



NEIGHBORHOOD VOICE

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14621 Neighborhood Voice

Published By

Group 14621

Community Association

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News in our Neighborhoods

A view of positive impact for our neighborhood....

Mayor Duffy's officials, as of Oct. 1st will have an eye on new hire city residency requirements.

(D&C article Aug. 24, 2008)

For some time now, not only the City, but the Rochester City School District has talked about having more city employees living within the city limits. Political public servants are required to live within the area that they represent and serve. City Council Vice President Bill Pritchard said "I think (a residency requirement) is important. It's long overdue. ... For the past 40 to 50 years, the towns have benefited at the city's expense." (quote from D&C Aug. 24, 2008). These are tax dollars that are leaving the city that can benefit the city tax base in many ways not to mention that this undertakes another form of resident sustainability in our community.

There can be a major impact on the quality of life when more folks who are employed in the areas of public service that actually serve the neighborhoods where they live can help improve and better said quality of life.

At G14621 we, as other Neighborhood Preservation Companies, have the Community Housing Organization Development Program that offers totally rehabbed homes for first-time homebuyers to interested teachers and/or police officers. They have first pick at these homes but also would have to be within the income program guidelines (for which many are over income). The

idea is that they come and live within the city limits. There is the concern of "safety" for them. What can we offer as a community to enable them to move in? This is but only one example of thriving towards this goal.

Something to keep in mind as we move on, housing costs is around 30% and transportation cost are around 15% of average income wage earner at 80% median income according to the Department of Housing and Community Renewal studies shared at affordable housing seminars. In essence this is giving some of us an eye opener; that it is better to be closer to your place of employment to help minimize cost of living expenses. □

El Camino Trail to start construction in fall 2009

Genesee Land Trust, City of Rochester Environmental Services, Bergmann Associates, Environmental Design and Research with local residents, business and other stakeholders met on Aug. 14, 2008 for a project update, but also to receive continued input for the process. This will be a walking/running/bike trail using the old CSX railroad track from Seneca Park to St. Paul trestle bridge.

Project objectives are maintaining user safety, providing a high-quality user experience, enhancing neighborhood and community, maximizing sustainability and protecting existing resources. The design themes will incorporate healthy living, urban ecology including history and culture.

Mr. Tom Frey and Ms. Gay Mills have been the pioneers behind this project and are enthusiastic about the timeline of continued neighborhood meetings, plans, specifications and cost estimates coming about for the project moving forward to bidding and contract award. For more information feel free to contact Ms. Mills at (585) 256-2130. □

We need all the help we can get for our kids...

Rochester Surround Care Community Corp. Inc., formally known as the "Rochester Children Zone" has taken a big financial hit. An extreme budget cut of \$2M in state aid will hamper the ability of this organization to support programs in northeast Rochester that would support our opportunities to help the Rochester City School District to promote our youth to succeed and stay in school as well as give adults broader opportunities to excel. In an identified targeted area where high schools drop out rates, lack of health care, unemployment, financial illiteracy, affordable safe housing and general poverty have been the enemy hampering the successes of our community; we can use all the help we can get.

Rochester Surround Care is now limited to what they can do. Let us all stay on task as we help our kids and their families. If you haven't or have in the past; and you can; volunteer your time. □

From the Executive Directors desk....

“*The Billion Dollar Adventure*” is what I call our Brownfield Opportunity Area Grant that is targeted to assess 120 acres around the El Camino Trail project (old CSX tracks running from St. Paul St. trestle bridge to Seneca Park entrance). In proximity to the trail there are possible nomination sites to be cleaned up for future development. Currently we have started the recruitment for steering committee that will guide the process for the first assessment phase; bringing together any and all possible stakeholders through the hiring of a consultant who will analyze data from the immediate neighborhoods, including demographics, resident and commercial properties, vacant land, and industrial sites that will be impacted for economic development growth in the future. G14621 Board Members’ Mr. Ernest Flagler and Mr. Huge Vandegriff have taken on the big task of jump starting this committee to take it to the next steps. If you wish to be a part of this adventure call us at our offices.

Why nickname it the billion dollar adventure? The 14621 zip code, which we represent as an organization, has approximately 14,000 structures and we can safely say we have 1,000 vacant lots or more. This could translate pouring a billion dollar economic development infusion in \$66k shots into each structure and or vacant site. In some instances the improvement/development can cost \$1M for one structure. So in other words, hypothetically speaking, one structure/vacant land can need an average of \$5k to \$1M of rehab or redevelopment for the sake of allotting numbers to a major project within the next five to ten years. The truth of the matter is that, we would have to secure and disseminate mega bucks if we want to see our neighborhood community thrive as it once did back in the 1960’s-1980.

Many of our neighborhood streets still carry the resemblance of beauty and quality of life that is desired in other parts of our neighborhood. Much of this is attributed to the neighbors in those areas who seek new and innovates ways to positively enhance their neck of the woods. And we greatly applaud their continued efforts.

On the other hand, we continue to have more boarded up houses and businesses as a result of foreclosures and the struggling economy where homeowners, landlords and commercial businesses are not able to maintain with current high maintenance costs coupled with rising energy expenses.

The 14621 zip code area together with 14605 and 14613 in the City of Rochester, was ranked with the fourth highest increase in concentrated working poverty rate out of a fifty-eight city study conducted by the Brookings Institute that was published on August 12, 2008. One of the key statements that have a very viable sense, and I quote “*Robust economic growth, together with smart policies that help reduce economic segregation, remain critical for helping low-income people and places*”. Is this a wake up call to all of us that as we look towards the future of economic development in 14621? Should we entertain looking and addressing the bigger picture so that we may look at our community; referring to another similar slogan: that no “structure or vacant land should fall through the cracks”, regardless where it may be in our fair, and I what we still believe to be a “Great City?”

At our Brownfield organizational meeting, long-time neighborhood resident, Ms. Bonnie Cannan, couldn’t have better described it; “sustainability” we should assure that all of whom need to be involved in the process are heard to promote feasibility, solidification and fruition of economic/social development projects as they move to their final stages.

In closing, some of our City streets are in decay and in great need of uplifts in 14621 as in other zip code areas. As this first phase of the G14621 Brownfield Opportunity Grant, with the collaboration with the residents, businesses, and local government, it is my hope that this is the first rung that we climb in going towards the top of the ladder to reach and see that “*Billion Dollar Adventure*”.

Please feel free to contact me, your servant, should you have any comments, concerns or need further information at 585.266.4693.

May we all be blessed to see the vision.....

Eugenio Cotto, Jr.,
Group 14621





*From the desk of
Community & Crime Prevention Organizer...*

The summer is just about over and the weather has been fair at times. We did in fact have some crime spurts in our community, but for the most part crime is down.

I know that it may seem hard to believe, but it is. We have the highest diversity of population here in the 14621 area, and to have the amount of people in this area, our crime rate has gotten lower. That means we must continue to keep our guards up and look out for each other as we prepare our children and ourselves for another school year.

Solomon Taylor
Group 14621 Community Association



**Youth Visions:
Media Education Program
September Update**

Thank you Baden Street participants, for a memorable beginning of what we hope to be a very successful collaborative. G14621 is pleased to announce that the YV participants are actively learning many useful multimedia disciplines that can be applied to a variety of skill sets. It is our mission to continue to offer an array of proficiencies in order to develop a greater scope of community involvement. Youth Visions will continue to convene into the school session. Please contact us for schedule changes and with any concerns. The Youth Visions program is a component of the Community Technology Center; which is located at 772 North Clinton Avenue, Rochester, New York 14605.

"Through knowledge and wisdom comes understanding."

Luis Acosta
Program Coordinator

Computer Training Classes

Group 14621 Community Association is still offering Free computer training classes at the new CTC (computer training center) located at 772 N. Clinton Ave. For more information you may call 355-4686 or 266-4693 or visit our office at 1171 N. Clinton Ave. to enroll in the program.



NEIGHBOR SPEAK OUT CORNER

"Chess...Do You Play?"

To us the game of chess brings to mind 2 serious men bent over a chess board taking hours for the next move, or the Russian masters of the game and people who even play by mail! The game is 1000 years old.

Many years ago my brother-in-laws, son, was taught to play chess as a youth at the old "Concord St. Playground." He became playground champion.

This has always been in the back of my mind. Finally, I went out, bought the game (chess, checkers, & backgammon) and donated it to Mr. Solomon Taylor, a proficient chess player, in the hopes of passing on this game to develop in our youth the mental skills and powers of concentration the game requires.

We have too much useless time spent by youth and adults on mindless violent video games, that also use electricity – chess "goes green".

I would like to see again "chess matches" at our local playgrounds as done 50 years ago at Concord St.

Also, watching the "Benny Goodman Story" (V.H.S. at Central Library) he learned to play an instrument at the local playground and became a famous band leader of the 1940's!

P.S. No, I don't play chess, "Monopoly" is as far as I can go...but "chess" do you play?

Mary Ann Heroux
Group 14621 resident

P.S. All our society has is physical competition, football, basketball, baseball, etc. Where is the mental competition?



"The Neighborhood Has Good People"

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the 2nd Annual Convention Cook-Out fundraiser. Your generosity and support shown was truly appreciated. Special thanks to all the Group 14621 staff and board members.

Also, heartfelt thanks to Hudson Avenue businessman, John Kohut for his creative table and chair set-up with Motown Music and Park Avenue like atmosphere that the customers really loved.

Looking forward to seeing you at the 2008 convention and the 3rd annual convention fundraiser next year.

Thank you,

P. Canty
Fundraising Committee Chair

SAVE THE DATE!!

Group 14621

Annual Meeting

October 24, 2008

**More details
to follow soon!**

BURGOS
INCOME TAX, INC.

Alfred Burgos, EA
President

Ridge Clinton Plaza
1765 N. Clinton Ave.
Rochester NY, 14621
(585) 266-2680
Fax (585) 266-2058
E-mail: al@burgostax.com

Helpful Homeownership Tips:



Ted Wood's Tip of the Month:

Keep Your Basement Dry!

Yikes, no one likes a wet basement.

There are really only two reasons your basement gets wet.

1. Clogged downspouts and gutters. Is the dampness on your basement walls mainly in the corners, kind of circular? Look outside at that corner. There is probably a downspout right there. It must be clogged. You'll need to clean out the gutters and pull up the downspout to clean it out too. I don't know about you, but I don't like ladders. You may want to hire a professional contractor to do it for you.

2. Does the dampness on your walls kind of look like a straight line? Look at the "grading" of the dirt around your house. Make sure the dirt around your house is high enough to have the rain flow away from the house. You can get free dirt from the City. You will have to pick it up yourself at the Mt. Read City Facilities. You can get dirt, gravel and mulch there too. If the dampness is on the driveway side of your house, you will have to make sure the driveway sealer is tight right up to the foundation.

Ahh, the sweet smell of success...or at least no musty smell in the basement!

All information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Block Clubs and Meeting Dates

Ferncliffe (Ferncliffe, Nichols, Clairmount)	varies
Barberry (Barberry)	varies
Lefrois (Northlane, Kilmar, Shadylane, Van Olinda, Rexford, Valois, Sayne, Milan, Buonomo, Malone, Baird, Carter, Lefrois)	3rd Wed. of every month
Dorbeth (Dorbeth)	varies
Mohawk (Mohawk)	varies
Dunn/Nester (Dunn, Townsend, Moulson, Bremen, Klein, St. Casimir, Roser, Nester, Wakefield, Wanda, Zygment, Norton)	varies
Kohlman/Farbridge (Kohlman, Farbridge)	varies
Ketchum (Ketchum)	varies
(Huntington) (Huntington, Evergreen)	3rd Mon. of every month
Berlin/Wilkins/Friederich (Berlin, Wilkins, Friederich)	varies
Mead (Mead)	varies
Norran (Norran)	varies
E. Ridge Rd (E. Ridge Rd)	varies
Alphonse/Bernard (Alphonse, Bernard)	varies
South of Norton St (Klein, Bremen, Townsend, VanStallen)	varies
Evergreen (Evergreen)	varies

For more information call Solomon Taylor at 266-4693.



**Group 14621 Community Association, Inc.
Community Housing Development
Organization Projects
For information on the listed properties
please call us at 585.266.4693**



76 Delamaine Drive
Sale Price \$54,900
Available Now
1148 sq. ft 7 Rooms /
4 Bedooms
1 Bath /Indoor Garage



114 Randolph Street
(city archived photo)
Recently Acquired to Go Green
Energy Efficient
1831 sq. ft 8 Rooms /
4 Bedrooms
2.5 Baths

**From the desk of
Housing Program Coordinator:**

Salutations, as the new Housing Program Coordinator for Group 14621, I would like to take this opportunity to extend to the community the services we offer. Many are not aware that G14621 is in a position to administer Lead Wipe Tests and are in the process of performing 900 such test at no charge. This is an invaluable service geared to secure the safety of our loved ones from the dangers of lead poison.

Also, we are very attentive to the needs of those that desire to participate in the RAP program. Rest assured that it is our intention to manage this program with the greatest of efficiency so that our community can regain and maintain its structural integrity.

Last but not least, G14621 is pleased to inform you that we are collaborating with the Housing Partnership in order to develop more Go Green CHDO (Community Housing Development Organization) Projects. Go Green structures offer more energy and environmental friendly opportunities than traditional builds. Group 14621 believes that the structural benefits of these buildings should be passed on to our constituents and will continue to lead the way in the development of these types of projects.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the afore mentioned, please contact us.

Luis Acosta
Group 14621 Community Association



Business Opportunity
(Earn \$300-\$3600 Per Week)

Setting A "High-Tech / High-Touch" Standard

- Health & Nutrition Store • Anti-Aging Store
- Cosmetics Store • Personal Care Store
- Home & Garden Store • Internet Store
- Specialty Stores • The Endless Shopping Experience™

Healing Technologies For The New Millennium

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- Oxygen Therapy • Anti-Aging • Weight Loss Programs
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For Appointment Contact:

Mark Mathieu

Independent Distributor

585-802-3411

*Seeking average people
 wanting above average income*



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Receive \$3,500-\$30,000 in grant funds from HSBC to buy your home within & outside of the city limits.

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- SONYMA: \$5,000
- HSBC First Home Club: \$7,500
- Closing Cost Low Income Grant: \$7,000
- Purchase Rehab Grant Funds Up To: \$30,000

* Income/location restrictions may apply



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“Your Neighborhood Business Listing”

Auto Shops

Blaesi's Automotive	981 Hudson Ave.	266-8100
Banks Brothers Collision	771 Hudson Ave.	342-8000
Getty Auto Service	556 Norton St.	342-3720

Banking Institutions

HSBC Mortgage Corporation	1200 Jefferson Rd.	797-0338
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Community Outreach

Just 4 U 2 Comm. Outreach	339 North St.	426-7093
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Food & Beverage

Chimo's Sandwich Shop	1038 N. Clinton Ave.	266-1405
Greg's House of Chicken	1014 Hudson Ave.	266-5840
Hartmann's Old World Sausage	1256 N. Clinton Ave.	266-4960

Income Tax Services

Burgos Income Tax, Inc.	1765 N. Clinton Ave.	266-2680
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Industrial Companies

Allied-Action Limited	182 Avenue D	342-4700
McAlpin Industries	255 Hollenbeck St.	266-3060

Neighborhood Preservation Center

North East Area Development, Inc.	360 Webster Ave.	482-7320
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Social Entertainment

4 Brothers Tavern	1080 Hudson Ave.	266-6797
Bobo's Sports Bar	479 Carter St.	544-6780
Hancock's Hudson Tavern	1034 Hudson Ave.	266-2661



ADD YOUR BUSINESS TODAY!

Anyone who would like to have their business listed in our monthly newsletter may do so for only \$10.00 a year. You can fill out the membership form below and just mail it back to us or stop into our office at 1171 N. Clinton Ave.

MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL INFORMATION.....

Group 14621 receives funding from United Way (Donor Option #530) and New York State Division of Housing & Community Renewal, the Division of Criminal Justice Service, and the City of Rochester. Our organization also relies on member dues and community fund raising events and activities to supplement these sources. Your membership is important! If you have not yet joined Group 14621, we invite you to become one of Group 14621 **“neighbors working together.”** To join or renew, clip the form below and return it to our office with payment.

Group 14621 Community Association

1171 North Clinton Avenue * Rochester, New York 14621*266-4693 * FAX 266-6196

- () \$10 enclosed for 1 year regular **HOUSEHOLD** membership
- () \$18 enclosed for 1 year regular membership and **TOOL BANK** enrollment
- () \$25 enclosed for **BUSINESS** membership () \$50 for **BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP**
- () \$10 enclosed for 1 year Business Listing enrollment
- () I also include \$_____ as an additional contribution

NAME _____ **TELEPHONE#** _____

ADDRESS _____ **DATE** _____

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH OR LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- () PUBLIC SAFETY () PARKS & RECREATION () FUNDRAISING () NEIGHBORHOOD PROMOTION
- () BLOCK CLUB () NBN IMPLEMENTATION () HOUSING () ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT () SCHOOLS
- () OTHER TELL US YOUR IDEAS _____



**GROUP 14621
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**1171 North Clinton Avenue
Rochester, NY 14621**

Phone: 585-266-4693

Fax: 585-266-6971

Email: group14621@yahoo.com

**NEIGHBORS WORKING TOGETHER
SINCE 1974**



*“It is vain to talk of the interest of the
community, without understanding what
is the interest of the individual”*

~Jeremy Bentham

