St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality 
New Facade Boosts South Ave. 
by Nancy O’Donnell

A long-awaited renovation to St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality on South Avenue begins in October. The renovation will include restoration to its historic façade and a new side entrance for waiting guests. The construction was made possible through a grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation and an anonymous donor.

St. Joe’s, as it’s known by staff and neighbors, is the oldest Catholic Worker facility in the U.S. still based in its original location. It’s been in operation as a “grocery and provisions” store in 1850 for a family-owned dry goods store with huge front windows—added to the delay.

“The planning exceeded two years,” said Sigrist. “At first we thought we’d do it ourselves—a bit of paint, put in some new wood—until we talked with George Lorson, [SWPC’s Real Estate Development Coordinator] who said he’d help us get a grant.”

Earlier the staff had felt that applying for grant money would take time away from their mission. “We put all our energy in caring for the homeless,” said Sigrist.

The building’s history—a home for the owners. In many years it also doubled as a residence for the owners.

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St. Joseph’s House of Hospitality

Wedge Three Vie for the Golden Hammer

This year three South Wedge-based community activists were nominated for Flower City Habitat for Humanity’s “Golden Hammer Award”:

- John Billone, Jr., president of Flower City Management, South Wedge Planning Committee Executive Director Robert Boyd and Wilton Enterprise (Boulder Coffee owner) Lyjha Wilton.

The Golden Hammer Award recognizes “a business or individual who has made a significant contribution to the City of Rochester in the areas of economic development and/or neighborhood revitalization.”

Billone received the award on Sept. 16 at a luncheon in honor of the nominees.

Indie Music Festival

to Rock the Wedge

by Nancy O’Donnell

Rochester Independent Music Festival (RiF2) expands in both the number of bands and nights of music when it moves to the South Wedge October 1-3.

RiF2 has grown to three ticketed nights at Water Street Music Hall in 2008. RiF2 joins the excitement, moving the giant symbol of its 175th anniversary celebration—the Big Wish Globe—from the Public Market to the Wedge for the festival.

“The second year of the Rochester Independent Music Festival – part of the City’s special 175th Coming Home celebration – is yet another dynamic event for Rochesterians and beyond to enjoy,” said Mayor Robert J. Duffy.

See RiF2 info on page 5, page 12 for the exciting line up of performers, or visit www.rochesterindiefest.com
Star of the Wedge – Dave Halter

by Nancy O’Donnell

Dave Halter is a South Wedge lifer. Sure he took time off to be a navy pilot and Disco Party Planner, but after all his adventures, he returned to his childhood neighborhood and to help in its transformation.

Halter grew up on Mt. Vernon Avenue and went to school at School 324. Along the way he studied engineering at the GM Institute, flew SNJ’s and T28 Navy planes out of Florida, and earned his degree in Industrial Arts from Buffalo State University.

“I got married and had my two girls. Lisa lives in Woodstock, N.Y. and Kira is now a welder in California,” said Halter.

After a divorce, Halter entered the real estate business. “I had a house with 16 rooms, and I ran parties with bands and stuff. We could keep just getting bigger and bigger. At one point I had 400 people.”

One day Halter arrived at the Vandalia train and had it sit in a cornfield where partners danced to an electric band.

Other Halter enterprises included a wholesale warehouse, sold brass and copper pipe fittings. Once he got into real estate development, he turned his eye to his old neighbor-

Dav Halter. (Photo by Johannes Beckwoldt)

hood and moved from West- minster Street to Carpenter Street and began buying properties on South Avenue.

“Most of the Wedge was rigged [in 1986],” said Halter. The building he bought for his home [the old Geisner’s Meat Market], required massive rev- ovation. “I found the kitchen floor had three layers of lino- leum.”

Halter’s next transforma-

tion was as general contractor for the SWPC Board of Directors. He is rehabilitating his properties one at a time. He leaped into commu-

nity activism and began volun-

teeering at the South East Area Coalition (SEAC) and the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC).”

“I swopped with UC on R of Wilson Days [students volunteer for community proj-

ects] and used my skills with a backhoe to build the SWPC patio.”

Halter also worked with others in creating Star Alley out of “an empty dirt lot between two buildings, and filling it with sunflowers and garden benches. He also helped in the redesign of Marie Daley Park.

Halter especially enjoyed rehabilitating the boarded over fa-

cade of the SWPC headquarters on Mount Hope Avenue, then board-

ings and Alexander Street. “When we were working on the design of the park and talking about putting up a statue, the sculptor, Pepys Kettavong, said to me ‘you look just like [Roch-

ester]’. I just laughed.”

“Halter can say he’ll never really ever leave the Wedge.”

“I’m bronzed,” said Halter. A statue of him (at Nathan-

iel Rochester) sits in Nathaniel Square South at Park Avenue and Alexander Street.

“John Dennis and I started pulling down the boards, and we said, ‘Oh, my God!’ There were giant windows from the 1880s totally covered over in- side and out. We realized what a fantastic opportunity we had.”

Halter says it’s exactly as he en-
visioned it would be when he

first moved back. Despite that some investor-owners of “nice 1880s building feel they should have to do something they want to their property”; “You don’t just let [an owner] gut the heart and soul of a neighbor-

hood,” said Halter, who is ex-

cited by the new Wedge.

“It’s a very diverse neighbor-

hood with its original el-

ements, 1880 married to the 21st century. We’ve preserved the real feel of a neighborhood,” said Halter.

Halter isn’t slowing down. He’s still involved with Mt. Hope Avenue projects, keeping a presence that reminds build-

ers not to “block over views of the river” that were lost for decades. He’s also doing a ma-

jor research survey—“all the facts and figures” of all the buildings on the East Side of the Mount Hope Avenue from Gregory Street to Byron Street.

Halter doesn’t hesitate to praise the people he’s worked with to rebuild his South Wedge.

“I’m one of the most proud of the projects and the qual-

ity of the people in the South Wedge,” said Halter. “And by being able to bring back, it’s a very viable neighborhood. It’s a safe place and a place of fun to live in. The merchants take care of the front of their stores. People live here, and they care.”

Letters to the Editor

[Editors note: Ben Kendig responds to Tom Cantin’s story about house moving in the Wedge (Aug/Sept issue).]

Ben Kendig enjoys the houses he relocated in the South Wedge in 1981-1982, the real credit should go to Julie Everett. Julie [now working for Pathstone] was a long time City employee in community development. Most property owners, he said, she had a sense of who could “finish a job.” So, when this program emerged about moving properties he called a few of them that she knew would get the job done, thereby not embarassing the City.

It was a complicated process to jack up the house and trundle it along city streets to fi-

dal destination. It was never easy to forget the contributions of the “sup-
port troops”. Media credits, for example, usually points to the developer. From my perspec-

tive though, the behind the scenes people are the real story.

Julie Everett was a huge force in making these programs work. The City Code Enforce-

ment personnel, inspectors, and engineering staff really came through. The subcontractors like Harry Ropp, F & S Electric, and Art Barber were unbeliev-

ably creative and adaptive.

[Mayor] Tom Ryan, much like our current Mayor was someone you always knew re-

laly cared about how things turned out. It was a fine ex-

ample of Rochester at work!”

Ben Kendig

I am writing in response to your Wedge article, “Pub-

lic Cheers and Jeers Canaewal Trail” [Sept 2009]. You wrote that the trail project seemed to be an “in-

sible dream.” Two main translations of “insubbles is-

ue” is that the trail project was “much ado about nothing” or that the folks who were making a “mountain out of a molehill.” The residents who attended the meeting were genuinely concerned for their neighborhood and for the safety of those who will use the pos-

ted trail. Please do not dis-

min or minimize the insight of

continued on page 4

Keep the Heat on With HEAP

HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) helps income-qualified area residents pay their heating bills. The program may help with emergency payments for oil, coal, propane, wood or kerosene for those at risk of having their heat turned off. Applicants under age 60 may apply for HEAP at the Department of Social Services, 111 Westfall Road. Senior citizen HEAP applications are handled at the Lifespan office at Lac de Neige Rochester. Applications are handled at the Lifespan office at Lac de Neige Rochester.

For more information, call 1-800-342-3009. You can also go online to www.otda.state.ny.us and click on “Resources for Working Families.”
Olmed Biographer

New York City-based writer, Justin Martin was in town recently to visit in laws, Sylvia Charlesworth and Jerry Kressman, and continue research on Frederick Law Olmsted. Martin’s biography of the landscape architect, who designed all of Rochester’s parks including Highland, Genesee Valley, Maplewood, Seneca Parks, along with Delaware Park in Buffalo and New York’s Central Park, will be published in next year by Da Capo Press.

“Olmed just kind of found me,” said Martin. “I was married in Central Park, his masterpiece. I live in Forest Hills Gardens, a section of New York City designed by his son, a noted urban planner. For years, I’ve enjoyed visiting Highland Park during trips to Rochester to visit Sylvia and Jerry.”

Martin has authored two other biographies: Greenspan: The Man Behind Money (named a “book to look for” in the New York Times Book Review and Nader: Crusader, Spyker, Icon: He is a former Republican Bockwoldt and a current contributing editor to Fortune Small Business magazine.

Martin sees Olmed and Ralph Nader as similar personalities. “They were both controversial advocates. Nader for consumers and Olmsted for green spaces.” Olmsted was a “true social reformer” dedicated “people in urban slums” to have access to peaceful green spaces. Olmsted still has lessons to teach added Martin. He points to city officials at the time Highland Park was being proposed asking the park designer why he would pick land so far away from the city. “The main thing [to learn from Olmsted] is to look ahead, think ahead, have foresight,” said Martin. “It’s never too early because it may be too late.”

City Welcomes New Owner at Tru Yoga

Tru Yoga’s new owner, Michael Insel, was officially welcomed to the South Wedge at a ribbon cutting attended by the City’s Neighborhood and Business Development Commissioner R. Carlos Cowles, Seneca Neighborhood Service Center Administrator Peter Saxe and Economic Development Commissioner Matthew New McCarth along with Yogis, family and friends.

“I am very grateful to Jennifer, Gina Belardino and the rest of the Tru Yoga team for making the move to the South Wedge,” said Cowles.

Insel, a second year medical student at the U of R, is joined in the venture by third year medical students Catherine Trimbur and Sara Foltz-Weinberg who will act as managers along with Tru Yoga’s current owner, Tsveti Tsvetanov. Tsveti, a recent U of R graduate with a degree in mental health counseling will also teach yoga at the studio. “We love the space,” said Trimbur. “And with four of us here there’s a nice division of labor. It’s manageable and fun.”

Insel is an Arizona native with Rochester roots. “My mother and father met here. My brother was born here. I feel I’m returning to my homeland,” said Insel.

Insel has expanded the class schedule, which include regular and power yoga along with Pilates Yoga. The yoga quartet is also looking to “create and build community with primary care providers in the area,” said Trimbur.

Previous owner Christi Joseph held special low cost yoga classes for the Greek Orthodox in a St. Joseph Neighborhood Center’s empowerment group. The new owners hope to continue that relationship with the center.


SWILLBURG Scene of Rap Music Video

South Clinton Ave. and Meier El had a huge drop for a rap video, “Presidential” that’s heating up on YouTube. South Wedge hip-hop artist Decoy (also Daniel Antonetti) provides the lyrics, Battle Roy (aka Battle Roy) creates the beats and model Kansas Patrick appears as love interest/inspiration. The video was created and produced by RIT Professor and President of Great Atlantic Pictures, Inc. Mark Foggetti.

Foggetti said he was so impressed by the First Couple that he wanted to create a video to “inspire young people to see how a couple should be.” He turned to Tony Gross of GFI Music, who put him in touch with the rap artists. He started filming in May. Cornhill is also used as location in the video.

Look for Decoy featuring Battle Roy Presidential HQ” on www.youtube.com.

South Wedge Barber Adds Gift Shop

It’s collaboration all round at the South Wedge Barber shop where owners Jennifer and Gina Belardino made room for friend Patrick Belle-Isle’s “Shell We Dance” Gift Shop. She described her inventory as “funky and/or floral wreaths, decorated cards, gift baskets for babies, and painted glassware.”

Belardino, Peg Rubley, Jennifer Belardino (Photo by Nancy Strub)

“Shell We Dance” Gifts give to Somali Center

After the annual festival tent come down, the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit on South Avenue shares some of its proceeds with organizations in need. This year, the Somali Community and Outreach Center is the lucky recipient of $2,000.

“The Greek Festival Committee wanted to contribute to people in the South Wedge area,” said Pastor Patrick Cowles. “We talked to SWPC, and they recommended the Somali Center. So we decided to do what we could to assist them.”

Abdirashid Mohamed, the center’s executive director, said the gift was a welcome surprise. “We feel wonderful, happy 100%,” said Mohamed. “We will use it to pay for operating costs, rent, electric and the telephone.”

The Somali Center recently moved from River Commons to an office at 775 Plymouth Avenue.

Who Knew Ice Cream Titan Reads the Wedge?

Patti Belle-Isle, owner of Granny’s Ice Cream, on South Goodman Avenue (at Caroline Street) and promoter of all things Perry, was surprised to receive a letter from One Ice Cream Plaza, Akron, New York, sent by Executive Vice President Brian Perry

The ice cream titan sent a letter of thanks and congratulations to Belle-Isle for an article in the June/July Wedge newspaper.

“Thank you for including Perry’s Ice Cream flavors in your commentary,” writes Perr. “We value the ongoing support of our customers and share in the excitement of Granny’s adding some of our new delicious Perry’s flavors for your customers to enjoy."

(Since Granny’s is seasonal, ice cream parlor hours may have changed by time of publication. Patrick says he’ll post a note on the door.)

Open Mon. - Fri. 2 p.m. - 10 p.m. Sat. - Sun. 12 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Granny’s Ice Cream, 793 South Goodman Avenue.

South Wedge Barber Shop

South Wedge Barber shop where owners Jennifer and Gina Belardino made room for friend Patrick Belle-Isle’s “Shell We Dance” Gift Shop. She described her inventory as “funky and/or floral wreaths, decorated cards, gift baskets for babies, and painted glassware.”

Gina Belardino, Peg Rubley, Jennifer Belardino (Photo by Nancy Strub)
Letters to the Editor

continued from page 2

my neighbors by labeling the trail project an “issueless issue.” Perhaps one reason the neighbors were “angry” was that the project’s printed timeline included one and only one public meeting—July 1, 2009. That was it. Since that meeting, we have learned that the timeline is not fixed and that city residents will have another opportunity to study the proposal and to voice concern. It is interesting that you had a follow-up phone interview with a trail advocate, which you quoted at length. The trails advocate claimed that, “Extra infrastructure to an established trail will make for safer journeys.” This is not an “established trail;” it is a proposed trail. Why did you fail to follow up with, and quote, a concerned neighbor? Why did you not mention that the trail goes through the Azalea and Lilac Neighborhoods and that “angry residents” will have the proposed bike trail right outside their front doors? I am disappointed in the tone and slant of this article. It makes light of the genuine concerns of residents in the Azalea and Lilac Neighborhoods.

Joan Gray Lindberg
Lilac Neighbors

Don’t Miss the Calvary St. Andrew Parish Annual Auction

Historic Calvary St. Andrew Parish will be holding their 14th Annual Auction on Saturday, October 3 starting at noon. Household items, gift baskets and many other gifts and services will be available for purchase. A live auction starts at 1 p.m. inside the Church, 68 Ashland Street.

Friday, October 9, 2009

Community Builders

According to the Lilac Neighborhoods News letter, cemetery volunteers also manage “20 bluebird boxes and nesting boxes for owls.”

The cemetery “sustainable gardening practices” also helped to get the certification. The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery Gardening Committee and Adopt-a-Plot volunteers chose drought-resistant plants and recycled water for irrigation. Hillside rock gardens and bank stabilization prevent soil erosion and annual fall leaf clean-up provides compost.

Advertise in the Wedge

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Solving Our Problems of Our Business

by Allison Clark

SWPC Welcomes New board members

Three new board members were welcomed to the SWPC board during Wedgestock 2009. Donna Roethel Lenhard comes to the SWPC Board after years as a registered nurse and real estate broker. Lenhard was “in and out of the Wedge” until her son-in-law Lybha Wilton opened Bayview Crossings. “I bought a flipper upper,” said Lenhard. “Arguably one of the worst dumps in the Wedge.” Her experience led her to SWPC meetings and now on the board membership.

“One big issue I want to work on is improving the housing quality and increasing membership in SWPC,” said Lenhard. “The more people are in the groups that can do things, the better the neighborhood.”

Frank Logan decided he had time to return to his neighborhood now that son Bryant is at Fordham and son Evan is free of responsibilities. Logan, a long-time resident of Comfort Street with wife, computer analyst Anne, Logan served on SEAC’s board for several years. The former Rhode Island native works as a senior marketing consultant for the Stephens Media Group.

“I’m really looking forward to increasing the presence of the South Wedge with both residents and nonresidents,” said Logan. “I want people to know what a great neighborhood the South Wedge is to live in and open a business. It’s important to be pumped up about where you live.”

Rachel Chaffee has lived in the South Wedge for 10 years. Two years ago, she brought a house on Gregory Street with her husband Christian. Chaffee is a full-time Ph.D. student at U of R Warner School of Education. She also works at Warner, teaching writing for other Ph.D. student, coordinating the Writing Support program there, and working as a research assistant.

The 2009 History Fair

Heretics, History and Hallelujahs, will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on November 14 at Calvary St. Andrews Church, 68 Ashland St. CSA parishes are also cooking up hearty chili, scrumptious soup & tasty breads for sale.

This year’s event includes speakers Alan Illig on The Life of Heretic Algernon Crapsey; Majo- rie Neal on Art; George Howk on History and Luminaries of the South Wedge.

Expected vendors include Greece Historical Society; St. B. Anthony House; Friends of Mount Hope; Antique Postcards; NYS Erie Canal Society; Highland Park Neighborhood Association; Rochester Public Library; Cranberry Creek Herbs; Record Archive; Rose O’Keefe and local authors.

Friends of Mount Hope will also hold a special tour at Mount Hope Cemetery in the afternoon. While admission is free, donations of any size towards the repair of the church’s art work will be gladly accepted. Ample free parking is available at the Postle Jockey lot on the southwest corner of South Avenue and Avfaller Avenue. Details will be online at montaguejockey.com or call Rose O’Keefe at 244-4548.

Fall Foliage & Grand Luminaries Tour of Mt. Hope Cemetery

Fall Foliage Tour begins at 11 a.m. on Sat. Oct. 24. Grand Luminarias Tours will be held Sat. Oct. 24 and Tues. Oct. 27 at 6:30 p.m. All tours begin at the North entrance (opposite Robinson Drive). Each tour has 48 admission fee.

Veterans Outreach Center Annual Dinner

The Veterans Outreach Center 4th Annual Dinner will be held at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center on Thursday, Nov. 5. Keynote speaker is Gen. Barry McCaffrey, U.S. Army (Ret.). For more information, call 546-1081.

The 4th Annual Highland Park Neighborhood Halloween Party & Parade

The fun starts at 3 p.m. at the Ellenger Barry Playgarden at Linden/Meigs Streets. Children (newborn to 6 years) are invited to dress up for the party. Bring a bag of candy or treat to share.

For more information, contact meganedelrad@hotmail.com.

Highland Branch Library Kids Story Times

Great stories, sing-along, and more for children under 2-5 every week on Tuesday and Thursday. Call to register at 426-8206. Highland Branch at Library, 971 South Avenue.

Eco-Friendly NEHS Soil Management Workshop

Saturday, Oct. 3, 10:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m. at Middle Road Elementary School.

The NEHS workshop will focus on a management plan for composting and cover crops at our Schools. ($20 per person)

Environementalist Author’s Visit

Susan Tompkins, a New York Times Best-Selling Author, will visit Thursday, October 15, 7 p.m. at the New Classroom, 7 South Avenue.

Susan Tompkins is the author of the Andy Vail Mystery series and the award-winning environmental fiction novel, Building Earth, which received the 2009 National Book Award Honor List. She will be speaking about her latest book, Giving a Home, an environmental novel for children that is set on the shores of Lake Ontario in the 1930s.

For more information, contact Bill 244-0500.
THE SECOND ANNUAL
ROCHESTER INDEPENDENT MUSIC FESTIVAL

October 1-3, 2009
THE GERMAN HOUSE
& other South Wedge neighborhood venues including:
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$10 per day ($20 three-day pass)
No Cover Charge at some venues, made possible by the City of Rochester.

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(no service charge), Aaron’s Alley, & all Ticketmaster locations -

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Made possible by major support from the City of Rochester
This year’s weekend Boulderfest was free, but promoter Lyjha Wilton invited the South Wedge Planning Committee to educate the masses about all things South Wedge and accept voluntary donations from the crowd. The take—$1,020—will be used to promote SWPC community projects like the Victory Garden and Somali Center Market Day. Other ideas? Give us a call!

Buddhahood returned to Wedgestock with their world music

(Swedish by Johannes Bockwoldt)

NBN Sector 6 held an Urban Greenspace Conference on Saturday, Sept 19 in Genesee Valley Park, on an autumn day. Participants took tours of green-friendly homes and businesses, biked, canoed and talked about ways of preserving our local green assets.

(Photography by Johannes Bockwoldt)
The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) held its very “not your ordinary annual meeting at Highland Bowl on August 31. The afternoon featured music from Java, The King Pins, and The Buddhahood, Irish dancers from Rince Na Sidhe Dance School, a salsa and cookie contest, and games for kids and adults. Thanks to the many who came to help and to enjoy the community reunion.

Somali Children learned how to cook healthy lunches and discovered the South Wedge Farmers’ Market with their parents. The program was made possible by the Greater Rochester Health Foundation and Foodlink.
South Wedge Social Register
By Nancy O’Donnell

Welcome Charles Vincent Clark

Charles Vincent Clark, son of SWPC Community Organizer Allison Clark and husband Adam, was born on June 25 at 6:24 p.m. Charlie weighed in at 7 lbs., 11 oz. reports Allison. He was welcomed to the family by older brother Thomas. Allison works as SWPC Community Coordinator, organizing many of its activities. She was integral in the success of the South Wedge Victory Garden. She also assists neighborhood associations through the South Wedge.

Chernavsky and Kramer

Alex Chernavsky and Audrey Kramer were married on July 25 at the Cinema Theater on South Clinton Avenue. Sixty friends and family were in attendance along with “Princess Baby,” the film theater’s resident cat. Judge Melchor E. Castro from the Rochester City Court, 7th Judicial District, officiated. “We love the Cinema,” said Alex. “And we love the cat that lives there.” The couple, residents of the Highland Park neighborhood, wanted to keep it local and entirely vegan so they turned to two South Clinton restaurants. Ming’s Noodles provided sesame tofu and vegetable-frited rice while Flavors of Asia added fresh vegetable spring rolls and scallion pancakes to the reception.

The cupcakes were made by friend Chris Charles. Three different kinds of cupcakes were served: chocolate & vanilla marble, toasted coconut, and lemon macadamia. The recipes all came from a book called, Veggie Cupcakes Take Over the World, by Isa Chandra Moskowitz said Chernavsky.

The couple honeymooned on Indian Lake in the Adirondack Mountains.

Munson and Cox

Ben Munson and Kristin Cox are planning a wedding July 2010. Ben proposed to Kristin in Colton, New York at his family’s camp during a romantic boat ride on “Highley Flow” last year. “We were in a canoe under the fireworks on the 4th of July,” said Kristin. The couple first met at Boulder Coffee in October 2006. Ben is the CEO of newdigs.com, a free apartment listing website which is launching in Rochester this fall. Kristin Cox is a pet sitter for Critter Care, a local pet sitting business.

Ben and Kristen

School #12 Students
Eat Healthy
by Nancy O’Donnell

A collaboration between the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC), the South Wedge Farmers Market (SWFM), School #12 Faculty Staff, PTA and Freshfarms is bringing healthy eating to schoolchildren in grades K-6 this fall.

Last year SWPC applied for a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation to teach local families about the importance and availability of healthy local produce and vegetables.

Earlier this year, SWPC was awarded a $8,900 grant and began work developing a program with the SWFM and School #12 PTA Treasurer Lori Bryce.

The Healthy Food Project was launched on Sept. 18 and continues to Oct. 23. “Almost 500 kids are taking part,” said Bryce. “It’s great to see the expressions on [the children’s] faces when they are exposed to foods they’ve never eaten before. My favorite was watching them rip up basil and smelling it, passing around garlic. “This is an opportunity to help kids to try new foods,” said SWPC Executive Director Bob Boyd. “And to introduce families to the South Wedge Farmers Market and to the South Wedge. We’re especially excited about the Family Night at the Farmers Market on October 7.”

Swine Flu To Do’s

Know the signs and symptoms of the flu: fever or chills and cough or sore throat. Other symptoms include runny nose, body aches, headache, tiredness, diarrhea, or vomiting.

Use disinfectant wipes to clean common surfaces including steering wheels and shopping carts.

Stay away from others for at least 24 hours after a fever has broken. This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Get a flu shot if appropriate.

St. Joe’s
continued from page 1

St. Joe’s original designs did not include large windows, and the city rejected the plan.

A South Wedge architectural firm, MBA Associates, was hired to create a new facade for the historic building while Passero Associates was asked to design a new side entrance or “a waiting space for guests who often congregate in front of the building,” Bigget said.

“We didn’t have absolute documentation for the cast iron store,” said architect Martin Rose, RA, AIA. “We basically created our design from what we found around the door. It’s a classic [cast iron] design. It’d be a shame to mess with it.”

Along with windows from Flower City Glass, trim paints are based on colors from the early 1900’s. Alvin G. Hazlewood, RA of Passero Associates was pleased to work again in the South Wedge. His firm assisted with renovations at St. Joseph’s Neighborhood Center across the street from St. Joe’s.

“It’s exciting to see the community [on lower South Avenue] make good progress,” said Hazlewood.

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Preparing Your Home For Winter

by George Lorson

Now that summer has become a fading memory and the Fall chill is in the air, we think of ways we can make our home warm and cozy as snow begins to fall. The SWPC Staff here has compiled a few how to’s prepare for a Rochester Winter.

YOUR FURNACE
Have your furnace professionally cleaned and inspected to be sure it performs efficiently this season. Purchase a supply of air filters, and change them once a month from October through March. Be sure furniture or drapes do not block the registers, and be sure registers are open to allow for sufficient air flow. Install a humidifier on your furnace and adjust it for the outside air temperature. The proper amount of humidity in your home in the winter will not only make you feel comfortable but will also keep your furniture from drying out.

WINDOWS
Inspect your storm windows to be sure they are lowered and closed tightly for the winter. Consider purchasing new storm windows to help prevent heat lost. Replace any broken or cracked glass in your window sash. Close and lock your windows for a tight seal. At night, close your drapes to reduce air movement around the windows. Inspect the outside of your window frames to be sure they are caulked tightly to the siding and caulk as needed.

LIGHTING & ELECTRICAL
Where possible, install compact fluorescent light bulbs to help reduce electrical consumption. Run your dryer and dishwasher on full loads only to achieve maximum electrical efficiency. Turn off lights in rooms that are not being used.

GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS
Have your gutters and downspouts professionally inspected and cleaned so there will be no standing water in them that might freeze and contribute to ice damming at your roof. Be sure they are fastened tightly to your home foundation wall for any cracks or voids. If your foundation is masonry, use mortar to point the cracks. To seal the joint between the wood framing and the masonry, you may want to use the expanding foam that is available in an aerosol container. This may also be used for any pipes that may penetrate your siding.

We hope these suggestions are helpful when you are preparing for the Winter season, and if you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us at SWPC 256-1740 ext. 101.
ACD Keeps Low Profile But Delivers Big

by Nancy O’Donnell

The Academy for Career Development (ACD) is one of Rochester’s best kept secrets among non-profit organizations. Founded by John DeCamilla in 1992, it is both a community-based organization and a registered business school licensed by the NYS Education Department. It has offices on South and Dewey Avenues.

ACD programs provide individuals with computer training. Upon completion, students receive a free remanufactured Pentium 3 computer loaded with $700 worth of software, courtesy of a grant by MicroSolutions.

"ACD’s mission to help disadvantaged and disabled people to become independent with the technology skills that will make them productive," said Public Relations Manager Maria Paris. "All of this has been accomplished with a no frills operation that relies primarily on word of mouth.”

"We began by training kids and youth and then we realized that the parents needed the program as much as the kids," said DeCamilla.

ACD’s NextStep and HelpTech AmeriCorps Programs are currently recruiting part-time and full-time AmeriCorps members. NextStep participants mentor previously incarcerated youth aged 14-17. HelpTech provides Computer/Information Technology Support and Education services for local underserved communities. AmeriCorps members receive free training and may be eligible for a living allowance (full-time members only), and an education award (full-time and part-time members).

In addition, ACD’s CommunityTech Computer Remanufacturing Center is continuously in need of unused working computers (P3 or higher) for remanufacturing and distribution to needy Monroe County residents. Help others and protect the environment by delaying your computer’s eventual trip to the landfill. ACD can arrange to pick up equipment or it can be dropped off at its CommunityTech Remanufacturing Center (719-9992, or 232-9160) at 420 Dewey Avenue.

To learn more about both programs, please contact ACD at tel. 244-1430 or visit ACD’s website at www.acdcareers.org. Academy for Career Development, 1349 South Avenue, 244-1430 www.acdcareers.org.

Discover ACD Programs NY State Education Dept. Certificate Programs Community/Technology Computer Rochester Digital Literacy Initiative Kid Tech Community Computer Academy Youth Employment Programs

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Lin’s Garden Expands Asian Menu to Thailand

by Nancy O’Donnell

Lin’s Garden Restaurant, already a South Wedge favorite for its devotion to fresh vegetables bought daily, has expanded its already large menu to include Thai cuisine. “We do great Chinese food and sushi,” said owner Vincent Lin. “Lots of customers said they’d be happy if we added Thai. Now one family can make one call, and everybody’s happy,” Lin, a native of Fujian, China, moved to New York City’s Chinatown where he worked learning the restaurant business. He researched Western New York, and decided on making Rochester (“big companies, better schools”) as home for his wife and two children. The Lins opened their first restaurant on East Main Street in 2001, and moved to the Mount Hope and Gregory location in 2006. New to his menu are some 40 Thai dishes from Chicken Satay appetizers to Lemongrass and Coconut based soups. All dishes are made with vegetable oil only.

In a recent SWPC taste test, participants devoured a basil-laden chicken dish in a rich dark broth of scallion, green pepper, carrot, nappa, mushroom and snow peas. The Massaman Curry was spicy in a cozy red hot way and brimming with potatoes, carrots and peanuts in a curried coconut milk broth. Also notable was the restaurant’s version of the national dish of Thailand, Pad Thai, with its thin orange colored rice noodles, crushed peanuts and bean sprouts. (The Seafood version has shrimp, squid and scallops). Repeated visits have only confirmed the SWPC taste test. With Erie Harbor on the horizon, Lin is thinking about renovating the front of his building to include outdoor garden seating in an unused drive through lane that fronts the building. “We’d like to add tables and umbrellas outside,” said Lin. Current seating is small. Lin’s offers takeout and delivery ($15 minimum).

Lin’s Garden, 420 Mount Hope Avenue, 232-8320, 464-888. Hours: Mon. to Thurs. 11 a.m. – 10:30 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. – 11 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Linden Street and South Avenue Area Named Historic District

By Nancy O’Donnell

On July 1, eighty-one houses on Linden Street (from South Avenue to Mount Hope) on South Ave (from Linden to Cypress, western side only) and the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit were named the Linden-South Historic District by the National Register of Historic Places, a division of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. The new district was officially added to the Register by the Secretary of the Interior on August 26, 2009.

Chris Jones, owner of Historic Houseparts and Linden Street resident, said the new District is significant under National Register Criterion as “an intact collection of late Victorian and early post-Victorian domestic and ecclesiastical architecture in the South Wedge,” Jones wrote in the statement of significance paper, which began the process.

Jones worked for two years in close collaboration with a number of neighbors who aided in the research including Anne Kingston, Lisa Reagan, Joe Pasquarelli and Chris Peterson.

“The Ellwanger and Barry Papers in the Special Collections & Rare Books Department at Rush Rhees Library at the U of R yielded a wealth of information about many of the houses,” said Jones. “There are construction records outlining expenses and even architectural blueprints for some of the properties.”

During the years of research, Jones discovered much about her neighborhood. Several houses were designed by famed architect Claude Bragdon. Rochester historian and author Henry Clune lived in a nearby house. Charles Pablo Gruppe, a notable fine art painter lived on Linden. Harlan Watson Rippley, a New York State Justice of the Supreme Court, had also lived on Linden. According to Jones, the new Historic District prospered in the fourth quarter of the 19th century in response to an increasing demand for workers housing.

“The buildings in the district represent the type of housing which George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry and their architects thought were fitting for working class people of the day, as many of them were rentals,” said Jones. Most of the structures, in fact, were constructed by Ellwanger and Barry Realty Company. The styles that are “eclectically evident” include vernacular Italianate, Queen Anne, Stick, Shingle, Gothic Revival, Richardson Romanesque, American Foursquare and Colonial Revival.

The Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit is one of four non-residential buildings recognized. Jones described it as late Gothic Revival. English Perpendicular-inspired in a Romantic Revival style popular for ecclesiastical architecture circa 1890-1915. That style is noted for “vertical lines, large windows and Tudor arches.” The church, originally Baptist, was built in 1899 and dedicated a year later.

Jones and the Cypress-Linden Block group is looking to add a visual recognition of its new historic status.

“We will be installing bronze historic district plaques at both ends of Linden Street once we’ve secured funding for them through grants and private donations,” said Jones. “The 18”x 24” bronze plaques will be fitted to a pole. Each can cost up to $6,600. In addition, Jones plans to start a “plaque program” so that each of the houses on the route can also install their own small plaques. Currently Jones is now writing nominations for building signs on South Avenue that are eligible for listing.

A complete listing (photos and detailed descriptions of the properties, the significance statement, and a description of the district) will eventually be added to the following website:

http://www.nps.gov/history/narrative.htm and also at http://www.nysparks.state.ny.us/hpimaging/. For information on eligibility for recently enhanced historic preservation tax credits eligibility, go to http://nysparks.state.ny.us/shpimg/.