



Holiday Party

We had a great time at our annual Holiday Social. In addition to about 15 neighbors we had 5 firefighters, 3 RPD officers, Elaine Spaul, Nancy from NSC and Sarah from the library. Special guests were Gerry Lyons and her daughter Barb whose husband and father our donations are now named after.... the "Lyons" Share! (see last month's newsletter for more information). As in previous years, our neighbors were extremely generous with donations. In addition to food, there was quite an assortment of toys and clothing. Extra money collected was used to buy gift cards.

Heather was unable to attend so Matt welcomed everybody and thanked our first responders and City officials for their service. Lisa presented Gerry and Barb with a proclamation declaring our holiday giving as the annual "Lyon's" share.

That was the extent of the "meeting." Now it was time to eat! Johnny's did a nice job of decorating the room and presenting the food. We had pizza, and 2 kinds of sandwiches. The ruben's went very quickly, the buffalo chicken not so much. Dessert was an awesome selection of cookies and brownies.

Donations were delivered to Kelly by Lisa, Karen and Brian few days later. She was then going to deliver them to our family before the oldest child came home from school. I trust they had an awesome Christmas... I wish I was a little mouse!

Many thanks to all our neighbors for their donations. Pictures from the party can be found on the next couple pages.

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Proudly Serving the Streets of:

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Rocket
Martinot
Roseview
Longview
Salisbury
Laurelton
Lawndale
Mapledale
Pershing
Westchester

MLK Day Skate

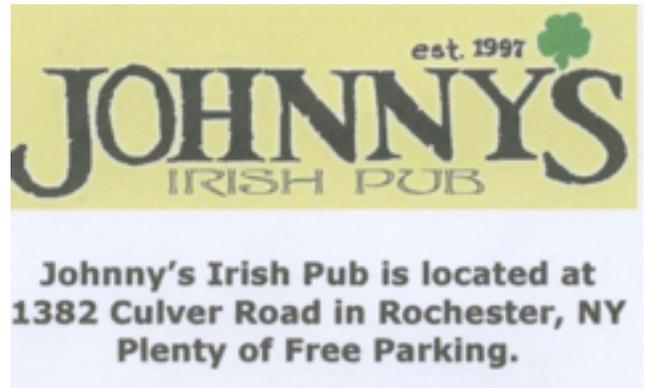
The MLK Jr ice rink is holding a free open skate on Monday, Jan 15. Hours are:

12-1:30pm
1:50-3:20pm
3:40-5:10pm

They are asking for donations of non-perishable food items.

They are also offering a free family skate on Feb 2 from 7:20-8:50pm. Skates can be rented for \$3.

Pick up a City winter/spring Recreation booklet from your local library or NSC. You will find all kinds of activities and programs, many free offered by the City.



Check the City website for other MLK Jr day activities on Jan 15. At the time of this printing, we were unable to find specific activities for the day although there are events planned.

Adopt a Hydrant

Last year the City started an Adopt a Hydrant program in an effort to keep fire hydrants clear from snow for quicker access during the winter. Go to the interactive site, click on a hydrant near you, adopt it and then keep it clear this winter! What a cool idea! Lets adopt ALL the fire hydrants in Bensonhurst! <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/AdoptaHydrant/>

You can adopt more than one hydrant anywhere in the city. Naturally, picking one in your own neighborhood is encouraged. If we can't adopt all the hydrants in BNA, lets be good neighbors and keep them all free of snow. We did a pretty good job last year, let's see if we can repeat it this year.

Greenlight Network

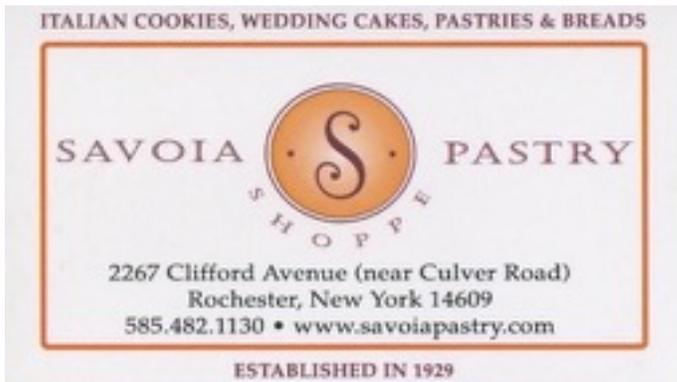
Several years ago a neighbor introduced us to Greenlight Fiber optic internet which offers fast broadband connections at lower rates than cable which is currently available in most of our suburbs along with certain parts of Rochester. Recently another neighbor has inquired about it. In order to get Greenlight in a neighborhood there has to be a high customer demand. Check out their website and request service. Encourage your neighbors to do the same and spread the word. This is the only way they will service an area. www.greenlightnetworks.com

Thanks Heather!

The usual custom when a president steps down is for the BNA board to present them with a parting gift. Heather told us she did not want a gift but the board felt since she has been either president or VP (secretary once) for 10 of the 11-12 years she has been involved with BNA, she deserved more than a handshake. The board of directors made a donation in her name to Honor Flight Rochester which she is heavily involved with. honorflightrochester.org

Composting

Are you interested in composting but not sure how to do it and don't want to mess with a compost "pile" in your backyard. There is a new service you can join. Buy a "bucket" and fill it with food scraps. Every week or biweekly (your choice), someone will come by, pick it up and leave a clean bucket. In the spring, you receive ready to use compost for your garden. For more information contact them at 643-1022 or check out their website at communitycomposting.org



Snow Plow Trax

The city has a web based map that is activated during snow events that will show where snow plows are using a GPS tracking system which updates every 5 minutes. <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/PlowTrax/>

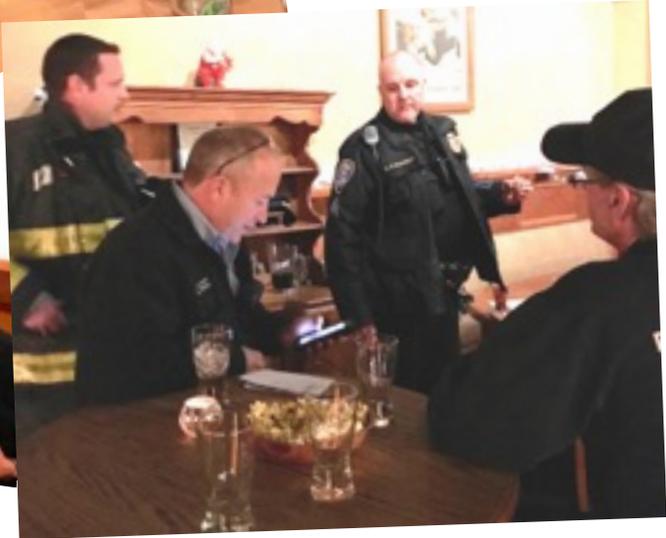
On a related note, so far the sidewalk plows SEEM to be plowing more often in keeping with the new City policy of providing better sidewalk accessibility.

Grant Writing

Is your non profit group looking to get funding for projects? Causewave Community Partners is offering a free class on grant writing Jan 10 from 10a-12noon at the downtown library in the Kate Gleason room. <http://calendar.libraryweb.org/event/3780619>



Holiday Party Pics





Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:
585-234-1535

BNA Email:
info@bensonhurst14609.org

BNA Facebook
www.facebook.com/Bensonhurst14609

BNA address:
PO Box 90411
Rochester, NY 14609

BNA website:
www.bensonhurst14609.org

Neighborhood Service Center
585-428-7640
<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/nensc/>

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

Crime Reports Lists
www.crimereports.com

Sex Offender site:
www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/

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

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

911- To report 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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Archived Newsletters

Past and current issues of the newsletters are archived on the BNA website.

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, businesses, and government agencies. Money from ads helps cover printing expenses as Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association is 100% organized by volunteers. Please use the contact information on this page for additional information. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

Jan 9– BNA meeting

Jan 10– PCIC meeting

Feb 13 - BNA meeting

Feb 14- PCIC meeting

Why not join us on the second Tuesday 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 in the rear of the building also separate from the bar.

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

BNA does not charge dues or membership fees.