



Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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P.O. Box 10127, Rochester, New York 14610
<http://browncroftna.org>

Spring 2014

BNA Executive Committee

Officers:

President

Aaron Thompson

Vice-President

Linda Siple

Secretary

Mary Connors

Treasurer

Robert McLoughlin

District Reps

Elm

James Nicholson

Corwin

Holly Petsos

Croydon

Mary Jane Tasciotti

BNA Voicemail:

270-0890

Be On Your Way With

BNA: 733-4386

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Browncroft Neighborhood Association's

Annual May Meeting

Mark the Date:

**May 15, 2014
at 7:00 P.M.**

Meeting Location:

**St John's Church
553 Humboldt St.**

It's that time of year again! On behalf of myself and the BNA Board, I would like to formally invite you and your friends and family to join us.

The evening will begin with refreshments, snacks and catching up with neighbors as we all come in. Then our **special guest** for the evening, **Mike Governale** (Creator of RochesterUnderground.com), will be speaking to our group about what he has set out to do with his web site. Mike said it well "This web site exists to help spark public dialogue around how we can better connect the neighborhoods of Rochester NY, surrounding communities, and their cultural offerings. Rochester's future is written in her past. Let's rediscover it." Mike's site has many followers and he encourages his readers to dig into the rich history that Rochester has, as well as the preservation of the same. His site highlights Rochester's unique value and how important it is to not forget what a wonderful city we have.

One thing Mike will touch on is his new effort - ROC Transit Day (coming up Thursday, June 19). ROC Transit Day is a one day event that encourages thousands of Rochesterians to use public transportation and to shop at local businesses. This is an initiative by Reconnect Rochester, a local non-profit volunteer organization.

After Mike speaks we will continue with our election of officers (See page 2 regarding nominees.); and a short year in review of what went on in the neighborhood, as well as a glimpse of what is to come in the near future.

We look forward to seeing you there as it is always a great time to catch up with all the neighbors you haven't seen over the past winter months.

Any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to email or call.

Aaron Thompson, President

2014 OFFICER NOMINEES

President: Linda Siple.

Linda has lived at 76 Ramsey Park for 13 years along with her husband Tom Gibbons and black lab Bailey. Linda is a professor at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf where she was the program director for the ASL/English Interpretation BS degree program. She is now back to the teaching ranks as she is transitioning to retirement.

Linda has served as the Ramsey street rep and as Vice President for the last 3-4 years. She has worked on the street sign committee, street lights committee, Winter Gathering committee and regularly volunteers in the Rose Garden.

Vice President: Andrea Zawieski.

Andrea was born and raised in New York State's southern tier on 900 acres. She is a graduate of both Cazenovia College, AA. and St. John Fisher College, BA. She fell in love with Rochester's small town/big city cultural availability and moved into a tiny apt. on Park Ave with no garden. While, single, underemployed and paying off school loans, she would drive around the BNA neighborhood dreaming of one day living in such

a magnificent location. So, when she married the man of her dreams and they had advanced both their careers they moved into the home of their dreams on Beresford Road in June 2001. They then quickly began the process of building an "in-law" suite for Andrea's mother, whom moved in that December. Andrea and her husband took great care in maintaining the character and period when constructing their addition.

Andrea is a senior level Sales and Marketing professional and has worked for Colgate-Palmolive, Merck and Johnson & Johnson. Currently, she has launched her own insurance business specializing in healthcare planning for retirees.

Andrea is a member of the Beresford Road Book Club and a Rose garden volunteer. She is an avid gardener indoors and outdoors. When not in the garden, she can be found knitting, walking

in the neighborhood, enjoying her neighbors or watching British TV with her husband and cat.

Treasurer: Robert McLoughlin.

Robert is a CPA with over 23 years experience. He has been a Browncroft resident since 2001. He is currently employed at PathStone Corporation.

Secretary: Mary M. Connors.

Mary is married to Vern Connors and has three children, Michael, Sarah and Daniel. She has lived in the neighborhood since June 1991. She is an Attorney at Harris Beach PLLC., a member of the Monroe County Bar Association and Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys. She is also a member of Peace of Christ Parish and a founding member of the Ladies' Auxiliary for Knights of Columbus Ascension Council, as well as a Eucharistic Minister at Blossom Nursing Home (now Brighton Manor).

Citywide Clean Sweep

is Saturday, **May 3rd.** BNA is not officially participating, but in the spirit of contributing to the quality of life in Rochester, and the Browncroft neighborhood, we encourage all residents to get out on May 3rd to sweep and remove unsightly LITTER from the street and sidewalks in front of your and your neighbors' home. Be Beautiful!



Easter egg hunt at the Michael and Erika Barone home at 337 Newcastle Road. Erika reported "We had a great day! There was a wonderful turn out of neighborhood children and families. The morning began with the Easter Egg Hunt and wrapped up with an amazing brunch, cotton candy machine and all! It was a memorable day at our new home on Newcastle. We look forward to building many more memories with our neighbors!" Photograph taken by Martha Schickler Photography.

INFORMATION YOU CAN USE IN THE SPRING - SUMMER SEASON

Spring Clean-up Tips

Bulk refuse such as loose wood, trees, bushes, and hedges must be tied in bundles. The bundles may not be longer than 4 feet in length, larger than 18 inches in diameter, or weigh more than 60 pounds. All nails must be removed from discarded lumber or bent over and secured so the nail points are not exposed. Loose leaves will NOT be picked up in spring or summer.

The refuse toter container is to be placed at the curb, along with bulk items and recyclable materials, by 6:30 a.m. on the regular refuse collection day. Refuse containers should never be placed out sooner than the night before collection.

* Need a new toter or recycle bin? Call 311 or 428-5990.

Delayed Refuse Pick-up

Both Memorial Day (May 26) and Labor Day (Sept. 1) fall on a Monday. That means the refuse pick up on the following Wednesday will be delayed by one day. Pick up will happen on Thursdays May 29 and Sept. 4.

(Excerpt from City Refuse Rules and Enforcement)

Street Light Replacement Project

The BNA street light replacement project is on schedule to start this summer. There will be a pre-construction meeting sometime in June to discuss the process and to meet with City representatives and the contractor who will install the light poles. Watch for an announcement for the meeting on BNA Announce and Nextdoor.com.

Important Parking Regulations

Per the City parking regulations, parking tickets may be issued if a vehicle is parked less than 5 feet from a driveway, less than 15 feet from a fire hydrant, on a sidewalk (including vehicles parked in driveways that are blocking access to the sidewalk), or between the curb and the sidewalk.

Also, as per the city zoning code for residential areas, "no parking shall be located in the side or front yard except in a legal driveway that provides access to the rear yard, a detached or attached garage."

RG&E Gas Main Replacement Project

This summer RG&E will replace gas mains on several BN streets. Prior to construction (approximately two weeks) the customer will receive information letters which will have a contact in Gas Operations to use during and after construction. These are the street sections where new (replacement) gas mains are planned: Corwin (From N. Winton to Fairhaven), Windemere Road, Dorchester Road (From N. Winton to New Castle), Beresford and Croydon* (From Blossom to Dorchester), Ramsey Park and Gramercy Park.

* Currently under construction nearing completion



PLANNING ON MAKING HOME IMPROVEMENTS?

\$\$\$ Check out NYS's Historic Homeowners Tax Credits \$\$\$

The Governor signed into law effective March 28, 2013 an extension for the historic home-owner tax credit making it available until December 31, 2019.

If you own and live in a house that is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places (NROHP) individually or as a contributing property in a listed historic district and located in an eligible census tract, you may qualify for a state historic rehabilitation tax credit equal to 20% of the repair costs.

The Browncroft Subdivision (Browncroft Boulevard south to, but not including Blossom Road - Winton Road east to, but not including, Fairhaven Road) and the section of Merchants Road from Browncroft to Berwick Road, as well as a few properties on Winton Road are listed on the NROHP

The repair costs must exceed \$5,000 and you must spend at least 5% on exterior work. You may receive a credit of up to \$50,000, which can be applied to the tax year in which the project is certified as completed.

All the work must be approved by the Division for Historic Preservation BEFORE you begin, to determine that it is in keeping with the house's historic architectural integrity and appearance. For instance, artificial siding and most window replacements would

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WINTER GATHERING APPRECIATION

The BNA would like to formally recognize and thank the many merchants and neighbors that made donations to the 2014 Winter Gathering. The next time you visit these merchants please thank them for their generosity!

Merchants:

Balsam Bagels
Bay and Goodman
Pizza
Brighton Restaurant
Captain Jim's
China Kitchens
Empire Liquor
Epicurean Treasures
Fah Sye
Greenhouse Café
Jim's Restaurant
Julian's Dry Cleaners
L & M Lanes
Liberty Family Rest.
Luvaboo
Meyer Hardware
Midtown Athletic
Pasta Shop
Paternico's Bakery
Soulstice
Winfield Grill

Neighbors

Sharon Bloemendaal
Kathleen Hayden
Frank Liberti
Paul Rapoza
Linda Siple
Sandy Swanson
Andrea Zawieki
Jane Zimmet

At this year's Winter Gathering the BNA Volunteer of the Year Award was given to Robert Genthner of Newcastle Road. Bob continues to be BNA's pillar, from street representative, to membership record keeping, to crime prevention, to History Committee worker, to web master, and on and on. Thanks, Bob

BROWNCROFT FAUX BALL

Plan ahead for the 2015 Browncroft Faux Ball—or is it a Bling Ball? The winter Gathering in January 2015 will feature costumes from zany to vintage. Do NOT buy anything NEW—find something at the back of the closet or at a garage sale! Prizes will be given for costumes like the oldest, least expensive, most elegant family heirloom, most outrageous (in good taste, of course) and the most outlandish bridesmaid dress that you were told you could wear again—and never did! Mark the date come fall. Use the summer to keep an eye open at thrift shops and garage sales, and find the rhinestones!

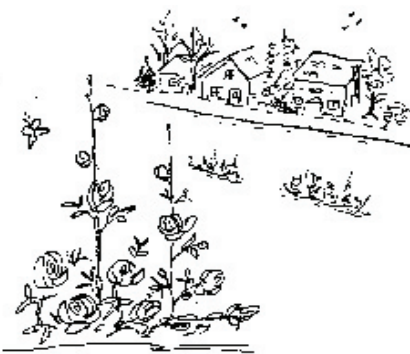
Homeowner Tax Credits

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not be eligible. Returning to original elements would be.

A wide range of work items are eligible, including the repair of walls, floors, chimneys, doors, and windows, as well as new roofs, mechanical systems, electrical wiring, and plumbing. The credit does not cover work outside the house, such as landscaping, fencing, and new additions.

To determine whether your property is in the historic dis-



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:

We will have a Rose Garden clean up on Saturday, May 3, 9-12:00.

If anyone wants to help they should just come to the Rose Garden, which is located at the intersection of Merchants and Browncroft.

Bring hand clippers, loppers, pruning saw, shovels to move mulch and a wheelbarrow if you have one. Wear waterproof clothing and shoes, thick work gloves and bring water to drink.

trict and an eligible census tract, and for general assistance call Sloane Bullough at 518-237-8643, ext. 3252 or email sloane.bullough@nysparks.com/shpo/tax-credit-programs. For much more information, including frequently asked questions, and for applications visit www.nysparks.com/shpo/tax-credit-programs.

SAVE THE DATE

May 15, 7:00 p.m. - Annual Meeting at St. Johns Church

July 16, 5:30 - BNA Picnic at Ellison Park