



Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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

September 2023

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Cassy Petsos

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BNA's Sooo-Long SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC

Thursday, September 28

5:30 PM to 7:00 p.m.

at the Hazelwood Lodge in Ellison Park

(Entrance is on the north side of Blossom Road.

Turn right at the T in the road)

BNA will provide:

hot dogs and rolls, condiments,
cold lemonade and water drinks, paper products
charcoal fire for grilling
(picnickers may want to grill their own barbecue fare)

Music courtesy of Allen Hopkins

Please bring a dish to pass (optional)
and your own plates and silverware for your family.

RSVP by email to BNApicnic@gmail.com

(Include your name, phone number, and number attending
by September 20th to help us plan and shop!)

It's fun. It's free.

There is sure to be lots of delicious food to eat.

Meet your neighbors at the park on September 28th!

Hope to see you there.



U OF R'S STUDENT VOLUNTEERS IN THE BROWNCROFT ROSE GARDEN

The University of Rochester's Wilson Day event is designed to give new students a civics learning opportunity by sending them into the community to help not-for-profit organizations in whatever way they can, whether it's painting, gardening or other tasks.



This year on August 25th 12 students came to the Browncroft Rose Garden. Supervised by three BNA Beautification volunteers, as required by the U of R, the students did a great job weeding the six rose beds, and one circular pollinator garden. Before they began their work they were given an introduction to how the Browncroft Neighborhood Association works,

the history of the Rose Garden itself, as well as a brief history of Merchants Road's significance in the history of Monroe County.

The students, who come from 8 different US cities, 2 countries (China and Tunisia) and 1 local Brighton resident, were a delight to meet and work with.

Our thanks to the Uof R and the students; and to our BNA Volunteers who came to supervise: John Edelman, Joyce Nagel, Holly Petsos, and Cassy Petsos.

NEW BOOKS FOR NEW STUDENTS



Once again BNA is continuing with our New Books for New Students project. All the kindergarten students at #46 School will receive gift wrapped books with a note indicating that they are a welcome gift from their Browncroft neighbors. The books will be delivered to the school in mid-September. Many thanks to the Hippocampus Children's Book Store for their support of this project.

If you have gently used children's books, consider donating them to #46 School. Please contact Ann Kanthor at annkanthor@gmail.com for more information.

ZONING CODE AMENDMENT PROCESS NEARING FINALIZATION

Residents of the City can access the proposed amendments to the Zoning Code, a section of the City Code that directly affects their neighborhoods, by visiting the special website set up for public information – RochesterZAP.com. There you will find the new code **Draft Use Table of Use Permissions**. Browncroft will be classified as low density residential (LDR), so follow the 1st column on the left down through the list of uses. The key will explain how to identify - by color code - those that are permitted, permitted with restrictions, spe-

cially permitted, or not permitted. Further definitions, use standards, area standards, and design standards can be reviewed in the **Draft Use Standards and Definitions**.

It is interesting to note that in the current code an R-1 Low Density Residential District has 8 permitted uses and 6 specially permitted uses (uses that can be allowed if they fit certain considerations for their neighborhood). In the proposed code there are 15 permitted uses in a LDR district, and 14 specially permitted uses. It may be of concern to many that bed



Congratulations to Browncroft Graduate - Eleanor Milano

She graduated from our lady of Mercy, and will be attending Syracuse University.

and breakfasts are permitted now, whereas before they required a special permit; boarding houses will now be specially permitted in our neighborhood, whereas previously they were allowed only in higher

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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTINUES

Our BNA Membership Drive continues for the June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024 fiscal year. If your Membership envelope is still sitting around from the last Crier, it's a good time to fill it out and send it in to the BNA PO Box 10127, Rochester, NY 14610. If it is misplaced, use the tear-off below to mail-in your dues.

Membership dues are \$10. Your returned membership application and \$10 donation is a strong sign of support to BNA's 17 Street Representatives, 4 Officers, and 8 Committee Chairs --all volunteers -- who serve on the BNA Board of Directors. The Board advocates the goals and objectives of the Browncroft Neighborhood Association (BNA) on behalf of the 672 residential households of the Browncroft neighborhood. To learn more about the neighborhood and the association check out our extensive website at BrowncroftNA.org.

In addition to your name, address, phone number, BNA would also appreciate having your email address. There is space provided for both with the additional option to sign up for our subscriber BNA-Announce emailing list.

BNA Announce is the best way to stay connected with BNA between newsletters and meetings. Using this e-mail list, which is not shared anywhere else on the internet or between recipients, enables BNA to provide timely news bulletins, digital newsletters, Neighborhood event reminders, and City of Rochester and Rochester Police Department communications.

Thank you to all of our members who have already sent their dues this year.

BROWNCROFT'S PAUL TOMBLIN AND HIS DRONE

Paul Tomblin of Windemere Road has a drone which he has flown over the streets of Browncroft, as well as other locations near and far. At the BNA annual meeting attendees were treated to a viewing of an aerial trip down Windemere Road and of the BNA Garage Sale activity on Dorchester Road.

Paul's many well-shot videos can be accessed on YouTube, including a fantastic close-up view

MOVIES IN THE PARK

On Saturday evening, August 19th, BNA's Movies in the Park returned in the Browncroft Rose Garden. The weather was perfect. The fireflies were out and as magical as the theme of the movie, *Fantastical Beasts and Where to Find Them*, and the mosquitoes seemed to lose interest after a short while.

Mark's Pizzeria was extremely generous in donating pizzas for all to eat. BNA provided snack packs.

Thank you to George Greven, our Movies in the Park producer and technician for many years, for his hard work in bringing this event to the neighborhood; and to Jim Nicholson for assisting him.

of the architecture of School #46 from the roof down. There are many other interesting videos of natural areas around Monroe County and farther afield. You can find them by going to: <https://YouTube.com/ptomblin/> and clicking on videos.

To find out more about Paul and his drone services, go to <https://FlyerCityDrone.com/>

Last Name(s) _____
 First Name(s) of Persons 18 & over _____
 Address _____ Zip _____
 Phone () _____
 Number of Residents age <18 _____ age 18-55 _____ age 55> _____
 Email _____
 Do you wish to SUBSCRIBE or RENEW to the free BNA Announce email list?
 _____ Yes (email address required above) _____ No

Enclosed is: Annual Household membership DUES of \$10.00 Cash _____ Check No. _____
 Yes, I would like to consider volunteer opportunities available with the Browncroft Neighborhood Association.
 My area(s) of interest are: _____

BOB AND JUDENE SCHEIDT'S 259 WINDEMERE WINDOW PROJECT

We loved our 1925 Tudor when we moved to the neighborhood. But all the windows had been painted shut. We carefully stripped all the paint and removed the dining room window, keeping track of how it was put together nearly 100 years ago. Piece by piece we cleaned up all the hardware. And then carefully removed and replaced the broken windowpanes. The next step was to modify the bottom of the window to improve the window with some metal weatherstripping. Next it was time to put everything back together with new ropes. After about a month of my do-it-myself work the window was completed and fully functional.

We then repeated the process over the years for most of the windows in the house. *A labor of love...*



WINTON LIBRARY PRESENTS A BROWNCROFT HISTORIC DISTRICT WALKING TOUR

**Saturday, September 30,
from 10:00-11:00 a.m.**

Join Cynthia Howk, former Architectural Research Coordinator for the Landmark Society of Western NY, on a walking tour of the Browncroft Historic District.

Registration required:

<https://calendar.libraryweb.org/event/>



Browncroft Legacy Continues

A new Browncroft tree has been planted to replace its elder that had fallen last year.

The McQueens of Beresford Road planted a maple tree inside the sidewalk to continue the Browncroft historic landscape plan in which a line of shade trees were planted 6 feet inside the sidewalk on private property.

Go Green - Re-use, Recycle, Donate

Rather than send gently used clothing or household items to a landfill, think about the many organizations in the Rochester community that are accepting donations. Here are a few possibilities close to home:

Angels of Mercy, 692 Winton Road N., accepts women's clothing, and will do some needed mending. The mission is to improve the lives of women in need and crisis. Their website is angelsofmercyny.org.

Saint's Place provides gently used and new clothing, household goods, furniture, and other items to refugees. It is located in Pittsford. More information is on their website: saintsplace.org.

Matthew's Closet, Located on Bay Street, provides clothing and household items to referrals from DSS, Salvation Army and other agencies; and is also a thrift store. Clients are permitted to "shop" (no cost to them). Website is matthewscloset.org.

Asbury First United Methodist Church takes household goods and clothing. There is

a new stand-alone small building at 1010 East Avenue behind the church building, which makes it easy for drop-offs. They distribute to referrals from DSS, and other agencies, by appointment. Website is asburyfirst.org.

Greenovation will be opening in the near future at their new location, 22 Flint Street. They accept just about anything, and it is fun to shop there. Proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity, Keeping Our Promise and probably other organizations, as well. Their website is rocgreenovation.org.

Salvation Army will send a truck to pick up donations of clothing, appliances, and furniture. To schedule a pick up call 1-800-728-7825, and to learn more their website is <http://satruck.org>.

For an extensive list of organizations and the items that are needed, go to **Rochester's Community Wishbook's** website <https://www.communitywishbook.org/itemsneeded.html> and find ideas of how best to donate your currently unwanted and excess belongings.

Anna Catalani

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density districts; parking lots are specially permitted (they are no longer called ancillary parking lots with associated restrictions) and food trucks are permitted in the temporary use area but in the standards, temporary is not defined. And what will be the status of Section 60 of the City Code - referenced in the food truck section -

that provides they shall not operate within 100 feet of a property zoned low density residential remain?

Another concern is that with the increased permitted uses comes more administrative approval of applications for changes to properties, and less requirement for hearings before the planning and zoning boards. This negates neighbors' power to know - before it affects them - of the intentions of a neighboring property owner.

BNA's June Ice Cream Social



The forecast was rain, but just as the sprinkles stopped when the Netsins ice cream truck pulled up to School 46, different sprinkles – colorful and tasty – started.

182 neighbors showed up for their ice cream, which they enjoyed while they enjoyed visiting with friends and neighbors, as well as meeting new ones.



WINTON BRANCH LIBRARY FAMILY MUSIC PARTY

On a lovely June 15th evening families with lots of small children gathered to hear the Wilmot Brass Quintet, enjoy a few snacks, watch a balloon artist create fun animals, and maybe get their faces creatively painted. What a great use for the greensward behind the library where once historic Thomas' Creek flowed in its stream bed.

