



Maplewood Times

Celebrating Rochester's Historic Northwest Neighborhood

August 2008

One Good Flower Deserves Another

After a number of years, Jim White and others were able to establish a flower garden at Flower City Park and Lily St. The garden started by word of mouth and donations, continues to grow. But says Jim, this is not the point of the story. A neighbor and friend learned of Jim's involvement with the 2' x 7' starter garden and offered a rare opportunity. A greenhouse near Niagara Falls, deciding not to sell flowers at wholesale, needed an outlet for the leftover plants. The owner, Don Buetel, offered Jim a couple thousand geraniums for the garden and Maplewood. All Jim needed was a letter from the MNA as a 501-c-3, to pickup the flowers and return the flats and pots. Jim stated, "Had it NOT been for this little garden at the end of the street, this wonderful opportunity would never have occurred!"

Jim White made six trips each logged 132 miles! Sam Spoto and Paul Labella also joined Jim on a trip. The flowers were then delivered to locations in Maplewood for distribution. Plant helpers were Marie Gibson, Sheron Gardner, Patti Hayes, Cindy Kaleh, Sarah Burton and Sam Spoto. Flowers went to neighbors, Maplewood Pride Garden, Phat Boy Garden, the Lake Avenue Median, GUM, Sacred Heart and Grace Church. UMGC donated gas money for a trip and will be giving out plants to families and shut-ins.



Asked why, Mr. White replied, "...it has been a lot of hard work loading plants ...hauling them back to Rochester to unload. But, I have seen so many smiling faces and I am very proud to have had the opportunity to brighten up our neighborhood and brighten the lives of such a great bunch of nice people."

A big Green Thumbs Up goes to Jim White, the greenhouses of Don Beutel, Newfane, N.Y. and the volunteers! That little "starter garden" really started something big!

Homework Helpers Needed!

Do you enjoy working with children? Do you have a free afternoon during the school year?

If so, the Maplewood Library would love to have you as part of our Homework helpers program starting in September! Every weekday afternoon from 3 - 5 p.m., slots are open for high school students, college students, adults and retirees to come help a child with their homework. If you are interested in volunteering, come over to the library and ask for Carina or just call 428-8233!

National Night Out Celebrates 25 Years!

August 5th – Join the RPD, PacTac and PCIC and show your support along with the rest of the Nation.

Meet at the Rose Garden, Lake Avenue/Driving Park at 6:00 p.m. Caravan will leave at 6:30 p.m. weaving through Maplewood and Charlotte neighborhoods. Horns, sirens, and flashing lights are prerequisite.

Your destination is Ontario Beach Park; look for shelter closest to the Carousel. You can't miss it. A picnic dinner, complete with a killer hot sauce will be served, no charge.

If you are late and miss the caravan, just head on down Lake Avenue and catch up to us. Stragglers are welcome!

If you have any questions contact Lt. Prewasnicak at 428-7613.



Maplewood Business Association (MBA)

New Season - New Members Plan Breakfast Meeting

The MBA is actively seeking new and/or established businesses in the Maplewood area to join the association for an exciting new season of growth. On August 4th there will be a meeting for information and officer election. The breakfast meeting is free of charge, 8:00 a.m. at Patti's Pantry, 2485 Dewey Avenue, courtesy of Sector 2.

Rocco Disteffan, Allstate Insurance, Mark La Ruez., Dan Fulmer Construction, Cindy Kaleh, KalTech Support Team, Inc. along with Daisy Rivera-Algarin, Economic Development, City of Rochester and Mike Coniff, City of Rochester, spent a Monday morning spreading the word to business owners on Dewey Avenue that the MBA is regrouping.

Ms. Algarin will be able to network with businesses, keeping them apprised of any and all programs the city has to offer as well as assisting in the development of association. Rocco Disteffan, has been in the area for years and believes the strength of the businesses and neighborhood will be enhanced by the association and what it can offer. "There's a lot going on in our neighborhood and a strong business association will serve to intensify the effect", says Kaleh.

The group will be walking August 28th in the evening to let as many as possible know what some of the plans are and the importance of the association.

For those who can't make the meeting, information will be available. Call 458-3460 MNA and leave a request.

Café Amenity

750 Ridge Road W.
(formerly Burger King)

The dictionary defines "amenity" as being pleasant or agreeable, so the name of this new restaurant is well chosen.

We stopped in for a bite last Thursday night and had a tasty meal. It's not just for coffee, although it's a comfortable place to stop for coffee and dessert.

We ordered 2 different paninis and a wafflini. The sandwiches were tasty and the wafflini was scrumptious; be sure to get one. The owner, a delightful young lady named Gina Dandrea, visited our table and chatted with us about the restaurant and food in general, always a favorite topic of mine.

They serve breakfast, lunch and dinner and are open 7:00 a.m.- 11:00 p.m.

Currently, the menu is a variety of paninis, wraps, burgers, coffees, etc; and they intend to serve pasta dishes and pizza in the near future.

Stop in for a bite or a beverage with your friends and/or family and enjoy this coffee house/restaurant. How nice to have a place like this in our neighborhood instead of driving to Park or East Avenue...use it or lose it!

Article written by Linda Kunz

Movies in the "Bowl" or at the "Beach"

"Movies in the Bowl" or "Movies at the Beach" are FREE family-focused outdoor events at Monroe County's Highland Park Bowl and Ontario Beach Park.

The Bowl showings are every Thursday night, starting at dark, from July 3rd to August 14.

July 31 – Bee Movie (2007) PG

August 7 – Horton Hears a Who! (2008) G

August 14 – Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (2007) PG-13

October 18 (Sat) – Frankenstein (1931)

The Beach showings are every Tuesday evening, starting at dark, from July 8th to August 12th.

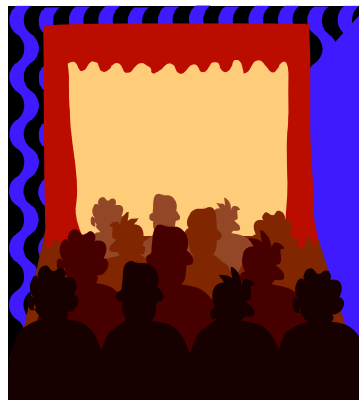
July 29 – The Spiderwick Chronicles (2008) PG

August 5 – Nancy Drew (2007) PG

August 12 – The Simpson's Movie (2007) PG-13

October 11 (Sat.) – Moonstruck (1987) PG

For more information on the free summer movies series in the Monroe County Parks, please visit www.monroecounty.gov or call (585) 753-PARK.



New Neighbors?

Welcome and help your new neighbor with a Maplewood information folder compiled by the Maplewood Neighborhood Association. Folder includes Maplewood history, list of local schools, churches, medical offices, municipal services, NET brochure, Seneca Park history, and yes, MNA membership information. Contact the MNA office, 458-3460 or MNAoffice@frontiernet.net.

After-School Program Offered at Grace Community Village

Grace Community Village, Inc. (located at Grace United Methodist Church at 121 Driving Park Avenue) is taking applications for its after-school program. It runs every school day from 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (2:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays) and is available to children in grades 1 - 6. A variety of activities are included:

- From 3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m., children receive tutoring and help with homework, reading classes using a computer-based reading program.
- At 4:45 p.m a healthy dinner is served that includes a meat/cheese main course, fresh vegetables, a serving of fruit and milk.
- Between 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. children participate in drama classes, dance & hip-hop, chess and physical activities.
- Children can be registered by filling out an application form, available at Grace United Methodist Church, 121 Driving Park Avenue, between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

For further details, contact Lesley DeLong at 458-5927 x102, Grace Community Village, Inc., or ldelong@followmetograce.org.



Get Involved!

CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Jim White 458-7169.



Dewey Avenue Litter Clean-Up: Dave Baxter, resident, has organized over 18 volunteers to pick up litter along Dewey Avenue. Call Dave at 621-2343.

Maplewood Gardening Team: A group of residents who plant and maintain flowers in planters and tree wells along Dewey Avenue. If you would like to "adopt" a tree, please call Barbara Astorga-Schmidt 647-9504.

Maplewood Neighborhood Association (MNA Board, Rose Weekend, Home Tour, Gorge Guides, Playground) Town Meeting, first Wednesday of the month, Aquinas Cafeteria, 1127 Dewey Avenue, 7:00 p.m., 458-3460.

NIMROD (Neighbors In Motion to Root Out Drugs). Every third Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., 858 Dewey Avenue, 458-1310.

P A C - T A C (Police and Citizens Together Against Crime) A group of volunteers who work closely with the Rochester Police Department to provide a citizen presence on the street. Lake NET office, 428-7610.



PAC-TAC Lyell NET office, 428-7620.

PCIC (Police Citizen Interaction Committee) Community meeting focusing on crime and drug enforcement. Opportunity to voice concerns and hear detailed police reports. Every third Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. Lake NET office, Lt John Prewasnicak, 428-7613.

Sector 2 Hires Consultant for Business Growth in Maplewood

Sector 2 has contracted George Gotschik of Community Business Advantage as the new Business Consultant for the Maplewood Neighborhood. Mr. Gotschik, formerly with the Small Business Development Department of SUNY Geneseo, has been assisting the SouthWedge Neighborhood with development and planning and continues to do so with his new company.

For those of us familiar with the growth of the Wedge, this is really a big event! Mr. Gotschik will be in the neighborhood available to consult with businesses, landlords and anyone wanting to start a business in the Maplewood area at no charge. Gotschik has years of experience in his portfolio and an easy style. He will be starting in the next couple of weeks and you'll

probably see him out on Dewey. When not in a meeting, he takes to the sidewalk, getting to know the neighborhood he is working in and its businesses. Appointments will be set that deal with anything business.

The 2008-2009 contract is for 48 weeks, with Gotschik in the neighborhood one day a week. This first year has been paid for with a grant through the Sector and City of Rochester. MNA is the fiscal agent and co-coordinator for the service.

Contact and location details are near completion and it is expected the office location will be on Dewey Avenue. There will be a contact number for appointments published soon.

Questions – Call Cindy Kaleh at 232-8420



A Maplewood - THUMBS UP !

*Weeklong Group Workcamp Sponsored by
Action for a Better Community Benefits Maplewood Homes*

More than 300 high school students from Group Workcamps Foundation were in Rochester the week of July 20th to renovate 60 homes in the City of Rochester. This year's visit to Rochester is part of *Group Workcamps Foundation's* program of mission trips providing services to assist elderly, low-income, and disabled persons.

Action for a Better Community facilitates the coordinating and scheduling of the program that brings youth to Rochester to perform services such as painting, repairing porches, and building wheelchair ramps. *Many of the youth were in Maplewood this year. Significant renovations were completed on Selye Terrace, Marigold Street, Primrose Street, Alameda Street, & Flower City Park.*

Karyn Herman, Director of Community Building at Action for a Better Community, said, "This program exemplifies the type of community service efforts that are the foundation of Action for a Better Community," and, "In addition to helping people in need, this program provides an opportunity for teens to meet other youth from all over the country and spend time in a new city."

According to Herman, the need for services this year significantly outweighed what could be completed in a week. ABC received more than 300 application requests from homeowners in Rochester.

Thumbs UP and Thanks to ABC for coordinating this program. The energy at the worksites was high even though the youth and adults, slept on the gym floor at Monroe High School. Even the rain couldn't dampen their spirit!

Summer Reading is still going on!

Check out what's going on for kids, teens and even adults! This year, everyone can enter to get prizes for reading! Every Wednesday there are activities for children and all summer long the teens are working on a literary magazine full of poetry and photography highlighting our community.

If you haven't signed up, its not too late. Just call 428-8233 and ask for Carina.



"Community Conversation"

Grace Community Village invites the neighborhood to join a "Community Conversation." We need to hear from you!!!

All are welcome to breakfast and conversation at Grace United Methodist Church, 121 Driving Park. On Saturday mornings, breakfast starts at 10:00 a.m.

The speakers for August are:

August 2nd – RPD Chief David Moore

August 9th – Mayor Robert Duffy

Enjoy breakfast and then join in the discussion about how we can discover the *possibilities* for this community. It is our desire that we **all work together to bring wellness into this area** – to help one another discover the strengths that lay within us that can be used to better our homes, our streets, and ourselves.

If you would like more information please contact Jane at - 458-5927 x104.



Contact Us

Comments, letters, or article suggestions can be sent to: MNAoffice@frontiernet.net

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