

THE BUZZ

The Highland Park Neighborhood News

January 2010

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NEW FEATURE

Neighborhood voices speak about our local beloved community landmarks... This issue:



**What
Does
the**

Cinema

**mean to
you?**

Highland Park Neighborhood General Meetings

The meetings include time for information sharing, open discussion and invited guests speak on a variety of issues. A calendar of meetings is posted on www.highlandparkrochester.org.

01/27/09 "School Choice"

Location: School #12 — Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose Room

6:30-7pm : Refreshments, mingling & information tables 7pm : Meeting



Highland Park
Neighborhood Association

Supporting Membership Form

Today's Date: _____ Amount of your Donation: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount of Donation

\$15

\$30

\$50

Membership gift (please circle your selection)

Ceramic mug (New!) OR 2 admission passes to Lamberton Conservatory (New!)

T-shirt OR 1 family pass to the Cinema Theatre (New!)

Ceramic mug OR Lamberton passes AND T-shirt OR Cinema pass

If a t-shirt is selected above, please circle a size:

Men's sizes: M L XL XXL

Women's sizes: S M L XL

Youth sizes: S M XL



Check here if you wish to waive your membership gift — Thank You!

Make checks payable to Highland Park Neighborhood Association.

Your merchandise or membership gifts will be delivered to your home.

Mail or deliver this form with your check to:

HPNA, c/o Mary Staropoli, 147 Crawford St., Rochester, NY 14620



Highland Park
Neighborhood T-SHIRT

2009 HPNA Supporting Members

Thank you to all our neighbors (listed below) who made donations to support our work this year. At our December 8 meeting, we also recognized neighbors who volunteered their time this year, which is equally valuable! In whatever way you've made a contribution, please know that your support quite literally makes it possible for us to continue all the activities you see featured in this newsletter!

Keith Abel & Robin Fisher
Sharon Addams
Carl Almer & Morag Martin
Joy Anderson
Marilyn Anderson & Jonathan Garlock
Marnie & Gordon Barnes
George Beck & Jeanne Herrick
Brian & Nancy Bennett
Nicholas Bensko & Nancy Watson
Stacey Bershad
Fran Beyrle
Barbara Billingsley
Carol Bly
Patrick & Mabel Bodell
Sarah Bogaard
Mary Jo Brach & Chris Farnum
Pauline Bradbury
David & Karen Bryce
Lori Bryce & Roger Janezic
Chris Caraccilo
Barb Case
Shelby Cates
Jim Chapman & Jennifer Reisch
Sylvia Charlesworth
Alex Chernjavsky
Judy Clay & Richard Johnson
Tod Clickner
Amy & Ryan Connell
Joan Cook
Ruth Danis
Shannon Davis

Jeanne de Keyserling
Virginia Dekin & Sandra Ehman
Lynn & Mike Donahue
Jeff & Michelle Dormitzer
Sara & Mike Dovichi
Linda Downes
Jayne Downes & Richard Jones
Dennis Drew & Karen Saludo
Norman Erickson
Rob Ferris
Janet Finch-Levy & Roger Levy
Kelly & Kara Finnigan
Heather Fiore & Rob Unckless
Beth Fischer
Colleen Fogarty & Jeff Sciortino
Jim Frackenpohl & George Corella
Rand & Nancy Gee
Susan Gerber & Jim Reinhardt
Roger & Janet Gram
Lisa Gregory
Joanne Guarnera
Alisa & John Hall
Kay Hall
Jennifer Hayes
Amy & Peter Hentschke
Elaine Heveron & Lou Faber
William Hicks & Tracey Mykins
Michael & Ileana Hoeschele
Helen & Jack Hogan
Nancy Howland
Connie & Thomas Izzo

Rockwood Jenkins
Natalie Jones & Tim Liebert
Lawrence Jones & Vera Versteeg
Lisa Kilejian & Keith Dockery
Michelle Kudesh
Joanne Lang
Rick & Dayle Lavine
Nancy & Dave Liebert
Casey & Mary Ellen Lopata
Mike Mahoney & Jane Wineberg
Jean McCarthy
Jeannine Meilman
Carolyn Mok
Lisa Moosbrugger
Tim Moran & David Renko
Jim & Christine Morris
Jeffrey & Lorraine Mueller
Dallas Nelson & Paul Cabral
Pamela Norton & Stephen Crowley
Cheryl & Don Olney
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Joyce & George Parker
Jean Pedersen
Lisa Pelletier
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Ben & Michela Peters
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Barbara Phillips
Amy Priestley
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Lisa Shaw
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Kristine Smith
Mary Staropoli & Doug Ackley
James Stewart
David Sullivan
Zhi Tang
Bob & Jo Taylor
Brienne Testa-Wojteczko & Family
Michael Tomb & Marcia Zach
Michael Thompson
& Jacqueline Lindauer
Dave & Jen Topa
Mario Trotter
Carolyn Vitale
Nicole & Vince Vitale
Jennifer West & Paul Tremblay
Wayne Willis
Nancy Winter & Bob Averill
Carlene Woodward
Joseph & Joyce Yatteau
Tanya & Christian Zwahlen

New Year Notes

A letter from the HPNA Communications Coordinator Michael Tomb

Art in the Neighborhood

In cooperation with SEAC, The Highland Park Neighborhood Association has received a grant from The Arts & Cultural Council of Greater Rochester for a project that includes commissioning a “Family Friendly” art sculpture within Ellwanger & Barry Park. Craig Wilson, an artist who also designs exhibits at The Strong Museum, has been chosen to create the art work. To oversee this project and pursue similar initiatives as well as manage our Lilac Festival events, we are forming a new **Highland Park Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Team**. This team will have an organizational meeting on February 3, 2009. Look for an item on our News & Event Blog (www.buzzblastandblog.com) or email us at arts@highlandparkrochester.org if you are interested in joining this team.

First Annual Meeting & Celebration

The Neighborhood Association’s **First Annual Meeting and Celebration** on December 8th was an enjoyable success attended by more than 75 friends and neighbors. In addition to socializing, we shared two presentations; the first being a 2009 year-in-review of all our events, exhibits and other activities. The second was a simple **Thank You** to all our volunteers, friends and supporters. Both of the presentations are now on our Virtual Scrapbook site (www.ellwangerbarry.org) along with a reprised link to our **YouTube** videos which were shot at the Taste of the Neighborhood event.

If you (or anyone you know) volunteered this year and have NOT received one of our specially designed 2009 post cards, just send your contact information to blog@highlandparkrochester.org

Security Email

In addition to **The Highland Blast**, we have started a new e-mail newsletter that is devoted solely to **Security Related matters**. To subscribe to the **Highland Security Bulletins**, look for a link on our News and Events Blog (www.buzzblastandblog.com) where you will also find a new **Security Alert Page**. This page will also allow for comments and discussions related to on-going issues. Use this email address: security@highlandparkrochester.org to send us info or feedback.

Highland Park Neighborhood Association Board Members

Ruth Danis
Co-Chair

Roger Ramsay
Co-Chair

Mary Staropoli
Vice Chair

Michael Tomb
Communications

Mike Thompson
Treasurer

Amy Priestley
Secretary

Matt Carnevale
Web Master

Carlene Woodward
North Section Leader

Marcia Zach
North Section Leader

Jennifer Topa
South Section Leader

Mike Mahoney
East Section Leader

Paul Urai
Security Coordinator

Contact Board Members at
board@highlandparkrochester.org

HPNA Mailing Address
Po Box 18103
Rochester NY 14618

Newsletter

Contributors

Ruth Danis, Roger Ramsay, Mary Staropoli, Michael Tomb, Mike Thompson, Meghan Delehanty-Reddington, Matt Carnevale, Marcia Zach, Jennifer Topa, Mike Mahoney, Paul Urai

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Starting in this issue, we will feature personal testimonials from folks in

NEW!



**WHAT
DOES
THE**

Cinema

**mean to
YOU?**



Happily Ever After

Audrey Kramer (my wife) started going to the Cinema about ten years ago, when she lived in Wayne County. She had heard about it through a friend. She heard what a quaint theater it was. Audrey was hooked the first time she went there -- the old-style architecture, the friendly employees, the resident cat, the reasonable prices. Going to the Cinema is very homey, with a cat on your lap and employees who know you. It's like watching movies at home but with a big screen and a professional sound system. And the popcorn is the best in town at the best price, period! Two movies for five bucks, you can't beat it.

I was introduced to the Cinema through Audrey. We went there on dates before we were married. We even chose to buy a house in the neighborhood, partly because the house was close to the Cinema (we live within easy walking distance). A while ago, we saw a couple getting married in the Cinema, and we had the idea that we would get married there, too. And we did! We both love the Cinema and go there often. We also invite our friends and family to come with us.

**ALEX CHERNAVSKY
AND AUDREY KRAMER**

When I drive pass the lighted marquee, I always imagine being inside The Cinema, grabbing a large popcorn and a seat...and waiting for the magic to begin. To my eye, the theater has always appeared as a friendly, beckoning anchor to the neighborhood. That's the spirit in which I first saw it forty years ago,

more than a decade before I ever entered the building. Back then, at the end of a typical high school day, I would take a long bus ride starting in the suburbs that ended at the downtown public library where I would wait, along with my sister, for my mother to get off work. Along the way the bus always passed

by the Cinema where movies like "MASH", "Bananas" or "Dirty Harry" were on the Marquee. So that was my first connection to the theater, a re-occurring daydream about being old enough to get off that bus and finally go inside.

MICHAEL TOMB

Third Annual Children's Movies @ the Cinema

Saturday, March 6th
Featuring: BOLT

10 a.m. and admission is free!
Bring children of all ages.
Sponsored by HPNA
Questions: jentopa@yahoo.com

KIDS!

The Cinema is a place where I've brought my children for special HPNA events! They look forward to going to the movies with all of their neighborhood friends. It is the highlight of our winter. The Cinema has always been more than generous to the children of our neighborhood. These events have been a huge success!

I also love that I can bring my children to a movie and we can all have a treat for under \$20!

They have always been so considerate of people's pocketbooks. Our family appreciates everything the Cinema has done for our neighborhood!!

JENNIFER TOPA

The Cinema is one of the remaining theaters which provides a place for people in the community to spend time together. It is not surprising that couples get married in the Cinema where individuals have shared good experiences. Instead of being isolated with our DVDs residents in our neighborhood can walk to a local landmark, purchase an inexpensive ticket and enjoy a film with the Cinema's cat.

A 10 minute walk to see a movie and eat great popcorn – and the fun of waiting for the resident cat to show up and startle my wife.

MIKE MAHONEY

RUTH DANIS

NEIGHBORHOOD BULLETIN BOARD

Welcome Bags, Don't Miss Out

If you are a **New Home Owner** to the Highland Park Neighborhood or have a new neighbor and would like to deliver them a welcome bag, please contact jentopa@yahoo.com.

The bags are full of information and coupons from local businesses.

New home owners only.

Highland Branch Library News

- Story times on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 for ages 18 months to 3 years.
- We will have a literacy aide after school to help kids with homework and reading skills. There will also be fun literacy based games, craft activities and book clubs.
- We have a knitting/crochet group meeting on the first Monday of the month from 5:30-7:00.
- Wii on the first Wednesday of the month for all ages.
- January is Big Read month featuring CALL OF THE WILD with a book discussion on Jan. 25.
- During the February school break we will have programs and activities. There will be movies, crafts and more.

Give us a call for more information.
Highland Branch Library 971 South Avenue 428-8206

Highland Park Neighborhood 2010 Calendars now available!

Neighborhood pictures of its parks and peoples
473-1726 or mcarneva@rochester.rr.com

FOUND!

A Wegman's bag of Bionacles
was left at the Taste of the
Neighborhood picnic.

If they belong to you, please
contact jentopa@yahoo.com

This Salsa you'll want to go to your hips!

Check out our New Student specials!

Group Salsa Lesson Package for One - \$45

Group Salsa Lesson Package for Two - \$80

Group & Private Salsa Lesson Package for Two - \$135

Tango Cafe Dance Studio
389 Gregory St, Rochester
Ph: 271-4930
www.tangocafedance.com

**TANGO
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Fun, Affordable, Dance Instruction

Calendar of Events

JANUARY

Wed. 01/27, 7 - 9 pm
School Choice Meeting
Location: School #12
Cafeteria/Multi-Purpose
Room (South Avenue
across from
Highland Hospital)
*Co-sponsored
by School 12 PTA —
Mingling, refreshments &
informational tables
from 6:30- 7 pm*

Sat. 01/23, 1 pm
Tour of Highland Park
Special Tour of
Lamberton Conservatory
*Note: There will be a
\$3 entrance fee for
this tour only*

Wed. 01/28, 6:30 - 8 pm
Pac-Tac Walk with Pizza

FEBRUARY

Wed. 02/03, 7 pm
Arts & Cultural Team
Organizational Meeting
at Muddy Waters

Sat. 02/06, 1 pm

Montana Jack
Tall Tales and Cowboy
Songs from the
Wild Wild West.
Tango Cafe,
389 Gregory St.
\$5 admission for kids.
Parents free with
a paid admission.
Doors open at 12:30

Sat. 02/20, 1 pm
Tree Tour Highland Park
Meet outside
of Conservatory

Tues. 02/23
Open Meeting
Traffic Calming Team
NSC Office
846 S. Clinton Avenue

Wed 02/24, 6:30 - 8 pm
Pac-Tac Walk with Pizza

MARCH

Sat. 03/6, 10 am
**Third Annual Children's
Movies at the Cinema**
Featuring: BOLT
10 a.m. and
admission is free!
Bring children of all ages.
Sponsored by HPNA
*Questions:
jentopa@yahoo.com*

Sat. 03/20, 1 pm
Tree Tour Highland Park
Meet outside
of Conservatory

Tues. 03/23, 7 - 9 pm
General Meeting
New Art and Other Plans
for Ellwanger & Barry Park
Parks Bldg
171 Reservoir Ave
*Mingling & refreshments
from 6:30- 7 pm*

Wed. 03/24, 6:30 - 8 pm
Pac-Tac Walk with Pizza

APRIL

Sat. 04/17, 1 pm
Tree Tour Highland Park
Meet outside
of Conservatory

Wed. 04/28, 6:30 - 8 pm
Pac-Tac Walk with Pizza

MAY

Sat. 05/8th, 9 am-3 pm
Neighborhood Gardens
Cleanup Day
Volunteers Welcomed

05/14 - 05/23
Lilac Festival
Highland Park
Neighborhood
Association Exhibit

Wed. 05/26, 6:30-8 pm
Pac-Tac Walk with Pizza

What Does Ellwanger & Barry Park Mean to You?

Want to share your thoughts about how
the park plays a part in your daily life?

Email your comments to
buzz@highlandparkrochester.org
and you might be featured in the
next issue of The Buzz.

Southside Baseball in the neighborhood!!!

Little League Registration
Sat. 02/06 & 02/13 11am - 2pm

South Ave. Rec Center
(back of School #12)

Questions: Southside Baseball 473 - 6473

THE TANGO CAFÉ

by Matt Carnevale

Ruben Fuentes had a cracked disc injury that needed physical therapy rehabilitation and he was addressing that through dancing; Kerri Vaughn had been let go from a corporate job near Syracuse and had been living on a 55 acre farm. She had envisioned the farm as her retirement place after she had worked hard to establish it as a Sacred Circle folk dancing community. The two of them met at a dance lesson in Rochester. After several lessons, they were approached by the previous owner, who was ready to move on from running the third floor, 4,000 square foot, 1885 dance floor which had originally been built as a Ballroom. They quickly recognized this as their unique opportunity to bring the joy of dance to everyone in a more urban environment. This was in keeping with Kerri's belief that one does not need a formal background in dance - merely willingness to have fun in a non-threatening and friendly environment. They both agreed the venture was a chance worth taking...

Kerri at this time had a broad background in many forms of dance having danced since childhood. She had a particular love of Country Line Dancing and Swing. It was because of her frustration with Swing that she discovered Rueda - which is a rich blend of all dancing that features a caller and dancers in community circle groups of pairs performing Salsa - and is a signature dance lesson at The Tango Café. Other signatures include what many consider being the best hardwood dance floor in Rochester, all under beautiful exposed all natural timber wood roof trusses and lit by oversized windows by day, and subtle lighting in the evening.

The two want all to know that you do not have to come in with a partner. Nor is this a club environment - it is a beginner friendly social dance school. Their best clientele are those that come in with a question along the lines of "That looks like fun! How do I do that?" Their best clientele are those that come in and want to understand the music, not merely memorize some formulae that so many instructors teach. You may engage in one on one, in couples, or in group dance instruction. This is a studio that keeps its

clients' needs first and is ready to discuss any of your custom needs and ideas.

And once you've acquired the basic skills to hold your own, this is a place to comfortably and confidently practice your moves for the real world. Adds Kerri knowingly "A move is not yours until you dance it in the wild."

When the downstairs café that used to house The Mez became available, their vision was complete. Now you can have a night out in your own neighborhood with dancing, dessert, and unlimited smiles for \$20 a couple. Light fare is available including soups, salads, and light sandwiches. There is no fryer in sight. Kerri bags her own blend of teas. The wine and beer license will be issued shortly. The decoration is Kerri's and General Manager Orlando's. Their supplier is mostly Craig's List. The newly installed flagstone and large Gregory Street windows are landlord John Trickley's (who had earlier demonstrated his commitment as a ballroom believer by stripping the third floor trusses of their many layers of paint). Their current events are many (visit www.tangocafedance.com/) and include Theme Nights, Songwriters in the Round, a second and fourth Sunday Latin Jam Session, and an opportunity to experience Rochester's premier Salsa Band live featuring conductor Victor Antonetti Sr.

The Tango is also fortunate to have a Highland Park neighbor on its teaching staff. Anna Rynski lives with her family here and teaches the high energy dance of Zumba at The Café.

When you go in and introduce yourself, tell The Tango Café you want to see what the Buzz is all about...

389 Gregory St. Call for hours: 585-271-4930
Schedules: <http://tangocafedance.com/>

Learn Dance Have Fun

New to the Neighborhood: A Traffic Calming Team

Marcia Zach, *Traffic Team Co-Chair*

As a result of the September Meeting on Safety and Security, a group of neighbors came together to form a Traffic Calming Team. Our first areas of focus: Linden and Meigs Streets around Ellwanger and Barry Park and also Goodman Street. The playground is so popular with young families that it can be viewed as "The Heart of the Neighborhood". So when the team created its first list of priorities, ensuring the safety of children going to and from this park got the top rank. Right behind on the list is the task of researching and working with the City on ways to create safer crossings on Goodman Street. But while discussing these hot-spots, we realized that our initiative needed an even broader focus towards building a modern culture of respect for pedestrian and non-vehicular transportation within our neighborhood, the surrounding area and the city at large. As stated in our goals statement, we want our neighborhood to eventually rival the best among "walking-friendly" communities across the United States.

With weeks of research in hand**, on November 12th, members of the Traffic Team met with the South East Quadrant Team, and other City officials to begin a new process and a new dialogue on traffic calming. We presented our goals, concerns, preliminary research, and possible engineering solutions. The city officials were very attentive to our concerns and are more than willing to work with us. (Thank you to Peter Saxe, SE NSC Administrator, for organizing this very helpful meeting.) The presentation that we shared with city officials is online at our news blog site (www.buzzblastandblog.co) so that anyone interested in this topic can examine it. As we continue to articulate our concerns, plans and solutions, we will always share such important documents on our websites.

While it will take time, the process has started for developing solutions. City transportation has sent us a detailed response regarding engineering changes. The RPD has spent time monitoring speeds of drivers in areas of concern. Our team has compiled a list of desired educational materials to start a resource library. We have found that some of our suggestions for possible solutions are currently out of the control of the City. For example, in order to lower speed limits around the playground to match that of schools we will need a change in state law. Look for details soon on how you can join our efforts to make that change happen.

In fact, for the initiative to be successful, we'll need your input, advice and support. Send us your traffic concerns in as much detail as possible (See Debra Lewis's letter in our online document as an example!) On February 23, 2010 at 7 pm, we will have an open team meeting to discuss implementing solutions and other issues at the NSC Office at 846 South Clinton Ave. Please come and participate!

The Traffic Team can be contacted at: traffic@highlandparkrochester.org or 473-0026

*** This project is made possible through work of Neighborhood volunteers as well as consulting research partially funded by a grant from Neighbors Building Neighborhoods Sector 6."



Neighborhood Safety

by Paul Urai,
Safety and Security
Coordinator HPNA

Happy New Year Neighbors,
Hope you all had a great
holiday season.

2010 Goal

With 2010 upon us it gives us a chance to look back at 2009. I'd like to thank all of you that walked PAC TAC either on your own or with us for one of our HPNA group walks. My goal for 2010 is to gather a pool of HPNA PAC TACers that could saturate an area if we were seeing a crime pattern. Four or five nights of us walking might be enough to drive the criminals off to a less attentive neighborhood.



PAC TACers brace the cold

Traffic Safety Committee

We also had a very successful safety and security meeting in September. We identified some key issues in the neighborhood, including speeding concerns, the need for more crosswalks and safety concerns around Ellwanger Barry Park. We have since formed a traffic safety committee and several of us have been trained on the speed watch program. We have met with and are continuing to meet with city and NSC office officials regarding these matters.

Monthly Walks

Our Park Ave walk was a success. The monthly walks start back up the fourth Wednesday of January (the 28th) from 6:30 to 8:30. We meet at the NSC (Net) office on S. Clinton Ave. The next few dates are: 2/24/10, 3/24/10, 4/28/10, 5/26/10

Come for the exercise,
come for the pizza,
come help make our
neighborhood a safer
place. See you there
in 2010!

Neighborhood Meeting To Provide Valuable Information About School Choice

Last spring, over 100 parents from the Highland Park neighborhood and beyond crowded into the Monroe County Parks Building for a conversation about schools.

The unexpected turnout served as confirmation that this topic is foremost on the minds of families in our neighborhood.

The common message from organizers and the parents of school aged children to prospective parents: Fully explore the unique school

options available to you before deciding to leave a neighborhood that you love! Hopefully, those parents walked away with more confidence that they too will find a great school that fits their family, as well as a sense that they are not alone in grappling with this issue. Due to the success of last year's meeting, the Highland Park Neighborhood Association, together with the School #12 PTA, will host another conversation and informational meeting about school choice. Meet students, families, teachers, and administrators from a range of public, private and charter schools that are



popular among families living in our neighborhood.

Save the Date:
Wednesday, 01/27/09
James Duffy School #12
7 – 9pm

Refreshments, mingling & information tables from 6:30 – 7 pm

For more information or if you would like to share about your school contact Meghan Delehanty – Reddington at meghandelred@hotmail.com.



Meeting at James Duffy School #12



Attention parents of school-aged children!

Check out the Flower City Parents Network (www.flowercityparents.org), a place for city school parents to help and support each other, give advice to other parents, share information, experiences and resources, and much more!

Wanted: Neighbors who would like to advertise their product or service in The Buzz! Contact hpna.business@gmail.com

HIGHLAND PARK TOURS

It started with a Lilac tour of 100 year old trees, and then become a year-long series starting in July 2009. Neighborhood resident Amy Priestley has been conducting a monthly Tour of Highland Park Trees, generally on the third Saturday of the month. Amy attended graduate school at Oregon State University's College of Forest Science and her time for these tours is made available through her business *Labor of Love Consulting & Landscape Artistry*. Here are a few pictures of Tour attendees, Amy, and of course, some of the most interesting and renowned trees on the planet.

More Photos at www.ellwangerbarry.org



Highland Park Online

WEBSITE

www.highlandparkrochester.org

NEWS AND EVENT BLOG

www.buzzblastandblog.com

FACEBOOK

Join the group "*Highland Park Neighborhood Association, Rochester NY*"

VIRTUAL SCRAPBOOK

www.ellwangerbarry.org

EMAIL LIST

Click the email link at www.highlandparkrochester.org to join our e-mail list and to check our calendar. Or write to us at highlandparkrochester@gmail.com and request that we add your e-mail (or for other inquiries)

BUZZ

We're always looking for different voices to write, reflect, report or just make people laugh!

Please contact buzz@highlandparkrochester.org with anything you think may be Buzz worthy.

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 yogahood@frontiernet.net
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 957 South Clinton Avenue 271-1785 www.cinemarochester.com

David Topa, MD
 Pediatrician and Highland Park Neighbor
 Accepting newborns. Call 385-1710 to schedule a prenatal appointment to meet Dr. Topa.

 Pittsford Pediatric Associates, LLP
 59B Monroe Avenue Pittsford 14534

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