



The Ellwanger & Barry Buzz

A publication of the Ellwanger & Barry Neighborhood Association

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- EBNA General Meetings are held on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at **7PM** at the **Church of Peace**, on the corner of Caroline Street and Mount Vernon Ave. The meetings include time for information sharing and open discussion. In addition, invited guests speak on a variety of community issues.

Dates for next EBNA meetings:

Tuesday April 24
 Tuesday May 22
 Tuesday June 26

A Note From The EBNA Chairman

Mike Thompson

As I walked to a restaurant recently I thought about how great this neighborhood really is. Passing the playground, I remember the many walks here with my daughters and their friends, tugging and rolling ...swinging ...stopping and talking... walking to the Cinema for a double feature on Saturday and, of course, walking to Highland Park.

In 1982 when we found our house, I recall the uncertainty surrounding the move; the house needed a lot of work, we wondered whether our daughters, then 1 and 3, would find playmates, where would they go to school, was it safe? ... and so on. Well, flash to 2007, we still love the house, though we still haven't finished all the jobs we'd planned, and we still love the neighborhood.

The kids still keep in touch with some of their childhood friends wherever their travels take them. Their experiences in the city schools prepared them well for life as responsible, caring and thoughtful adults. The many neighbors we've met over the years we still count as friends, friends to come to the door looking for tomato sauce or whatever (even at 11:00 p.m. or later sometimes).... friends to share both happy and tragic times.

So what makes this such a great place to live? I think it's the mix of people who tend to have a broad world view and a strong desire to be part of both this and the wider community no matter what their economic status. Sidewalks and front porches bring people together to socialize and share much more than just a "how ya' been"

To those who are new here, welcome to the neighborhood, I hope you'll find reasons to call it home too.

I want to thank all the neighbors who have given time to help out in many ways this year, from planting flowers to helping with our fundraiser and cleanup day. For those of you who want to get involved, any time you can give would be much appreciated. We are in need of folks to help with the area parade May 5 (this should be a hoot), beautify the neighborhood with flower planting May 19, play on the softball team (starts early August), create a neighborhood brochure or help organize our neighborhood celebration this fall. Contact me at mdt617@frontiernet.net

Mulberry Men Beer Drinking and World Problem Solving Society

A group has emerged in response to some knitting groups in the neighborhood. Non-knitters (mostly males) have taken to showing up at the Black Pearl each month to tackle some of the Planet's most serious and intractable problems. In an exclusive interview with one of the participants it was revealed that, in fact, a world problem had been solved although he could remember neither the problem nor the solution. To join the society and receive alerts of future meetings send an e-mail to Michael Peter mpeter@rochester.rr.com

Support our local businesses

Looking for a way to help out the neighborhood? Do you have a favorite restaurant in our area (let's hope you said yes, there are many to choose from). Bring friends or family from outside the neighborhood to dinner at one of our restaurants. This "bring a suburbanite to dinner " approach helps keep our treasured eateries in business and spreads the reputation of our neighborhood as a place to have memorable and unique dining experiences.

Highland Hospital Parking Garage

Mike Thompson

"So what makes this such a great place to live? I think it's the mix of people who tend to have a broad world view and a strong desire to be part of both this and the wider community no matter what their economic status. Sidewalks and front porches bring people together to socialize and share much more than just a 'how ya' been"

-Mike Thompson, Rockingham St.



Since the Genesee Hospital closed several years ago Highland Hospital has seen an increase to both inpatient and emergency care. Employees have been displaced from the main parking garage leading to a deficit of approximately 220 spaces for employees who now park and are shuttled in from Rochester Psychiatric Center. To alleviate this problem and accommodate increasing hospital patient needs, Highland proposed a 7 story garage at Rockingham and Mt. Vernon in 2005. The initial neighborhood opposition and estimates of the cost and logistics made this site untenable for Highland.

Last year the hospital moved forward with plans to build a garage at the site of the old Family Medicine Building on South Ave. which is now vacant. A group of neighbors from the Linden-South Avenue area formed a group last fall called "South Avenue Visionary Efforts" (SAVE) www.savemyneighborhood.org/ to oppose the garage and have been organizing to clarify the issues around this project.

A series of meetings was held between the hospital , SAVE, South Wedge Planning Committee and neighbors from Ellwanger & Barry. After

a number of iterations, a design was proposed with features designed to address some of the concerns of the various neighborhoods involved. An informational meeting was held Feb. 6 at Highland to present the Hospital plan to the neighborhood and to bring forward any issues. Positive comments about the project included a business owner's view that the Hospital contributes significantly to the economy of the neighborhood and he believes the presence of Highland on this site is important for the area to grow and prosper. A representative from the parish council of the Church of the Holy Spirit at Linden and South Avenue, adjacent to the proposed garage, would favor the project if the church could use the garage for parking . The majority of the comments, however, involved concerns of those living in the area about increased traffic, noise and aesthetics of the structure in a residential neighborhood as well as the overriding issue of the hospital continuing to expand on this already overcrowded site.

At a meeting also at Highland on Feb. 13 the public had a chance to comment formally on the draft environmental impact statement which must be filed and approved for the project to go forward. The points made in opposition to the plan included added congestion (1600 car trips focused in this small area per day assuming 2 shifts, most of these are added since most of these employees are now shuttled in). These cars would be coming in near the Rochester Children's Nursery and School #12. There will also be traffic late at night and very early in the a.m. A number of speakers expressed concerns that there is already a problem in this area and the added traffic coming in and out would pose serious safety and noise issues. Other concerns expressed included the architecture not appropriate, the scale not appropriate and expansion on site inside the neighborhood was not appropriate. The plan is being opposed by SAVE, the South Wedge Planning Committee, the Landmark Society and Ellwanger and Barry. Go to the SAVE Website or SWPC website (<http://www.swpc.org/> for further information.

Ellwanger & Barry Neighborhood Voice mailbox & e-mail

Many neighbors have expressed concerns regarding security issues which seem to get lost because they are not "big crime issues" . Small thefts, vandalism, loitering, noise, suspicious behavior, etc. can be reported to our EBNA line. (A call to 911 should also be made in most of these cases) We want to help the police and net office track and eliminate these problems as well as to quickly send out an alert to neighbors when this type of activity is going on.

The EBNA number is : 234 1716

Leave your name and phone number so we can get back to you. Alternatively these type of incidents should be reported via e-mail to EBNA@rochester.rr.com

It Feels Good To Eat!

Jennifer Posey

Hedonist Artisan Chocolates is the latest enterprise in our neighborhood. Owners and chocolatiers Jennifer Posey and Zahra Langford have recently moved from Santa Cruz, California. They have always dreamed of putting their energy towards a small business that would provide pleasure, not only for themselves, but for their customers. The inspiration for chocolate making came from Zahra's childhood drawings of a candy store that would fulfill her sugar fantasies (her parents did not allow her to eat a lot of candy). It took a move to the South Wedge Business District, where entrepreneurial energy abounds, to motivate the pair to make their dreams a reality. Both are accomplished candy makers who bring a wealth of experience to their business endeavor. Jennifer has worked for a well known Californian chocolatier and Zahra is a designer whose experience ranges from costume to user interface design.

The company crafts chocolate truffles in sensual, creative flavors. *Hedonist* chocolates are each made

lovingly by hand with only the freshest ingredients and the highest quality chocolate. There are no preservatives in the truffles, but their short shelf life makes them all the more precious. Current flavors include Ginger Macadamia, Lavender, Rosemary, Espresso, Coconut, Blood Orange, and Lemongrass. *Hedonist* offers a range of intensities in their truffles, from bittersweet to milk and white chocolate.

The company name "Hedonist" (pronounced "heed - n - ist"), comes from Zahra's Aunt Carol. Carol often refers to the pair's lifestyle as hedonistic when she hears about their latest dining or travel adventures. At first, Jennifer didn't know what the term meant, so she looked it up. She found that a 'hedonist' is someone whose life is devoted to the pursuit of pleasure, especially pleasures of the senses. It seemed to be the perfect name for the business because most people find pleasure in chocolate. Yes, it is good for you, but, more importantly, it feels good to eat it.

Hedonist truffles, as well as other unique chocolate products, are available at the *Hedonist* Chocolate Counter located in *Equal=Grounds* Coffee House and Gift Shoppe at 750 South Ave. during normal hours of operation (Tues.-Fri. 7am-midnight, Sat. & Sun. 10am-midnight, closed Mon.) Customers can buy items individually or in beautifully packaged gift boxes.

Hedonist chocolates are also available for shipping, special event tastings, wedding favors, corporate gifts and promotions. The company is also open to special requests and projects. To have chocolates shipped to friends or family or for more information, contact Jennifer at (585) 355-7913. To sign up for the *Hedonist* mailing list or to find out about upcoming events and additional locations, visit www.hedonistchocolates.com.

Save The Date:

Saturday, May 5

Southeast Community Spirit Parade

2-4PM

A Baber African Methodist Church Community Event

Parade Route South Clinton Ave. Trinity Church to Meigs St.

For details call

Amy Priestley 269.9550



Our chocolate truffles are handmade in the neighborhood

Bring this ad in and receive a free truffle! (exp. 5/1/07)

Equal=Grounds 750 South Avenue, Rochester

585-355-7913 www.hedonistchocolates.com

A Word From School #12 PTA President Lori Bryce

Like many residents living in the Ellwanger Barry neighborhood, Lori Bryce sends her daughter, Claire, to School #12, our neighborhood school. Lori and her daughter have some big firsts at school this year. Claire is in first grade and this is Lori's first year being the PTA president.

Lori says on average there are 50–60 members on the PTA each year. This year Lori is pushing to get community members involved in events going on at the school and to have the school involved with community events.

School #12 is always looking for volunteers. Currently reading volunteers are needed daily from 9–10AM to work with second graders. Volunteers are also needed daily from 1–3PM to work on technology and reading with 5th graders. Members of the neighborhood are answering the call and getting involved. Why not give it a try?!

School #12 and its PTA have successfully collaborated and organized many successful events and projects over the last few years. Last year the PTA's big effort was the creation of a coordinated school health team after receiving a \$7,000 grant for completing the school health index. This year it is a community garden. Contact Lori Bryce for school news or volunteer information at 242–9795 or eclair@frontiernet.net



Neighborhood Name Change

Mary Rose McBride

Board Raises Possibility of Neighborhood Name Change

The Ellwanger Barry neighborhood is named for George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry who, in the 1840s, started a landscape nursery on the very land where our neighborhood is situated.

When it became apparent to the two that more money could be made by developing the land, Ellwanger & Barry started building "cottages" to sell to their employees. As houses were built, they bought nursery-land further south and transferred plantings. By 1916 most of what is now the Ellwanger Barry neighborhood had been built, and the nursery was gone.

While this is our neighborhood heritage, it does not have to remain our neighborhood's name. At this time, the Association's Board would like to elicit your feedback regarding changing the name of our neighborhood to the **Highland Park Neighborhood**

We are discussing a name change for several reasons.

- 1) Many of us use Highland Park as a descriptor of our location in the city. (As in "I live on Meigs Street near Highland Park." The park is our most beautiful asset, and it gives others a context to the location of our neighborhood.
- 2) Many people, even those who live in the City, do not know about the Ellwanger Barry neighborhood or its heritage. However we all DO know the Park Avenue neighborhood, the Browncroft neighborhood, the South Wedge, the Charlotte neighborhood - because each is a geographic descriptor.
- 3) Some of us believe that it will be easier to "market" our neighborhood if it has a clearer context - a name that says it all - the Highland Park Neighborhood

Please voice your feelings on this name change to our neighborhood by sending an e-mail to EBNA@rochester.rr.com or contact a board member (see page 7). Updates on the status will be posted on the website <http://www.ellwangerbarry.org/>:

What Is Happening With S. Clinton Avenue?

Maureen Murphy, ESCAPE Committee Member

The ESCAPE team is a strong example of community building and tenacity. The steering committee consists of resident representation of Swillburg, Ellwanger-Barry, the South Wedge and administrative representation from SEAC, SWPC and the NET office. Together for the last 4 years we have worked together on a common purpose, the rehabilitation of South Clinton Avenue. Throughout the planning processes and administrative rigmarole necessary in a project like this, there has been a dedicated

group of volunteers who have made improving the green spaces their mission. Well, all these efforts have paid off.

Throughout 2006 we actively sought funding to bring the results of the Charette process to fruition. In total we have been granted in excess \$1,000,000. These funds have been granted, primarily through a NYS Main Street Grant and also Multi Modal funding of \$750,000 secured by State Representative Susan John. The Main Street funds are allocated

for businesses to improve their physical structures and facades. There is also a component that will provide for significant street scape improvements. The multi-modal funding will bring South Clinton Ave. alive. Through this funding new bricked cross walks, curbing and overall street improvements will be completed. We anticipate construction the summer of 2008. While much has been secured we are still working diligently to bring even more to South Clinton Avenue. Questions? mkmurphy493@yahoo.com

RESTAURANT MOVES IN AND BRINGS A SPECIAL NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT

MEGHAN DELEHANTY—REDDINGTON

Looking for a way to get out in the neighborhood, support a local business and meet up with old friends or make some new ones? Join Dave Alferi at The Black Pearl Café (formerly Dicky's) at the corner of Meigs and Caroline on the fourth Sunday of each month. Alferi has started a special neighborhood buffet that he hopes will reach out to the neighborhood and let residents know the restaurant is open for business and anxious to serve. He hopes he can shake the bad reputation the location had gotten.

Alferi, who formerly ran The Big Apple on Park Avenue moved The Black Pearl into the neighborhood in November of 2006. During the winter months the Sunday Night Neighborhood Buffet was started. It is \$6.00 a person and kids 10 and under eat free. The buffet runs from 4–8PM on the last Sunday of each month.

The Black Pearl is also open for catering, parties and other special events. For restaurant hours or other questions call Dave at 442–5440.



Paul, Dallas and daughter Rory enjoy the buffet in March

THE FOREVER HOUSE

DAVE TOPA

Having moved from Cleveland to this neighborhood 5 years ago, my wife and I really knew nothing about the Ellwanger & Barry area. Since then, we have become true believers in the neighborhood and made the decision to stay for good. When people ask why we moved across the street from our first house, our immediate response is, "We love our neighborhood," and here's why:

Our neighbors. We've had the opportunity to meet a number of interesting people from varied backgrounds. Teachers, doctors, social workers, truck drivers, contractors, stay-at-home moms, stay-at-home dads, single parents,

gay couples, rich, middle class and poor – our neighborhood has them all. Also, we actually see our neighbors. I couldn't imagine daily life without seeing the Dog Walking Posse meandering down our street – while I may not know all their names, I know their faces, their smiles, and their dogs.

The character of the neighborhood. There is nothing cookie-cutter about our neighborhood. While one may encounter some repeating architectural styles, each house has developed its own unique identity over the last half-century.

Walking. We have sidewalks, streetlights, and places to go. We can walk

to restaurants, parks, bars, stores, hospitals, playgrounds, schools, and even downtown. As opposed to our friends in the suburbs, we are not slaves to our automobiles and we have more opportunities to meet our neighbors.

Summarizing why we love the Ellwanger-Barry Neighborhood in under 200 words is impossible. That's why this is the first of a four-part series about the great qualities of our neighborhood and what we can do to keep it great. Next newsletter: answers for the naysayer ("You're really going to stay in the city?").

"I couldn't imagine daily life without seeing the Dog Walking Posse meandering our street—while I don't know their names, I know their faces, their smiles and their dogs."

- Dave Topa, Gregory Hill



Concert Review: Leo Kottke at The German House

Matthew J. Carnevale



Save The Dates:

Lilac Festival

May 11—20

10:30—8:30 daily

*Invite your family
and friends to park*

at

*School #12 on
South Ave.*

*All proceeds will
benefit School #12.*

Leo Kottke closed his show with only one encore, but it was pure Leo; that is lightning fast finger picking guitar as only he can play. Although some critics seem to relish in their criticism of his admittedly somewhat baritone vocals, Leo introduced the song **Rings** with another one of his quotable quotes "With a happy tune, anyone can be a singer!"

On Wednesday evening, March 14th, we went up to the German House to listen to the music and thoughts of Leo Kottke. I had seen him many years ago at Milestone's (now High Fidelity), but Kathy had never seen him (nor heard of him for that matter).

Leo Kottke grew up in Oklahoma and started playing the trombone and violin at a very young age before deciding on the

guitar and developing his own style of finger picking. His command of both the 6 and 12 string guitars is even more amazing given that he is partially deaf. He plays like no one I have ever heard or seen. Leo intersperses his music with little stories and monologues that sometimes make little to no sense "I will literally open my mouth not knowing what is c o m i n g out." (www.brainyquote.com)

Early on in the show he described the fellow who was his opening act at Jazzberry's when he came to Rochester in an earlier appearance (Jazzberry's later became Milestone's): "some guy who had malaria from vacationing in Hanoi." Later he spoke of his finger calluses and hand tendonitis from years of guitar picking: "Hand bastards doing

things my head can't control." When some camera flashes went off: "I'm seeing dots when I need to see the fret dots - I'm self taught you know."

Leo played to a very enthusiastic crowd for about one and a half hours. Except for a very annoying hum from the PA system, the sound from his guitars was very clear indeed. A great act from a talented performer .

Join the Ellwanger Barry Neighborhood Association and help support *your neighborhood.*

, money goes to support newsletter, website, neighborhood beautification, hot line, and any events neighbors want during the year (garage sales, special events)

\$10/ yr per household.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E- Mail: _____

Send check to:

EBNA Membership
C/O Mary Rose McBride,
768 Meigs St. ,Rochester,
NY 14620
maryrose_mcbride
@yahoo.com

Contributing members get discounts to neighborhood events and other benefits.

EBNA on the WEB
www.ellwangerbarry.org



The EB Neighborhood Association

I want to welcome the new Board who bring energy and a sense of pride to the organization, and I invite you to participate through one of our subcommittees. The neighborhood association is involved in many aspects of this community, involving neighbors in decision making on issues which shape the neighborhood; advocating those things which bring value and helping find remedies to problems which have a negative impact on life here. EBNA can be what you want it to be. Tell us what you'd like to see happen . Join us, help plan events to get neighbors involved. Get on the e-mail list by sending a note to EBNA@rochester.rr.com or contact a board member below.

EBNA Officers 2007

Chairman	Mike Thompson	mdt617@frontiernet.net	244 5410
Vice Chair	Mary Rose McBride	maryrose_mcbride@yahoo.com	
Communications	Bill Hicks	whicks@rochester.rr.com	
Secretary	Kristine Smith		
Treasurer	Jeanne De Keyserling		
Webmaster	Marnie Barnes		

North Section Leader	Roger Ramsay	Ramsay@cpc401k.com
South Section Leader	vacant	
East Section Leader	Amy Priestley	apriestley@rochester.rr.com
Security Coordinator	Tracey Mykins	EBNA@rochester.rr.com

Future Newsletters...



Do you want to contribute your ideas or news to future newsletters? Are you a writer yourself?

Contact:

Meghan Delehanty-Reddington
meghandelred@hotmail.com



Ellwanger & Barry Neighborhood



Be A Good Neighbor:

Leave your front light on.

*Be considerate when parking.
Don't take more than one
space.*

*Know your next door
neighbors' names and phone
numbers and share your own.*

*Clean up any litter that lands
in your yard.*

*Clean up after your dog and
use a leash (especially when
there are kids at the
playground.)*

*If you are going to be partying
late, make sure to invite your
neighbors :)*



Ariana Kabob House Joins Neighborhood

Mike Thompson

Ariana Kabob House recently joined our eclectic collection of restaurants in Ellwanger & Barry, filling the void created when the India House Vegetarian Café combined back with the main India House across the street last fall becoming the only Afghan restaurant in Rochester. Located at 1009 South Clinton Avenue it is walking distance from all points of the neighborhood and well worth the trip. Sarah Katawazi, the owner, came to Rochester as a refugee from northern Afghanistan 24 years ago to escape the Russian occupation of the country. Struggling to learn the language, she was helped by friends and a local sponsor and worked her way to running her own painting and design business in the city before this venture. A recent visit back home to Afghanistan was inspiration for her to make the restaurant a success. The situation is very diffi-

cult for people there and Katawazi wants to use some of the proceeds from her business to help people get back on their feet. Her husband Mohammad has agreed to help her run the restaurant but Sarah is in charge, especially of the kitchen where she makes sure everything is done right. The food is unique and for those who like Indian and mid eastern cuisine this restaurant is a must. The food is halal, conforming to Islamic dietary laws. For those unfamiliar with Afghan cuisine the buffet is a good place to start exploring since many of the main menu items may be sampled here (\$10.95). The food is excellent ranging from appetizers: dals and kaftas (meatballs), Borani Badim Jan (a delicious eggplant dish with onion, mild tomato sauce with mint and yogurt in a wonderful blend of spices), salads with cilantro, tomato, onion, cu-

cumber and green pepper. A basmati rice dish laced with carrot shreds and raisins and flatbreads complement the main dishes. Vegetarian Kabob can be had for those desiring tasty meatless fare and for less adventurous diners there are hamburgers, fries, wings and chicken nuggets. A meal can include a visit to your table from Sarah or Mohammad who will make you feel like you are a guest in their home and not a customer in their restaurant.

Ariana Kabob House, (585) 244-3202. Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday,
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. &
5:30-9 p.m.;

Friday and Saturday,
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. &
5:30-10 p.m.;

Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-2:30
p.m. & 5:30-9 p.m.

Hospital smokers invade neighborhood

Mike Thompson

You may have noticed something different springing up in the neighborhood recently and it's not a new type of flower. Neighbors typically jog, walk their dogs, stroll, meet and talk on our sidewalks. But what has not been a part of the local culture is high concentrations of people pacing, smoking frantically sometimes gulping coffee and standing in front of residents houses. We have a new phenomena in our local scene caused by area hospitals making hospital grounds a healthy environment (for the hospital) by going smoke free. The result is hospital workers, some in their "blues", standing around puffing away in front of houses on Rockingham, Oakland and Mt Vernon up to the park. The policy is encouraging employees, delivery personnel and visitors to smoke in the neighborhood leaving butts and garbage. The policy is also creating clusters of smokers taking their smoking breaks loitering in front of residents' houses and on the path many residents use to get to the park. The sudden appearance of cigarette butts littering Mt Veronon up to Highland park is a result of this. A better solution to this short sighted policy needs to be worked out with the hospital. To send comments directly to Highland send e-mail to John_Turner@URMC.Rochester.edu For info to help correct this problem contact Mike Thompson.