**City Property Slated for Development**

A 46 half acre City-owned partially vacant lot on Gregory Street being studied for development received applause from some residents who want a mixed-use structure (residential and commercial) on the site, along with vocal opposition from others who want a park-like setting and/or a green space located there.

Currently a portion of the lot is used by the Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union and Tango Dance Café (both located in the historic Weider’s Hall). The site housed Davidson’s Collision, an auto body shop, from the 1960s until 1993. A City website details the site’s history, stating that from 1991 through 1994, preliminary environmental investigations identified “subsurface soil and groundwater contamination” on the site. In 2004, the City acquired the property through tax foreclosure. Between 2005 and 2008, a full-scale environmental investigation was done to determine the extent and magnitude of contamination and to evaluate cleanup alternatives.

The City was accepted into the Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in 2008. The proposed cleanup, funded by the City and a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), included: soil excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil, application of materials to enhance the in-situ bioremediation of site contaminants in soil and groundwater, installation of a groundwater monitoring network and completion of long-term groundwater monitoring.

At present, the site is partially vacant and is being considered for development.

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**SWPC Names New Director, Board Chair**

**By Nancy O’Donnell**

The South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) Board of Directors welcomed John Page as the SWPC’s new executive director on October 3. Page was selected from a field of some 26 applicants during a four-week search.

He becomes the fifth person to head the non-profit organization since its creation in 1978, replacing Bob Boyd, who took a full-time teaching position at SUNY Geneseo in September. From 1998-2010, Page served as executive director at North East Area Development, Inc. (NEAD). As director, he provided oversight of residential and commercial property development and grant programs. He also developed four major commercial and mixed-use properties including the historic Landmark building and Dazzle Theater. Along with his tenure at NEAD, Page owns the Keg in the basement of the Historic German House at 315 Gregory Street.

The new owners Ken “Casey” Hollenbeck of Mise En Place and Seth Lindahl, a former executive chef at Max Chophouse, are investing a quarter of a million dollars to renovate the entrance, basement, and upstairs party hall. The upstairs space will be used for the catering part of their new venture before the Bistro’s opens. The two chefs, now partners, met while working at 2 Vines Restaurant.

Along with new flooring and lighting, the Bistro will be handicapped accessible via a lift into the basement. “Both of us have friends who use wheelchairs, and we want them to be able to come into the restaurant,” Hollenbeck said.

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**Zeppe Bistro To Open in Historic German House on Gregory St.**

By Nancy O’Donnell

On the top of a wish list in the 2009 South Wedge Market survey conducted by SWPC was “a sit down Italian restaurant.” The community gets its wish with the anticipated Dec. 1 opening of Zeppe Bistro (Zeppe is “wedge” in Italian). The new restaurant replaces The Keg in the basement of the Historic German House at 315 Gregory Street.

The new owners Ken “Casey” Hollenbeck of Mise En Place and Seth Lindahl, a former executive chef at Max Chophouse, are investing a quarter of a million dollars to renovate the entrance, basement, and upstairs party hall. The upstairs space will be used for the catering part of their new venture before the Bistro’s opens. The two chefs, now partners, met while working at 2 Vines Restaurant.

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**Wedgestock 2011 Brings 6,500 to the South Wedge Community**

By Frank Logan

Wedgestock 2011 was awesome. Held on a beautiful very hot day, it had a great look and feel. Over 6,500 people attended and enjoyed a day of entertainment, food, beer, shopping and community. It really shows what can be accomplished when neighbors work together.

There are so many people to thank for a job well done, especially all the sponsors, vendors and businesses on South Ave. who provided the financial support for Wedgestock. Jayne Morgan and her dedicated volunteers took care of so many aspects of the day. Kristin Chajka kicked the Pet Parade. (The first year pet parade, I was thinking...hmm...OK!), but second year around Rochester’s only annual pet parade has become a wildly successful cornerstone of Wedgestock. I have Tim Ellis and John Chajka to thank for the music that provided really great moments throughout the day and helped the crowds stay longer. Angela Clark-Taylor did a wonderful job with the Artists and Crafters Market and the new setup worked well. Tom Kicior dealt with numerous permits and application requests from the City. Donna Roethel Lindahl’s kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is kids’ area proved that corn is...
Letters to the Editor

Wedge Newspaper Aims to Please

Wedge Newspaper

The Wedge Newspaper Aims to Please.

Wedge Newspaper Aims to Please.

More Wedestock Praise

The Wedestock was a very incredible. I had a fun time.

The Wedestock was a very incredible. I had a fun time.

South Wedge Social Register

Duquette and Saville

On a sunny Sunday, Aug. 13, Phillip Duquette and Tracy Saville were married under a sunflower-bordered arbor in their South Wedge garden with the sounds of a burling waterfall and wind chimes in the background. They were surrounded by their closest friends. The ceremony made official a relationship of 16 years. Officiating at the ceremony was Jeana Bonacci Roth, a minister in the Universal Church of Life.

As the couple exchanged rings, Bonacci Roth read marriage vows she had written that emphasized how “each complements the other and made our life better community.”

Later during a thundering afternoon rainstorm, the newlyweds held a second reception for a 100 well wishers at Lux Lounge. The inspiration for the event was two wedding cakes. One was iced in chocolate and covered in sunflowers. The top tier depicted the couple house on Comfort Street. The cake was decorated by business partner Paula M. Stadt-miller. The groom’s cake, made by Duquette as a surprise for Saville, depicted his spouse in his dream swimming pool surrounded by the family’s three beagles, Otto, Lex and Abe. The celebration also included a photo booth, provided by Red Stone Studios in Bushnell’s Basin. As guests donned Mad Hatter hats, Viking horned helmets, feather bows and crowns for the camera, on the sidewalk the studio created a wedding album for the couple to take home.

The couple plan to honeymoon in London Hall, a 19th century lodge and spa in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada later in the year.

Isabel Jane Obecanov

Lindsay Steinberg, owner of Green Zebra Catering, and Nick Obecanov welcomed daughter Isabel Jane on August 18, 2010.

The Wedge Newspaper was introduced to the lovely Miss Isabel at Wedestock where she was stage side enjoying the music and the overall happy festival vibe.

“She just had her first birthday party, and she received a bunch of fun musical instruments that she loves playing,” reported Steinberg. “She’s also likes saying ‘mama’ and ‘daddy’ and dancing to all kinds of music! We’re in love!”

South Wedge Social Register

Wedestock Builds Kettle Corn Community

Ryan and I had an awesome time being part of the neighbor hood party. This was our first time selling our kettle corn at a festival. I couldn’t have chosen a better event. I live on Ashby Street, so doing business at the South Wedge Farmers Market and Wedestock makes me feel like a part of the community.

This neighborhood is self-sustaining with everything from homemade dog treats to drum kits and haircuts! Thank you for welcoming us to the local economy. I’m still new to operating a business, and have struggled to find pathways to getting gigs. I have a lot of respect for the people I know who have started with one idea, and from that created, adjusted, and grown a successful service that people appreciate and support. That’s what we are popping towards. Next time you see us, just ask us for a handout. If you like the corn, we sell it every day at Schutt’s Apple Mill in Webster and the Farmers Market on Thursdays.

Isabel Jane (Photo courtesy of Lindsay Steinberg)

CORRECTION: In the August/September 2011 issue, the Hamilton Tenant Association President was incorrectly named.

Yvonne Williams’ many years of volunteer service for the benefit of the tenants at The Hamilton and the South Wedge neighborhood was appreciated and often featured in Wedge articles. We apologize for the error.

Isabel Jane (Photo courtesy of Lindsay Steinberg)

Re: Noil" to Absentee Landlords

Residents in the South Wedge are getting tired of people from the suburbs buying up properties only so they can rent them to eight or ten students. If you are going to buy this property, please do your homework.

First you cannot make backyards into parking lots and the home into a rooming house. You must also get permits to do things that will change the neighborhood, and understand that your neighbors, will fight tooth and nail to stop you.

We who live here love the South Wedge. We are parents, grandparents and families, and we want to keep it that way.

We help each other as neighbors and take care of each other. Please, if you don’t want to live here, don’t make our lives miserable.

—Casey Crandall

South Wedge

Editorial

The Wedge Newspaper, a not-for profit newspaper, is published by the South Wedge Planning Committee, a not-for profit organization serving the South Wedge Urban Village. Its mission is to provide accurate coverage of neighborhood news as well as issues that affect the area.

The Wedge is printed biweekly (February, April, June, August, October and December) and maintains a circulation of 7,200. The newspaper is routed to South Wedge homes and distributed to area businesses, retail shops and other drop off points in the Greater Rochester area.

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

Please send any story suggestions or new to Wedge Newspaper, Editor Nancy O’Donnell, 224 Mt. Hope Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620 or e-mail nodonnell@swpc.org.

Advertising Deadlines and rates are available online at www.wedge.org or call Nancy O’Donnell at 585-256-1740 or 978-9638.

Before recycling this newspaper, please pass it on to a friend, neighbor or coworker.

Our Mission Statement

SWPC builds an inclusive and diverse, historically significant, commercially sustainable urban village.

Ad Deadline for Next Issue

November 15

Call 256-1740, ext. 102 or 978-9638 for details.
Fatima Adds Dream Boutique to Tops Plaza

Maybe Fatima Bayram’s shop, newly housed in the front of Thimble Tailoring and Clothier in Tops Plaza, should remain a secret a little longer. At 24, Bayram is creating a boutique with as much style as a Pittsford’s Dado, but with South Wedge price tags. Add to that a size selection that extends beyond small and extra, extra small and her determination to stock U.S. made clothing and jewelry. Once the word gets out, the place will be mobbed.

“I’m offering trendy clothing at a lower cost,” said Bayram. “Nice, unique pieces that don’t break the bank. I want customers to be able to create outfits to wear without spending a fortune.”

Clothing generally ranges in prices from 19.99 to 59.99, with some accessories costing as little as $5. In the center of the shop is a round table with a wide assortment of costume jewelry including faux diamond bracelets for 15.99. Also available are practical and pretty lace bandeaus or “toppers,” elasticized to stay up and provide extra cover under sheer tops for only 14.99.

Bayram already knew how to make alterations to make clothes look better having grown up working in her family’s shop. In 2010 she studied Fashion Merchandising at Genesee Community College and starting thinking of selling ready made clothing. Next she took buying trips to Las Vegas, learning the brands she liked like Vertigo and Blue Bird. She also plans to carry the Pink Martini line that comes from Toronto along with some soft Italian cottons.

“Fashion for fall includes floral prints, tribal patterns, full pants,” said Bayram. “Everything is to the extreme, either very narrow or very full. Dramatic collars and coats with ruffles and pleats. I also saw a lot of purple and taupe.”

Bayram may also test out one higher priced piece jeans for $70.

Tops Plaza, Thimble Tailoring, 1900 S. Clinton Ave., 244-7810. Hours: Weekdays 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fatima Bayram (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Fashions from Fatima’s Boutique (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Mother Banana tree and babies (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Banana Tree Thrives in Victory Garden

Martin Pedraza is already well known in Rochester as a community leader in the Marketview Heights Collective Action Project, but not many know that he also serves as surrogate father to a family of banana trees. This summer, he spread banana tree magic to the South Wedge Victory Garden.

“It all started in my neighborhood on Woodward Street,” said Pedraza. “A neighbor grew one, and it had a few babies. He kept the mother, but gave me one of the babies.

Within a pot buried below the surface, Pedraza’s baby banana tree thrived. During winter he carried it inside until it grew so large, his wife Raquel told him to “get those monsters out of here.”

Luckily, Pedraza found a spot in a greenhouse run by SWAN (SouthWest Area Neighborhood Association, Inc. on Dr. Samuel McCree Way) where the banana tree stayed warm and safe during a Rochester winter.

Any monkeys seen around the trees? “No monkeys,” but I’ve joked to [friend] Harry, ‘watch out for the tarantulas,’” said Pedraza.
Crossroads Coffeehouse Holds Grand Opening
Cailin Willey recently welcomed customers to her new coffeehouse lounge behind the historic Cinema Theater on South Goodman Street.

Commissioner of Neighborhood and Business Development Carlos Carballada, City Council Vice President Elaine Spaull and Council member Jackie Ortiz were joined by Senator Joseph E. Robach at the ribbon cutting.

Crossroads expanded the space of the former Muddy Waters Cafe to include comfy sofas, cozy tables and chairs to create a welcoming space for solo coffee drinkers using the free WiFi, as well as larger groups meeting for business or book clubs.

The space also offers gallery walls for art curated by X Wedge Art Gallery.

The coffeehouse hosts live music (Bob White and the Fabulous Winchesters Singers) in the meeting room most Friday afternoons with plans for live music on the second Saturday of every month.

Willey is committed to using local suppliers. The organic coffee comes courtesy of Bill Klingensmith's South Wedge Bona Fide Coffee, pastries come from George's Bakery on South Clinton Ave, and flavored syrups from Fee Brothers on Port Clinton Ave. Fair trade organic chocolate and Blue Sky land Avenue.

Hot chocolate and Blue Sky soda come from Abundance Organic. Fair trade organic sodas come from Fee Brothers on Port Clinton Ave. Flavored syrups from Georgie's Bakery on South Bona Fide Coffee.
Community Events & News

Bread for Life Holiday Pie Goes on Sale

Bread for Life, St. Joe’s bakery training program, will be offering pumpkin and sweet potato pies for Thanksgiving. The fresh baked 10-inch pies feature “from scratch” all butter crusts for $12.00 per pie. “We sell on a subscription basis and that’s where you can partner with us,” writes Peg Fink-Gefelly, the former owner of Savory Thymes, in an e-mail to the Wedge. “Each 1.5 lb. loaf is made with wheat and white flours, sunflower seeds, oats, flaxseed, salt, grape seed oil and barley malt syrup. It is good for toasting or sandwiches.”

Every third week of the subscription, Rosemary Focaccia, Raisin or Potato Bread will be available. Fall subscriptions end the week of November 21.

Meet the Candidates Night

The Highland Park Neighborhood Association is sponsoring a “Meet the Candidates” Night on Tuesday, October 25, 7-9 p.m. at Monroe County Parks Building, 171 Reservoir Dr. (across from Lambertson Cons.), Candidates for City Council, School Board and Monroe Co. Legislature will meet the community and take questions from the audience.

Veterans Outreach Center Offers Ongoing Help

On site no-cost supportive services are available to all veterans and their immediate family members including: veterans benefit counseling, readjustment counseling and creative arts therapy, one-stop employment services, limited financial assistance, legal services and resources, Comperr/ Corps mentoring services “Vet Helping Vets,” educational services, financial counseling and coaching, a 28-unit residential program, certified alcohol and substance abuse counseling services.

459 South Avenue, 546-1081 www.veteransoutreachcenter.org

Police Explorer Kickoff Meeting Set for Oct. 20

The Rochester Police Explorers Post 655 kick off meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building Auditorium, 85 Exchange Blvd. Children who may be interested in participating can visit www.cityofrochester.org or contact Officer Patrick M. Piano at PP0563@CityofRochester.gov for more information.

Catholic Family Center Offers Money Counseling

Learning about personal finance doesn’t have to be dry or boring.

Learn all about the on-site financial education available through the CEB at www.crediteducationbureau.org/pp/services/on-site-class-

Catholic Family Center, 87 N. Clinton Ave., 256-6076, http://www.cfcrochester.org

Wedgestock 2011 continued from page 1

children were completely entertained. Thanks to Lyjha Wilton for partnering with us and providing trained bartenders to sell beer. To all of the South Wedge Planning Committee board members who pitched in and helped make Wedgestock 2011 run smoothly, thank you.

As for Bob Boyd, I cannot say enough, you and your staff did your parts flawlessly. You rolled with the punches and made last minute changes work. Finally, thank you to the entire South Wedge for being such a cool place to live, work, shop, meet people and have fun. Thank you to everyone for helping to make Wedgestock a signature event of The South Wedge Planning Committee and the entire South Wedge community.

Wedgestock 2012

The South Wedge Planning Committee will begin planning for 2012 in January.

Please contact Board member Frank Logan with ideas, suggestions or recommendations to make next year’s all-day event bigger and better.

Please call 503-4848 or e-mail flogan@rochester.rr.com.

In Memoriam

John Frank Mars 1923 - 2011

On Saturday, November 12, John Frank Mars will be interred at Mt. Hope Cemetery 9 a.m. with Mass at St. Boniface Church, 330 Gregory Street, 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in John’s memory to the Restoration of the Children’s Pavilion, which is a special project of the Highland Park Conservancy. Please mail donations to Highland Park Conservancy, 180 Reservoir Drive, Rochester, New York 14620.

Business Buzz continued from page 4

E. Robach, then South Wedge Planning Committee Executive Director Robert Boyd along with BASWA board members: co-president and Lux Lounge owner Karrie Laughton, Secretary Rose O’Keefe and Treasurer Jim Wolff.

The Wedge Shop carries antique maps of the neighborhood, books on the history of the South Wedge, tote bags, mouse pads, note cards, tee shirts, pub glasses and water bottles and more. Blown glass ornaments and jewelry by local artist Paul Taylor are also available for sale. BASWA will use sale proceeds to help it achieve its “mission of marketing and promoting the area, public art and cultural events, streetscape enhancements and beautification.”

Historic Houseparts 15th Annual Tent Sale - Oct. 29

“Mission of Marketing and Promoting the Area, Public Art and Cultural Events, Streetscape Enhancements and Beautification.”

172 South Avenue. Hours are Tues. & Thurs. 1-7 p.m. and Sat. 12-4 p.m. or, by appointment if you e-mail chris@historichouseparts.com.

Historic Houseparts is holding a Day of Volunteer Community Gardening on Saturday, October 15. Join volunteers at 10:00 a.m. at Star Alley Park at 662 South Avenue and head off to clean South Avenue. “Weed Leaders” will assemble small teams to tackle weeds on sidewalks and in specific garden beds along South Avenue from Byron Street to Sanford Street from until mid afternoon. Spring bulbs and mums will also be available for planting in some of the areas once they are cleared. Garden tools will be provided or bring your own if you have them. Many hands make light work, so please consider donating some of your time to help make the neighborhood look better. Sign up at www.southwedge.com or just show up at Star Alley Park at 10:00 to get your assignment.

BASWA Weed the Wedge!

The Business Association of the South Wedge Area (BASWA) is holding a Day of Volunteer Community Gardening on Saturday, October 15. Join volunteers at 10:00 a.m. at Star Alley Park at 662 South Avenue and head off to clean South Avenue. “Weed Leaders” will assemble small teams to tackle weeds on sidewalks and in specific garden beds along South Avenue from Byron Street to Sanford Street from until mid afternoon. Spring bulbs and mums will also be available for planting in some of the areas once they are cleared. Garden tools will be provided or bring your own if you have them. Many hands make light work, so please consider donating some of your time to help make the neighborhood look better. Sign up at www.southwedge.com or just show up at Star Alley Park at 10:00 to get your assignment!

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Highland Park Pavilion circa 1910

For more information, call Susan Mars 259-0096.

The Wedge

October - November 2011

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cheesecake + carrot cake + chocolate cake and so much more!

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For more information, call Susan Mars 259-0096.

Highland Park Pavilion circa 1910
Seasonal Safety Tips for the South Wedge

By CPO Brian Bannerman

The Rochester Police Department would like to offer the following tips to help you avoid becoming a victim.

1) Make certain that the inside and outside of your home or business is well lit. Motion sensors and “dusk to dawn” lights are good tools for this task.

2) Never keep or carry excess cash or property if you don’t need it. Leave unneeded valuables at home if you are going out for any reason.

3) Always stay alert to your surroundings! Whether you are walking down the street or operating your business, you must be aware of persons and situations around you. Criminals are less likely to commit a crime when they believe someone can identify them.

4) Report suspicious activity to the police immediately. If you observe something that seems like criminal activity, call 911. If you are mistaken in your assessment of the situation, no harm is done by the police looking into it. On the other hand if you are right…you just might prevent a crime or even help to apprehend a criminal.

5) TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS! Whether you are at work, at home or engaged in your favorite pastime, you will usually know what people and actions seem out of place for the situation. If it feels “wrong” to you, it probably is. Get away from any potential danger immediately and call 911.

6) If you do become the victim of a robbery, comply with the criminal’s requests for money or property. Your belongings are not worth the risk of injury. Don’t make any sudden moves or do anything to agitate the robber. Try to get a good description of the criminals clothing and physical features. A good witness is our best hope for making an arrest.

Contact your Crime Prevention Officer for a free security survey for your home or business. For further information, call the Southeast Neighborhood Service Center, 846 South Clinton Avenue, 428-7640.

South Wedge Community Raises Funds for Slain Child

By Nancy O’Donnell

Local South Wedge businesses and neighbors rallied to raise funds for the family of Noel Parchells, a 10-year-old child, who lived with mother Raechel Coffey in the South Wedge. Noel and her three-year-old half sister, Mia, were murdered by their father Adam on Sept. 3. Noel was scheduled to begin school at Nativity Preparatory School on Gregory Street a few days after she was killed.

Family friend Mary Dillio worked with Business Association of the South Wedge Area President Chris Jones to raise funds to help the family with burial expenses and a headstone for little Noel. Additional funds are earmarked for a scholarship fund in her name at Nativity Academy. At the time of publication, Jones reported some $4,000 had been collected.

Beale Street Cafe hosted an open jam on Sept. 11, along with donating a percentage of all food and beverage sales during the event to Noel’s family.

Bass guitarist Bobby Spencer was joined by musicians Nate Coffee, Ron Trip and Charlie Newcomb among others. Vocalist Bianca Spencer, daughter of Bobby, also appeared at the afternoon event. On the same day, Lux Lounge donated a percentage of their sales to the fund raiser.

The business Association of the South Wedge area’s new website Southwedge.com created a Payal account for the fund raiser. In additions, checks can be mailed to “Friends of Noel,” c/o the Kearns Center, University of Rochester, Box 270415, Rochester, New York 14627-0415.

South Wedge Victory Garden Celebrates 3rd Anniversary

By Heather Penrose

The South Wedge Victory Garden successfully made it to its third fall season and celebrated with a Harvest Party at Marie Daley Park on September 17. The guest list included current gardeners, prospective gardeners, South Wedge Planning Committee members and other community supporters of the garden throughout the years. The Harvest Party was made possible by the newly formed Victory Garden Committee. Both Co-Manager James Paparano and I send a sincere “thank you” to the folks who participated in planning this event.

It’s not too early to prepare for spring 2012. The Victory Garden will be overseeing the City of Rochester Flower Distribution on October 1. Along with South Wedge Block Clubs planting daffodil and tulips bulbs throughout the neighborhood, bulbs will be planted in front of the Victory Garden. We’ll have beautiful spring flowers after the snow melts.

An official garden clean up is tentatively planned for mid to late October to make it easier to start the growing season next spring. Our resident banana tree, donated by Martin Pedrazza of the Marketview Heights Neighborhood, will be sent on vacation to a local greenhouse

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Rates starting as low as $30 per issue!
Call 256-1740, ext. 105
for more information.
South Wedge Scene of Auction for the Homeless

By Brett Iwanowicz

Local business Roc Rooms and Rentals held its first annual silent auction on September 18 at Napa Wood Fired Pizzeria on South Clinton Avenue. Event proceeds benefit Catholic Family Center’s Housing Program, which provides emergency and transitional housing services to vulnerable populations.

Currently, Monroe County has nearly 100,000 individuals who live in poverty—a sobering statistic that calls for immediate attention. In addition, nearly 400 refugees come to our area each year, many in need of assistance in starting a new life in an unfamiliar territory.

The fund raiser was open to the public who enjoyed the sounds of local musicians Kevin DeHond, Dean Channing, Shiri The Entertainer, Jeff Acker, and Alex Hills. Food tastings were provided throughout the day and included samples from local restaurants and bakeries featuring Napa Wood Fired Grill and Cheesy Eddy’s. All items and services to be auctioned came from local businesses and included gift certificates for massages, a wide variety of local restaurants and gasoline cards. Bidders also competed for museum passes, jewelry, gift baskets along with many other donated items.

Roc Rooms and Rentals, LLC was created by RIT alumna Jesse Casper and St. John Fisher College graduate Brett Iwanowicz in 2008. It was their desire to provide students seeking off-campus housing with something that was not only affordable, but at the same time offered students “Peace of Mind.”

Roc Rooms & Rentals is humbled by this opportunity to contribute to our community; everyone deserves a place to call home.

For more information, visit www.rocrooms.com or e-mail brett@rocrooms.com.
The Wedge October - November 2011

Mayor Tom Richards acted as Grand Marshal in Rochester’s only annual Pet Parade. Joining him on stage to announce the winners was Parade Organizer Kristin Chajka. First and second prizes were $25 and $15 certificates courtesy of PetSavers Superstore. Four raffle prize baskets were provided by Invisible Fence.

For the second year in a row, Howard Samuel’s filmed and uploaded a photo montage of Wedgestock’s Pet Parade on Youtube. To enjoy the scenes and music, visit “Wedgestock 2011 Pet Parade”.

And the winners are...

Largest Pet:
Krypto the White Great Dane.
Humans - Rich & Lori Fairbrother

Smallest pet:
Riptide the Guinea Pig.
Humans Rowan & Callista Daly

Most Unique Pet, 1st Place:
Fuffer-Titi-Pink the Chicken
Human - Katie Brock

Most Unique, 2nd Place:
Carhart the Alpaca.
Human - Mark Gilbridge

Pet/Human Look-a-like, 1st Place:
Cocoa the Dog and Karlie Kubasiewicz in fetching bumblebee ensembles

Pet/Human Look-a-like, 2nd Place:
Jake, Jessie, Christy and Hunter the Weimaraners
Humans Paul & Tom

Best Costume, 1st Place:
Elvis the Houndog
Human - Unidentified (please call the Wedge)

Best Costume, 2nd Place:
Fiona the “Hula Dog”
Owner Elie Dennis

Pet Parade Photos by Dave Halter

Victory Brewing (Photo by Lena Budd)

Best Costume, 2nd Place:
Fido (Photo by Dave Halter)

Alpaca Carhart, a Wedgestock Pet Parade first—attracted many admirers and won a prize.

Thanks to all our businesses, crafts people and musicians who contributed to the day: Beale Street Café, PeppaPot Jamaica Café, Nancy’s Fried Dough, Little Venice Pizza, La Petit Poutine, Snow Daze, Napa’s Wood Fired Pizza, Doe’s Model Diner, Abbott’s Ice Cream, the South Wedge Farmers Market, Mise En Place, Open Face, Cheesy Eddie’s, Coffee Connection, Lux, McLaughlin-Goodwin-O’Shanecey’s School of Irish Dance, Ashford Ballet Company, Digital Geist, Krypton 88, James Revova, Jack Allen, DJ Kix, Subsol, Deep Blue Dream, DJ Danger and Po’ Boys Brass Band, Victory Brewing Company, Nathaniel General Contractors, Goodwill, Genesee Co-op Federal Credit Union, Ryan Heating, Highland Hospital, Erie Harbor, Nothnagle Realtors, Time Warner Cable, Canandaigua National Bank & Trust, Invisible Fence, NeighborWorks Rochester, PetSaver Pet Superstore, Schuler-Haas Electric Corp., DePaul’s T-Shirt Factory, Flower City Development, The Home Depot, Heldenstein Artisan Chocolate, South Wedge Wine Spirit an Wine, Coffee Connection, Zak’s Avenue and Full Moon Vista Bike. We thank you for your generosity in helping the South Wedge Planning Committee’s commitment to enrich the greater South Wedge community.

There was something for everyone at Wedgestock (Photo by Dave Halter)

Home Depot happy in the hot sun (Photo by Dave Halter)

Fried dough to Indian samosas...
Wedgestock had it all.

Jessica Toner, co-owner of Snow Daze, all-natural gourmet shaved ice. (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)
Wedgestock People

Despite a hot, hot sunny day, the Clarissa St. Reunion across the river and several tantalizing Rochester summer events, some 6,500 people from all over flocked to Wedgestock. Some had grown up in the Wedge, moved away, and came back to see what everybody’s talking about today. Others were neighbors who stopped in throughout the day to check out the crafts market, listen to the music and nosh on the various foods from local cafes that line South Avenue from Gregory to Averill Avenue.

(Some had grown up in the Wedge...)

Brittany Williams, Brother Wilson and Lorna Salmon (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Don Olney strolls the festival (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Wedgestock Volunteers

Thanks to all the many Wedgestock volunteers who smiled visitors into the festival as they clicked head counts at the entrances, worked the booths, solved problems, emptied trash, helped recycle, answered questions about the South Wedge Planning Committee and the Wedge Newspaper, and best of all helped to build community.

We all showed newcomers what a great place the South Wedge is to live, work and play. We hope to have you back next year so sign up in 2012 to make a bigger and better Wedgestock Street Festival.

Elena Arrazola
Priscilla Auchm增强
Mabel Avant
Stephanie Backer-Bertsch
Bob Boyd
Beth Bringley
Lena Budd
John Chajka
Kristin Chajka
Angela Clark-Taylor
Bruce Colburn
Nick Crowley
Jo Cummings
Vicki DeFazio
Eli Dennis
Eoin Dennis
John Dennis
Mary Ellen Dennis
Tim Ellis
Ken Everhart
Zora Gussow
Dave Halter
Scott Hewitt
Phinis “Butch” Horton
Tom Kictor
Robert Lauterbach
Rachel Leavy
Donna Roethel Lenhard
Frank Logan
Gary Loitsch
Monica McCullough
Bob Monson
Jayne Morgan
Tim Morgan
Nancy O’Donnell
Jim Papapanu
Will Pellett
Heather Penrose
Miss Maya Reagan
Howard Samuel
Christie Smith
Donna Smith
Sue Gardner Smith
Sarah Snyder
Brian Stiehler
Kristina Tarwackie
Eileen Thomas
Mike Trojan
Shawn Wallace
Tim Webber
Anne Weissbeck
Lorraine Whitehouse
Paul Whitehouse
Coooper Wilton
Dawn Marie Yager
Diane of Rochester Hoops, You’re the Best!

Wedgestock Kids Had Fun All Day

(Please see full page for photos of kids and parents)

Mark Mon, Gabriel Twilligear, 23 mos. and Dayna Twilligear (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

(Please see full page for photos of kids and parents)

Saida, 1½ years old (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

(Please see full page for photos of kids and parents)

Bob Boyd & Will Pellett enjoying Snow Daze specials. (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

(Please see full page for photos of kids and parents)

Eli and Eoin Dennis with friend (Photo by Dave Halter)
Ghost Walks Ramble Mt. Hope Ave. in October

Ralph Esposito is serving up spooky stories to participants of his Rochester Candlelight Ghost Walks just outside the fence at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Co-founder and ghost hunter Jenny Oneski flies back to Rochester from her Arizona home to help conduct the ghost walks which include ones in Sea Breeze and Fairport.

Along with stories of other worldly visitations in our local Victorian cemetery, Esposito offers human walkers the opportunity to use “divining rods” which he believes indicate proximity to spirits. Esposito hopes to offer up “full body apparitions” to walkers who pay $15 to hear tales of cemetery haunt-erings. (But there is, of course, no guarantee.)

One of the scariest stories is told by Oneski who was helped by a phantom jogger in Mt. Hope cemetery one winter night.

In addition to ghost walks, Esposito offers an “Intro to Ghost Hunting Course,” on October 30 at 6 p.m. at RIT’s Wallace Library. A guided ghost hunt to one of “Rochester’s paranormal hot spots” follows the class. Peregistration is required; cost is $25.

For more info, call 542-8687 or visit www.rochesterghosts.com.

Music Rocks South Ave. Star Alley on Oct. 20

Join the crowd for a South Wedge tradition on October’s “Third Thursdays at Star Alley” on South Avenue, brought to you by BASWA, the Business Association of the South Wedge Area. Acoustic rock & blues from Honest John, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m., sponsored by Bona Fide Coffee. Foot-stompin’ country grits from 40 Rod Lightning begins at 9 p.m. through 10:30 p.m. Hedenist Artisan Chocolates sponsors this event.

Head Up Presents “Hat Galley: The Experience”

Join Torja McNair and mil-liner Dave Brown for an evening of hat fashion, music, horse-d’oeuvres and more. Advance sales $15 at Head Up, 524 Mt. Hope Ave. A portion of ticket sales benefits Hillside Work Scholarship Connection.

The event will be held on Monday, Nov. 21, 6-10 p.m. at the Historic German House, 315 Gregory St. For more info, call 442-7680.

Family Friendly Highland Park Guided Tours Free

The Highland Park Neigh borhood Association and the Highland Park Conservancy co-sponsor free family friendly guided tours—October 15 is “Autumn in Our Highlands,” November 19 “Fleunet in Fall.” Meet outside Lamberton Conservatory at 171 Reservoir Avenue at 1 p.m.

Native American Lecture Series, Sada’o’hiyos

Chief Oren Lyons, Jr., faith-keeper of the Turtle Clan of the Onondaga Nation, is recognized worldwide as a human rights advocate, environmentalist, spiritual leader, and artist. He will speak about the problems that arise when we neglect our responsibilities to the natural world. At Nazareth College Shults Center on Oct. 19. On November 2, the lecture topic will be “Healing & Balance in the Haudenosaunee Culture”

The YMCA of Greater Rochester hosts “The Great Urban Challenge,” a scavenger hunt and mini road race encompassing the Monroe and South Wedge neighborhoods on Sat., October 8. During the challenge, walkers solve riddles involving landmarks and businesses and race to find destinations and challenge stops. The fun begins at the Monroe Family YMCA, 797 Monroe Avenue, and continues down Monroe Avenue and into the South Wedge, where the bulk of activity will occur.

The Y hopes to raise $3,000 for their “Invest in Youth” program, which provides memberships and camperships to those who otherwise may not be able to afford them.

To learn more call, 341-4022 or e-mail at pam@rochesterymca.org.

The South Wedge Emergency Food Cupboard Needs You!

Calvary St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church’s South Wedge Emergency Food Cupboard at 68 Ashland St. is encouraging people to host a food drive at their work or school to collect canned goods.

The Emergency Food Cupboard has served Rochester for over 34 years and now serves over 5,000 people. Some 80% of visitors live in zip code 14620.

People in need can use the Cupboard once every 90 days for canned goods and meat and twice a month on special Produce Tuesdays.

Currently, canned soup, kidney beans, canned potatoes, peanut butter, canned fruit and shampoo and bar soap are most needed. Items can be dropped off at church weekdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m., or just call Robert Lauterbach at 734-2375 for more information or to set up an appointment.

Physics Rocks South Ave. Star Alley on Oct. 14

Join the crowd for a South Wedge tradition on October’s “Third Thursdays at Star Alley” on South Avenue, brought to you by BASWA, the Business Association of the South Wedge Area. Acoustic rock & blues from Honest John, 8 p.m. – 9 p.m., sponsored by Bona Fide Coffee. Foot-stompin’ country grits from 40 Rod Lightning begins at 9 p.m. through 10:30 p.m. Hedenist Artisan Chocolates sponsors this event.

Lecture. Dr. Theresa Marosca (McBawak), trained in herbal medicine in both Western and Native traditions, discusses the importance of taking care of our physical, mental, and spiritual selves through connections to the natural world. Nazareth College Arts Center, Room A13. 7-9 p.m. For more information, call 425-1864 or e-mail amarosca@nazareth.edu.
Anti-drone Painting
Set for Mt. Hope Roof

By Nancy O’Donnell

Kathy Smith works on an anti-drone painting (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Peg Fink-Gefell was so moved by peace activist Kathy Kelly’s story about seven Afghan boys killed by an unmanned U.S. drone that she’s taking an anti-drone message to a roof on Mt. Hope Avenue.

Kelly, a pacifist, writer and three-time Nobel Peace Prize nominee, is one of the founding members of Voices in the Wilderness and co-coordinator of Voices for Creative Nonviolence.

“It’s not just in Afghanistan. They’re used in Pakistan. Israel uses drones in Gaza,” said Fink-Gefell. “Some U.S. drones are programmed from Nevada and others from home in Syracuse. She plans to hang the large canvas on the roof of her former business, Savory Thyme, so that drivers leaving the city can see it.

Three artists worked on the anti-drone design that depicts a child foraging for wood with the words “Drones Terrorize Children” painted in red.

“Sue Schickler painted the background. Kathy Smith painted the child. Shawn Dunwoody painted the drone and lettering,” she said.

Fink-Gefell plans a “March Against Drones” throughout the neighborhood followed by a poetry reading before the unveiling. The exact date is not known but it will be “before the snow falls.”

Peppa Pot Jamaican Restaurant
Delights Area Foodies

By Nancy O’Donnell

O’Neill Song, resident chef and Marlene Henry, owner, show off their varied Jamaican menu at Peppa Pot. (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Peppa Pot Restaurant owner Marlene Henry named her new business after the traditional “one pot” meal that her mother made in Jamaica.

“It has a lot of vegetables including callaloo, which is something like spinach,” said Marlene. “Lots of meat like salt beef or pig tails.” She’s joined at the restaurant by Jamaican cook O’Neil Sang, 25.

Henry fell in love with cooking and fell hard. She also loves to change her menu every day.

During the Christmas season in 1989, Henry visited her brother in Rochester and “fell in love with the place.”

“It was so festive and there was a lot of cooking,” said Henry. When she returned home, she vowed she’d move back to Rochester. During her first year here, she visited different restaurants. Soon she was cooking Jamaican specialties for festivals.

“I opened Peppa Pot in March 2011,” Henry said, “it was really slow March-July but after she took her specialties to the Caribbean Festival “lots of people came out.”

The former grocery store and vegetarian restaurant now is decorated with the bright colors of Jamaica. A wall of refrigerated freezers are papered with bamboo materials.

“I like the quaintness of the South Wedge,” said Henry. “There are different types of people. They’re very welcoming. I had very good sales at Wedgestock and that was very encouraging,” said Henry.

Peppa Pot’s menu varies by the day, but keep coming back and you’ll enjoy a full range of Jamaican specialties that range in price from $7-$12. These include curry chicken or goat, pineapple jerk chicken, brown stew chicken and oxtail stew. Seafood dishes include Escovitch and codfish.

Ordering a “real” Jamaican dinner at Peppa Pot includes a meat or fish entree and four sides (plantains, fried dumping, cabbage vegetable medley and rice and beans). Top choices include acake and codfish spiced with Scotch Broom sauce and accompanied by a boiled green banana.

Drinks include freshly made sorrel, a gingery herbal beverage ($4) or carrot juice ($5), including one served with milk or ginger and lime. The fridge also holds “ting,” a grapefruit drink, coconut water, Kola Champagne and Agua de Coco.

While Henry keeps her day job in health care, she hopes one day to make Peppa Pot a full-time job. “My goal is to have people feel comfortable. I want to be here to greet them when they come in.”

33 Gregory Street 473-3663. Hours: Closed on Monday. Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. Sunday 11:30 – 3 p.m.

St. Boniface Parish Pastor Retires

By Nancy O’Donnell

Father Richard Brickler and Fr. Robert Kennedy at the 40 Week Club Dinner at the German House (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Father Richard Brickler, 75, ended a 28-year pastorate at St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church on Gregory Street on June 28. Along with saying farewell to their long time pastor, parishioners celebrated his 50th anniversary as a priest on June 26.

Fr. Brickler began his service to the historic German South Wedge community in 1983. He continues to do pastoral work at Legacy Senior Living Community in Henrietta.

Taking his place is Fr. Robert Kennedy, who also serves as pastor at Blessed Sacrament on Monte Avenue and provides sacramental ministry to St. Mary’s downtown.

Isn’t it time you advertised in the Wedge?

To publish your community news—big and small, current and not-so-current (but still important to you)–we need advertisers. Did you know a business card sized ad costs only $30 for one issue? While daily and weekly papers are quickly tossed away, The Wedge gets read throughout the month? Our readers tell us they keep it for phone numbers of local businesses, pass it on to coworkers and mail it to friends and family who have moved away. Delivery goes beyond South Wedge residents and businesses? You’ll find it all around the town wherever hip, active, engaged, community-building Wedge-minded people gather. For ad rates call 585-1740 or email nodonnell@swpc.org. Isn’t it time you advertised in the Wedge?
FOR SALE
1848 Norton Street
• 1,001 sq. ft. home completely remodeled
• 2 bedrooms on the second floor
• Spacious kitchen with new cabinets, counters, plumbing, flooring
• Large dining room with laminate floor
• Spacious living room with New Green Labeled carpeting
• One completely remodeled bathroom on the second floor with new tub/shower, vanity and commode
• Green Labeled carpeting on the stairs and second floor bedrooms
• Freshly painted walls and ceilings with low VOC paint
• New energy efficient light fixtures throughout
• Generous front porch overlooking the front yard
• New deck overlooking the large rear yard
• Enlarged, newly sealed blacktop driveway with extra parking
• Oversized 2 car garage
• Circuit breakers with 150 amp electric panel
• Energy efficient 40 gallon gas hot water heater
• 93% high efficiency gas, forced air furnace
• Extra high basement
• New energy efficient windows throughout
• New roofing with architectural shingles
• New baked aluminum gutters and downspouts
• Maintenance free vinyl siding and trim wrapped in aluminum

$65,900
For more information, call George Lorson 256-1740 X 101

Dogs of All Kinds Get Class at Miss Rachel’s School
By Nancy O’Donnell
Miss Rachel’s first business has gone to the dogs, of all shapes, sizes and dispositions (nice is better, but she’s willing to work with Waldo the Wild). Rachel Leavy, 23, opened shop on May 1 in a storefront on the corner of Caroline St. and South Goodman Street. She previously worked as a dog trainer in a local retail store for five years.

“My reason for opening Miss Rachel’s was because my previous dog had passed away in an accident, due to lack of training, but so many accidents can be prevented with the proper training,” said Leavy. “I opened up my shop as a way to help owners connect with their dogs and keep them safe. I chose the South Wedge area because it’s a beautiful, dog-friendly neighborhood. I haven’t had to advertise once because the word of mouth has travelled so fast!”

The dog school offers group training lessons, private training lessons, behavior modification, dog walking, pet sitting and play groups. She also has included room for a small retail area.

Dog training include Basic (sit, stay), Step 2 (teaches longer commands and heel) and Advanced (which prepares dogs to pass the “Canine Good Citizenship” test that allows them to become therapy dogs that go to nursing homes and schools). Leavy also teaches a dog tricks class which includes the classic “Bang” (play dead) and “Roll Over” and over and over.

“Our methods are based on positive reinforcement theory which means we use rewards instead of punishment to get the desired effect. Hours tend to vary since I’m out walking dogs all day, so it tends to be open based on appointment,” said Leavy.

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847 South Goodman Street, 319-4153, www.missrachelsschoolfordogs.com

Chloe gives Miss Rachel a high five after graduating Tricks Class

SCHOOL #12 LITERACY VOLUNTEER TRAINING
School #12 welcomes volunteers to tutor students throughout the school year. Its literacy tutors work one-on-one with first or second graders who are struggling readers two or three times a week for 30 minute sessions. Volunteers build a real relationship with a student and teach so much more than just reading.

To sign up for the Training Session on Friday, Oct. 7 and Nov. 4 at 8:30 p.m., or to get more information, please contact Vicki Robertson at vic_robertson@frontiernet.net or by phone at 461-4282.

417 South Avenue
Rochester, New York
585-325-5260

Primary Health Care
Personal & Family Counseling
Literacy & GED Tutoring

Health care for the uninsured
For more information, call 585-325-5260

Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph
Culver Road Armory Wows Visitors
By Nancy O’Donnell

History! Art! Commerce! Nature! Roof-top restaurant views of Lake Riley and Cobbs Hill! It’s all woven together in the resurrected Culver Road Armory. Recently, developers invited Southeast area neighbors to visit a temporary art gallery filled with the work of artist Mark Fox and to tour the exterior of building (safety constraints kept people outside). With Fred Rainaldi, Jr. as tour guide, visitors circled the 100,000 sq. ft. building. While some area residents protested any change to the structure, the developers have managed to blend the historic and the modern. Each year the Wedge Newspaper provides a free holiday guide — where space allows, we include full-color photos, too! It’s the South Wedge Planning Committee’s way of saying “Thank You” to the businesses in the Wedge and adjacent neighborhoods for not only building a business here, but living, shopping and dining here as well! Don’t forget to e-mail your free holiday guide entries to nodonnell@swpc.org. Remember to include address and contact info!

Culver Road Armory space under construction becomes an art gallery for “Cut...ting Edge”, a sculpture and drawing exhibit by artist Mark Fox. (Photo by Nancy O’Donnell)

Maintaining Life Safety Systems at Home and Work
By Mark Polfeit

Eight out of ten fire-related deaths occur in the home. If every home had a working smoke alarm almost 900 lives could be saved each year. Life safety systems help to ensure that you and your family are as safe as possible in your home or at work.

A life safety system can include installation of smoke detectors, automatic sprinkler systems, alarms, emergency lighting, smoke barriers and other special hazard protection devices.

The truth is most people never think about testing their life safety systems. The importance of these systems is often taken for granted until they are needed the most. A fire can be a serious danger whether the event takes place at home or at work. Simple devices such as smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and portable fire extinguishers could save your home and your life. Once your safety system is in place it is crucial that they be maintained and tested as required by The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and State of New York. For example, a simple smoke detector shall be tested once annually. Taking five minutes out of your day to test your smoke detectors could potentially save your life.

Ryan’s Fire Protection division provides residential and commercial servicing for automatic sprinkler systems. Here at Ryan we work with our customers to help ensure their systems are compliant to all local and national building codes. During inspections, our trained technicians verify that all systems are working effectively and efficiently. According to NFPA and NYS requirements, property owners hold sole responsibility for maintaining and testing all components of these crucial systems. Identifying and correcting problems during the required tests is imperative for effective system operations. Having a fully operational system could be the difference between early fire detection and a catastrophic event. If a life safety system is not functioning properly, the result could be large amounts of property loss or even loss of life.

Here at Ryan we urge all property owners to take the required steps to set up a testing and maintenance program. For more helpful tips on components of life safety systems visit www.nfpa.org.

Mark Polfeit is the Fire Protection Manager at Ryan Heating.

Art of the Book Exhibit - Oct. 23

Former South Wedge resident Genevieve Thomas Poehner is one of the selected exhibitors at the Rundel Library’s “Art of the Book” exhibition on South Avenue. The artist returns to Rochester from her Vermont home for the juried exhibit in the category of artist book. Artists submitted work in three categories: illustration, altered books and artist books. At the opening reception, prizes will be awarded for best in show and best in each category. The Library’s web site writes that the exhibit highlights its 100-year tradition promoting books and reading: “The book is an enduring symbol of knowledge and freedom, two basic components of all public libraries in the world...in all their forms, books are magical things, and the Art of the Book is intended to showcase all that magic.”

SEAC Executive Director Resigns
By Nancy O’Donnell

Helen Hogan, executive director of the Southeast Area Coalition, Inc. (SEAC), will assume the position of interim manager. Hogan’s six-year leadership of SEAC has helped the community to have input in the development of the Culver Road Armory and University of Rochester’s College Town. Her commitment to increasing neighborhood involvement mirrored her parents’ community activism which led to the creation of SEAC 40 years ago.

SEAC will discontinue its interim community development director. Board member Donald Boyd will serve as interim manager. Hogan will continue on as a project consultant at SEAC when needed.

Many city non-profits have been impacted by state and federal funding cuts. Bill Schwappacher, a SEAC board member and president of the Upper Monroe Neighborhood Association was named interim community development director. Board member Donald Boyd will serve as interim manager. Hogan will continue on as a project consultant at SEAC when needed.

Look for our Annual Wedge GIFT Guide - Next Issue!

Each year the Wedge Newspaper provides a Holiday Gift Guide to help our readers to not only find great gift ideas but keep their shopping dollars local. To do this, we give businesses a FREE three-four line ad. Where space allows, we include full-color photos, too!

Don’t forget to e-mail your free holiday guide entries to nodonnell@swpc.org. Remember to include address and contact info!
In Memoriam
Noel Parcells 2001-2011

The South Wedge community’s shock turned to grieving when they learned that South Wedge resident Noel Parcells, 10, had been slain by her father on Sept. 3 in a campground in the Adirondacks. Her three-year-old half-sister, Mia, was also slain at the scene before their father took his own life.

Noel Parcells was preparing to enter middle school at Nativity Preparatory Academy on Gregory Street on September 6. Instead she was buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery after a funeral Mass at St. Boniface Church on Gregory Street on September 13. Noel is survived by her mother Raechel Coffey; grandparents Theresa Coffey and Dorothy Thayer; grandfathers Phillip Parcells and Jim Cobb and a number of aunts and uncles.
monitored for the cleanup, the City, with the assistance of the NYSDOT Brownfield Cleanup Program. In May, the South Wedge Planning Committee (SWPC) hosted a public meeting at Tango Dance Café for area residents to discuss the future of the site. The community was invited via the NBN Sector 6 e-mail distribution list. Meanwhile, an anonymous flyer suggesting that additional parking would result in problems for emergency responders on Cayuga Street was distributed to homes on neighboring streets.

During the May meeting, the foremost concern of many of the attendees was the potential for additional parking problems on Cayuga Street. The City had undertaken a parking study focused on the area surrounding the intersection of Gregory Street and Cayuga Street, "The study is expected to be completed in October. The City will then share the findings of the study with the community. The discussion and the study will be used to continue to evaluate the proposals received back in May. The City would like to have a decision on how to proceed made by year's end. Once a decision is made, any proposed development will run the normal course of regulatory approvals including opportunities for community engagement."

Finally, SWPC urged the City that the design be appropriate for the street, not “cookie cutter” or a random collection of design elements and that attractive landscaping and public space or art be added. In July, City Council member Adam McFadden was invited to Weider’s Hall Ballroom where opponents of a structure on the site again stated their concerns. On August 11 Neigh borhood and Business Development Acting Commissioner Brett Garwood, Senior Economic Development Specialist Rick Rynski, and Southeast Area Neighborhood Service Center Administrator Nancy Johns Price, held a community meeting for residents, business owners and potential developers to hear current and anticipated parking concerns, and brain storm parking solutions. They also gave a brief update about the parcel emphasizing the legal and tax benefits now available as a result of the completed brownfield cleanup. (On the City’s website, Mark Gregor, manager of the City’s Division of Environmental Quality, explains in detail how “during the course of planning for the cleanup, the City, with input from neighbors and community groups, changed the proposed cleanup level from commercial to ‘restricted residential.’ This change involved more cleanup and more expense in order to allow more potential types of uses, specifically apartments, townhouses and condos in addition to various commercial uses.)

“The City is preparing to undertake a parking study focused on the area surround ing the intersection of Gregory Street and Cayuga Street,” writes Rynski in an e-mail to the Wedge. “This study is expected to be completed in October. The City will then share the findings of the study with the community. The discussion and the study will be used to continue to evaluate the proposals received back in May. The City would like to have a decision on how to proceed made by year’s end. Once a decision is made, any proposed development will run the normal course of regulatory approvals including opportunities for community engagement.”

Financial assistance is available. Call 1-866-600-6886 for more information or to make an appointment.

Planned Parenthood
114 University Ave., Rochester, NY 14605
Wedge Shout Outs - Starring Lance Milne

By Nancy O’Donnell

Jeannie Milne proudly told The Wedge that son Lance Milne has the male lead, Howie, in The Rabbit Hole, a Pulitzer Prize-winning play by David Lindsay-Abaire. The drama deals with a couple’s life in the aftermath of their child’s death. The production is directed by Jeremy Webb, whose credits include TV series Dr. Who and Merlin. The play ran October 6 through October 9 at Cornell’s Risley Theatre in Ithaca, NY.

Lance grew up in the South Wedge. He attended St. Boniface School, McQuaid Jesuit High School, McQuaid Jesuit High School, and St. John Fisher College. He’s also working on an independent short film entitled Life is Young and Long.

Lance attended Queens College and got an MS in Childhood Education. Lance added “While I miss the Rochester nightlife and Garbage Plates especially, living in a small, creative town like Ithaca affords me lots of opportunities for all kinds of artistic work. The community here really supports that.”

After working as an IT Trainer and elementary school teacher, Lance took an acting class at the Actor’s Workshop of Ithaca on a whim. He stayed to complete the two-year Meisner Technique Program and has since worked on numerous Ithaca College and RIT student films, independent shorts and features, a TV pilot, and many plays. He’s also working on an independent short film entitled Life is Young and Long.

In addition to his dramatic work, Lance is a member of the Comedy FLOPs, an improv group. If you want to see him in comedic action, the group plays at Rochester’s Fall Back Comedy Fest in November. For more info, visit www.fallbackcomedyfest.com.

By Sue Gardner Smith

Farmers Market Closes Oct. 20
Winter Market Opens Nov. 6

It’s been a great year so far at the South Wedge Farmers Market, thanks to the support of the greater South Wedge community. Farmers braved a challenging start to the season, caused by the double whammy of an unusually cold, wet spring followed by a long, dry spell. But, their perseverance paid off, and market customers have enjoyed a bountiful fall harvest.

Local eating is at its finest during the fall months; among the fall crops found at the market this year are apples, pears, lettuce and salad mixes, beans, squash, pumpkins, onions, garlic, potatoes, peppers, eggplant, beets, radishes, and much more. You’ll find sustainably-raised meat and chicken for hearty stews, breads and other baked goods to round out a meal, and wines or cider to cheer the cook.

The South Wedge Farmers Market continues each Thursday through October 20 between 4 and 7 p.m. behind Boulder Coffee at the corner of Alexander and S. Clinton Avenue. You can enjoy live musical entertainment each week and activities for kids in the Wedge Veg Passport tent. Don’t miss the Apple Festival on October 6, with apple recipes and treats available from vendors and free apples for kids. Members of Reconnect Rochester visit on October 6 and 13 to promote “Critical Mass Transit Day.”

Those who have come to appreciate the many pleasures and benefits of local eating will be glad to hear that the end of the regular market season doesn’t mean the end of local foods. The South Wedge Farmers Market will again partner with the Brighton Farmers Market on the Long Season Winter Farmers Market, Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. Several vendors from our South Wedge Market will be bringing goods to this market including freshly-grown greens and fresh vegetables, grown in greenhouse-type “high tunnels” which allow farmers to extend the growing season in our upstate climate.

The Long Season Market will be held from November 6 through December 18, 1 to 4 p.m., at Brighton’s Brookside Center, 220 Idledwood Road, Rochester, with additional access off S. Winton Road just south of the Westfall/S. Winton intersection.

For more information, please see 8 or “like” the market’s Facebook page.