

# Bensonhurst

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### News Carrier Still Needed

We are still looking for a newsletter carrier for Clifford Ave. We only deliver newsletters 4 times a year now. The next newsletters to be delivered to your doorstep will be in April. Please let Bensonhurst know if you can help. The newsletters are delivered to your home early enough to give you time to deliver them to your neighbors prior to the BNA meeting.

We may need another carrier in the spring and we can always use people for backup. Think of it as a way to get more exercise while helping out BNA!

A big thanks to all our carriers who are currently delivering newsletters as well as any who have delivered them in the past.

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### Proudly Serving the Streets of:

Bedford  
Edgeland  
Clifford  
Culver  
Rocket  
Martino  
Roseview  
Longview  
Salisbury  
Laurelton  
Lawndale  
Mapledale  
Pershing  
Westchester

### Safety note

Did you know it was illegal to leave your car running with the keys in it while unattended, even in your driveway? If your car should be stolen, besides losing your car, YOU will receive a ticket...never mind you are the victim!



### 2 Guest Speakers

We will have 2 guest speakers for our February meeting. Anne Dasilva Tella, Project Manager with Rochester's Promise Zone Initiative will be the Guest Speaker at our BNA meeting on Tuesday, February 9.

Promise Zone is a plan to revitalize some of the highest poverty areas in the city by:

- 1-creating jobs
- 2-increasing economic activity
- 3-improving educational opportunities
- 4-reducing violent crime and
- 5-improving health and access to healthcare.

Our second speaker will be Cheryl Hayward, program manager for Police and Community Relations. She will present information regarding mediation services available for conflicts for tenant, landlord, neighbors and/or businesses.

## Jan Meeting Minutes

Our first meeting of 2016 had a good showing of 11 neighbors in attendance. Since we had no meeting in December, there were no crime stats for that time period. Officer Belliard informed us that there was only one event that occurred in our neighborhood which was an attempted burglary on Lawndale in the middle of the night. The suspect somehow obtained keys to the house but was scared off when the occupants turned on a light when they heard noise. There were 2 other incidents in the 4 week time frame, in November and December, and both were just outside our boundaries.

The crime report stats for the last 4 weeks for section 205 which includes Bensonhurst as compared to last year at the same time.

	2016	2015
Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	3	1
Agg Assault	1	1
Burglary	15	9
Larceny	16	11
MV Theft	5	1

Most of the burglaries involved vacant houses and only 3 of the burglaries occurred within our boundaries. All occurred in the overnight hours and all involved cars, 2 of which were parked in driveways and the other in the street. On Bedford St money was taken along with house keys. A computer was taken from the car on Pershing Dr and a wallet was

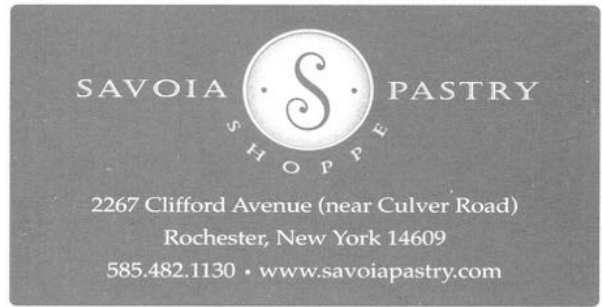
taken from the car on Longview Terr. Officer Belliard reminded everyone to always keep your car locked and never leave valuables in it.

A stolen car from Irondequoit was left at a business on Clifford Ave where they then took another car which the owner had left running while in the store. Both cars were recovered and the suspects (both minors) were apprehended soon afterwards. The vicim of the second car was given a ticket for leaving the keys in his car while the engine was on. Again Officer Belliard reminds us not to leave your cars unattended with the engines running.

We had a "surprise" guest speaker at this meeting. Marielena Velez de Brown had contacted us last week about a project she is working on for her masters degree at the U of R but wasn't sure she could attend the meeting. Her project is focused on why low income populations are not participating in Advance Care Planning and Health Care Proxy. She is attempting to meet with as many neighborhood organizations in the City as she can to present info on this topic and encourage people to fill out the paperwork. Forms can be found at doctors offices and other health related places. She left us a few booklets which will be brought to the February meeting if anyone is interested.

She informed us that of 8,000 persons surveyed only 30% of caucasians have participated in filing out their Advance Directives while only 17% of minorities have done so. Her aim is to find out why and hopefully offer solutions to get better compliance.

ITALIAN COOKIES, WEDDING CAKES, PASTRIES & BREADS



ESTABLISHED IN 1929

We have another potential guest speaker for February. Cheryl Hayward the program manager for Police and Community Relations is interested in speaking regarding mediation services available for conflicts for tenant, landlord, neighbors and/or businesses.

New business consisted mostly of brainstorming ways to get more of our neighbors to attend the monthly meetings. Suggestions included the possibility of offering food. There is ALWAYS free popcorn! There is also a separate back entrance to our meeting room for persons not comfortable with walking through the bar to reach the meeting area. We are planning on posting a short survey on either the web page or Facebook to get feedback from our neighbors regarding our meetings.

We also discussed whether there would be interest in a neighborhood garage sale weekend as we have done in the past. Again, we are planning on a survey to determine interest. Several people also expressed an interest in holding a mini clean sweep day in our neighborhood this spring.

Nancy from NSC had no news to report.

Treasurer report- We had a balance at the end of the year of \$3,536.45 with only the upcoming phone bill as an expense. We are also awaiting income from advertising renewals.

Peg and Kirk won the 50/50 raffle and donated back all but what they put in. Thanks folks!

## Fire Hydrants!

Last year our neighborhood did a great job of keeping the fire hydrants clear of snow. The goal for this year is to be the ONLY neighborhood in the entire city to have ALL our hydrants clear all winter long. Our guess is that this has never occurred before. We could be the first! Even better, lets challenge other neighborhoods to do the same!

It only takes a few minutes to dig out a hydrant and if we keep ahead of the snow, it will be even easier. The firefighters will be delighted.



## Streets for People

Streets for the People is a result of the Voice of the Citizen (VOC) program the City started a few years ago that fostered creative community-centered solutions to public safety concerns within our city neighborhoods.

Calmer traffic and slower speed limits along neighborhood streets significantly lower the number and severity of crashes, and provide other benefits that impact the quality of daily life — such as increased home values, healthier citizens, more vibrant neighborhoods and better air quality. Traffic safety impacts all people who live, work, play and commute in and around our streets.

You can be part of traffic calming:  
<http://calmroctraffic.com/pace-car-pledge/>



## 25mph Speed Limit?

A while back a grassroots movement which started in NYC made it's way to Rochester to lower City speed limits to 25mph. It has since been put on hold. There does however seem to be momentum to have NYS law revised so local municipalities would be allowed to set their speed limits to 25mph.

Studies have proven that pedestrians or bicyclists who are hit at 25mph have a significantly better chance for survival than when hit at 30mph! It also goes without saying that it would result in less damage to your vehicle when you collide with another vehicle.

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## City Snow Removal Policy

Remember to keep your sidewalks clear of snow this winter to avoid a ticket from the City. They are going to be vigilant in enforcing the city code which requires homeowners and businesses to keep the sidewalks in front of their properties clear of snow. Now all we need is some snow!



**Rochester Community  
Animal Clinic**  
A Member of the MVA Family

**Walk-In Wellness Hours**  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 2-7 p.m.  
Saturday: 12-7 p.m.

**Spay/Neuter Surgeries by Appointment Only**

985 Bay Street, Rochester, NY 14609  
(585) 288-0800 • [rochestercommunityanimalclinic.com](http://rochestercommunityanimalclinic.com)



**Ray Ray's  
Bar and Grill**  
2260 Clifford Ave.  
Rochester NY 14609  
585-413-1661

**Important Contact Information**

BNA Voicemail:  
585-234-1535

BNA Email: **NEW!!!!**  
[info@bensonhurst14609.org](mailto:info@bensonhurst14609.org)

BNA Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/Bensonhurst14609](http://www.facebook.com/Bensonhurst14609)

BNA address:  
PO Box 90411  
Rochester, NY 14609

BNA website:  
[www.bensonhurst14609.org](http://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](http://www.crimereports.com)

Sex Offender site:  
[www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/](http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/)

Do Not Call List:  
[www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov)  
1-888-382-1222

City Hall services - 311 non emergency  
[www.cityofrochester.gov](http://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](mailto:bensonhurstNA@excite.com)  
Pictures are also welcome.

		F	E	B		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

		M	A	R		
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**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, 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**

**Feb 9 – BNA meeting**

**Feb 10 – PCIC meeting**

**Mar 8 - BNA meeting**

**Mar 9 - 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.**