

Rivers Run Cottage Connections

VOLUME 11 – ISSUE 7 JULY 2026

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Other Ways Spend the 4th

City of Rochester's Fireworks – Downtown Rochester
The classic downtown fireworks extravaganza is back! The Broad Street Bridge & Court Street Bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic for pedestrian viewing. Bring your friends and a chair!

Independence Day Celebration - Genesee Country Village Museum
Join Genesee Country Village & Museum's beloved Independence Day Celebration—where history comes to life and community takes center stage. Enjoy a full day of patriotic fun, immersive experiences, and good old-fashioned revelry.

The Skycoasters July 4th - Perinton Park
Stick around after the Fairport town parade at Fairport Canal Park from 12:30 p. m. -2:30 p. m. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the music, sun and this celebration of Independence Day!

1776, America's Award-Winning Musical, In Concert - Presented by Everyone's Theatre Company, Inc. Multi-Use Community Cultural Center, 182 Atlantic Ave., Rochester; Sat. 1 & 6 PM $20
1776 is a Tony-winning musical that focuses on the intense political debates and personal struggles of the Second Continental Congress as they work to draft and pass the Declaration of Independence. It centers on John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson as they navigate fierce opposition in Philadelphia during the summer of 1776.



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

July's book is
The Ride of Her Life
by Elizabeth Letts



REMINDER
Woman's Luncheon
BJ's Brewhouse
Friday, July 31 @ 1:00 PM

For more information
Contact Claire Gnazzo

Dining Out
Avon Inn

Thursday, July 16
5 East Main St., Avon
585-226-8181



Built circa 1840, this beautiful Greek revival structure was initially the residence of Jonathan H. Gerry, a successful grower of broom corn. After 1866, it was operated as a health center that was well known from Maine to Florida. In 1979, the Avon Inn was damaged by fire. It underwent 2 years of restorations, changed hands several times and now operates as an event destination, hotel, and excellent dining facility. It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1989.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Barbara DeOca at 813-892-1219 or bdeoca@aol.com

Women's Lunch
BJ's Brewhouse

Friday, July 31 @ 1:00 PM
760 Jefferson Rd.
585-537-1444

BJ's started in 1978 with a delicious California twist on deep dish pizza. Today they have grown to become the energized, welcoming getaway where craft beer is hero. A remarkable menu offers something for everyone to love. Guests say BJ's is their everyday escape — and prove it by coming back time and again.



If you are interested in joining us, please contact Claire Gnazzo at 585-287-6009 or cgnazzo@outlook.com.

58th Annual
CORN HILL ARTS FESTIVAL
July 11 & 12 2026



The Spencerport Canal Days

The Canal Days Volunteer Committee is planning the 44th annual Spencerport Canal Days Festival. This year's Festival will take place on Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26. Weekend highlights include 90+ arts & crafts vendors, 12+ food booths, live entertainment, children's activities, the NYS Spirits Tasting Tent, and the "Canaligator" Race (Sunday).

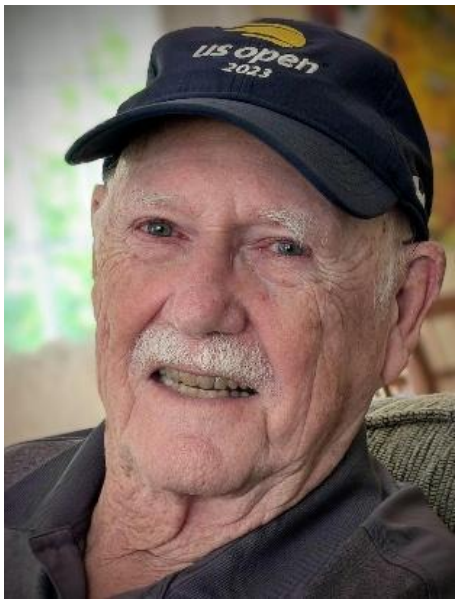
Resident of the month: Brian Brent



Brian O'Neil Brent was born in Queens, NY, where he lived with his family until his first year of high school. He was one of four children—an older brother, a younger brother, and a younger sister. When he was in elementary school, his mother brought his sister to a modeling agency with the hope of signing her up. Brian tagged along, and with his red hair and green eyes, it was he—not his sister—whom the agency chose. He went on to model for two years for a variety of publications, including the Sears catalog and the cover of American Legion magazine.

By his second year of high school, Brian's father accepted a job that required the family to move to Peekskill. Brian then attended Stepinac High School, where he excelled academically and became a standout on the track team. He received full scholarships to multiple universities and ultimately chose Manhattan College, majoring in Biology (pre-med) with the goal of becoming a doctor.

After graduation, he married Margaret Nell Docherty, and the two were married for 62 years until her passing in 2022 from Parkinson's disease. He accepted a teaching position at Wallkill High School in New York, assuming it would be temporary because of the Vietnam War draft. His local draft board later declared him exempt due to the shortage of science teachers in his area. Discovering how much he enjoyed the work, he remained at Wallkill for 37 years as a biology teacher, science department head, and boys' and girls' track coach. He retired at age 59 to spend more time with his grandchildren.



Brian and Margie raised two children: a son who lives in Rochester and a daughter who lives in Chicago. Both hold PhDs. He has five grandchildren. After leaving Wallkill, he moved to Churchville and later to 1001 Rivers Run. He loves Rivers Run for its people, its beautiful environment, and his involvement with Osher, where he takes eight to nine classes each semester. Brian is known for his love of learning, and… telling jokes!

The achievement he is most proud of is being a good teacher. His philosophy of life is simple and generous: "Enjoy other people."

RR Quilting Show

Early in June, Chris Wickert generously welcomed friends and neighbors for a brief talk and show of the spectacular quilts she had created. It was very well attended, and we give many thanks to her for sharing her talent.



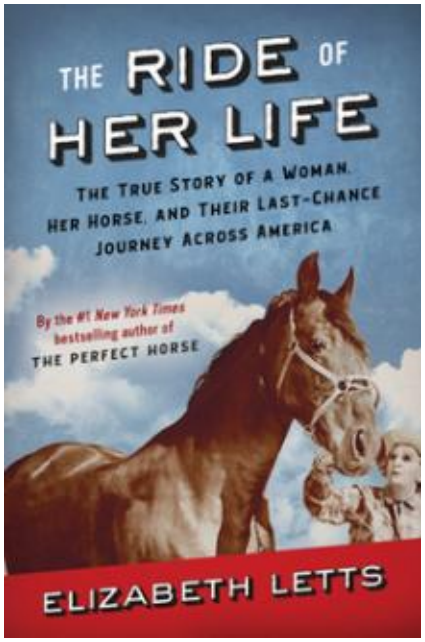




Book Club



The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts is the true story of 63-year-old Annie Wilkins, who in 1954, with little money, her dog, and a grim health prognosis, rode her horse, Tarzan, across America to see the Pacific Ocean. The book chronicles her journey from Maine to California, highlighting her determination, the kindness of strangers, and the changing American landscape as she navigated highways, cities, and small towns, meeting both ordinary people and celebrities along the way.



The Book Club will be meeting in the sunroom of Jim Galvin's house at 1303 Rivers Run on Monday, July 13 at 6:30 PM.

Strawberry Social

Even though the weather forecast was less than planned, the RR Social Committee put on a very successful strawberry social, free to the RR residents. Thanks to Bonnie and Randy, for graciously volunteering to host this event indoors. About 30 of our neighbors joined us for strawberries, biscuits, whipped cream, and ice cream.












Veterans Memorial Park
595 Calkins Road
Rochester, NY 14623

Activities begin at 4pm!
Fireworks at 9:45pm!
Children's Activities, Live Music,
Local Food Vendors & Food Trucks

MAIN STAGE	
3:30-7:45pm	Music by Stickler Audio
7:45-9:45pm	Atlas Band *Party dance band*



A notice will be sent out every Friday with a location update should the weather prevent us from holding it "in the park".

The Geneseo Community Players are presenting their production of "Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang:The Magical Car" on July 24-26. An Eccentric inventor, Caractacus Potts, sets about restoring an old race car from a scrapheap with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima. They soon discover the car has magical properties, including the ability to float and take flight. Trouble occurs when the evil Baron Bomburst desires the magic car for himself. The family joins forces with Truly Scrumptious and batty Grandpa Potts to outwit the dastardly Baron and Baroness, their spies, and their villainous henchman, the Child Catcher.

Friday, July 24, 7:00 pm
Saturday, July 25, 7:00 pm
Sunday, July 26, 2:00 pm



To Do in Rochester, July 2026

July 4:	Henrietta 4th of July Festival and Fireworks
July 9–19:	Elvis My Way, GEVA, Brandon Bennett sings Elvis Presley
July 11–12:	58th Annual Corn Hill Festival, 10:00 am
July 11–12:	Geneseo Air Show, National Warplane Museum
July 12:	America 250 Celebration, 5:00 pm, ESL Ballpark
July 15–18:	Hilton Fire Department Carnival
July 16:	RPO Presents The Music of Led Zeppelin, 7:00 pm
July 17:	Award Ceremony & Gala Honoring Octavia Spencer, 8:00 pm, Dryden Theatre
July 17–19:	Great Wellsville Balloon Festival, 6:00 am or 6:00 pm
July 18:	Rochester Pride Festival, 11:00 am, Highland Park
July 23–29:	Get Happy, GEVA, Angela Ingersoll sings Judy Garland
July 24–26:	Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang, Geneseo Community Players
July 25:	Derek Hough at Kodak Center, 8:00 pm
July 25–26:	Waterfront Art Festival, Webster
July 25–26:	Spencerport Canal Days, 10–5 pm

6 X 6 Art Show
June 3 – July 25

This summer Rochester Contemporary Art Center's (RoCo) 6x6 phenomenon returns for the 19th year! This exhibition brings together thousands of original artworks, made and donated by celebrities, international & local artists, designers, youth and maybe even YOU.



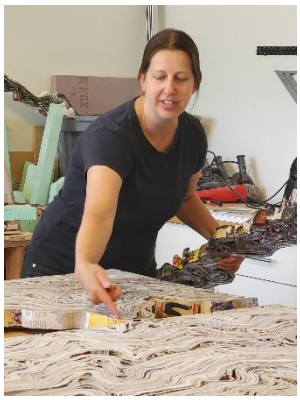
General Online Purchasing Begins: June 3
In Gallery Opening: June 5
Buy online and in gallery: June 5 -July 25

Every $20 artwork purchase supports their future exhibitions & public art.
All artworks will be exhibited and for sale to the public for $20 each to benefit RoCo.

Jessica Drenk Studio Tour

We enjoyed a well-attended tour on June 2 of artist Jessica Drenk's studio in Rush, thanks to Ann Drenk for organizing the tour and to Jessica for hosting us. Many of us had never been in a busy professional art studio and this gave us an inside view of the various stages of progress that an artist must go through. Her art was displayed throughout the rest of the house.... including the laundry room and bathroom.



















And how does she get her art from the 2nd floor studio to the garage workshop?
A hole in the ceiling.



July 2026
Cottage Calendar

- **7/3,10,17,24 & 31, FRIDAY, Friday in the Park:** 4-6 PM; located by the 401-703 Units
- **7/4, SATURDAY, Fireworks at Henrietta Town Center:** 1:00-3:00 PM
  City of Rochester Fireworks: Downtown
  Independence Day Celebration: GCV Museum
  Skycoasters: Perinton Park
  America's Muscal in Concert: MUCCC
- **7/8 & 22, WEDNESDAY, Men's Breakfast:** 8:30 AM, Peppermints Restaurant
- **7/14 & 28, TUESDAY, Craft & Chat Group:** 1:00-3:00 PM, at the Cove
- **7/16, THURSDAY, Dining Out:** 4:30 PM, Avon Inn; contact Barbara DeOca at 813-892-1219 or bdeoca@aol.com
- **7/20, MONDAY, Book Club:** 6:30 PM, Cottage 1303; Contact Jim Galvin at 585-270-8145; ***The Golden*** by Allen Levi
- **7/24-26, FRI-SUN, Chitty-Chitty-Bang-Bang:** Geneseo Community Players
- **7/25-26, SAT-SUN, Spencerport Canal Days**
- **7/31, FRIDAY, Ladies Lunch:** 1:00 PM at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse; Contact Claire Gnazzo at 585-287-6009

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