

PROPOSED HIGHLAND PARK/CANALWAY TRAIL PROJECT

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

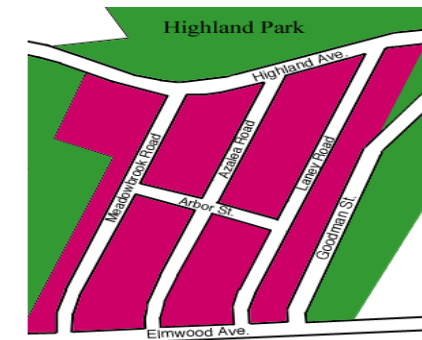
Several of us from our neighborhood attended a meeting on July 1 sponsored by the City of Rochester, the Town of Brighton and representatives from Fisher Associates, the contractor involved with a proposed trail project. Most attending this meeting were surprised at the proposal and had many concerns that the presenters could not really address. Most concerns were about safety since it was described to us that this trail for walkers and bikers would be crossing Elmwood Ave. at Goodman St. and also crossing Goodman St. onto Highland Ave.

The trail was described as off-road along Goodman but on-road on Highland. The narrowing of the existing two way traffic along Highland Ave. to accommodate east -west bike lanes was a special concern to our Highland Ave. neighbors as well as the rest of us in attendance. Sadly those in charge of this more than \$800,000 project had vague or no answers to the real concerns raised.

Oddly it appears the time line for this project has been put on the fast track and it is my humble opinion that we owe it to ourselves and our wonderful neighborhood to get the answers to our concerns and demand that those in charge of this trail project place our neighborhood and its residents in high consideration as this moves forward.

Sam Cicero
Laney Road

Editor's Note: Jeffery Mroczek, Assistant Landscape Architect with the City's Department of Environmental Services Development Division, assured us he would schedule a meeting with neighbors. We will keep you posted as we become aware of developments.



The Azalea View

theazaleaview@yahoo.com

Azalea Neighborhood Association

Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2009

Welcome to the Summer Azalea View!

The Azalea Neighborhood is a mix of home-owners and renters of all ages and the ANA encourages all who live here to become active in our community. This is a neighborhood newsletter. If you have news items, ideas to contribute or simply questions about the neighborhood, give Sue O'Neil a call at 442-8586 or send an email to theazaleaview@yahoo.com.

The Azalea View is published by the Azalea Neighborhood Association with support from the Rochester Area Community Foundation NeighborGood Grant and Neighbors Building Neighborhoods Sector 6.

South Ave Firehouse Celebrates 100th Birthday

Submitted by Capt. Russ Merrick, RFD

As everyone in our neighborhood is aware the fire station is getting a new face lift for its 100 year-old birthday. For the past month and a half the firefighters assigned to the South Avenue station have been responding to incidents from the fire station on Monroe Avenue. However, we plan on reopening our door and moving back into our own station again around the first week in August.

Some of the new features you can expect to see once we reopen will be an enlarged kitchen area, individual dormitories for members that will enhance and accommodate the gender issues facing the fire service, a training class room which we never had before, modern lock room, workout facility and showers, and a new lounge area with enough space to accommodate all our members.

As many have noticed along the North side of the station some of our trees were removed so a generator can be installed to power the building and our equipment should there be a power outage in the area. Currently this is not a pleasant sight; however, once the equipment is installed there will be a fence placed around the it. The plans are to have some shrubbery (lilac trees) added to enhance the cosmetics along this side of the building, which will make it much nicer than it currently is.

Additionally, we hope our neighbors will stop by and welcome us back home. We would love to show you around our quarters, as we are very excited and cannot wait to get back in our own, newly renovated fire station once again.

RPD CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN

Thefts from parked vehicles continue to be a concern for the citizens of South East Rochester. These all too common property crimes can occur at any time of the day or night, in busy well lit parking lots as well as on dark residential streets. Perpetrators will target a vehicle that may contain any item of value or interest to him.

By in large, these are crimes of opportunity committed by individuals moving quickly through a neighborhood. These criminals may be alone or in pairs, on foot or in vehicles.

By taking the following precautions you can decrease the likelihood of becoming a victim:

~ Remove all valuables from your car and lock the doors.

If you wouldn't leave it on your front lawn at night don't leave it in your car! Valuable looking items such as purses, laptops, and GPS units are obviously desired by thieves. Some less obvious items that may attract a criminal include loose change, sports equipment and items of clothing. Don't forget the mounting brackets and power cords to your GPS or satellite radio. Leaving these behind just tells the bad guy to look in your glove box.

~ Install a car alarm (real or otherwise).

Auto alarms are so commonplace today that many of us may not pay attention to those easily recognizable audible sirens. However it is still likely to scare off a nervous amateur crook. That flashing red light on your dashboard may also make him think twice.

~ Park in well lit, populated areas whenever possible.

Thieves don't want any witnesses, we do.

~ Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

Nobody knows your neighborhood better than you do. Call 911 if you see anything or anybody that does not seem to belong. Pay attention to unfamiliar vehicles lingering around your neighborhood. Write down the license plate for later reference, just in case.

**The Lilac, Azalea and May Street
Neighborhood Associations
cordially invite you
to a grand celebration
of our 100 year old South Avenue
Fire House!**

**Tuesday August 11, 2009
from 7 to 8:30 pm.
Please come for
birthday cake, an ice cream social,
and a grand tour
of the renovated fire station.**



Anne Day

Written by Nancy Wrobel

We are sad to announce the passing of our friend and neighbor, Anne Day. Anne, with her husband David, had lived on Laney Rd. since the early 1970's. Anne was one of the founders of the Azalea Neighborhood Association and was a co-coordinator for many years. In that capacity, Anne (and David) wrote, edited and delivered neighborhood notices/newsletters; created "Welcome Bags" to give to new neighbors (after Anne had approached neighboring businesses for coupons and gift certificates and scoured the museums, etc. for upcoming events); and faithfully attended any meetings that affected the quality of life in our neighborhood and city. More importantly, Anne was a good neighbor well before the establishment of our group. She had always welcomed and warmly greeted new neighbors, often bringing flowers from her garden or a banana bread; she delighted in walking the streets of our neighborhood, noticing the first spring flowers or the first robin; and she counted many neighbors among her friends.

A memorial service and a picnic were held on May 31 at Brighton Town Park. Anne's family and friends gathered to remember and honor Anne and to celebrate her life. It was, as Anne had hoped, a joyous occasion filled with stories, laughter, tears, poetry and music. A group of Anne's friends have created a "legacy quilt" which will be given to Anne's daughter Jenny and grandson Hunter.



Do you know of a new neighbor? If so, please give **Lisa Martone** a call at **461-3031** to let her know.

Mount Hope Cemetery Tours

Tours of historic Mount Hope Cemetery are given every Saturday and Sunday through October. Saturday tours begin at 1:00 PM. Sunday tours begin at 2:00 and 2:30 PM. The free tours begin at the North Gate House (opposite Robinson Drive).

There will also be several Theme Tours and Thursday Twilight Tours offered throughout the season. These tours are \$4.00 / person, free for FOMH members. For a complete schedule of tours, visit www.fomh.org or call 461-3494.

Upcoming Events

The Big Rib Bar-B-Que and Blues Fest

July 9-12 -- www.mybigrib.com

Thursday from 11:30 am to 9:00 pm

Friday from 11:30am to 9:30pm

Saturday from 11:30am to 10:00pm

Sunday July from Noon to 8:00pm

Lunchtime admission is FREE on Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 4:00 pm., Sunday until 3:00pm

Dinnertime admission is \$5.00 per person and there is no charge for children under 12 years of age.

Movies in the Bowl – Thursday evenings starting at dark

July 9 – Madagascar Escape 2 Africa

July 16 – Harry Potter & the Sorcerer's Stone

July 23 – A Christmas Story

July 30 – Hotel for Dogs

August 6 – The Goonies

August 13 – Kung Fu Panda

Shakespeare in the Park - Hamlet

All performances are scheduled for 8:00 PM.

Wednesday, July 8

Friday, July 10

Saturday, July 11

Tuesday, July 14

Wednesday, July 15

Friday, July 17

Saturday, July 18

Highland Bowl Concerts

July 12 – Bob Weir & Rat Dog

Gates open at 4:30pm

July 25 – Tragically Hip

Gates open at 6:00pm

Master Gardener Garage Sale

July 26, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Cornell Cooperative Extension

249 Highland Ave. 342-3323

Trees in our Neighborhood Walk

July 14, 6:00 PM UR Arboretum. Meet at westside steps of Rush Rhees Library.

Next-to-New Sale

Aug 21,22 (9-6) & **23** (9-3). St. Anne Church 1600 Mt. Hope, to benefit the Building Fund. Clothes, toys, holiday items, jewelry, etc.

Azalea and Lilac Neighbors Storm the Hill: Field Trip to the Divinity School

Sue O'Neil, Azalea Neighborhood Association

Joan Lindberg, Lilac Neighbors

HISTORY

On Tuesday, April 21, two dozen Azalea and Lilac neighbors accepted the invitation of President Gene Bay for a tour and reception of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. Dr. Bay told us about the school's history starting with its founding in 1817 in Hamilton, NY as Colgate Theological Seminary. Then it moved to downtown Rochester in 1850, the same year University of Rochester was established, and finally to its current 22-acre location. We were interested to learn that in the 1920's two seminaries in Rochester approached John D. Rockefeller, Jr. for money to build new campuses. Mr. Rockefeller said he would provide funding if the two schools merged, and so Colgate Rochester Seminary was created. The campus was completed in 1930. Women were first admitted in the 1960's, and in 1971 the campus welcomed Crozer Seminary from Pennsylvania to the Hill. The most famous among The Divinity School's distinguished graduates is Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Today CRCDS is a very rich theological environment, with over 20 denominations represented, from liberal to conservative. There are 130-140 students in the three degree programs, and there is also a certificate program designed for laypersons. Women comprise 60% of the student population; 60% commute from as far away as Syracuse, Buffalo, and Binghamton. To accommodate the schedules of present-day students, whose average age is 40, the school is open only three days a week, from Tuesday through Thursday.

PARTNERSHIPS

When the Physical and Occupational Therapy program of Ithaca College needed a new home in 2006, the first floor of the Divinity School was a perfect match. Currently 60-70 students attend classes, learn practical skills, and collaborate with Divinity students making the link between health and spirituality. CRCDS also has a partnership with Andover Newton (Massachusetts) and Bangor (Maine) Theological seminaries. Students across the three campuses can attend the same class via videoconferencing. The newest partnership is with the American Cancer Society. An unused dorm will be renovated into 35 hotel-style rooms to accommodate cancer and transplant patients and their families, as well as ACS offices. The exterior will remain unchanged. The Golisano Foundation has pledged \$4 million towards the project. The ACS has raised the remaining \$3 million. The school offers a larger community to the patients and their families who will have access to the chapel, library and cafeteria. In turn, the students have the opportunity to learn about and offer Pastoral Care.

Tom McDade Clay, Director of Development, led our tour. We visited the Ithaca College OT lab, classrooms, the refectory, the library, the chapel and the bell tower. We even got to ring the bells!

President Bay invited neighbors to discover for themselves "Rochester's Best Kept Secret." Visit or audit a class, attend a lecture, study in the library, attend a service, or have lunch in the Refectory. Find a schedule of hours, classes and events at www.CRCDS.edu or call 340-9500.