



BNA meetings on Tuesdays!

Changing our meeting day to the second Tuesday of the month might have been a good move! We had a great attendance for our first Tuesday meeting AND didn't have to compete with a band since the group doesn't start playing until 8pm on Tuesday's. Tuesday's are also much quieter overall at Johnny's.

Hopefully this attendance trend will continue! These meetings are YOUR meetings. If there is a topic you would like addressed or speaker that you would like to see attend, please let us know.

Newsletters Online

Just a reminder, not only is the current issue of this newsletter archived on line on the BNA website but also all past newsletters, starting with January 2011. So if you want to look up something after you have tossed out the paper copy, you can find it on the BNA website. www.bensonhurst14609.org

Proudly Serving the Streets of:

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

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Construction update

Construction will resume on Culver Rd. on April 2, earlier if weather permits. At that time, traffic will again be oneway southbound. The project is expected to be completed in August.

Fire Hydrants

It has been a mild winter so far, but once the snow starts falling, remember to keep those fire hydrants free from snow! We hope they are never needed but the fire department will thank you if they are!

The logo for Johnny's Irish Pub. It features the word "JOHNNYS" in a large, stylized, serif font. Above it, "est. 1997" is written in a smaller font, and a green shamrock is positioned to the right. Below "JOHNNYS", the words "IRISH PUB" are written in a smaller, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a light green background.

**Johnny's Irish Pub is located at
1382 Culver Road in Rochester, NY
Plenty of Free Parking.**

The logo for Toshiba Business Solutions. It features the word "TOSHIBA" in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Below it, "Leading Innovation >>>" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white background with a red horizontal line below it.

Joseph C. Refici
Account Executive

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February Meeting Minutes

Heather welcomed approximately 15 neighbors. Self introductions around the room. No guests were invited due to the change from Thurs. to Tues. meeting dates.

The safety report was given by Officer Brian Cannon

- The RPD commander has redeployed and increased officers to 6 working the 11:00 am – 7:00 pm shift for PSA 26 & 29 districts.
- Four gun arrests made in PSA 26
- There was an attempted burglary on Salisbury Street by using a garbage tote to climb into a window.

TIP: Keep garbage totes out of sight/in garage/behind fence

- Safety training opportunity Feb. 29 through the Homeland Citizen Preparedness Program
- Crime Statistics for district PSA 26 encompasses the Culver/Goodman/Norton areas

Crimes Year to Date

	1/2011	1/2012
Murders	0	0
Robberies	6	1
Aggravated Assault	1	6
(600 block of Bay St. west of Goodman, 4 arrested)		
Larcenies	11	21
Motor Vehicle Thefts	1	3
Burglaries	15	23

Treasurers report: Approximately \$1,300

Neighborhood Beautification: Call or email BNA if you have the 2 flower pots that were on the corner of Rocket and Longview.

PAC TAC: Nothing to report, a quiet month.

New business:

- Citgo Station at 2179 Clifford was cited by an undercover informant selling alcohol to minors
- Officers followed up on a 2:00 am fight at Merchants Grill between 6 to 7 male and females and the bouncer
- Renovation of Culver will start back up as weather permits

Snow removal

Just a reminder, should we ever get snow this winter that it is against city code to push snow from the driveway into the street! You might want to remind your contractor of this. Along the same lines, it is also against city code to obstruct the sidewalk with snow when shoveling or plowing.

The code for this is found in Chapter 104, Article 1, Section 11D of the city code book found on the city's website www.ecode360.com/8678574#8678621

Links to safety information

In response to the recent suspicious activities in our neighborhood we have several informative flyers from our CPO's about how to stay safe.

.....for the article on Energy Service Solicitors going door to door asking to see your RG&E bill:

http://bensohurst14609.org/documents/esco_d-to-d.pdf

.....for the article on how to deal with the scam artist:

<http://bensohurst14609.org/documents/scam-artists.pdf>

.....and for the lifespan alert (protecting yourself and your money):

<http://bensohurst14609.org/documents/lifespan-scams>

These all have very good information essential for keeping you safe. Please read them and share with others. If you have any other concerns, contact your neighborhood service center (NSC).




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Neighborhood Crime Reports

Here are just a few of the events that your neighbors told us about at the last meeting that have happened in our area.

Incident #1- A neighbor reported three young black males wearing hoodies with (unidentified) ID badges rang her doorbell and asked her if she paid her utility bills on line and if so, did she use a laptop or desktop computer!

There are several red flags here.....#1- 3 young people wearing hoodies?, a real surveyor would have no doubt at least been in somewhat dressier attire. #2- there would only have been one person (two at best) #3- suspicious questions #4- the type of computer you use to pay bills has no effect on how they get paid. They were no doubt looking to see what they could easily walk off with when they broke in at a later date!

Moral of the story..... if it doesn't seem right, **call 911!** Don't open your door to strangers and never give out personal information. Our CPO is looking into this incident and has information regarding how to handle door to door occurrences...the link to this info can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Incident #2- A neighbor reported a 30 something year old white male offering to shovel the drive. He was hired and we were told he did a great job HOWEVER he then asked for a \$40 advance to shovel the drive for the entire month of February saying he needed the money now. Then he asked for a ride to a relatives house.

We want to point out that not everyone who offers to do household chores has evil intentions, but there are some red flags here too..... Red flag #1- asking for money in advance, you may never see this person again #2, asking for a ride.... remember this is a stranger!

Moral of this story..... (provided by our CPO) if you are going to pay for services performed, pay for them outside your house. If you are home alone, consider whether you even want to engage in this transaction and lastly, NEVER give a ride to a stranger.

In this case he was asking an older female to take him to an rather "seedy" neighborhood. This could have ended very badly, luckily everything turned out ok and the only thing lost was a bit of money. Technically he didn't break any laws but it is a bit suspicious.

Incident #3- There was an attempted break in on Salisbury St. Our CPO tells us someone used a garbage tote under a window to stand on at the rear of a house. They managed to break the window but for whatever reason did not enter the house. This was a very close call.

Moral of this story- keep your garbage tote locked in your garage. This way, not only is it unavailable to use as a ladder but it is not available to "tote" your possessions away in!and again call 911 if you see anything suspicious.

And continue to keep your eyes open for the black open bed Chevy pickup truck with the partial license plate of FBS slowly cruising the streets looking at houses.

We have a great neighborhood, lets keep it that way!.....

EYE APPEAL
MASTERS IN VISION LLC

DR. JAIME KENNY
OPTOMETRIST

1524 CULVER ROAD
ROCHESTER, NY 14609
(585) 288-7555

<http://eyecareofrochester.com>

BBB

EYE EXAMS
GLASSES
CONTACT LENSES

.....AND just before going to press, we learned of an attempted break in on Longview Terr. and a car break in on Cliffmor (which is one street west of Pershing). In the incident on Longview, it appears the house alarm scared them off.

Keep your eyes out for suspicious activity and we can't stress this enough, call 911 if it doesn't seem right.

Clarification

Our CPO gives us monthly crime stats for PSA 26 and when you first hear them, you think things are horrible. But as he pointed out PSA 26 is a huge area, way more than just Bensonhurst.

When you look at the numbers in just our immediate neighborhood, we need not be discouraged, things look good.

This however does NOT mean we no longer have to be vigilant about watching and reporting suspicious activity. This is an ongoing need. Neighbors have been calling in suspicious activities and arrests have been made. Keep up the good work.

The police have also stepped up efforts to be proactive toward crime in ALL neighborhoods.

ITALIAN COOKIES, WEDDING CAKES, PASTRIES & BREADS

SAVOIA PASTRY
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BENSONHURST – A COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS!

Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:
585-234-1535

BNA Email:
bensohurstNA@excite.com

BNA address:
PO Box 90411
Rochester, NY 14609

BNA website:
www.bensohurst14609.org

Neighborhood Service Center
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
bensohurstNA@excite.com
Pictures are also welcome.

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

		A	P	R		
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29	30					

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

Mar 13 – BNA meeting
★ now on Tuesdays!

Mar 14– PCIC meeting

Apr 10– BNA meeting
★ now on Tuesdays!

Apr 11 – 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 also separate from the bar.

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

BNA does not charge dues or membership fees.