

# THE STOCKADE SPY



March 2003 Published by The Stockade Association www.historicstockade.com Vol. 44 No. 7

## Stockade Calendar

### Stockade Association

#### General Meeting

Thurs., March 20

“Philip Morris on  
Proctor’s Theatre”

(see page 5)

#### Music at the Van Dyck

(see p. 12)

#### Child & Teen Safety Day

Sun., March 2, 11 - 1 PM

(see page 9)

#### “Great Day for the Irish” Dinner Theater

Mar. 17, 18 & 19,  
6:30 PM (see p. 9)

Mohawk Club

1 North Church St.

Call 393-8024

#### “Veronica’s Room”

The Schenectady Civic  
Playhouse, 12 S. Church  
St., on Mar. 21, 22, 23 and  
26 - 30. \$12. Evenings,  
8 PM, Sundays, 2:30 PM.  
Call 382-2081. (see p. 9)

### April Spy Deadline

**March 15**

## National Recognition for Local Designer

You don't have to wait for the snow to melt to start thinking about Spring. Pick up the first 2003 quarterly issue of *Better Homes & Gardens, Special Interest Publications*, “Simply Perfect Small Space Gardens.” You will see the landscape design work of Mark J. Fisher, owner and operator of GreenCare Landscape. Mark, a Stockade homeowner and resident, along with his client, Mr. Ron Chard (16 No. Church Street), created the design about six years ago. It was a four- to seven-month project and another season of fine-tuning. There are several different species of plants, and many types of architectural elements to admire.

Though there may have been some minor changes over the past few years, the garden's main character and integrity has remained the same.

This past Fall, Mark and the GreenCare crew added another feature to Ron's garden: a stunning 4 x 5 foot marble urn weighing in at over a ton!

*The Better Homes & Gardens* article has delightful photos and more intimate descriptions of Ron's garden. There is a complimentary issue at Arthur's Market. Stop by for a cup of coffee to take a look, or give Mark a call at 393-6297 for additional copies.

Look forward to the April issue of *The Stockade Spy* with Mark Fisher's article “Behind the Scenes of a Garden.”

## Coming Home

- June Griset



In the 1960's, as I walked from my home on West Front St. (now Cucumber Alley) to work in advertising at H.S. Barneys, I was intrigued by the rich, historic character of the buildings I passed along the way. Infused with these images are memories of dear friends like Jim and Betty Lane who lived upstairs, native Stockaders, such as Katie and Dawson VanEpps who came to till the soil in the community gardens between our house and the Mohawk River, the

Binzers and DeBiers from Ferry St. who came to help map out plans for the first of many Memorial Day picnics in Riverside Park, Christmas tree lightings at the Indian and the early Walkabouts. Unfortunately, my schedule, juggling work, family, and community events, allowed no time for sketching the surroundings.

As time moved on, so did I, to illustrate ads for Wallace's, Flah's and Boston Store. Those establishments are gone now, but I'm still here and so is the Stockade. I am grateful that the spirit of this old neighborhood has been so well maintained and that I can finally capture these unique settings on paper. (Continued on page 2)

**Holy Cross Church**, 18 North College St.  
**Ash Wednesday Liturgy & Distribution of Ashes**  
 Wed., March 5, 9:00 AM  
 The public is cordially invited

**St. George's Church**, 30 North Ferry Street  
Main Events:

**Ash Wednesday Liturgy & Mass**  
 Wed., March 5, 12 PM

**Old Fashioned Hymn Sing**  
 Tues., March 11, 7 PM

**Concert at St. George's**  
 Air Force Band of Liberty New England Winds (wood-  
 wind quintet) Sat., March 22, 5:30 PM  
 (plan to arrive early - seating will be limited)

**Lenten Organ Recital**  
**Brian Hoffman, St. George's Choir Director/Organist**  
 Wed., March 25

**Schenectady County Community College**  
**March Events**

**Multicultural Festival**, Thurs., March 13,  
 Fri., March 14, Sat., March 15  
 Tickets, \$5 per night, \$10 for all three nights. Tickets on  
 sale in SCCC College Store. Call 381-1336.

**Discussion led by Moises Kaufman**, Playwright/Director  
 of *The Laramie Project*, Thurs., March 13, 7 PM, Carl B.  
 Taylor Community Auditorium, Begley Building. Kaufman  
 is the founder and artistic director of New York City's  
 Tectonic Theater Project

**Navajo Code Talker Heroes present "Windtalkers"**  
 Fri., March 14, 7 PM, Community Auditorium, Begley  
 Building. The Navajo Code Talkers played a pivotal role in  
 the U.S. victory in the Pacific in World War II. In addition  
 to their courage as warriors, their native dialect was the  
 basis for an extremely successful combat communications  
 code used by the U.S. Marine Corps. The Navajos' unwrit-  
 ten language was understood outside the tribe by fewer than  
 30 non-Navajos at the time of World War II. Congress has  
 honored the Navajo Code Talkers for their courage and con-  
 tribution to the war effort.

**Panther Creek performs American Roots Music**  
 Sat., March 15, 6 PM, Community Auditorium

**Captain Squeeze and the Zydeco Moshers**  
 Sat., March 15, 7:30 PM, Auditorium

Ray Woron from the NYS Department of Health  
 lectures about **Foodborne Disease Surveillance**  
 Wed., March 26, 7 PM, Auditorium



At the same time, I am assisting a Schenectady agency in need of support. Safe Inc. has provided shelter and guidance for homeless teens since 1984. In order to accomplish this goal, I am offering to illustrate homes in the Stockade area at a reasonable fee, which I will share equally with Safe.

If you would like an illustration of your home, in pen-and-ink, or watercolor (tax deductible to you) please contact me at 374-0701. I will be pleased to meet with you and show you examples of my work.

**The St. Andrew's Society  
 of Schenectady  
 Celebrates 200 Years  
 On April 6, 5:00 PM  
 With a Pipe Band  
 Leading a Parade  
 Through the Stockade  
 Starting at St. George's Church**

**More about this in the April Spy.**

- - - *Tidings* - - -

Welcome to the Stockade:

- Sherrie Lyons on Union Street
- Cindy Huang on Front Street

If you know of any items for "Tidings" such as neighborhood arrivals, departures, births, deaths, or anniversaries, please call *The Spy* Editor, Sylvie Briber, 377-0469.

# Have You Ever Called President Joe Fava About Neighborhood Problems?

Have you ever called Joe Fava, President of the Stockade Association, or another Stockade Board member about **trash** problems, **snow removal** problems, **parking** problems, or other neighborhood problems? Did you know that Joe and the Board members are all volunteers? Joe says that he may get as many as **6 calls in one day** from people asking for help. He says he's very glad to be able to help people or if he doesn't have the answer he'll give the name of whom to call. He often asks the person seeking help if they are a member of the Stockade Association. They usually say "no" and haven't yet made the connection between getting this service and joining the Association.

This volunteer help from Joe and the other Board members is part of what you get for your \$15 or \$20 when you join the Stockade Association.

So, if you have already called or think you might call some day, please fill out the slip below and write a check as a little "thank you" for all the good work Joe and the Board do for the neighborhood.

## The Stockade Association Membership 2002- 2003

The Stockade Association has been carrying out its mission, "the protection and improvement of the properties" within its boundaries, for 45 years. Its objectives are to preserve the Historic District and the quality of life for its caretakers. The Association helps assure stability in a neighborhood that has been termed "a national treasure" and is enjoyed by visitors from all parts of America and abroad. Please support the Association and become a member by returning the coupon below.

**Membership runs from October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2003.**

**\$15 per person, \$20 per household.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Business \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you would like to help with any of the following useful efforts:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Show           | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership                | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverside Park          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Group       | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Celebrations | <input type="checkbox"/> Sidewalk Sale           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government Affairs | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch        | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Stockade Spy</i> |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Walkabout               |

*The Stockade Spy* is distributed in the neighborhood monthly, September through May.

If you are a non-resident and

• would like to be mailed *The Stockade Spy*, it is \$10 per year. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

• would like to become a "Friend of the Stockade" (an associate membership) and support the efforts of the Stockade, your contributions are very welcome. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to give *The Stockade Spy* as a gift, it is \$10 per year. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Address of recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Name of sender \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to "**The Stockade Association**" Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
and send to: Meredith Anker, Treasurer, 4 Washington Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12305.

**Stockade  
Association  
Officers & Directors  
2002-2003**

**President** 5/03

Joseph Fava  
27 Ferry Street  
374-6190

**Vice President** 5/04

Eli Taub  
105 N. Ferry Street  
393-0719

**Treasurer** 5/03

Meredith Anker  
4 Washington Ave.  
347-2742

**Recording Sec.** 5/04

Bob Briber  
23 Washington Ave.  
377-0469

**Corres. Secretary**

Brad Fisher 5/04  
27 Front Street  
393-4605

**Directors**

Connie Colangelo 5/03  
111 N. Ferry Street  
374-7355

Peter Rumora 5/03  
31 Front Street  
374-4883

Diane DeMeo 5/04  
232 Union Street  
372-0642

Ruth Harvey 5/03  
20 Washington Ave.  
377-2628

Lyn Gordon 5/04  
10 N. Church Street  
370-4324

Susanna Sherwood  
142 Front Street 5/04  
346-5735

**STOCKADE ASSOCIATION NEWS**

*Bob Briber, Recording Secretary*

Stockade website: [www.historicstockade.com](http://www.historicstockade.com).

**Stockade Association Board Meeting  
Minutes 2/04/03**

President Joe Fava called this meeting to order at 7:10 pm at the home of Bob and Sylvie Briber. In addition to Joe and Bob, Meredith Anker, Connie Colangelo, Brad Fisher, Lyn Gordon, Ruth Harvey, Peter Rumora and Susanna Sherwood were present. Sylvie Briber, Kim Mabee and Dale Miller attended as guests. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed and the Treasurer's report, that we have \$7707.41 in checking and \$19,417.95 in CDs, was accepted.

The group discussed how to increase membership. Joe said he gets dozens of calls – many of them from neighbors who are not members of the Association - asking him to do this or that service for them. The Board urged him ask the callers if they are a member *before* he embarks on any major effort. Joe and Sylvie asked for up-to-date copies of the membership list. Joe said he, with help from Brad, would write an article for the SPY urging neighbors to join, and pointing out the reasons they should.

Dale Miller of Green St. discussed suggestions for traffic changes to alleviate the speeding problem. A major feature of one plan would involve closing the circle around the Indian to through traffic and reversing the direction of No. Ferry. Then, cars coming east (from Rte 890 and SCCC) on Washington and Front would have to go back out to Union St on No. Ferry, and their shortcut would disappear. Cars coming west on Front (from Freeman's Bridge road) would have to turn and go back out Green, thus defeating their shortcut. "*Presto*," Dale said, in a few weeks the problem would be solved, and perhaps the area around the Indian could be turned into a little park, as a gathering place for Stockaders.

Several people expressed reservations: Such a plan, they felt, would divide the Stockade into two groups because driving around in the Stockade would be more complicated, and easy interchange among Stockaders would be frustrated. Joe urged, after much discussion, that an article seeking neighbors' input should be put in the SPY. Perhaps most people are not as concerned as the Board is, or perhaps describing the problem will stimulate good ideas from readers. Dale and Bob agreed to write such an article. Joe and Dale will meet with Milt Mitchell to discuss the problem and explore various solutions

There did seem to be general consensus that blocking Washington Ave. near SCCC, so through traffic would not be permitted, and making the short dead end that would remain on Washington into a two way street, would be a good first step.

Lyn, Kim and Sylvie then reported on the Walkabout, which is going well. The Board approved allocating \$100 to the Cultural Tourism committee to help establish a website able to take credit card charges for tickets. Then, after much discussion, the group voted 6 to 2 to approve an agreement among the Association, the Historical Society and Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corp., for one year, that would obligate the Association to "take major responsibility for entertainment, securing homes for the tour and all it entails, writing and producing the ticket/program, and coordinating ad sales in that program to increase revenue." Similar obligations are spelled out for the other two organizations.

Joe reported that plans are progressing well on the Gillette House, and major external work should be completed by fall. The building will be leased to the Mohawk Valley Historic Corridor, and probably will contain their offices, a visitor center, a confer-

*(continued on page 5)*

(Stockade Association minutes continued)

ence room, a small museum, and possibly an office for the Association. The exterior, the Ladd parking lot and the building next door will also be renovated. The Board expressed great interest in the renovations, and voted to support the effort as a major project of the Association – for Walkabout moneys and other funds.

Peter and the group reviewed plans for the Brunch on February 16.

Joe reported that the Dutch Reformed Church has purchased the Knights of Columbus building and Shaunessy Hall. The plan is to tear down Shaunessy Hall for parking and for Jack MacDonald to use the K of C building for offices of his engineering firm. The group also discussed various other buildings in the Stockade.

Brad read several letters he had written, *e.g.*, thanking Feibes and Schmitt for use of their offices, recommending Jennifer Wells for a position, etc. The group expressed its appreciation.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25. **The March 4 meeting – unless plans are changed – will be held at Ruth Harvey's home.**

Respectfully submitted,  
- Bob Briber

## WHAT'S BREWIN' AT THE VAN DYCK?

Those of us who were at the Schenectady Heritage Foundation's dedication of the Stockade Monuments will not forget Tom Rynasko's determination to make our celebration a success. In a heartbeat Tom rearranged everything to be held inside due to a torrential downpour. Clearing the stage, setting up mikes and instructing staff of the changes, the costumed participants paraded up the stairs, as if planned that way.

Tom's knack for turning a problem into a party, for zoning in on detail and pulling staff together for a team effort, can be summed up when he told me . . . "we are here to entertain the public. This is a service industry and the Van Dyck needs to get back to basics, and do just that."

The new front-end manager, who has been welcomed back by employees as well as customers also said . . . "the doors are opened to any ideas that Stockaders have, this club is their neighborhood jewel. They should

feel as comfortable as if they were in their own back yard." (I smiled at this because I have always felt, the beautiful Stockade shares the same back door with all the exceptional music I have heard at the historical Van Dyck).

It does get discouraging for Rynasko, as well as bar manager Cindy Moynihan and longtime barkeep Eric Stathis, because only one out of ten people hired to go through training stay to execute the high standards that are now maintained by Tom. He reminded me of what a huge operation the Van Dyck is: a restaurant, a tavern, a brewery, a banquet house and a music club that books and promotes international as well as local musicians. Still he feels confident, with the help of many hard working people, there will be a professional team to run the daily business of the Van Dyck. Stop in and say "hello" and catch all that's brewin'.

- John Rotundo

# Stockade Association General Meeting

Thursday, March 20

Philip Morris, Executive Director  
Proctor's Theatre

"Proctor's Future  
and Its Impact On Downtown Schenectady"

And General Discussion  
About Stockade Issues

7:00 PM Social      7:30 PM Meeting

The Schenectady County Historical Society  
32 Washington Avenue

All Stockaders welcome!

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Our 2002-2003

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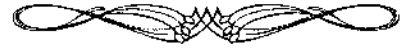


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References

# LIVABLE CITIES 2003

How can we create vibrant cities where people want to live and work? What attracts businesses downtown? To help answer these questions, the Schenectady Heritage Foundation is sponsoring four programs featuring authors, preservationists and community leaders.

All programs at State St. Presbyterian Church, corner of State & Catherine Sts. Schenectady, NY  
FREE ■ HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE ■ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



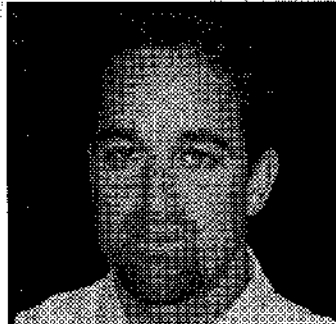
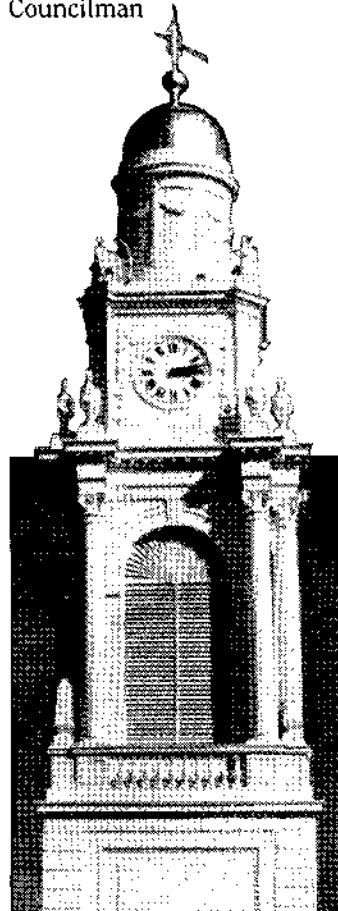
**John Falco**  
Sunday, March 2 - 3PM

## Livable Schools Livable Cities

John Falco, Superintendent of Schenectady City Schools

Good schools can build good communities. Learn about the quality programs offered by the City Schools and challenging issues that face America's urban districts.

Introduction: Ed Kosiur, City Councilman



**Todd Fabozzi**  
Sunday, March 16 - 3PM

## Growth, Decline and Redevelopment in the Capital Region

Todd Fabozzi, Capital District Regional Planning Commission

From semi-conductors to crumbling inner cities — new growth and decline in our region affects us all. Find out how we can meet these current challenges.

Introduction: Cris Cioffi, Schenectady County Legislator

### March 15 - Walking Tour of Downtown

Led by Chris Hunter, Archivist, Schenectady Museum. Take a Walking Tour of Downtown Schenectady, exploring its history, with Chris revealing some secrets from Schenectady's past. *Meet on State Street in front of Proctors, 10:30 am*



**Daniel Mackay**  
Sunday, March 30 - 3PM

## The Future of the Past in Schenectady

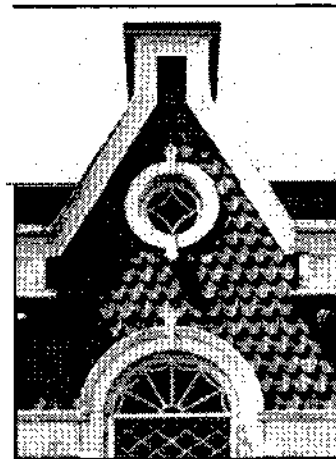
Daniel Mackay, Director of Public Policy, Preservation League of New York State

In building a new future, Schenectady may be overlooking a key resource — the past. What are the opportunities to revitalize our city without sacrificing its heritage?

Introduction: Werner Feibes, Treasurer, Schenectady Heritage Foundation

### March 29 - Walking Tour of Vale Neighborhood

Led by Peter Loyola, Landscape Architect. A key author of the Vale Neighborhood Revitalization Plan will introduce you to Vale's vernacular architecture and a vision for its future. *Meet at State Street Presbyterian Church, 1:30 pm*



**John Pipkin**  
Sunday, April 13 - 3PM

## Morality Tales of Urban Architecture

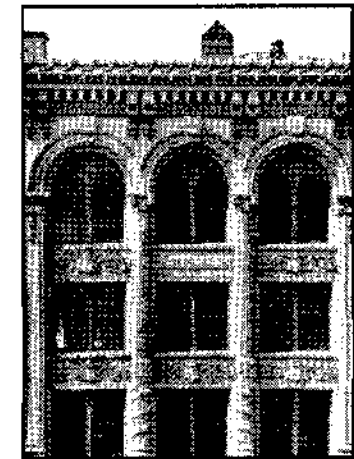
John Pipkin, Professor, the University at Albany

The style and form of buildings sends symbolic messages into the public realm. This program, illustrated with slides of local buildings, will examine how these messages have changed through the centuries.

Introduction: Eli Taub, Vice Chair, Schenectady County Industrial Development Agency

### April 12 - Walking Tour of Vale Park and Cemetery

Led by Katherine Olney, Friends of Vale. Wear sturdy shoes to visit the gravesites of TV pioneer Ernst Alexanderson, Charles Steinmetz and other Schenectady luminaries. *Meet at the Vale Cemetery entrance on State Street, 10:30 am*



For more  
information  
contact  
**Schenectady  
Heritage  
Foundation**  
(518) 372-3344

## Thinking of Doing Some Spring Outside Home Repairs?

### You may need to file an Application to The Schenectady Historic Commission

All of our homes are part of the city's Stockade Historic District. As such we are bound by the city's codes and regulations regarding such districts.

If in any way what you are proposing is to change any aspect of the exterior appearance of your house, yard or property that can be seen from any public street, alley or sidewalk, it requires review by the Historic Commission. The Commission meets once a month on a Monday night to publicly review applications. An application, supporting materials and photos, need to be submitted. Some applications, such as for simple roofing or repainting projects, can be reviewed by the city's planning department without a formal Commission review. Applications and further information are available from Christine Slovak or Tony Tozzi in the Department of Development, Room 14, 105 Jay Street, City Hall, Schenectady, 12305, 382-5147 or 382-5054. Fees for Historic Commission applications are \$10 for residential applications and \$20 for commercial applications. Deadlines for 2003 are as follows:

<u>Application Deadline</u>	<u>Historic Commission Review</u>
March 3	March 17
April 7	April 21
May 5	May 19
June 2	June 16
July 7	July 21
August 4	August 18
September 1	September 15
October 6	October 20
November 3	November 17
December 1	December 15

Stockade Association President, Joe Fava, also has copies of the application form, 374-6190.

## THERE IS A CHANGE IN THEIR NAME

Bar One at 11 North Broadway, Schenectady has been in operation for two years. Bar One began as a high-end nightclub. Neon and lava lights made for a fun atmosphere.

In the past five months a dine-in, take-out restaurant menu has been in place and available. The restaurant has been so successful that the owners, Michael and Lisa Parisi, have made a decision to exclusively run their business as a restaurant.

The new name, Parisi Steakhouse. Parisi Steakhouse will feature a full menu along with Parisi Specialties. The menu will be making a few changes from their former menu; their lunches will be trimmed down to assure speedier take-out or dine-in. And you will find that for dinner, the service and ambiance are fabulous (there has been some redecorating done inside as well).

The renowned chef, Danny Delorenzo, is a graduate from the Culinary Institute and has mentored under the guidance of Wolfgang Puck at two of his California and Las Vegas restaurants. Danny is a genius with food, its preparation and its presentation. He has been with the proprietors from the beginning.

Parisi's will be featuring live local jazz musicians on Friday and Saturday evenings with no cover charged.


Parisi Steakhouse is open Tues. - Sun. Do yourself a favor and dine with us at Parisi Steakhouse. You may call 374-0100 for reservations or private parties. Please remember delivery is available. Hope to see you soon at Parisi Steakhouse, hours are 11 AM to close, Mon. - Fri. and 4 PM to close Sat. and Sun. Downtown Schenectady at 11 N. Broadway, Schenectady.



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*Ira Levin's*  
**VERONICA'S ROOM**

Directed by Laura Andruski

March 21, 22, 23 & 26-30

Call 382-2081 for reservations

# Tennis, Anyone?

It is hard to believe, but spring is just around the corner. As the weather warms up, we will return to our favorite outdoor activities, such as playing tennis in Riverside Park. Last year, the City Parks and Recreation Department did not get the nets on the court until July. This year, we hope to have the nets up earlier. So, we plan to contact the Parks and Recreation Department early (and often!) until the nets are up.

If you like to play tennis in Riverside Park, we could use your help. Please either call Bill Seber at the Parks and Recreation Department (382-5152) and request that the nets be hung up, or pass your name on to Sylvie Briber (377-0469) or Zoe Oxley (381-6189). We will be calling Mr. Seber, and want to make him aware of how many people would like to use the Riverside Park courts. Also, we will be happy to share the list of neighborhood tennis players once the courts are ready for play. Wouldn't it be great to know who to call when you are in the mood for a game of tennis?

Here's another reason to get those nets up soon: neighbor Nick Ltaif, a tennis pro, has offered to give free lessons to Stockade children in July and August! More information about these lessons in Riverside Park will be distributed in the summer.

- Zoe Oxley and Sylvie Briber

## "Veronica's Room"

### at Schenectady Civic Players

Ira Levin's "Veronica's Room," directed by Laura Andruski, comes to The Schenectady Civic Playhouse, 12 S. Church St., on March 21, 22, 23 and 36-30. This is a unique thriller-chiller mystery and successful Off-Broadway revival. A totally absorbing spider's web of a plot, entwining fantasy and reality. A young college student and a young lawyer have just met and are enticed to the mansion of a charming, elderly Irish couple, and a strange impersonation evolves, with a jarring and surprising climax. *Village Voice* calls it a "neat, elegant thriller." \$12. Call 382-2081. Evenings, 8 PM, Sundays, 2:30 PM.



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## "Great Day for the Irish" at Stockade's Mohawk Club

"Great Day for the Irish," Riverview Entertainment's annual music and comedy tribute to St. Patrick's Day, plays to the public in a 6:30 PM dinner theater show Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 17, 18 and 19, at the Mohawk Club, 1 North Church Street in the Stockade.

Following a traditional Irish dinner, the veteran performing group will present a revue consisting of Irish music from the countryside to Broadway, featuring folk songs, ballads and favorite songs long heard in tributes to St. Patrick's Day. Comedy and dancing by the cast will also be part of the celebration.

Staged by Martin P. Kelly, the Riverview company has been performing this music for the past 12 years as part of its touring schedule. The Mohawk Club engagement follows performances in several venues in the Adirondacks.

The cast includes Barry Corlew, Bill Hickman, Pat Hoffman, Bert Maynes, Donna Panzl, Janet Stasio as well as story teller Pat Kelly. Trudy Ferguson on keyboard joins Hickman, Maynes and Corlew in making instrumental music with the traditional Irish beat and lyricism.

Tickets for the dinner (at 6:30 p.m.) and show are \$24. Stockade Association members qualify for a discount price of \$20. For reservations call 393-8024. Indicate Stockade membership to obtain the discount.

## Young Republicans Host Child & Teen Safety Day

How can you protect your child from strangers?  
How can you keep your teen safe online?

The Schenectady Young Republicans are sponsoring a Child and Teen Safety Day with free fingerprinting and information on how to prevent child abduction. The Safety Day will be on Sunday, March 2nd from 11 AM to 1 PM at Capasso & Massaroni, 215 State Street, Schenectady. This free event is open to all families in the Capital Region.

For more information email Kathleen at:  
[gopschenectady@aol.com](mailto:gopschenectady@aol.com).

## Have You Heard . . .

- Diane Buckley

• Ron Chard and his garden are famous? It's all in Better Homes and Gardens "Simply Perfect Small Gardens 2003" issue of the magazine. The table of contents describes it as "understated elegance . . . certainly doesn't have a Versailles size lot but King Louis XIV inspired him to turn his tiny New York garden an antique showcase in which formal urns play a leading role." Inside are ten pages of gorgeous photos with detailed descriptions of the 20 x 50 garden at 16 N. Church St. The Stockade itself is described as "old world elegance of eight square blocks of Victorian style town houses along the Mohawk River!" The garden was designed with Ron by landscape gardener Mark Fisher. The effect is that overdone look Ron loves, jammed but tasteful, and so unique it made the cover photo! I didn't read a word about weeds.

## Did You Know . . .

• Cheryl Heavey is back in town? Formerly a Stockader in New York she came here to work for the NY State Lottery and later returned to Wall Street to work for Bear Stearns. After coming back and forth "much too frequently" she decided to stay and gradually realized "The Stockade is my favorite place in the whole world." Why? "Quality of life." (Heads up - she's looking for a job.) Cheryl and Timothy D. Febbie were planning their Friday together at a table in Arthur's. Tim has been coming to Arthur's "for over 40 years" and now considers it more of a cafe. He also claims to remember when Arthur had hair. Cheryl and Tim's Friday decision? Tea at Arthur's, Grog Shop for dinner then on to the Civic Playhouse. And what a handsome couple they are!

## Have You Seen . . .

• The used book store at the corner of Clinton and Union? OK - you've seen it; now go in. This treasure is an easy walk and easier drive for Stockaders. It's a part of the main library so you can park in that lot. All books are in good condition and well organized. Paperbacks are \$1.00, hard covers are \$2.00, children's books \$.50 or \$1.00, cocktail table editions, \$5.00 and there are similarly priced videos, CD's and tapes. The staff is volunteer and very helpful. I think you'll be pleasantly surprised - and remember that the shelves change all the time.

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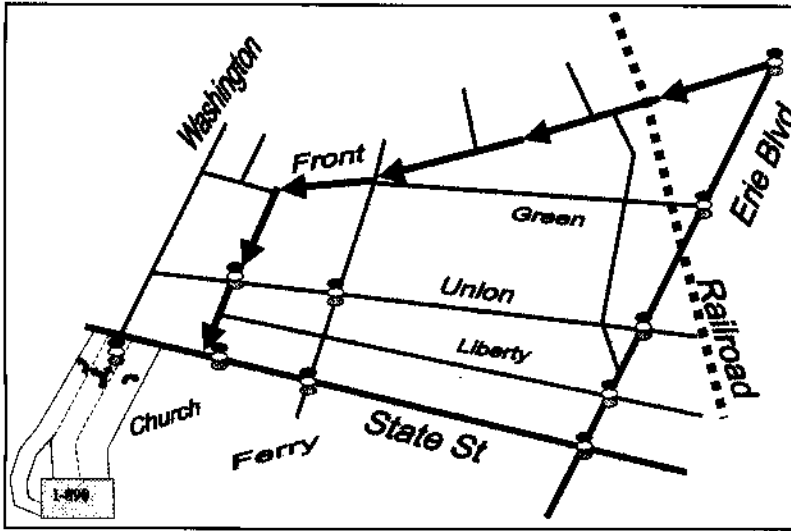
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# Racing through the Stockade? Can you suggest a way to stop it?

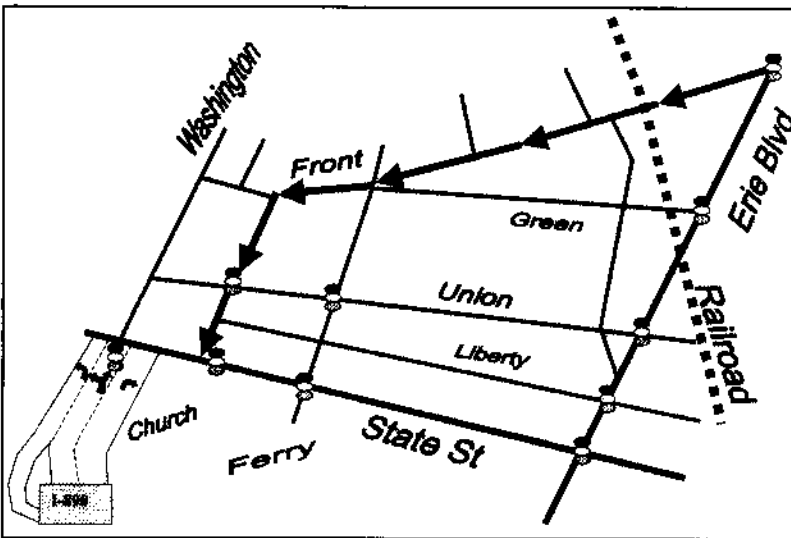
## Shortcut through the Stockade: East to West

The arrowed line shows how a driver can go from Front and Eric to State and Church with only one stop sign and a single stoplight at Church and Union – the alternative of staying on Eric and State adds 5 stoplights.



## Shortcut through the Stockade: West to East

The arrowed line shows how a driver can go from State Street, usually directly from the high-speed of 890, to Eric Blvd. and Front (via Washington, Front, Green, College, Front), avoiding 6 stop signs and heavy traffic. Alternately, some enter the Stockade on Church, drive north to Front, then follow the same path as above.



Has the Stockade become a version of the Daytona 500, with cars racing through our streets?

Hurrying non-residents have a timesaving reason to use Stockade streets: They can miss 5 or 6 stoplights from Rte 890 to Freeman's Bridge Road. How? It's simple: Go straight ahead at SCCC, speed down Washington, spin right onto Front, race past the Indian, hurry out Green Street, and save gobs of time. A comparable route in the other direction offers non-residents a speedier way from Freeman's Bridge to SCCC, a way to avoid five stoplights.

Reproduced here are two maps identifying the routes and showing the number and location of stoplights these drivers can miss. They have been prepared by Dale Miller of Green Street and have been studied at length by the Stockade Board of Directors.

The Board has been wrestling with the nightmare of speeding drivers for months. We have looked at maps and walked the streets. Eli Taub counted as 27 consecutive cars ran the stop sign on Front Street at the Indian. Joe Fava has watched cars speed past the Indian with no apparent regard for pedestrians. Susannah Sherwood has watched in disbelief as cars sped past her house on Front Street. Will one of us one day witness the accident we all fear?

We're not sure what changes to make to prevent this dangerous behavior. Better policing would help, of course, and we've requested that. Looking for a permanent fix, we have considered closing Washington Ave. at SCCC or closing the circle around the Indian so the shortcuts no longer work. We haven't so far found a solution that doesn't produce resistance. (More discussion appears in the Board minutes elsewhere in this *SPY*.)

We continue to work on the problem, and would welcome input from neighbors. Do you share our concern? Do you worry about speeders? Have you an idea that would solve the problem? Please contact a Stockade Board member – their names and addresses are listed in the masthead – and let us know. Or come to our next general Stockade Association meeting. We want to hear from you. **Stockade Association Board of Directors**

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# Music at the Van Dyck

- **John Rotundo**

March's music line-up is a marathon of remarkable musicians:

3/1 - **Room Full of Blues** - Fills the nightclub with just that. The blues continue with **Omar & the Howlers** (3/7 - \$15) and rescheduled from last month Murali Coryell Band (3/8 - \$15).

The Celtic sounds of **Fiddler's Green** will spark your St. Pat's weekend off on Thursday March 13 (\$8). **Kamikaze Hearts**, named Best New Band and Best Acoustic Band by *Metroland's* Best of 2001, bring their bluegrass blowout March 14 (\$8).

Fans of the Dave Clark Five will not want to miss **Mike Smith** who was the lead singer (3/15-\$25).

**Janis Ian**, who maintains a strong following, has become an area favorite. Her classic songs "At Seventeen," "Jesse," and "Society's Child" have become a part of the soundtrack which many of us rely on to capture innocence and agelessness. A recent recording has her crossing into country with songs like "boots like emmy lou's" and a potent duet with Willy Nelson, "memphis." Her guitar ability will impress as well. (Thursday, 3/20 - \$22).

You might remember **Nneena Freelon** from

the movie "As Good As It Gets." She was the cabaret singer the camera loved. Now we get to see her real show! (3/22 - \$24)

To end the month the Van Dyck proudly presents: 3/27 - **Michael Brecker**, who has mastered the saxophone and other instruments in such a way, a global audience now listens (\$20). 3/28 - **Maria Muldaur** will entrance us with her own style of swampy Louisiana blues (\$20). 3/29 - **Cyrus Chestnut**, who effortlessly takes jazz on a journey through the classical realm, then back again to please all who have the good fortune to hear him. He will perform with his trio (\$22).

It is rare for a newspaper to dedicate editorial space to local music but the *Daily Gazette* did (3/10/03). Praising the effort to bring a jazz jam session (to the Van Dyck) the editorial states . . . "everything from the player's chemistry to the crowd's mood can all affect the outcome." The acclaimed and soon to be legendary jazz jam sessions are hosted by Adrian Cohen and Brian Pataneau every Tuesday evening. (*The Van Dyck Restaurant, Brewery, & Music Club is located at 237 Union Street close to Erie Boulevard in the Schenectady Stockade, www.thevanddyck.com. For reservations, call 381-1111.*)

## Stockade Dates

**Sidewalk Sale**  
Sat., June 7

**Art Show**  
Sat., Sept. 6

**Walkabout & Waterfront Faire**  
Sat., Sept. 20

## Important Numbers

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382-5200

**Snow Parking info.**  
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**Trash Pickup**  
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## The Stockade Spy

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## Please Be A Good Neighbor:

- \* Avoid honking car horns
- \* Do not park on sidewalks
- \* Put trash out only at appropriate times  
(Please tell new neighbors to check back page of *The Spy* - see box at side - or get from Arthur's a schedule for the whole year for pick-up dates)
- \* Help frail neighbors clean their front yards
- \* Pick up dog poops (in plastic bags)

## March Waste Collection Dates

**Tues., Mar. 4**  
**Tues., Mar. 11**

**Tues., Mar. 18**  
**Tues., Mar. 25**

**Collection starts at 6:15 AM. Don't put waste on the curb before 2:00 PM the day before.**