



Maplewood Times

Celebrating Rochester's Historic Northwest Neighborhood

September 2009

Primaries are Too Important to Ignore

On Tuesday, September 15, local Democrats will have an opportunity to vote in the Democratic Primary. The purpose of this preliminary election is to select individuals who will represent their party in the upcoming November election.

Too often, people feel that Primaries are not important. After all, the "real" election takes place in November, when the ultimate winners are determined. However, for some specific political races, particularly in the City of Rochester, the Primary is far more important than the November election.

Take, for example, this year's highly contested Primary races for City Council, City School Board, and several County Legislature races. Within each of these races there are many candidates running for just a few available positions. It's important for local Democrats to realize that the Republican Party has chosen not to run any candidates for these offices in November. That's because the Republicans have, in essence, totally written off the city. They also want to encourage low voter turnout among Democrats in the city in order to assure easy Republican victories in both the Sheriff and County Court races.

Because of this lack of opposition, the winners of the Democratic Primary will essentially become the automatic winners in the November election.

That's why voter turnout for the September 15 Primary is so critical. Since the winners of the Primary will more than likely become the political leaders of this community for the next four years, it's important that everyone

has a voice in this decision. In a crowded political field such as this one, low voter turnout will result in the views and opinions of a few constituents determining the political direction of our community for the foreseeable future.

If you are a registered Democrat, make sure you have your say about who will be our community's elected officials. Get out and vote in the Democratic Primary on September 15. Make sure you voice your opinion on who will represent you in City government for the next four years. It's your right as an American citizen and a resident of the City of Rochester. *Article submitted by Councilmember Carolee A. Conklin.*

Kodak Park Now Eastman Business Park

For those of us who have lived in and around Maplewood, the Eastman Kodak facilities on W Ridge Rd have always been referred to as the "Park" or "Kodak Park". When asked, "Where do you live?" the answer most often was, "I live by 'Kodak Park.'" And those of us who have been here since the 'Brownie', 'Carousel' and 'Disk' eras, often visited 'Building 28'. The place where kids could go eat lunch in the cafeteria and watch a travelogue in the theater with your mom or dad because they worked for Kodak and then go back to class at 41 School. You could sign up for a KPAA team, stay up late for the 'Spring Show' that was Rochester's version of the 'Ed Sullivan Show'. And if you were a boy, (this always bugged me), you



could join Boy Scout Troop 50.

Eastman Kodak has installed new signs officially changing the 'Park's' name to 'Eastman Business Park' one of the few business/technical parks in the country capable of offering a lower cost cogeneration energy facility. There are more than twenty new companies and four thousand non-Kodak employees located in different areas of 'EBP's', footprint, numerous companies considering a move. George Eastman was ahead of his time in many ways, the 'Park' has been singled out by the federal government for having exceptional cogeneration capabilities and for voluntarily reducing emissions by fifty percent since 2002. Cogeneration, lowered emissions and the infrastructure truly set this facility apart from ninety nine percent of the other technical parks across the nation, offering energy at a substantial savings to businesses locating here.

New names can be hard to remember let alone accept, but EBP's new signs are good reminders that something good is quietly growing in Maplewood and the Greater Rochester area. *Article submitted by Cindy Kaleh.*

2009 Maplewood Rose Festival

For those who have worked on, been a vendor or attended a festival, you all know you can't predict the weather. The most reliable aspect of the Rose Festival is that it will occur on Fathers Day weekend and that the roses should be at their peak. The weather is another thing, in the past the Rose Fest has been drenched the entire weekend, parched the entire weekend or a combination of both. This year, the rain started early Saturday morning and continued all day. But the vendors, the crafters and volunteers were all there in case the rain stopped. It did not, but despite the downpour some diehard rose fans managed to enjoy themselves.

Unfortunately the Garden Wine tasting scheduled for Saturday was canceled. Plans are being made to accommodate as best as possible the 'rain' factor for 2010. The committee would like to thank **Damiani Wine Cellars** and **Keuka Springs**, who were ready and willing to brave it out. We hope they consider returning for 2010.

Sunday was an entirely different story! Sunday the sun shined all day and the

festival enjoyed a much larger crowd. The roses were still there, they are hardy considering the extent of the earlier downpour. The crowd grew for the concert with The Dady Brothers and Double Feature. Vendors sold their crafts and food was plenty. A representative from the governor's office was there to offer a letter of thanks for the Maplewood Neighborhood Association's work in the community.

Thanks to all our volunteers, sponsors, arts & craft vendors and food vendors. The Gorge Guides are there rain or shine and very appreciated. TOPS Market was the corporate sponsor this year. We couldn't have done this festival without Jim Farr and the City of Rochester, Parks & Recreation. The Rose Bed Sponsor list this year included, **Shabbarrassi Music, Dewey Ave. Smoke Shop, Ardda Animal Hospital, Dan Fulmer Construction, Dr. Dan Squilla, DDS.**

Thank you all so much for supporting the festival and we look forward to seeing you all next year. *Article submitted by C. Kaleh and M. Kipp.*

Legal Aid Society Program Advocates for Youth

As we all know, education is the key that opens the door to an individual's future. Unfortunately, some youth need assistance getting the key in the door. With the new school year almost here, once again some parents and other caretakers will experience problems enrolling youth in public schools. In part, ambiguity in the NY State Education Residency Law creates barriers to the enrollment of youth.

Youth living with kinship caregivers or other non-parent caretakers who are not a foster parent or do not have legal custody or guardianship, often encounter problems enrolling in school. Youth may be denied enrollment due to the lack of a court order granting legal custody or guardianship to their caretaker. In fact, a court order may not be required to

enroll the youth in school.

Families who have lost their home (i.e. through foreclosure or other financial difficulties) that are temporarily living with others or in other temporary situations, often do not realize that their child may be eligible for certain benefits as homeless students, under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act

In addition, youth who are on their own often encounter problems enrolling in school and may qualify as homeless students under the McKinney-Vento law. Homeless students are generally entitled to continue to attend the school district they last attended, even if they are currently living in another school district. They may also be entitled to

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National Night Out

For 26 years, the entire nation has taken one night in August to participate in National Night Out, [NNO] a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, [NATW]. This year was no exception, about forty Maplewood neighbors, PacTac's, CERT volunteers, PCIC members and the RPD participated for The "26th Annual National Night Out."

Each year everyone is invited to join the celebration. Meeting at the Rose Garden, cars, bikes, trucks, the ACT 1 van are decorated with balloons and other sundry items. A caravan line forms and is escorted to Ontario Beach Park. The real fun is the snake-like route the RPD has planned in advance for the group to follow through Maplewood and Charlotte, horns honking, sirens and lights all the way. The parade of cars takes about a half-hour and along the way the group is greeted by neighbors when hearing the ruckus stop what they are doing to take a look. The group ends up at the beach for a meal and acknowledgments of friendship, thanks and admiration for each other's contribution to making our neighborhoods a safer place. 2009 was no different, we lined up we snaked, honked and made noise. We ate hot hogs with hot sauce and cake. The RPD was there, old and new faces including Chief Moore and his wife.

Thanks goes out to all who participate in the crime prevention efforts at the neighbor level and to the RPD, who continue to not only protect our neighborhood, but engage the neighbors forging life long friendships. For more information on NNO, visit the website at www.nationaltownwatch.org or ask a PacTac or CERT volunteer. - *Article submitted by Cindy Kaleh.*



Dewey Avenue Corridor Traffic Calming Study

The Town of Greece, in coordination with the City of Rochester, is in the process of developing a traffic-calming plan for Dewey Avenue from Latta Road in the north to Ridge Road in the south; a portion of which, south of Bennington Drive, lays in Maplewood. The Town and City are focusing on ways to refresh the Dewey corridor in order to attain a sustainable and attractive balance of residential, commercial and institutional land uses.

As part of this process, Greece has begun the traffic calming study to evaluate options for reducing the adverse impacts of vehicular traffic on bicycle and pedestrian circulation within the corridor. The goals of the study, as identified by the Town of Greece and the City of Rochester, include: (a) upgrading pedestrian circulation with the corridor to an equal priority with the vehicular movement; (b) minimizing pedestrian conflicts and driver confusion, thus optimizing safety for

both, and (c) improved livability and quality of life.

The first meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Dewey Avenue Corridor Traffic Calming Study, composed of Town, City and local leaders, met on August 17th to review and discuss the existing conditions along the corridor. The next meeting will be a public meeting in September to be held at the Barnard Fire Hall (just north of the Dewey/Stone intersection) in Greece. The exact time and date will follow.

In the meantime, Maplewood residents along the corridor are encouraged to contact Bob Bramlet, Vice President of Community Development of the MNA, to share their opinions on the traffic conditions (or other conditions) on Dewey Avenue north of Ridge. Bob can be contacted at the regular MNA meetings or 585-458-9579 or robert.bramlet@xerox.com

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.

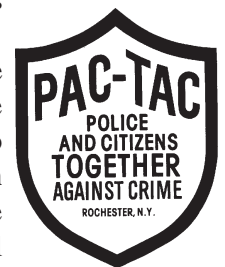
Maplewood Gardening Team:

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 or call 647-9504.

Maplewood Neighborhood Assoc. (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. **There will not be a MNA Community Meeting in July. The next MNA Community Meeting will be August 5, 2009.**

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

PAC-TAC (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.



Grand Opening Coming Soon

Bonnie Haley, proprietor of the Dark Horse CoffeeCafé is getting ready for the "Official" Grand Opening of her new café. We all know the Dark Horse Café has been opened for a few months, but the official opening has yet to be scheduled.

Haley is working on the event for mid September and just a few scheduling details need to be confirmed. The Dark Horse Café is gearing up for the fall season, Aquinas HS just across the

street means an upswing in business. Haley has added "Open Mike" from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday nights and considers it a success.

For more information about the opening, check in at the café or check the website at www.DarkHorseCoffee.net



RFD Websites UP

Capt. Schreiber of the Dewey/Ridgeway Station has two websites up and ready to visit.

The main web page has been updated with recent activity and there is a place for announcing the next CERT, NIMROD and Maplewood meetings.

The website address is <http://deweyandridgeway.com>

The second site has pictures of the recent Open House and can be found at <http://good-times.webshots.com/album/574007403wscLXS?vhost=good-times>.

Thanks to the RFD and their commitment to our safety.

2009 Maplewood Home Tour Thanks

Well the rain came down and it didn't subside. At this year's headquarters, The Aquinas Institute, AQ students greeted tour attendees at their cars, and held courtesy umbrellas for them, as they kindly shepherded the tour-goers into the Aquinas lobby.

Inside of headquarters, folks were engaged by our audio visual Home Tour DVD, as they waited for tours of the newly renovated Aquinas Campus.

Nick Z. entertained tour goers with his historic Maplewood photographs, including stereo shots, which attendees were able to experience while viewing through Nick's antique stereoscope.

Wet umbrellas stashed in umbrella stands, created a welcoming British charm, while volunteer guides, patrons and students sipped the offerings at Dark Horse Coffee.

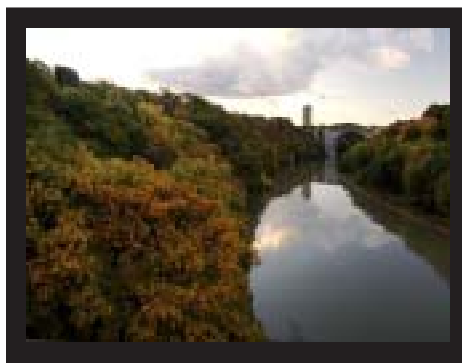
Dark Horse Coffee provided a wonderful selection of coffee, tasty sandwiches and desserts; as well as a quiet respite where one could enjoy a small-town, friendly atmosphere, while looking through the café windows and enjoy the summer rain.

We want to express our gratitude to our Maplewood neighbors who opened their homes for the 2009 Tour, contributing their creativity, enthusiasm and earnest preparation, and shared their soulful stories for The Home Tour Brochure: Bernadette Weider; Gail and Jay Turzillo; Peter Blokhuis; Robert Bramlet; Gerard Myrthil; and Tom Fox; as well as the staff and students at Aquinas.

Our wonderful sponsors, the Peppermill Restaurant, Parkleigh, and Dark Horse Coffee enabled our cause, along with the following neighborhood businesses that placed advertisements, Creative Hands, John Bersch of RC Shaheen, Jean's Jamaican & American Cuisine, Superior Wood Furniture, Suzanne Cassata D.D.S., Ridge Rd West Abbots, Dark Horse Coffee, Ralf's European Meats and

Delicatessen, Sniper Ink, Get Naked Clothing Co. Inc., Daniel Squilla D.D.S., Rocco Distaffen Allstate Insurance and The Property Source.

And most importantly, our deepest thank you to all of our attendees who walked through the June rain to see our homes and receive our hospitality. *Article submitted by Cheryl Lenhard.*



Legal Aid - cont'd

transportation to their old school and other assistance.

In addition, due to financial difficulties, some youth may not be able to return to the private school they last attended due to nonpayment of tuition. In these situations, families often encounter problems enrolling their child in public schools, as the private school may not release the student's transcript until the tuition bill is paid.

You may refer any of the above-described situations to the Youth Advocacy Program of the Legal Aid Society. Youth Advocacy has been serving youth and families for more than 20 years and has a high degree of success in securing enrollment for youth throughout Monroe County as well as in Livingston, Genesee, and Orleans Counties. There are no income guidelines or fees for our services.

If you have any questions, please call Patti Moss, Director of Youth Advocacy Program, Legal Aid Society of Rochester at 585-295-5778. When referring youth and/or families, please ask them to call Legal Aid and ask for Youth Advocacy. *Article submitted by Patti Moss.*

2010 Home Tour Moving to September

Since its inception, the Historic Maplewood Home Tour has occurred simultaneously during the Rose Festival in June. While this was beneficial in the past, it has recently become a challenge to both organizers and participants alike. For the past year, the Home Tour Committee has pondered the feasibility of moving the Home Tour to a later date.

Each year neighborhood planners invest significant time and energy into developing quality experiences for both Home Tour and Rose Festival participants. Scheduling conflicts between Home Tour and Rose Festival events would be avoided by changing the date of the Home Tour. Ticket buyers and Home Tour volunteers would be able to enjoy the variety of workshops and entertainment offered at the Festival. Similarly, Rose Festival volunteers would be able to appreciate the architecture and pride-of-homeownership within our neighborhood.

This year Home Tour guests were invited to complete a simple questionnaire regarding the viability of a change-of-date. The responses overwhelmingly favored the month of September. Participants attributed the appeals of September to include more leisure time (less demand on their schedule, and thus greater potential to attend Home Tour) and milder temperatures.

Dedicated to educating the public on the craftsmanship of Maplewood homes and the historical significance of our area, the Home Tour Committee has elected to schedule the 2010 Home Tour for Saturday, September 18th.

If you are interested in placing your home on the Tour next year or would like to volunteer, please send an email to MaplewoodHomeTour@gmail.com.



Charlotte, Lyell and Maplewood Community Libraries Offers Large Print Titles

In response to the growing population of people who can benefit from using large print publications, the Charlotte and Maplewood Community Libraries have recently expanded their large print collection.

Although large print titles have been widely regarded for the benefits they provide individuals with vision problems, they can also benefit young people who are reluctant readers, anyone with dyslexia or other learning disabilities, children reading beyond their grade level but struggling with the type-size of more advanced material, as well as a growing population of readers who simply prefer the ease of a larger type face.

With 150 million Americans wearing some form of corrective eyewear, and a growing number of people dealing with vision problems ranging from eye strain to more serious health issues, the benefit of large print books is growing. Add to that the aging baby boomer population, and the large print collection can provide value to a great portion of the population.

“Most of us know someone who has lost the enjoyment of reading from diminished vision,” said Shelley Matthews NW Quadrant Leader for the Rochester Public Library. Large print books bring the joy of reading back by offering popular titles in an easy-to-read format and we are excited to now offer an expanded large print collection.”

“For young people who are struggling readers, a large print book provides an easy format to expose them to many books that meet their interests and reading levels,” said [LAST NAME.] “Librarians and teachers know that for many readers large print books can lead to reading confidence, improved letter and word recognition, reading comprehension and enjoyment.”

Large print titles are made available for all ages. Charlotte and Maplewood Community Libraries have an extensive collection of large print publications in 16-point type, which is approved by the National Association for the Visually Handicapped (NAVH). Titles have been selected from a broad range of genres, including mysteries, romance, historical fiction, westerns, women’s fiction, thrillers, true crime, fantasy, biography and general nonfiction.

SELL-abration

Record sales experienced during Maplewood SELL-abration: Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale.

There was a hum of activity on our streets the third weekend of July as shoppers from all over Monroe County came hunting for bargains during Maplewood SELL-abration: Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sale.

Despite the ever-present threat of rain, hundreds of folks strolled through our streets visiting more than 40 individual sales hosted by families throughout Maplewood. A map of all the sales was posted on the Maplewood Neighborhood Association’s Web site and was distributed at several key sale locations.

The variety of items being offered was diverse, appealing to a broad range of buyers. Antiques, musical CD’s, children’s toys, vintage china and crystal, gardening supplies, and women’s accessories seemed to be among the more popular items.

An Alameda Street family built a tiki inspired “Hydration Station” where the children sold bottled water and lemonade. Mom and Dad were pleased to announce that not only did the children triple previous record sales, but also learned some fundamental business practices.

Once again, the generosity of the Maplewood community was demonstrated by dozens of neighbors who donated their household items to the

Maplewood Gardening Team for their annual yard sale. One neighbor walked up to a Gardening Team member and quietly placed \$50 in her hands. These combined acts of kindness made for the most lucrative yard sale the Gardening Team has had.

R News reporter, Bonyen Lee, came early Saturday morning to help promote the weekend sales. The clip highlighting the SELL-abration played repeatedly all weekend and can be seen on the MNA Web site.

While this was the third – and most successful — year of the SELL-abration, it was the first time the event was held for two consecutive days. Participants agreed that this was beneficial: next year the sale will run on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19. If you would like to participate or would like a map of sales emailed to you several days prior to next year’s sale contact SELL-abration organizers at MaplewoodEvents@gmail.com. Article submitted by Barbara Astorga-Schmidt.

River Romance Days

River Romance Days this year is from October 9 – October 11. Explore and celebrate the city’s waterways from Charlotte to Genesee Valley Park. Look for details in the newspaper or on the City’s website for more information as the event draws near. Background about the river may be found at: <http://cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589936491>

The accompanying photo shows a fisherman in the Lower Genesee just north of the Lower Falls.

