



# Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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

Summer 2016

## **BNA Executive Committee Officers:**

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## **COME TO THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC**

**Wednesday, July 20**  
**starting at 5:00 PM**

**Sycamore Shelter in Ellison Park.**

(Entrance is on the south side of Blossom Road,  
go over the bridge, take 1st right, keep left.)

**BNA will provide** grilled hot dogs, rolls, condiments,  
cold lemonade and cookies/brownies

**Bring** a dish to pass, your own plates and silverware,  
and your favorite outdoor game -  
frisbees, bocce ball, croquet

Picnic tables provided -  
bring a lawn chair if you want more comfort

**Prize for the best hat  
in adult and child categories!!!!**

**Meet your neighbors at Ellison Park  
July 20th!**



## *The Beautiful Flora In Browncroft Garden Tour Delights All*

I have often said that our houses have lots of character, and so do the people. Now, I can add, so do the gardens! At least six of the 14 gardens on display for the BNA Garden Tour on June 26th had water features, from fountains to koi ponds --with water burbling merrily. Trellises and vines accented the colorful annuals and perennials. Shady areas held chairs--to rest and enjoy nature.

I have also decided that garden lovers are kind and sweet. Many wore hats and brought their water bottles. Everyone I met was so friendly! I'm sure that many of us found some good ideas to implement in our own gardens.

Almost 80 intrepid garden lovers walked and ogled gardens in the 90 degree heat! Fortunately the many shade trees made the sun-dappled streets cooler. Never cut down a tree!

Two adjacent houses had the same adjoining back fence, to make more play space and make both back yards look larger. Birds bathed in the pouring water of one yard. Hops climbed a trellis; the owner made his own beer. One homeowner incorporated antique elements to accent the garden. Another featured borders of different color themes. A formal garden utilized neatly trimmed boxwood hedges and statuary, along with many flowers. One hung crystals on her magnolia tree. Another showed before-and-after photos of their garden; one pictured the garden in different seasons. It was fun to admire the scenery and talk with the owners.

Jane Milliman, editor of both (585) magazine on East Ave. and

Upstate Gardeners' Journal (based in Caledonia, NY.), was photographing the gardens.

We thank our 14 garden hosts: Candace Davis, Frank & Pat Fields, Daniel & Lura Deveau, Ted Ford & Peggy DeFranco, Noel Gilheany & Connie Carlo, Bob Kern, Marwode & Michael Neracker, Sue Powell, Ted Wright & Cheryl Santore, Bob & Judene Scheidt, David & Edie Silver, Martin Scott & Sandy Swanson, Jane Zimmet, and Joan Zook. Several people thoughtfully offered water, lemonade, or baked goods for their guests.

We also appreciate the volunteers who helped man the table at the Rose Garden: Jack Bloemendaal, Candace Davis, Jim Nicholson, Joyce Rikert, and Laura Viau. The roses were blooming right on cue.

The first annual Garden Walk was most successful! The Garden Walk Committee consisted of Jim Nicholson, Jane Zimmet, and Sharon Bloemendaal.

One guest from Henrietta commented at the end of the tour, "It feels as if I've just been on vacation. I had no idea there were places like this in the city!"

--Sharon Bloemendaal



## **Spring Membership Meeting**

Sharon Bloemendaal did an outstanding job of presenting the History of the Browncroft Neighborhood at the Annual Membership meeting which took place on Wednesday, May 18th. Sharon showed over 512 slides in 50 minutes with assistance from Jack Bloemmendaal. The event was held at the Faith to Faith church which was filled to capacity with current neighbors and many former neighbors who wanted to see their "old stomping ground".

Many of Sharon's slides from years ago were juxtaposed with more recent photos taken from the same perspective. It was fascinating to see which aspects changed and which remained the same. A personal favorite was to see the globe street lights in a 1930's photo replaced with the davit street lights in the 1960's. It is so satisfying to know that a current photo will show the globe street lights once again!

Thank you Sharon for a very enlightening presentation!

The annual election of officers took place, and all those currently serving will continue in their duties. Linda Siple, President;

Bob Scheidt, VP; Robert McLoughlin, Treasurer; Sandra Swanson, Secretary.

--Linda Siple

## Historic Browncroft Street Marker Fabrication Project

The BNA has formed a committee to look into securing a grant to fabricate ten more Browncroft street markers for the historic district (Corwin and Croydon districts). They are seeking a \$35,000 grant.

The street markers are the cast-iron obelisk-shaped markers and were the original street sign posts in the neighborhood. They were on every corner but over the years many were removed during war-time to melt down the iron or some were damaged beyond repair. Now, only four remain: at Corwin/Ramsey, Newcastle/Windemere, Beresford/Blossom and Dorchester/Gramercy.

The grant will pay for one of the existing markers to be shipped to a foundry that specializes in landmark restoration where they will make a mold and replicate

ten markers. The markers will be shipped back to Rochester where a fabricator will ready the markers to be installed. The BNA is working with the City of Rochester to have the new markers installed.

The grant will require an approximate 10% in-kind donation (\$3,500) from the BNA and neighbors. A fund raiser will be undertaken later this summer and fall.

Contact Linda Siple for more information on this project.



## Speeding, Noise and Motorcycles

Three tough words when put together. Recently there have been emails on NextDoor.com regarding traffic noise on Browncroft Boulevard that reaches Corwin Road residences that back up to it. These are quality of life issues that I have brought to the attention of the RPD at several of the safety meetings held bi-weekly by NWVNA with Officers Cannon and Belliard and with our Commander Lloyd Cuyler at PCIC.

As a first step our crime prevention officers have gone out and spoken to all the bar owners in the area, asking for their cooperation. The officers requested that the owners speak with their bars'

patrons about keeping noise down and not speeding through our neighborhood when they leave their establishments.

We in turn, are being asked by the police, to keep a record of the times when noise is a nuisance, vehicle details, direction of vehicles, block numbers if applicable and problem days when incidents occur. After gathering information we can then present it to the police and work toward a solution.

We all know these issues are problematic because they involve moving violations. One suggestion by the police is to use a speed trailer. We may request one after

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## RETURN OF MOVIE IN THE PARK

**Saturday evening  
August 20th  
at 8:00 p.m.  
Browncroft Rose Garden**

Last summer's popular movie event is back again. Come see *The Empire Strikes Back* at the Rose Garden. Bring a lawn chair and a blanket and enjoy a movie under the stars. Free popcorn will be provided.

## Winton Road Reconstruction

The following is a report from the Construction Project Manager Samuel Priem, P.E. via email on June 28th:

"The City contractor (Keeler Construction) is behind schedule due to unforeseen additional underground work, replacement of some water main down Humboldt St. and some storm laterals.

It looks like removal of the existing pavement will begin roughly in two weeks beginning from Blossom to Humboldt Street. They will replace the old road base with new crushed stone base. After that is placed, traffic will drive on the new base while new curbs are installed. Residents during that time will be out of their driveways for

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# Aldi Development Lawsuit Update

As reported previously a Supreme Court case was pending in which Rochester Eastside Residents For Appropriate Development (RERAD) and IGATOPSFY LLC (Tops) were suing the City of Rochester and Aldi over the proposed development of an Aldi store near the northwest corner of Winton and Blossom Roads which the Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals had granted variances to allow, and for which the Planning Commission had given site plan approval.

State Supreme Court Judge Thomas Stander ruled on April 28, 2016 that RERAD lacked standing to sue as the residents would not suffer any harm by the development greater than that of the general public, leaving IGATOPSFY LLC as the petitioner. The judge ruled against them in that, in his opinion, the Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission did not act in an arbitrary or capricious manner, or with an abuse of discretion in regards to the granting of the approvals. The case was dismissed by the judge and his judgment of dismissal was filed and entered on May 24th.

Since the decision and order of the judge, the plaintiffs filed a Notice of Appeal on June 14th and will have 60 days to perfect the appeal by submitting their brief of record.

Holly Petsos

## Help Bring The Joy Of Reading To Kindergarten Students At #46 School

The BNA is initiating a new program this summer that will provide a new storybook for every kindergarten student entering #46 School in the fall. We are requesting donations of NEW books which will be given to students in September as a welcome gift from the Browncroft neighborhood to children attending our neighborhood school. With each book we will include a card noting that the book is a gift from residents in the Browncroft neighborhood. We will need approximately 45 books to make this program a success.

Ann Kanthor is coordinating this program. Books will be collected at the Browncroft Picnic or you can drop them off during July and August at Ann's home, 175 Dorchester Road. Questions can be directed to Ann by calling 482-0704 or e-mail at: [annkanthor@gmail.com](mailto:annkanthor@gmail.com)



## Spring Clean Up In The Rose Garden

**Thank you to the volunteers** who participated in the Browncroft



Rose Garden annual spring clean up on April 30th. The rose beds were pruned and mulched at this an-

nual work party that gets the Rose Garden off to a good start for the season.

Our volunteers were: Dillon Castro, Lauren Castro, Frank Liberti, Cassy Petsos, Jim Davis, Frank



Dillon Castro

Orienter, Robert McLoughlin, Rosemarie and Johann Wolfe, Linda Siple and four volunteers from the Pinny Cooke house (left).

## Rose Garden Circle Bed Overhaul

What is that green sign there? It is there to let people know that the circle bed is undergoing a redesign following the removal of the diseased pines that had been the backdrop for the annuals planted yearly around the perimeter.

The City of Rochester's Landscape Architect, Robin Schutte, working with BNA, has created a new plan with dwarf evergreens and flowering shrubs to replace them. The Department of Parks has provided the plants and the Department of Recreation will be planting them this coming week.

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# Ice Cream At Last

The Ginger Lion ice cream parlor has pounced into the Winton Road commercial district. How many times have residents exclaimed that they want -- they need -- an ice cream parlor in the neighborhood?

Now it is here at 632 N. Winton Road in the building with the octagonal windows next door to the Wintonaire.

Proprietor and ice cream maker, Bradley Ettinger, has been open for business there since June 20, just in time for the last heat wave.

If you want to know what delights are on his ice cream menu, walk, run, bike -- or if you must -- drive over and get yourself a home-made ice cream cone or sundae. Welcome Bradley, and thank him for fulfilling a neighborhood development dream, especially if you want to keep the Ginger Lion alive, and roaring in this savanna-like heat.

For up-to-date information check their Facebook page.

*[Editor's note: a sign in the win-*

## Winton Rd.

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a day. After curb installation, fine grading of the stone will be done and new asphalt pavement placed. New sidewalks will begin after the asphalt is placed. Sidewalks through driveways will require no driving on the sidewalk for 3 days. Notifications during this operation will be handed out giving residents advance notice. Then they will begin on the remaining section of N. Winton, going through the same procedure.

Holly Petsos



*dow at publication indicates due to machine breakdown it is temporarily closed for replacement.]*

## Circle Bed

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BNA volunteers have been working hard to get the area cleared of weeds for the city to plant. Then we need volunteers to replace our ring of hostas that were removed for protection during the work.

We Need You! Please Call 288-0955 to Volunteer. Leave a message with your name, telephone number or email.

Thank you.

## Noise

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gathering our facts and identifying the best location to place it. The speed trailer will document/confirm the speeding and the times it occurs in order to position police personnel at the most advantageous places and times.

Please contact me if you would like to help work on solving these problems. You can also attend a safety meeting at the NWVNA Safety Center, held the first and last Thursday of each month if you are interested in working with neighbors and speaking directly with the police.

Holly Petsos

H.petsos@yahoo.com

## Go Green.

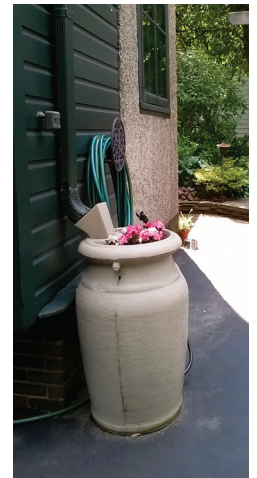
### Suggestion from the Storm-water Coalition of Monroe County -

Many of the downspouts on our neighborhood homes are connected to the storm-water system. Unfortunately, this arrangement can contribute to flooding downstream and impact water quality.

If your downspouts are connected to a clay pipe that goes into the ground, then the runoff from your roof is going into the storm-water system. Monroe County suggests that you disconnect the downspout and redirect the water into a rain barrel, rain garden, or using a flexible elbow joint, redirect the water away from your house out into a flat lawn area.

Taking this action will reduce the amount of water that enters the stormwater system. However, before you do this give careful consideration to local building codes and how the runoff will be managed so it does not result in standing water or impact adjacent homes. Runoff should be conveyed at least 10 feet from foundations to a flat location.

For more information go to [www.H2Ohero.org](http://www.H2Ohero.org) or call the Water Education Collaborative at 585-753-5441.







**NWV Arts Festival**  
**September 17th**  
**10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Linear Garden**  
**(E. Main Street to Mayfield St.)**

**Arts and Crafts – Live Music – Food and Fun**

**Music Artists:** Jimmie Highsmith and Fatima again this year as head liner. Allan Hopkins, Blue Ridge Country Ramblers.

We will have a Bounce House for the kids and the City Horses and the Fire Department.

**Food:** Jim's Fish Market, Salvatores Pizza, Hots and Hamburgs and Le Petit Poutine.

Thanks to BNA for being a Festival sponsor.



## **The Second Annual Field of Honor®**

**September 9 to 11**  
**Mercy Center, 1437 Blossom Road\***  
 (Lady of Mercy High School)

Once again hundreds of flags will fly for 36 consecutive hours to honor military, law enforcement personnel, fire department personnel, and first responders. Each flag bears the name and service information of the honoree. Everyone in the Browncroft neighborhood is invited to visit—even after dark when the flags will be illuminated.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at 10:00 am, September 9, on the front steps of the Mercy Center; and the Closing Ceremony will be held September 11 at 2:00 pm. (In case of rain, the ceremonies will be held in the Mercy Center Chapel.) Speakers include Todd Baxter and representatives from the service areas being honored.

To honor someone with a tribute flag, contact Natalie at Mercy Bridges, 288-2710 X121. (Mercy Bridges, this year's host, is an Adult Literacy Service, providing free tutoring to eligible individuals throughout Monroe County.)

Volunteers are also welcome. To volunteer, call Natalie at 288-2710, X121.

### **Calendar of Events**

**July 20,** BNA Picnic , 5:00-8:00 Ellison Park –Sycamore Shelter

**August 17,** BNA-Board Meeting, 7:00-8:30, Faith to Faith Church, Browncroft Blvd. at Fairhaven Rd.

**August 20,** Movie in the Garden, Browncroft Rose Garden

**September 9 - 11,** Field of Honor, Mercy Center. Blossom Rd.

**September 17,** North Winton Village Festival of the Arts, 10:00-5:00, Linear Park, Main St. near Winton Rd.