

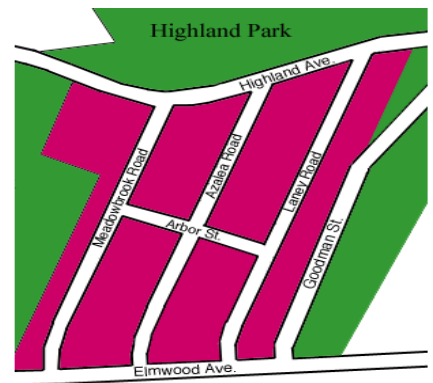
# The Azalea View

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The ANA Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2008

Circulation: 200...thanks in large part to Sue Bellinger!



## Welcome to the Spring Azalea View!

The Azalea Neighborhood is a mix of owner occupants and renters of all ages and the ANA encourages all who live here to become active in our community. This is a community newsletter. If you have news items, ideas to contribute or simply questions about the neighborhood, give Sue O'Neil a call at 442-8586 or send an email to [theazaleaview@yahoo.com](mailto:theazaleaview@yahoo.com). The Azalea View is brought to you by the Azalea Neighborhood Association with support from the Neighbors Building Neighborhoods Sector 6.

## A Successful Safety Meeting

The Azalea, Lilac and May Street neighbors hosted a Safety Meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Home. Crime Prevention Officer Brian Bannerman filled us in on some strategies to keep ourselves and our homes safe. He stressed the importance of being aware of your surroundings and making yourself and your property less attractive to criminals.

*Some simple things you can do to keep you and yours safe:*

- Make eye contact with people. This lets them know that you can see them and identify them.
- Observe with all of your senses. Listening to your iPod or Walkman while on the streets makes it easy for others to sneak up on you.
- When you go out of town, either stop your newspaper and mail or have a neighbor pick it up for you. Newspapers on a lawn and mail sticking out of your mailbox are clear advertisements to criminals that you are not home.
- Report suspicious activity to 911.

Over the past year there have been a few incidents in our neighborhood with car break-ins and prowlers. Well-informed residents help keep our neighborhood safe. *Email is the quickest way to notify residents. Please send us your email address at [theazaleaview@yahoo.com](mailto:theazaleaview@yahoo.com).* Your email address will be used only to notify you of neighborhood happenings. If you do not have email, you still need to be on the contact list. Please call Lisa Martone at 461-3031 with your name, address, and phone number. We want to keep our neighbors safe.

## MAIL THEFT ALERT

Recently there have been many reports of mail theft in the news. In the nearby Swillburg neighborhood, a resident reported that her mail was stolen from her house mailbox and she became a victim of "check washing". This is when a thief alters the information on a check you have signed and then cashes it.

Consumer groups recommend the following tips:

- Use pens with either indelible or gel ink when writing checks. These inks are difficult to wash. The Uni-ball 207 Gel pen is recommended and is only about \$2. These pens can be purchased at grocery and drug stores as well as office supply stores.
- Don't put outgoing mail in your home mailbox. The safest place for your outgoing mail is the big blue USPS mailbox. The closest one is a short walk to the Cooperative Extension. Another option is to hand your outgoing mail to the mail carrier.

## Noise... Keep It Down!

With spring and summer comes the Rochester festival season and with that, neighbors throwing parties. The city's noise ordinance dictates that festivities *should not be audible beyond your property line between the hours of 10:00PM and 8:00AM.* For daytime revelers, party noise *should not be audible 50 feet beyond your property between the hours of 8:00AM and 10:00PM.* In short, a little consideration for your neighbors will go a long way toward having a trouble-free good time.

## NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

Time for Spring cleaning and de-cluttering! Here's a great way to turn your "trash" into "cash"! The Azalea Neighborhood will have its first Neighborhood Garage Sale on Saturday, June 14th. The annual Lilac Neighbors Garage Sale will be the same day. Contact Claudia Conley at 319-3649 for more information or if you'd like to participate.

## The Flowers Need You!

Last summer, the neighborhood purchased large planters and flowers for public display in our neighborhood. We have the materials, we just need the green thumbs. Contact Sue O'Neil at 442-8586 or by email at [theazaleaview@yahoo.com](mailto:theazaleaview@yahoo.com) if you want to help beautify the neighborhood!



## St John's Meadows Update

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, St. John's Meadows is planning an expansion project. It will be called Brickstone. The Brighton Town Planning Board is expected to vote on this in June. If the board approves it, construction should begin by the end of the summer and will take about 14 months to complete.



Do you know of a new neighbor? If so, please give Claudia Conley a call at 319-3649 to let her know.

## Lost Your View?

The Azalea View is being archived on the NBN6 website. It is accessible in PDF format at <http://www.nbnsector6.org> On the left side of the page, you'll see a list of the neighborhood groups. Click on Azalea Neighbors and you can download this and past editions. You can also receive the newsletter electronically by sending us your e-mail address at [theazaleaview@yahoo.com](mailto:theazaleaview@yahoo.com).

## Upcoming Events

### Lilac Festival 5/9 -5/18

**Saturday 5/10 10:30AM - Parade**  
**Sunday 5/18 8AM - 5K race**  
**9AM - 10K race**

### Plant sales

**Friday 5/9 - Sunday 5/18 - Master Gardener sale at the Co operative Extension, 10AM - 8PM daily**

**Saturday 5/24 - Civic Garden Center's Proud Market and the Lilac Neighbors annual plant sale. Both on Reservoir St.**

**Saturday 5/10 - Clean Sweep, Meet at Cobbs Hill at 8:30AM**

**Friday 5/16 - Sunday 6/8 - RPO Symphony Showhouse at the Ellwanger Estate, 625 Mt. Hope Ave. Public tours 10AM - 6PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. Advance tickets are available at the RPO Box Office, Wegmans and AAA Branch Offices .**

**Saturday and Sunday 6/7-6/8 - Landmark Society House and Garden Tour, Highland Park Neighborhood (formerly Ellwanger-Barry). Advance tickets are \$20 (\$18 for Landmark members). You may purchase tickets at Wegmans or by calling (585) 546-7029 x10.**

**Wednesday 6/11- Rochester Police Department East Division Community Open House, Tops Plaza on the corner of N. Clinton Ave and Upper Falls Blvd. 5:30PM.**

### Ongoing

Mt. Hope Cemetery tours Saturdays and Sundays beginning 5/3 [www.fomh.org](http://www.fomh.org)

NBN6 meeting, second Monday of the month at 5:30pm.

## Sunflowers

*Attention aspiring Van Goghs:* The Monroe County Parks Department is planning to plant a **sunflower field** in our neighborhood this summer. It will be on the site of the proposed Cancer Park between Laney and S. Goodman St. Enjoy!

## Ribfest Update

Thank you to all the Azalea neighbors who contacted me regarding the “Ribfest” event in Highland Park on July 10-13. All comments were collected and given to Monroe County Parks Director Larry Staub, Ribfest promoter Jeff Springut, and Monroe County Legislator Harry Bronson. I have met with both the Parks Director and promoter to discuss neighbors' concerns. Both have assured me that not all aspects of Ribfest are finalized and would seriously consider these concerns as final decisions are made. I also attended the Monroe County Legislature Recreation and Education Committee meeting on April 22 at which Ribfest was up for a vote. Some of the Legislators asked the Parks Director questions which came directly from *your* responses. Director Staub answered that our concerns are being taken into consideration and was sure there was a way to make this a “win-win” situation. The Committee passed the referral; it next goes for a final vote before the full Legislature on May 13.

*Sue O'Neil*

## Signs, signs...

If you've driven on Azalea Road lately you've probably seen our neighborhood's latest acquisition. This year NBN6 challenged neighborhoods to “go green” and to that end, the city allocated money for permanent or reusable signs. When in use, the location of the sign will be near the corner of Arbor Dr. and Azalea Rd. The sign is helping us to go green as it reduces the need to flier Azalea residents about neighborhood meetings and events.



## At-Large City Council Members

In the last Azalea View, we published the names and contact information for our representatives at the local and state levels. After it was distributed, several neighbors asked about information for the five At-Large City Council members. We're more than happy to provide it:

**Gladys Santiago** – President 428-7538  
[Gladys.Santiago@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:Gladys.Santiago@cityofrochester.gov)

**William Pritchard** – Vice President 428-7538  
[William.Pritchard@CityofRochester.Gov](mailto:William.Pritchard@CityofRochester.Gov)

**Carolee Conklin** 428-6711  
[Carolee.Conklin@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:Carolee.Conklin@cityofrochester.gov)

**John Lightfoot** 428-7538  
[John.Lightfoot@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:John.Lightfoot@cityofrochester.gov)

**Dana Miller** 428-7583  
[Dana.Miller@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:Dana.Miller@cityofrochester.gov)

## An Azalea Neighbors Garden Tour?

Would you enjoy showing off your yard or garden, or having a peek at other neighborhood gardens? If you'd like to help plan an informal neighborhood garden walk-through (or show off your garden, perhaps in late June ), contact Lisa Martone at 461-3031. This might be the start of a summer tradition!

## Volunteer Opportunity

**Lamberton Conservatory** seeks volunteers with plant expertise to assist in removal and potting of plant material from the tropical house. This area will be undergoing renovation starting at the beginning of June. Ability to dig and lift required. For dates and times please call Noelle Nagel at (585) 753-7268.