There is no doubt that the South Wedge can be described as fun and funky with its eclectic mix of restaurants, shops and businesses. South and Clinton Avenues bring together a diverse community that embraces individuality.

City Love 2019 is an opportunity to celebrate all that makes the South Wedge a unique destination for some and a place to call home for others. Get your tickets now for the event of the season at RocCityLove.com, and mark your calendar for Friday, May 3, 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m. at the The Historic German House, 315 Gregory Street.

The theme for the 2019 celebration is “Funky Town” with music performed by Uptown Groove. Any guest wearing their most funky fashion will be entered for awards and recognitions, including the crowning of the King or Queen of Funk. City Love is also an opportunity to recognize the person or persons most dedicated to the development and preservation of the South Wedge Community. The 2nd Annual Dave Halter Community Award will be awarded this year to community activist Lisa Reagan. Halter was a well know advocate in the South Wedge.

“We are excited that this year’s event will be the first opportunity for residents and guests to see the completed renovations at the German House. Owner Ron Maier is making a substantial investment in a face lift for the facility,” said South Wedge Planning Committee Executive Director Glynis Valenti. “We are grateful to Ron and his team for recognizing the value of an important community asset like The Historic German house and thrilled to be part of the renovation unveiling.”

Local restaurants and vendors will offer up samples. Come taste some of the best beer and whisky made right here in our own Funky Town. Shawn-O-Photo photo booth will be back, auction and raffle items are pouring in and the decorating committee is primed to go. Vefacility VRcade is bringing virtual reality fun for free. Chad Krohn will give everyone the chance to test drive immersive virtual reality interactive games like going deep sea diving to skiing to climbing Mount Everest.

Vefacility VRcade, located at 300 Park Point Drive, Suite 108 near the RIT campus, is a great place for family fun. All proceeds support neighborhood housing initiatives, rehabilitation, preservation, community victory gardens, The South Wedge Farmers Market and The Wedge newspaper. Tickets are on sale now: $25.00 in advance- $30.00 at the door or on line at RocCityLove.com or swpc.org. Students get a special discount rate; $15 per ticket. Purchase tickets in person at 224 Mount Hope Avenue at the SWPC main office. For sponsorship information, contact GValenti@swpc.org or call (585) 256-1740 ext. 2.

The 2019 South Wedge Farmers Market opens on Thursday, June 20 at 4 p.m. with a return of all of your favorite vendors. Join the food less traveled and support local farmers by purchasing the fresh bounty of the season. Heritage tomatoes, root crops, sweet fruit picked and packed the same day as the market! Karaoke at the Market kicks the season off with Brett Lighthouse. Last season, many of our vendors took the chance to exercise their vocal chops along with shoppers, too. Some continued on pg. 3.

The South Wedge and surrounding streets becomes the sweetest in the city when lilacs are in bloom (Photo by Maya Reagan)
As we enter the Spring season of 2019 here in the South Wedge neighborhood, many people in the community and throughout the city are gearing up for events, activities or achievements of their own. I believe for myself and many others there are a few characteristics that relate to the overall theme of Spring that include hope, progress and new opportunity. I can’t help but think of the many ways that brought us here to help make who we are today. We all have a story, place and a time from which we grow together and make progress not only for ourselves but also by serving those around us including our friends, family and community.

For myself, living in the South Wedge neighborhood today, our journey as a family began on Hamilton Street when I was born in the late 1960’s. Shortly after, a house fire decimated the entire interior and part of the exterior of our home, but we were lucky to make it out into the dark night only to watch our home burning brightly from the other side of the street. With my mother hanging on to me and father nearby, I can only imagine the thoughts that were going through their heads. How difficult, painful or even ironic it was that we watched the place burn that we were supposed to start our lives in. Amidst the devastation what seemed to be a tragedy for the family, we had many things to be grateful for. Mrs. Ross across the street took us in that night and welcomed us as if we were a family of her own. Her welcome and hospitality discounted any idea that our temporarily inter racial family would be somewhat out of the ordinary as Mrs. Ross was black and we were white. None of that seemed to matter as we were happy to have continued on pg. 6

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The WEDGE Newspaper
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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 bi-monthly (February, April, June, August, October and December), The WEDGE has a circulation of 5300. It is distributed to area businesses, retail shops and other drop-off points in the Southeast and Greater Rochester area.

Before recycling the Wedge, please share with others.

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The SWPC mission statement
The South Wedge Planning Committee encourages a full range of housing opportunities and promotes a diverse, historically significant, commercially sustainable urban village.

SWPC Board Members
Frank Logan, chairman
Anthony Sciarabba, treasurer
John Frank
Teresa Hemann
Emery Rizzo

Board Members
Mitchell Dannenberg, John Dennis, Joe DiDonato, Cheryl Stevens

Staff
Glynis Valent, executive director
Joan Brandenburg, special project coordinator
Nancy O'Donnell, editor

Consultants
Norm Karsten,
SBDC SUNY Geneseo

Please send story suggestions or news to Wedge Newspaper Editor Nancy O’Donnell, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 email nodonnell@swpc.org.

Advertising deadlines and rates are available online at www.swpc.org or call 585.256.1740, ext. 4 or 585.978.9638.

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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.

Name
Address
City_________State_________Zip_________
E-mail_____________________________________

$25 Wedge Supporter
Please mail form along with your payment to: 224 Mount Hope Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620.

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The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) invites you to join us in making a difference in southeastern 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 585-1740 or e-mail gvalenti@swpc.org or board chair Frank Logan at flogan@rochester.rr.com.

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The Wedge Card 2019

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Are you a business owner interested in participating in the Wedge Card discount program? Let us know!
Happy Spring! With temperatures moderating an the ground finally drying, we can soon work to spruce up our part of Rochester for a fun warm season! The Swillburg Neighborhood Steering Committee plans to participate in the City’s annual Clean Sweep on Saturday, May 11. Neighbor Sara Guardiao is graciously coordinating us.

As usual, we'll focus on the Bloom Garden in the mall where Field Street meets Monroe Avenue. The city will provide tools and materials (rakes, shovels, gloves, leaf bags, etc.). Everyone is invited to join us. We’ll also be tiding along our wonderful art panels on Pembroke Street. No doubt this event will be further announced on Nextdoor social media and on the WEDGE Newspaper Facebook page.

On May 9, Swillburg neighbors will participate in the United Way Day of Caring. This is another opportunity to collectively prepare our community for summer. As we have for the past four years, we’ll receive kind volunteer assistance from librarians at the University of Rochester River Campus. They’ll help us to prepare garden plots at School 35 and tidy the Charette Garden at Fountain Street and South Clinton Avenue.

This event too will no doubt be announced on the WEDGE Facebook page and Nextdoor, and we’re grateful to neighbor John O’Neill for coordinating this event.

Our annual Swillburg Summer Picnic is being planned, as well. The date has been set for Saturday, June 29. I’ll provide more information in our June/July WEDGE column and no doubt you’ll read more about this on Nextdoor. I can share that we hope to have a couple hours of live music. Fingers crossed.

Now, the other cool thing I’m glad to report is an exciting new assortment of Swillburg Swag. Largely thanks to neighbors Josh Jacobs and Stephanie Jakas, several new items will soon be available for purchase at www.swillburg.com/shop. At this site you’ll be able to purchase Swillburg logo print glasses, cool tee-shirts, neighborhood postcards, posters and stickers. I consider the new Swag a great leap ahead in further promoting a positive image of our humble little burg. All these projects happen because of neighbors like you who enjoy socializing and working for the betterment of our community. If you have any interest in joining in with us, please watch for announcements on Nextdoor. Don’t forget Swillburg neighbors hold monthly dinner outings as well as lunches. We meet not only to converse and visit but also to support neighborhood restaurants. These too are announced on Nextdoor.

Hope you all have a Happy and Beautiful Spring!

Rochester Area Community Foundation recently awarded NeighborGood Grants to three South Wedge neighborhood groups. The Hickory N.U.T.S. Hickory Street Block Club received a grant to continue their successful welcome basket program for new neighbors and to host an annual block party/picnic that promotes community on their street. The Hamilton Tenants Association also received funding for hosting monthly family nights and periodic children’s activities for building residents. Their goal is to increase participation, education, and input for building issues, promote inclusive multi-cultural activities and to give children a safe place to have fun. South Wedge Planning Committee was awarded funding for Wedge Workshops, a series of “How-to” sessions for entrepreneurs, adult caregivers, and home do-it-yourselfers. SWPC is excited about the opportunities these will provide and the support this community has shown for the upcoming season. A schedule is in progress and will be posted online.

In addition, Neighbors Building Neighborhoods Sector 6 (NB6) also received NeighborGood funding to continue their work on informing and educating area neighborhoods on pertinent issues and policies that affect Rochester’s southeast. The Rochester Area Community Foundation partners with generous philanthropists and community partners to improve the quality of life for people who live and work in the eight-county region through its leadership and strategic grantmaking while leading, inspiring and supporting positive, enduring community change.

Neighborhood Grant Local Awards
Glynis Valenti

South Wedge Farmers Market continued from pg. 1
Tu Amor Cakery
Elizabeth “Lizzy” Rodriguez’s initial idea for opening Tu Amor Cakery may have been about pastry, but it’s turned out to be much, much more.

Tu Amor shows its ethics in the front window. A sign for “Suspended Coffee” invites shoppers to buy a cup of coffee for a patron in need. To receive a free cup of coffee, a patron can just ask if one is available: “They will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis without regard to race, religion or gender, etc.” Then there’s the story where Rodriguez noticed an elderly woman wandering around in front of her South Avenue bake shop. “I brought her inside, and saw she had dementia,” said Rodriguez, who helped the woman get back home. Rodriguez said she learned how to cook at her father’s side.

“Once the soil temp gets to 40 degrees Fahrenheit, crops like greens, peas and radishes can be sown. Wait until soil gets to 50 degrees Fahrenheit to plant onions and sweet chard. Summer vegetables can be sown in late spring.

To learn more, join us for our 4th Annual Celebration of Rochester Neighbors, to be held June 3. The free event will take place at the City of Rochester Public Market to celebrate the great people who 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.

Victory Garden Gardening Tips
Felton Culbreth

After a long, cold winter, gardeners are fired up to be outside and ready to wake the garden up for a new growing season. It can be overwhelming figuring out how to start with so much to do. Here’s a few tips that may help.

- Begin by planning ahead and get organized. Start with a few items, one to three, determined by your individual needs and likes.
- Get info online. There are tons of resources available. Check out our Facebook Page “South Wedge Victory Garden” for links.
- Start seed vegetables and annuals indoors six to eight weeks before you plan to set them out. Make a planting schedule so that seedlings are mature at the optimal time.
- Once the soil temp gets to 66 degrees Fahrenheit to plant onions and sweet chard. Summer vegetables can be sown in late spring.

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Great neighborhood volunteers in previous years.

Neighborhoods are much like a block party for the entire city. The event will also kick off Neighborhoods® Week in Rochester and will feature live music, food, and children’s activities. Admission to the event is free. The event will recognize four Community Champions - individuals from each of the four quadrants of the city for their contributions to their community.

4th Annual Celebration of Rochester Neighbors

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The Community Leadership Award 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, Lyons National Bank, the Greater Rochester Realtors Association, Haveron & Company, SiteHub, and more. Visit the event’s website, https://www.rochesterneighbors.org, for more information.

Neighborhoods® Rochester, a non-profit organization, builds strong neighborhoods by educating and counseling new homeowners, providing loan services and energy-savings programs to homeowners. Local businesses interested in sponsorship or tabling at the event can contact Kelly Hallenbeck, Regional Resource Development Manager at 315-420-7000, or khalenbeck@nwrochester.org.
 Throughout the month of May, we will be holding the 4th Annual Highland Park and South Wedge Donation Drive. This year’s drive will be focused on the most precious members of our community—our kids! We are collecting clothing, gear, toys, you name it, for kids of all ages: newborn to teen. We are collaborating with two amazing organizations this year: MINO (Mother in Need of Others), and the Rochester Free Store.

**Kid specific items we are looking to collect:**
- Baby, toddler & kid clothes, coats and shoes (Please bag newborn - 5T clothing separately from larger sizes)
- Baby gear: pack ‘n plays, strollers, car seats, diaper bags, baby carriers, receiving blankets, towels, etc.
- Maternity clothes (all sizes) and nursing items (pads, privacy covers, Boppie Pillows)
- Toys and books for Babies and Kids

**Additional items we are collecting:**
- Personal hygiene products: sanitary napkins, tampons, soap, shampoo, antiperspirant, etc.
- Paper products: toilet paper, paper towels, tissues
- Cleaning products: laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, cleaning sponges

**Items we CAN NOT accept:**
- Any car seats missing straps or damaged in any way
- Items that are stained, dirty or that have missing or broken pieces
- Recalled or expired items (Car seats must be within 5 years of date of manufacture)
- Cribs, toddler beds, or other furniture (due to transport issues and space limitations)

**MINO**
MINO (Mother in Need of Others) is a ministry under the nonprofit of Project URGE, Inc. URGE’s mission is to bring urban and suburban churches and organizations together to work on behalf of the poor in the city. Until recently, MINO was located in the South Wedge neighborhood on Mt. Hope Avenue. They recently moved and now have a loving home at 1 Favor Street, in the Youth for Christ building. (YFC is a Christ-centered Youth & Family organization).

MINO was created to assist social service agencies and church outreach programs by providing them with maternity and baby items, feminine and personal hygiene, and cleaning products that their clients need to care for themselves and their families. Items are provided Free of Charge to case managers for their clients. “MINO has no clients of its own,” explains Maria Wehrle, who runs the organization. “We exist solely to fill in the gaps when other agencies and social service organizations are running low on items to assist them in meeting the needs of the individuals they serve. Currently, we serve nearly 300 case managers and church outreach workers from approximately 70 agencies and churches. We like to refer to the client representatives we work with as our ‘Angels in the Field.’ We are so grateful for

**Rochester Free Store**
The Rochester Free Store is a collaboration between the South Wedge neighborhood, located at the corner of Caroline and Mt. Vernon, and St. Joe’s House of Hospitality on South. The Free Store accepts donations of gently used, quality clothing and household items. Then, as the name suggests, they are given away free of charge.

The Free Store is operated by Jasmin Régger. Her goal is to provide quality items to people in need. “The Rochester Free Store provides a place where you can give and take freely,” said Jasmin. “We are open to the public and there are no requirements to receive donations. Come as you are!”

The Free Store is open for shoppers the third Saturdays of the month, 10:30-5:00 p.m. They accept donations on Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. – noon, then 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. The Free Store is always in need of quality kid and teen clothing, particularly for young men. For additional information about the Rochester Free Store, call Jasmin at 585-533-9882.

We are looking forward to a great drive this year and we thank you in advance for your support!

Please see our ad on page 11. Please clip it out and put it on your fridge as a reminder!

For additional information or questions you may direct email mothersinneedofothers@gmail.com. If you are a pastor in need of assistance for your clients, call 348-8596 or email mothersinneedofothers@gmail.com. Please check out their new website at https://mino.projecturge.org and share the link!

**Annual Kids Clothing Drive Kicks off in May**
**Andrea Borrelli**

Call Jasmin at 585-353-9882.

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Angels Among Us

Michele H. Martell

Do you believe in angels? Their presence in our lives, in a spiritual sense, spirits not seen by the human eye, face, from deep within, do believe in angels, and their ability to guide us, if we are open to them.

How many times has it happened that we have missed being in an accident by a millisecond? Or when in a difficulty, experienced an outcome much less tragic than it logically might have been? Sometimes we do have a snap insight that maybe we are really being looked out for and (and we may even joke that our Guardian Angel must be exhausted).

I believe we are often protected from scenarios that we don’t even know about or a possibility, I like to think that guardian angels exist to protect us, and that we each have at least one of these guardians. And what people call coincidences are really synchronicities that are divine intervention and protection.

People come into our lives, seemingly at the right exact time that we need them. Whether it is to offer us support that we didn’t even know we needed, to bring us joy, or to teach us life lessons.

Have you ever had a surprise answer to a question that you had been wondering about for years? Or perhaps insightful dreams that we need them. Whether it is really synchronicities that are divine messages and protectors, only we ask and believe in them as their unconditional protection and companionship, as we offer them ours.

Angels Among Us

Michele H. Martell

pleasent floral scent from where its origins are mysterious?

There’s a saying that when feathers appear, angels are near, especially when they appear in unlikely places. And there is a whole list of meanings attributed to various feather colors. I’ve also read that finding coins in odd places are a sign that your passed-over loved ones and angels are looking after you. Certain birds such as cardinals tapping on your window, cloud formations, and repeated number patterns are said to be other possible angel experiences. Keep an open eye, nose, ear and mind for such signs.

Some folks have actually documented physical interactions with angels via their own eyes and senses, describing a most beautiful, powerful experience that changed their lives. Many of us will experience angels in a non physical manner, if only we ask and believe in them as divine messengers and protectors, offering gratitude. Believe in them – they believe in you.

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Sunken garden at Warner Castle

Prom or Ball this Year?

Suits & Tuxedos
Accessories to Match Any Dress Color
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Mention this Ad and Receive Two Tickets to The Cinema Theater
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www.sincenter.org

Sunken garden at Warner Castle

Historic Calvary St. Andrews Calendar

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 7 PM
Colin Pritchard and the Mount Hope Singers bring “Creating Harmony in Sound and Spirit.” This community chorus uses music as a universal language to encourage peace and understanding across diverse cultures of the world.

Rev. Colin Pritchard is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Victor (NY), and a musician who has recorded two albums with plans for a third coming soon.

In the place between praise music and traditional hymns there are some songs that celebrate the honest joys and struggles of the journey of faith. This is the place where the music of Colin Pritchard lands. Sometimes playful, sometimes painful, the lyrics of his songs, and music of his guitar, ask questions, tell stories, and lift up hope.

Events are held at the Historic Calvary St. Andrews at the ROC SALT Center

The historic building is found at the corner of 95 Averill Avenue and Ashland Street. Parking at Postler & Jaeckle lot at South/Averill or on street parking www.rocsaltcenter.org Email: focsa@gmail.com.

DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED EVER DONATION HELPS PRESERVE THIS HISTORIC BUILDING

Home Rochester Properties

(Community Housing Development Organization) house, located at 171 Averill Avenue in the South Wedge. The bungalow style house, built in 1900, has two bedrooms, a full basement, off-street parking, a fenced backyard, and about 850 square feet of living space.

Renovations will take three to four months, and the house will be sold through the HOME Rochester program (homerochester.org.)

First-time home buyers can apply to the program online to become pre-qualified for home purchases. HOME Rochester offers down payment and closing cost assistance to participants and exclusive access to city properties like this one. Program houses are upgraded and updated to City of Rochester code specifications and include energy efficient furnaces and water heaters, among other features on a case by case basis.

Properties are assigned to local agencies like SWPC for rehab by the Rochester Housing Development Fund Corporation of the Greater Rochester Housing Partnership.

The program has helped stabilize many streets by improving eyesore houses, salvaging architectural features in keeping with the surrounding neighborhood, and giving affordable purchase options to qualified buyers who remain in the homes long-term.

For more information on 171 Averill Avenue, contact Glynis at SWPC, (585)256-1740, extension 2.

To find out more about the HOME Rochester program, visit www.homerochester.org.

(continued from pg. 1)
In Memoriam - Dale O’Donnell
1939-2019

Dale O’Donnell, beloved by her three sisters, one brother, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and many of the retail stores at Marketplace Mall, died on Feb. 16, 2019.

Dale celebrated her 80th birthday on Feb. 13. She had been a resident of a local nursing home in the area. In early Feb, a bed sore turned into sepsis and complicated by an underlying condition, she was hospitalized. She died Feb. 16 at Strong Memorial Hospital on a cold, still winter night with a brilliant moon shining, and many stars shining.

To the world, Dale’s life may have seemed of little consequence. She died possessing little to nothing. She didn’t own a home. She didn’t own a car. No stocks. No bonds. No pensions or large bank accounts. She held no high degrees. She didn’t own a home. She didn’t own a car. No stocks. No bonds. No pensions or large bank accounts. She held no high degrees. She didn’t own a home. She didn’t own a car. No stocks. No bonds. No pensions or large bank accounts. She held no high degrees.

She was a devout Catholic who attended St. Boniface Grammar School and Mercy and Monroe High Schools. She dropped out at 16 years old to help support her family when her parents separated. She earned a GED in the 1960s and took a few courses at Monroe Community College. Over the years, she worked in retail (Fanny Farmers Candy Store was her sister’s personal favorite) and D.C. Turner Factory on St. Paul St.

Dale was a night owl who stayed up long after everyone else went to sleep. She was a devoted late night movie fan and because of her avid movie star magazines with photos. In the 1950s and kept many of the costume jewelry and shopping and word even existed. She loved an enormously generous woman. She was a fashionista before the word even existed. She loved costume jewelry and shopping and could find an expensive item marked down, marked down, marked down to a ridiculous low price. She loved the actor James Dean in the 1950s and kept many of the movie star magazines with photos. She enjoyed gossip magazines especially People. For a time, she loved Bingo and attended games around the city. She never did to no end. She was friendly to everyone she met, able to talk to anyone and drew them out because she was curious and interested in just about everything. Memories of Dale, held by her family members, were told during the eulogy. Dale would sing her youngest sister to sleep. Her sister was a kindergarten drop out, and their mother let the youngest daughter to sleep on many of those nights. She sang the songs of the 1950s: “Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White” by Pat Boone, “Golden Earrings” by Peggy Lee, “Man in a Raincoat” by Priscilla Wright. (They still can be found on YouTube).

She was quick with a compliment, most often on how people looked. Linda O’Donnell remembers her sister as “an avid reader of biographies of [Catholic saints] or movie stars.” Dale never failed to lift my spirits with her optimism. She would always say, “Tomorrow will be better.”

Dale never gave birth to children, but she acted as loving mother to her nephews and nieces and grandnieces and nephews.

Nephew Lance Milne spoke of art her kindness. “I can’t remember a harsh word. The best word I can think to describe her is kind. She was generous with anything she had. I do remember as a small kid, she had a chocolate bar. (She and Grandma loved plain Hershey bars. I loved them with almonds.) So, I remember watching her unwrapping it, and she offered me as much as I wanted.

She was a very good share-er.”

Dale’s nephew Jason Milne remembers her kindness. “She was and how Dale didn’t care what others thought of her style or behavior.

“She never had a driver’s license,” said Jason. “She always sat in the backseat of the car while her sister [Linda] drove her. It proves that she really was the undiscovered actress we thought she was.”

Her nephew Derek Milne said she would take him to McDonalds every weekend. “Then we’d head out to Marketplace Mall where she would buy an outfit and return the one she bought the week before.”

Ron Reagan, who married her niece Amanda Milne, said he admired Dale’s simplicity and her childlike enthusiasm about so many things.

A photo posted of her online that showed her dressed up for High Tea at a local restaurant, garnered many responses from neighbors, acquaintances and even strangers. One wrote: “A pure soul shining through.” Fatima Bayram of Pantak-Bayram and Thimble Tailor who only knew Dale through her dry-cleaning order wrote when she learned of her death: “I love Dale! Such a good woman.”

Dale left a legacy of love that triumphed over status and privilege, bank balances and accolades. She lived a simple life and died a spectacular woman. In the Jewish tradition, friends wrote, “May her memory be a blessing.”

We were all blessed that we had Dale O’Donnell in our lives. In the last words of her eulogy, those gathered were invited to carry on her legacy forward following her path of generosity, love, kindness, spirituality and share in her willingness to be eccentric, to enjoy a side in the back seat and to believe that while today we may be filled with sorrow, tomorrow will be better.

New Golisano Autism Center Celebrated
Nancy O’Donnell

While dignitaries and local autism advocates and well wishes arrived at the grounds of The Golisano Autism Center and UR’s Medicine Golisano Pediatric Behavioral Health & WellMed Building, a construction continued behind the huge white tent.

Among the assembled were Mayor Lovely Warren, Congressmen Joe and Louise Siskind and County Clerk Cheryl Dinolfo. Many lauded Tom Golisano and the Golisano Foundation who provided more than $3.5 million in funding towards this $9 million project.

The new one story center will house more than a dozen community providers including two of the founding members, AutismUP and CP Rochester.

The Center will offer support and services for individuals on the autism spectrum and their families and friends including an individual from early intervention through adulthood.

Among the special features are a 54-seat art therapy studio, a coffee bar and lounge, a children’s play area, and quiet rooms.

Autism prevalence continues to rise, increasing to an estimated in 1 in 59 children in 2018 according to the CDC.

Humans of the South Wedge
Nancy O’Donnell

Joshua Truax, Fashion Traveler

“Post a lot of pictures of fashion and street art around Rochester. I am a fashion student through a certificate program through Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT). I truly love fashion and art which I think go hand and hand. I put my head down because it’s like my signature on a painting. I love the people who look at the art and architecture, not me.”

You also look at many more photos from all over Rochester then Instagram at @tru_aesthetics825 and reach me at Jstunleashed@gmail.com.”

From left to right above, Truax outside SWPC office on Mt. Hope Ave. and on South Ave. Below Frederick Douglass Library
What's in Your Garage

Let's assume that winter's worst snows have passed, you're thinking spring; maybe time for a little yard cleaning. You trek out to your garage intent on exchanging your snow shovel and the lighted reindeer lawn ornaments for a rake. But wait! You can barely get the garage door open without staring into the cascade stuff you stashed in there and haven't known what to do with; the old push-mower, those kettlebells you bought because of an inspiration you had at LA Fitness; your old basketball bought because of an inspiration you had at LA Fitness; your old baseball bought because of an inspiration you had at LA Fitness; your old push-mower, those kettlebells you bought because of an inspiration you had at LA Fitness. It hits you: when was the last time you actually used your garage for your car? You're not alone. Just come out of every four Americans use their garage for its intended purpose. Most of us might score an F in a 2015 survey by University of Texas psychologists of specific emotions we attach to the ambience of our house, including the garage. The single and most common “ambience” attached to the garage, according to survey respondents was organization. Coming from an old French word, garer, or shelter, the modern garage averaged 12' X 22'. Garage doors are at least 7' and, lately, ballooning to as many as 12' high to accommodate roof racks. Bloating garages for your GMC YUKON SUV or Ford F-150 command a new market for all sorts of customized shelving and storage. Imagine the size of Jay Leno's garage, with his 286-car collection!

Now regarded by most of us as decidedly prosaic, vernacular structures, the humble garage has roots in ancient European carriage houses or stables, many of which housed household servants or, later, the family chauffeur, who lived above in an apartment. These structures were detached from the main manor house for sanitary reasons. Such detached garages can still be seen minus the horses and their hostlers—driving through Brighton's Tony Houston Barnard neighborhood, especially Sandingham, Ambassador Drive and Esplanade. Barnard was an early local developer who, in the 1920s and 30s specified that an early local developer who, in the 1920s and 30s specified that garage doors averaged 12' X 22'. Garage doors are at least 7' and, lately, ballooning to as many as 12' high to accommodate roof racks. Bloating garages for your GMC YUKON SUV or Ford F-150 command a new market for all sorts of customized shelving and storage.

Imagine the size of Jay Leno's garage, with his 286-car collection!

Garages in this fashionable area must not be seen from the street. Whether intended or not, this design feature created an almost structural dualism between sacred and profane space. Indeed, it’s often hard to spot these garages tucked behind many of these Tudor, Georgian and Mediterranean-style mansions, including the former homes of Frank Gannett, F. Ritter Shumway and other moneyed locals. Elsewhere, stately homes along and just off East Avenue feature elegant old garages the size of most average homes. In or near the South Wedge, such detached garages (though in more middle-class settings), can be easily seen along Cypress, Hickory, Hamilton and many other Rochester city streets. Then, after WWII, this pattern changes in everyday life. Garages in some neighborhoods were lined up along service alleys like the rather quaint, semi-private alley tucked between Gregory and Rockingham streets. They were thus invisible from the street with access only from one’s back yard. A more significant change came when, in 1910, Frank Lloyd Wright designed what may well be the first attached garage for his landmark Robie House (1909) in Hyde Park, south Chicago, with space for three vehicles. It’s in the Prairie style, with an attached three-car garage. The home now has UNESCO Heritage status.

Still, the much smaller and more typical WWI houses with lots averaging 25' X 100' precluded erecting a garage next to the house, so into the backyard they went, sometimes accompanied by a clothesline or a doghouse. After WWII, garages migrated toward the front of the house just as family cars grew in size and driveway aprons swept expansively toward the sidewalk. To have not one, but three garage doors was, for some, a sign of status; cars could be washed in the driveway on weekends and, when parked in the driveway, car owners could glimpse a stored motorboat, garden tools and several bicycles, even a freezer. Innovators like Wozniak and Jobs could experiment with the earliest computer inside a garage and the echo-chamber space formed a crucible for garage-bands like Nirvana.

Home workshops or gyms, or even S&M dungeons would fit handily. Alas, the garage also became a fitting place to inhale CO2 while sitting in one’s car in the enclosed space as in Netflix’s unsettling Thirteen Reasons Why.

Gaining traction in some cities, notably Portland, Oregon, Austin, L.A. and Vancouver, are ADUs, or Accessory Dwelling Units, often called “granny flats” where, if building codes permit, garages are turned into apartments. Surely an option for high-cost cities with sky-high housing affordability. Time for a confession; my wife and I have garaged our car exactly once in close to half a century. Our driveway changes continued on pg. 10
Planetary Messengers

Welcome to what we hope will become an ongoing series focused on the art science of astrology. In writing this we hope to spark the interest of a wide range of readers from those who might know their Sun signs to others who know nothing about astrology, including those who think it just might be a “hippy hoax” from the 60’s. Actually, its history is deep and worldwide, starting from the beginning of our recorded history to present day. Every developed culture has looked to observe and understand celestial movement through their own unique lens and if we choose, our lives can also be enriched by this knowledge.

The planets in our solar system carry names from Greek and Roman mythology, and one of these in common everyday usage is Mercury. It is not unusual these days to hear astrology, including those who think it just might be a trickster! And, without a doubt, we live in an increasingly Mercurial world! So, when the planet is going retrograde from our earthy vantage point.

Mercury, however, does it with the greatest frequency -- three times each year -- for approximately three weeks each time, making our lives just a bit more interesting. These periods of time are great for review, revision, rethinking, and inner reflection. They are not great cycles to start new projects, buy new big-ticket items or enter into new contracts. Broadly speaking, these are unlikely to turn out as expected. These are also times with transportation mishaps with far-reaching consequences. The recent tragic loss of the Ethiopian Airlines flight last month on March 10 is a prime example. Not only were many families grievously affected, but several United Nations programs lost crucial leadership. In addition, the grounding of many other Boeing 737 flights frustrated hundreds of other travelers and stressed the resources of many airlines.

In our personal lives, a Mercury retrograde period can show up in many ways, from car troubles, missed appointments, frequently needing to re-schedule meetings, greater frequency of miscommunication, dropping our telephones in the toilet, and many things in between. Specifically, how have these areas been functioning for you over the past few weeks (March 5-18)? And coming up for the rest of 2019 these will again be times of Mercury retrograde: July 7-31 and Oct 31-Nov 20.

Now that you are aware, it is possible to make the best use of these times and perhaps avoid some trouble. Be advised: Mercury is a trickster! If you’re interested in seeing how Mercury (and other planets) might be affecting your horoscope, get your personal transit consultation by personal consults: aeoela@luno.com, Zodiaca@spiral.com.

What’s in Your Garage

Get your ad in the WEDGE in 2019 Business card size costs only $33 a month! Call for more info. 586.257.1740

What’s in Your Garage continued from pg. 9

Proud to be your community hospital.
In recognition of Problem Gambling Awareness Month, DePaul’s National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence – Rochester Area (NCADD-RA) joins the New York Council on Problem Gambling (NYCPC) to raise awareness about the connections between problem gambling and problems in the workplace. Now a mainstream activity in our communities, gambling opportunities are making their way into the workplace. Nearly 668,000 adults in New York State (or five percent) are struggling with a gambling problem. Problem gambling causes not only financial issues, but also other problems such as addiction issues, depression, suicide, and decreased productivity at work.

The effects of problem gambling on the workplace include a loss of time, loss of productivity, and more extreme effects such as theft, fraud and embezzlement. It’s important that employers and the workforce are educated about the warning signs of problem gambling, and that employee assistance programs are prepared to assist those struggling. Warning signs of problem gambling in the workplace include:

- Deterioration of work performance
- Frequent, unexplained absences from work
- Preoccupation with gambling opportunities in the workplace such as sports pools, betting opportunities, etc.
- Frequently borrowing money from coworkers, or arguing with coworkers about financial issues
- Requests for pay in advance, or cashing in retirement or vacation time
- Mood swings or a change in personality
- Verbalizing the negative effects of gambling on one’s life

Problem gambling affects not only the individual who is gambling, but also their loved ones, affecting between eight and 10 additional people, including family, friends and coworkers. That equates to an additional 6.7 million people in New York who are affected by problem gambling.

In recognizing problem gambling and its effects, you can take action by:

- Talking to someone
- Deciding to seek help
- Contacting a professional
- Joining a support group

Problem Gambling Awareness Month is a multi-dimensional prevention effort to raise awareness about the connections between problem gambling and other issues in the workplace. In recognition of this month, the Rochester Area chapter of NCADD-RA, in collaboration with the New York Council on Problem Gambling, invites you to join in the conversation on May 1st.

Start the conversation with your family members. Let’s all do our part to help raise awareness about the connections between problem gambling and other issues in the workplace. Additionally, NCADD-RA is once again partnering with NYCPC to support the YOU(th) Decide project in Monroe County. YOU(th) Decide is an effort to prevent underage and problem gambling. NCADD-RA has been a part of this project, since its inception eight years ago. YOU(th) Decide is designed to be a multi-dimensional prevention effort aimed at reducing underage gambling. NCADD-RA provides, upon request, educational outreach and presentations for youth, parents to share the risks and for community leaders to decrease youth availability to gambling activities.

If you, your child, your school or community group would like more information about problem gambling or would like to get involved, contact Jennifer Faringer, Director of NCADD-RA at jfaringer@ depaul.org or call (585) 719-3480. Find out more about our local efforts as well as resources at https://ncadd-ra.org/awareness-campaigns/underage-gambling. To learn more about statewide efforts, visit YOUthDecideNY.org.

NYCPC and DePaul’s NCADD-RA Answers the Call

Join the Rochester Area chapter of NCADD-RA in raising awareness about the connections between problem gambling and other issues in the workplace. In recognition of this month, we invite you to join in the conversation on May 1st. Start the conversation with your family members. Let’s all do our part to help raise awareness about the connections between problem gambling and other issues in the workplace.

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Call for ad rates
585.256.1740, x104 or 585.978.963

City Love 2019

Get Down!

City Love 2019 event supports Rochester neighborhoods, housing rehabilitation, preservation, community victory gardens, The Southwedge Farmers Market, and The Wedge newspaper.

Tickets are limited - $25 in advance - $30 at the door

Tickets Available at: RocCityLove.com - historicgermanhouse.com - swpc.org

To purchase tickets in person go to: ButaPub, 315 Gregory Street #2

Become an event sponsor: email citylove@swpc.org

For more information: call 585 258-1740 ext. 5 or visit www.swpc.org

May, 3 2019 / 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Historic German House / 315 Gregory St.

The Wedge Gets Read!