



# Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SINCE 1973-VOLUME #161

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

March 2010

## **BNA Executive Committee**

Officers:

President

Bob Genthner

Vice-President

Cassy Petsos

Secretary

Jayne Hurwitz

Treasurer

Jim VanMeenen

## **District Reps:**

Elm

Chris Gaudieri

Corwin

Holly Petsos

Croydon

Ann Chew

## **BNA Voicemail:**

234-0160

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## **YOUR BNA / BROWNCROFT**

### **HOME FOR A LIFETIME COMMITTEE**

Invites You to A Meeting On

### **HELPFUL HINTS AND HOME SAFETY TIPS**

### **FOR IN AND AROUND YOUR HOME**

**Thursday, March 18, 2010**

**7:00-8:30 P.M.**

**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (PEACE OF CHRIST PARISH)**

Humbolt Street (handicapped accessible)

Presenters:

**Mollie Richards, MS Ed.,OTR/L,**

Director of Rehabilitation Programs at Jewish Senior Life

**Emily Krohn, LCSW-R**

Director of Aging Services at Jewish Family Service of Rochester

**Have you done a "Home Safety" check in your own home recently? If not, you are in luck!**

Please join us for an interactive and informative workshop. This workshop will teach you the steps to ensure your safety both inside and outside of your home. We will provide you with a Top Ten Tips list, and a room-by-room "Home Safety" check list. We will also discuss fall prevention, stairway safety, bathroom, kitchen and fire safety tips, garage safety and other vital information on emergency preparedness.

**Plus, you will get a list of helpful community resources.**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED**

## *From the BNA President ...*

Our 2010 Membership remains strong at around 300 households containing roughly 575 adults and 95 children; this out of a 672 household Browncroft community - all being represented by this the Browncroft Neighborhood Association. The largest tracts are Browncroft on the south and Elmcroft on the north (bookend on the east by the John Carlton estate's tracts along 590).

As your President, I continue to be in contact with our SE Neighborhood Service Center (NSC), Rochester Police Department (RPD), Crime Prevention Officer (CPO), and North Winton Village Association (NWVA) weekly. Monthly I meet with the NBN Sector 8 Planning Committee, Neighborhood Association Presidents / Sector Leaders, and RPD Eastside Commander's Sector 8 Police Citizens Interactive Committee (PCIC).

Through our Board and committees, BNA is working on our BNA priorities: Street light modernization, School 46 neighborhood connectivity, PACTAC and police presence, preserving an owner occupied residential neighborhood through zoning and enforcement, historical character, NORC, Rose Garden, Browncroft web site, and Crier newsletter.

BNA is also interacting along with NWVA with the businesses along Winton Rd. and East Main Street - gateway to Browncroft - with economic development. We have participants representing Browncroft throughout the city and county as the needs arise from parks to festivals.

The Browncroft name has increased in value since our 1973

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## **BROWNCROFT Home for a Lifetime.**

### ***Please note the home maintenance survey insert.***

To really have Browncroft be a home for a lifetime you told us that it is vital to have good information about competent, trustworthy, dependable home maintenance providers.

So in the spirit of neighborliness we invite you to complete the enclosed survey with contact information about your finest tradespersons. Rest assured that your recommendation of satisfaction will not hold you responsible for someone else's different experience.

Your Browncroft Home for a Lifetime Committee will vet your recommendations with the Better Business Bureau before placing the information on the BNA Website and making available a printed master list for those who do not have e-mail.

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## **Beresford's original street marker installed**

Thanks to the persistent efforts of Ivan Lennon, Beresford Marker Committee chairperson, the Browncroft street marker was installed on February 6th at the Blossom/ Beresford corner returning it to its proper home for everyone to see. This original Beresford's Browncroft street marker, which had already spent about 15 years in local storage waiting for restoration action, was found recently to have been regulated to a storage room at the city's DES for the winter. Neighborhood worries were kindled upon learning about this

## **Nominations for 2010- 11 Being Accepted for BNA Officers**

At this May's 38th BNA Annual Meeting the membership will elect four officers for 1-year terms: president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary. It is now the time to begin the selection process.

The Board of Director's Nomination Committee will carry out the search for 2010-11 leadership candidates to carry forward a vibrant Browncroft Neighborhood Association that remains dedicated to "promote, organize, and carry on those activities which are intended to maintain and improve the character and quality of neighborhood living in the Browncroft area." On our web site at <http://www.browncroftna.org> you can find our BNA Constitution and Bylaws which contain job descriptions. You may call or contact any one of the officers or your street rep for further information. If you are so inclined, please make yourself known or nominate another worthy candidate by emailing [info@browncroftna.org](mailto:info@browncroftna.org) or leaving your nomination on our BNA message line at 234-0160.

Bob Genthner

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further delay from the originally planned May 2009 installation date, since the post had already been in the hands of the City since January 2009. But in the end all is well and we give a thank you to the NSC and DES for their priority response to the neighbors and their contributions to the completion of this community effort to restore the historic marker in Browncroft.

Bob Genthner



# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

## Highlights of the Activities of Other Organizations Also Serving Our Area

### NEIGHBORWORKS ROCHESTER ENERGY SERVICES LOAN

There is an energy services loan for homeowners looking to increase the efficiency of their home. The loan is very affordable because NWR eliminated most closing costs, and has an energy auditor on staff that will provide a cost benefit analysis highlighting improvements that will have the greatest impact on energy usage, some of which are eligible for grants or rebates through NYSERDA.

Terms of the loan are as follows: 3 to 5 years, in amounts from \$1,000-\$4,999, unsecured, 6% interest rate, no income limits. Applicants must have: minimum 650 credit score, energy audit done, savings to investment ratio 1:1.

Call NeighborWorks® Rochester today at 325-4170 to learn more about their low cost Energy Services Loan (ext. 318) and Energy Audit (ext. 329). [www.nwrochester.org](http://www.nwrochester.org)

### SCHOOL 46 SCULPTURE GARDEN PROJECT

School 46 on Newcastle Road is raising money to make a sculpture garden on school grounds. Note cards featuring the artwork of the school children are for sale to raise money for this project.

The sculpture garden will include large-scale sculptures designed by the students and others in the community. A planting of herbs and vegetables will surround the sculptures. The Culinary Arts Program at East High School will be part of the educational support by teaching how to prepare and cook with fresh vegetables from the garden.

At the BNA Winter Gathering a basket was available to collect donations for this project. BNA added to the \$40.00 collected and donated \$100 to be presented to art teacher Philip Lange, who is the project coordinator.

Anyone interested in helping to make this project a reality by donating time and/or money can contact art teacher, Philip Lange, at [philip.lange@gmail.com](mailto:philip.lange@gmail.com) or 288-8008 Ext. 2110 to buy a set of cards, volunteer, or to inquire further. If you would like to support the project with a tax-deductible contribution, please make checks payable to School 46, with a note "for the sculpture garden fund."



### WINTON BRANCH LIBRARY

The Winton Library is having a Family Science Day on **Saturday, March 20th from 10:30-12 noon**. It is geared toward families with young children, and includes hands on experiments with professional scientists. Stop in to the library or call 428-8204 by March 16th to register for the fair. The first thirty families to register will receive a free family science activity kit. Registration for Kindergarten and Free Preschool programs will also be available at the Fair. The fair is co-sponsored by the Rochester Literacy Movement, the Rochester Preschool Parent Program and the Rochester Public Library. Additional parking for the fair will be available at the Potter's House, 1225 Atlantic Avenue.

### FLOWER CITY

### PARENT NETWORK

#### *A Parent-to-Parent Resource for City Residents*

With kindergarten registration under way now in the Rochester City School District, Flower City Parents Network provides a source of information and support for city school parents, potential city school parents and those interested in city schools.

Flower City Parents Network, celebrating its one-year anniversary in February, features an online forum run by parents and for parents. Parents can ask other parents questions about specific schools, get information about district policies, share experiences with after-school programs, or weigh in on subjects like mayoral control or charter schools.

Flower City Parents Network was started by three parents (including one from the Browncroft neighborhood) who were frustrated that many people wrote off city schools before even finding out about them. They wanted to make it easier for new parents to get the first-hand scoop from parents with children already in city schools, and for parents to share information and experiences across the district.

For more information, come to the forum ([www.flowercityparents.org/forum](http://www.flowercityparents.org/forum)) or email [info@flowercityparents.org](mailto:info@flowercityparents.org).

Hilary Appelman Tel. (585) 482-4178 / Fax (425) 740-1627

# Winter Gathering 2010

Eighty Browncroft residents attended the 32nd Annual Winter Gathering this year and enjoyed socializing over the pre-buffet hour of drinks and hors d'oeuvres, the carved beef buffet, and the ice cream sundae bar.

Bob Genthner of our BNA Historical Committee presented a short look back via newspaper reports of the 1920's Browncroft holiday outdoor light displays that started the local tradition. The evening's program was concluded with a drawing for 23 door prizes donated by our local merchants..

**We at BNA would like to acknowledge our *THANKS* to the following 14 neighborhood businesses and one resident for their door prize donations for the BNA Winter Gathering.**

**Capt. Jim's Fish Market, 2329 E. Main St. (482-3640)**  
**Wintonaire, 628 N. Winton Rd. (730-8350)**  
**Expressions, 420 Merchants Rd. (288-6262)**  
**Tops Market, 175 N. Winton Rd**  
**Liberty Family Restaurant, 160 N. Winton Rd (288-5503)**  
**China Garden Kitchen, 268 N. Winton Rd. (482-0870)**  
**Winfield Grill, 647 N. Winton Rd. (654-8990)**  
**Cafe Vas, 564 Merchants Rd. (482-7861)**  
**Julian's Dry Cleaners, 699 Blossom Rd. (482-0860)**  
**Balsam Bagels, 288 N. Winton Rd. (482-5080)**  
**Euphoria Liquor, 2300 E. Main Merchants Plaza (482-6024)**  
**Jim's Restaurant, 233 N. Winton Rd. (442-4172)**  
**Tryon Bike, 663 N. Winton Rd. (413-4444)**  
**Soulstice Artisan Market, 632 N. Winton Rd. (370-0076)**  
**Ms. Linda Siple, 76 Ramsey Park**

*Please show your support by patronizing these neighborhood establishments:*

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## New Business Has Grand Opening

### Soulstice Artisan Market

BNA welcomes to our adjacent business district a new specialty gift shop called Soulstice Artisan Market at 632 Winton Rd. North (Phone: 370-0076) that is open Thursday-Saturdays 10AM-8PM & Sundays 10AM-3PM. Join them in celebrating their GRAND OPENING on Friday April 16th - Sunday April 18th and receive \$5.00 off on any \$25.00 or more purchase, a chance

to win a Soulstice Gift card, and enjoy free tea and chocolate samples!

This cozy shop, which is conveniently located a few doors north of Browncroft Boulevard, features an array of antiques and unique, hand crafted gifts from local artisans, ranging from jewelry to home décor. The store also carries pet friendly products, herbal products by Laven-

## President's Message

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founding and we need to protect and promote it wisely. If you have an opportunity to speak and identify yourself as a resident of Browncroft at community forums, step forward with pride, show that we are truly many faces. However, please be clear that you are not representing the Browncroft Neighborhood Association unless you have been given the authority by the BNA Board to do so. After, please report your experience back to the association and take a moment to reflect on representing Browncroft, officially, to that or other groups (or even becoming yourself a BNA Board member or committee member). As the saying goes many hands make for light work. Whatever time or talent you can offer would be much appreciated by your neighborhood.

If any resident, street rep or committee person has a request or knows of an overlooked activity or concern pertaining to the Browncroft community or on your street, please bring it up to me or an officer or at a Board meeting (meetings are always open and occur every other month). Don't be shy! You can also encourage your neighbors to contact BNA at the web site or by phone. BNA is your association and only with your continuous participation and ownership of your neighborhood can we as a community succeed.

Finally, if you have access to email, join the BNA-announce email list and keep up with any immediate or timely neighborhood alert/news.

Bob Genthner

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der Moon and Ellen's Chocolate Creations. This is a great destination that is within walking distance of most residents, for shopping in the neighborhood.

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