



Browncroft Crier

NEWSLETTER OF THE BROWNCROFT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SINCE 1973-VOLUME #136

P.O. Box 10127 Rochester New York 14610

JULY 2004

Summer Fun The BNA Family Picnic



Rain or Shine.
Join your neighbors and friends
Wednesday evening
August 4th
starting at 5:30
at Spruce Shelter
in Ellison Park.

(see map on page 4)

**BNA will provide charcoal fires for grilling,
hot dogs and rolls, condiments, cold drinks and marshmallows.**

**Bring a dish to pass and your own dishes and
silverware for your family.**

**If this year is anything like the past we will have plenty of delicious food
for everyone.**

**Special Guest will be Robert Englert from the State Department of Parks
Recreation and Historic Preservation, to present testimonials to the neighborhood
residents who actively participated in getting Browncroft listed on the National
Register of Historic Places.**

**Call Henry Viau at 482-9177 by July 27th
to RSVP to help us plan!**

The BNA Annual Meeting

On May th neighbors old and new attended the BNA 30th annual membership meeting at the Browncroft Baptist Church. After committee reports and a brief annual report was given by David Kaiser, President, nominations were made for officers for the coming year.

The following officers for 2004-2005 were elected by unanimous proclamation: President, Henry Viau, Elmcroft Road; Vice President, Terri Quinn, Corwin Road; Treasurer, Robert Phelps, Croydon Road; and Secretary, Jessica Pritchard, Windemere Road.

Sharon Bloemendaal presented the Browncroft History Slide Show.

President's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, I'm Henry Viau and have lived in the Browncroft neighborhood for about 17 years on Elmcroft Road.

Many of you might have seen me out walking around the neighborhood with my 18 month old daughter. As I walk through the neighborhood, I am trying to meet as many of the residents that I am able to.

I can't express enough how important it is to get input from our residents, as to their concerns. Doing this will help keep our neighborhood one of the more prestigious neighborhoods in the city.

To express your concerns you can attend one of our monthly meetings, which are held at the Winton Road library the second Tuesday of every month. Another way is to write us at P.O. Box 10127 Rochester N.Y. 14610.

I would like to thank all of the residents that work diligently to keep our neighborhood gardens and flower pots looking their best, also the whole Browncroft neighborhood for keeping their yards and homes looking their best.

BNA Officers

Henry Viau, President: Henry lives at 155 Elmcroft Road with his wife Laura, who is an active member of the Beautification Committee, and his daughter Valerie. Henry is enthusiastic about fostering communication in the neighborhood, and encouraging participation in BNA. In this way, he feels preservation of this wonderful city neighborhood will be ensured.

Terri Quinn, Vice President: Terry lives at 225 Corwin Road with her husband Peter and their two children, Connor, 14, and Kelley, 12. Terry says "I feel this neighborhood offers the best of city living all rolled into one beautiful and friendly community."

Robert Phelps, Treasurer: Rob lives on Croydon Road with his wife Karen and their two cats. They previously lived in Greece until June 2001 when they moved to Browncroft. He says they truly love the neighborhood.

He is a full time fire fighter with the North Greece Fire District. He graduated in 1995 from SUNY Brockport with a bachelor's degree in accounting and runs a part-time tax and bookkeeping business. He has also earned an associate's degree in fire protection technology from MCC.

Jessica Pritchard, Secretary: Jessica moved into her home at 145 Windemere Road one year ago with her husband, Rick Bruno, and five year old son, Todd. She quickly became a committed and energetic BNA worker who loves the neighborhood. She is pursuing a home decorating career.

POINT OF VIEW...

LIVING LANDMARKS

Viewing the Browncroft History Slide Presentation at the annual meeting always serves as a reminder of the legacy we are living in Browncroft of one man's vision to provide a total idyllic residential environment for families buying lots from his nursery land.

Charles Brown must have had a great love of nature and horticulture, trees and flowers, gardens and architecture — a love which manifested in his planning and landscaping of 11 streets in a new subdivision. He wanted a unified landscape design, intended to create "a park-like setting" in which to construct architecturally juried homes for 300 acres of individually owned residential lots.

Other streets in Rochester had landscaped public rights-of-way, such as Seneca Parkway, Lakeview Park, Arnold Park, Oxford Street, and Nunda Boulevard. But an entire subdivision of 11 streets uniformly planted with large shade trees, evergreen trees, flowering ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and bulbs was unprecedented in 1914, and remains so today.

The overall plan was a straight line of large shade trees to the inside of the sidewalk, leaving the tree lawns between the sidewalk and street for flowering trees and shrubs, such as magnolia, lilac, spirea, forsythia, viburnum, arborvitae, keria, and others. Street light poles were wrapped in wysteria.

Much of the original landscape plan can still be discerned and enjoyed today, particularly on Dorchester, Windemere, Corwin and Newcastle. However, much has been lost from natural attrition and, unfortunately, individual homeowner removal.

Brown Brothers Nursery did the mowing and gardening for the tree

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RPD Reorganization and BNA

GOODBYE GOODMAN SECTION!

Long live PSA 26 and PSA 29! These 2 Patrol Service Areas (PSA) have replaced the Rochester Police Department's decades old Goodman Section operating out of Waring Road Plaza that served our neighborhood.

The Browncroft Neighborhood falls entirely within the new PSA 29. All 10 of the Eastside PSA's now reside at 30 Hart Street under a single Eastside Commander, Commander Sheppard. They will move to the existing "Clinton Section Office" after expansion. There will be 1 Captain for each of the day's 4 platoons. Our Ex-Goodman Section Captain, Capt. Sturnick, will be the Eastside Executive Captain over the Platoon Captains.

The NET offices will continue to provide on-site linkage with specific neighborhoods. Our PAC-TAC volunteers will see little change in structure as we operate as before out of the NET Sector 8 office on Webster Avenue under the same NET Lieutenant, Eric Paul.

Our Crime Prevention Officer continues to be Officer Melissa Frasca. Bob Genthner, BNA Crime Prevention Committee, will continue attending the monthly "Police Citizens Interaction Committee" (PCIC), to provide information and feedback on BNA concerns and neighborhood problems.

Bob also serves as Scheduling Coordinator for 21 PAC-TACers serving our immediate area of PSA 29 and with 11 of them patrolling within the BNA neighborhood.

If you wish to join PAC-TAC, have issues, concerns, or questions please call Bob Genthner (482-2441).

POINT of VIEW

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lawns from 1914 to the 1930's. After the depression, the City of Rochester took care of these public strips, until the 1950's when it became the responsibility of the individual property owners to maintain the tree lawns and sidewalks in front of their house. The fifties and sixties were eras of streamlining and modernizing, when old street lights were updated, woodwork painted, and clusters of lilacs, viburnum, and spirea bushes hacked down.

It is hoped that Browncroft residents today, whether new or old, who happen to have a vestige of our historic landscape in front of their house, will appreciate that it is part of our neighborhood's historic significance and charm; and that they will become stewards of this legacy for future generations of neighbors to enjoy.

Cassy Petsos

WINTON BRANCH LIBRARY REPORTS...

Summer Reading Clubs for Children, Teens, Adults: Beginning July 6, the library will have summer reading clubs for all age groups. Win prizes while you read! The reading club is an excellent way for students to maintain their reading skills during the summer.

The library will also be hosting a variety of programs for children and teens. Stop in and pick up a copy of the summer flyer.

Due to budget cuts, the library will be open fewer hours beginning on July 1.

New hours are:

Monday and Wednesday, 2 - 9 PM
Tuesday and Friday, 10 AM - 6 PM
Thursday, 1 PM - 7 PM
Saturdays, Closed in the Summer;
Labor Day - May, 12 PM - 4 PM

Speaking of Crime ...

DON'T BE A SUMMERTIME SCOFLOW!

Observe the "Rules of Refuse" !

Yard debris should not be placed at the curb on the weekend, when the yard work is done. Like other garbage, it is to remain behind your house until the night before refuse pickup. Landscape contractors should be instructed not to place anything at the curb, either unless it is the day before pickup. Besides being mandated by city code, refraining from leaving ugly piles of debris or plastic bags and garbage pales in the public right-of-way is the considerate way to behave toward neighbors and neighborhood. No one wants to look at these unsightly objects littering our tree lawns for four days out of seven.

Grass clippings and mud slicks should not be left on the public sidewalks. They are a hazard, particularly when wet, to pedestrians. Did you know that homeowners are liable, not the City, for accidents that occur on the sidewalk in front of their property? Regardless of the liability factor, their is the untidy factor, too.

Dog walkers, please! Your pet's feces are not only unlawful, they are unsanitary and unpleasant.

Obeying city codes are just another way of being good civilized members of society, and good neighbors.

Volunteers Needed for:

BNA Picnic Planning
Newsletter
Browncroft Rose Garden work
History Committee-Marker restoration and landscape preservation
Street Light Issue

Call 288-0955 and leave a message

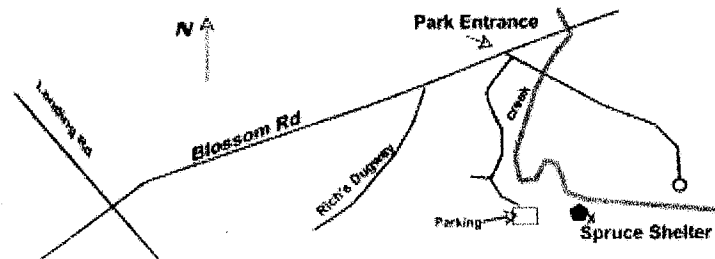
Be involved!

BROWNCROFT ROSE GARDEN

Ongoing care by BNA volunteers of the rose and flower beds in the Browncroft Rose Garden at Merchants Road and Browncroft Boulevard may become a thing of the past due to the dwindling number of neighborhood volunteers.

This year, thanks to the work of Beautification Committee workers Laura Viau (Elmcroft), Mary Ann and Mark Evans (Croydon Road), Kathy Flynn (Quentin Road), Joyce DeBlick (Quentin Road), Lynn Carpenter (Quentin Road), Doug Anderson (Dorchester Road) and Cassy Petsos (Browncroft Blvd.) spring clean up in April and annual bed planting in June proceeded. Thank you from BNA for your loyal hard work.

BNA Picnic location - August 4th, Spruce Shelter



Thank you also to Suzie Frohm of Pittsford for donating variegated hosta plants from her garden to the Rose Garden. They were used to ring the evergreens in the annual bed as a solution to our problem of growing both shade and sun surviving plants around all four compass directions of this circular bed. They also will make yearly annual planting either unnecessary or much less work.

Residents wishing to see the cultivation of floral displays continue in the Browncroft Rose Garden should contact Cassy Petsos at 288-0955 to volunteer for gardening detail or to work on establishing a care and embellishment district such as those on Nunda Boulevard, Oxford Street, and Hillside Avenue.