



The Sidewalk

VOL. 17, ISSUE 2

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2022

BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the office of Ibsen Law in Beaverdale. Visit www.beaverdale.org for more information. Board minutes are published on the website upon Board approval.

MISSION

The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association is neighbors working together to promote the social welfare of the Beaverdale area by bringing about civic betterment and social improvements for the common good of the community.

MEMBERSHIP

The BNA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. Membership is open to the public, may be tax deductible and could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. To join or get involved, visit www.beaverdale.org or follow us on Facebook @beaverdaleneighborhood.

THE SIDEWALK

The Sidewalk is the Official Magazine of Beaverdale and is published quarterly by the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 30175, Des Moines, Iowa 50310
 Editor: Kate McGovern 515-577-2084
 Email the BNA: bna@beaverdale.org

Dear Neighbors,

I am so excited that we are getting to see neighbors again at events around the neighborhood. We just wrapped up the first Easter Egg Hunt since 2019 and it was a great success. There were so many happy kids running around gathering eggs, candy, and prizes. The Easter Bunny was there - which meant some tears were shed. There was also a DINOSAUR! A huge thank you goes out to everyone who made the event function - the egg fillers, the set-up crew, the egg hiders, and the post event clean up team. It was great to be back at Beaverdale Park for the fun event.

Speaking of Beaverdale Park... the Beaverdale Park Master Plan is working its way through the city approval process. Our park aficionado, Aaron Graves, gave a great presentation to the Parks and Recreation Board about the update and some of the great amenities that are planned for the future (hopefully the near future!). If I understand the next steps in the approval process - the Parks and Recreation Board will take action on it at an

upcoming meeting. A special thank you to Matt Connelly, the neighbors around Beaverdale Park, and former Council member Bill Gray for getting the project off the ground.

Lots more to come as we move toward summer. We have our next neighborhood quarterly meeting coming up - it will be in-person. We are full speed ahead on planning the Bluegrass Festival for July. We have the annual SCRUB events in and around the neighborhood in the next few months (for the full calendar of SCRUB check out the Public Works page on the city website). Traffic calming improvements on 38th Street were funded in this most recent CIP, which means implementation is moving forward.

I hope to see everyone at the quarterly meeting!

Sincerely,
 Marcus Coenen,
 BNA President

BNA PLANTS MEMORIAL TREES, HONORS THERESA GRAZIANO

The BNA has a long history of planting memorial trees in our neighborhood. If you walk the Urbandale Ave. median or look closely at some of the trees in our neighborhood parks, you might notice a small metal plaque hanging among the branches with a person's name on it. It also identifies the type of tree and the year it was planted. These are all trees that were planted 'in memory of' or 'in honor of,' someone.

Many people like to plant trees as a living memorial of someone who has passed away. Others like to plant a tree in honor of a special person, anniversary, etc. The BNA has a tree fund that is used to partially offset the cost of these trees. It is funded by donations and other fundraising activities like the Beaverdale Garden Walk. The BNA Beautification Committee coordinates the process, helps plant the trees, keeps a record of them, and conducts a short memorial ceremony.

Over 50 trees have been planted in our neighborhood in this way since 1995. We would like to plant another one this year in memory of Theresa Graziano, who



The planting of a memorial tree for Marv Pommer in the fall of 2021.

passed away last November. Theresa headed up the Beaverdale Fall Festival for many years and was instrumental in making it the huge success it has become. If you would like to donate to the tree fund in her memory, you can send your donation to the BNA, P.O. Box 30175, Des Moines, IA 50310.



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BEAVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL IS BACK FOR 2022! HELP MAKE FALL FESTIVAL 2022 THE BEST YET!

We're busy beavers getting this year's festival off the ground, so we'll make this quick. If you've been wondering when you can officially sign up for a booth or food vendor spot at our festival, we have good news! **Applications will go live on May 1st!** Keep an eye on our social media or bookmark our website: www.fallfestival.org.

Speaking of social media, our Facebook page officially has a **DONATE** button now! We want to bring a truly worthy festival to the neighborhood this year after all that's happened, but we'll need your help to have the budget to bring in all the fun we've had in

the past! Any amount really helps us out, so hit that button on our Facebook even if it's just \$1!

We're also looking for volunteers! We're so thankful for the people that have signed up so far and we can't wait to meet all of you! We do need some big helpers to plan both the festival and assist on the day-of, so if you'd like to know more, please shoot us an email at hello@fallfestival.org. We'd love to chat with you!

We have a few other tricks stored in our dams for now, so keep an eye on our Facebook page and make sure you get the next Sidewalk so you don't miss our future announcements!



BEAVERDALE FARMERS MARKET 2022 IS KICKING OFF ITS 11TH SEASON!

Beaverdale Farmers Market continues to be one of the best events of the summer in Des Moines. The market is open every Tuesday from Jun. 7 – Sept. 13 and is located in the west parking lot at Franklin Junior High at 48th St. & Franklin Ave. Market hours are 4-7 pm. The market has easy parking, and features a wide selection of vendors, fresh vegetables, prepared foods and great music. The Beaverdale Farmers Market is part of the Double-Up Food Bucks program for those with SNAP benefits. If you love your Beaverdale neighborhood and want to get more involved and meet new people, we are looking for volunteers. Email

info@beaverdalefarmersmarket.org or call 515-650-1652. Beaverdale Farmers Market is a 501c3 organization, managed by an all-volunteer board of directors.

We look forward to a fabulous summer, bringing fresh produce, local food, goods and music to the neighborhood. Join us as we "Plant the Seed" at the Beaverdale Farmers Market. See you June 7th.





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BLUEGRASS IS BACK!
FESTIVAL RETURNS TO TOWER PARK JULY 16TH

After a storm canceled 2019 event and Covid caused cancellations in 2020 & 2021, the Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival plans to return to Tower Park July 16th, 2022! The Bluegrass committee is working to finalize a band lineup and sponsors, if you are interested in volunteering at the event, please contact adam.plagge@gmail.com.



SHOWCASE YOUR HOME ON THE BNA'S 2022 TOUR OF HOMES (OR VOLUNTEER)!

Let's make the Biennial Beaverdale Tour of Homes in 2022 the best yet! The BNA is currently looking for volunteers to help plan the event, as well for homeowners who would like to feature their homes on the Tour.

It's been too long since we've been able to host this fabulous event, and we know you've all been making home improvements over the past few years...we've seen the contractor trucks! Imagine your home displayed on our promotional poster—what a unique memento and conversation piece that would make, framed and hanging on your wall? The 2018 Tour of Homes was a huge success, with over 500 guests touring seven beautiful homes. Homeowners who participated all found it to be a rewarding experience, as they met several people in the neighborhood and were able to show off their home improvement projects and specific decorating tastes. After the event, all of the homeowners and volunteers celebrated with a party at Saints, sponsored by the BNA. If you have interest in showcasing your home on our 2022 Tour, or if you'd like to volunteer for this event, please contact Sasha Kamper (mikesashakamper1@msn.com/515-480-2591). Once we have volunteers and interested homeowners, we'll plan for a date!



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HOW THE "FERGUSON BUNGALOW" BECAME A "BEVERDALE BRICK"

ARTICLE ORIGINALLY BY KELLY MOORE AND DREW R TILLOTSON 2007, REVISED BY ADAM PLAGGE

Before being known as "Beverdale Bricks," our classic brick homes were known as "Ferguson Bungalows." The name originated from prominent 1920s builder J.C. Ferguson, owner of J.C. Ferguson Realty Company Inc. who constructed more than 40 homes in Beverdale. Ferguson was a native of Tipton, Iowa and studied law at the University of Iowa. He later became Mayor of Creston for a time and then moved to Des Moines to build his family home in Beverdale at 4517 Beaver Crest.

Ferguson started construction in Beverdale in 1924 and received immediate interest, quickly selling 97 lots. Ferguson Realty Manager Oscar Powell stated, "It is the companies practice never

to duplicate a house in the same neighborhood without making sufficient changes to the exterior to differentiate it from those of similar design. The same floor plan can be used several times, however, by changing the exterior design, by using different brick and exterior trim, and by halving timbering and stuccoing gables, etc." Ferguson homes often featured iconic bathroom floors and counter tops in orchid, green and other interesting colors and used the 'highest standard' for hardware, plumbing, tile and electric fixtures.

Ferguson also appears to have been active in the Oak Park Neighborhood. In particular, the 4100 block of 11th Pl. appears to closely mirror the New

York Ave. and 43rd St. areas with many identical homes in both neighborhoods, sometimes in the same order, leaving a Beaverdalian walking through this area of Oak Park with an odd sense of familiarity.

An incomplete list of Ferguson-built homes in Beverdale is as follows: 4215, 4206, 4211, 4207, 4009, 4818, 4300, 4232, 4201, 4972, 5251, 4616, 4404, 4412 Urbandale Ave., 2805, 2811, 2823, 2348, 2800, 2809, 2827, 2804, 2808, 2813 43rd St, 2807, 2801, 2800 44th St, 1145 46th St., 4309, 4604, 4608, 4517, 4451, 4309 Beavercrest, 2514 Raymond Dr., 4331, 4327, 4312, 4308, 4304, 4300, 4312, and 4816 New York Ave.



Example of Twin Neighborhoods in Oak Park and Beverdale.

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REMINDER TIPS TO STAY SAFE THIS SEASON



We are well into spring and warmer weather invites outside activities. It also invites nefarious activity. Based on our crime statistics for the past few years, Beaverdale's two biggest crimes are home burglaries and burglaries of unoccupied parked cars. Therefore:

- Close and lock windows when not at home
- Lock doors with deadbolt locks (use 4-inch screws for the strike plate)
- Install motion sensing lights on the exterior of your home
- Have an alarm system or the indication of an alarm system (e.g. surveillance cameras)
- Keep your home maintained. e.g. mow lawn and trim back shrubs/bushes to prevent dark areas or hiding spots
- Keep garage doors closed
- When away for extended period, hold mail/newspaper, pull trash containers, ask a neighbor to watch home while away
- If you must park on the street, park in a well-lit visible area
- Do not leave valuable items visible in your car

But most importantly, connect with your neighbors and establish a neighborhood watch for your street or block. Not sure where to start? Visit <https://www.beaverdale.org/get-involved/neighborhoodwatch/>

BNA QUARTERLY MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 10TH, 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

The BNA will be hosting its Quarterly Meeting on Tuesday, May 10th at 7pm at the Northwest Community Center, 5110 Franklin Avenue. The meeting agenda will include updates from the Beautification, Public Affairs, and Special Events committees, as well as Officer Trudy Paulson from the Des Moines Police Department. We also look forward to hearing from the Des Moines Engineering Department on the Closes Creek Project and also The Parlor Pizza Restaurant. We hope you can join us too!



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CLOSES CREEK PROJECT STATUS — 48TH ST., FRANKLIN AVE. RESIDENTS WILL BE AFFECTED DURING STORM SEWER IMPROVEMENTS



Project Overview

As part of the City's plan to mitigate flooding in the Closes Creek Watershed, the City plans to continue to upgrade storm sewer infrastructure in this drainage basin. A stormwater drainage study was completed for this watershed in 2002, which established a prioritized list of recommended improvements. The City has completed approximately one third of the recommended projects, mostly from the Des Moines River to 34th Street as shown on the phasing map. Following the June 30, 2018 flood, an accelerated schedule for construction of the high priority projects was established with a City Council directive to complete Phases 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, and 3 by the end of 2023.

Project Status

The City completed construction of Phase 1A and Phase 1B in the

Fall of 2020. Construction of Phases 2A and 2B began in the Summer of 2021 and is scheduled to be completed in 2022. Phase 3 improvements were bid in December 2021 and the project was awarded to S.M. Hentges & Sons, Inc. The contractor is planning to start construction on Phase 3 in April 2022 and construction is scheduled to be complete in late 2023.

Residents who live on 48th Street between Hickman and Franklin as well as those who live on Franklin between 48th Street and Beaver, Closes Creek Phase 3 will directly impact you. Please join us on May 10th as a representative from Des Moines Engineering Department discusses Phase 3 on the Closes Creek project.



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Thanks to Alice Meyer and staff at Beaverdale Books for their assistance in selling signs on behalf the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association!

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Standard Yard Signs, 12" x 6" sign

37" pole.....\$30

54" pole.....\$35

Wording varies: Beaverdale, Beaverdale Neighbor, Beaverdale Brick, Beaverdale Garden, Beaverdale Home, and Beaverdale Native.

Special Order Yard Signs, 12" x 6" sign

37" pole.....\$35

54" pole.....\$40

Wording and style varies, such as: Beaverdale Cyclones (red letters with yellow background), Beaverdale Lane, Beaverdale Beanery, etc.

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HOW DOES EXERCISE BOOST IMMUNITY? SPONSORED BY EDENCREST AT BEAVERDALE

Now more than ever, seniors are looking for methods of boosting their Immunity. Let's take a closer look at the #1 recommended method - Exercise.

Improved Immune Response.

People typically have a limited number of immune cells circulating throughout their body. These cells tend to "hang out" in the lymphoid tissues and organs like the spleen, where they kill viruses, bacteria and other microorganisms which cause disease.

According to a 2019 scientific review in the Journal of Sport & Health Science¹ because exercise increases circulation of blood, it also increases the circulation of immune cells, causing them to roam the body at a higher rate and at higher numbers.

Think of exercising as you do housecleaning: If you vacuum your home for the first time in months, your home will look

better than if you never vacuumed. However, if you started vacuuming thereafter 3 times a week, your home will get cleaner and cleaner each time you vacuum.

Reduced Inflammation

Another benefit of exercise is that it decreases inflammation in the body-which, in turn, can also improve immunity. In fact, some research, like the 2004 study in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, links decreased levels of inflammatory markers to those that exercise more often and have higher fitness levels. Nieman says that goes hand-in-hand with immunity. When immune cells try to function with inflammation, it puts the immune system in a chronically inflamed state too," he says, which makes it harder to fight infection. Exercise naturally assists the body in fighting inflammation.

"Exercise really is a housekeeping activity, where it helps the immune system patrol the body and detect and evade bacteria and viruses," says study author David Nieman.



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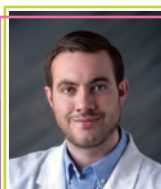
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For Business Memberships

Personal information is maintained as confidential for Beaverdale neighborhood organizations. Information will NOT be shared with any outside third parties. All mass email communications are sent utilizing 'undisclosed recipients'.

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**The BNA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3). Your membership may be tax deductible and could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer.*

PLEASE LET US KNOW YOUR AREAS OF INTEREST:

BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES:

Beautification Public Affairs Special Events

BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION GENERAL INTEREST:

Interested in serving on the BNA Board
 Other Skills/Interests: _____
 Business District Advocacy

BEAVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL (FALLFESTIVAL.ORG):

Planning Committee Volunteer Sponsorship

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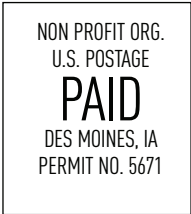


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Is your name, address, and membership status correct? If not, please tell us! You receive a copy of The Sidewalk because you are a resident of the Beaverdale Neighborhood and/or a dues paying member of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association. Please help us keep your information current. Send us an email so we can correct any errors.

membership@beaverdale.org

Please Check Your Info.



BEAVERDALE SCRUB EVENT - SAT, MAY 21ST

MWA TRANSFER STATION SCRUB: 4198 DELAWARE AVE., 7AM-2PM
MWA COMPOST CENTER SCRUB: 1601 HARRIETT ST., 7AM-2PM

MEGA SCRUB LOCATION:
POLK COUNTY RIVER PLACE, 2309 EUCLID AVE. 7AM-1PM

SCRUB stands for Spring Cleanup to Reduce Urban Blight. It is the City's mission to enhance the City's neighborhoods by allowing residents an opportunity to remove yard waste and debris from homes and yards to reduce the blighted areas within the City.

What kind of SCRUB events does the City of Des Moines sponsor? **Transfer Station SCRUB:** An alternate drop-off location used for SCRUB events. **Compost Site SCRUB:** A drop off site designated for yard and tree debris during SCRUB events. **MEGA SCRUB:** An event that is hosted by select neighborhoods within their section of the City. Residents are welcome at all of the other events as well. This year, there will be four Mega SCRUBs scheduled from April through September.

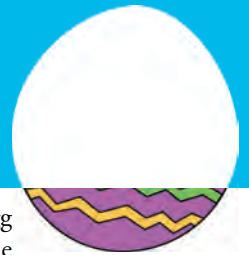
SCRUB EVENT REMINDERS

- Proof of Residency is required - Bring a photo id or current utility bill.
- Before each event, please review the SCRUB guidelines.
- MEGA SCRUB's now offer Household Hazardous Waste Disposal.
- SCRUB'S are free to Des Moines citizens, therefore you may experience longer wait times based on participation.

For a list of what you can dispose of and where to take it, as well as other SCRUB guidelines and SCRUB calendar, please visit:

https://www.dsm.city/departments/public_works-division/garbage_collection/scrub_events.php

FINALLY! ANOTHER EXCITING EASTER EGG HUNT IN BEAVERDALE



After three years, the Annual BNA Easter Egg Hunt was resurrected on April 9th—a welcome change following two long years of intermittent COVID lockdowns. More than 150 children, ages 0-10, stormed the fields of Beaverdale Park, searching for eggs filled with candy or prize tickets. Kids selected from a wide range of prizes, including stuffed animals, kites, puzzles, jumping ropes, coloring books and art supplies. Visits were made by the Easter Bunny and even by a Holiday T-Rex! Thanks to all who volunteered, helping to revive this rich Beaverdale tradition and making the event a great one!

