



Browncroft Crier

The Official Newsletter of the Browncroft Neighborhood Association

Since 1973 – Issue #125 • P.O. Box 10127 • Rochester, New York • January 2000

President's Message

by David Adasiak

I'd like to wish everyone a Happy New Year: May the year 2000 be full of good tidings and special moments. The new millennium or not, it is still a time to remember, as we look back on the 1900s, a time to be thankful for all the big and little things around us. Once again, I'd personally like to thank all of those who make this neighborhood really special.

Sharon Orienter: Publisher and Editor of the Browncroft Crier. Thanks for taking time out of your busy schedule to keep all of us informed.

Holly Petsos: As Chairperson for Zoning, we all need to know how hard she works at resolving issues before they become problems.

Cassy Petsos: Beautification Chairperson (in addition to working on zoning concerns) Her recruiting people to help plant, weed, fertilize and water the Rose Garden make it a magnificent showplace.

Ann Williams: Membership is an ongoing struggle for Ann but, year after year, she spends hours making sure that we are well represented as an organized neighborhood association.

Mary Ann Evans: Our Treasurer. She keeps us afloat financially and donates many hours working in the Rose Garden.

Diana Thornton: Our annual Picnic and Holiday Dinner have always been First Class. The most recent dinner at the Daisy Flour Mill was a huge success. There was good food and conversation, topped off with a little Dixieland Jazz entertainment.

Bob Genthner: Crime Prevention Chairperson. Bob always puts forth extra effort, attending meetings with the Goodman Section and relating any news to us in his articles. He also spends many hours with PAC TAC, walking the neighborhood streets.

Thanks to all of our dedicated Street Reps who spread the word by delivering the newsletters..... **Robert Novak**, a new neighbor, stepped up to fill a void as a Croydon Street Rep; **Barb Duffy** has taken over the Croydon District Rep position; **Jim Bishop** is helping with Gramercy. We still need more help. There are voids in the Elm District. If you want to get more involved with the neighborhood, please call Ann Williams at 288-6295 and ask how you can help.

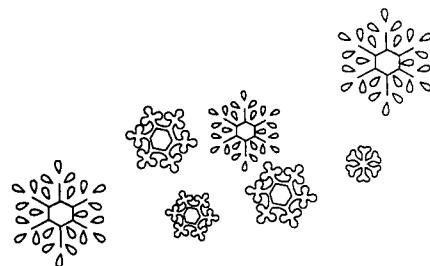
What's coming up in the year 2000?

Well, you all should have received your reassessment by now. Property taxes will be changing and most likely increasing. There is a 2000 REASSESSMENT Comparative Sales Listing booklet at the Library for those that want to compare similar homes that have sold between 1/1/97 & 5/31/99. If you disagree with your reassessment, call the City Bureau of Assessment @ 428-7221 for assistance.

The construction on Browncroft Boulevard is expected to begin. We should anticipate a similar situation to the one on Blossom Road last year. Increased traffic might be prevalent on neighborhood streets as a result, so use extra caution. Walkers, joggers and especially children walking to school will have to be extra careful. The speed limit is still 30MPH and STOP still means STOP. If you see people abusing our neighborhood, call 911.

There is also a construction project planned for North Winton Road from Elmcroft north to the City line. Oh well... Rochester is known for having only two seasons... Winter & Construction!

I hope to meet many more Browncroft neighbors in this new year. Feel free to e-mail me with any suggestions or concerns (david.adasiak@juno.com) or write to me at:
Browncroft Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 10127
Rochester, NY 14610-0127



Snow Removal

by David Adasiak

By the time you read this, we will be well into our winter season and this is just a reminder of what we can expect and what is expected of us regarding snow removal.

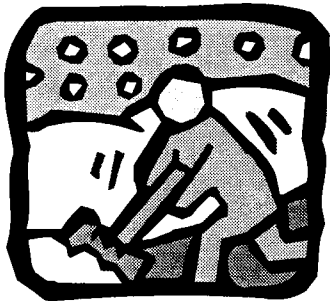
Rochester is one of the few cities that provides sidewalk snow plowing. The City uses private contractors to plow over 878 miles of sidewalks. They usually plow early morning or late evening when there has been an accumulation of 4" or more. The cost for the typical home is about \$10.00 per year.

We, as residents, need to abide by a few rules. All encroachments (such as steps, walls and planters) must be no closer than two feet from sidewalks and curbs. It is the resident's responsibility (City Code Chapter 104-11) to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice. Snow must not be shoveled or plowed into the street.

Those of you who have plowing contractors must inform them not to push the snow from your driveway across the street. First of all, it's illegal and second, your neighbor across the street probably doesn't want 'your' snow!

Damage to lawns will be repaired by the city in the spring. You just have to call The Office of Customer Satisfaction @ 428-5990. It operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to receive your service requests.

Also, please, for your safety and your neighbors', clean off your car before driving in snowy weather. Make sure all of your windows are clear as well as your headlights and taillights so that you can not only see clearly but be seen as well - this too is the law!



From your editor:

The next issue is planned for March the deadline for that issue is Feb. 25 if we meet this schedule, the CRIER will be distributed the second week in March. Please send all submissions, articles, announcements to me: Sharon Orienter: e-mail - SEO2@AOL.com or soriente@mcls.rochester.lib.ny.us; fax - 428-8353; phone - days 428-8327, home 288-8076; address - 116 Browncroft Blvd. All submissions must be in writing and typed. I prefer that all text be sent electronically, on disk or by e-mail, but if you cannot do so, please send your copy, typed, by mail or drop it off at my home.

Are you CP2K compliant?

By Bob Genthner

BNA Crime Prevention Committee

Are your Crime Preventive measures in place for 2000? Yes, the '99 crime rate is down 36% in our Goodman section of town - but not out. You still must look both ways before crossing the street - that will never change. Ever since Adam and Eve crime - like Wade Philips and Doug Flutie of the Buffalo Bills like to say in explanation to bad plays after a game - "it happens". It especially happens if you leave that car in the driveway unlocked and the cell phone on the front seat. (Or even when the car is locked!) It happens when you leave the garage door open over night. It happens when you let papers pile up on the front steps and the house dark while away for days. Simple things can make bad plays into good plays - execution! Be prepared, crime prevention starts at home. Report all suspicious activity to 911 - yes ALL.

PAC-TAC (Police and Citizens Together Against Crime) is a program that this Browncroft community has participated in since 1983. We started this year and ended this year with the same dozen neighbors - no turn over and no new members. There are hundreds of PAC-TACers across the city and towns. (It's not just a CITY THING). We are one reason why the rate is down. Walkers in this area (and others) identify suspicious activities, listen to our neighbors and work with the police on solutions. We provide feedback on police initiatives and suggest needs. We know our neighborhood. If you feel that you don't want to talk to the police - talk to a PAC-TACer. We are on the street from 7 - 9 pm two or three times a week. We patrol "our area" from the Railroad tracks - Culver - Grand - Merchants - north city line - east city line. That's 2 car beats of the Goodman section (north of Atlantic is #256 and south of Atlantic is #266). We work directly with CPO Randy Holmes and Lt. Jeff Clark out of the NET office on Webster Ave. We work with Capt. Fred Bell and Doug Salisbury, Investigator/Coordinator at the Goodman Section Office on Waring Road.

Do you have a crime concern, need information, want to join PAC-TAC? The door is open. Call Randy (428-7658). Call Jeff (428-7653). Call Fred or Doug (428-7253). Call me (482-2441). You can even call Chief Robert Duffy (428-7033).

Let's together make 2000 an even better year!

Membership

Many thanks to all of the Street Reps who have collected dues for the BNA membership drive this year. Welcome to our new Street Reps: Mary Conners (Merchants Rd.) Jim Bishop (Gramercy Park) and Robert Novak (Croydon Rd.). We are in need of Street Reps in the Elm District including Elmcroft and Lanark. For those of you who are new to the neighborhood, being a Street Rep is a great way to meet your neighbors.

It is not too late to pay your dues !! Annual dues are \$ 5 and support the ongoing activities of the BNA such as the newsletter, holiday party, summer picnic and the Browncroft Rose Garden. You may send dues to your Street Rep or mail them to BNA, P.O. Box 10127, Rochester, NY 14610.

Ann Williams
Membership Chair



Officers

President - David Adasiak
Vice President - Peter Polfleit 654-5325
Treasurer - Mary Ann Evans
Secretary - Open

District Reps

Elm - Open
Corwin - Holly Petsos 288-0955
Croydon - Barb Duffy

Committee Chairs

Beautification - Cassy Petsos 288-0955
Budget/finance - Open
Crime Prevention - Bob Genthner 482-2441
Historical - Shari Bloemendaal 288-6359
Hospitality - Diana Thornton 288-7176
Membership - Ann Williams 288-6295
Newsletter - Sharon Orienter 288-8076
Zoning - Holly Petsos 288-0955



*The Browncroft Neighborhood Association
invites you to an
Informational Meeting*

*Thursday, March 23, at 7:00
at the
Browncroft Baptist Church
420 N. Winton Road*

**Regarding
The designation of the original Browncroft Subdivision, and
certain adjacent properties,
to the National Register of Historic Districts.**

Cynthia Howk of the Landmark Society will give a slide presentation to neighbors detailing the benefits of becoming an historic district. Joining her will be Nick Zumbulyadis of the Maplewood Historic District who will be able to answer questions of what it has meant to the Maplewood neighborhood.

Designation is strictly an honorary award. There is no regulatory powers to it. This district would cover from Merchants Road on the north to almost Blossom Road to the south.

The Browncroft area has a strong sense of community pride and historical awareness, which has been gaining increasing recognition throughout the Rochester region. This is a positive factor which assists in our continuing preservation objectives, and ultimately, in maintaining our property values.

Don't miss this "historic" meeting.