



## Holiday Family

Every year Bensonhurst Neighborhood Association adopts a family to give assistance to during the Holiday season. This year our family was found through the CDS Warrior Salute program and they are very deserving of some Holiday cheer. More information on the CDS Warrior Salute program can be found at [www.cdswarriorsalute.org](http://www.cdswarriorsalute.org). Help us support an American hero this Christmas! All donations will be collected on or before our meeting and Holiday Social on Thursday, December 8th.

Our family is a single parent home, Dad and his two girls, ages 6 and 7. Dad is a four and a half year US Army Veteran currently participating in the CDS Warrior Salute Program to overcome difficulties from Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and to transition to his new life as a civilian.

The family survived the tragedy of a house fire in December of last year and lost everything they had just two days after Christmas! The family finally got their own furnished apartment this fall

with support of the CDS Warrior Salute program, but they do not own their own furniture and/or appliances at this time.

They are still very much in a rebuilding phase. The girls still have very few dolls, toys, games, coloring books, markers, etc. They like cuddly stuffed animals like the dogs they used to sleep with, LIV dolls and Barbie dolls, Littlest Pet Shop toys and Baby Alive dolls. Both girls are well rounded and currently wear size 7, however the older girl is starting to wear size 8. They love to color and make crafts and love girly stuff including purses, dresses, makeup and play jewelry. The younger of the two loves to play dress up in princess costumes and such.

They also love the Rochester Red Wings and any sporting events they can go to as a family. Gift certificates are helpful as "family nights" are very vital to them- pizza and a family movie for example. Winter makes it hard to get outside, but during the summer they enjoy outdoor games like flying kites, kickball, children's yard versions of bowling, lacrosse, softball, etc. Board games the family used to play like Chutes and Ladders or Mouse Trap, among others have not been replaced since the fire, and they are a great way to limit TV time.

Dad asks that instead of signing cards/gifts "from Santa" that we sign things 'from your Rochester neighbors' or 'the Bensonhurst Elves' so that the girls understand they are living in a community that cares for them and a community they will grow up to care for in

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return. BNA will also try and provide a meal and some groceries for the family so non-perishable food items and grocery store gift certificates are very much appreciated.

If you would like to donate but cannot make a meeting or the Holiday Social, e-mail [Bensonhurstna@excite.com](mailto:Bensonhurstna@excite.com) or call us at 234-1535 and leave a message. Thank you so much.

BNA will supply finger food appetizers for our enjoyment at the December Holiday Social for a small fee. What a great way to celebrate the holidays with your neighbors.

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## Snowblower crime solved

At a previous meeting we learned of a man going door to door in our neighborhood trying to sell a (stolen) snowblower. We are happy to report the man has been arrested. Thanks to neighbors calling the police!



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

**Market America**  
 Elaine C. Lalka  
 585-802-0112

**Holiday Shopping?**

Log onto: [marketamerica.com/elainelalka](http://marketamerica.com/elainelalka)  
 Sign in as my "Preferred Customer" and shop our  
 "Mall without Walls" with over 5000 partner stores.  
 You'll find the best prices **AND receive up to 50% CASHBACK**  
 on your purchases...and it's **FREE** to use !!

**Crimes solved thanks to your neighbors!**

Two arrests were recently made in our neighborhood thanks to neighbors calling 911 when they saw something suspicious! It DOES work!

The first one was when a neighbor spotted a young man carrying a TV down the street. This was a teen gang member who admitted to at least 15 burglaries in our neighborhood! The

second was when a neighbor saw someone going into a vacant house. When the police arrived, he was stealing copper pipe, although he told them he was buying the house ....(so why would he want to take out the copper pipe?)

A third burglary MAY have been prevented had the neighbor called police when they spotted someone entering their neighbors house which was for sale. She was at first suspicious but he was pleasant and introduced himself as a relative (which he was) but he wound up taking out some appliances he wasn't entitled to. Yes, unfortunately people DO rip off relatives. If you are the least bit suspicious, PLEASE call 911.

We can't stress enough the importance of calling 911 with ANYTHING even remotely suspicious.

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

The current slate of officers for 2012 is:  
 President- open  
 Vice President- Brian Managan  
 Secretary- open  
 Treasurer- Peg Aderman/Paul Zimmer  
 Sargent at Arms- open

As you can see, we need officers! Consider volunteering to fill one of them.

Nominations will be taken from the floor prior to, as well as the night of elections. If you are interested in one of theses positions, contact Bensonhurst at [bensonhurstNA@excite.com](mailto:bensonhurstNA@excite.com) or call 585-234-1535.

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 Account Executive

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 www.copiers.toshiba.com/tbs

**Elections for BNA**

November is election month for BNA as well as the country. Any neighbor who has attended one or more meetings during the past year is eligible to vote for officers as well as run for office.

**PATRICK MAJOR CONSTRUCTION, LLC**  
 All Phases of Interior and Exterior Remodelling

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**October 13 Meeting Minutes**

Heather welcomed those in attendance. Self introductions around the table. Heather reminded everyone that BNA has no dues. At the meetings we have a 50/50 raffle.

The safety report was given by Officers Belliard, Cannon and DelVecchio. Crime Statistics were given for district PSA 26 which encompasses the Culver/Goodman/Norton area. There is an overall improvement from last year to this year. Be watchful for daytime activity. There were several burglary arrests in the area.

Treasurers report:  
\$1,300+ in the BNA bank account.

A PowerPoint presentation and "Understanding the 2012 Reassessment" brochures and BNA map with recent home sale prices were distributed and presented by our guest speakers: Thomas Huonker, City Assessor, Bob Kubera, Supervising Real Property Appraiser and Mike Zazzara, Commercial Appraiser.

Highlights of the presentation:

- BNA neighborhood home selling prices are up 5-7% while city wide are at 2-3%.
- Assessment Value = Fair Market Value
- New estimated assessments will be mailed Nov.-Dec. 2011
- Special circumstances or disputes call Bureau of Assessment at 428-7221
- You can challenge your assessment by calling 311 and scheduling a 10 min appointment either on the phone or in person
- STAR program for vets is automatic every year but seniors HAVE to renew each year
- Appeal process deadline March 20, 2012 until 8:00 pm
- The first tax bills using the new assessments will be July 2012

New business:  
BNA Leaf pickup will be Nov. 7-11. This is week number 2 instead of the first week of the collection so hopefully we can get more of our leaves picked up this year!

Would anyone like to "adopt" any of our flower pots for the winter? Please let us know. We need to start bringing them in for the winter in November.



Heather opened the floor for nominations for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Peg & Paul volunteered to continue as co-treasurers. Brian will continue to be Vice President. To be eligible to vote you must have attended at least one meeting in the past year.

New officers will be sworn in at the Nov. 10th meeting.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Paul and \$10 was donated back to BNA. Thank you!

**Police Chief's 3rd quarter report**

Recently the Police Chief presented his 3rd quarter report for the city. If you missed it, there is a link to it at: <http://highlandblog.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/rpd-q3-media-handout.pdf>





# BENSONHURST – A COMMUNITY OF NEIGHBORS!

## Important Contact Information

BNA Voicemail:  
585-234-1535

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

BNA address:  
PO Box 90411  
Rochester, NY 14609

BNA website:  
[www.bensohurst14609.org](http://www.bensohurst14609.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**- 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](mailto:bensohurstNA@excite.com)  
Pictures are also welcome.

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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

Nov 9 – PCIC meeting

Nov 10 – BNA meeting

Dec 7 – PCIC meeting

Dec 8 – BNA meeting/party

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**Why not join us on the second Thursday 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.**