



# Maplewood Times

Celebrating Rochester's Historic Northwest Neighborhood

February 2009

## Letter from the MNA President...

I am fortunate to have lived within Maplewood for 59 of the last 62 years. I am also fortunate to work for a company which is rapidly growing, so much so that I informed the Executive Board of the MNA last December that I would have to relinquish my position as President.

The Board of Directors was told about this decision at their meeting on January 7th. The Executive Board is in the process of determining either a successor or a method of operation. During the past week I was arriving home from work around 8:00 p.m. so the ability to attend meetings has been severely hampered.

While that process moves forward, I'll be missing some exciting times for the MNA. You chose our new logo and that design is being implemented with help from Jill Kepler of Roberts Wesleyan. The details of the proposed survey of Maplewood, commissioned by the West Ridge Road Business Association, the MNA and Sector 2, are being refined with a professor from SUNY Geneseo. Plans are underway for our normal events (Rose Festival, Home Tour, etc.) but it will be interesting to see how the MNA and its members join the City of Rochester in celebrating our 175th anniversary as a city. One of our members is researching a historical event and hopes to have a walking tour about how Maplewood was involved with it over 150 years ago.

Cindy Kaleh mentioned that the new call-out system is just about ready for operation. That will help with the attendance for future MNA meetings. Last week, due to my new work commitments, I missed my first PCIC

(Police-Citizens Interaction Committee) meeting in two years. I urge you to try to attend. They are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Aquinas cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. You will hear about recent trends within the northwest quadrant from a police perspective. Occasionally there will be guest speakers (Animal Control, NCS, Traffic Enforcement, words from the Commander, etc.). In addition, crimes and arrests will be discussed. These are very interesting evenings. Lt. John Prewasnicak (Pre) usually concludes the meeting by 8:15 p.m.



Yes, 2009 is off to busy start. Please support our local businesses. I hope to see you at Ralf's or the coffee shop which will open soon, across from Aquinas. --- **Jim Best**

## WXXI Helps With DTV Conversion/Education

*Excerpt from WXXI website:* On January 8, 2009 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) selected WXXI Public Broadcasting as one of 12 agencies across the country to assist the FCC with its DTV consumer education program. These two live, call-in programs are part of WXXI's outreach initiative to help over-the-air viewers in the Greater Rochester area prepare for the digital transition. The initiative also includes a toll-free telephone help center, staffed by trained

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## Why We Should All Order Our Coupons

Okay, you have a subscription to cable or you have a dish on the roof, so you don't need a converter, right? Well that may be so but there a couple of things to consider before you pass up the coupon offer.

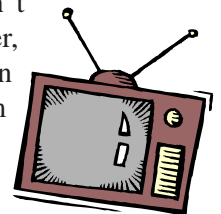
1. If we get another ice storm and cable is knocked out for a week or so, that converter will keep you connected to the local area programming. Slim chance, but it has happened twice.

2. You may own a set that is in the cellar, certainly not one in mine, ugh, but think about the extra sets you have, are they all digital? Probably not.

3. There may be an elderly neighbor who could use the assistance, so you can reach out and see.

4. This is a BIG ONE, not all households can order the converters. Nursing facilities and assisted living sites are able to order, but not a halfway house or group home, etc. You can order two coupons and give them to someone to use. Or you can give them to WXXI and they will distribute for you.

AND if that isn't enough to remember, the coupons expire in 90 days from receipt! So don't sit there, "use em or lose em." If you let them expire you can't order again, the coupon is linked to your address not you. (If you ordered and then move, the coupons will NOT be forwarded. You may order at the new address, IF that new address has not been used.)



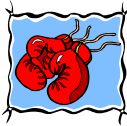
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## New Boxing Club Relocates in North West Quadrant

Future Boxing Club [FBC] an after school boxing program has recently relocated to 460 Buffalo Road in the Buffalo Business Center (west) Rochester N.Y. The club was previously located on Lyell Avenue near the Lyell Library.

FBC is operated by Phil Green a local small business owner. The mission of FBC is offer a youth organization aimed at assisting underprivileged, asthmatic and obese children but refuses no one. Mr. Green designed his program "to build confidence, sportsmanship, athleticism and mental conditioning and one that teaches youth how to become contributing members to society."

For more information about this program or to visit, please call, (585)254-4880 or visit <http://rocfutureboxing.com>



## WXXI Helps - cont'd

technicians and personnel. Consumers can all 1-866-348-9994 to have their DTV questions answered.

As one of only five public broadcasting stations selected by the FCC, WXXI was recognized for its ongoing commitment to helping Rochesterians prepare for the analog shut off. WXXI has been engaged in a program to build community awareness and understanding about the digital transition for the past year. With the FCC contract WXXI will build on the work it has already done, and dedicate more effort in reaching those who need help the most – seniors, citizens in rural areas, disabled citizens, and minority communities.

To learn more about DTV, visit [WXXI.org/dtv](http://WXXI.org/dtv). There visitors can read WXXI VP of Technology Kent Hatfield's DTV blog, visit a Q&A page, watch a series of informational videos, send in their DTV questions and take a DTV diagnostic test to see what they need to do to be DTV-ready.

## Nazareth Academy Student Shares Inaugural Excitement

For Holly Drummond, it is an experience she will never forget! The Nazareth Academy junior was one of the millions who attended President Barak Obama's inauguration on January 20, 2009. Holly and 7,000 other students attended as guests of the Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference. The invitation came because she attended the National Youth Leaders Conference this past summer.

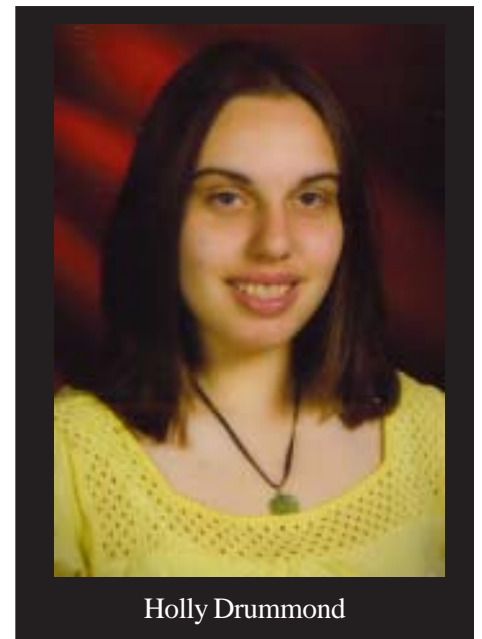
Holly arrived in Washington, D.C. a few days before the inauguration to meet up with her peers, listen to speakers like Former Secretary of State Colin Powell, and to experience many of the festivities building up to the inauguration day. A particularly memorable moment for Holly came during the opening ceremonies two days before the inauguration. "There was a lot of celebrating going on with concerts and celebrity appearances, then President Elect Obama took the stage at the Lincoln Memorial," remembers Holly. Caught up in the moment, Holly thought of her mom who she called back home in Rochester. She held her cell phone so her mom could listen to Obama's words too. "President Elect Obama was talking about how our generation accomplished this. Each and every one of us," remembers Holly. "It was such a moving experience for me especially because I got to experience that moment with my mom."

On the day of the inauguration, Holly watched the proceedings from the National Mall near the Capitol Building. To get the plum spot, she got up early, bundled up, and was in place by 6 am. Holly says it was worth it! "I saw the red circle where everything was going on," explains Holly. "There were big screens, but the screens were behind trees, so it was difficult to see everything." But she heard the inaugural address just fine. "President Obama mentioned Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and how just 50 years ago

African Americans were fighting for their civil rights, and now 50 years later an African American is president," recounts Holly. President Obama's words have inspired her. "To see how things have turned around gives me hope that my generation and the generation after me can accomplish great things."

Later that night, Holly had the opportunity to go to one of the inaugural balls. The Presidential Youth Inaugural Conference Gala was held at the National Air and Space Museum located next to DC's Dulles Airport. Besides celebrating and sharing the excitement of the inauguration with her fellow conference members, Holly felt a little star struck! "Chris Daughtry sang for us and I was close to the stage, just 10 to 20 feet away!"

Holly is thankful to have been part of such an important moment in our nation's history. She also realizes it was impactful for our world. "I met another teen who was from Germany and our conversation about American things that he was familiar with like movies and movie actors, made me think how small the world is and how big the impact the US has on other countries," says Holly. "It gives me hope we can all be friends!!"



Holly Drummond

## Wellness In our Neighborhood Project (WIN!)

(Through Grace Community Village) *by Jane Ames*

Wellness in a neighborhood means so much more than just physical wellness: it also includes *economic, environmental, emotional, and spiritual wellness*.

Some of the things we would like to discover are:

- What does a healthy neighborhood look like?
- What do you believe the strengths of this neighborhood are?
- What are the skills and desires residents have?
- Who are the positive role models/leaders in the community and how can we help them?

At Grace Community Village, we truly believe that there are strengths and resources to be revealed within our community!



**A survey has been developed to try and identify those skills and assets. Would you please help us by either taking the survey or helping administer some to your family and friends within the neighborhood? Call Jane Ames at (585) 458-5927 x104 if you are willing to fill out a survey or can help get some done. We are looking for creative ways to get these filled out and back to the WIN Project. Will you help us?**

The ultimate goal of the WIN project is to unite our community—and in so doing bring health and wellness back in to the neighborhood.

## Coupons - cont'd

And just one more thing, apartments can all order, BUT and this is a BIG BUT, if you live in an apartment and you go to order, PLEASE indicate you are living in a multiple dwelling or NO ONE ELSE after you will be able order! Once the address is checked off that is it! So if you do try to order and your address is not open, that maybe why. You could try to get one from someone else which leads me back to, *Why We Should All Order Our Coupons*.

Yes the deadline may be extended but that has not been passed. So don't procrastinate! Yes they say the funding is gone, but when a coupon expires unused the funding is reissued. - *Article by Cynthia Kaleh, Monroe County Legislator, 28th District*

## Rose Festival Planning for 2009

Father's Day weekend is just around the corner, Punxsutawney Phil predicted only "Six More Weeks of Winter" this morning.

June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> are the official dates for the largest and longest running annual MNA/City event in the Maplewood area. The festival will be both Saturday and Sunday. The home tour will be Saturday only. The festival is considerably smaller than in the past, but we need folks to help out. The planning committee members, Cindy Kaleh and Mike Kipp are working with Jim Farr of City Parks and Recreation on new ideas and collaborations for this year.

It may seem a long way off but, how

## NEW - GED Courses Offered at Neighborhood Libraries

The Maplewood Community Library on Dewey Avenue along with the Lyell Avenue Library will be offering GED classes for free to all adults over 21 years of age.

Shelly Matthews the North West Librarian is very excited to offer this service at two locations. "The Lyell branch has had GED classes in the past," stated Matthews, "and the area residents are excited to see the program return." However the Maplewood Library is new to the program and we really need to get the word out!"

At Maplewood, students will need to be tested on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:30. Then an individualized course will be prepared for each student.

If you are interested or know of someone who may be but feel that time at the library for classes may be an issue, it is possible to pick up and return packets of instruction at the Maplewood library. For those who want classes, they are available at the Maplewood Branch on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Lyell Library is offering the same program on Mondays and Wednesdays and the testing and classes can be taken at either or both locations. The classes will be conducted by the Continuing Education Division of OACES, better known as Hart Street.

"Please help me get the word out," asked Matthews, "I need eight students per location as a minimum to keep this program going!"

For more information call either library Maplewood Branch - (585) 428-8220 and Lyell Branch - (585) 428-8218.



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## 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 gardens along Dewey and Lake Avenue. If you would like to help water, email: [maplewood.gardening.team@gmail.com](mailto:maplewood.gardening.team@gmail.com) or call 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). Volunteers who work closely with the Rochester Police Department to provide a citizen presence on the street. Info-Lyell NSC - 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. Aquinas Café. Info-Westside RPD - 428-9810.



## “Mary’s Place”

### Donations Needed For New Clothing Closet In Maplewood/Edgerton Area

The Refugee Mission Group is thrilled to announce the opening of a new clothing closet in the Maplewood/Edgerton neighborhoods!

“Mary’s Place” is a ministry of the Cathedral Community founded with help from “Saints Place” in Pittsford, Lake Avenue Baptist Church, The Refugee Mission Group and other organizations located in the Holy Rosary rectory at 414 Lexington Avenue. The primary focus of “Mary’s Place” will be serving the refugees from Burma. There are over three hundred refugees in and around the clothing closet’s location. The closet will offer outerwear to meet the cold weather needs until spring arrives or March, whichever comes first.

The leaders of the Karen, Chin and Muslim communities visited “Mary’s Place” for the first time on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers from each group along with Hkadin Lee, Community Coordinator for the Refugee Mission Group have developed an appointment system for visiting the location. “Mary’s Place” will be open by appointment only on Thursdays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., phone 458-1894.

**There is a great need for Winter**

### Rose Festival - cont’d

time flies! At the next few MNA Town meetings we will be asking for volunteers to commit to small blocks of time at the Rose Garden or to serve on a subcommittee. There are volunteers who come back each year and we want to thank them for all they have done to keep this important event alive! Consider giving a couple of hours of your time. No experience needed and if you haven’t helped out before, no time like the present. The event is fun, you don’t have to worry about parking, you get a T-shirt and meet a lot of new people.

Call 647-3929 and leave a message or email, [mna@frontiernet.net](mailto:mna@frontiernet.net).

## Outerwear Donations!

Please announce to your congregations, friends, workmates, anyone that will listen, that donations of the following items are:

**All categories need men’s, women’s, and children’s.**

**Winter Coats - Gloves - Scarves - Hats - Snow pants - Boots (especially boots-men’s sizes up to 9 1/2)**

Smaller Sizes Will Fit Best- Medium Or Less

- The average Karen/Chin person is smaller than the average American.



To donate, you may drop items off at “Mary’s Place” at 414 Lexington Avenue on Thursdays or Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

If you are unavailable to drop off during those times, or you have a question, contact “Mary’s Place” at 458-1894.

Members at Lake Avenue Baptist may bring items to church on for the next couple of Sundays.

Please Donate ONLY Winter Outerwear for now, storage is limited and Winter Outerwear is Needed Most!

Other items may go to “Saints Place.”- *Article by S. Hasenauer/C. Kaleh*

What we do now, together, will have a greater positive impact on our neighborhood’s future.

Contact Us
Comments, letters, or article suggestions can be sent to: <a href="mailto:MNAoffice@frontiernet.net">MNAoffice@frontiernet.net</a>
Maplewood Neighborhood Asso. P.O. Box 13529 Rochester, NY 14613 or 458-3460
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