

ABC Streets Neighborhood Association
51 Calumet Street
Rochester, NY 14610

October, 2020
Volume 20, Issue II

www.abcestreets.org
Email: abc.streets@gmail.com



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Neighbors:

This newsletter is in lieu of the neighborhood meeting that we typically hold every October. Due to the pandemic, the association board will not be hosting any group or in-person activities that we usually hold in the fall and winter, i.e., the Halloween Parade and December Holiday Party.

This newsletter gives us the opportunity to connect safely with all neighbors and highlight information we'd like to share with all of you.



**Porches of the ABC Streets
Poster Now Available!**

*A full color poster, featuring 24 of the many beautiful porches in our neighborhood is now available for purchase! The poster was created by retired architect **Roger Brown**.*

Available in two sizes:
21" x 31" or 13" x 19"

An order form is included in this newsletter, or visit our website to place your order!



***** Alternate Parking *****

The alternate parking change begins at **7:00 p.m.** on our streets.

Parking your vehicle prior to 7:00 p.m. causes congestion and makes it difficult for emergency vehicles, i.e., firetrucks, snowplows to travel on our streets.

Be a good neighbor!

Super Savings COUPON ! ➔ ➔

Bring this coupon to **ParkAve Picture Framing** & receive 50% off your custom ABC Streets Poster Framing or any other framing project!

The boundaries of the ABC Streets Neighborhood are the east side of Culver Road (between Harvard & Park), Audubon, Beverly, Calumet, Colby, Darwin, Ericsson., Faraday, Girard, Harvard, Homer and Park Avenue (from Culver Road to East Avenue).

PICTURE FRAMING
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YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

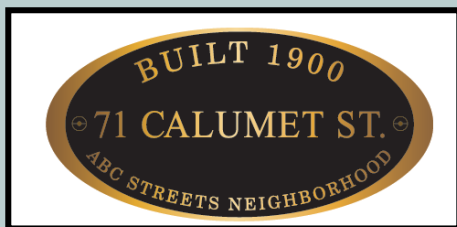
Join Today



Nothing says Happy Holidays like a personalized brick in the Garden @ Calumet!

Surprise a family member or a neighbor with their own personalized brick!

**One (1) Line @ \$40
Two (2) Lines @ \$50
Contact us @
abc.streets@gmail.com
for an order form!**



Now that we're part of a Historic District, show it off!

House Plaques available @ \$135 (includes shipping).

**Contact us at
abc.streets@gmail.com for an order form!**

* * * MEMBERSHIP DUES * * *

The Neighborhood Association relies on membership dues for upkeep of our gardens, insurance, special event supplies and other board-approved expenses.

Dues are \$10 per year, per household, and can be paid via PayPal (from our website), cash or check.

Visit our website at www.abcstreets.org to pay via PayPal (\$12 to cover PayPal fees). We've included a membership form, along with a self-addressed envelope to mail or drop off your membership payment with this newsletter.

Be sure to include your email address to receive our weekly emails, which will keep you informed of neighborhood events, any crime trends in our neighborhood, etc.

Interested in Serving on the Board?

An election for all association officer and board member positions will be held in October, 2021. If you'd like to serve on the board, contact tpastecki@gmail.com to learn more.

New on our Website

Reckoning with Racism Resources . . .

Given the racial justice issues in our country and community, the association has posted a new section (under Community) on our website.

We invite you to review the entries and resources listed if you, like many neighbors we've talked to, are interested in trying to figure out how to achieve meaningful and positive change. The Community section offers you opportunities to contribute to respectful dialogue or provide resources that help educate. Check out the website to learn more.

www.abcstreets.org

Tour Porches on our New Poster . . .

Janina Guthrie, who created the Virtual Garden Walk, has also created a Virtual Poster sampler for our website. It features some of the many porches highlighted in our new **Porches of the ABC Streets** poster.

Information on how to purchase a poster is available in this newsletter and also on the Home page of our website.

www.abcstreets.org

New on our Website (cont'd)

Stroll ABC Streets Gardens Virtually . . .

The weather is getting colder, but you can still stroll the summer gardens of the ABC Streets from the comfort of your home! The pandemic led to the cancellation of our 2020 Garden Walk, so we hosted a virtual one featuring photos taken by participating neighbors and association board member/photographer Dave Burnet. Another board member, Janina Guthrie, created a slide show that you can view on our website anytime you want a dose of summer beauty in your day. You'll find the link on our Home page.

www.abcstreet.org

Did You Know?

Being in the Park Avenue Historic District Makes You Eligible for Tax Credits

The new sign in Morrison Park celebrates our neighborhood being part of the officially-designated Park Avenue Historic District. This district received formal approval in February 2020 to be placed on the National Register of Historic Districts.

The designation is more than an honor.

Do you know that you are now eligible to apply to the NYS Homeownership Rehabilitation Tax Credit Program? Administered by the NY State Historic Preservation Office, this program provides a credit off your NYS income tax that can help offset repairs and upgrades to your home.

Go to our website at www.abcstreets.org and click on "Resources" to find out more about getting a credit off your NYS income tax, worth 20% of qualifying repair and rehab expenses, up to a credit value of \$50,000 per year. The value of the credit can be applied to your state tax liability and reduce the amount you owe.

You can also contact our area representative, Christina Vagvolgyi at the NYS Historic Preservation Office (Christina.Vagvolgyi@parks.ny.gov) if you are considering any work on your home. It is important to remember that tax credits are not retroactive.

You cannot apply for any work that has already been started.

You may also contact the Landmark Society, which has recently begun offering services to homeowners wherein they can hire Landmark Society staff to help them complete the tax credit application.

Those interested in this service should contact:

Caitlin Meives

cmeives@landmarksociety.org



The ABC Streets Neighborhood Association is a non-profit organization serving the vibrant neighborhood of approximately 600 households bounded by Culver Road, Harvard Street, Park Avenue and Colby Street. We are owners and renters who take pride in our urban neighborhood, value diversity and inclusivity and celebrate community.



**ESTHER BRILL
& RJ RUBLE**
Personal Dance Trainers
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esther.brill@gmail.com
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Cobbs Hill Village Decision Due Soon

In September, five judges on the state appellate court heard legal arguments for preserving the affordable senior housing at Cobbs Hill Village and protecting the historic park. A decision in the case, which involves two lawsuits heard by the court at the same time, is expected later this year.

The ABC Streets Neighborhood Association is one of 37 neighborhood associations and community groups across the city that have, along with hundreds of concerned citizens, pursued questioning legal and administrative processes for a controversial development narrowly approved in a 5-4 City Council vote in 2018. The alliance includes the Cobbs Hill Tenants Association. The existing Cobbs Hill Village has 60 studio and one-bedroom units for seniors with limited incomes. Plans by Rochester Management, Inc., call for a 104-unit mix of studio, one and two-bedroom apartments and townhomes.

“Our hopes are that Cobbs Hill Village remains an *affordable* home for seniors and our park remains undisturbed,” said Tom Pastecki, ABC Neighborhood Association president.

Can You Help?

The cost of printing documents for the court case heard in September is more than the Cobbs Hill Village Tenants Association can afford to pay in the effort to protect their homes. Additional petitioners in the suit are seeking donations to fund the deficit. If you would like to help, please drop off or mail a check, payable to ABC Streets Neighborhood Association, to 51 Calumet Street, 14610.

Any amount will be meaningful!



Election Day is drawing closer and it's important to take time to plan how you will vote. Your Options Are:

IN PERSON:

- Tuesday, November 3. Our area's voting location is the **Rochester Academy of Medicine**, 1441 East Avenue. **Polls Open: 6:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.**
- Saturday, October 24-Sunday, November 1. You can vote at any Early Voting site (see www.monroecounty.gov/elections for locations).

ABSENTEE:

- If you've already mailed your ballot, check www.monroecounty.gov/elections to see if it's been received.
- If you need an absentee ballot, you can get one until November 2 by going to the Board of Elections at 39 West Main Street. The office is open Monday through Friday (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.).
- Absentee ballots can be dropped off at the Board of Elections, any Early Voting Site or at any Election Day Polling Place in the county (as an alternative to mailing).
- If you choose to mail your ballot, the USPS recommends it be mailed at least seven days prior to November 3. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by November 3.
- Absentee ballots may be dropped off by someone other than the voter.

Thank You!

Joyce & John Perelli for their continued maintenance & decorating of the Little Library @ Calumet

Thank You!

Marie McEneaney for all her trips to water plants and clean up at the pedestrian bridge @ Colby Street!

HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST!

Since most of us can't WAIT for THIS YEAR to be over, start thinking about those winter holiday decorations! Several "secret Santas" will cruise the neighborhood looking for the best & most creative holiday displays! Fabulous prizes! More info to follow. . .

