



# The Highland Park Buzz

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Highland Park Neighborhood General Meetings are held on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at **7PM** at the NET Office, 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 General meetings:  
2008**  
 Tuesday, January 22  
 Tuesday, February 26  
 Tuesday, March 25  
 Tuesday, April 22  
 Tuesday, May 27  
 Tuesday, June 24



## First Annual "Taste of the Neighborhood"

**Mike Thompson**

The Highland Park Neighborhood celebrated the end of summer with a "Taste of the Neighborhood" event on September 15. The format was a pot-luck with residents contributing food and businesses and restaurants contributing food or gift certificates. This neighborhood event was subsidized by the Highland Park Neighborhood Association, the Rochester Area Community Foundation and the kind generosity and participation of area businesses.

Music was provided by Bobby Henrie and the Goners. This was the first time for the event which will become a yearly event judging by the attendance and enthusiasm of participants (**over 250 residents** and business owners, despite chilly temperatures and threats of rain). Special thanks to the committee Lori Bryce, Matt Carnavale, Ruth Danis, Meghan Delehanty-Reddington, Dave Halter, Bill Hicks, Mary Rose McBride, Tracey Mykins, Amy Priestley, Roger Ramsay, Michael Thompson and Carlene Woodward.

Neighbors enjoying "Taste of the Neighborhood"



Below: Pregnant, 2002



Below: 5 Years Later



# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Kristine Fredrick

Some people are afraid of teenagers. Other people find them amazing cocoons of future adults—that’s me. I work with teens and consider it my privilege and obligation to interact with them. I can see what is scary though. Teens test out everything, bad language, mean pranks, social boundaries, and even crime. They also need supervision, and independence to test out their adult responsibility, life and work skills, and growing knowledge base.

In our neighborhood we have many young teens who are home alone in the summer and after school days, testing their responsibility, until the parents come home. This is normal, it is not poor parenting. What happens when parents are away at work? Teens gather at one house or another, play video games, go to the rec center, ride bikes, take walks. That might get pretty boring after a week or two. We don’t have a summer camp or volunteer program for our kids here in the Highland Park neighborhood, so my teen neighbors played badminton for a week or two, then some other street games, then they discovered the pinecones under a neighbor’s tree and decided they would be great artillery for war games in the street.

Later I walked past as they were sitting in a different neighbor’s yard. I always greet them and say something a corny, old-fashioned adult would say. “How are you guys? You look bored.” Or, “Does Ms. So and So know you are in her gardens?”

Last year when I was walking home from my aunt’s house on Ashland Street, I was whistled at on Nicholson Street by some boys who were middle school age. I laughed at them and told them I was old enough to be their mom. They gave me a fresh reply about how that’s ok they were “grown”. I explained that there are nice ways to be friendly and say hello to they ladies in the neighborhood and gave some examples. They were very giggly boys and gave up on me with an, “Okay miss have a good day.” They never did get my digits, but they learned some boundaries.

Your boundaries may be different than mine, or than the parents of the teens you encounter around here, but learning that different people have different boundaries is a valuable lesson for young adults. So when kids litter on your lawn, it may be news to them that some people don’t like trash in the yard. Or if your young neighbors sit on your car they

might not realize that there is any difference between sitting on your steps and sitting on your car. They are not omniscient, so be friendly: “Whatcha doing there Jake?” and be firm, “Don’t do than any more buddy,” “That ruins my paint job,” “Do I have to clean up after you,” or “Do you wanna help me here?” Feel free to add some corny examples, “When I was a kid my dad woulda kicked my butt if I did that...”

Adults give off mixed messages about boundaries when they don’t maintain their property. So if you are annoyed by the trash, graffiti, or foot traffic in your yard, step back and have a look: is the paint peeling, siding damaged, landscaping overgrown with weeds, stairs broken? Are drugs being used or sold on my property? Giving a clear message that you care about yourself and your property can take the place of those conversations with teens you are uncomfortable having.

Young people appreciate honest praise and a sincere interest in their needs. They need a healthy community. Don’t ignore them; be a part of that healthy community by interacting in a healthy way when you need to.

## THE LANDMARK SOCIETY HOME AND GARDEN TOUR IS COMING TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!



Mark your calendars!!! The Landmark Society of Western New York, one of oldest and most respected preservation groups in the country, is holding their 38<sup>th</sup> annual *House and Garden Tour* in the *Highland Park Neighborhood* on Saturday and Sunday, June 7 & 8, 2008. Homes are being selected for their unique architecture, history and style. More details to follow!

### Join the Highland Park Neighborhood Association and help support *your neighborhood!*

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E- Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Send check to:

HPN Membership  
C/O Roger Ramsay , 768  
Meigs St. ,Rochester, NY  
14620  
Ramsay@cpc401k.com

Contributing members get discounts to neighborhood events and other benefits.

# HALLOWEEN PARTY AND PARADE

Meghan Delehanty—Reddington

Every outdoor event planned for late October in Rochester should come with a rain date. The annual neighborhood Halloween Party and Parade is no exception. As advertised in the last newsletter, the 3rd annual party was supposed to be held Sunday, October 28 at the Meigs St. - Linden playground. But the changeable weather made things a bit complicated. After a few phone calls and a chalkboard placed at the entrance of the playground announcing a rain date, families were informed of the change to Tuesday, October 30. What a great decision this proved to be! Party and parade day brought much warmer temperatures, some sunshine and between 30—40 kids ranging from ages 0—5 years old.

Thanks to neighborhood volunteers, the event included donuts on a string, a scavenger hunt, a piñata and a parade! Neighbors contributed candy treats for all the neighborhood kids to share. The Highland Park Neighborhood Association provided donuts and cider. A good time was had by most if not all! Mark your calendar early for next year's 4th Annual Halloween Party and Parade the Sunday before Halloween.

## SPECIAL MENTION TO OUR BUSINESS CONTRIBUTORS FOR "TASTE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD"

Sahara Mediterranean Eatery , 798 S Clinton Ave

<http://www.saharaeatery.com/>

South Wedge Diner 880 South Clinton [http://rocviki.org/South\\_Wedge\\_Diner](http://rocviki.org/South_Wedge_Diner)

Georgie's Bakery 857 South Clinton Ave <http://www.georgiesbakery.com/>

Salvatore's 1018 South Clinton Ave

Rochester Meats 815-819 S Clinton Ave. <http://www.rochestermeatsny.com/>

The Black Pearl 791 Meigs St

Granny's Ice Cream Parlor 793 S. Goodman St.

Hedonist Artisan Chocolates 750 South Avenue

<http://www.hedonistchocolates.com/>

Coffee Connection 681 South Ave.

<http://www.womenscoffeeconnection.com/wcc/index.php>

LUX Lounge 666 South Ave <http://www.lux666.com/>

Equal Grounds 750 South Ave. [http://rocviki.org/Equal\\_Grounds](http://rocviki.org/Equal_Grounds)

Open Face Sandwich Eatery 651 South Ave

<http://openfacesandwicheatery.com/>

Cheesy Eddies 602 South Ave <http://www.cheesyeddie.com/>

Little Venice Pizzeria 742 South Ave.

The South Wedge Barber Shop 720 South Ave.

[http://rocviki.org/The\\_South\\_Wedge\\_Barber\\_Shop](http://rocviki.org/The_South_Wedge_Barber_Shop)

The Keg Sports Bar & Grill 315 Gregory St. <http://www.kegsportsbar.com/>

Raksha Elmer Massage 442 1854 1242 S Clinton Ave.

House of Hamez Restaurant, coffee house, music 389 Gregory Street

<http://www.houseofhamez.com/>

Creekview Dairy Custom Ice Cream and Sorbet 74 South Ave. 271 4550

Shades of Joy Silhouettes by Jen 271-3027

## School #12 Wish List .....



- new or used children's books, up to a grade 8 reading level
- new or gently used winter clothing, especially small and medium adult coats
- new or gently used children's clothes, especially pants size 5-8
- a little of your time in and around the classroom!

Contact Vicki Robertson at [vic\\_robertson@frontiernet.net](mailto:vic_robertson@frontiernet.net) or 461-4282

To make a donation contact Lori Bryce 242-9795 or [eclair@frontiernet.net](mailto:eclair@frontiernet.net) or Michelle Daniels at 461-3280 ext. 1141.

Tax receipts are available for all donations.

Thank you!



## Kids' Art Cards

Need a little holiday gift? Want to support a great cause? School #12 kids' art will once again be featured in a series of cards that will be available this holiday season while supplies last. Don't miss out! These blank cards are sure to be a hit! Proceeds will be used to provide additional resources for the art program, the school/community garden and classroom activities. Cards will be available in many of the neighborhood businesses, at the school, and by contacting Lori Bryce at 242-9795 or [eclair@frontiernet.net](mailto:eclair@frontiernet.net)



## SECURITY COORDINATOR APPOINTED

Hello neighbors. My name is Paul Urai and I have been appointed Neighborhood Security Coordinator. I have walked Pac Tac for several years and regularly attend PCIC meetings. I want to do what I can to keep our neighborhood a safe place to live and work. Any security issues, crime trends, etc., can be brought to my attention via email [koenig@rochester.rr.com](mailto:koenig@rochester.rr.com). Call 911 if you see a crime in progress. Also, Lt Frank Churnetski at the NET Office is willing to hear our concerns and can be reached at 428-7640.

Recently, he warned us about the **homeless bottle collectors**. They seem harmless until they are in our back yards and on our porches taking more than bottles. We are encouraged to donate our bottles to charities such as the Boy Scouts. Please do not encourage these collectors to be in our neighborhoods.

While Christmas shopping please **keep items in your trunk or out of site in your car**. Car larcenies are up this time of year. Don't give thieves a reason to break your windows.

This is also the time of year for door to door scams. My general rule is **let NO ONE in**. They may ask to use the restroom or for water, but often this is just so they can case your home. If you want to give, they can wait on the porch. Trust your instincts. They are usually right.

We have also been having a monthly neighborhood Pac Tac walk. We meet the **4th Wednesday** of the month (the Wed. after our neighborhood meeting) at the NET office on 846 S. Clinton. The time is 6:30-8:30pm. We walk in the neighborhood and break for pizza at Little Venice (pizza supplied by Highland Park Neighborhood Association). All are invited. No Pac Tac training is required for this walk. Here is a list of the upcoming HPNA walks: **Nov 28th, Jan 23rd, Feb 27th, March 26th and April 23rd**. We are skipping Dec. as it is a busy month for us all. Hope to see you out there.

## GEORGIE'S BAKERY

**Matthew Carnevale**

"Fresh is best," agreed George Ruiz and his son Chris when I started our conversation by asking them what sets Georgie's bakery apart from all the other bakeries in town. Georgie should know-as a fresh arrival from his native Puerto Rico to Rochester in 1976, he settled on Gregory Street where he met his soon to be wife Liz who grew up on Sanford Street. They have been married for thirty years. Their three sons, Georgie, Chris, and Ian, all attended School 12. Georgie, Chris, and Chris's wife Kiyomi, work with Georgie and Liz in the shop. Liz runs the front end and does the books; she's the organizer in the family. "I couldn't do it without my wife," confesses Georgie, who runs the kitchen and

is responsible for the freshness and consistency of the large variety of quality foods that are created here.

Georgie started in the bakery trade as a young man in 1979, going to work for one of the large bakeries. He's worked for a few actually, and has seen Rochester's highs and lows in the form of layoffs and slowdowns, and what for him was the turning point and the seed from which Georgie's Bakery would grow: his last employer asking him to sign up for a pay cut. "No more working for someone else, we cut where we could, we committed to 80 hour work weeks where the day begins at 6AM, and applied our personal pride and determination." Liz left her job as a home

health aide and the bakery was opened in May 2005. But this made from scratch bakery is really only a small part of Georgie's: Soups, Chili, Submarines, and American or Spanish platters. Specialty Breads. Spanish Pastries. Friday Fish Fry. On Saturdays, people start lining up early for Georgie's mom, Carmen, to come in and prepare some traditional Spanish dinners. If you haven't been in yet, introduce yourself to one of our great Highland Park families.

<http://www.georgiesbakery.com>  
**857 South Clinton Ave.,  
 Rochester, NY, 14620.**  
**Hours: Mon-Fri. 8 A.M.-6 P.M., Sat. 8-5. (585) 241-3987 Off street parking for eleven cars.**

# INTRODUCING THE LOGO OF THE HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

Michael Tomb

Long before the park and lilacs came to be, there existed an arboretum and nursery known throughout the world. The logo for the newly re-named Highland Park Neighborhood pays homage to this history, even while presenting a striking and modern design. This is important because Rochester's newest neighborhood (albeit in name only) is also one of its most storied. It is the area from which one of Rochester's nicknames, "The Flower City" was derived in tribute to the thousands of acres of nursery stock and the millions of specimens of trees that grew within the city's borders in the later 1800s. So when, in early 2007, volunteers from the Highland Park Neighborhood formed a "Logo Committee", the committee's charter was to create a design that embraced the history of the area as well as the vibrant present day community. While the eclectic, family friendly neighborhood may be one of Rochester's best kept secrets, the park within its borders is a well known treasure. The Logo Committee decided early on that a new logo should incorporate a reference to the historic arboretum that makes Highland Park a special place every month of the year (and not just for the lilac festival!). In addition, the new symbol needed to convey that the neighborhood was an inviting and fashionable place to put down roots. These decisions eventually evolved into the stylized tree that gracefully anchors the current design.

Trees are more than just significant to the neighborhood's lore. Within this region of the city, two immigrants to Rochester, George Ellwanger and Patrick Barry created a nursery of such botanical diversity and worldwide fame that it contained thousands of varieties of trees and shipped extensively to destinations all over the continent and beyond...extending even to Australia and Korea. The apple farms of western New York as well as the fruit laden valleys of California, in fact nearly every

substantial planting of well known or unusual trees and shrubs throughout 19<sup>th</sup> century America can be traced back to Rochester's nursery industry. In a sense, these city fathers, Ellwanger and Barry, (in whose honor the neighborhood was formerly named,) also contributed to its updated name. For it was the donation of their "Highlands", and their dream that the hilltop acres should serve as a living museum of all the rare varieties of trees and shrubs available through the Ellwanger & Barry Nursery, that served as the basis for Highland Park.

In a nod to this history, the swirling design of Highland Park Neighborhood's logo is reminiscent of the style of Art Nouveau. The Art Nouveau movement, expressed through the genius of Gustav Klimt, Candace Wheeler or Louis Comfort Tiffany, was a worldwide sensation contemporary with birth of Highland Park. So in this sense, while the logo is most apparently a design for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it still retains echoes of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup>; for that was the era when the neighborhood first began to thrive. Even as Ellwanger and Barry turned much of their nursery grounds into housing developments for the booming city, the decorative arts were also evolving into a timeless standard that is reflected within the logo.

The exceptional design was the work of the **Christopher Communications** agency under the direction of owner (and Highland Park Neighborhood resident) **Chris Christopher**. In total Chris's staff submitted four basic designs for consideration and then, working with the Logo committee, went on to develop several more variants. While the quality was such that any one of the designs would have served a neighborhood proud, the logo committee eventually settled on the most whimsical and friendly of them all. In the coming days wherever the logo appears, such as on stationary, flags or t-shirts, it is hoped that the exciting design will serve as the new symbol of the Highland Park Neighborhood.



Highland Park  
Neighborhood Association

## Come One, Come All!!! School #12 Open House Tuesday, January 29th at 7:00

Getting ready to select a school for your child? Looking for a change in your child's early education? See what your neighborhood school has to offer! James P.B. Duffy is one of the most highly sought out elementary schools in the city. Being one of the larger city elementary schools has its advantages. A large percentage of spaces are reserved for neighborhood children in the kindergarten lottery process. If you live within 1/2 mile of School #12 or you live within the current home-school attendance boundary of School #12 your child is **guaranteed** a spot. School #12 also has a number of magnet and special programs - Strong Start and Great Beginnings, Hola (dual language program) and MAP (major

achievement program) to name a few. Once at School 12 you can take advantage of the new computer lab and will have the opportunity to participate in a wonderful music program. Primary choir, intermediate choir, instrumental music, band, bell choir, and Orff ensemble are all available.

Mark January 29th on the calendar for a chance to meet the administration and staff and take a peak at the opportunities that are just around the corner. **Everyone** is invited - prospective parents, current families, alumni families, members of the community....spread the word! Can't wait until January? Call Michelle Daniels, School #12 parent liaison, at 461-3280 ext. 1141 to schedule a tour.



## The 2008 Tax Reassessment

*In 2008, the City of Rochester will update 66,700 property assessments, adjusting them to match current real estate values. Full disclosure notices showing old and new assessments and your total tax decrease or increase will be mailed in December, 2007. The first tax bills using the new assessments will be mailed in July, 2008.*

*Any specific questions may be directed to the:*

*City of Rochester*

*Bureau of Assessment*

*Phone: (585) 428-7221*



## PART III: MAKING A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD EVEN BETTER

Dave Topa

Since the last newsletter, I've encountered a number of things that make me say, "This neighborhood's great!" From the "Taste of the Neighborhood," and the well-attended Halloween children's parade to continued rave reviews of neighborhood stores and restaurants (including a large number of City Newspaper's "Best of" awards), the Highland Park Neighborhood continues to impress me. However, like many excellent corporations and organizations, we can't rest on our laurels and must strive to continue to improve our neighborhood.

How to make our neighborhood better:

### 1. Be an ambassador for the neighborhood.

Invite friends from the

suburbs and other parts of the city to hang out here. Whether it's having food and drinks at a local establishment or planning a play date at the Meigs and Linden playground, expose others to all the great things this area has to offer. At work and with friends, talk about how much you enjoy the neighborhood and encourage those looking for housing to check it out. Word of mouth is a great marketing tool.

### 2. Shop locally.

The neighborhood is home to a number of great shops and restaurants that need our support. By keeping your money local, you're keeping storefronts full and sidewalks thriving, thus maintaining the safety and appearance of the neighborhood.

### 3. Maintain the

**neighborhood.** If you go out for a walk, take a small plastic shopping bag to pick up errant pieces of trash. While not glamorous, it sets a good example for others and keeps the neighborhood looking great.

### 4. Don't be afraid to over-invest.

While making improvements to our home, our mortgage banker second-guessed us, saying, "You know, you're really over-improving for your neighborhood." Well, if neighborhoods are to improve and thrive, we all need to over-invest. Whether it's time, money, or effort, give a little more of yourself to keep this neighborhood great - I'll bet you get a great long-term return on your investment in the form of great neighbors, ease of living, and being a part of a wonderful community.

## Who's Who or New In The Hood?

We would like to extend a warm Highland Park Neighborhood welcome to Gena Merliss, Jack Peltz and their daughter Graycie of Mulberry St.

Gena and Jack moved here from Boston in August so that Jack could attend the Doctoral Program for Clinical Psychology at the U of R. Shortly after, the two

started an on line onesie business, [www.graycielu.com](http://www.graycielu.com).

Jack said he knew this was a great neighborhood when he and his family rolled in with their moving truck late on a night back in August. They had planned to go right to sleep when Tom and Sally, their neighbors who were sitting on their porch, asked if they could

help them move in. Since that first night, Gena and Jack have found the neighborhood to be extremely welcoming and people to be excited they live here. We are!

Email [meghandelred@hotmail.com](mailto:meghandelred@hotmail.com) if you have a new or favorite neighbor and we will feature them in our **Who's Who or New In The Hood**.

## **THE HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NAMES THE NEW BOARD**

Elections were held at the October Association meeting. Congratulations to all newly elected/appointed officers!

|                             |                      |                                     |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Chairman</b>             | Mike Thompson        | mdt617@frontiernet.net              |
| <b>Vice Chair</b>           | Roger Ramsay         | Ramsay@cpc401k.com                  |
| <b>Communications</b>       | Mary Rose McBride    | maryrose_mcbride@yahoo.com          |
| <b>Secretary</b>            |                      |                                     |
| <b>Treasurer</b>            | Jeanne De Keyserling | jdekeyserling@thehousingcouncil.org |
| <b>Webmaster</b>            | Matt Carnevale       | mcarneva@rochester.rr.com           |
| <b>North Section Leader</b> | Michael Tomb         | michaelino@gmail.com                |
| <b>South Section Leader</b> | Ruth Danis           | ruthdanis@aol.com                   |
| <b>East Section Leader</b>  | Amy Priestley        | apriestley@rochester.rr.com         |
| <b>Security Coordinator</b> | Paul Urai            | Koenig@rochester.rr.com             |

### **A Word From Our Chairman, Mike Thompson**

Visiting a number of communities this year I was reminded again what we have in this neighborhood: active people who really care about their neighborhood and the larger community, historic houses which are treasures in their craftsmanship and simplicity, an eclectic mix of good restaurants to walk to, a movie theater, a world class arboretum, and a tradition of actively seeking to transform and preserve things important to us all which is responsible for the environment we all enjoy now. The neighborhood association in the 1960's and 70's stood fast against a plan to route an expressway through the middle of our current neighborhood; imagine where we'd be now had this plan gone through! I often look at our some particularly dysfunctional elements of our city and suburban neighborhoods and wonder "how'd that happen?" When the voices of residents aren't heard ugly buildings get built, traffic gets routed ignoring pedestrian routes and changes occur which slowly erode desirability of a neighborhood. The neighborhood association is a vehicle to help us organize and amplify our voice. We are fortunate to have a NET office which functions well, a Neighbors Building Neighborhoods (NBN) organization with vision which we feed into to help solve local issues on a citywide scale.

As we prepare for and celebrate various religious and secular holidays we are reminded of the many things that need our attention and just how busy we all are! Our board includes folks who are very, very busy. Our neighborhood organization can do things *with you, not for you!* We need your support and help. Join the garden committee to help beautify the neighborhood. Join us to help organize a neighborhood festival. Help us deliver and produce newsletters. Help solve a neighborhood problem.

Hope to see new faces with fresh ideas.

Happy Holidays to everyone!



## FYI

**The following sections of the Highland Park Neighborhood are scheduled to receive new curbs and sidewalks in the Spring / Summer of 2008. Caroline, Meigs (between S. Clinton and Linden), Bond, Goebel Place and Whitmore**

**Call 428-6837 for more information.**

## Wanted: Clever New Name for our Newsletter



Contact:  
Meghan Delehanty-  
Reddington  
[meghandelred@hotmail.com](mailto:meghandelred@hotmail.com)  
with ideas, comments or stories for future newsletters. We are looking for a catchy new name for our newsletter! All suggestions are welcome. The Highland Park ...???

## NEIGHBORS BUILDING NEIGHBORHOODS INVITES LAND DEVELOPERS TO CONFERENCE

Roger Ramsay

NBN Sector 6, Neighbors Building Neighborhoods, recently sponsored Rochester's first ever "State of the Sector" conference Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at School 12. The purpose of the Conference was to bring neighbors and land developers together in a non confrontational environment thus allowing developers to share their ideas and visions for certain land use without the traditional audience intervention.

The Conference also sponsored afternoon concurrent Neighborhood building workshops where residents had an opportunity to learn such things as Effective Communication Skills, How to Plan and Run Great Meetings, Why Lead is Bad and Why Your Property Taxes are Going Up in 2008. Each neighborhood and block club displayed their accomplishments and what made them unique. More than 120 residents from our sector enjoyed all the activities of the day including for some, free daycare service. Great food was not the only success story of the day provided by local restaurants including breakfast by George's and lunch, which included wraps, fresh spring rolls, pizza, salad and more. Premier Pastries and Cheesy Eddies were the frosting on the cake providing "to die for" individual afternoon delights.

The day was kicked off by the opening guest speaker David Driscoll, AICP, Participatory Planning Consultant, NYC UNESCO, chair, and lecturer of Cornell University. Mr. Driscoll provided a very enlightening and entertaining slide show on how to

build healthy all-inclusive communities. Several politicians were also in attendance and spoke briefly on the importance of neighborhood involvement in the early stages of land use planning through the NBN process. All spoke on how impressed they were with the professionalism of the program and the amount of community involvement. Mayor Duffy, Assembly member Susan John, City Council President Lois Giess, and New York State Senator Joe Robach all spoke.

During the morning session, residents listened intently as nine local developers presented 15-minute Power Point presentations on their past and present projects as well as future development. Konar and Associates presented their plans for the corner of South Ave. and Gregory St. to develop and build a four story multi use building. Costello and Sons, who are developing the old Lola campus on E. Henrietta Rd. and Westfall, "City Gate" unveiled their urban village and vision for the canal trail. Strong Memorial, Highland and the University of Rochester discussed their future plans for multiple sites including the new parking garage on South Ave. Conifer Development discussed the status of Riverpark Commons and the City of Rochester explained the current status of all the Brown field Sites around the neighborhood. The State of New York discussed what their options are for the land behind the NET office near the Goodman St. exit. The Al Sigel Center Campus expansion on South Ave. and the former Downtown Motor

Lodge sites were also presented. Neighbors were pleased with the information presented and had an opportunity to discuss their thoughts and ask questions of each developer during lunch. Developers were also pleased with the meeting and came away better informed about what neighbors wanted from them.

Chuck Thomas, AICP Director of Planning for the City of Rochester, closed the Conference by praising the work, leadership and community involvement this first State of the Sector Meeting produced. Chuck said that in his 30 years of community development he had never seen a program as comprehensive, informative or as well attended as this one. He stated this was the first step in the NBN process to bring all the stakeholders together at the neighborhood level to create collaborative plans before formal designs are submitted to the city for review and zoning approval. This kind of all-inclusive planning can help to avoid significant problems down the road and make our city and neighborhoods a safer, better place to live and work. Word has it this will not be the last State of the Sector event. Ideas are already formulating for the next event from all the evaluations received. Stay tuned. You won't want to miss the next one. For more information about this meeting or NBN go to [www.NBNsector6.org](http://www.NBNsector6.org). NBN6 meetings are open to residents, business owners, landlords and all other stakeholders in our sector.