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# REPORTER

05.18.12 [reportermag.com](http://reportermag.com)



## THE PHOTO ISSUE



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## PHOTO EDITOR'S NOTE

It's been a long year. There have been more than a few times when I've considered resigning from my position as **REPORTER**'s photo editor. Short deadlines and even shorter notice on photo shoots can really start to pile up on your nerves. I've had to take on the roles of photographer and assistant at various points this year, alongside organizing and directing the photographic side of the magazine.

The one thing that has kept me somewhat sane has been the photographers, many of whom have been beyond loyal to me and the magazine, even when asked last minute to go out and photograph something. With what could be the last weekly print issue of **REPORTER** sitting in stands now, I hope the graduating photographers highlighted in this issue can remember their first issue and the excitement that hopefully took hold of them upon seeing their work for **REPORTER** in print for the first time.

I've learned a lot while working as photo editor this year. Each of these photographers has had some kind of effect on my way of thinking, either as a photographer or as photo editor.

I can't thank you all enough for the hard work you've done this past year. I wish you all the best in your future careers and hope you remember your humble beginnings at **REPORTER** in the years to come.

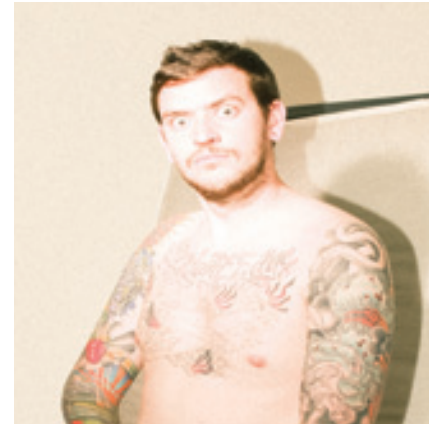


Juan Madrid

PHOTO EDITOR

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## THE PHOTOGRAPHERS 05.18.12 | VOLUME 61 | ISSUE 31



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### BRETT CARLSEN // PAGE FOUR

I was born in Rochester, just a few miles from Kodak. I think my parents never would have guessed I'd end up a photographer. My dad was an engineer and my mom a nurse; both assumed I'd follow my dad and grandpa before him. After failing every engineering course my first year at Penn State, it was clear that was not going to work out. I started to follow what I personally loved, art. After a few years of changing colleges and working I ended up at RIT in fall 2009.

I like real life; I think it has enough curiosities and strange happenings to satisfy my mind. All of my photography is simply my view on real life events. I photograph with a journalistic approach and have just started to understand how to make successful pictures of situations as they occur. My career goals include working as a photographer in a major news outlet and continuing to freelance in photojournalism, as well as intern at newspapers and magazines.

RIT has gifted me with more than I can ever repay. However, my humble start was to work for **REPORTER** this past year in hopes of helping in any way I could, and I've enjoyed every minute of it. I was able to photograph assignments I was used to, but also push myself into the studio and create illustrative and planned photographs which turned out to be successful and fun.

I'm currently starting an internship in Flint, Mich. at the Flint Journal. My work can be seen at <http://brettcarsen.com> and <http://brettreallife.tumblr.com>.

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### JOSH KUCKENS // PAGE SEVEN

I'm Josh Kuckens. I'll be graduating this spring from the Photojournalism program at RIT. My plans for the immediate future are a summer internship at the Daily Hampshire Gazette in Northampton, Mass. and after that, an open mind. I have a website at <http://JoshKuckens.com>. You can follow my tumblr at [joshkuckens.tumblr.com](http://joshkuckens.tumblr.com).



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### TOM NEWTON // PAGE TEN

My interest in photography began when I was very young, I played around with a lot of cameras and wasted a lot of film just taking photos in my back yard. Things got a lot better when I took my first photography course in high school. I had a wonderful teacher who, from the silly portraits of friends I took after school, saw where my interests lay and helped me discover the work of Steven Meisel, David Bailey and many other great fashion and portrait photographers I still love today.

After high school I stayed near home and attended SUNY Potsdam for a few years and just took photos for fun. I shot portraits of pretty girls in the Adirondacks, waterfalls and mountains everywhere, until one of my professors suggested I transfer to RIT and get serious. I sort of did, and now I'm graduating and planning on moving to New York City late this summer or early next fall. I plan on stalking Steven Meisel until he lets me assist for him, maybe freelance assisting for some other photographers in the meantime. I'd like to eventually have a studio of my own in the city and shoot lots of beautiful models in lovely clothes.

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### ROB SHOOK // PAGE THIRTEEN

My purpose in taking a picture is to try to provide the viewer with an idea of how it feels to be *there*. There is an emotional level of understanding to be gained from seeing a still frame that is, I believe, uniquely memorable. I have worked with video, audio and the written word, but the photograph is the most important to me. Applying this to everyday life is my goal. I want to do my best to document normal experiences and those that are outside our own understanding. These are things that are worth remembering, and the photographs invariably become more and more informative as time separates us from the events. As photographers, we take some pictures to report, we take some to make a statement and we take some for no reason other than we liked what passed in front of our lens.

After school, I'm going to spend some time photographing weddings and other events while devoting my spare time working on projects that I think are politically and socially important. My dream as of now would be to take part in a photo collective like "*Facing Change*."



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Reporter Magazine is published weekly during the academic year by a staff comprised of students at Rochester Institute of Technology. Business, Editorial and Design facilities are located in Room A-730, in the lower level of the Campus Center. Our phone number is 1.585.475.2212. The Advertising Department can be reached at 1.585.475.2213. The opinions expressed in Reporter do not necessarily reflect those of the Institute. Letters to the Editor may also be sent to [reporter@rit.edu](mailto:reporter@rit.edu). "We're no strangers to love Kenny Miller. You know the rules and so do I." Reporter is not responsible for materials presented in advertising areas. No letters will be printed unless signed. All letters received become the property of Reporter. Reporter takes pride in its membership in the Associated Collegiate Press and American Civil Liberties Union. Copyright © 2012 Reporter Magazine. All rights reserved. No portion of this Magazine may be reproduced without prior written permission.



## BRETT CARLSEN

◀ Rose Marie Belforti poses for a photograph outside the town office in Aurora, N.Y. Belforti is choosing not to sign marriage licenses and instead make a colleague do so by appointment due to her stance on gay marriage. Sept. 24, 2011.

Residents of Barton, N.Y. do all they can with the cards they were dealt by Wednesday's rainfall. One resident added, "In my words, they've forgot about Barton". Sept. 8, 2011. ▼



Pershing Street, Flint, Mich. ▲



Reverend Roy Jones and Kindell Hemphill look over the body of a young woman. While most clients are elderly, it is not rare to see a young person come through their doors. ▲



◀ Master Leggette (left), 10, and Gimani Riley (right), 8, carry the cross in representation of Jesus Christ. Ecumenical Walk of the Stations of the Cross presented by GRCC Faith in Action Network and the Episcopal and Catholic Dioceses of Rochester, N.Y.



Joey Alphonse, 10, sits on the stairs while a congo line goes by. He was back up laughing and dancing a few minutes later. West Ridge Elementary School is holding their annual Valentines Day/Sweetheart parent-child dance at Longridge Elementary Thursday, February 2.



A skateboarder launches off a ping pong table at the Crossroads Youth Center in Spencerport, N.Y. after worship services Sunday, January 8. The center provides a combination of Christian education and skateboarding, with a barn that has been converted to an indoor and outdoor extreme sports park.

## Skating With Faith

The Crossroads Youth Center (CYC) is a faith-based organization that combines skateboarding and Christianity to provide area youth a safe, supervised place to skateboard. Situated on the Grace Church of the Nazarene property in Spencerport, the Crossroads Youth Center consists of a barn-turned indoor and outdoor extreme sports park, snack bar and half basketball court. Every Thursday night, area youth are welcome to a free skateboard session, as well as mandatory bible study. Every Sunday there is a worship service, followed by an excursion to a skatepark or other destination of the kids' choice. Every year, the participants produce a skateboarding film. Some of the skaters have used their experience making the film to go on to college and jobs in media and video production. This story shows skateboarders in a more positive light than one might expect, and while the kids themselves may not be perfect, they are getting into less trouble than they would without a safe, supervised place to go. *All names withheld at the request of the subjects.*

JOSH KUCKENS



▲ A member of the Crossroads Youth Center, left, plays "Silent Night" on the guitar before worship service Sunday, January 8.



▲ A member of the Crossroads Youth Center horses around with a fellow skater as another member watches from Pastor Pfonner's van Sunday, October 30, 2011.

▶ A member of the Crossroads Youth Center rests his skateboard on his shoe during a game of "S-K-A-T-E" outside the Strong Museum of Play in downtown Rochester Friday, October 28, 2011. The bottom of his skateboard is scripture from the Book of John.



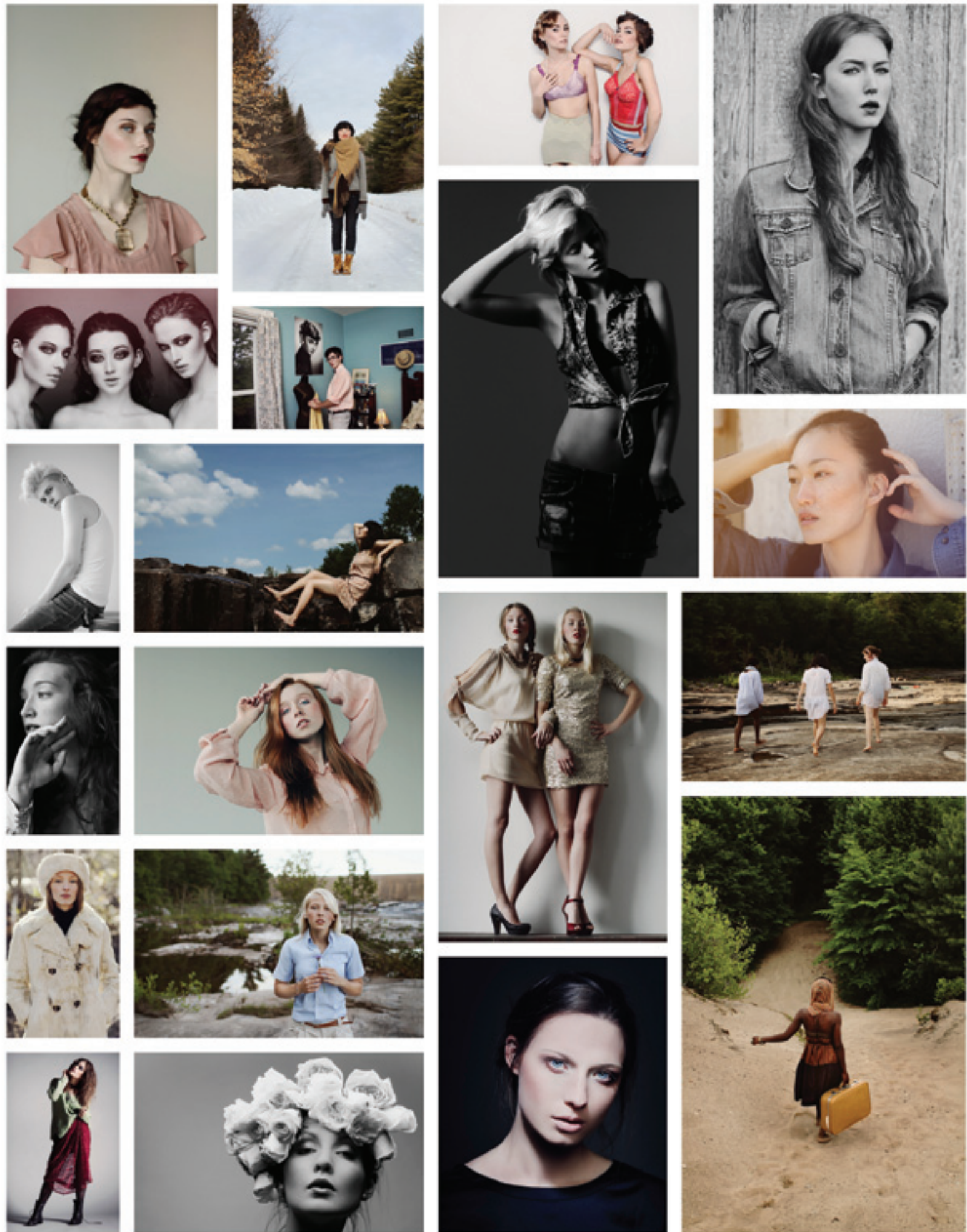
▲ A member of Crossroads Youth Center skateboards in the homemade outdoor skatepark behind the Crossroads Youth Center after Bible study Thursday, October 27, 2011.



▲ Pastor Dave Pfonner of the Crossroads Youth Center delivers a sermon to the skaters during worship service on Sunday, January 8. The older kids in the program (high school juniors and seniors) are often tired from parties the night before, but they still make the effort to come every Sunday.



TOM NEWTON





ROB SHOOK



Canandaigua, N.Y. Two young groomsmen fidget during a summer wedding ceremony.





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1 - Fort Drum Army Base, N.Y. A Rochester Institute of Technology cadet experiences one of his first Situational Training Exercises, a training drill designed to mimic combat situations.

2 - Rochester, N.Y. Four teens pose for a photograph on Emerson Street. They live in one of Rochester's poorest and most dangerous neighborhoods.

3 - Laplante, S.D. Two boys ride a horse across the Laplante Pow-wow grounds on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

5 - Rochester, NY. "I didn't DO anything!" Nick was an onlooker at an Occupy Rochester protest on Friday, November 11, 2011, which culminated in a group of protesters refusing to leave the park, thereby facing arrest. After the arrests were over, Nick turned to leave, stepping off of the sidewalk and into the park in front of a police officer. He was the 16th arrested that night.

6 - Rochester, NY. An animal control officer takes "Flocka," a pit bull puppy, to her van. Animal Control was called because the family that owned Flocka decided they didn't want him anymore. He was put to sleep a week later.



REPORTER