

# For Starters

A new statue for Newburgh, serenading your sweetheart, an upscale alley in Rockland.

## Newburgh's Dream

The city of Newburgh got an early start on celebrating Black History Month with the unveiling of a new statue of slain civil rights leader **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** last month.

The idea for the sculpture began as the dream of Newburgh resident Ed McCarthy. He was inspired by the local Rev. Sylvester McClearn,

### We want Newburgh to be known as a city that lives the dream

who began a petition in 2005 to rename Water Street in honor of Dr. King. McCarthy's dream took a step towards reality when the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Committee was formed expressly for the purpose of raising funds

and public awareness for the sculpture project.

Enter sculptor David Frech, who worked at Beacon's Tallix Foundry (now called Polich Tallix).

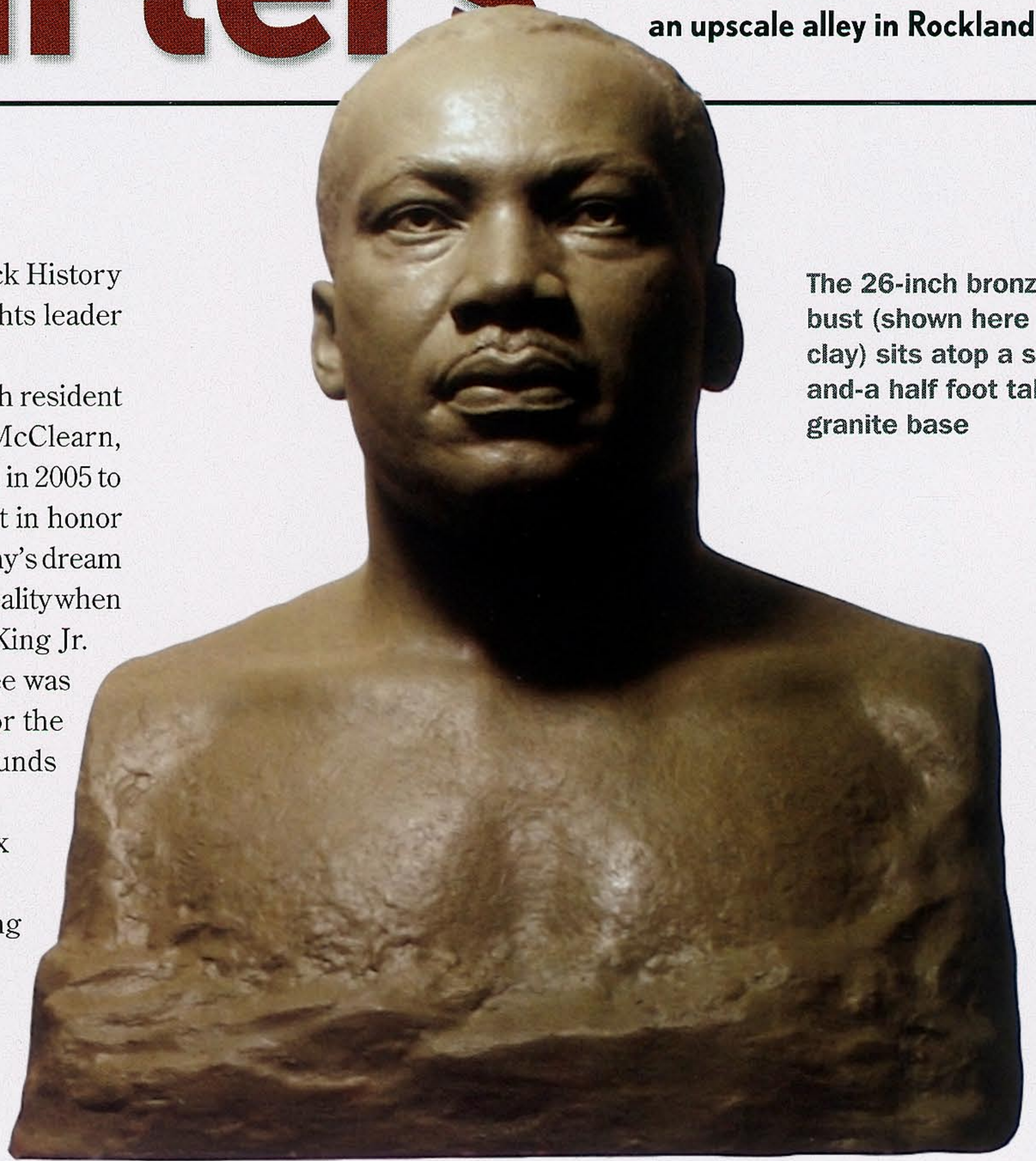
"We were really taken by examples of his work and strong vision for the monument," said Committee Secretary Pam Krizek, a 30-year Newburgh resident.

After two years of work, Frech was scheduled to unveil his sculpture late last month in a special ceremony. The location, at the corner of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Colden Street, overlooks the Hudson River and will be the sculpture's permanent home.

A passionate student of Newburgh's history, McCarthy called the sculpture "a majestic, world-class piece that captures the expression of a calm Dr. King facing the challenges that beset him."

The unique thing about Frech's depiction of Dr. King is the way he chose to portray him — bare-chested, without his standard shirt and tie or clerical robe. Frech explained that he hoped this would convey Dr. King's timeless message.

"My concern was that we see so many images of Dr. King dressed in the same way, and I think that we have a tendency to place him and his message in a particular time and place because of it," said Frech.



The 26-inch bronze bust (shown here in clay) sits atop a six-and-a-half foot tall granite base

"I also believe that the body can express far more than just itself, even when it's only a small portion of it. I wanted him to appear strong, yet humble."

More than just a work of stone and bronze, the most inspiring thing about the monument may not be the piece itself, but the community's involvement in the development of the project.

"This project brought together a city," said Krizek. "One day we want Newburgh to be known as a city that lives the dream that Dr. King lived for; that Newburgh can be a city of diversity and also a community of tolerance, consideration, and love." — *Laura Calhoon*

## That's Amore

After hearing about New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's trans fat crackdown, Carlo D'Aquanni, the owner of **Amore Pizzeria and Café** in Pleasant Valley, decided to take a drastic step. His New Year's resolution: eliminate trans fats from Amore's deep-fried dishes. That means calamari, mozzarella sticks, zucchini sticks, chicken nuggets and veal parm will henceforth all be cooked in "Magic Choice," a nonhydrogenated soybean oil.

"It's a little more expensive," said Manager John Chianfagana, "But since our friends and family all live in this area, it seemed like the right thing to do." Can customers taste the difference? "We haven't had any complaints or comments," he said. And no, he can't taste the difference. "And I basically live here. This is where I eat every day, so I'm happy." — *A.J. Loftin*



## You Can Quote Me...

*"We must have the vision to expand Stewart Airport to become the fourth major airport in the downstate region, and to serve as an economic engine of the Hudson Valley."*

— **Governor Eliot Spitzer** in his first State of the State Address since becoming New York's 54th head of state last month

