



The Highland Park Buzz

A publication of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Name Change	1
Neighborhood Celebration.	2
Clean Sweep	4
Granny's	6
Elections	7
Highland Park Neighborhood Association Officers	7
Reservoir	8

Highland Park Neighborhood General Meetings are held on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at **7PM** at the **Net Office** at 846 S. Clinton Ave. . The meetings include time for information sharing and open discussion. In addition, invited guests speak on a variety of community issues.

Highland Park Neighborhood General meetings: 2007

- Tuesday ,September 25
- Tuesday, October 23
- Tuesday, November 27

2008

- Tuesday, January 22
- Tuesday, February 26
- Tuesday, March 25
- Tuesday, April 22
- Tuesday, May 27
- Tuesday, June 24

We are The Highland Park Neighborhood !

Late last year a proposal was made by a member of the EBNA board to consider changing the neighborhood name to the Highland Park Neighborhood. It has been recognized for a long time that most residents in the neighborhood do not know the name of the area they live in is (was) known as the Ellwanger & Barry Neighborhood. Despite repeated efforts over the years, for various reasons, it was hard to get the name to “stick” both for residents of the neighborhood as well as for those outside the neighborhood. Reasons for proposing the change include a better, stronger, neighborhood identity and a stronger geographic identity and marketability. The board did not want to institute a change like this without residents being behind it, so the decision was based on input from the neighborhood. We solicited input through general meetings, e-mail (sent to over 400 residents), a printed newsletter (delivered to 1700 households) and personal interviews. The majority are very much in favor of the new name, with straw polls at two general meetings mirroring results of our tabulated poll with a greater than 2 to 1 margin in favor of the change. The name change in no way signifies ownership of Highland Park or any part thereof (our boundaries have not changed although we are now including the 1,000,000 groundhogs that live in the park as residents ;)). The intent is to instill a sense of pride and stewardship of the area to foster positive action to preserve and protect the neighborhood *including* our treasured Highland Park.



The Highland Park Neighborhood

One often repeated sentiment we heard loud and clear during the process was a desire to retain and highlight our historical roots in the Ellwanger & Barry Mt Hope Nursery. This name change in no way changes our heritage. In fact, it has led a number of residents to begin a process to actively celebrate the history of our neighborhood. We are in the fortunate position of having access to an unusually large and unique collection of historical records relating to the Ellwanger and Barry tract and we will be exploring ways to pull this together. If you are interested in this project please contact a member of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association Board on page 7.

Committees are active now creating a new logo and a brochure for the neighborhood. The city has accepted the change and we are notifying appropriate realtors and agencies. Contact Mary Rose McBride (maryrose_mcbride@yahoo.com) or Mike Thompson (mdt617@frontiernet.net) for more information.

Neighborhood Celebration

Saturday, September 15, 4-8 p.m.

Linden - Meigs Park

Mike Thompson

*The Mulberry
Men's Beer
Drinking Society
meets the second
Tuesday of every
month at the Black
Pearl corner
Caroline and Meigs
Discussions begin
~9 p.m.*

Thanks in part to a grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation, The Highland Park Neighborhood will be celebrating our community with a "Taste of the Neighborhood" event . The format will be a pot luck with both resident and business participation. The Association will provide hotdogs, hamburgers (veggie burgers) and drinks.

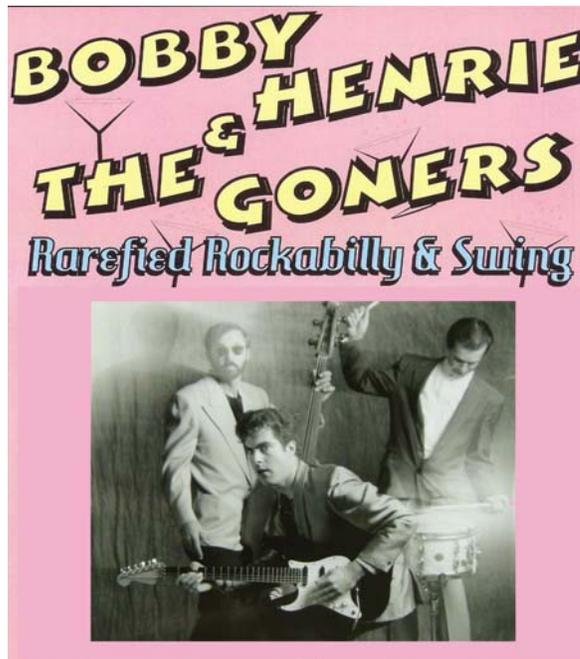
We are asking residents to participate by either bringing a dish to share (dessert, salad , hors d'oeuvre)

or
a suggested donation of \$5 per household

or
become a supporting member of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association for \$10 per household.

We are asking area restaurants to participate by also bringing some dishes to share or a contribution of a gift certificate for a raffle.

Other businesses are being



asked to participate by offering some service they provide to be raffled off. We feel this can be a great way for our business owners and some of the 3000 Highland Park residents to meet. Music will be provided by Bobby Henrie and the Goners.

Under 16 accompanied by parent or guardian.

For further information contact Roger Ramsay 738 0477 or Mike Thompson at 244 5410

Become a supporting member of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association and help support *your neighborhood*

\$10/ yr per household. October 1 –September 30

Send check to:

Name: _____

Highland Park Neighborhood Association
Membership
C/O *Mary Rose McBride*, 768 Meigs St.
Rochester, NY 14620
maryrose_mcbride@yahoo.com

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E- Mail: _____

Contributing members receive discounts to neighborhood events

Part II: You're Doing What?

By Dave Topa

Yes, we **chose** to stay in the city. As my wife and I told friends and family that we were moving to another house in our neighborhood, more than a few were perplexed. Why not move out to the suburbs, land of cul-de-sacs, "good" schools, and little crime? As we answered these questions, we realized that many people carry misperceptions of the city. In our conversations, we try to educate about the many positive aspects of the neighborhood (see the last issue of the *Buzz*), and addressed the following popular concerns:

1. What about school? Many have the perception that the city is just a wasteland devoid of educational opportunities. However, rather than just being placed in the closest elementary school, city residents do have a number of choices. Although it's far from perfect, the City School District offers a number of primary and secondary schools with unique programs and learning environments. To begin with, the city's Pre-K program has been recognized as one of the premier programs in the nation and Western Europe. And although the district's school choice program has made it more difficult to enroll at our primary neighborhood school, #12 on South Ave., it has opened up spots at a number of other schools. Smaller schools such as #23 (Barrington St. in the Park Ave. neighborhood.) and #1 (Cobb's Hill) can offer a more intimate setting than #12. Located on Averill Ave., School #15 (Children's School of Rochester) boasts NYS Grade 4 ELA and Math Exam passing rates of 90% or greater. In addition to the CSD, we can apply to charter schools and private schools which are geographically close and offer great educational opportunities. Therefore, we probably have many more educational choices than our friends in the suburbs who are forced to enroll in the closest public elementary school in their district, or choose from charter or private schools that may be nowhere near their home.

2. Isn't the city dangerous? In the six years that we lived in the neighborhood, we have had one encounter with crime (someone rummaged through an unlocked car in our alley). Meanwhile, we have friends who live in the Pittsford Village who had two cars stolen from their driveway in one week, and my in-law's neighborhood in Fairport dealt with multiple break-ins and robberies. While anecdotal, these stories serve as evidence that all cities and towns deal with crime. By keeping our properties well-lit at night, reporting suspicious activity to the police, and keeping an eye out for our neighbors, we can all work to reduce crime in our neighborhood. Finally, while volunteer ambulance and fire departments serve an important purpose in the suburbs, I feel much safer with paid professionals who are able to respond to our emergencies at a moment's notice.

3. Isn't the city dirty? I have to admit that there have been times when I've sat in the parking lot at Wilson Farms and found myself disgusted with the amount of litter that can accumulate in our neighborhood. However, the trash also presents an opportunity to provide an important lesson to my children: we are all responsible for maintaining the quality of our neighborhood. By carrying a plastic grocery bag and picking up litter while we take walks as a family, I can teach my children that citizenship requires stewardship.

Isn't the city crowded? Not everyone wants a half-acre of grass to mow and water. Our lot sizes, as well as the presence of sidewalks and front porches, present opportunities to meet and greet our neighbors as well as keep an eye out for their well-being (see #2). Besides, our children have all of Highland Park and a number of other parks in which to play (and I don't have to mow them).

So keep these replies in mind. If you can think of others, please share them with me at davetopa@yahoo.com. Next issue: the challenges of improving city properties and our neighborhood.

This is part 2 in a series of 3 articles written by Dave Topa about city living. He, his wife Jen and two kids live in The Highland Park Neighborhood.



Save The Date:

**Sunday,
October 28**

**The 3rd annual
Halloween Party
& Parade**

**for ages 0–5
at the**

**Meigs Linden
Playground**

3:30 PM

**Join neighbors for
games, food and
scary fun! Each
family is asked to
bring a bag of candy
or treat to share!**

Questions email

Meghan @

meghandelred@hotmail.com

**Top 12 Ways
to Support James
P. B. Duffy School #12,
our neighborhood school**

1. Participate in our Community Garden <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/school12garden>
2. *Clip Box Tops for Education and give to School 12 PTA*
3. **Donate New or Used Books for grades K-8 reading levels**
4. **Apply for BOX TOPS credit card and designate 1% of all purchases to School #12**
5. *Volunteer in the Library or where your talents would be appreciated.*
6. *Donate a Musical Instrument*
7. **Tour the school and become a classroom volunteer reader**
8. **Contribute school supplies; pencils, tissues, printer paper, etc.**
9. **Share your skills & talents w/ students! (i.e. musical, artistic)**
10. **Join the PTA!! or become a member of our yahoo!group:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/school12pta/>**
11. *Donate gently used winter coats, boots, hats & gloves.*
12. **“Sponsor-a-bus” for a class field trip**

12 for 12

*Questions?
Call Lori Bryce at 242-9795*

Highland Park Softball Sweeps Two in a Row

Mike Thompson

The neighborhood softball team has started its third season as part of the South East Fall Classic League (SEFC) this year fielding the Highland Park “Highlanders”. The team is co-ed and the most balanced in the league with close to a 50-50 split between male and female players. The Highlanders have played well but got off to a slow start, losing the first game to the Linden Sluggers and just allowing the always hot Cypress Reservoir Dogs to squeak by with a win. The Highlanders have made nice showings beating Swillburg Rocks the Diamond and punishing the Linden Sluggers 15-3 in a rematch of game 1. The Highlanders are now in second place. The season runs to September 19th with playoffs ending Oct 13th. Most of the Highlander games are played at Marie Daley park between Hickory and Gregory Sts. For details see the SEFC website <http://www.sefcsoftball.com/>. Thanks go to all the volunteers who keep this league running. Highland Park Team is supported by Steve Craddock and Preferred Photography and the Highland Park Neighborhood Association.

Clean Sweep 2007 Volunteers Bring a Fresh Look to a Neighborhood Gem

By Carolyn Gombert

The temperate days of May have disappeared, taking with them a fleet of volunteers dressed in highlighter yellow. On Saturday mornings during the month of May, these volunteers brought along brooms and rakes to “cleansweep” the city of Rochester. My family and I rolled out of bed bright and early one Saturday morning to pitch in. After donning a fluorescent t-shirt of my own, I headed over to the Meigs-Linden

Playground, a staple in the diet of children growing up in the Highland Park Neighborhood. In addition to many members of the community, I was joined by my peers from Wilson Magnet High school as well as a few friends who came in from Pittsford, Henrietta, and Brockport to pitch in. Under the direction of Meghan Reddington and her dashing assistants Callan and Ada, this army of volunteers planted flowers



in decorative pots and picked up litter scattered throughout the park. Our efforts were rewarded and by noon the playground looked more welcoming than ever.

Not only was cleansweep an opportunity for people to show how much they cared about Rochester, but it was a great way to build community relationships and bring neighborhoods together. I have fond memories of the playground. Living in the city often means having a small backyard. As a result, places like the Meigs-Linden playground tend to become the community's backyard. I smile to think that the efforts of cleansweep volunteers have revitalized this neighborhood gem for the gen-



Boy Works His Way Through Public School System, Remains Unscathed 10 Years Later

By Henry Jones

I have been a lifelong resident of the Southwedge and Highland Park neighborhoods and have received my entire education courtesy of the Rochester City School District. I am especially proud to say that I attended our neighborhood's very own James P.B. Duffy School Number 12 on South Avenue for elementary school. During my time at School #12 I made friends who I continue to go to school with as I enter my senior year at Wilson Magnet High School. We are all glad to share fond memories of band and choir concerts, art shows, and the end of the year celebration known as Duffy Day. I never had a bad teacher in my five years at School #12 and the education I received prepared me quite well for the rigorous curriculum that I would encounter in middle school and now in the International Baccalaureate program at Wilson. In short, my experiences with public education have been nothing but positive and the school in our very own neighborhood is largely responsible for some of my best memories as a student.

SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL!!!

The **School 12 Parent Teacher Association (PTA)** is encouraging all community members to take part in a "**New to You Sale**" that will be held at James P.B. Duffy School #12 on **Saturday, September 22nd (9 AM-3PM) and Sunday, September 23rd (9AM - 1PM)**. Here's what you can do:

1. **Donate** your previously loved items! Save yourself the trouble of holding your own yard sale. Stop by the school from 9:30-2:30 September 17-21 to drop off toys, games, books, videos, household items, sporting equipment, furniture, clothes etc. or call **Michelle Daniels**, the parent liaison, at **461-3280** to

work out an alternate day or time.

2. **Stop by during the sale**, you never know what you might find! Feel good about recycling previously owned items while supporting a good cause. (While you're there don't forget to drop off the "**Box Tops for Education**" that you've been collecting!)

3. Sign up to **volunteer** during the sale by contacting **Lori Bryce** at **242-9795** or eclair@frontiernet.net

Remember all donations are **tax deductible**. Proceeds will be used to help fund the **Mighty Ducks Basketball team**, All

County Music Festival, classroom field trips (admission and/or transportation), supplies for our school/community garden, new books for the library and more. Stop in, view the wonderful artwork on display while you're there, and see all that our neighborhood school has to offer! This is a great way to be a part of the community in which you live!



Looking for volunteers to read with children at School 12 beginning in October.

Additional opportunities also available in math and science!

Requirements: Must have some availability during a school day (9:00-3:20) and be interested in having a positive influence on the lives of young children!!

Please contact Vicki Robertson at 461-4282

or

vic_robertson@frontiernet.net

to learn more.

George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry Make Surprise Appearance at "Spirit" Parade

Mike Thompson

Saturday, May 5, saw South Clinton Avenue filled with more than 800 marchers and onlookers for the first **Southeast Community Spirit Parade**. Sponsored by Baber AME church, the event drew neighborhood groups from the area including PAC-TAC, Neighbors building Neighborhoods (NBN), school #12, Swillburg, Lilac Neighbors and The Highland Park Neighborhood (formerly Ellwanger & Barry). Highland Park Neighborhood worked together with School #12 to take top honors for best floats. School #12's float consisted of a 6 ft tall paper mache' duck and the School #12 marchers organized by Michelle Daniels wore duck hats as the Duffy



Ducks. Highland Park had two Floats depicting our roots in the world renowned Ellwanger & Barry horticultural business led by George Ellwanger &

Patrick Barry. The floats consisted of shrubs, flowers and nursery stock as well as prints of some of the original E&B catalog pages from the 1860's. Children from the neighborhood passed out seed packets to the onlookers. Rumors are that Roger Ramsay and Amy Priestley, co-chairs of Highland Park's parade committee, looked suspiciously like Messers Ellwanger & Barry.



Granny's Ice Cream Parlor Serving Old Time Hospitality

Matthew J. Carnevale

Walking over to 793 South Goodman at Caroline Street on a very hot afternoon I stepped into Granny's Ice Cream Parlor. There the cool white walls, teal trim, and sparkling clean freezers offered a welcome haven. 24 (continually changing) Perry's Ice Cream flavors are available. The gleaming green and black tile floor extends into the adjacent parlor providing ample seating for small groups. Two very large window seats where one may chomp a cone or stir a dish, offer a view of the passing scene on Goodman Street. There is also plenty of sidewalk seating and some off street parking.

When Patrick Belle Isle opened Granny's May 11, the variety of flavors was limited to 16, but his enthusiasm and commitment to making his dream business part of this neighborhood were not limited at all. Patrick's sister Jo-Ann, who he describes as "the greatest sister a brother could have", painted the artwork and signs in the shop. She works part time at Granny's although her main profession is nurse practitioner at Strong Memorial Hospital. She also is an avid bagpiper and a member of the group "The Drones and Cones" who have performed the bagpipes at Granny's. Stay tuned as they plan to play future events at Granny's. Other plans include bicycle

Sundays featuring an Ice Cream Social from 1 - 5 pm with accommodations for approximately 14 bicycles coming soon. Fresh cakes and pies made to order by Jo-Ann, a web site with printable coupons and specials with monthly events are also planned. Patrick loves our neighborhood, and neighbor support and feedback have been tremendous. Children and young adult customers have been polite and respectful, which to Patrick says a lot about the neighborhood. Granny's is open 7 days a week from 1PM till 10PM. The ice cream season starts when the weather allows, and ends when the "ice cream" falls from the sky.

Granny's also serves sundaes, floats, banana splits and milkshakes. If you happen to stop by when you are walking your dog, Patrick will provide a Milk Bone biscuit or two along with a fresh bowl of cold water. Welcome to the Neighborhood, Granny's!



Save The Date:

Saturday,

September 15

4pm–8pm

“Taste of the
Neighborhood ”

Meigs Linden Park

**BOBBY
& HENRIE
THE GONERS**
Rarefied Rockabilly & Swing



Highland Park Neighborhood
on the WEB
www.ellwangerbarry.org

Thank You!!! ... and HELP!!!

Election of Officers September 25 7:00 p.m. NET office

Thanks to the many folks who have helped support the neighborhood through your presence at meetings, delivering of fliers, writing for the newsletter, planting flowers, walking PAC-TAC , working on committees and the many activities which help keep this a great place to live.

Tuesday, September 25th will kick off the first year for the newly named **Highland Park Neighborhood Association**. This past year we have restarted our newsletter, supported a number of successful events and met to discuss and resolve issues ranging from nuisances such as traffic to major issues involving plans for the future of the area and crime prevention. We have an energized organization with plans for the future. We have received a grant and are designing logos and a brochure to promote the neighborhood. We have a vision and a sense of where we want to go but we need your help to better define these goals to reflect you. Some ideas we have now include an interactive website to allow people to get together more spontaneously , connecting our neighborhood to our historical roots using the natural assets in the our neighborhood and building some strategies for a more secure neighborhood. All these things are possible with help from you. We need your support, either through volunteering for a particular project or helping us set direction through leadership in the organization. We need a security person to help us interact with the police and help identify problem areas and improve neighborhood safety. Please make an effort to attend the neighborhood celebration on the **15th of September**. If you've never come to a neighborhood event this is one you don't want to miss! This is an opportunity to voice your concerns for the future of the neighborhood. Also please consider running for office , we need new faces, people to help us go the next step. There are lots of ideas, but we need your help to work on the right ones and continue to make the area grow as we want it to . We are all very busy, juggling jobs, family and the many day to day things. Please join us however you can. This coming year can be a lot of fun meeting some of the very interesting folks who make up our neighborhood. Hope to see you soon.

-Mike Thompson

Highland Park Neighborhood Association

Officers 2007

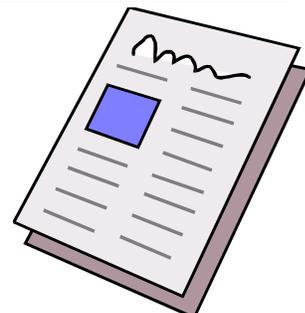
Chairman	Mike Thompson mdt617@frontiernet.net
Vice Chair	Mary Rose McBride maryrose_mcbride@yahoo.com
Communications	Bill Hicks whicks@rochester.rr.com
Secretary	Kristine Smith
Treasurer	Jeanne De Keyserling
Webmaster	Matt Carnevale
North Section Leader	Roger Ramsay Rramsay@cpc401k.com
South Section Leader	Matt Carnevale mcarneva@rochester.rr.com
East Section Leader	Amy Priestley apriestley@rochester.rr.com
Security Coordinator	



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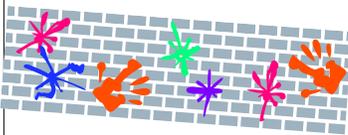
with ideas, comments or stories for future newsletters.
What do you love about our neighborhood? Share it for
the next issue!



Graffiti

is a growing problem in the neighborhood which is overtaxing the city's ability to remove it. If you would like to volunteer to help with graffiti removal efforts call Pete Saxe at the NET office

428- 7640



The Future of our Reservoirs

Barb Case

Wednesday, June 27, an informational meeting was held at City Hall to present the preliminary conclusions of the Water Reservoir Study. In January 2006 the EPA directed that all communities with uncovered reservoirs change the way they store and treat their drinking water. Reservoirs at Cobbs Hill, Highland Park and Rush would be subject to these EPA mandates. Four main approaches for dealing with open reservoirs led to 125 possible solutions. Over the 52 weeks of the study so far, five facilitated workshops with key people have been held to narrow down the field to a preferred alternative. The meeting on the 27th was to obtain community input, i.e. how to balance compliance with the regulations with preservation of prized public assets: Cobbs Hill and Highland Park.

The plan includes 5 parts:

- Install a cover and liner at Rush (35 million gallons [MG] of storage)
- Install a new storage tank in the Rush Pressure Zone to improve operational flexibility (2MG storage capacity)
- Replace two open tanks owned by MCWA adjacent to Cobbs Hill with covered tanks (storage capacity of 11 MG)
- Install a new tank in

Cobbs Hill Park adjacent to the Reservoir (5 MG)
Install a below grade tank adjacent to the Highland Reservoir on the site of and coordinated with the proposed Children's Pavilion restoration project (4MG)

The current reservoirs at Highland Park and Cobbs Hill would be decommissioned, but would remain as landmarks open to public access. Keeping them from becoming stagnant would involve recirculating and exchanging water periodically. The plan is expected to cost the city \$40 million over 8 years with projects to be completed in stages beginning with the Rush Reservoir and ending with the changes at the Highland Park Reservoir. The costs represent an unfunded federal mandate and would be borne by the city (99%) and the state (1%). The total reserve capacity in the city will be reduced from 166.5 MG to 20 MG.; the bulk of the storage (37MG) will be outside the city at Rush. Rochester, however, has redundant supply feeds, three from Hemlock and twenty from Lake Ontario.

The question and answer period brought out a variety of concerns:

- Maintaining the aesthetic and archeological integrity of the parks

- Costs and their impact on taxes of city property owners
- Health impacts of added treatments and commingling with Lake Ontario water
- Need for the project? (Questions about the influence of engineering and construction groups and chemical companies in lobbying for EPA regulations)
- Control of water supply (City and County - conflict or cooperation)
- Siting elsewhere
Other cities' plans; challenges to the regulations in other parts of the country

The study participants are requesting input from the community. The final proposal for protecting the drinking water supply will be presented to City Council in August.

Additional information is available at the City website www.cityofrochester.com - tab to QuickLinks, Water Reservoir Study and submit your comments (Or call Michael Bushart, Senior Engineer with the City Water Bureau, 428-7567.)

An article in the D&C for Wednesday, June 27, provides background and comment.

EPA regulations can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/disinfection/lt2/index.html