



# Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Since 1973 – Volume 172

P.O. Box 10127, Rochester, New York 14610

July 2012

<http://browncroftna.org>

## **BNA Executive Committee**

### **Officers**

#### **President**

Aaron Thompson

#### **Vice President**

Linda Siple

#### **Treasurer**

Robert McCloughlin

#### **Secretary**

Kathy Flynn

### **District Reps**

#### **Elm District**

Vacant

#### **Corwin District**

Holly Petsos

#### **Croydon District**

Vacant

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School 46 Tennis Court

It's the BNA Annual Summer Picnic

**Wednesday July 18**

**starting, at 5:30 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 charcoal fires for grilling, hot dogs and rolls, condiments, cold lemonade drinks and marshmallows for toasting.

Bring a dish to pass and your own plates and silverware of your preference for your family,



RSVP by phone at 234-0160 (leave a message)

or email to [info@browncroftna.org](mailto:info@browncroftna.org)

(Include your name, phone number, and  
number attending by July 13th to help us plan!)

**It's fun. It's free. All ages are welcome.**  
**Meet your neighbors at the park on July 18th!**  
**Hope to see you there.**

## BNA Officers Elected at May Annual Meeting

Congratulations, and thank you for volunteering, to our new and continuing officers:

President, Aaron Thompson (new), Corwin Road  
Vice President, Linda Siple, Ramsey Park  
Treasurer, Robert McLoughlin (new), Beresford Road  
Secretary, Kathy Flynn, Quentin Road

The guest speaker, Landmark Society Executive Director Wayne Goodman, provided a stimulating and informative presentation on the economic and quality of life benefits to be realized by the application of historic preservation initiatives in any community.

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## Volunteers Make a Difference in the BN!!!

The BNA once again participated in Clean Sweep. This year we focused our work on the 590N exit ramp and did a major cleaning of the area. Many thanks to all the volunteers who participated!!!

The BNA also had a crew of volunteers weed and spread mulch at the Rose Garden. They did an amazing job - stop by the Rose Garden and enjoy their many hours of work.

Linda Siple



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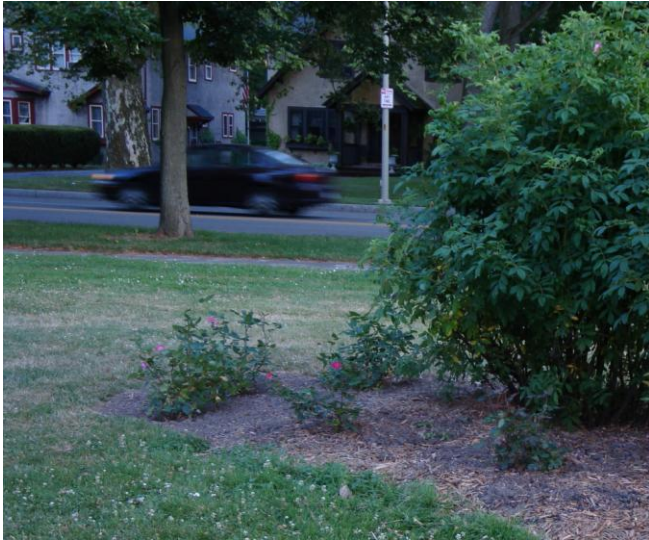
## Browncroft Rose Garden Volunteers - Old and New

Spring Clean Up in the Browncroft Rose Garden happened late, but happened in a big way. Many new BNA volunteers, organized by Linda Siple, came out on May 26 and on succeeding days to weed and spread around a mountain of wood chips that should keep the park rose beds and annual bed looking neat for a good while.

Thank you Linda Siple, Tom Gibbons, Robert McLoughlin, Sue Lennon, Joyce McAndrew, Bob Genthner, Bob Kern,



Aaron and Jenny Thompson, Tammy and Andrew Baisch, Kathy Flynn, Sharon Bloemendaal, Linda Mauck, Mary Ann Evans, Cassy Petsos, Jim Bishop, Rosemarie Hattman, Mark Garlock, and Tim Botonni. The above volunteers hail from Ramsey Park, Beresford Road, Newcastle Road, Windemere Road, Corwin Road, Quentin Road, Croydon Road, Browncroft Boulevard, Gramercy Park, and Dorchester Road respectively.



Also, BNA purchased six rose bushes to replace lost bushes, which were planted by Bob Kern on the fourth of July, while Linda Siple and Kathy Flynn pruned dead flower heads from the bushes. (Yes, BNA volunteers work on holidays.)

Three Knock Out rose bushes were donated by Cassy Petsos and Holly Petsos in memory of Margaret Kaiser, Huguette Neracker, Patricia Rodier – three wonderful ladies of Browncroft who have passed away within the last year. The planting was done by Cassy Petsos and Eric Miller of Browncroft Boulevard.

Cassy Petsos

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## **Surprise New Temp Building Coming to School 46 – Neighbors Respond to RCSD: STOP – We Need to Talk.**



Early in the week of June 25, neighbors observed small “H” frames being placed in the School 46 field next to the existing remote classroom building along Newcastle Road. Upon inquiring into what was happening, a neighbor was informed that a portable classroom building was going to be moved from School 50 and placed adjacent to the existing building. The neighborhood had not been informed of this action previously. The work crew was in the process of marking the spots for the portable’s foundation footers. The new

building was to be approximately the same size and would be connected by a 15-20 yard wooden deck. It had not been included in discussions on the summer renovation work that was presented to the BNA.

Within days, a letter was sent to City Hall and the Rochester City School District (RCSD) officials by a neighbor reflecting the strong negative feelings of neighbors. This letter asked that the project cease, since this would be the third “temp” building on the grounds and would be even more remote from the main academic building. The placement and boxy wooden building style is seen as greatly impacting both the valuable open green space and the historic look and feel of the character of the Browncroft neighborhood, especially as viewed alongside the exceptional architecture of the 1933 main building.

Other neighbors have joined to challenge the RCSD. The BNA has been requested to support the neighborhood's concern and Aaron Thompson, BNA President, is now a participant in getting to the bottom of RCSD plans. The Mayor and City Zoning have been contacted but have deferred to RCSD all resolution as no permits are required or needed by RCSD activities. RCSD Facilities, the RCSD Board President and Superintendent have been contacted. Follow ups are underway. At this time, several meetings are planned but no further information is available.

This is a fluid situation at this moment and updates will be available over the short time on Nextdoor Browncroft for those who live in Browncroft and have registered. (You can see details on Nextdoor.com at [www.browncroftna.org/nextdoor](http://www.browncroftna.org/nextdoor)). Summaries may be made available on BNA-announce and Facebook as they are warranted. The next CRIER, delivered to all households in late summer, will provide a progress update.

Bob Genthner

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## **Tennis Court at 46 School Playground In Derelict Condition – Neighbors Want It Fixed**

Jim Bishop of Gramercy Park has brought the unsightly, and unusable, tennis court on the southern boundary of the 46 School playground to the attention of the Browncroft Neighborhood Association Board of Directors. A meeting was held on Saturday, June 16, at 12:30 at the tennis court. In attendance were: Jim Bishop of Gramercy Park, Ivan Lennon-- Beresford, Joe & Lucy Nunn and Mike Sisson from Windemere, Nathan Pesgen, Ed Hochroiter, and Bob Genthner of Newcastle.



Topics discussed were the ongoing (over 15 years) derelict

condition, the worn out unsafe playing surface with cracks, crevices, and weeds. The athletic backstops ( 4 ) are rusty, broken, jagged edged and weed or vine covered. It is an accident waiting to happen, as well as unsightly!! The playground surface is also in poor condition -- uneven, rutted and in dire need of a new safe playing surface. There are some schools in the city that have beautiful rubber safe surfaces.



What message does this send to the neighbors, BNA, and visitors to the area? Is this the example that RCSD sends to the school population regarding being a responsible and respectful neighbor?

By Jim Bishop