



Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SINCE 1973 - Volume # 190

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

January 2017

BNA Executive Committee

Officers:

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Linda Siple
Vice-President
Robert Scheidt
Secretary
Sandra Swanson
Treasurer
Robert McLoughlin

District Reps

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Corwin
Holly Petsos
Croydon
David D. Kaiser

BNA Voicemail:
270-0890

**Be On Your Way With
BNA: 733-4386**

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BNA 39th Annual Winter Gathering

the

“Bling Gala”

Sunday, January 22, 2017

At Glendoveer's

2328 Old Browncroft Road

**5:00 p.m. Social Hour (Cash Bar) with
hors d'oeuvres**

6:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner:

Chef Carved Roast Beef, Chicken French, Pasta with
Marinara and Alfredo Sauce, Oven Roasted Potatoes,
Fresh Vegetable Medley, Rolls and Salad.

Dessert: Ice Cream Bar

7:15 p.m. Brief announcements and short program.

We invite you all to get your “shine on” by wearing some
previously loved or not-so-loved formal or semi-formal
dress, tuxedo, uniform or vintage suit you cannot part with.
(Participation in the theme is optional. Come as you wish.)

Tickets are \$25.00 per individual

RSVP by January 12th

Include the number of people, your name,
address, and phone number.

BNA voicemail is 270-0890

Send your payment by Saturday, January 16 to:

Browncroft Neighborhood Association's

Winter Gathering, PO Box 10127, Rochester, NY 14610

(Checks made out to Browncroft Neighborhood Association)



BNA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Annual Meeting was on Oct. 26 2016 at the Good Shephard Church on Winton Road.

This years' speaker was Rachael Edwards from Broccolo Landscaping. Ms. Edwards gave a very informative talk on preparing the garden for winter. She had many great tips for what to cut back and what to leave until spring, pest control and planting suggestions.

Ms. Edwards took questions and gave out coupons for Broccolo Landscaping services. Those attending gleaned much valuable, as well as ecologically sensitive, information.



“WE LOVE TO GO A CAROLLING AMONG THE....”

Again this year Elmcroft neighbors added to the spirit of the season by caroling in the neighborhood on the evening of December 16th.

This year they were joined by the Girl Scouts. Cindy DeSmidt organized the activity this time around.

And a nod to Helen Mikolje who originated the idea. The joy and good will was felt by all.

Jim Nicholson

BROWNCROFT ROSE GARDEN PROJECTS

FALL CLEAN-UP

Volunteer neighbors met in the Rose Garden Saturday morning, October 22nd, to prune and winterize the rose beds, weed the annual bed and generally pick-up the park.

The Rose Garden is in great shape and ready to give forth a beautiful display come springtime. The BNA would like to thank Frank Orienter, Rosemarie and Johann Wolf, Mitch Rowe, Cassy Petsos, Tom Gibbons and Linda Siple for all of their hard work, weeding, pruning, planting rose bushes, planting spring bulbs, and replanting hostas.

CIRCULAR BED

The redesign and planting of the circular bed at the easternmost point of the park has been completed with the return of the perimeter of variegated hosta plants, which had been taken up to regrade and replant the center with dwarf evergreens, deciduous flowering bushes and perennial flowers. Thank you to Sara Scott and Eric Decker of the City of Rochester Department of Recreation, and Cassy Petsos, BNA Beautification volunteer for planting the evergreens, bushes and perennials in September and October.

The new design and plants will be an attractive addition to look forward to in the Browncroft Rose Garden this coming spring and summer.



MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our membership campaign continues. Every street in the neighborhood has participated at this point. Our goal is to reach 60% participation.

If you haven't mailed in your dues for the 2016-2017 year it's not too late. You can put your \$10.00 in an envelope with your name address, optional information such as telephone number and/or email address, and request to be included in BNA Announce bulletins, and mail it to Browncroft Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 10127, Rochester, N.Y. 14610. Also, a reminder flier, if you have not renewed or joined, will be going out soon, as well as membership cards to those who have paid.

Robert McLoughlin, BNA treasurer, says "Thank you to all neighbors who support our neighborhood association".

SNOW REMOVAL AND SIDEWALK PLOWS

The property owner's responsibility:

Per City Code, it is the responsibility of property owners to remove snow from the sidewalk in front of their property. For people with physical disabilities, even one inch of snow on the sidewalk can drastically impede movement. Please clear the snow so all can go! BNA Tip: Make sure your walkways and front steps are clear of snow and ice. Letter carriers and delivery workers have a difficult job traversing walkways this time of year.

The City's role:

The City of Rochester provides supplemental service to help property owners clear their sidewalks during a substantial winter storm. The City plows sidewalks when 4 inches of new snow has accumulated.

Sidewalk snow plowing facts:

- The City plows sidewalks when 4" of new snow has freshly fallen, dependent upon weather events and forecasts, and the condition of the sidewalks.
- The City plows all sidewalks that are at least five feet in width.
- Each sidewalk plow run takes about five hours to complete.
- The City plows 878 miles of sidewalks. These miles are divided into distinct sidewalk plow runs of approximately 15 miles.
- Depending on the severity of a storm, sidewalk snow plowing policies must sometimes be altered to meet the needs of the situation.
- The City uses private con-

tractors to plow sidewalks.

- Sidewalk plowing usually happens in the evening and early morning when pedestrian traffic is lowest, but this schedule is modified to respond to actual storm conditions.

Fees:

Sidewalk snow plowing is financed by an embellishment fee on your property tax bill that is based on the front footage of a property. (Excerpt from the City of Rochester website)

Tip from the BNA -- You can reduce damage to your property by checking to make sure bushes or trees that abut your sidewalk or tree limbs that reach overhead are not causing the driver to swerve cutting into the lawn. **IMPORTANT:** If the sidewalk plow has damaged your property make sure to contact the City at 311.

Linda Siple



46 School Capital Improvements Update

When school started this fall, the front facade (Newcastle Road) windows were all back in place after having been refurbished. The original wooden windows had their glazing redone, were painted, and the inside surfaces were re-

FIRE HYDRANTS

Each year fires occurring during the winter season injure thousands of individuals and cause millions of dollars in damages. There are simple life-saving steps we can take to ensure our safety. By following some of the outlined precautionary tips, individuals can greatly reduce their chances of becoming a fire casualty. One of these tips is fire hydrant protocol.

Remove snow surrounding a fire hydrant: While many welcome our winter wonderland, did you know that snow could cause a great fire risk to your home? If a fire hydrant is buried in the snow, that's not a good thing if your home catches fire.

An uncleared fire hydrant could cost firefighters that precious time needed to protect your home and family. Fire hydrants may also freeze causing the inability of the hydrant to flow water during a time of an emergency.

It is the property owners responsibility to keep the fire hydrants clear.

(Excerpt from the City of Rochester Website)

Linda Siple

finished with stain and varnish as they were originally. The nursery rhyme panels in the former kindergarten room (now the library) are all safely back, as well.

The remaining work to be done next season are the windows of the music room in the gymnasium wing, continuation of repairs to the slate roof, a new fire alarm system, and a vinyl dividing curtain will be installed in the gym.

Cassy Petsos

BNA Garage Sale Returns in 2017

The BNA Garage Sale returns for the twentieth time the weekend of **May 6 and 7**. This biennial event, occurring in the odd numbered years, is a popular Rochester happening.

Approximately 150 households usually participate, holding their own garage sales in their yards. Hundreds, if not thousands, of visitors walk and drive through the neighborhood looking for bargains and collectibles.

BNA does publicity by running an ad in the newspaper; posts "BNA Garage Sale" signs on the perimeter of the neighborhood; catalogues the items for sale by address and posts it on the BNA web site; purchases insurance for the event; and contracts for portable toilets to be placed at 46 School and in the Browncroft Rose Garden.

A nominal registration fee of \$5.00 per participating household is charged. This is quite a bargain considering the expenses BNA incurs and the profits that our residents tend to gain off of the traffic such an organized event generates.

Volunteers are needed to help register households, place signs, work on publicity, and other tasks that make the BNA Garage Sale a success. Contact DDK365@frontiernet.net to volunteer.

It's not too soon to gear up now if you are considering having a garage sale in May. It is a real opportunity to de-clutter, recycle and profit at the same time!

**Save the Dates - May 6 & 7
and Start collecting
and sorting!**

Demolition on Winton Rd for Aldi Development

Demolition of the existing structures at the proposed site for the Aldi store has occurred at the north west corner of Winton and Blossom Roads. Gone are the buildings which had been vacant for over a year -- Jim's Diner, three houses, a barn, Earl's Garage, and Roly Door.

The developer for Aldi, banking on a favorable court outcome, decided to assume the risk to proceed with demolition prior to any decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of the appeal of Tops and RERAD to the April 2016 Zoning Board of Appeals' approval of the Aldi project. The developer had filed a motion to expedite the decision; however, it was denied by the court. The hearing is expected to proceed no earlier than April 2017, with a decision to follow in May.



Browncroft Neighbor to be new CEO of Center for Dispute Settlement

Frank Liberti, of Browncroft Boulevard, is to be the new president and chief executive officer of the Center for Dispute Settlement effective January 1st.

Frank has been with the dispute center for many years, beginning as a board member in 2002, and later as the director of police community relations programs. His prior professional experiences include labor relations and contract negotiations, having held positions in both the private and public sectors.

The Center for Dispute Settlement is a not-for-profit corporation founded in 1973, and was the first organization in New York State to provide mediation, facilitation, fact finding and arbitration services. It enables individuals and organizations to resolve conflicts without going to court. Today they serve the counties of Monroe, Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Seneca, Cayuga, Steuben and Livingston.

*BNA
Wishes
A Happy
and
Safe
New Year
to All*