



Bensonhurst rocks!

We asked for donations for a needy family and you responded! MANY, MANY thanks to all our neighbors who generously donated food, gifts, handmade quilts and even furniture for our Holiday family.

Crime Report

Lately, it has been very quiet in our neighborhood which is great, however we still need to be vigilant in watching for suspicious behavior.

Having said that, there is an older black gentleman with dreadlocks, well known to the police who is frequently seen riding his bicycle in our neighborhood. He usually is carrying all kinds of items on his handlebars that he picks up off trash piles. However, recently he has been spotted in people's back yards!

If you see him OR ANYONE in either your backyard or your neighbors that you know doesn't belong there, please call the police.

For that matter, call 911 for anything that seems suspicious to you!

Proudly Serving the Streets

of:

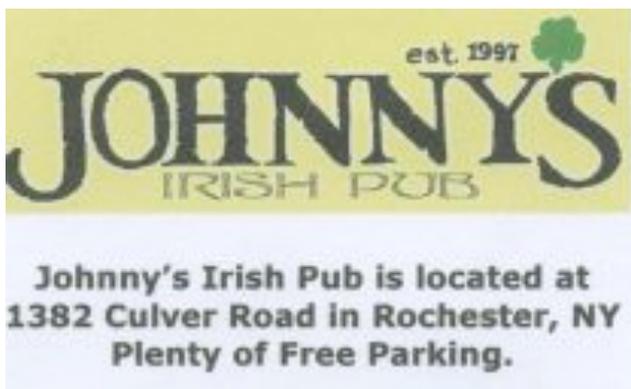
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Roseview
Longview
Salisbury
Laurelton
Lawndale
Mapledale
Pershing
Westchester

Guest speaker

Deputy Mayor Leonard Redon will be our guest speaker at the January BNA meeting. He will be available to answer any questions we have. Come meet him and bring any questions you have with you.

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Dec BNA Holiday Party

Heather welcomed those in attendance and thanked everyone for their contributions over the past year.

Approximately 25 people attended bringing with them armfuls of gifts for our holiday family which are all greatly appreciated. THANKS to everyone who donated.

Thanks to all of you, this family should have one of their best Christmases ever, especially given the rough year they just experienced.

Johnny's provided a very nice veggie tray, salad, wings and bruschetta for us which was eagerly consumed.

Our CPO's were in attendance as well as Sgt Santos who is the newest addition to the NSC office, at least until he retires in April after 32 years with the police force. Soon there will be a new Lt to replace Lt Harris who was recently promoted to Captain!



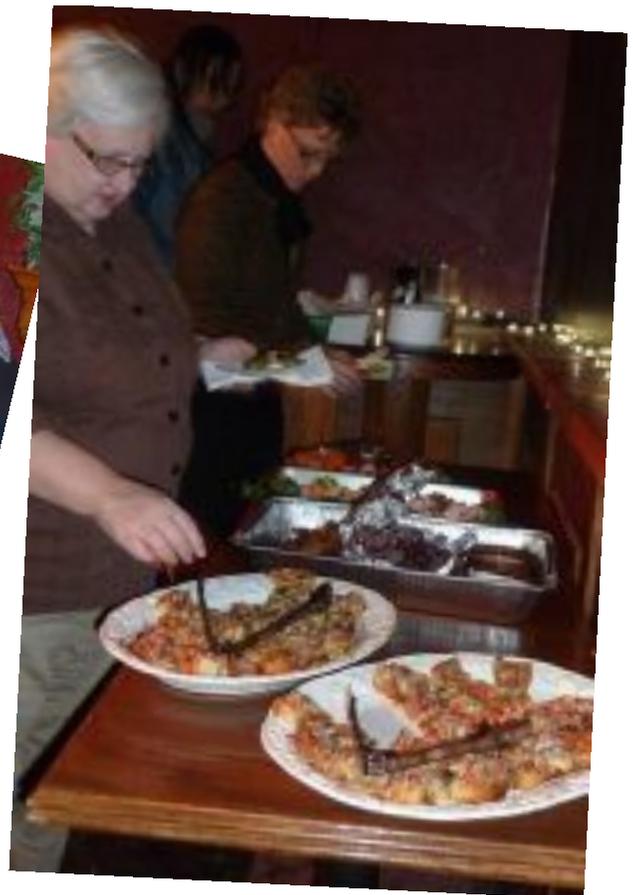
Sargent Santos and Officer Cannon

Congratulations to him. He will be missed, but we look forward to meeting his replacement.

The donated gifts were taken to our holiday family by Heather, Bobby, Karen and Bill when the girls were in school. We had 2 SUV's full including the back seat of one with gifts.



AWESOME!



The food was yummy too!
Thanks Johnny's!

Delivery Day!



Ready to go!

Dad was overwhelmed but at the same time very grateful for the neighborhood response and kept repeating how the girls would be ecstatic. He said he now had 3 hours until they came home from school to find hiding spots for the gifts.

How we wish we could be little mice watching from under the sofa on Christmas morning!

Many thanks again to all who donated. This will be a Christmas they will not forget!

Check out the pics in color on the website!



Recycling Plastics!

Start the new year right! Now that Monroe County is finally accepting plastics numbered 1-7 instead of just 1 and 2, hopefully everyone is filling their blue box! I know ours is filling up much faster now!

This now includes just about all plastics, even the wrapper from a package of carrots which is a 4!

Check your plastic bags and deli wrappers, many of which are now recyclable.

Fire Hydrants

Remember to keep fire hydrants free from snow buildup this winter. It will save time in the event of an emergency. You will appreciate it as will the firemen should the need for its use ever arise.

Flower Pots

There are still a few flower pots that need a good home for the winter before the sidewalk plows have a face off with them. Please consider storing one in your garage for the winter. Some have already found homes, lets find homes for the rest of them! Thanks!

Painted traffic boxes

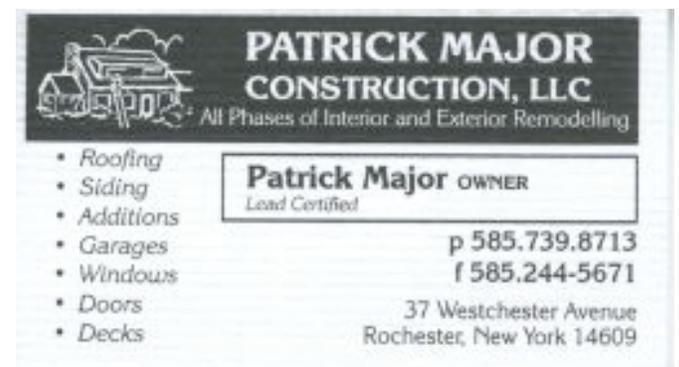
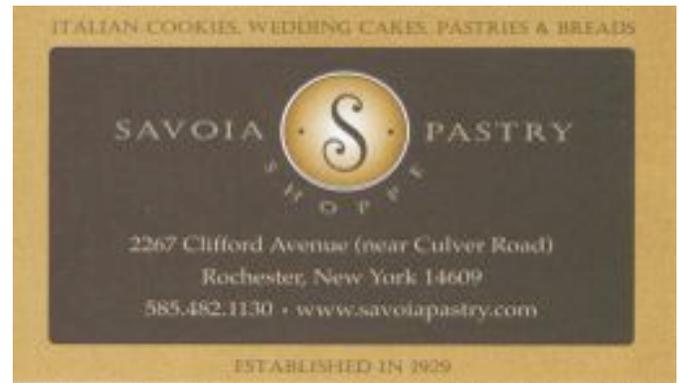
Did everyone notice the most recent painted traffic box on the SW corner of Waring Rd and Woodman Pk?

It is a beautiful picture of a bald eagle and the American flag. Quite appropriate for that corner since it is near the new veterans center.

More and more traffic boxes around the city are being painted. In our area there are painted boxes at the corner of Bay/Culver, Lyceum/Clifford, Parsells/Culver and Bay/Webster.

Hopefully they all will be painted soon. The hope is that having them painted not only looks good but curtails graffiti.

Unfortunately it doesn't always work, the box on the corner of Webster Ave and Goodman St already has graffiti on it's newly painted box.



Crime Map

Don't forget to check the crime reports map for the latest info on crimes in our area. This is an awesome tool for keeping track of what is happening in our neighborhood. We live in a great area and want to keep it that way. The link to the map is:

www.crimereports.com/

You can sort by type of crime, date of crime (updated frequently) and area.

Right now, the map looks great! Let's hope it stays that way. Our CPO's reminded us that the holiday season usually means an increase in crime city wide. So keep an eye open for anything suspicious in your neighborhood and PLEASE don't hesitate to call 911!

Newsletters Online

Just a reminder that all our newsletters this year including the current one, are archived on the BNA website. So if you want to look up something after you have tossed out the paper copy, you can find it online.

It is also very simple to access ad websites from the on line newsletters as well, should you want to do business with any of them, and this month you can check out all the great pics in color! www.bensonhurst14609.org



Email notifications

We encourage people to sign up for electronic mailings from BNA. We won't give out your addresses to other organizations and we don't send out any more notices than we need to, but it is a great way to hear about happenings between newsletters.

As an example, if a neighbor tells us of a crime that occurred, we can alert everyone so they can either take extra precautions or maybe provide RPD with information they saw or heard but otherwise may not have even known was part of a crime.

Another example is lost pets! We have had several instances where a pet was lost and then found by a neighbor who saw the note in their email. A happy ending for the pet and the owner.

To sign up for the email notices, contact BNA.

PACTAC

This year the sector 8 group of PACTAC (which includes our area) logged over 600 volunteer hours of service this year. This is more than ALL the other PACTAC groups in the city combined!

How about making a New Year's Resolution this year to benefit your neighborhood? Volunteer as a PACTAC member.

It's easy.... after a short training course and a few hours of walking with an experienced PACTAC group, you get to pick when and where you want to go out and you are never required to walk a set number of hours or days.

PACTAC does make this a safer neighborhood. Consider joining this year. Contact the Neighborhood Service Center (NSC) for more information.



BENSONHURST – A COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS!

Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:
585-234-1535

BNA Email:
bensonhurstNA@excite.com

BNA address:
PO Box 90411
Rochester, NY 14609

BNA website:
www.bensonhurst14609.org

Neighborhood Service Center (NSC)
585-428-7640

City Hall services - 311 non emergency
www.cityofrochester.gov

NBN and PCIC website:
<http://sites.google.com/site/nbnsector8/Home>

Crime Reports Lists
www.crimereports.com

Sex Offender site:
www.familywatchdog.us

Do Not Call List:
www.donotcall.gov
1-888-382-1222

911- Any suspicious activity or emergency

Newsletter submissions

Newsletters are published monthly and delivered prior to each meeting. The deadline for submissions is 2 weeks prior to each BNA meeting.

Send all newsletter materials to bensonhurstNA@excite.com
Pictures are also welcome.

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Paid Ad Information

The Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association will gladly publish your business card sized ad for a donation of \$50 per year. That equals a total of 12 monthly issues delivered to 700 homes, business, and government agencies. The money collected is used to help cover printing expenses as the Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association is 100 % organized by volunteers. Please use the contact information on this page for additional information. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Jan 11 – PCIC meeting

Jan 12– BNA meeting

Feb 8 – PCIC meeting

Feb 13 – BNA meeting
★NOTE NEW DATE!

Why not join us on the second Thursday of each month at our monthly meetings at 7pm at Johnny's Irish Pub 1382 Culver Road?

Meetings are located in the Red Room separate from the bar area.

There is a ramped entrance also separate from the bar.

All meetings are informal, positive & all are encouraged to participate.

BNA does not charge dues or membership fees.