South Wedge Farmers Market
Season Opens on June 7
By Sue Gardner Smith

The “food less traveled” returns to the 2012 South Wedge Farmers Market Thursday, June 7 between 4-7 p.m. Once again the shady parking lot behind Boulder Coffee at 100 Alexander Street, at South Clinton Avenue will be the site of this year’s market.

Opening Day festivities include the traditional Lettuce Toss. City of Rochester Mayor Tom Richards will lob a fresh head of lettuce into the crowd; the lucky shopper who catches it receives a bag of early season market treats. The Rochester’s Museum of Kids’ Art (www.museumofkidsart.org) will join us with an exhibit of children’s art while musicians Grant Cos and Babek Elahi entertain.

We’re excited to include some new vendors who will join old favorites in this year’s line-up. The market welcomes Paul Loomis of Flowered Land Farm. Andy Papineau’s farm, Andy’s Organic Market, will return. The market welcomes shiitake, oyster, and wine cap mushrooms, plus a wonderful assortment of fruits, including antique and heirloom varieties of apples, gooseberries, raspberries, peaches, strawberries, and crab apple. A complete list of this year’s vendors can be found at www.southwedgefarmersmarket.org.

Each week fine local musicians keep things lively and toes tapping. Among the groups performing this season are JAVA, Clamor, Watkins & the Rapiers, Catharine and Baggage, and Wild Root String Band.

Kids can look forward to signing up for The Wedge Veg Passport program once again. The program offers kids fun activities to encourage healthy eating each week throughout the growing season.

The EBT Bonus Program returns to the market, funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. EBT customers who purchase $10 in EBT tokens receive an additional $5 bonus to use in the market as long as funds are available, there is a limit of one bonus per family per week.

Calvary St. Andrews Church returns to the market with a food drive on the fourth Thursday of each month. The drive supports a food ministry program that gives so generously to those in our community.

continued on pg. 4

Mark Your Calendars for WedgeStock - August 18
By Frank Logan

Get ready for WedgeStock 2012, the South Wedge’s annual neighborhood art, music and food festival, set for Saturday, August 18.

The fun begins at 9 a.m. as the community gathers in Marie Daley Park for the very popular annual Pet Parade at 10 a.m. This year vendors join pet owners and their admirers along with new activities and giveaways. The parade ends on South Avenue where lucky pets win prizes (who knows, maybe the alpaca will return for a special appearance as an encore to WedgeStock as he did last year). Expect an expanded community of artists and crafters this year, more street performances by jugglers and dancers.

WedgeStock 2012 kicks up the music with bands playing throughout the day. At press time, confirmed bands included The Youngheads, Neuvegreen, and the Electro Kings, with more being added every week.

Along with a delicious selection of food vendors and food trucks, festival lovers can enjoy a special WedgeStock beer brewed by Victory Beer Company of Dowington, PA.

To volunteer, visit us on Facebook, e-mail jsmorgan56@gmail.com or call 503-4848.

Mt. Hope Cemetery
Site of Washington’s Drummer Boy Grave
By Nancy O’Donnell

Rochester’s newest Percussion Festival didn’t just beat the drum for contemporary musicians in early May. Festival co-founder and musician Bill Cahn took a look backward to Alexander Millener, a 10-year-old drummer boy who followed General George Washington into battle and whose final resting place is Mt. Hope Cemetery. The hour-long ceremony included an historic narration by Cahn along with a life-and-drum concert and a two musket salute.

Bill Cahn and wife Ruth
continued on pg. 5

Revolutionary War tricorn hats and drums at the ready (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)
Where are you reading
The Wedge Newspaper?

Rachel Mary Cox, founder of roc-elle records, a Brooklyn, NYC-based record label, artist management and event company, stopped under the Manhattan Bridge to grab a little hometown news. Cox, former artist manager at David Sonenberg’s boutique firm, DAS Communications, opened her own company in 2009. roc-elle records currently represents Zack Hagan, Jen Urban & The Box, Alyson Greenfield, ZXL, Platinum Mustache, Analog Fire, Taj Weeks and Lux Pop.

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The South Wedge Planning Committee, Inc.
June/July 2012 Calendar
Meetings are held at 224 Mt. Hope Ave., except where noted. The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

SWPC Board Meeting
MMeating@swpc.org
Tues., 6/19 & 7/17, 6 p.m.

Community Engagement
(Neighbors & Block Clubs)
a.clark-taylor@hotmail.com
Wed., 6/20 & 7/18, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Team
tsciabab@hotmail.com
Tues. & Wed., 7/12, 7:10 p.m.

Housing & Structures
tomkiciorjr@gmail.com
Wed., 6/6 & July TBA, 5:30 p.m.

Marketing & Membership
flagon@rochester.rr.com
E-mail for dates and times

SW Victory Garden
james.pappasun@gmail.com
hapenrose@hotmail.com
Mon. 6/25 & Mon. 7/30, 6:30 p.m.

Ad Deadline for Next Issue
July 16
Call 256-1740, ext. 105
or 978-9638
for details.
Mildred Anderson Receives Big Lunch “Good Neighbor Award” 2012

In a complex world, at least one thing was made refreshingly clear on June 2 in the South Wedge: As good neighbors go, Mildred Anderson basically rules.

“That Mildred, she’s very sneaky, she just comes over here into my garden and pull weeds for me, because of my disability, or leaves an Easter basket by my door,” said neighbor Barbara Biddy from her Averill Ave. front porch recently. “She sees a need, and fills it—feeds the birds, the squirrels, stray cats. Mildred is, well, a true Christian.”

It is for such serendipitous acts of individual kindness, as well as her unwavering community-based activist work, that the retired educator was honored by her neighbors with the South Wedge Big Lunch Good Neighbor Award on June 2 at the second annual South Wedge Big Lunch. Hosted by St. Calvary St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church South and the Colored Episcopal Church, the CSA was founded in 1882 by the leader of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Colored Episcopal Church. The original goal of the College was to “train Negro and other colored people newly freed from the evils of slavery.”

In 1954, Mildred graduated from Paine College in Augusta, Georgia, a small, “very strict,” African American college founded in 1869 by the leadership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Colored Episcopal Church. The original goal of the College was to “train Negro teachers and preachers so that they might in turn appropriately address the educational and spiritual needs of the people newly freed from the evils of slavery.”

In 1954, Mildred graduated with a BA in Science and minor in Education with 13 other students. At the encouragement of a family member, she came to Rochester at the age of 22. While removed from the Deep South, she recalls running into race issues while searching for work. Here, “I was sitting down waiting for a job interview, and one woman whispering to the woman next to me, ‘I see a colored woman coming. I don’t want her to talk with me,’ I’m colored,” and the second one whispering back, ‘Well, send her in anyway.’ ”

Mildred, an avid history buff with a deep interest in the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “never saw Caucasian people from the suburbs join to help right after the Civil War — land Mildred and her extended family still own.”

One of 10 children born to Petronella Payne and James Thomas, Mildred helped work the fields of the farm, where she also first developed her love for animals, including Sugar Pie the rooster and her dog, Lassie.

Although she spent her early years close to home on the farm near family and friends, racism was in full throttle in segregated, pre-Civil Rights Movement Georgia. “I recall walking into a drugstore in Rengto (Georgia), and being told for the first time, ‘We don’t serve Coca Cola to colored people,’” said Mildred, an avid history buff with a strong interest in African American art and music. “I didn’t even like Coke,” she added with a slight smile, “but there I was being told that I couldn’t have it anyway.”

Unlike the majority of African American women of her generation, Mildred was able to finish high school and continue on to college, encouraged by her grandmother, Irene. “I am really proud of my grandmother, how much she cared so deeply at a time when it was rare for a black girl child to have the chance to get off the farm and get a real education,” said Mildred. “And so off we went.”

Through a scholarship, she attended Paine College in Augusta, Georgia, a small, “very strict,” African American college founded in 1869 by the leadership of the Methodist Episcopal Church South and the Colored Episcopal Church. “The Golden Rule, do unto others as they would unto you.”

By now a mother of six, Mildred also worked part-time at Sears on Monroe Ave. to help make ends meet, working long days that began by getting up at 4:30 a.m. every morning. As her children grew up on Averill Ave., she became involved with the after school program called Soul School in the early 1970’s at Calvary St. Andrew’s. “I tried to be involved with my children, so decided to come to church there myself,” she said.

With four sons, she also became an avid baseball and basketball fan. “We chose different teams, mine are still the Boston Celtics, the Miami Dolphins, and the Brooklyn Dodgers,” she said, adding with sudden fer- vor, “I just needed to go on to the Yankees when the Dodgers left, of course.”

Mildred, now the grand- mother of six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren, enjoys working “behind the scenes” filling bags for the CSA food cupboard. “A mother home schooling her children came in here one day, and showed her children how to count the items into the bags one at a time, teaching them something while doing something for someone else at the same time,” said Mildred. “And I remember thinking, this is what education is all about, this is what it is all about.”

Mildred Anderson received the Good Neighbor Award 2012 from Paine College, Augusta, GA. (Photo courtesy of June Avignone)
Lilac Neighbors Plant Sale

Brighten your garden with plants like European grape, hosta, red canna, columbine, sweet fern, river oats and much more at the Lilac Neighbors Association’s 19th annual plant sale. The sale starts at 9 a.m. on June 16 and continues until all plants are sold. 32 Highland Avenue.

Weekend Tag Sale - 6/29-30

Choose from a great selection of clothes, household goods and more at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Spirit 16th annual tag sale. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri., June 29 - Sat., June 30. 835 South Ave at Linden St.

Friends of the Highland Library Cookbook Sale

Friends of the Highland Branch Library will be selling used cookbooks in a summer fund raising event, date to be announced, at area farm markets. If you’d like to donate, drop books off at Highland Branch Library, 971 South Avenue or if you need a pick up call organizer Mary Shelyby at 414-5551 or e-mail mshelyby@gmail.com.

Keep the Noise Down

“Hot town-summer in the city...it’s time to remember city noise ordinances. If you’re living in the South Wedge, you know many older homes are close together and have few noise barriers such as insulation, thermal paneled glass and/or central air conditioning. Residents who like their music loud and late should be mindful that music is personal entertainment, not to be shared with the neighbors. According to City ordinances ‘loud voices and amplified sound—stereos, radios, T.V.’s’—should not be audible 50 feet beyond your property line during day and evening hours (8 a.m. - 10 p.m. and 10 p.m. and 8 a.m.) Car music should not be shared by others more than 50 feet at any time.

All city residents should know that local officials can take action including warnings, fines and court ordered evictions of noisy tenant. Vehicles involved in noise violation can be towed at the owner’s expense. If you’re planning a party, a polite notice of the date and time with a phone number to call if it gets too loud can go a long way toward good neighbor relations.

BASWA Meets Monthly

The Business Association of the South Wedge Area meets monthly with members and those interested in building community and promoting the greater South Wedge area. BASWA meets on the second Wednesday of each month (June 13 and July 11) usually at the Swedge Shop at 732 South Ave. at 6 p.m. To learn more, visit owners.christorehouseparts.com.

BASWA Increases Public Parking on South Ave.

BASWA member Postler & Jackie has offered a pilot program of free parking in their parking lot at the corner of South Avenue and Averill Ave. for patrons of South Avenue businesses through Labor Day Weekend. Weekend visitors can use the lot free of charge on Fridays beginning at 5:30 p.m. and on Saturdays. (No over night parking allowed.) Tow trucks will keep the area on Sunday nights.

BASWA absorbed the cost of insurance and signs, and members will monitor the lot to determine if the pilot program can go beyond Labor Day. South Wedge businesses should let customers know of this parking perk. Graphic artist and BASWA member Bill Klingensmith contributed his time to help with the signs. Special thanks to P & J and Klingensmith for their efforts to make parking more easily accessible to the growing population of South Wedge visitors.

Two Way Conversion of South Ave. Sought

Chris Jones, President of BASWA, the Business Association of the South Wedge Area, reports that the City of Rochester has contracted with Labege Group of Albany, New York to determine the feasibility of converting one-way street couplets of St. Paul/South Avenue and North/South Clinton Avenue between Byron Street and Cumberland Street to two-way traffic to improve neighborhood accessibility and walkability.

Key considerations are expected to include: traffic congestion, safety, parking, bicyclists, pedestrian and transit service.

The immediate study area is the St. Paul Quarter neighborhood in downtown Rochester, bounded by the Genesee River, the Inner Loop Expressway, N. Clinton Ave. and East Main St. The secondary study area extends south of East Main St. to Bryon St. To learn more visit southwedge.com.

Sassy in the South Wedge & Pride 2012

BASWA businesses are being asked to take part in “Sassy in the South Wedge” on Friday, July 6.

Gay-friendly businesses can offer special offers throughout the day.

Pride 2012 takes place July 6-15. It is a national movement to celebrate and raise awareness of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community here in Rochester.

Mt. Hope Cemetery Book Signing June 16

Friends of the Mt. Hope Cemetery introduces its newest book, Gravestones of Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester, NY, on Sat., June 16, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the 1133 Mt. Hope Ave. cemetery office.

Author Richard O. Reisem will be on hand to autograph his work. A new south-end public toilet in the cemetery will also take place at 1 p.m.

SW Farmers Market continued from pg. 1

who need our help.

In 2012, The South Wedge Farmers Market is pleased to partner with the Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union, which is sponsoring this year’s market. We are grateful for the support of Genesee Co-op FCU, which is member-owned and offers low-cost financial services to Rochester residents from its offices at 395 Gregory Street. We appreciate the market’s generous donation to the market from Konar Properties.

The South Wedge Farmers Market is a project of the South Wedge Planning Committee with information and sign up for e-mail newsletters at www.swfarmersmarket.org. More information is available if you “like” the market’s Facebook page.

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Attention EBT Users

When the South Wedge Farmers Market opens on June 7, EBT participants will receive $2 for the first $10 they spend. Just stop by the Market’s Information Booth and learn how to use EBT.

This program is made possible through a grant from the New York State Department of Agriculture and will continue as long as funds are available.
impacted by the following
Henrietta Road.
South Clinton Avenue and East
on Westfall Road between
major intersections has begun
sidewalks and widening of the
improvements, new curbs,
infrastructure, roadway
of Westfall Road. A major
you’re driving in the vicinity
against criminal acts. Officers
public in protecting themselves
and are available to assist the
ication, strategies and programs
sible for crime prevention edu-
this Service Center are respon-
ment lieutenant and five Crime
S.E. Neighborhood Service Center CPOs
assignment. The officers assigned to
this Service Center are respon-
sible for crime prevention edu-
cation, strategies and programs
and are available to assist the
in protecting themselves
against criminal acts. Officers
work in concert with the com-
unity, deciding which crimes
present the greatest problem,
where the problems are most
severe, or where crime preven-
tion response would be most
effective. Officers also assist the
community by completing secu-
ry surveys within their area of
assignment.
Through interacting with the
community, the officers
have formed partnerships. Each
makes every effort to meet com-
munity needs which, in turn,
helps to ensure that the Depart-
ment’s policies reflect the needs
of the community. The group
also implements the PAC-TAC
Program within their assigned
sections. The team’s main goal
is to improve the quality of life
for all of the citizens they serve.
To learn more, call 428-
7640.

Road Reconstruction on Westfall Road
Continues throughout the Summer

Be alert and plan ahead if
you’re driving in the vicinity
of Westfall Road. A major
reconstruction project involving
infrastructure, roadway
improvements, new curbs,
sidewalks and widening of the
major intersections has begun
on Westfall Road between
South Clinton Avenue and East
Henrietta Road.
Current traffic will be
impacted by the following
changes:
• Westfall Road is one
way (west bound) from South
Clinton to East Henrietta Road.
The traffic flow west will remain
in this direction until November
30, 2012.
• The western entrance of
Sawgrass Drive will be closed
until November 30, 2012.
During this time, the Eastern
Sawgrass Drive entrance will
remain open for access to and
from the complex.
• Residential • Commercial • Industrial
screens near the locks.
3. Keep your doors, win-
dows and garages locked when
at home, even when you’re
in the yard or at a neighbor’s
home.
4. Install and use deadbolt
locks on all exterior doors.
5. Notify a neighbor when
you’re going to be away.
6. Discontinue newspaper
delivery when going on vaca-
tion.
7. Keep outside lights on all
night and use motion sensors.
8. Trim shrubs to deny bur-
glars a hiding place.
9. Lock up ladders and
trash toters.
Teaching Residents to Play it Safe
Healthi Kids Brings CPTED to City Neighborhoods
By Lauren Morelle

When Healthi Kids asked the Rochester community why their children were not active outside, one of the most mentioned concerns was safety. Whether referring to the speed of traffic or illegal activity on a street corner, parents and guardians worried their children aren’t safe when they go out to play. As a grassroots campaign committed to making sure that all children have access to play, Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency’s Healthi Kids launched a plan to address these concerns and help create safer streets for both children and adults.

As part of the plan, Healthi Kids and the University of Rochester Medical Center’s (URMC) Center for Community Health brought a unique training program to Rochester. Last month, these organizations held the first of a two-part workshop, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and SafeGrowth. Participants came from all sections of Rochester and represented a variety of agencies – the City’s Department of Recreation and Youth Services, Rochester Police Department, neighborhood groups, and private transportation and planning organizations. The training was funded by the Centers for Disease Control’s HEART grant and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities grant.

Led by Greg Saville (police officer turned planner who specializes in CPTED and urban safety), each came to learn the principles of CPTED and SafeGrowth. The training showed participants how to discourage or impede criminal behavior, and at the same time encourage honest citizens to keep a watchful eye. After completing the first day, the class divided into groups to work on a local project that utilized their newfound skills to improve neighborhood play spaces. The class and training leaders will meet again in June to discuss each group’s project and findings. After that, groups will work with Healthi Kids to get their plans implemented in each neighborhood. The goals are to provide more safe play locations and increase physical activity for all.

Healthi Kids believes that CPTED and SafeGrowth are crucial to creating a safe environment for children, adults, and neighborhoods. The training program teaches participants to consider their surroundings and look for things that might be potential hazards. Eventually, those who are trained in SafeGrowth and CPTED go on to teach others these skills, expanding the number of eyes on the streets and increasing the safety of a neighborhood. With increased safety, parents can feel better about letting their children go out to play, which is critical to a healthy and happy child.

For more information on CPTED, or to learn how you can increase safety in your neighborhood, please contact Minerva Padilla at (585) 234-3119 or minervapadilla@flhsa.org.

SWPC Gets a Clean Sweep from Scouts
By Sarah Johnstone

The South Wedge Planning Committee got a Scout boost during Clean Sweep in May. A Venture Crew, under the Boy Scouts of America banner, was for boys and girls ages 14-20. Each crew has a number, like a troop, and this is Venture Crew 2009 in honor of the year they formed. The crew primarily are students from the School of the Arts, but past members were from other schools. Our Crew is open to all youth and meets monthly at the Third Presbyterian Church. Our three focus areas are outdoor adventure (we go camping regularly, participate in rifle and firearm events, and bike trips), kayaking and hiking, service (Clean Sweep, meal prep at St. Joe’s, ringing the Salvation Army bell, “Scouting for Food”), and leadership.

Recently crew members Charlotte Wittse and Hannah Zuegel were given a Venturing Leadership Award at the annual Seneca Waterways Council recognition dinner. My daughter, Claudia Moellering, is a charter member but not one of the five youth officers. During Clean Sweep at SWPC, we rebuilt the twig fence and tied the roses bushes to it; weeded the patio stones, weeded the gardens on the street side of the building, spread mulch, and cleaned the window wells. Crew 2009 is now looking for new members. Anyone interested can contact me at 275-3837.

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South Wedge Victory Garden Gardeners (Photo by Heather Penrose)

Clean Sweep Venture Crew (Photo by Eileen Thomas)

SW Victory Garden Builds Community
By Jim Papapanu

Warm weather has arrived and another growing season is underway at the South Wedge Victory Garden. We have a fantastic group of gardeners participating this year. It’s been great for Heather Penrose, the Victory Garden’s other co-manager, as well as for me, Bob Wilson. We’ve met our first year gardeners. Getting to know members of our community garden is one of our favorite parts about running the Victory Garden.

Overall, introducing neighboring residents to one another and strengthening bonds within a community are the most important things a community garden does. Sure, gardens provide urban residents a space to grow vegetables when they can’t at home. They also provide access to healthy and fresh produce in our urban “food deserts”. They help reduce the cost of families’ grocery bills. They beautify vacant lots that would otherwise be eyesores or ignored by residents.

These are all great things that an urban garden does for a neighborhood.

But what about the word “community” in the phrase “community garden”? That’s an idea Walter Nelson from the Monroe County Cooperative Extension put in the spotlight at a community gardening summit he organized in 2010. It’s something he’s continued to impress upon Heather and me whenever we cross paths with him, and it’s a message we’ve taken to heart. Rather than just letting each gardener tend their own plot while barely ever seeing their fellow community gardeners, we wanted our gardeners to get to know each other. One idea this year, it’s formed a Garden Committee that meets monthly and is open to anyone who wants to participate. The committee lets gardeners work together to steer the garden’s direction and lead projects. We’ve had gardeners like Karen Wrenn, Marta Ruderman and Andrea Berman step up to the plate and design a brand new herb garden that we’ll put in a sunny spot without the original plot. Alex Wirth and Samantha Raymond are leading the charge to put some seating and tables in the garden. Felton Culbreth and Bob Williams are working to improve our all important garden composting system. These are all great examples of a community garden inspiring residents to volunteer and help make their neighborhood a better place.

We’ve also started organizing social activities. Gardening goes hand in hand with cooking and eating, so what better social activity for gardeners than pot luck lunches and dinners? We held one during fall 2011, and our gardeners liked it so much that we may do as many as three this year. We’ve already held one to kick off the spring, and plan to do another at the height of summer and one more during the fall harvest. These events give our gardeners a chance to meet and bond over food.

One of the most successful things we’ve found to strengthen community bonds is hosting work crew days at the Victory Garden. These are days where projects needing a lot of volunteer help are accomplished, like the annual spring and fall clean outs of the garden. They’re a great opportunity to involve our Victory Gardeners and get this necessary work done. But our ultimate motive is to get the gardeners introduced to each other. Nothing builds bonds like putting in three hours or so of sweat and elbow grease together. Gardeners who start the day as strangers walk away with new friends and a sense of pride in the work they’ve done in their community.

Our 2012 spring work crew day was held on Saturday May 19. We had an amazing volunteer turnout; so much got accomplished on pg. 7.
Spotlight on Local HIV Vaccine Trials

By Carole Dowling

Not far from the South Wedge neighborhood, the University of Rochester Medical Center’s Rochester Victory Alliance is one of the first sites in the U.S. to conduct HIV vaccine research.

The Victory Alliance has worked for more than 20 years in the field as part of a global effort that involves countless scientists, patients, volunteers and advocates in 27 countries on four continents.

That is important because, while overall new cases of HIV and AIDS have remained steady, the fastest growth in cases is among young, urban African American men who have sex with men. Like many other urban centers, Rochester has high numbers of new cases of HIV infection and sexually-transmitted diseases. Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control show that one in five gay or bisexual men nationwide are HIV positive — a statistic too many to know. Young men—especially young black men—are least likely to be aware that they are infected.

Vaccine Alliance Director, Michael Keefer, M.D., has conducted vaccine research for 24 years, and has been involved in 80 clinical trials since 1986, involving more than 15,000 subjects. Thanks to Dr. Keefer’s vision, the Victory Alliance has one of the highest trial participation rates in the U.S., surpassing other urban areas in the global HIV Vaccine Trials Network. Dr. Keefer and his staff credit their success to a dedicated and passionate team of community outreach workers.

The Victory Alliance also partnered with local community organizations such as AIDS Care, the MOCHA Center, Imag0ut and others, to help lower the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases and improve care for HIV and AIDS patients. In 2011, they opened a Buffalo office in partnership with Evergreen Health Services to provide services to the western N.Y. area.

Most recently, the Victory Alliance collaborated with local African American faith leaders to encourage discussion around religious attitudes about HIV/AIDS and men who have sex with men in their community. The goals were to reduce stigmatization and provide support to those who need it most, especially high-risk populations of young African American and Latino men.

Twenty years ago, the prospects for an effective HIV vaccine were slim, but there are now glimmers of hope on the horizon. A recent vaccine trial in Thailand revealed a potential mechanism for how one of the latest HIV vaccine regimens may have worked, thus providing researchers with a strong clue to finding what may turn out to be the virus’s Achilles Heel.

Dr. Keefer described it as “the most important finding in the field of preventive HIV vaccine research since our work began over 20 years ago.”

If you would like more information on the Victory Alliance, or are interested in participating in a trial, contact the University of Rochester Medical Center, 601 Elmwood Ave, Rochester, 14642, 756-2352 (756-2352), in Buffalo call (805) 816-5500.


The South East Area Coalition (SEAC) has settled in at the South Wedge Planning Committee’s (SWPC) office building at 224 Mt. Hope Avenue. The boards of the two historic southeast city non-profits signed a one-year agreement on March 20. While each organization retains independent boards, John Page will serve as executive director for both. In addition, SWPC and SEAC share the building’s upkeep and utilities. SEAC staff at the Mt. Hope Ave. location include Housing Grant Administrator Amy Brough, and Administrative Clerk and Tool Librarian Jerry Vergari.

“This affiliation is the first of its kind among Rochester preservation companies,” says Page. “It’s an exciting first step to this new partnership.”
**Business Buzz**

by Nancy O'Donnell

**Tap & Table Opens in Corn Hill**

South Wedge gastropub Tap & Mallet’s popularity expanded across the wide Genesee River to Corn Hill with Tap & Table, the newest venture of partners Joe McBane and Casey Walpert. By late June, their riverside restaurant with “the best patio in the city,” said McBane, will open in the former home of Virtu restaurant.

Expect “simple things done really well,” McBane added. “As much as possible we’ll procure local ingredients, meat without antibiotics and growth hormones, and seasonal ingredients.”

The Tap & Table’s renovat ed space includes a 60-foot long bar serving “cool cocktails, done properly with fresh juice,” said McBane. Craft beers will also be served. Tap & Table opens for lunch Monday through Saturday and dinner nightly, with the bar staying open late. 284 Exchange Blvd. (Phone number was unavailable at press time.)

**Kim’s Shabby to Chic Pet Spa Opens on South Clinton**

After years grooming dogs for “corporate American” chain stores, Kim Webb decided it was time to open her own shop. Along the way, she was certif ied by the Rochester Institute of Dog Grooming and the National Dog Groomers Association of America.

“I’ve been grooming for 16 years,” said Webb. “I always wanted to open my own salon.” Recently, Webb got her wish and opened her own pet spa.

“I looked at the South Wedge and South Clinton Ave nue and saw it was up and coming,” said Webb. “Not many groomers and lots of pets in the area. It was a really pet friendly area.”

Webb’s dog salon caters to small dogs and offers a “low stress environment” and “all natural products.” Pets can also receive “pet and show haircut trims based on Westminster breed standards, pawdicures, nail filing, flea baths, tooth brushing” and general pooh panning. Most days Webb brings animal companion, ”Joey,” a Shih Tzu/poodle mix to work. “Ask her about his Halloween hair styles.”

Future plans include getting a big front window and adding a play yard and boutique clothing for fashionable dogs. Shabby to Chic is open Mondays 12-7 p.m., Tues.-Fridays 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30-4:30 p.m. 1010 South Clinton Ave, 585-355-4761, shaggytocich.net.

**Veterans Outreach Opens Our House Art Gallery**

The Open House Gallery of Veterans Outreach Center, Inc. is now open at 783 South Avenue.

The small gallery walls are filled with revolving exhibit of artwork by both professional artists and work by veterans created in their Art as Therapy program.

The gallery is open Fridays 2 - 5 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, call 295-7836.

**Cheshire Mixes Drinks and Style Above Solera Wine Bar**

If you still haven’t visited Cheshire, Solera’s upstairs cocktail lounge, it’s time to climb the stairs. The adorable 32-seat lounge serves “Pre-Prohibition Era drinks like old-fashions, Sazeracs and Manhattan.”

Cheshire is open Fridays and Saturdays only and sometimes the lines are long. 647 South Ave, 232-3070.

**Happy Ending after Begonia Bandits Strike South Wedge**

Sanford Street Block Presi dent Robert Lauterbach takes his garden beds seriously. He and others on the street have spent several years beautifying the corner of Sanford Street and South Avenue.

If you enjoy the glorious golden daffodils that blanket the small urban garden next to Vail Auto, you can thank Laut erbach.

During the most recent Clean Sweep Lauterbach and others planted begonias in the tree pits at South Avenue at Sanford Street. Alas, a sneaky begonia bandit pounced as soon as Vail Auto, you can thank Laut erbach.

The original blooms were provided by Michael Warren Thomas, city employee, radio personality and proponent of the Slow Food Movement.

“I noticed tonight that almost all of the begonias were stolen from the tree pits,” writes Lauterbach in a plaintive plea to Thomas. “It is so sad that people must steal flowers from a pub lic area. Chris Jones (BASWA President and co-owner of His toric Houseparts) told me that flowers were also stolen from the tree pit near their House parts store.” Was there a chance that the City would have more begonias to replant the Sanford St. bed? Warren Thomas came to the rescue, writing Lauterbach that perhaps “We need to put minia ture GPS tags in the soil with the plants to track where they go! It won’t be too many years before we can try something like that.”

After a bit more digging Sanford Street is again in bloom.
They’re Engaged!

Amanda Mary Hoch & Adam Ryan Lenhard

Donna Roethel Lenhard, of Bond Street and Earl N. Lenhard, of Rochester, announce the engagement of their son Adam Ryan Lenhard to Amanda Mary Hoch, daughter of Jack and Joanne Hoch of West Irondequoit.

Amanda, a SUNY Brockport graduate, works as an educator for the Center for Youth. Adam is a U.S. Army Ranger, currently serving in Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne Division.

In an e-mail, Adam describes how he met his fiancée.

“I was in Special Operations 275 Ranger Battalion at Fort Lewis, WA, for over two years. Amanda works with my sister, and in early 2009 I saw her picture at Jillian’s house and asked ‘Who is that?’ My sister quickly thought that we would be great for each other. Jillian told her she would love me and texted me a picture telling me he’s Jillian’s brother, so it makes no way I’m picking up a stranger from the airport, but at least he’s Jillian’s brother, so it makes it o.k., right?”

“He told me he would marry me the second day we hung out,” says Amanda.

Adam describes his proposal this way: “Just before Christmas 2011, we went to NYC. The first night we got there, December 16, I took her to Central Park because I love it there. I took her to my favorite bridge, Gapstow Bridge, and proposed. I rehearsed what I was going to say a hundred times, and I was a bit tongue-tied, but she assures me I said all of the right things.”

The couple plans a December 1st wedding at Chapel Hill Baptist Church, followed by a film screening of ‘Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945,’ will be followed by a film screening of GenSilent Tuesday, June 19, Jewish Community Center, 1200 Edgewood Drive. The evening begins with a 5:45 p.m. reception with the film screening at 7 p.m. Both film and reception are free and open to the public. Call Gay Alliance at 585-244-8640 for special accommodations.

Pride 2012 Dates: July 6-15
Flag raising at City Hall on July 6, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. – till. Kick Off Party to Pride Weekend – July 13, 7 to 10 p.m.

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South Wedge Fun
By Nancy O’Donnell

The Gallery @ Equal=Grounds
Equal=Grounds Gallery Director Beth Blooms reports she’s “pleased, delighted and tickled pink around the edges” to welcome back Rochester artist, Tim Mack and his wonderful weirdly, wacky work titled “The Secrets of the Solstice.” The exhibit runs through June 30.

“...my current show is named ‘Secrets of the Solstice’ in honor of the Summer solstice which is upon us, also called midsummer, said Mack. “This time of year has long been associated with potent magic and the mysteries of rebirth and regeneration. While we may not believe in magic anymore, no one can deny that mysterious and romantic feeling that stirs inside of us when we get that first whiff of summer, or stop to notice the strange yet familiar warmth of a summer night. The pieces you see here are a celebration of the special connection to nature we experience as the season changes. Images of suns and moons with faces, personalities, and a warm, knowing look in their eyes, as well as the many depictions of lush vegetation, evoke a sense of nature coming to life. I hope you enjoy viewing my work as I’ve enjoyed creating it, and have a happy solstice.”

BASWA’s Third Thursdays
The Business Association of the South Wedge Area launches its free musical concerts on the Third Thursday of each month. Bands lined up a press time include: Sisters of Murphy (6/21), sponsors Lux and John’s Tex Mex, Krypton 88 (7/19), sponsors Harry G’s Deli and Full Moon Vista, and Billy Joe and the Blues Cypresses (8/16), sponsors Historic House parts, Cheryl Stevens and Doug Root, Thunderboby (9/20), sponsors Plastic, Surface Salon, Now & Zen and Telltale Tattoo and Filthy McNasty (10/18), sponsors: Bauman’s Barber Shop & Hedonist Artisan Chocolate.

Concerts are held at Star Alley Park on South Avenue, 8 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. To learn more visit, www.southwedge.com

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The Wedge June/July 2012
Eight 4 Third World Hope Builds Schools
one Jam Session at a time

By Nancy O’Donnell

Allison Autry and James Weldon Johnson are building a better world for children in Jamaica one school at a time. Eight 4 Third World Hope’s “New Basic School” project in McCooks Pen, Jamaica got a boost from the two South Wedge residents recently when they held “Jammin’ for Jamaica” at the Lovin’ Cup on Jefferson Road in early June.

Using Johnson’s musical connections through his work at Lux on South Avenue (Wel- don is head of security there), the friends gathered a roster of well-known bands—such as TAO, Mosaic Deep Blue Dream, The Crawdaddies, The Cheats, and another fundraiser at Mulconry’s Irish bar in Fairport.

“My Dad is my best friend,” said Autry, who began to join her father on his trips to Jamaica. “We built one school. In another we provided latrines for the building. Now we’re work- ing on getting $48,000 to enlarge the building. Now we’re work- ing on getting $48,000 to enlarge an overcrowded school.”

The group has another benefit planned on August 10 at Mulconry’s called “School Night Out at Mulconry’s.” Visit the nonprofit can be found at eight4thirdworldhope.org/index.html or e-mail at allisonau- try90@gmail.com to learn more.

To purchase tickets to win the trip to Jamaica visit http://eight4thirdworldhope.org/Sup- port-Events.html

By Tom Kicior

Mt. Hope Nursery – Past and Present on Ellwanger Estate

One of the City of Roches- ter’s most historic properties and hidden treasures is located within the South Wedge. The Ellwanger Garden and Ellwanger Estate are beautiful il- lustrations of a time past when the Mt. Hope Nursery was one of the largest and most influen- tial nurseries in the world.

In 1840 George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry established the Mount Hope Nursery. Through continual expansion, what began as a seven acre plot on Mt. Hope Ave. grew to 650 acres by 1871. The nursery spe- cialized in fruit producing trees and plants, but also grew a wide variety of ornamentals.

Much of their success was due to Rochester’s key location on the Erie Canal between the new expanding markets to the west and the established sup- pliers in the east. This gave the Mount Hope Nursery an eight day shipping advantage over suppliers in New York City and Albany. George Ellwanger once claimed to have supplied all of the original orchards in Califor- nia with their first trees.

Rochester’s harsh climate helped cre ate hardy plants that were resilient enough to survive the long trip to the west coast and markets worldwide.
SWPC’s Newest House For Sale

$74,900

172 Burlington Avenue

This stately Colonial offers a generous 1,406 sq. ft. floor plan. A spacious living room includes a decorative fireplace while the dining room offers a box window with cozy window seat. A large kitchen holds new cabinets, counters, plumbing and flooring. New Green Labeled carpeting covers the living room, staircase, hallway and upstairs bedrooms.

On the second floor, you’ll find four bedrooms and a completed remodeled bath- room with new tub/shower, vanity and commode. Outside a generous front porch overlooks the lawn and the newly resurfaced blacktop driveway. Behind the house, owners will enjoy a very large backyard with plantings and patio.

Maintenance free vinyl siding and trim wrapped in aluminum, a new roof with architectural shingles, new baked aluminum gutters and downspouts completes the exterior.

First time home buyers are invited to make an appointment to view the South Wedge Planning Committee’s newest rehabilitated house! The beautiful two-story Colonial, located in Rochester’s 19th Ward, is an example of what the HOME Rochester Program makes possible. The 19th Ward has a long history–its neighborhood association is one of the oldest in the nation. The area’s motto, “Urban by Choice,” illustrates the pride residents have for their community’s rich diversity. Natural amenities nearby include the Frederick Law Olmsted-designed Genesee Valley Park, the Genesee River and the historic Erie Canal.

SWPC’s houses are completely renovated: new kitchens, bathrooms, roofs, utilities and essential weatherization features. Other features include 150 amp electric panel circuit breakers, walls and ceilings freshly painted with low VOC paint, energy efficient 40 gallon gas hot water heater, 93% high efficiency gas, forced air furnace. Each also has new energy efficient windows throughout and now energy efficient light fixtures.

Applicants must be first-time home buyers with income at, or below, 120% of the Rochester-area median income (adjusted for the size of household). Certain applicants may also be eligible for up to $6,000 down-payment and closing cost assistance.

To schedule an appointment, please call 256-1740, ext. 101.

Ellwanger Garden

continued from pg. 10

expansions in the late 1800s and early 1900s resulted in the current 6,800 sq. ft. mansion that stands as the Ellwanger Estate Bed & Breakfast today.

When owner Rosemary Janovsky purchased the property in 2006, the building was in dire need of restoration. Her initial projects included painting, porch reconstruction, electrical rewiring, and a kitchen remodel. The Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra played a significant role in further restorations by hosting a fund raiser at the Estate and bringing local designers and artists in for rehab assistance.

The Landmark Society of Western New York owns and maintains the half acre Ellwanger garden at the Estate. According to their website, the garden was planted by the Ellwanger family in 1867 and was maintained by the family until 1982 when it was left to the Landmark Society by grand daughter Helen Ellwanger.

The Ellwanger Garden is open each year during the Lilac Festival, for Peony Weekend in early June and for Twilight visiting hours Tuesday evenings, June 4 - September 24, (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.). The garden can also be viewed by appointment.

For more information on the Ellwanger Garden contact the Landmark Society at (585) 546-7029, ext. 12, or visit www.landmarksociety.org/programs/historic-sites/ellwanger-garden/.


Ellwanger Mansion B&B (Photo by Brenda Washington)

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Ellwanger Garden

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June/July 2012

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