



Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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

Fall 2025

BNA Executive Committee

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Crier Editor -

Cassy Petsos

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BNA FAMILY PICNIC

Friday, September 19th
5:30 - 8:30 Rain or Shine

Hazelwood Lodge - Ellison Park (North off
Blossom Road) Look for BNA sign.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT



Hot dogs, rolls, drink and pa-
per products supplied by BNA

Bring a dish to pass - appetiz-
er, side, or dessert

Musical entertainment provided by New-
castle Road resident Allen Hopkins

Games for kids and playground near-by

If possible rsvp by September 15th to:
bnawinter@gmail.com

or text or call Ann Kanthor at 329-0708

*Renew your membership in BNA or Join
today! Mail-in envelope included inside.
Or bring it with you to the picnic!*

From the **President Andrew Spadoni**

Dear Browncroft Residents,

As we move into the heart of the summer season, I am looking forward to the commencement of our Annual Membership Drive. Continuing to develop a strong and engaged membership base is important to the continued success of the Browncroft Neighborhood Association.

Membership allows residents to take an active role in sustaining and enhancing the neighborhood we all take pride in. It supports a wide range of initiatives that foster connection, beautification, and community spirit.

Our calendar of events includes engaging programming for all ages, such as the upcoming Movie Night, the Browncroft Picnic and our Winter Gathering. These occasions offer residents the chance to come together and build lasting relationships while celebrating the unique character of our neighborhood.

Your membership also directly supports public space enhancements—most notably, the maintenance and continued development of the Browncroft Rose Garden and various beautification projects that contribute to the charm and appeal of our shared spaces.

In addition, members receive the Browncroft Newsletter, featuring timely updates, community news, and important information. We also take great pride in welcoming new neighbors through thoughtfully assembled Welcome Packets, designed to help them feel immediately at home.

Whether you are a longtime resident or newly arrived, I invite you to join or renew your membership (dues are \$10) and continue helping us preserve and strengthen the exceptional qualities that define Browncroft.

***Mail-In Membership
Envelope inside***

BROWNCROFT ROSE GARDEN LOOKING GOOD

Thanks to this year's crew of volunteers, passersby of the Browncroft Rose Garden will notice that the rose beds are neatly weeded. This is due to the hard work of John and Kathy Edelman, Dennis and Kathy Meeh, Tom Wood, Helene Thompson, Keeley Whightman, Shalini Beath, and Cassy Petsos.

This year an adopt-a-bed system is being employed, at the suggestion of a few of the volunteers who recognized that the difficulty of weeding a bed that has become

overgrown could be avoided if regular visits were to be made throughout the season by a volunteer(s) taking responsibility to monitor and care for a bed.

Workers, following the spring clean-up, have elected to be responsible for a bed by making frequent



NEW BOOKS FOR NEW STUDENTS



BNA continues the tradition of presenting to the kindergarten students at Austin Steward #46 School a gift of two new books. The books are gift wrapped with a note indicating that they are a welcome gift from their Browncroft Neighbors.

For the past few years we have purchased the books from Hippocampus Book Store and the selections include one story book and one National Geographic Children's Book.

Financial donations (checks made out to BNA) to this project can be mailed or dropped off c/o Ann Kanthor 175 Dorchester Rd. Thank you for your support which brings much joy to the students and their families.

visits to keep the weeds down before they reestablish. There are 6 Rose beds and the circular peren-

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SIDEWALKS – THE FOUNDATION OF OUR COMMUNITY!

A neighborhood where people can regularly be seen out walking is considered an indicator of livability – a sense that the community is a safe and friendly place to live. Our sidewalks provide miles of thoroughfare on which our neighbors travel through our beautiful and historic neighborhood. Whether we have 50 or 300 feet of frontage, each of us has a responsibility to help maintain the sidewalk; keep it safe and inviting.

Removing grass and weeds that grow between the sections will help reduce cracking, and edging the sides of the walk will keep it to its full width and looking inviting. A once-a-month sweep will keep dirt from accumulating in the joints which will help keep weeds in check. If you have shrubs that abut the sidewalk, make sure they are trimmed back and overhanging branches have a clearance of at least 6'5". (Branches sag when wet or snow covered).

Request your lawn service to sweep your sidewalk after they have applied fertilizers or pesticides. This will help keep the tiny particles off the feet of pets and shoes which later are tracked into homes. Or better yet, do not use these chemicals as they are not good for the environment or human health.

Report to 311 if the street lights that illuminate your sidewalk are out. Also, consider leaving on your front door light at night. The added light will be appreciated and helps to keep the neighborhood safe.

Linda Siple

(Republished from 2016 article)

Park

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nial pollinator bed to be maintained throughout the summer. Volunteers are still needed to help work these beds. No one has adopted the circular bed, which would need a two-person team. To volunteer please contact cdendra@gmail.com.

Working in a public space presents challenges, especially when we are experiencing high summer temperatures. The Rose Garden has been a joint city/neighborhood project since its installation, and is within the designated state and national historic district. More importantly, it is a green public "square" – that happens to be a triangle – at the gateway of the City/Brighton line, as well as this neighborhood's front yard for both the north and south sections.

City Parks Side Note:

The City of Rochester, west of the Genesee River, has a number of park squares that were designed, or redesigned, for the City's Park Commission by the renowned Olmsted firm (known for Central Park, Boston Emerald Necklace, and Buffalo Parks) at the turn of the 20th century. Two that were on the east side, Anderson Park and Schiller Park were casualties of expressway development at University Avenue and the northern inner loop, which took

half of Schiller Park near Andrews Street. A glance at the map of Rochester reveals that the east side is less endowed with landscaped park squares scattered throughout its neighborhoods. The value of such passive squares to beautify and contribute to the livability of a city is normal in Europe and was adopted by American planners early on. Suburban development did not incorporate these elements because private, larger individual home lot sizes were valued more than public spaces, and street layouts in the form of cul-de-sacs connecting to highways were not conducive to walking. Browncroft is fortunate to have walkable tree-lined streets and a garden park, thanks to the City, the Charlton Family donation, and residents hiring Brown Brothers to plant the Rose Garden.



Summer Fun at the BNA Ice Cream Social



BNA hosted it's third Annual Ice Cream Social on Thursday, June 26th. It was a family-friendly event with more than 130 neighbors enjoying a delicious bowl of ice cream served by Netsins Ice Cream. Many thanks to Cathy Smith for hosting this BNA event on her front lawn on Berwick Road. Children enjoyed sidewalk chalk art and bubbles, while adults met new and old friends.

