Rivers Run Cottage Connections

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OSHER Lifelong Learning Center
585-292-8989
Thursdays 12:15 – 1:30 PM

Oct. 1 True Crime and the Making of a Book: Susan Ashline, Nationally Acclaimed Author of True Crime Books departs from the traditional lecture format for this session. Rather than prepared remarks, the discussion unfolds as a Q&A, with the audience setting the agenda.

Oct. 8 Ultimate Partner in Rochester's Elder Service Network: Presented by Mary Rose McBride, Lifespan's VP of Marketing & Communications Lifespan of Greater Rochester which is growing and now partners with 85 primary care physician practices and 30 specialized services.

Oct.15 Did That Just Happen? The Story Behind Mickey 17: Edward Ashton, Ph.D., Author; If you saw the film *Mickey 17* last year, you might have stopped to wonder how an obscure mid-list author managed to have one of his books brought to the screen by four-time Oscar winning director Bong Joon Ho. Edward Ashton was wondering about that as well.

Oct. 22 Roots of Resilience: The Mangione Family and Rochester's Music Scent: Gap Mangione, Professional Jazz Pianist, Composer, Arranger, and Bandleader will explore jazz history, percussion techniques, and the rich legacy of Rochester's iconic music scene.

Oct. 29 Libraries of the Future: Beyond Books: Learn how the library of the future is evolving from a quiet book warehouse into a dynamic, high-tech community hub, social anchor, and center for digital equity.



Third Monday of each month, 6:30 PM
For more information
Contact Jim Galvin

October's book is
Astral Library
by Kate Quinn



REMINDER
Woman's Luncheon
Cheesecake Factory
Friday, Oct. 30 @ 1:00 PM

For more information
Contact Claire Gnazzo



Dining Out
Delmonicos Italian Steakhouse

Thursday, October 15
125 White Spruce Blvd.
585-424-4242

Delmonicos offers unforgettable meals in an equally unforgettable atmosphere.

They pride themselves in being a fusion between a casual steakhouse and one of the finest Italian restaurants in town. In addition to their perfectly cooked steak, they serve homemade Italian specialties, including pasta, seafood dishes, bruschetta, garlic bread, salads, chicken dishes, and cannoli.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Barbara DeOca at 813-892-1219 or bdeoca@aol.com. Everyone is welcome and we do our best to arrange carpooling.

Women's Lunch
The Cheesecake Factory

Friday, Oct. 30 @ 1:00 PM
3349 Monroe Ave., Pittsford
585-381-8681



In the 1940s, Evelyn Overton found a recipe in her local Detroit newspaper that inspired her "Original" cheese-cake. Everyone loved her recipe so much she decided to open a small bakery, but eventually gave it up to focus on raising her children. She moved her baking equipment to her basement kitchen and continued to sell cakes to some of the best restaurants in town.

In 1972, Evelyn and her husband Oscar moved to Los Angeles to try one last time to have their own business. With the last of their savings, they opened The Cheesecake Factory Bakery and began selling Evelyn's cheesecakes to restaurants throughout L.A.

Their son David decided to open a restaurant in Beverly Hills in 1978 to showcase his mother's cakes. Somehow, he just knew that a restaurant with an extensive dessert menu would be a hit. There was a line out the door on opening day. More than forty years later, many say the line has never stopped!

Please contact Claire Gnazzo at 585-287-6009 or cgnazzo@outlook.com if you would like to join us.



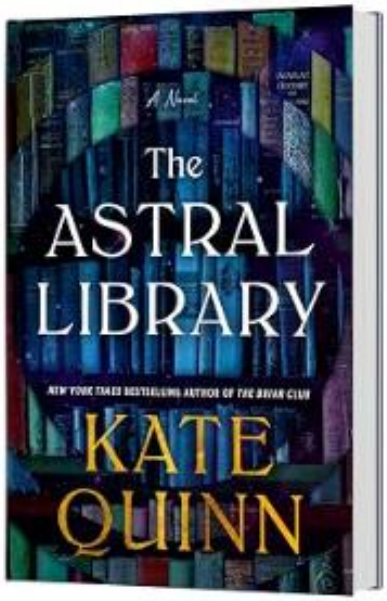
Welcome

To our 2 new HOA Board Member, John Westby of Unit 601 and Raymond Blank of Unit 701: welcome, and thank you for your willingness to serve the Rivers Run community. Your interest in helping keep Rivers Run friendly, welcoming, and successful is appreciated. We look forward to working with you and benefiting from your ideas, energy, and commitment to our neighborhood.

BOOK CLUB



Alexandria “Alix” Watson has learned one lesson from her barren childhood in the foster-care system: unlike people, books will never let you down. Working three dead-end jobs to make ends meet and knowing college is a pipe dream, Alix takes nightly refuge in the high-vaulted reading room at the Boston Public Library, escaping into her favorite fantasy novels and dreaming of far-off lands. One day she stumbles through a hidden door and meets the Librarian: the ageless, acerbic guardian of a hidden library where the desperate and the lost escape to new lives...inside their favorite books.



The Book Club will be meeting in the sunroom of Jim Galvin’s house at 1303 Rivers Run on Monday, October 19 at 6:30 PM. New readers are always welcome to join the group. Please contact Jim or Charline at 585-270-8145 and let them know if you want to be included.

Fridays at Rivers Run

- In the Park or By the Fire -

4 pm



Based on the weather,
we will let you know where
we will gather for good company,
delicious snacks, and
wonderful camaraderie!
Bring a beverage and snack (optional.)

- A notice will be sent via google groups talk on Friday. -

Our RR community enjoyed a wonderful dining-out experience at The Village Inn in Caledonia. More than 200 years old, the Inn showcased every bit of its historic character, creating a spectacular atmosphere for the evening. The food was delicious, the setting was memorable, and the group agreed—hands down—that this is a place we would happily visit year after year.



Rochester's Tree Legacy

How Rochester Became a "City in a Forest"



Trees have been vital to Rochester since the city's founding. It was a practically impenetrable forest when the first settlers arrived.

The density of trees made the trip from Stone-Tolan House, now 2370 East Avenue, to the Genesee Falls a difficult, full-day's journey, even utilizing Seneca Indian trails. Today, that four-mile distance can be traversed by car in 10 minutes. Trees then were so plentiful that early settlers built roads from them. Plank Road, though smoothly paved today, bears the name of its original composition. Another wooden highway was what became East Henrietta Road today.

It was the forest of trees that saved Rochester from total destruction by the British in the War of 1812. The small village of Buffalo, vulnerably located on the flat, sandy shores of Lake Erie, was pillaged and burned to the ground on December 30 and 31, 1813. Lewiston was similarly brutally attacked and burned. On May 14, 1814, the British fleet, consisting of eight large ships, several smaller ones, gunboats, and barges, anchored at Lake Ontario off the mouth of the Genesee River.

At the time, Rochesterville was a log-cabin village of 300 people. With help from a few neighboring villages, Rochesterville mustered 33 men, 20 horses, and one cannon and took the whole night to move its meager assemblage to the area that is now Charlotte. The next day was very foggy, and except for a few shared cannon shots, it was basically a standoff between the British and Americans.

Reinforcements for the Americans arrived on the second day, but they were woefully inadequate to the British might, so the Americans decided to trick the British on their numbers by marching in circles in and out of the woods, with files of men passing visibly a number of times through a clearing. The British, not knowing how many troops they faced if they were to land, decided the gains were not worth the battle, and on the third day they sailed on to the east. The forest had saved Rochester.

Charles Sprague Sargent, the first director of Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum, called Rochester "a city in a forest." It is an apt description because the area was originally a forest of red, black, and white oaks, chestnuts, hickories, black walnuts; beeches, red and sugar maples, basswoods, tulip trees, and white ashes. Settlers gathered butternuts for food from trees that grew along the river.

When the first sawmills were established at the falls on the Genesee River, finished lumber became available, and the architecture that the settlers remembered from their New England background, sprouted here.



Star of the Month
Pat Schwendner

Patricia (Pat) Schwendner grew up in Cheektowaga, NY, where she lived until age 21. She attended Cheektowaga schools and was in 3rd grade at Cleveland Hill School during the tragic 1954 fire which claimed the lives of 15 sixth-grade students. She remembers running through the flames to escape, and fire alarms still trigger panic for her. She has one younger brother, a professor at the University of Connecticut.

At 21, she married her high-school sweetheart, Paul Stoeckl, and became a beautician—full time for two years, then part time from home as their four children arrived. The family lived in Tonawanda for 18 years before moving to Cattaraugus, drawn by the peaceful country setting. Paul worked for National Fuel Gas before becoming a pastor. His service in Vietnam exposed him to Agent Orange, and the long-term effects of that exposure not only contributed to his passing in 2006 but also caused birth defects in their children.

While living in Cattaraugus, Pat opened a Christian bookstore and ran it for 23 years until Amazon's growth forced its closing. After Paul's death, she moved to Jacksonville, FL to be near her daughter, then returned north in 2017 to Rivers Run when her asthma worsened. Paul remains the most influential person in her life—positive, encouraging, and always seeing the best in others.

Pat has always loved decorating her homes and enjoys reading and listening to the classic crooners—Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, and Dean Martin. She led a grief class at Covenant Life Church on Bailey Road. Her personal creed is simple and steady: "Be grateful for every day."



How would you like to be the "Star of the Month"? We are looking for an RR resident to highlight each month. Our community has many very interesting residents, and I bet you are one of them. Please let me or Carol Blank know if you are willing to share a little of your past life with the rest of us. Carol can be reached at 603-673-5021 or via email at novastorm51@gmail.com.

To Do in Rochester
October 2026

Oct. 1: Landmarks and Lunch Trolley, Genesee Country Village & Museum

Oct. 1-11: Hairspray!, OFC Creations Theatre Center

Oct. 1-12: The Play That Goes Wrong, Geva Theatre

Oct. 1-19: Finding Neverland, OFC Creations

Oct. 1-26: Fall Festival & Amazing Maize Maze, Long Acre Farms, Macedon

Oct. 3-10: BOOP! The Betty Boop Musical, 2:00 PM West Herr Auditorium

Oct. 4-5: Hilton Apple Festival, Village of Hilton

Oct. 9: Ashley McBryde, Kodak Center

Oct. 12: Modest Mouse, Kodak Center

Oct. 13: The Vampire Circus, Kodak Center

Oct. 16-18: Soundtrax Film Music Festival, Eastman School of Music

Oct. 17-18: Ghost Walk, Landmark Society of Western **New York**

Oct. 21: State Ballet Theatre of Ukraine: Swan Lake, West Herr Auditorium

Oct. 22: Andrew Dice Clay, West Herr Auditorium

Oct. 23: Stayin' Alive – Bee Gees Tribute, Kodak Center

Oct. 23, 25 & 30: All-Beethoven Festival, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra

Oct. 26: Voices of Broadway, Geva Theatre



October 2026
Cottage Calendar

- **10/2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, FRIDAY, Friday in the Park:** 4-6 PM; located by the 401-703 Cottages Park; (alternate location sent via eblast)
- **10/4, SUNDAY, Bills vs. Patriots:** 1:00 PM on CBS
- **1012, MONDAY, Bills @ LA Rams:** 8:15 PM on ABC/ESPN
- **10/13, TUESDAY, Craft & Chat Group:** 1:00-3:00 PM, at the Cove
- **10/14, WEDNESDAY, Men's Breakfast:** 8:30 AM, Peppermints Restaurant
- **10/15, THURSDAY, RR Dining Out:** 4:30 PM, Delmonicos, contact Barbara DeOca at 813-892-1219 or bdeoca@aol.com
- **10/18 SUNDAY, Bills @ LA Raiders:** 4:25 PM on CBS
- **10/19, MONDAY, Book Club:** 6:30 PM, Cottage 1303; Contact Jim Galvin at 585-270-8145; *The Astral Library* by Kate Quinn
- **10/20, TUESDAY, Craft & Chat Group:** 1:00-3:00 PM, at the Cove
- **10/25, SUNDAY, Bills BYE Week**
- **10/28, WEDNESDAY, Men's Breakfast:** 8:30 AM, Peppermints Restaurant
- **10/30, FRIDAY, Ladies Lunch:** 1:00 PM at The Cheesecake Factory, Contact Claire Gnazzo at 585-287-6009

Newsletter

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