



Browncroft Crier

The Official Newsletter of the Browncroft Neighborhood Association

Since 1973 – Issue #128

• P.O. Box 10127

• Rochester, New York

• November 2000

Quentin Rd. Wins Free Picnic



Maïke Morrison, granddaughter of Jack & Sharon Bloemendaal, enjoys bouncing on the "Twister" game

Sharon Bloemendaal

It all started when Andrea Moore decided that if Wegmans and WBBF were giving away a picnic for a street, Quentin Rd. should enter—10 times. The only rub was that photocopies were not permitted, and each paper application needed 10 signatures. Several patient neighbors signed again and again, and helped by filling out a paragraph on why it would be helpful to the street.

One of the entries won a picnic, held July 18, with food from Dinosaur Barbecue and Wegman's. The neighbors also brought dishes to pass. The coordinators provided a bouncing Twister game, and a "castle" where children could literally bounce off the walls. Tables and chairs were provided.

Residents brought toddler-size picnic tables, and young and old alike enjoyed seeing neighbors. Our daughter Mary Morrison, from Boston, was visiting and enjoyed meeting old classmates and seeing children, now grown, for whom she had babysat.

Historic District Update

The Historic District Committee has been very busy during the summer canvassing the neighborhood to talk about listing the neighborhood on the National Register nomination project, encouraging neighbors to complete their surveys and requesting donations from property owners to help fund the work.

We would like to thank the many residents who have contributed money so far. The fund raising efforts of the committee have been very important as we did not receive the grant money we had applied for from the Preservation League. The Preservation League assured us that the project, National Register nomination preparation, was a very eligible and worthwhile one. However, they had received a tremendous number of applications this year, many of which involved preservation emergencies.

Our consultant Mary Santangelo has completed the building inventory and is at work photographing various properties and streetscapes. She is working on the overall proposal and expects to complete it by December or January. The quality of Mary's work is superb and her black and white photographs of houses are stunning.

Cassie & Holly Petsos

Also at work surveying our landscaped environment has been Bill Knapp of Dorchester Road. Mr. Knapp has been out cataloging every tree and bush by Latin name in the front yard and on the tree lawn of every house in the proposed district. This has been a tremendous undertaking, but a necessary part of documenting this aspect of the neighborhood's cultural resources. This generous donation of professional time has been a project saving contribution of in kind services on Mr. Knapp's part.

We also would like to thank Jim Kelly for assisting Mr. Knapp with identifying some of the more unusual plant species. Jim, a former resident of the neighborhood who's mother Cassie Kelly lives on Dorchester, is one of Rochester's foremost taxonomists.

Browncroft has always been fortunate in its human resources, as well as its architectural and horticultural ones. Once again, with this project, we are able to bring together experts from within the neighborhood to get the job done.

South East Area Coalition is our umbrella not-for-profit community organization assisting

continued on page 2



The Browncroft Neighborhood Association

Holiday Dinner

will once again be held at the

Daisy Flour Mill

Tuesday, December 5th

6:00 pm Cash Bar

7:00 pm Buffet Dinner



This year's buffet menu includes:

*Appetizers, Garden Salad,
Broiled Chicken, New Potatoes,
Beef and Vegetable
Brochet, Carrot Cake
& Ice Cream*

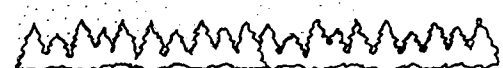


Tickets are \$17.00 per person.

*For reservations, please send check
to Hospitality Chairperson
Diana Thornton,*

*160 Dorchester Road, 14610
by December 1.*

Any questions call her at 288-7176



President's Message

Greetings! It's been some time since we have published a newsletter.

by David Adasiak

Fall is upon us and winter is just around the corner. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer, regardless of the weather. The most overused word this past summer seemed to be "UNSEASONABLY" and was it ever! I hope we have a gentle winter to make up for the lack of summer.

Our Annual Holiday Party is coming up quickly this year, as the date was moved to December 5th. Numerous neighbors have way too many conflicts toward the end of December and it was suggested that we hold our party earlier in the month. This will give more people a chance to come and meet new neighbors.

A reminder: 2001 is Garage Sale year. As in the past, it will be in May. Volunteers are needed to assist, please contact me if you would be willing to help out.

As always, we are looking for any neighbors to help within our Association. If you are interested in getting more involved, contact me via e-mail (david.adasiak@juno.com) or drop me a note in care of: BNA, PO Box 10127, Rochester, NY 14610.

Signs on front lawns still keep popping up for various reasons. By City Code, no signs are permitted between the sidewalk and the curb. Contractor Signs, Realtor Signs and especially Election Signs.

The Fall Leaf Pick-Up is scheduled for the week of November 27th to December 1st. Let's hope the snow holds off until December 2nd! All leaves must be at the street (not in the street) by November 27th or the residents will have to bag them for the regular Wednesday refuse pick-up.

Of course, after we finish with the leaves, we have snow to contend with. Be aware that if you hire a snow plow contractor, they are NOT allowed (by Code) to push the snow from your driveway, across the street and into your neighbors' property. City sidewalk plows will come only after we get 4" or more of snow. Otherwise, it is our responsibility to clear the snow off the sidewalks in front of our houses. Also, remember to clear away any snow around the fire hydrants! If your neighbor is elderly or otherwise can't do these things... Lend a hand -that's what neighbors are for!

Everyone should have received a booklet from the Department of Environmental Services. There is some very helpful information in it and I urge everyone to read it... Maybe even post it somewhere handy, as a reference guide. It includes: Customer Satisfaction 24 hour phone # 428-5990, Refuse Code Rules, Recycling Tips, Tips for the Winter Season, Hazardous Waste Guidelines, Refuse Collection Holidays and Other Important Dates!

This is "The Most Beautiful Neighborhood in the City!" People always make that remark whenever I tell them where I live. It carries that reputation because of caring neighbors like you. *Thank You!!!*

Browncroft Boulevard Reconstruction

The summer passed without as many interruptions and problems as many neighbors expected with the road construction. We are informed by Rich Koss, of the City's Department of Engineering, Street Design Division to expect the next month to be this year's major tear-up when RG&E's subcontractor installs a 16" steel gas line down the center of the road. This work is expected to continue through January.

We have been in communication this summer with the contractors over minor problems and concerns about street tree protections.

Sewer work has been completed. We are assured the project is on schedule and will be completed next year.

At the public meeting this summer neighbors were polled on street light fixtures and type

of light source. Based on this poll the City has agreed to provide a new type of white light, QL, which is energy efficient and economical, and has been in use in Europe. Knowing Browncroft is sensitive to the unpleasant aspects of high pressure sodium (orange colored) light, the City is willing to try out this new technology on Browncroft. The new street poles will be powder coated dark green, two piece, 25" high davits, which will be more attractive than those we have in place currently, and will not necessitate increasing the number of poles on the street, or creating any additional assessment to the residents. This should help foster a more residential look to the poles without going to a shorter pole top lantern residential style, which would require closer spacing and twice the number of poles to light this arterial road to standard.

Historic District Update, continued from page 1

us with the grant application process. Funding agencies will only provide grant money to incorporated tax exempt community organizations. We have been working closely with Mary Wells, the executive director of SEAC, as our fiduciary for receiving any and all possible grant funding.

We would like to remind residents that it is still necessary to fund raise. We have not met our goal to pay for the project. Please consider sending a contribution now, if you haven't already done so, and be a part of Browncroft's historic preservation. If you have any questions or concerns about this neighborhood endeavor, please feel free to contact anyone of the committee members, or Holly Petsos at 288-0955.

Contributions should be made out to the BNA Pledge Account, and mailed to the Browncroft Neighborhood Association History Fund, Post Office Box 10127, Rochester, NY 14610

Historic District Committee: Arlie Anderson (Dorchester), Jayne Bercse and David Kaiser (Yarmouth), Mary Coffey (Corwin), Mary Ann Evans (Croydon), Rosemarie Hattman (Dorchester), Bill and Betty Knapp (Dorchester), Susan Levinson (Croydon), Marv and Hueguette Neracker (Yarmouth), Robert Nowak (Croydon), Eitsa, Cassy and Holly Petsos (Browncroft), Peter Polfleit (Newcastle), Dedie Ranger (Corwin), Joan Saab (Browncroft), Marilyn Schutte (Corwin), Steve Smith (Windemere), Katherine Truex (Windemere).

Membership Drive

Fall is the time for our annual membership drive. Membership dues are \$5 to support the ongoing activities of the BNA such as the newsletter, Browncroft Rose Garden, holiday party and summer picnic. If you missed your Street Rep's visit to collect dues, it is not too late to join by sending your dues to:

BNA Membership Drive
P.O. Box 10127
Rochester, NY 14610

Many thanks to all of the Street Reps who have collected dues for the membership drive. We are in need of Street Reps on Beresford Rd., Elm Dr., Elmcroft Rd. and Lanark Crescent. If you are new to the neighborhood, it is a great way to meet your neighbors! If you can help, please give me a call at 288-6295.

Ann Williams, Membership Chairperson

That Was Then...

The First TV in Browncroft

The year was 1946; an Admiral Console television was the first in the Browncroft neighborhood. It had cost \$900, when the Carlerri family's mortgage payment was \$17 a month; their house had sold the previous year for \$3,200! The 9-inch screen was a wonder, and at 4 p.m. John Carlerri enjoyed "Kukla, Fran, and Ollie."

John, who lived at 152 Corwin Rd., said that he and his four brothers (Sam, Angelo, Henry, and Augie) and sister Joy could each invite someone over to watch television with them one afternoon a week. That was still seven children in the living room watching one tiny screen! No programs were offered after 9 p.m., when Milton Berle was over. The television managers hadn't yet figured that old movies could be run. The set needed repairs often, so the TV repairman made many visits.

The boys were each born a year apart, so the Carlerri brothers had many friends in the neighborhood. They enjoyed sledding at Ellison, which was just as dangerous back then. John remembers the time that Don Corbett (later a family court judge) was steering an 8-man toboggan with 15 aboard. When Corbett fell off, they weren't aware of it because of the flying snow and the pine needles. Miraculously, they avoided the trees as they zoomed through the grove of pines, but all 14 ended up in the creek.

The boys at No. 46 School received great football training in grades 6-8 from Dr. Bastian, who lived in the Dorchester extension in Brighton. This was really the first "Pop Warner" team in the country, said John. Bastian coached, bought uniforms, and took care of injuries as well. "We would beat Harley," said John, adding, "We had 75 plays memorized."

The 39 students in John's class of 1952 still meet for reunions—which is unusual for an 8th-grade class. Their seventh grade teacher, Mrs. Scranton, was their favorite. "She had a personal rapport with each student," said John, "She was always smiling and friendly."

"We used to have dances on Saturday nights," he remembers. The 7th and 8th-graders would go to each other's homes. The boys wore suits and ties, and would try to outdress each other. The parents took all of the furniture out of the living room so they could dance on the hardwood floor (to the music from the records on the Victrola). The parents also provided refreshments.

He remembers that their house had a maid's quarters, a butler's pantry, four bathrooms and five bedrooms. His uncle put the sandstone front on their stucco house, changing the front windows. John wallpapered the whole house when he was 12—but then, he was an artist.

By Sharon Bloemendaal

John's father owned and operated a coal truck, and arrived home covered with the black dust. John doesn't recall any prejudice from the doctors and lawyers living in the area. "There was a tremendous variety of nationalities in the neighborhood," he said. The coal truck did come in handy when the Boy Scouts had a paper drive.

When John's father surprised his children with a pony, their mother wasn't pleased. However, the friendly neighbors offered to help find a stable for him not too far away.

The chickens in the back yard didn't bother many people, but they were rather unpopular with the next-door neighbors. John's father solved the problem by asking John States (who was a medical student) to chop off the chicken's heads. States later became a prominent doctor.

"Every August the starlings came," said John. He remembers 40 to 50 officers with 12-gauge shotguns shooting thousands of birds. "We stood watching and collected the shells afterwards."

Mosquitoes were also a problem. On hot summer nights, workers in overalls would drive in with DDT trucks with huge fans, covering houses on both sides. Before they started they blew a siren and people ran inside and closed the windows. The next morning all the birds and butterflies in the neighborhood were also dead. Rachel Carson changed things with her book, *Silent Spring*.

Today John is writing a book, *House of the Valley That Was*, and illustrating it as well. He also operates a company; check it out at www.clusterflycontrol.com.

The Carlerri lived on Corwin Rd. from 1945 to 1960. What happened to the house then? The TV repairman saw it so often, and liked it so much that he bought it—for \$23,000!

School # 46 Events

Roller Skating Party Wednesday, November 8th sponsored by PTA and City Recreation

Open House Wednesday, November 15th 6:30-8:00 pm

Holiday Craft Bazaar Saturday, December 2nd. A great way to shop for the holidays without leaving the neighborhood.

Holiday Concert Wednesday, December 20th, 7 pm

Come to these events at our award-winning neighborhood school. For more information call Diana Thornton at 288-7176 or Ann Williams at 288-6295.

The Latest from NET

I attended the 10/4 NETworking meeting at the NET Office.

New web site for NBN, check out: rochesternbn.com

Wheeled BLUE boxes for the elderly are available from the city. Call DES at 428-5990.

Best of block celebration (10/3) was held with over 110 people. Well received. Good PR for Sector 8. Mayor of Corning was impressed and wants to implement.

Dangerous dog meetings with Mayor Johnson are set to start in October. Legislation to follow.

There is a 6 month moratorium on housing demolition starting 10/1. This will prevent getting too far ahead of limited resources and lessen the delay from hearing to demolition.

NET and NEAD have \$60K grand to do a anti-drug dealer advertising campaign.

A Crisis Intervention Team is in place to handle family crisis & heating problems this winter. Call Carolyn for contact. PAC-TAC is being removed from NET control and returned to RPD section office control. Still under CPO but not the NET Lieutenant. Will return to crime prevention and away from code violation reporting. PAC-TACers are being harassed by neighbors and gangs recently because of the code activity. A police officer will be walking with patrols until Thanksgiving to get communications working and also to give out tickets as needed. PAC-TACers will be distributing flyers on safety problems in the neighborhood (i.e open garages, loud music, parking, etc.)

Bob Genthner

From your editor:

The next issue deadline is December 29

Please send all submissions, articles, announcements to me:

Sharon Orienter:

e-mail - SEO2@AOL.com or

sorienter@mcls.rochester.lib.ny.us;

fax - 428-8353;

phone - days 428-8327,

home 288-8076;

address - 116 Browncroft Blvd.

All submissions **MUST BE 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. **PLEASE NOTE: Items NOT submitted in writing and TYPED will not be included in the newsletter and will be returned to the author.**



BNA Neighborhood Watch

**RPD Goodman Section Crime Information
Report for Winton Road and streets east to the
City Line:**

June 1 through July 15, 2000

Blossom Rd. (1) - 6/27 (700 #blk) Petit Larceny, Cell phone from unlocked car, 8:45 am - 10:00 am, Open.

Bobrich Dr (1) - 6/23 (100 #blk) Stolen car from parking lot, 11:30 pm - 3:50 am, Open.

Browncroft Blvd. (1) - 6/17 (00 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, Car window broken, 9:00 pm, Open.

Gramercy Pk. (1) - 6/1 (00 #blk) Petit Larceny, 2 Cell phones from unlocked car, 9:30 pm - 7:30 am, Open.

Halstead St. (1) - 6/28 (100 #blk) Burglary 3rd, computer drives, printer, 8:00 pm - 8:00 am, Open.

Newcastle Rd. (1) - 6/21 (200 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, Bike damage, 7:00 pm - 12:00 am, Open.

Tryon Pk. (1) - 6/17 (100 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, Car window broken, 5:00 pm, Open.

Winton Rd. (6) - 6/2 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, Leather Wallet (\$70) taken, 12:30 pm., Open. 6/5 (300 #blk) Burglary 3rd, rack w/83 pks of Cigarettes, 1:40 am, Open. 6/8 (200 #blk) Robbery 1st, Cell phone w/2 way radio & Pager, Wallet, 11:30 pm, Open. 6/17 (200 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, Damage screen, 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm, Open. 7/2 (300 #blk) Petit Larceny, Gas, 10:40 am, Open.

7/12 (100 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, car broken window took duffel Bag, Gym Bag, sneak-ers, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, Open.

Woodland Pk. (1) - 6/29 (00 #blk) Crim. Mischief 4th, Car window broken, 12:00 am - 4:00 am, Open.

Yarmouth Rd. (1) - 6/15 (200 #blk) Burglary 3rd, Men's 26" Bike from locked garage, 5:00pm - 6:40pm, Open.

July 15 through August 26, 2000

Bobrich Dr. (3) - 7/15 (00 #blk), Crim Mischief 4th, Back pack, graphics calculator from vehicle, 11:20am top 1:00pm, Open. - 7/25 (100 #blk) Rape 1st, 2:50pm, Open.

By Bob Genthner, Chairperson

7/31 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, unlocked garage10 speed bike taken, 7/12 - 7/31, Open.

Elmcroft Rd. (1) - 8/8 (00 #blk) Crim Mischief 4th, Car window broken, 11:00pm to 7:00am, Open.

Newcastle Rd. (2) - 7/25 (200 #blk) Crim Mischief 3rd, Car windshield cracked, wipers broken off, mirror broken off, dented headlight, antenna broke off, 5:00pm to 7:00am, Open. 7/26 (200 #blk) Burglary, unlocked garage, 2 - GT all terra 27" Mountain bikes taken, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Open.

Nottingham Rd. (1) - 7/29 (00 #blk) Burglary 2nd, Rear window broken, Colt 45 Officers Pistol, amo, 7/12 - 7/29, Open.

Tryon Estates (1) - 8/13 (100 #blk) Crim Mischief 4th, Car window broken, 10:00pm to 7:00am, Open.

Winton Road (7) - 7/21 (200 #blk) Crim Mischief 4th, Door Window broken, 4:52am, Open. 7/22 (500 #blk) Crim Mischief 4th, Vehicle window broken, JVC radio taken, 4:00am to 8:00am, Open. 7/28 (700 #blk) Stolen Vehicle 3rd, Unlocked vehicle (\$7500 value) from parking lot, 7:55pm - 8:10pm, Open. 8/1 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, wallet/contents taken, 11:00pm, Open. 8/3 (200 #blk) Burglary 2nd, Forced rear window, 40 CD's, leather cymbal bag, 2:45pm to 3:00pm, Open. 8/9 (100 #blk) Crim Mischief 4th, car damaged, 9:00pm to 10:30pm, Open. 8/20 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, various item taken (\$50), 10:30am to 00:13am, Arrest.

September 1 - 28, 2000

Bobrich Drive (1) - 9/16 (00 #blk) Grand Larceny 4th, unlocked front door, wallet, debit card, csh, ID, 11:30pm, Open.

Winton Road (5) - 9/2 (500 #blk) Petit Larceny, Beer taken, 11:30pm, Arrest. 9/4 (200 #blk) Petit Larceny, unlocked area, Giant Upland Blue Mountain Bike, 11:30am, Open. 9/6 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, Wallet w/cask, food stamps, 10:30am, Open. 9/13 (700 #blk) Stolen Veh 3rd, EWOB side door, 7:00pm to 4:00pm (14th), Open. 9/17 (100 #blk) Petit Larceny, Unlocked car, Sony cell phone, 10:00pm - 12:00am, Open.

Beautification

We hope neighbors enjoyed the flowers in the Rose Garden this summer. We had a good growing season with all the rain. It is always a big job keeping up with the weeds and watering!

Fall cleanup was scheduled for Saturday, October 28. It is at this time that the roses are pruned one final time for the winter and the annuals are cleaned up in the circular flower bed. We hope everyone noticed the bright yellow mums planted in September to help extend the season.

We would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers who donate their time and hard work to the garden for the benefit of the whole neighborhood. They are: Marg Hartman (Corwin Rd.), Laura Viau (Elmcroft Rd.), Robert Nowak and Kathleen Tesar (Croydon Rd.), Mary Ann Evans (Croydon Rd.), Doug Anderson (Dorchester Rd.), Bob Kern and Patty Rodier (Windemere Rd.), Kathy Flynn, Sue Chase, Jeremy and Jennifer Cummings, Margaret Richter, Lynn Carpenter, and Joyce DeBlieck (all of Quentin Rd.), Joan Saab (Browncroft), MaryAnn Fiorino (Browncroft), Jeannie Loysen (Lanark Crescent), Peter Polfleit (Newcastle Rd.), Rosemarie Hattman (Dorchester Rd.), Kim Wilson (Merchants Rd.), and Carol Mercurio.

General Election Tuesday, November 7

Monroe County has over 410,000 registered voters who are eligible to participate in this year's General Election. A record turnout is expected due to the high profile races of President and U.S. Senate.

Polls will be open on Election Day from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Registered voters needing polling site or other information may call the Board of Elections at 428-4550.

It's Your Right to Vote

Peter M. Quinn

Officers

President - David Adasiak 288-7726
Vice President - Peter Polfleit 654-5325
Treasurer - Mary Ann Evans
Secretary - Jane Bercse

District Reps

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

Committee Chairs

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