

Bensonhurst

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Library Highlights

Almost everything we do these days is via email whether it is applying for a job, buying tickets to an event or simply filling out a survey. Sully is holding a class on Wed, Feb 28 from 11:30a to 12:30p to help you set up email on your computer. The class will help you create your own email that you can use on any connected computer or phone.

At the Winton Library a band of HS students will be performing a rock and roll concert on Wed, Feb 21 at 3pm.

The library unveiled its new logo last year. Very nice!

And last but not least, Sully librarian Tim Ryan was one of 10 chosen nationally for the "I love my Librarian" award. He was nominated by a single mom who he was instrumental in finding her housing, financial and medical assistance along with helping with computer skills and finding a job. Congratulations to him! Nice job!



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Proudly Serving the Streets of:

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Roseview
Longview
Salisbury
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Pershing
Westchester



City Solar Field

The City has installed almost 8,000 solar panels on the old Emerson St landfill site that will produce enough power to help power City Hall and the Operations Center. The project received funding from the Governor's NY Sun Initiative and is a major step towards the City's



commitment to 100% clean energy. They are also looking into options for a Community Choice Aggregation program. More info can be found at www.cityofrochester.gov/energyandsustainability.

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/> Currently on 9 of the approximately 75 hydrants in Bensonhurst have been adopted. We can do better!

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 at least keep them all free of snow.



Happy Hydrant!



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

Greenlight Network

A few years ago a neighbor told us about Greenlight fiber optic internet which offers fast broadband connections at lower rates than cable and is currently available in most of our suburbs along with certain parts of Rochester. Recently another neighbor has inquired about it and just the other day a flyer was left on our door encouraging us to sign up for it.

Greenlight has created a service district called "Rochester Waldo" shown in the accompanying image. Greenlight was unaware that "Waldo" does not reflect the boundaries of the Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association (BNA) and they were advised that BNA could help promote greater interest in the district if the "Waldo" service area was reconfigured to align with our NA boundaries. Interestingly, they actually encourage Neighborhood Associations to promote their service.

In order to get Greenlight in an area there has to be a high customer demand. If enough neighbors call them and mention they are BNA residents, we can hope they might reconfigure "Rochester

Waldo" to align with the Bensonhurst NA boundaries which are Culver, Clifford, Pershing, and Bay streets. Check out their website and request service as a Bensonhurst NA resident. CALL THEM and explain you are a BNA resident. Encourage your neighbors to do the same and spread the word. The only way they will service an area is if they get enough buy-in residents within a district.

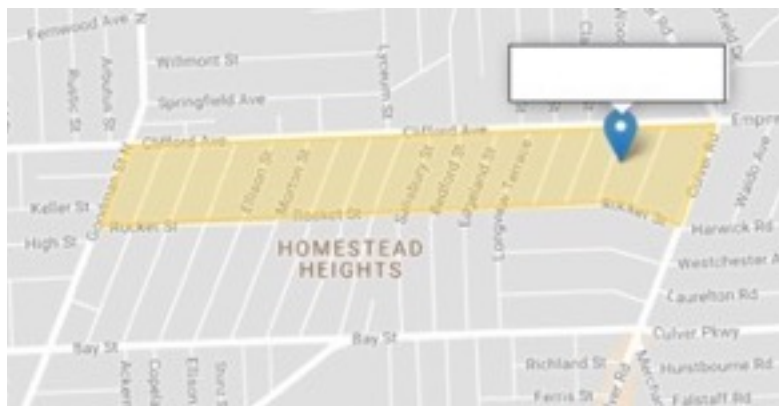
www.greenlightnetworks.com

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.



Jan Meeting Minutes

Lisa conducted her first meeting since being elected President. We decided we didn't need to do around the room introductions since we all knew each other. Andy from the Mayor's office, Sarah from the library and Officer Cannon were in attendance with Nancy from NSC coming in later. We hoped the firefighters who are usually in attendance were safe if they were out fighting a fire.

Officer Cannon did not give out crime stats for the last month since there were none in our neighborhood! That is awesome! We live in a great place.

Sarah from the library told us that a single mom nominated Tim, a librarian at the Sully Branch for a national award for helping her and her son out. He won the award, \$5,000 and a trip to NYC. Only 10 people nationwide are given the award every year. Congratulations to him. She also told us that Feb 3 is I love my library day.

Treasurer's Report. \$5,071.19 is our balance. Peg said money collected at the holiday party paid for about half the food. Overall, most thought the event was a success. Bensonhurst as usual showed their generosity once again. We will be adjusting the menu next to include more options for vegetarians.

Ideas were discussed as to how to attract new neighbors to our group, such as holding an outreach program with RPD going door to door to talk to neighbors, a block party, garage sale or some other activity. We also discussed ways of informing new neighbors of our group, maybe handing out flyers to realtors selling houses in our area to give to prospective homeowners or maybe a small gift to new residents when they attend their first meeting? Suggestions welcome.

Since we don't charge dues, ways to raise money were discussed, perhaps a raffle of some sort.

We also asked for suggestions for speakers. Hopefully in March someone from the City will be on hand conducting a survey for the Comprehensive Plan for Rochester 2034. They are looking for input from residents.

<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/comprehensiveplan/>

Flower pots and watering ideas were discussed as well as how to handle watering the center of the traffic circle that will be put in at Pershing Dr and Rocket St should we put in flowers.



EYE APPEAL
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Dr. Jaime Kenny
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1524 CULVER ROAD
ROCHESTER, NY 14609
(585) 288-7555
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Nancy told us this years City Clean Sweep will be Saturday, May 5th. The 50/50 raffle was won by Peg who donated the money back minus her investment. Thanks Peg!

Mural

If you haven't seen it yet, check out this fantastic colorful mural on the south wall of Johnny's in the parking lot between Culver and Merchants Rd. It was the brain child of Shawn Dunwoody, local artist and community activist. Neighbors of all ages spent 2 afternoons helping paint it, some of whom were from Bensonhurst. Nice work everyone!



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

Feb 13– BNA meeting

Feb 14– PCIC meeting

Mar 13 - BNA meeting

Mar 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.