



Maplewood Times

Celebrating Rochester's Historic Northwest Neighborhood

February 2010

Letter from the President...

I want to thank the Board of Directors of the Maplewood Neighborhood Association electing me President to fill the term of Jim Best in October. Since that date, the Board has been working on increasing membership, coalescing public relations, increasing the number of PAC TAC'ers, restarting the Block Club effort, developing a Strategic Plan for the organization and structuring a path forward.

Elections will take place on April 7th and I encourage all members to participate in the election process. If there are members who are interested in becoming Board Members, please send me an email at cstillet@yaho.com as soon as possible for consideration.

The coming months will be very exciting for the MNA, during which time we will be working with professionals to develop a branding effort for Maplewood similar to the effort recently completed for the South Wedge neighborhood (Savor the Flavor slogan). Charlotte is going through a similar process at this time.

Maplewood has much to offer its residents including; a world renowned rose garden, community play ground, fishing pond, spectacular Genesee River Gorge, tennis courts, a YMCA preparing for renovations, beautiful boulevards, quality turn-of-the-century homes, a convenient overall location in the community but mostly, the quality of its' residents. I look forward to working with you to accomplish the MNA Boards goals of reducing illegal behavior along Dewey Avenue and bringing neighborhood schools back to Maplewood.

Chris Tillett
President, MNA



MNA Annual Membership Drive 2010

Over the next few weeks, MNA will conduct its annual members will receive a letter and renewal form in the mail. We encourage you to return it as soon as possible. Also, please take a few moments to encourage your friends and neighbors to become MNA members. Your support is vital to the success of the MNA and our community. Let your voice be heard by being an MNA member.

The membership form is on the left side of the page at <http://maplewood.org>

Mary's Place First Anniversary January 24, 2010

Mary's Place is our outreach ministry primarily serving the refugee population, but not limited to, the people of Burma living in the Maplewood - Edgerton neighborhoods. We served roughly 300 families this year providing them with clothing, counseling (bills, health, jobs, nutrition) tutoring, light household goods and some food.

Our primary supporter is The Cathedral Community at Sacred Heart and we have also worked very closely and appreciatively with Lake Avenue Baptist Church, the Open Door Mission on Plymouth Ave in Rochester, The Cathedral School at Holy Rosary, Aquinas Institute, GUM (Grace Urban Ministries) and with People's Ministry.

We are grateful to The Academy

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Holiday Caroling at the Peppermill

On Sunday, December 20th, the neighborhood came together for "Caroling Party at the Diner." Lyric sheets were distributed to all Peppermill diners, who sang from the comfort of their own tables. Santa Claus, jovially played by Jim White, along with his two helper elves, Dan and Bailey Olean, made their rounds: greeting everyone at this nearly filled-to-capacity evening. Maplewood residents Sheryl Westerman, Andy DeLapp, Ryan Lawler and Anthony Astorga-Schmidt provided special music, while Al Heary accompanied the group caroling.



Special thanks to the Christanis family, owners of the Peppermill Restaurant, for hosting such a fun-filled holiday celebration. Planning is already under way to make this an annual event.

Rainbow Social Club of Maplewood Updates

On an unseasonably warm evening in December, the Rainbow Social Club of Maplewood gathered for their first annual Christmas Soiree at the home of Meaghan and Phil de Chateaufvieux. The culinary talents of many neighborhood residents were on full display.

While noshing on international and vegetarian delights, the group began to map out future events that would benefit the community. A late February/early March outing is being planned. For more details on the event or for further details regarding RSCM, drop us an email at MaplewoodRainbow@gmail.com.

The sole mission of this new social network is to unite, support, and attract Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender members of the Maplewood Neighborhood; welcoming **anyone** who advocates gay and related civil-rights.



Mary's Place - cont'd

for Career Development for the 10-computer lab they donated and to The Community Foundation for the sizable grant received. We are blessed by the generosity of all the above and the many other contributors whom I have not individually mentioned.

We enter the second year filled with faith, hope and gratitude for all that has been given and will be given us as we continue to serve the peoples of all faiths and nationalities: "serving Jesus in the name of His mother".

On behalf of Mary's Place, let me express my gratitude to you and to each one of the people we serve for the opportunities you all have given us and the love, friendship and joy that have come from knowing each other.

We are blessed! Thank you! marysplace@frontier.com 585-278-0835. *Article submitted by Kathy LaBue, Director -*

City Hall Meeting-Voice of the Customer on School Governance

With all the changes that have been occurred in the City of Rochester, Mayor Duffy's announcement to explore Mayoral Accountability of the Rochester City School District is by far the most controversial of his tenure. As part of this process, the Mayor and City Hall staff are conducting four Quadrant level meetings to hear what the residents think, want and need to know about the process. The meeting for the NorthWest Quadrant is Tuesday, February 9th, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Hosted by Jose Cruz, the meeting is a must attend if you are concerned, have an opinion or just want to know what it's all about and what it isn't about. Having children in the district is not a prerequisite, as residents we all have a stake in the success of our schools. The location is the Edgerton Community Center on 41 Backus Street, just behind Jefferson High School.

There will be a SouthEast meeting on Wednesday, February 10th, at the Adams Street Center, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. For more information, contact: Andrew Turner at 428-7226.

PacTac News

This is great time for PacTac. Many new members have signed up for training, 28 from Maplewood and 12 from Christopher Court in the Lexington Avenue area near Sebastian Park. Training is taking is taking place in small groups.

Recently the police radio system in Monroe County has changed from analog to digital requiring all new PacTac radios. Where we had 26 analog radios for PacTac the are now 7 digital. The difference in quantity lies in the price of the new radio equipment \$700 for an analog radio versus \$ 3300 for one digital radio.

PacTac is looking for volunteers to be trained on the P 41, ActOne Van and bicycle PacTac. This training is weather dependent. Interested folks please make your wishes known to Officer Jason Blanchard, 428-7615 or at any neighborhood meeting. *Article submitted by Bob Stevenson*

Church of the Ascension Bible Studies

The Church of the Ascension is inviting all interested community members to join the Community Bible Study. The group meets Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. You don't have to read the bible... just come and listen or talk. Our source reports that the custodian has been known to make a great breakfast for the folks on Thursday morning! Church membership or attendance is not required. Call the church or just stop



in: 458-5423 and is on the corner of Lake and Riverside. Enter at back parking lot unless you can't take the stairs. Then enter on the Lake Avenue side entrance.

This program is ongoing, so you can start anytime. *Article submitted by M.Gibson -*

Into Facebook? Maplewood Is!

Are you one of the 350 million on Facebook? Meet and mingle with other neighborhood Facebook users at the Maplewood Neighborhood page. It's a convenient online location to post community announcements and photos, engage in dialogue, and be informed of what's going on in our neighborhood.

Stop by and say hello at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Maplewood-Neighborhood-Rochester-NY/167096481720?ref=ts>

Being Green with the Maplewood Gardening Team

As our name implies, the Maplewood Gardening Team is working to “green-up” the neighborhood. The Rochester Health Foundation has chosen to assist us in this effort by honoring us with a small grant. This money will be used to replace the flower planters at Dewey Avenue and Driving Park this spring.

Though Old Man Winter is preventing us from getting out and planting, there are several ways we can continue to be “green.” According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average American generates about 4.5 pounds of trash per day. We can decrease that number by following these simple guidelines provided by the Monroe County Curbside Program. Take a look and see if you can bulk up your green efforts:

Paper

Place paper in the bottom of your recycling bin. Almost any kind of **clean** paper products can be recycled: cereal boxes, empty toilet paper rolls, catalogues, magazines, junk mail – even envelopes with small plastic windows. No pizza boxes (food stains). To determine if a paper is recyclable, just feel for a waxy or plastic feel: if the paper won’t dissolve in water, it is not recyclable.

Flatten cardboard boxes into two feet by four feet sections.

Gable top (milk and juice) cartons and drink boxes can be recycled. Remember to remove and throw away the plastic straws.

Metal

Rinse soda, juice, and soup cans (the lids are also accepted). Wash off aluminum pie tins and aluminum foil; bottle caps, wire coat hangers, and empty aerosol cans (except those that contained pesticides or spray paint, be sure to remove and throw away caps).

Plastic

Plastic bottles, jugs and jars with a 1 and 2 on the bottom. **Don’t forget to remove and throw away caps, spray pumps and lids** – they are made out

of a different type of plastic and can mess up a whole batch. Motor oil containers are not accepted.

Glass

Rinsed **clear, green, and brown** bottles and jars are good to go once they have been rinsed and the caps have been recycled or thrown away. Other colored glass, drinking glasses, window glass, etc., are not accepted at this time.



If you are uncertain whether an item can be recycled, visit www.earth911.org.

Want to get further involved in green activities? Drop us an email at MaplewoodGardeningTeam@gmail.com.

Article submitted by Barbara Astorga-Schmidt -

City Hall Requests Your Opinion

City Hall is asking for our input. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey at the link below. This is an excellent opportunity for the residents to make requests for Maplewood. Please feel free to forward this to any resident or download and print. The text that follows is an excerpt from the City of Rochester’s request: “The link takes you to a page with a list labeled *Consolidated Community Development Plans and Reports*. Look towards the bottom of that section and choose the link titled *Community Development Needs Survey*. You will be taken to a survey to provide input on what you think are important community needs.

Please feel free to complete the survey and ask residents in your area to do the same. The survey will be on line until the end of February.” Please click on this link: <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589937253>

Get Involved!

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



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. **Winter MNA Town Meetings are: Jan. 6th 2010, Feb. 3rd & March 3rd 2010.**

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 Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. Aquinas Café.

Info-Westside RPD - 428-9810.



Shirley DeMott Memorial Quilt Drawing For Refugee Needs

Shirley DeMott (1931-2009), long-time member of Lake Avenue Baptist Church, was a foster mother to a refugee daughter and son from Viet Nam, and active in refugee outreach and ministries for decades. Also a life-long quilter, Shirley and a close group of quilting friends each contributed signed blocks to this wall-hanging. The quilt was completed after Shirley's passing in April 2009 and donated to the Burma Refugee Coordinating Team to use in raising funds for refugee outreach. Shirley's block is in the center of the wall hanging.

Buy a chance to win this beautiful hand-appliquéd and hand-quilted wall hanging to support the needs of Burma refugees living in the Rochester area. The drawing will be held on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9, 2010. Each chance is offered for a donation of \$1. All donations go to the Burma Refugee Outreach Fund. The wall hanging is approximately 56" x 56".

If you have questions, or would like to donate, please call Cindy Kaleh at 647-3929 or email her at: cindy@kaltechsupport.com



SELLabration

Mark your calendars! Maplewood SELLabration: Community-Wide Yard Sale is on Friday, July 16th & Saturday, July 17th. Convert all those unused items in your linen closet and china cabinet to cash! If you simply need to purge your house of "stuff" immediately, consider donating them to the Maplewood Gardening Team for their sale. They are accepting gently-used household goods now! (No adult clothing, please.)

Contact Barbara Astorga-Schmidt at MaplewoodGardeningTeam@gmail.com for drop-off details.

Contact Us

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

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FIS Update

A community meeting is schedule for February 27th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at 121Driving Park.

The City of Rochester's Focused Investment Strategy or FIS has been quietly moving forward in Maplewood and Edgerton, at the corner of Driving Park and Dewey Avenue. The Strategic Planning Committee has both City Staff and members from both neighborhoods. There are four designated focus areas in the City of and ours is unique. All the focus areas' plans to upgrade, anchor and enhance are to last from three to five years, with commitments of funding and resources, this is the only area that includes two neighborhoods.

Join us on February 27th at Grace United Methodist Church at the open information meeting for all interested; homeowners, landlords, tenants and business owners in and outside the area. Submitted by C. Kaleh, FIS Committee

PS: Watch for an upcoming meeting notice for the 'Dewey Avenue Milling and Resurfacing' when we will be discussing the inclusion of aspects from the 'Dewey Avenue Charrette'

completed in 2007. The Charrette report and other documents may be view on the website. Scroll down the left hand side of the page at www.maplewood.org

Save The Date

March 6, 2010

FUND THE CHILDREN

Mardi Gras Dinner and Silent Auction

Mayor Duffy Presiding as 'King of Mardis Gras'

Benefiting

Maplewood YMCA Library - Future Boxing - Mary's Place

Grace Urban Ministries - Mercy Bridges- Reading Program

NW Rochester Public Libraries Visiting Artist Program

Sisters of Notre Dame Reading Center - Camp Sunshine

Charles Settlement House After-School & Summer Programs

Edgerton Recreation Center- Literacy Program

School 17 - Children's Reading Program

Maplewood Rose Festival- Storytelling Tent



Hosted by
Rochester NWest Rotary
585-647-3929

