



## May Speaker

Our May speaker will be Lashundra Leslie-Smith who was originally scheduled to give her presentation on Connected Communities in March. Their goal is to break the cycle of poverty and revitalize the EMMA and Beechwood communities which are adjacent to Bensonhurst.

Connected Communities is a non profit organization of private and public collaboration of businesses, neighbors, government and non profit leaders working together with residents to accelerate community transformation.

Shared goals include mixed income housing, education, community health and wellness and long term economic viability.

We thank her for being flexible and able to reschedule.

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## BNA Mini Clean Sweep

If you can't make the City Clean Sweep you can always help out Bensonhurst! You can even do both! Our clean sweep will be Saturday, May 20. We will meet at RayRays parking lot at 10am. There is also plenty of parking on side streets as well.

We will be not only cleaning up the neighborhood but planting flowers too. Please consider joining us. Afterwards we will meet at Donuts Delite Salvatores for lunch. The NSC will provide bags and tools for our use. Hope for nice weather!

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Mapledale  
Pershing  
Westchester

## Lilac Festival

The annual Lilac festival kicks off on Friday, May 12 and runs through Sunday, May 21, with the parade on Saturday, May 13. Bring the family and enjoy entertainment, food and vendors or just walk among the lilacs enjoying their fragrance and beauty. For a complete schedule of events, check the city website. <https://www.rochesterevents.com/lilac-festival/>



## Grant application

We submitted an application for grant money for beautification projects and are awaiting the decision.

## April Meeting Minutes

Our April meeting was very brief since our guest speaker's presentation was just over an hour long. Heather started out with a few announcements, Officer Belliard told us of a couple events that occurred in our area during the last 2 months and then sent crime stats for the last 4 weeks via email.

	2016	2017
Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	0
Robbery	1	0
Agg Assault	2	2
Burglary	1	3
Larceny	7	13
MV Theft	1	1

Details of these events were not provided.

Andy from the Mayor's office passed out brochures for "Coffee with the Mayor" which was the next Saturday. He also reminded us of the Citywide Clean Sweep on Sat, May 6, the kite flying event at Charlotte beach on Sunday, May 7 and the food truck rodeos at the public market that start in May.

Sarah and her coworker from the Library reminded us to vote for our favorite library and also reminded us that in an effort to get kids to read, fines for books returned late will be waived for children and teens, however if they lose the material, they WILL have to pay to have it replaced.

Bobby won the 50/50 raffle and donated the entire winnings back minus his \$5 investment! Thanks Bobby!



## Food Truck Rodeos

The food truck rodeos have started at the public market. The last Wednesday of each month you can choose from over 30 different food trucks, then listen to some great music. Bring a chair and some friends and enjoy!

## Disaster Preparedness

Sgt Brian Bennett, member of the New York National Guard and the New York State Citizen Preparedness Corps gave his presentation at our last meeting. He offered some very valuable information. If you missed his talk, you can find information at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/7877>.

Being prepared involves 4 steps. First, develop an emergency plan at home with your family. 2- build a kit with enough supplies for 7-10 days for EACH person. 3- be aware! check [NY-ALERT.gov](http://NY-ALERT.gov) to receive emergency notifications, and 4- get involved. For more information visit [prepare.ny.gov](http://prepare.ny.gov)

## Flower Pots

We will be once again be getting flowers from the City for our flowerpots. Many thanks to our neighbors who housed some of our flowerpots over the winter. If you would be so kind as to put them back out no later than Friday, May 19. We will be planting flowers on Saturday, May 20, the same day as our mini clean sweep. If you would like to help plant, please contact us.

Once we have flowers planted, please call 911 if you see anyone vandalizing them.

## Suspicious Behavior

A couple weeks ago a neighbor called 911 when a black male in black pants and hoodie with white sneakers was seen going down Rocket St pulling on car door handles to see which ones were unlocked. This is definitely suspicious behavior. Please do not keep valuables in your car and keep your car doors locked. Thanks to the neighbor who called. Do not hesitate to call 911 with anything you feel is suspicious. Follow the rule that if you think it might be, it probably is or you wouldn't feel that way!.....CALL 911!

# EYE APPEAL

## MASTERS IN VISION LLC

**Dr. Jaime Kenny**  
Optometrist

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

[eyecarerochester.com](http://eyecarerochester.com)

EYE EXAMS  
GLASSES  
CONTACT LENSES



## Springtime in Bensonhurst!



## Family Fun

Mark your calendars for a free event, Sunday, June 11. Little Kids/Big Rigs will be hosted by the City from 11am-2pm at Parcel 5 downtown. There will be fire trucks, SWAT vehicles, police cars, city buses, garbage trucks and construction equipment to climb in and on. There will also be an obstacle course, sidewalk painting and life size checkers, snacks and much more! Call 311 or visit the City website for more information. Sounds like fun! Do you have to be a kid?



A Squirrel Smorgasbord!





**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:  
[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

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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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	1	2	3	4	5	<b>6</b>
7	8	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	11	12	13
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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, 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

**May 9 - BNA meeting**

**May 10- PCIC meeting**

**May 20- Mini clean sweep**

**Jun 13- BNA meeting**

**June 14- 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 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.**