boon to the neighborhood and the city and help homeowners make repairs to their homes in this historic city neighborhood.

Across the state and the country, tax credit programs have proven to be a catalyst for economic revitalization and neighborhood stabilization. The programs encourage investment, provide local jobs, keep buildings on the tax rolls, and preserve the character of historic neighborhoods that makes them attractive to residents and investment.

The Landmark Society programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature. Visit [landmarksociety.org](http://landmarksociety.org) for more information.

Larry Franzer, Associate Director of The Landmark Society.

## Epstein

*Continued from pg. 2*

How can someone be a socialist when they want to keep capitalism?

They can't. If supporting a social program such as Social Security makes someone a socialist, then that would make Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon, and John F. Kennedy socialists.

We all should know that they were not. Senator Bernie Sanders and Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are not true socialists. They are Social Democrats just as most of our European allies are. They want us to have more spending on social programs to help our people just as our allies do.

It is ridiculous for anyone to claim that anyone and everyone who is at all to the political "left-of-center" is somehow some kind of Socialist or Communist or Marxist or radical-leftist.

*Epstein is a retired college professor of Sociology, Social Work, and Psychology who taught at West Virginia University, Slippery Rock University, and Keuka College. He's also spent five years working as a New York State-licensed Master's degree-level social worker providing therapy and counseling in the fields of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction, Mental Health/Illness, and Marriage and Family Therapy.*



## Aldaskeller Wine Co. Heads for South Wedge

Tim Benedict, Erin Francisco-Opalich and Brandon Opalich are currently rehabbing a space next to the Happy Tea at 289 Gregory Street for a natural wine shop.

The owners plan to hold educational events with regional winemakers and farmers. The venture is Kiva-driven (Kiva Rochester Small Business Campaign loans work like a GoFundMe, but you get your money back!) and the company's Facebook page invites the community to join in its creation. Visit [kiva.org/lend/2219292](http://kiva.org/lend/2219292).

## Swillburg Saved

*continued from pg. 3*

Reflecting upon the defeat of the expressway I'm not only grateful that the 'Burg was saved but also impressed with what a strong community spirit and great organizational resources Rochester must have had.

Next time you're walking down Henrietta Street or visiting Otto Henderberg Park—a park that memorializes a resident who led the opposition to the expressway—consider that you could be walking under multiple lanes of a noisy, odiferous highway and how our quiet community would be significantly different if it had lost its battle 46 years ago.

**Happy 9/17/75 day!**



Michele H. Martell  
(Photo by Sarah Jeruta Salvilla)

# Local Homeowners Bury Time Capsule

Nancy O'Donnell Hale

A reverence for all things historical is elemental to the Osterman household in the Highland Park Neighborhood. He and his wife, France Scully Osterman, both teachers of 19th century photographic processes, moved to Rochester from Eastern Pennsylvania in 1999 when Mark took a job at the George Eastman Museum and his wife held classes in the studio they built inside their home.

Recently, the couple began a renovation of their front porch, and news of Mark's time capsule swirled on social media. (Osterman's love affair with a 1919 Model T speedster was featured in the Oct/Nov 2014 issue of the WEDGE. He can still be seen driving around the South Wedge today in a newer car, a "1923 runabout.") "The idea of a time capsule was inspired by the one opened here in Rochester in 1999," said Osterman in an email. "It was a one-foot square copper box, hermetically sealed by soldering the lid in 1873, and the contents were in perfect condition [when it was opened]."

"I retired from the Museum in December, and this gave me the luxury of time to spend on much needed improvements on our house on Rockingham Street, including a major rebuilding of our front porch. Part of the project was to rebuild all the fluted columns that support the roof of the porch, and being hollow, they seemed



The Ostermans' time capsule contains money, art and a letter to a future discoverer

to be the perfect chamber to place a time capsule for the next person who rebuilds the porch in the future."

Osterman said he used "an old copper humidor because it was just big enough to fit in the column and it allowed me to solder it once closed."

Among the artifacts enclosed in the humidor, of course, was a self-portrait tintype of the couple.

"We were sitting on the unfinished porch when we shot it on the Sunday afternoon prior to putting [the time capsule] into the last column on September 1st. Teaching the 1850s wet collodion process used to make tintypes is one of the things we are known for internationally, so it's part of our identity. Also, this old process would have a much better chance to survive than any image on paper."

The Osterman's time capsule also includes a dated and signed letter to those in the future who open the capsule, some dollar bills and coins, a COVID mask, a set of keys to their 1923 Model

T Ford, banjo finger picks, a lead soldier from my late father's casting mold, other symbolic trinkets and locks of our hair."

"So, we don't know when or by whom this will be opened but given all the work we are doing to rebuild our porch ... we hope it isn't us," Osterman said.



Photo by Mark Osterman



## Highland Park Neighborhoods Snag Funds for Historic District

Caitlin Meives

Several areas surrounding Highland Park are also underway to become National Register Historic Districts, which would make homeowners eligible for the NYS Historic Homeowners Tax Credit program.

The Landmark Society is working with Highland Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. (HPNA) and representatives from the Azalea and Lilac neighborhoods, as well as SEAC, to spread the word about this program and gather community support. The areas include: the pre-existing Mt. Hope-Highland Historic District now eligible for expansion to include the areas identified on the map, The Ellwanger Barry/Highland Park Neighborhood Historic District eligible to become a new historic district and The Azalea neighborhood eligible to become a new National Register historic district.

The Landmark Society will perform the work of the preservation consultant, completing the extensive research, writing, and communication with SHPO necessary for a National Register nomination. Landmark Society staff will also assist the neighborhoods with fundraising efforts, holding public meetings, and spreading the word.

The Highland Park Neighborhood Association, Inc. and representatives from the Lilac and Azalea neighborhood are leading the charge on fundraising and spreading the word. As a 501(c)(3), the Southeast Area Coalition (SEAC) acted as the fiduciary agent for submitting grant applications. Grants have already been obtained from Rochester Community Foundation, and Highland Park Conservancy is one of this year's Preserve New York (PNY) grantees. Their grant of \$15,000 will fund a Cultural Resource Survey of the Highland Park neighborhood. The Preservation League of NYS and their program partners at the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) are thrilled to help fund this important work. HPNA, working with the Azalea and Lilac neighborhoods will be fundraising to complete the financing of this project through private donations.

The Landmark Society of Western New York, Inc., one of the oldest and most

continues on page 8



Photo by Mark Osterman

# REF Offers Help to College-Bound Students

Joan Gerrity

What does it take to apply to college? How do you know which college would be best for you? And how can you and your family pay for college?

These are just some of the many questions we know are on the minds of students in the Rochester City School District and city charter schools as they begin their senior year.

We want every city student to know that Rochester Education Foundation is here to help.

REF is an independent non-profit whose mission is to provide great resources and programs to city students. During August we worked with wonderful partners in the South Wedge to collect fabulous new books for city students' home libraries. Now, we want everyone in the South Wedge to know about our college access resources.

How can REF help? Find out by texting us a question that's on your mind at 585-571-7226. Maybe you want to know how to find out about all the great colleges we have here in Rochester. Or you want to focus on colleges with great business programs or ones that can help you reach your dream of being an outstanding art teacher. Wherever those colleges might be, we'll help you find them. If we don't know the answer, we'll find someone who does.

We can set up a one-on-one virtual session with one of our college access specialists at our Rochester College Help

Desk. Again, just text 585-571- 7226 to set up an appointment. REF can help you learn about colleges, find scholarships, help you complete your college applications (including the often dreaded personal essay), apply for financial aid, and, once you have been accepted – help you and your family decode the financial aid offer letters you've received.

You can also visit the Rochester College Help Desk in person at Teen

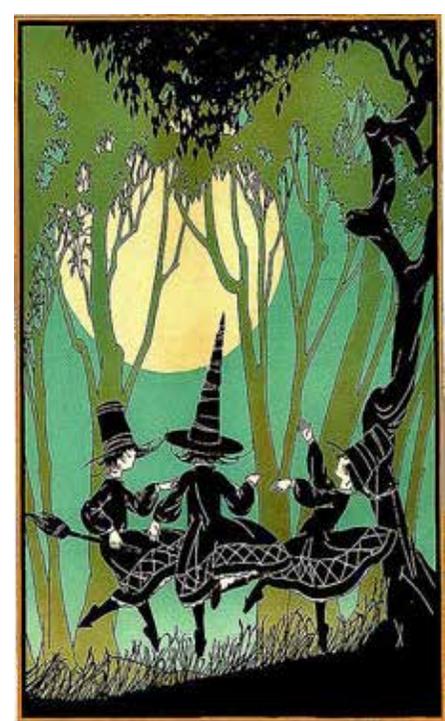
Central in the Rochester Public Library's Central Branch after school any Thursday beginning in November from 3 to 6 PM. Please check in at our college access website, RochesterCAN.org, to learn about other times and locations to visit the Help Desk in person.

Not ready to talk with someone just yet, but you want to learn about all things college-related? You and your family can visit our YouTube channel: <http://rochestercan.org/resources/videos.html> You will find great videos with lots of great information. For example, learn how to navigate the admissions process, hear local graduates talk about their experiences at historically black colleges and universities, or learn about what you can expect when you get to your college, and much more. We're planning to add new videos throughout the year.

Most important, bring your parents to one of our FAFSA Fest Events and work with trained volunteers who will help you complete and file the "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" on the spot! Filing that form is the first step in applying for college financial aid. Our volunteers will also help you complete and file what is called TAP, the application that helps you qualify for aid only available to students in New York.

REF already has three FAFSA Fests planned in the community:

continues on page 9



# Last of the First New York Dragoons

After the first shots of the Civil War were fired, men from all over the Union were called to arms by President Abraham Lincoln, including one young man who would call Rochester his home. Training camps popped up all over the state to prepare men for the battlefield. In the spring 1862, construction began in Portage on Camp Portage, in what is now Letchworth State Park, on land that was owned by Colonel George Williams. The camp had ten barracks, two mess halls, and officers' headquarters, and parade grounds.

On July 23, 1862, the first group of men arrived at Camp Portage. They were under the command of the First New York Dragoons as the 130th New York Volunteer Infantry, which would later become part of the First Cavalry Division of the Army of the Potomac. The 130th trained for only six weeks before going off to war. The second, and the last, group to use Camp Portage was that of the 136th New York Volunteer Infantry, from September 1862 to October 1862. The wives, sweethearts and families of the men would spend their days picnicking along the parade grounds to watch them train. For some, this was the last time they would see each other.

A monument dedicated in 1903 to the men on Camp Portage reads: *By the end of the war, of the 1,414 men that went through the camp - 131 died of disease, 33 died in Confederate prison camps, and 130 killed or died of wounds.*

After returning home from war, the men of the 130th New York, the First New York Dragoons, met every summer on the old parade grounds for a reunion picnic. Each year the attendance got smaller and smaller as the veterans died

off, until 1938 when just a few remained. One of those men was Charles T. Peck. Charles Peck was born on April 14, 1840, in Penn Yan, Yates County. When he was 22 years old, he answered Lincoln's call and joined the Union army to fight on distant battlefields to preserve this country. During his service he created an unbreakable bond with his regiment. Quickly he moved up the rank to second lieutenant until he fell to a months-long illness and fever which caused him to be mustered out in 1863.

Charles chose to move to Rochester and attended the Eastman Commercial College in Reynolds Arcade on Main Street. He used this business training to continue with his father's shoe making business which had offices in Elmira, New Jersey, and Philadelphia. Charles opened a branch right here in Rochester in 1880, calling Rochester his home until he passed away.

Charles was proud of his service and was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and he never missed a reunion at Camp Portage.

The August 25, 1938, edition of the *Democrat and Chronicle* ran the following article about his attendance at the reunion.

*"Lone Veteran to Carry-on Tradition"*

*When 98-year-old Lieutenant Charles T. Peck sets foot on the old Portageville drill grounds in Letchworth Park today a tradition that dates to the Civil War days will be single-handedly carried on.*

*The First New York Dragoons will be represented by only one member at the 69th annual reunion of the fighting unit, but the shadowy ghosts of the 1,414 young continues on page 9*

## Patti Giglio



Charles T. Peck



Ribbon from the Camp Portage reunion



Jaslynn is a Registered Nurse and has worked in the Observation Unit for 4 years.



Author Patti Unvericht-Giglio's books include *Ghosts and Hauntings of the Finger Lakes*, *Hidden History of the Finger Lakes*, *The Great Seaway Trail*; *History, Legends and Mysteries*, *Tales From These Old Bones* and *The Silver Lake Institute* are available at Barnes and Noble, independent bookstores and her Facebook shop @theseoldbonestalk. Follow her on Facebook for other interesting history tidbits and announcements.



Dozens of doctors and nurses cheered on staff at Highland Hospital as they entered work today. Robert McCann, MD, Chief of Medicine for Highland Hospital, and Jason Pacos, MD, Chief of Cardiology for Highland Hospital, organized the event to encourage staff during this particularly tough time to be in medicine. The doctors and nurses planned the rally for 7 a.m. this morning so they would catch both people leaving from the night shift and those arriving for the morning shift.

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# Landmark Society Launches "Old House Help"

**Megan Klem**

Old House Help, a new program offered by The Landmark Society of Western New York is designed to help homeowners navigate old house maintenance and care. Program services include: Homeowner Tax Credit Application Services, Preservation Board Assistance, Informational Webinars and Workshops and Contractor contacts

Those who live in an older home in a National Register historic district may be eligible to apply to the New York State (NYS) Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program to help with upgrades and repairs to their home. The program is administered by the NY State Historic Preservation Office and provides a credit off the homeowner's NYS income tax worth 20% of qualified repair and rehabilitation expenses.

The primary requirement for eligibility for the NYS Historic Homeowners Tax Credit program is that the owner-occupied home be located in a National Register historic district in the City of Rochester or individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places within the City. (National Register-listed properties outside the city must also be located in qualifying census tracts).

There are over a dozen National Register-listed historic districts within the city of Rochester, including:

- Maplewood Historic District
- Arvine Heights Historic District
- Sibley-Elmdorf Historic District
- Chili-West Historic District
- Inglewood & Thurston Historic District
- Grove Place Historic District
- Third Ward Historic District
- Madison Square – West Main

**Historic District**

- Mt. Hope – Highland Historic District
- Linden-South Historic District
- South Wedge Historic District
- East Avenue Historic District
- Park Avenue Historic District
- Browncroft Historic District

There are also many districts throughout the region, as well as areas that are eligible to become historic districts.

Through The Landmark Society's Old House Help program, homeowners can hire Landmark staff to complete the tax credit application on their behalf.



*Bathroom before*



*Bathroom after*

Homeowners with National Register-listed properties and incomes below \$50,000 (for single income households) or \$90,000 (for dual income households) can apply for an Esther Krakower Scholarship that covers the full cost of hiring Landmark staff to complete the Homeowner Tax Credit application.

For more information visit <https://www.landmarksociety.org/oldhousehelp/> Megan Klem is Preservation Planner of The Landmark Society of Western New York.

## FOMO

*continues from page 4*

Cathryn Hennard discovered FOMO when she needed a present. She bought a "silk Gucci tie for under \$100," but now she returned for the "a new inventory product drop."

"After I bought the tie, I started stalking them on social media," said Hennard, laughing. "I began price comparing."

Hennard already owns a couple designer bags, but tonight, she opted for "Josephine," a \$595 red monogram bag by Louis Vuitton.

"It's another way of putting art in people's hands," said Hennard.

Currently, in stock is a Tom Ford/Gucci Lizard Horsebit handbag for \$1,195.

"It's perfect for the holiday season," said Hennard. "It's lightweight. I can take it while shopping at Wegmans."

Also in attendance was Michael Banos who bought a sleek black vintage 1970's Christian Dior bag for his girlfriend. Kelli Foster stopped in on her way to having dinner with friends Simone Boone and Kathy Sugrue.

"You can bet I'm going to change my wallet when we get to dinner," said Foster, opening her new Fendi wallet to show off its beautiful pink lining.

For many the luxury bag is an investment. As Hanny said, "they hold their value."

Visit FOMO, Thursday-Friday, 11 a.m.- 6 p.m., Saturday 12 p.m. – 5 p.m. or you can book an appointment.

**650 South Avenue.**

## Highland Park Historic Districts

*Continued from page 7*

active preservation organizations in America, will submit the nomination to The NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which administers the National Register of Historic Places program and the Historic Tax Credit programs. Their staff will work with Landmark Society to review the district nominations. Once approved by the State Review Board, the nomination is forward to the National Park Service for final approval. Upon approval by NY State, homeowners will be eligible to apply for the NYS Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Tax Credits.

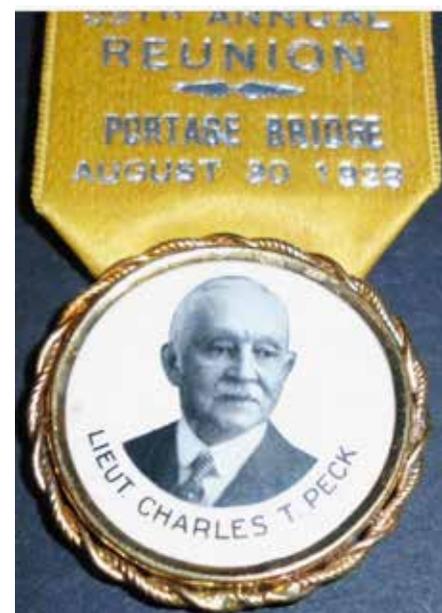
"When the project is complete, almost all of the neighborhood, about 1400 parcels, will be in the National Register of Historic Places," Roxanne Townsend, Highland Park Neighborhood Association, Inc., Board Member at Large. "The New York State tax credit of 20% is a huge benefit for neighbors who love these neighborhoods and take so much pride in their homes." Townsend said

that plans are underway to produce a virtual history trail through the neighborhood featuring historic points of interest.

For more information on this project visit: [www.landmarksociety.org/highland](http://www.landmarksociety.org/highland).

## Last Dragoon

*continues from page 7*



men who trained for service there in 1862 will be marching at Lieutenant Peck's side – in his memory at least – this afternoon.

Only three of the regiment are still living, the Rochester man said as he prepared to make the trip. He said he will be the only one of the three to appear on the old drill grounds.

During the last 68 years Lieutenant Peck, of Monroe County's few surviving veterans of the war between the Blue and Gray, he has not failed to attend a single reunion 'so far as I can remember.' It's been a long way back – 68 years- and he 'may have missed just one get-together; I'm not sure.

Lieutenant Charles T. Peck joined the shadowy ghosts marching on the parade grounds for the 70th reunion, passing away on August 12, 1939, at the age of 99, just days shy of the annual event.

At his passing, Lieutenant Peck was the last of the First New York Dragoons and the oldest of the nine living Civil War veterans in Rochester. Ironically, in a newspaper article in the *Democrat and Chronicle* that appeared on the day of his death, it was reported that although he was ill, Peck planned on attending the reunion.

The following year, instead of a reunion, a memorial service was held to honor the 1,414 deceased servicemen of Camp Portage. Lieutenant Charles T. Peck was laid to rest at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery beside his wife Mary.

## REF College Help

*Continued from page 6*

•Rochester Central Library – Saturday November 6th from 11 AM to 2 PM

•Rochester Central Library – Saturday December 11th from 11 AM to 2PM

•Rochester Educational Opportunity Center – Thursday January 20th from 5 PM to 7 PM. REOC is located at 161 Chestnut St, Rochester, NY 14604.

Pizza is always provided at our FAFSA Fest events, and we will have plenty of information about all of our local colleges and scholarship opportunities. Keep posted on other FAFSA-Fest events by checking in to our college access website: [RochesterCAN.org](http://RochesterCAN.org).

REF can't promise that we will have all the answers when you call, but we promise that we will work with you to find all the answers to your questions about college.

Just know that we are here to help if you need us!

To learn more about Rochester Education Foundation visit [rochestereducation.org](http://rochestereducation.org) or for more specific information on our College Access program, visit [RochesterCAN.org](http://RochesterCAN.org). You can also just call us at 271-5790!

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# Resurrected Party in the Park filled with N.U.T.S.

Jayne Morgan



Judy Bennett and Gloria Monacelli



Howard Samuel and the All American Blues Band perform at the Hickory N.U.T.S. Party in the Park (Photos courtesy of Jayne Morgan)

On a beautiful cloudless Sunday on Sept. 19, the Hickory N.U.T.S. (Neighbors United Through Service) on Hickory Street were able to resume their Annual Party in Marie Daley Park after canceling last year's event due to COVID.

To the delight of everyone, "Howard Samuel and the All American Blues Band" comprised of musicians Howard Samuel, Peter Monicelli, Mike Patrik, and Bob Reardon, performed their artistic renditions of "Walk Don't Run", "The

Stumble", "Wipe Out", and "Hot Shot" along with other amazing Blues tunes.

Delicious food was served including pulled pork sliders, a variety of homemade salads and sides and of course, fellow N.U.T.S.' Walter Ketcham's dark chocolate cake were enjoyed by all.

A big "thank you" goes to Tom Williams, owner of "Time for Wine & Spirits" located on South Ave. for providing wine, the Swillburg Neighborhood Association for loaning us



their tents and tables, and to Gary Loitsch for handcrafting three sets of Corn Hole.

N.U.T.S. Danielle Warren recruited members for the newly formed Hickory "N.U.T.Scrackers" who will be making their debut on Dec. 19th as they provide Holiday Caroling throughout the neighborhood.

Marcia Reaver obtained signatures on petitions to recommend changes for the upcoming redistricting legislation, and over 30 N.U.T.S.' t-shirts and hoodies were ordered as a fundraiser to provide Hickory N.U.T.S. Welcome Totes to new residents.

It was a great gathering and we're already looking forward to the 2022 Hickory N.U.T.S. Annual Party in the Park.

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## Who are the N.U.T.S.?

The Hickory N.U.T.S. (Neighbors United Through Service) is one of the oldest Neighborhood Block Clubs in the City of Rochester. Officially established in 1994 by residents then living on Hickory Street, the N.U.T.S. was created with a mission to bring cohesiveness, safety, neighborhood collaboration, and unity to this two block street located between South Ave. and Mt. Hope Ave. It's history is ripe with accomplishments such as creating a playground at Marie Daley Park, supporting the building of the Gregory Park Condos in the then abandoned and boarded up School #13, and emphasizing the welcoming of new residents on the street. The Hickory N.U.T.S. remain an active organization that delivers Welcome Totes to newcomers, sponsors an Annual Party in the Park, and consists of members who work behind the scenes in addressing both city wide and neighborhood issues.



## RoCo Messages & Mediums

Rochester Contemporary Art Center (RoCo) new exhibit, “the intersection of Spiritualism and technology” opened on Friday October 1.

Messages & Mediums brings together Shannon Taggart and Matthew Ostrowski, two artists renowned for their work exploring the Spiritualist movement.

St. Paul-based artist Shannon Taggart has been photographing Spiritualist mediums since 2001. Messages & Mediums features her new series of images, taken over Skype, Zoom, and FaceTime during the pandemic, building on the long history of spirit photography and technological exploration of the otherworldly. Meanwhile, Ostrowski’s installation “Summerland” looks back at the archaeology of communication, mixing 19th-century hardware and 21st-century software to initiate a conversation between the medium Kate Fox, the youngest of the Fox Sisters, and inventor of the telegraph Samuel F. B. Morse.

“We’re excited to present this exhibition in the region where Modern Spiritualism began,” says Executive Director Bleu Cease. “The Fox Sisters have long been a fixture of Rochester history and lore. We’re honored to be working with Shannon and Matthew to present an exhibition that connects the history of Spiritualism and mediumship with modern practices and technology.”

A virtual artist talk with Taggart and Ostrowski takes place on October 23 at 1pm.

Messages & Mediums is the first in a new occasional series that considers the intersection of religion, faith, and art. Rochester’s history of religious groups, technological innovation, and progressive social movements gives RoCo a unique vantage point to consider and support artists who engage with these subjects.

Shannon Taggart’s work has been exhibited and featured internationally, including within the publications *TIME*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Discover*, and *Newsweek*. Taggart’s monograph, *SÉANCE* (Fulgur Press, 2019), was listed as one of *TIME*’s ‘Best Photobooks of 2019.’ [shannontaggart.com](http://shannontaggart.com) | IG: @seance\_book.

A New York City native, Matthew Ostrowski has worked as a composer, performer and installation artist, exploring work with music, multimedia, video and theater. Using digital tools and formalist techniques to engage with quotidian materials – sonic, physical, and cultural – Ostrowski’s work explores the liminal space between the virtual and phenomenological worlds. His work, which has been seen on six continents, ranges from live electronic performance to installations incorporating video, multichannel sound, and computer-controlled objects. He is a freelance developer of interactive technology for artists, and teaches at NYU and Trinity College in Hartford. [ostrowski.info](http://ostrowski.info).



Skype transfiguration of a spirit said to be Franz Liszt, with Medium Isabelle Duchene in trance, 2020 by Shannon Taggart



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# In Memorium

## Terrance "Terry" O'Donnell

### 1941- 2021

**Rachel Mary Cox**

Long-time South Wedge resident Terrance H. O'Donnell died at the age of 81 surrounded by family members during a stay at Rochester General Hospital.

Terry attended St. Boniface School on Whalen Street and McQuaid Jesuit High School before earning a B.A. from St. John Fisher College.

For many years, his car was familiar to the homeless on Monroe Avenue because he always had a dollar to spare.

A sister of his remembers borrowing his car and being startled by banging on the window. The man was apologetic.

As he backed away from the window, he said, "I thought you were Terry."

Terry once gave away his only winter coat to someone in need and when he came home his mother was furious because there wasn't any money to buy him another one.

When he was 16 years old, he loved rodeos and broke his arm riding a bucking bronco in the ring. During the 1960s, he was a conscientious objector against the War in Vietnam. He was a fierce advocate for Civil Rights and spoke against the oppression of black people, and his advocacy had a profound impact on my life.

In one instance, while a student at St. John Fisher College, Terry voiced opposition to the Confederate flag being flown over the American flag in a Southern state. His vocal protests attracted media attention, and he received hate mail for some time. One woman from the deep South threatened his life. Once a man followed him home from a music gig and stood menacingly outside the house muttering about his draft status.

In the 1970s, he visited a Carthusian monastery in Vermont he wanted to join. They refused him because he was the sole support of his mother and sisters.

For a time, he studied to become an elementary education teacher because of his love of small children. He eventually worked for the U.S. Post Office, retiring only six years before he died. His two greatest passions were music and his Catholic faith.

Terry was a talented musician who played the bass guitar, upright bass, flugelhorn, trumpet, mandolin, piano and conga drums. He played in a variety of bands within a variety of genres. In the 1950s, he and band members Wesley Huff, Carl Foti and Richard Castle, called "The Gallant Men," recorded a Rochester hit song "Foreign Girl." In the 1960s he played country and western. In the 1970s he played jazz with musician Sam Sorbello.

Terry is survived by his sisters Linda, Jean (Milne) and Nancy; two nieces and

four nephews (Rachel Cox, Amanda Reagan Milne, Lance Milne, Derek (Lisa) Milne, Jason (Heather) Milne, Lucas (Nicole) Milne; nine great nieces and nephews Maya, Natalie and Jack Reagan, Ronan Milne, Brian, Sarah and Holden Milne, Owen and Lauren Milne.

I gave the following eulogy at the funeral Mass held at St. Boniface Church on August 27.

My uncle Terry also known as Tata (Polish for dad) was my best friend when I was a small child. My dad recalls that whenever we visited Rochester from Washington, DC, I would disappear for the duration to hang out with Uncle Tata. And when we left big tears would roll down my cheeks as we drove off. My parents separated when I was 4, and my father never saw Terry again, but his recollections of our bond remain strong. In the years after, Tata remained a father to me. He acted as a father to my cousins and to their children, too. He was 12 years older than my mother and so was a big influence on her. When the two of us came to Rochester in later years, he always gave her car a once-over before we hit the road, which alleviated her anxiety about the long trip home.

I have many fond memories with him – sledding in Highland Park with my cousin Lucas. Visiting the Carmelites, walking his Shar-peis, Lechy and Lutek, and his gentle reminders to brush my teeth after every meal. He was also a proponent of eating raw garlic for good health until the end.

He was a talented musician, an artist who inspired my love of music and my career in the industry in New York City. Though he rarely left upstate New York, he kept abreast of the Yankees and the NY Daily News. We would play concerts in my grandma's living room when I was little, me on flute, he on upright bass. Later he let me take his conga to Brooklyn. It temporarily was lost, but thankfully was retrieved and now sits in my living room in Colorado. I will cherish it always, and in celebration of his talent will try to overcome my hesitancy to play myself.

Tata was a gentle and generous soul. Frankly he may have been a saint. He showed a generosity far beyond those of much greater means. He spent his life surrounded by bickering women, stoic and patient and kind. He left the world surrounded by women whom he helped and guided. Throughout his life, his religious devotion was evident in his visits to the sick and his volunteering his time to play music at Mass. I love you Tata and will miss you dearly. You were and are simply the best!



*Terry O'Donnell on boat ride down the Potomac River to Alexandria, Virginia circa 1985. (Photo by Nancy O'Donnell Hale)*

#### Moments by Mary Oliver

**There are moments that cry out to be fulfilled.**

**Like, telling someone you love them.**

**Or giving your money away, all of it.**

**Your heart is beating, isn't it?  
You're not in chains, are you?**

**There is nothing more pathetic than caution  
when headlong might save a life,  
even, possibly, your own.**

**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-September), 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 to continue 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.**

## Boulder Coffee House Adds Art to the Brew



*Boulder Coffee House art work available for purchase (Photos by Nancy O'Donnell)*

The big wooden shelves inside the door of Boulder Coffee House was once filled with newspapers and fliers. Now Boulder Coffee House now houses canvases from local artists. Nearby, other creators have filled with decorative coasters for sale.

The holiday season is coming up. Stop by and take a look.

100 Alexander Street.



*Boulder Coffee House art coasters*



## Nativity Academy Welcomes Anna Josephine Doerr

Nativity Preparatory Academy, Rochester's only tuition-free private middle school for low-income students in grades 5-8, welcomed Anna Josephine Doerr as its Director of Student Support Services. Doerr brings her background of social work and passion for mental health advocacy to her new position. She recently worked as a clinical social worker at the Rochester Psychiatric Center. She worked directly with patients and families in a clinical setting to support them with any additional resources and services as needed in Rochester.

Doerr started her career as an assistant to local psychotherapist Jodi Aman.

Doerr is a graduate of Nazareth College and Manhattan College, where she earned her Master of Social Work and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Peace Studies respectively. She lives in Rochester with her 3-year-old rescue dog Watson.

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