

Bensonhurst

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

News Carrier Still Needed

We are still looking for a newsletter carrier for Clifford Ave. We only deliver newsletters four 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:

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

Pizza Delivery Robbery

You may have heard a helicopter hovering in our area for about a half hour last month. There was a pizza delivery person robbed on Hartwick Rd just east of Culver Rd and they were using a NYS chopper to search for the suspect. These people working alone and after dark are easy targets for thieves. You can help them out! If you order pizza, chinese or any other food that is delivered to your house, keep a watch for them to pull up to your house and then continue to watch until they get back in their car and leave. If you see them delivering food to any of your neighbors, again watch to make sure they are safely in their vehicle before turning away.

Thanks Neighbors

Many thanks to ALL the neighbors seen helping other neighbors dig out their driveways or help cars stuck in the snow a few weeks ago. A special thanks to our neighbor Matt who, after we helped him get out of his drive (only to wind up pulling back in when he couldn't get down the street) for paying it forward to another neighbor who was stuck in her driveway ... AND on his way back to his house, stopped to dig out a fire hydrant!
WAY TO GO NEIGHBORS!



est. 1997

JOHNNY'S

IRISH PUB

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

Feb Meeting Minutes

We had 11 neighbors, Officer Cannon, Nancy from NSC and 3 guest speakers. with the 3rd being a surprise. After around the room introductions, Officer Cannon gave the crime stats for the recent 4 week period for section 205 as compared to last year at the same time.

	2016	2015
Homicide	0	0
Rape	1	1
Robbery	1	4
Agg Assault	2	5
Burglary	4	1
Larceny	6	10
MV Theft	4	5

This resulted in a total of 18 events for this time period vs 26 events last year which was a 31% reduction.

Only 3 events actually happened within our boundaries. The first event on Jan 20 occurred during the daytime when 7 bottles of wine were taken from a detached garage. No sign of forced entry was found. To be safe, the owner is going to have her garage door opener code changed.

The second event was on Culver Rd around dinner time during a domestic dispute. The victim was hit with a lamp and received only minor injuries but since the suspect had a knife (considered a deadly weapon), the incident was classified as an aggravated assault.

The last incident was a robbery at the 7 Eleven store around 10pm on Feb 1. The

suspect demanded money from the cashier. The police have a good description of the suspect obtained on camera and they also have information on the vehicle he left in. The clerk was not injured during the robbery.

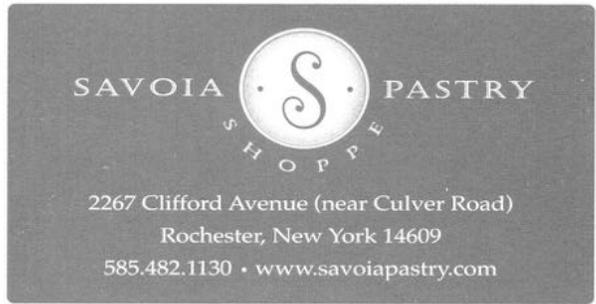
Officer Cannon told us the RPD is sending out media releases to neighborhood groups of criminal activity in not only their areas but around the city. What each group opts to share with their neighbors is totally dependent on the organization.

Next we moved to our guest speakers. First up was Cheryl Hayward, Program Manager for Police and Community Relations. (more information on page 4) The next speaker was Anne Dasilva Tella representing Rochester Promise Zone. (more info on this program on this page) Finally, Andy Rowe from the Mayor's office making rounds to various neighborhood groups with information regarding programs and events offered to residents by the City. He handed out several brochures explaining these services and events. (more info on page 5)

Nancy told us that this year's clean sweep is April 30. If we want our neighborhood to be part of it, we need to apply soon as only 20 of the 32 neighborhood groups in the city can be represented. We can also do a mini sweep in our neighborhood at anytime.

Peg reported a healthy balance of \$3,493.45 in the treasury. We also received an ad renewal from Eye Appeal. Thank you!

ITALIAN COOKIES, WEDDING CAKES, PASTRIES & BREADS



ESTABLISHED IN 1929

New business: Brian has been talking with Kyle (Beechwood president) regarding neighbors on Bay Street. To be certain that Bay Street residents don't fall through the cracks, it was decided they could belong to both groups. Karen will deliver a single page flyer to the 75 houses on Bay St inviting them to our meetings and see if anyone from Bay Street would like to come forward to help deliver newsletters on their street.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Kirk and Peg again this month. They donated all the money back to BNA! THANKS!

Rochester Promise Zone

This program is focusing on areas in the city with high rates of poverty, unemployment and crime. The good news, Bensonhurst is NOT in that group! The population of the promise zone is 85,000. Of the 38,000 housing units in this area, 47.16% are poverty level. One section alone has a 68.8% poverty level. Unemployment (age 16 and older) is running 21.6% in this area and 16% of the properties are long term vacant homes. The plan is a partnership between the City and many partners including businesses, schools and many not for profit organizations. The City is pursuing a grant from the Upstate Revitalization Initiative Plan for the Finger Lakes region. It is important the City scores this money as there is no second chance offering. We certainly hope they score big!



We Did It!

It didn't happen the day OF the storm but within 4 days, ALL of the hydrants in Bensonhurst had been dug out of deep snow! Not bad but we can do better. What if the firefighters needed to get to a hydrant near your home that was buried? They waste precious time digging it out when that few minutes might mean the difference between losing everything and just minor repairs. It could also mean they didn't get to a loved one in time because the flames were too intense by the time they could actually start fighting the fire.

Next storm (there will be another one), let's see if we can get all the hydrants cleared the day of the storm or at least by the next day!

New Store

There is a new store on the SW corner of Longview and Clifford that opened the first of March. Perry's Stop and Shop as the woman behind the counter told us, is defined as a convenience store. There are still some empty areas on the shelves as they continue to add to their inventory. They will not be selling alcohol, tobacco or lottery products but will be selling hot take out foods soon. Ice cream in the summer would be nice too! We wish them well and welcome them to the neighborhood!



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

Laurelton Neighbors

Kudos to our Laurelton neighbors who during the last big snow storm banded together to clear out their street with snowblowers before the snowplows were able to get to it. Great to see neighbors helping out neighbors.



A not very happy hydrant!



A VERY happy hydrant!

Mediation Services

Our guest speaker Cheryl Hayward from the Center for Dispute Settlement explained how their program works. They are a non profit organization specializing in a variety of alternative dispute resolution services. They are not affiliated with the police department but most people probably know them as a place to resolve disputes between the police and the community.

In addition, to working with the police and community, they can assist with many other disputes, such as child custody, divorce, and parent/child issues to name a few. Problems at work between employees and other employees or management and employees, school issues, involving issues such as bullying, ethnic or cultural issues, and neighbors, landlords and tenants ... and the list goes on.

If you have a dispute that needs a resolution, contact them at 546-5110 or check out their website at cdsadr.org.



Book Box

Attempted Mugging

A neighbor reports on Tuesday Feb 23, around 8:30pm, as he was walking down Mapledale near Rocket St, two young males wearing ski masks attacked him from behind. One had him in a choke hold while the other tried to check pockets. He managed to get away from them after falling down with one and punching the other one in the face. Thankfully he was not physically injured and the suspects were unsuccessful in their attack.

BUT ... That was not the only disturbing part of this story. Besides the assault was that when he tried to get someone to call 911, most were tentative. He stated one person refused, another answered the door but hesitated before finally making the call. PLEASE call 911 with any suspicious activity. Call if you see or even suspect someone is, or may be in distress. You don't have to give your name ...there is nothing to fear, and you will be helping someone out.



Meeting with LAUGH

Last week, Lt. Alberti invited BNA officers to a meeting with LAUGH, which is the Laurelton Road block club that formed within BNA boundaries. Officer Belliard was also in attendance with Captain Cuyler who led the meeting. The Captain encouraged the two groups to work together. After the meeting, LAUGH's President Dan Culhane met with Brian expressing interest in working with us. There were approximately 25 persons in attendance and many expressed interest in coming to our meetings and receiving our newsletters. It was a very positive meeting which will lead to better communications with LAUGH.

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) 288-0600 • rochestercommunityanimalclinic.com

City Offerings

At our last meeting Andy Rowe, a representative from the Mayors office was on hand to pass out information about things to do in and around Rochester this winter. He also told us about SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) available to low income people in Monroe County enabling them to eat healthy by providing financial assistance to buy healthy foods such as fruits and vegetables. They also work with schools and the public market.

He also handed out flyers encouraging everyone to read to their children to give them a head start in school. Several "book" boxes can be found in many neighborhoods to encourage reading.

Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:
585-234-1535

BNA Email: **NEW!!!!**
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.

		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		
					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

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. 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 8 – BNA meeting

Mar 9 – PCIC meeting

Apr 12 - BNA meeting

Apr 13 - 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.