

Kelsey's Landing Designated a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Site

Late in the spring I was joined by Department of Recreation and Youth Services Commissioner Marisol Ramos-Lopez, Recreation Director Jim Farr, Monroe County Legislator Cindy Kaleh and Bill Self of the Lower Falls Foundation to celebrate the designation of Kelsey's Landing as an official National Underground Railroad Network (Network to Freedom) site by the National Park Service.

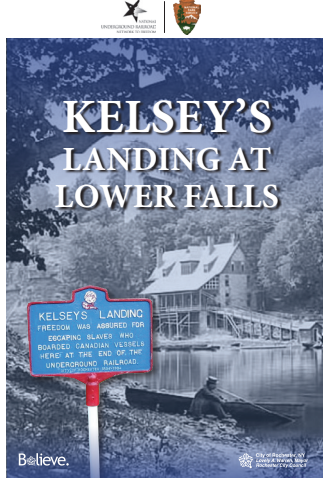
Constructed in 1844 in the Genesee River Gorge, Kelsey's Landing often served as the final stop on the Underground Railroad. After the Fugitive Slave Act was passed, the port harbored escaped slaves, who would go on to board cargo ships bound for Canada and their eventual freedom. Located as far inland as ships could travel before

reaching the falls, Kelsey's Landing served as Rochester's dominant port until rail lines connecting Downtown Rochester and the port at Charlotte eventually rendered it obsolete.

The new designation places Kelsey's Landing among several National Underground Railroad historic places which are eligible to take advantage of a network of educational and marketing resources.

Thanks to the efforts of City of Rochester Recreation Bureau and the Lower Falls Foundation, this historic Rochester site is finally getting the national recognition it deserves!

For more information on the National Underground Railroad Network, visit www.nps.gov/subjects/UGRR.



Books and Bears Donation

I want to thank the L-Tron Corporation of Victor for making a generous donation of almost \$3,400 worth of stuffed animals and children's books for our Books and Bears Program.

Books and Bears collects donations of new books and stuffed animals which our police officers carry in their cars to give to young children whom they might encounter at a crime scene or other traumatic event. The Books and Bears program is a wonderful example of how a small gesture can lead to great things - which is the essence of community policing.

When officers take the time during a busy and hectic event to acknowledge the presence of young children, they are showing those children that they are not invisible, that they matter and that we care about them. These gifts will make a huge impact in the lives of our most vulnerable children.

To learn more about the Books and Bears program, contact the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services at (585) 428-7045 or visit www.cityofrochester.gov/booksandbears.

Healthy Living Made Easy

Research shows that 74 percent of Monroe County's senior citizens qualify for SNAP benefits (food stamps), but haven't yet applied for this benefit.

This is why I have joined with Monroe County to bring together a number of groups, including Foodlink, Legal Assistance of Western New York (LawNY) and Lifespan, to produce the Healthy Living Made Easy Guide to help senior citizens find and access fresh fruits and vegetables while encouraging them to apply for SNAP benefits.

A balanced, well-planned diet may reduce the onset of some diseases that can be associated with aging, such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes and high blood pressure.

Healthy Living Made Easy Guides (available in English and Spanish) may be picked up at City Hall.

For more information, contact Andreas Rau in the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services at (585) 428-6745 or at: Andreas.Rau@cityofrochester.gov.



Rochester City Council

Left to right standing: Matt Haag, At-Large
Jacklyn Ortiz, At-Large
Loretta C. Scott, Council President At-Large
Carolee A. Conklin, At-Large
Dana K. Miller, Vice President At-Large

Left to right seated:
Michael A. Patterson, Northeast District
Molly Clifford, Northwest District
Elaine M. Spaul, Esq., East District
Adam C. McFadden, South District



Bike Share Rolls in to Rochester!

Bikeshare programs are quickly becoming a popular transportation option in American cities and Rochester has now joined the movement. A total of 340 Zagster shared bikes are available for riders all around the city. There are 46 Zagster stations located throughout Rochester where riders can pick up or drop off a bike. Riders also have the option to drop off a Zagster shared bike at any of the City's public bike racks. In most cities, programs like this require riders to pay a steep membership fee as well as other additional fees. But in Rochester, rides cost just \$1 per half hour. This low cost makes bike riding accessible for everyone. Bikesharing allows riders to engage in a method of transportation that is healthy and environmentally friendly. [Learn more at www.cityofrochester.gov/ROCBikeShare](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/ROCBikeShare).



Rediscover Your City of Rochester Public Market

We are excited to have completed an \$8.5 million City of Rochester Public Market improvement project. The Market has been a center of commerce and culture in our community for 112 years and is one of the most celebrated public markets in the nation.



This major renovation includes new indoor and outdoor sheds, significantly upgraded individual food stands and more street and sidewalk improvements.

The new outdoor "D" Shed—a replica of an original shed built in 1904-1905 and demolished in 1963—creates 46 additional vending spots. The new state-of-the-art, 13,000 square-foot indoor "B" Shed is naturally lit with a fully glass front and is a model of environmental efficiency. The building provides vastly improved amenities and comfort for vendors, including new restroom facilities. The new food stands are a unique sight as they are custom-fabricated from repurposed shipping containers.

The completion of this ambitious project ushers in an exciting new era and makes our world-class market better than ever.

ROC Women's Music Fest a Success

Thank you to the thousands of people who attended the inaugural ROC Women's Music Fest to celebrate the centennial anniversary of women's suffrage. National headliners Joan Osborne, MC Lyte and Meshell Ndegeocello gave dynamic performances and local artists Mikaela Davis and Teagan and the Tweeds put on shows that kept the crowd engaged.

Attendees had the opportunity to learn about local groups that empower girls and women and patronize women-owned food trucks. This new festival brought together a beautifully diverse group of people on Parcel 5 and it was quite the sight to behold!

I was very proud to create the Women's Music Fest in Rochester and look forward to doing this again next year.



Gun Violence Awareness Month in Rochester



In June, we held our second annual Gun Violence Awareness Month, which started a month-long community conversation on the destruction of gun violence.

I issued a proclamation on June 2, in conjunction with Gun Violence Awareness Day, which was proclaimed in communities across the nation to honor the birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old Chicago girl who was shot and killed a week after marching in President Obama's second inaugural parade.

"In an effort to extend the impact of National Gun Violence Awareness Day, the

City of Rochester is designating June as Gun Violence Awareness Month calling on all citizens to not only wear orange, but to also clasp hands and join a movement—a wellspring — to change the culture of violence — to ensure that Hadiya, as well as all those who are injured or become victims from gun violence each year, do not die or suffer in vain. A call is made for all Rochesterians to help reduce gun violence, pledge to keep firearms out of the wrong hands and encourage responsible gun ownership in order to keep our families safe," the Proclamation stated, which I delivered on the steps of City Hall with

several of our partners in the fight against gun violence.

We worked with the faith community and human-service agencies to hold a series of events during June that served as "conversation starters" on the topic of gun violence. The series included an Interfaith Memorial Service at the Crime Victims Memorial in Highland Park; and a Community Input Session on Gun Violence held at Baber AME Church in partnership with Rise Up Rochester. [Learn more at www.cityofrochester.gov/GVAM](http://www.cityofrochester.gov/GVAM).

RPD Looks to Community for Help with Recruitment



As part of the Blueprint for Engagement, the City of Rochester is looking for young men and women to serve as Rochester Police Officers. In an effort to enhance our recruitment strategies, RPD is looking for interested community members willing to serve as Community Recruiters. We are seeking individuals from all aspects of the Rochester community, to include residents, clergy, business, education and government who are willing to identify qualified candidates interested in a career in law enforcement and begin the initial recruitment process.

This will improve recruitment efforts and help attract more qualified candidates to pursue a career with the RPD, with a special focus on city residents. Those selected will be provided with training and recruitment material from the Department's Professional Development Section.

Interested community members should provide their information at www.cityofrochester.gov/communityrecruiters.

New Low-Cost Broadband Service in Rochester

We are proud to announce the launch of a new low cost, high speed internet service for low-income households in Rochester. Spectrum Internet Assist (SIA) provides internet access to those who might otherwise not be able to afford it, giving them greater access to educational and job opportunities.

The City has teamed up with PowerMyLearning and Charter Communications to provide this service and as part of the program, has given away refurbished Home Learning Center computers to ten families enrolled in City R-Center programs.

To qualify for SIA, a family must have a student who participates in the National Lunch Program; be a senior receiving Supplemental Security Income benefits; and cannot have had a Charter/Time Warner Cable/Bright House Networks broadband subscription within 30 days of signing up.

Spectrum Internet Assist costs \$14.99 per month to those who qualify. Prospective enrollees may also call the Spectrum Internet Assist toll-free helpline at 1 (844) 525-1574 for assistance.



First City Dog Park Opens at Cobb's Hill

This summer we cut a blue ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of Rochester's first dog park! This addition was long overdue and now our loyal friends have a place where they can run free without a leash. The new City Dog Park is located on Norris Drive, immediately east of the softball diamonds in Cobb's Hill Park and is open from dawn to dusk.

Dog Park amenities include: large dog and small dog areas; fire hydrants; a stone dust surface; open lawns; benches; shade trees; pet waste stations; and drinking water.



The Dog Park will be operated as a pilot program through the end of 2017.

During the pilot period, only city residents with a licensed dog can register for this dog park. There will be no fee for a permit during the pilot period.

To obtain a Dog Park Permit, owners must have a City dog license and proof of rabies vaccination. Permit applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office in room 100A of City Hall, 30 Church St.

The Mayor's Inspiring Success Series: Inspiring Beauty and the Distinguished Gentleman

An investment in Rochester's youth is an investment in our future. In June I hosted more than 500 young people at my two signature networking and educational events: Inspiring Beauty, and Distinguished Gentleman.

Both events were hosted in partnership with WDKX and provided opportunities for young people to meet local professionals -- "Role Models" who volunteered to share their aspi-

cluded educators, entrepreneurs, attorneys, professional athletes, doctors, engineers and more.

My vision is that these connections will turn into internships and job opportunities for our youth and that they will be inspired to be successful in life.

To all of our young people: I promise that you live in a city that believes in you wholeheartedly. You can accomplish and achieve your dreams, whatever they may be. Let no one, or nothing, stand in your way.

- Mayor Warren



Proud to Fight Climate Change

I was honored to accept recognition from New York State for the City's actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build climate resiliency in Rochester.

Over the years I have implemented many policies to promote a safe and healthy environment in our city, including: Installing 24 electric vehicle charging stations; creating a bike share program; focusing efforts on brownfield clean-up; upgrading City Hall to make it more environmentally friendly; adopting the NYS Unified Solar Permit to streamline approval for local solar projects and partnering with a local nonprofit for a community-based solarize campaign. Thank you to Governor Cuomo!

