



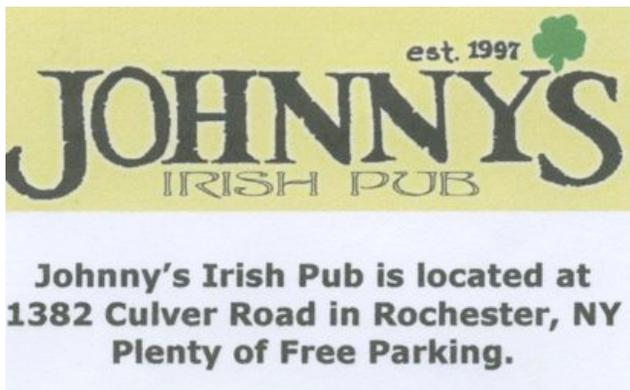
## Summer Events

BNA is looking into the feasibility of holding a garage sale, a neighborhood picnic and attending a Red Wings game during the summer months, but we need volunteers to run these events.

The garage sale could be held any weekend during the warm months, advertised as Sat/Sun, but you would have the option of participating both days or just one. A small fee of \$5 would be charged to participants to help defray advertising costs.

The picnic could be held any weekend afternoon. A "street" party involves getting a permit from the City to close off the street. If we could use a vacant lot or side yard of someone's home (with permission from the owner) we would not need a permit. In the past, we have obtained food from local businesses, but perhaps we could do a dish to pass?

The Red Wings game has been fairly well attended in the past and a lot of fun. Tickets are generally in the \$6-7 range and the night selected is usually when the game is followed by fireworks.



## Proudly Serving the Streets of:

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

If you can help out with any of these events please let us know.

## Burglaries

There was a burglary on Mapledale St between Rocket St and Clifford Ave a few weeks ago. No one was home at the time.

Another occurred on Edgeland St between Bay and Rocket St where they entered through an unlocked window. A suspect is known but at last report had not yet been apprehended.

If you hear or see anything suspicious, please call 911.

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## Reverse 911 calls from RPD

If you have a land line phone you may occasionally get a call from your local police department warning you of an increase in crimes in your neighborhood, however if you only have a cell phone, you will not get these alerts.

If you would like to sign up for this service for your cell phone, you can register your phone with <http://tinyurl.com/celj6sb>

If you would like more info on this program for Monroe County which was aired on WHEC10, go to <http://preview.tinyurl.com/bsa4ohh>

## Street Fights

On Friday April 19, a group of school children started fighting on Lawndale Terrace and Rocket Street. The police were called several times to stop the fights which continued up Lawndale Terrace towards Clifford Ave. There was some minor damage done to several properties on the southern part of Lawndale Terrace.

On Monday April 22, there was another morning fight, involving some 30 people at the north end of Lawndale Terrace. This time when RPD was called, five police cars responded, as well as an ambulance since one person had been injured.

These fights were planned in advance thanks to social media and several students were seen taking pictures of the student that was lying in the road. The student that was beaten and thrown onto the pavement was from Edison Tech. It is unknown as to why he was in our neighborhood.

Although the store at 2179 Clifford Ave was not the source of these fights, the store owner met with police officers from the service center as well as with Frederick Douglas School officials and it was decided that the school children will not be allowed to enter the store for the foreseeable future. This was decided upon by the store operators to protect his property and employees.

Our CPO will be at the next BNA meeting to give a report on what happened and the results of the meetings with the school officials. There will be time for questions at the meeting as well as time for people to voice their concerns.

## Lifespan Workshops

May is Older American Month (who knew?) so Lifespan of Rochester is offering free workshops on various topics during the month to older Americans. (I guess that means senior citizens) For more information check out their website.

<http://www.lifespan-roch.org>

## Scam Artists

'Tis the season! Summer is near and the scam artists will be back at it. The RPD offers these tips if someone comes to your door who might be trying to case your house or trick you into giving them money.

- Keep your doors locked at all times.
- Never open it to strangers without first identifying them.
- Never give a stranger cash.
- Beware of get rich quick schemes.
- Don't rush into a deal.
- Trust your instincts.
- Report all suspicious persons to 911.

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## They're Back!

Those pesky ESCO people that came around last year. You remember the ones. Very pushy, didn't want to take no for an answer. They claim they work for RG&E (but they don't) and they want to see your bill. Don't show it to them. Once they have your account number, they could change your plan without you knowing about it. Call 911 if they refuse to leave when asked.

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## Robberies

We have learned of three robberies all around midnight involving people leaving Johnnys Bar, L&M Lanes and Merchants Grill.

Patrons have been attacked by masked black males on bicycles carrying shotguns. Please be very careful when leaving these or any establishments late at night and call 911 with any suspicious activity.



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

## Craig's List Scams

Scammers have hit Craigs List. People are being robbed when they meet sellers to pick up their purchases. This is not unique to Rochester but the RPD offers these tips on how not to become a victim when either buying or selling something on this list.

- Meet the person in a "safe" area such as a bank, police station or somewhere where you know there are going to be cameras.
- Don't go alone, take someone with you
- If you are selling something, do not agree to meet at your home where they can scope out your house and belongings.
- Meet inside a bank where you can go to the teller to see if the cash is real and not counterfeit.
- And remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

This information was obtained from the WHEC10 website.

<http://www.whec.com/news/stories/S2996864.shtml?cat=566>



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## March Meeting Minutes

There were 17 neighbors at our last BNA meeting along with Officer Cannon and Councilwoman Loretta Scott.

After the around the room introductions, Loretta Scott started off the meeting by offering her views on the City's future plans. Job creation has always been her priority. She is a strong believer in neighborhoods and keeping them vital. The City has a \$28 million budget gap with rising pension costs being the biggest part of it. Property tax revenue contributes very little to closing the gap while sales tax is the largest source of revenue, both of which go directly to the school district.

She states there is hope for the City in that we have some of the best colleges around, a strong area in bio-science engineering and had over \$70 million in capital projects last year, however poverty is too pervasive. Over 25% of City residents live in poverty and states the solution for this is JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!!!

She also stated that the Pathways to Public Safety program has been very successful as are some construction training programs such as ROAR and said that \$350 million is allocated for public school improvements over the coming years.

Officer Cannon gave the crime stats from mid February to mid March as compared to last year at the same time for PSA 26 which includes Bensonhurst.

All numbers were down except for larceny which was up by 1 event.

	2013	2012
Murder	0	0
Rape	0	2
Robberies	0	3
Assault	1	7
Burglaries	11	16
Larcenies	21	20
Motor Vehicle	1	2

If you total up them up, there 50 events last year requiring police response vs 34 this year for the same time frame! A big improvement!

Having said this, there were three incidents in BNA, One, a TV was taken from a home on Bedford St. Entry was made through an unlocked window. The second incident was a vacant house on Bay St. Entry was through a basement window and copper pipes were taken. Neither of these crimes have been solved. The third incident was a grand larceny (over \$1000 taken) at the Rite Aid Drug store. The criminal was arrested in this incident.

Ken from the barber shop at 2203 Clifford Ave was at the meeting and invited neighbors to stop in and get a haircut.

Peter won the 50/50 raffle.

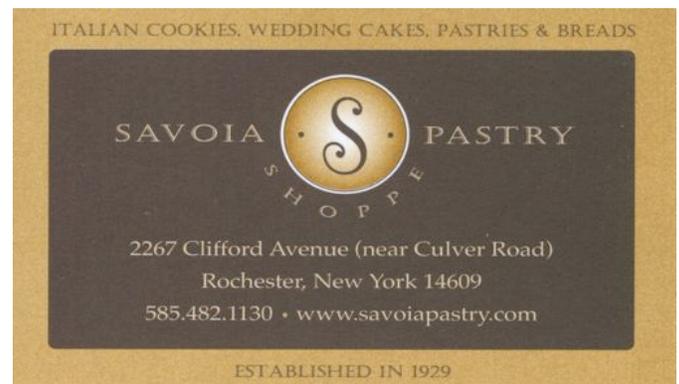
Control will not pick them up unless they are in a cage. If you let your cat outdoors and it comes up missing, you might want to call 311 to see if they have taken it in.

The good news is roaming cats will help keep the small critter population at bay.

## Ray Ray's

Ray Rays was featured in the Living section of the D&C last month. In case you missed the article, you can find the story here:

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/d7hnz3u>



## Noise Ordinance

Now that summer is approaching and more people will have their windows open and will be outdoors, please be considerate of your neighbors.

The City does have a noise ordinance. City Code Chapter 75, Article 4 found in the Code book states that between the hours of 8am-10pm sound should not be heard more than 50 ft from the property line, and between 10p-8am no further than the property line!

Sound is defined as voices, music, cars, motorized equipment such as power tools..... basically anything you can hear, even wind chimes!

Also keep in mind, your neighbors taste in music may not be the same as yours. If your neighbor is violating this code ask them to quiet down. If they do not comply, call 311.

## Stray Cats?

With warm weather on the rise, some of our neighbors have noticed more cats roaming around. The question is are they stray or someone's pet out and about?

Unlike dogs, Animal

# BENSONHURST – A COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS!

## Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:  
585-234-1535

BNA Email:  
[bensonhurstNA@excite.com](mailto:bensonhurstNA@excite.com)

BNA address:  
PO Box 90411  
Rochester, NY 14609

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

Neighborhood Service Center  
585-428-7640

City Hall services - 311  
non emergency  
[www.cityofrochester.gov](http://www.cityofrochester.gov)

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.familywatchdog.us](http://www.familywatchdog.us)

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

**911**- To report any suspicious activity  
or emergency

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## 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.

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## Archived Newsletters

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

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## 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

May 4 – Clean Sweep

May 8 – PCIC meeting

May 11 – Clean Sweep

May 14 – BNA meeting

May 18 – Clean Sweep

Jun 11– BNA meeting

Jun 12 – PCIC meeting

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**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.**