

The Sidewalk

Photography courtesy of John Holtorf

VOL. 13, ISSUE 4

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2018

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 Ibson 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

Hi Neighbors,

It's been a busy late summer/early fall for the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association. I appreciated the attendance of Mayor Frank Cownie, City Manager Scott Sanders, City Councilman Bill Gray and representatives of the City's engineering and public works departments at our August 14 quarterly meeting. They gave a very thorough and educational presentation on the City's infrastructure plans moving forward, then took questions from residents affected by the June 30 flood. On September 4, I was privileged to attend the City's flood debriefing meeting. The City has established several committees whose work will be incorporated into a comprehensive plan. I encourage everyone concerned about infrastructure and flood-related issues to contribute toward this effort by volunteering.

I've been to (and volunteered with) many Beaverdale Fall Festivals in my 25 years of living in the neighborhood and surely this year's was one of the very best. It takes dozens of volunteers to make this event happen every year, even more so as the Committee adds more events and activities to the weekend's schedule. My thanks go out to everyone who worked so hard to make this year's Festival a real showcase for the neighborhood.

On October 3, the BNA partnered with the West Side Chamber of Commerce to host our first-ever Healthiest State neighborhood walk. We were a small but mighty group, enjoying the one sunny day we've had in a while. After our walk, we gathered at Ibson Law Firm for lunch and conversation. Thanks especially to State Senator Janet Peterson, Polk County Supervisor Angela Connolly and City Councilman Bill Gray for joining us, and to my walk partner, Matt Connolly.

On October 4, we welcomed Meredith Corporation and Rebuilding Together to the neighborhood. Over 200 Meredith employees spent the day working on several private homes, as well as outdoor projects at Moore Elementary and Meredith Middle schools. Boys & Girls Clubs at both schools received a food pantry. At the end of the work day, Meredith employees delivered an evening meal to the families on whose homes work had been done.

ARE YOU A DUES-PAYING MEMBER OF THE BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION? 5400 separate households are included in the BNA. Fewer than 400 are currently dues-paying. An individual membership is just \$20 annually (\$40 for a family). We want to do more for our neighbors but "doing" takes dollars. Please go to Beaverdale.org today, click on "get involved" at the top, then join or renew your membership.

BNA BOARD POSITIONS OPEN: We currently have 2 spots open on the BNA Board of Directors, which meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Ibson Law Firm. We want one or both of these spots filled by a resident of the former Meredith Neighborhood Association but everyone I've asked has thus far declined. Will you step up and join us? E-mail me at ibsonlaw@yahoo.com.

As always, if there's anything I (or others on our Board) can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out via e-mail. Winter is coming. See you out in beautiful downtown Beaverdale!

**CeCe Ibson,
BNA President**

**BNA QUARTERLY MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 7:00 PM**

The next quarterly meeting of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association will be held on Tuesday, November 13th, 2018 at 7pm at the Northwest Community Center, located at 5110 Franklin Ave. Join us for committee updates, guest speaker Brian O'Leary (Douglas Avenue Coalition update), guest speaker Steve Herborn from Per Mar Security, and light refreshments!

Social time begins at 6:30 and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Any person wishing to be on the agenda for this meeting must contact Board president CeCe Ibson at ibsonlaw@yahoo.com at least 1 week in advance. For more information and agenda updates, please visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/beaverdaleneighborhood>.

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BEAVERDALE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AND ANNUAL SHOP HOP!

SAVE THE DATE — DECEMBER 1ST, 2018!

Again this year, your Beaverdale Neighborhood Association, Beaverdale Business Coalition and local business are working together to throw the best holiday celebration ever. We've worked hard over the past several years to expand Shop Hop and add on other fun activities.

On December 1, 2018, beginning at 4:00 p.m., we'll enjoy Shop Hop, a holiday lights bike ride (sponsored by Beaverdale Bicycles) and a holiday bar crawl (sponsored by BNA).

Santa will start at Grounds for Celebration at 5:00 p.m., hearing children's (and our) wishes and handing out gift bags. At 6:30 p.m., Santa will be at Beaverdale Books for story time. As always, thank you Marlyn Freese for your "in" with Santa.

Merchants, bars, and restaurants throughout Beaverdale will offer holiday specials and promotions.

Jen Veak, Beaverdale Bicycles, is coordinating and planning the holiday light bike ride. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and your e-mail inbox for more details.

BNA members are also coordinating and planning a holiday bar crawl. Details are still in the works, but we will let you know via social media (Facebook) and e-mail once locations are determined.

For more information and/or to participate or volunteer, contact Jay Kozel at jay.kozel@gmail.com.



FALL INTO FITNESS — FOR FREE! GROUP TRAINING SESSIONS AT ANYTIME FITNESS

We're excited to announce that the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association is partnering with Anytime Fitness Beaverdale, 2815 Beaver Avenue (2nd Floor), to offer FREE group training sessions on Sunday November 4, 11 and 18 and December 2, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

Join BNA president, CeCe Ibson, and her trainer, AF's Tyler Vapova, for classes geared toward Fitness at 50+, Weight Training for Beginners, Weight Loss Workout and other topics. These classes will range from 45 to 60 minutes and we promise a good time. Don't wait until the new year to make a fitness resolution. Get a jump start on your journey to better health, energy and well-being – all while enjoying your neighbors and our neighborhood.

We'll create a Facebook event with class details and include those details in the e-mail dues-paying members receive. You do not have to be a dues-paying member to participate, but you do have to live within Beaverdale.

UPDATE ON FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS

SUMMARY LIST OF PROGRAMS TO ASSIST RESIDENTS WITH FLOOD DAMAGE RECOVERY

In response to this summer's flash flooding event, the City of Des Moines has compiled a summary of the various programs available to residents to support recovery and mitigate the impact of future events. Much of the following information is featured in the Fall 2018 issue of City Source (available online at <https://bit.ly/2OPgtW4>).

PROGRAM	INFORMATION
City of Des Moines Flood Property Buyout Contact: Paige Phone: 515.283.4561	The city will buyout certain houses and duplexes that have been damaged by the recent flash flood. This is voluntary. This is only for properties that had substantial structural damage, are located in the floodplain, or located where the purchase may benefit infrastructure. Note: The city mailed information directly to homeowners who were red-tagged. This information included set deadlines for notification to the city. If those deadlines have since passed, homeowners may still contact the city to determine eligibility.
City of Des Moines Loan Program Neighborhood Finance Corporation Contact: Porchia Johnson Phone: 515.273.1368	The city will administer a loan program for homeowners that had damage to foundations or to their mechanicals, such as: furnaces, water heaters, sump pumps, general electrical systems. The loan is a 5-year, interest-free loan up to a maximum of \$6,000. The city will also pay the origination fees. The loan is available to fund recovery for damage caused by flooding.
Polk County Grant Program Administered by the City of Des Moines Contact: Tyler and Tara Phone: 515.283.4787	This grant is for individuals who experienced flood damage and whose income falls below 80% of the median household income. The grant is up to a maximum of \$6,000 and can be used for water heaters, furnaces and electric panels. Note: Certain deadlines apply.
Polk County General Assistance Contact: Doug Stodgel 2309 Euclid Ave. Phone: 515.286.3407	Polk County will help provide first month rent for individuals displaced by the flood as well as assistance for stoves, refrigerators and beds.
City of Des Moines Private Property Protection Program Phone: 515.323.8165 Contact: www.bit.ly/DSMpppp	This program can now reimburse 100% of the cost of installing sewer protection devices, installing or redirecting sump pumps and rainwater disconnection work. Reimbursements of up to \$1,500 will be provided to qualifying projects. Keeping rainwater out of the sanitary sewer helps keep sewage from overflowing into the river or backing up into basements, avoiding serious health hazards. Every home is different and there are a variety of ways to protect each one. Consult a licensed plumber of your choice to discuss the best ways to protect your home and property. Applications and more information available online.

BIRCHWOOD MONTESSORI SCHOOL

DES MOINES'S NEWEST MONTESSORI SCHOOL SERVING CHILDREN AGES 3-12.

Birchwood Montessori is located on the corner of Franklin Avenue and 48th street. The building has been home to First Federated Church, Des Moines Christian School and Franklin Junior High. Local developer, Jeff Young, has plans to use a portion of the building for a multi-use space would include leasable offices, a restaurant, music venue and more.

Birchwood's story began with a few dedicated Montessori-trained teachers and parents who were committed to providing an education for children that is developmentally appropriate, interest-driven and child-centered.

Nearly 100 years ago, Maria Montessori worked to develop an education model based on scientific research and observation. She designed classrooms to meet the needs of children at a particular stage of development. The approach values the whole child (emotional, social, physical and academic). Montessori believed children could change the world through peaceful interaction. She designed presentations that demonstrated peace, grace and courtesy. A presentation is defined by a brief lesson given to an individual child or small group. It is intended to 'hook' the child by sparking interest while teaching life skills.

A few components that set a Montessori school apart from a traditional setting are: multi-age groupings, multi-sensory materials that aid the child's learning, and blocks of work time where the child chooses work that is purposeful and constructive. A child stays in the same classroom with the teacher for three years. This provides for an environment that is alive with peer teaching/learning. The teacher carefully plans lessons and introduces materials when each child is developmentally ready. The classroom environment emphasizes freedom with limitations, responsibility and independence.

Learning in the Montessori environment is not teacher-led but child-driven with an emphasis on natural development. Children are actively learning and far from passive. The materials were scientifically designed to allow children to discover for themselves the truths about mathematics, language and culture. The role of the teacher is that of a gentle "guide" offering help when needed and not unnecessarily doing what the child can do independently.





Photography courtesy of John Holtorf

BEVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL SO MANY FIRSTS FOR 2018! NOW, MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SEPT 20-21, 2019!

2018 was a year of firsts at the Beaverdale Fall Festival!

The first-time Talent Show offered a \$500 prize package and brought in 13 different performers, including everything from partner acrobatics to original music performances. The Festival was also fortunate to be entertained for the first time by the Iowa National Guard 34th Army Band, Scrap Metal. Scrap Metal is a modern, New Orleans style brass band and really brought a new and interactive experience to the Festival. A Petting Zoo was added to the Kid's Zone on Saturday afternoon with lots of animals for kids and adults to interact with. We love making these things happen right in the middle of the street, free of charge!

Another first we are happy to announce - we have put out a survey to help the Festival Board continue to improve. The online survey can be found on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/BeaverdaleFallFestival/>. Check it out and let us know your thoughts and ideas. We love community feedback!

The Festival would not happen without our amazing Beaverdale merchants and sponsors, who help make many of the free events possible! Check out this year's sponsors on our website at fallfestival.org and thank them for supporting the Festival!

See you next year on September 20-21!

DOUGLAS AVENUE COALITION UPDATE AWAITING TRAFFIC MODELING INFORMATION

The plan for the Douglas Avenue corridor has been on hold while city officials work with the state and the DOT to iron out some details regarding Douglas Avenue and what changes can or cannot be made. As part of these discussions a more in-depth traffic study was desired and city council approved this traffic study along with an extension of our contract with RDG to complete the plan on a new timeline.

Since there has been a delay in getting this traffic modeling information, we have postponed the September steering committee meeting and are waiting on that before continuing the contract with RDG. We are anxious to get this process rolling and make efficient use of our remaining contract with RDG. To do so, we need to wait and ensure we have an accurate traffic model to work from. To stay updated on current progress and news, please visit our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DouglasAveDSM/>.

THANKS FOR A SEVENTH SEASON OF BEVERDALE FARMERS MARKET!

Your neighborhood market, featuring 50+ vendors and community groups, closed its seventh season on Tuesday, September 11. Memories linger of fresh farm produce, beautiful baked goods, flavorful prepped food, arts, crafts and community services.

We welcomed favorite repeat musicians and a few new ones. We enjoyed a swing dance group and a darling little boy who got the beat to Junction Jazz Society. Some vendors operate through the off-season; all are listed at beaverdalefarmersmarket.org/list-of-vendors/.

Many thanks to all our visitors, customers, vendors and neighbors. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Keep in touch via Facebook www.facebook.com/BeaverdaleFarmFest/.



ABOVE: The Beaverdale Farmers Market team stopped for a photo on closing night. Pictured here are... Back: Officer Latcham, Betty, Dave, Dan and Michael. Front: Kate, Andrea, Jane, Candace, and Ken with Henry & Abilene.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REMINDER: TIPS TO STAY SAFE FOR THE SEASON

1. As the outside temperature cools down, it's nice to open the windows and let in the fresh air. However, an open window is an invitation to a burglar. Make sure to close and lock windows when you are away from home.
2. If you plan on being away from home for an extended period of time, tell a neighbor so that they will keep an eye out for anything suspicious. Have them pull your trash, collect your newspaper/mail, mow your lawn or shovel your drive.
3. The holiday season is prime time for thieves. Keep gifts and valuables away from prying eyes. For those who celebrate Christmas, visible gifts under the Christmas Tree are an easy target.
4. If you park your vehicle on the street, don't leave any items visible inside the vehicle, and be sure to lock the doors.
5. Outside motion sensing lights and surveillance cameras are an excellent and inexpensive burglary deterrent. There are many options available and they are easy to install.
6. Install deadbolt locks on your doors with at least 3-inch screws into the strike plate.
7. Thinking of getting a dog? A barking dog is another excellent burglary deterrent. Chihuahua's work just as well as Labradors. Consider adopting a pet from one of the local shelters.
8. If you see something suspicious, call the police. Be prepared to provide as much detail to the police as you can so that they can effectively do their job.
9. Be a good neighbor. Look out for each other!

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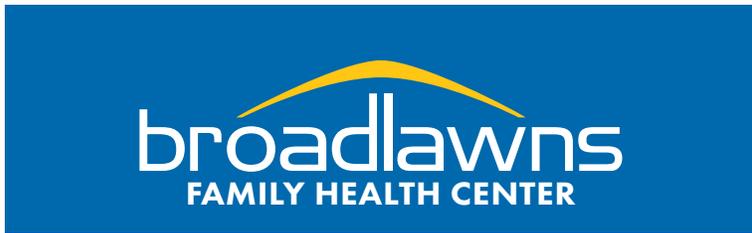
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WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A DUES-PAYING MEMBER OF THE BNA AND WHAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES SUPPORT

Established in 1917, Beaverdale has been consistently named one of the top neighborhoods in Greater Des Moines. It was even named as one of the prettiest neighborhoods in America by Forbes Magazine. The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association (BNA) represents thousands of households as the official voice of the neighborhood on issues of community concern. In addition to organizing many of the city's biggest events throughout the year, the BNA sponsors activities with local schools and non-profits. We also help host community forums and are active in promoting Neighborhood Watch efforts throughout Beaverdale. Many residents appreciate the public gardens, cleanliness of the area parks for events, and new trees springing up within Beaverdale. All are services that the BNA is proud to coordinate. The Beaver Avenue Streetscape is one of the biggest achievements between the BNA and our area partners. We look forward to continuing that progress throughout the neighborhood in the coming years.

For many of our residents, paid membership in the BNA is a no-brainer. We've been fortunate to have many new individuals and families moving to the neighborhood, though, and a frequent question is, "so what does my membership fee pay for?" For starters, none of the BNA board members or volunteers are paid. Membership fees are used exclusively for neighborhood activities. This includes events like the Easter Egg Hunt, Grass Seats Cinema, the annual Bluegrass Festival, National Night Out, the Shop Hop, and the Holiday Lights Contest. In addition to the assistance received from our dedicated business advertisers, membership fees are also used to pay for the quarterly printing of the Sidewalk, the Official Publication of the BNA.

As always, your membership is voluntary and very much appreciated. Please consider becoming a dues-paying member of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association and show your support for our neighborhood today!



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Please review the address mailing label for your membership status. If current membership has expired or if you are not a member, please complete and mail in this form with payment. We also offer an on-line registration with payment via PayPal for all memberships. To access, PayPal go to www.beaverdale.org. For membership questions, please contact Cindy Smith at cmsfhs@live.com.

New Member Renewal

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

COMPANY NAME _____
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'.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

\$20.00 Individual \$40.00 Family \$60.00 Business
 \$_____ Premier: Donate contribution in other amount.

**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: _____

BEAVERDALE BUSINESS COALITION (BBC):

Business District Advocacy

BEAVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL (FALLFESTIVAL.ORG):

Planning Committee Volunteer Sponsorship

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**WATCH FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT
OUR NEW LOCATION,
COMING SOON!**

PROVIDERS

Robert Callahan, M.D.

Jeanne Giddings, D.O.*

Sudeep Gupta, D.O.

Betsy Dettman, ARNP

Mary Klemesrud, PA-C

Kelly Pfundheller, ARNP

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**Dr. Giddings is not currently
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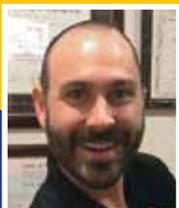
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Cindy Smith:
cmshfs@live.com

Stephenie Tiedens:
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BELL RINGS AT FRANKLIN JUNIOR HIGH

\$8MIL INVESTMENT PENDING REZONING—
HOTEL, OFFICE SPACE, RESTAURANT, MORE!

Franklin Junior High (48th and Franklin) will see an \$8 million investment in historic renovation starting this year pending a rezoning by the City of Des Moines. Plans for the 213,000 square foot building accommodates diverse use — opportunities to serve the neighborhoods around the former school and beyond.

Specifically, plans call for at least 30 hotel rooms on the second floor and a range of community and office spaces throughout the building. The former school cafeteria would become a restaurant. Two auditoriums are queued for performances. There are two gymnasiums for events, too. And the owner plans to add Franklin Junior High to the National Register of Historic Places.

The former school already hosts Birchwood Montessori School and just announced plans to host the second female owned and operated recording studio in the nation.

The project's traffic study will be available in October; the rezoning request follows.

Once rezoned, Franklin Junior High will quickly become a diverse campus benefiting our community, including the generation of significant property taxes for the City.

See more at <http://franklinjrhigh.com/>.

BEAVERDALE GARDEN WALK 2019

BE A SPONSOR OR VOLUNTEER!

The BNA Beautification Committee has been busy this fall recruiting gardens for the 2019 Beaverdale Garden Walk. We will soon be contacting potential sponsors to help us fund this great neighborhood event. The Walk is held on a Saturday in mid June, from 9 AM to 3 PM. It's a great opportunity to connect with other people interested in gardening and promoting our beautiful neighborhood. We have been holding this event every other year since 2005 and have showcased 45 different gardens throughout our neighborhood. Contact Nancy Dunbar at 255-2671 or dunbar.nancy@gmail.com if you are interested in being a sponsor or helping to plan the 2019 Garden Walk. Hope we can count on YOU!

