



# The Sidewalk

VOL. 14, ISSUE 4

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

FALL 2019

## BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: CeCe Ibson  
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 Ed Fishman  
 Tom LaPointe  
 Nick Mertes  
 Brent Millis  
 Adam Plagge  
 Kate Ross  
 Carl Saxon  
 Stacey Smith

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:bna@beaverdale.org)

## Hi Neighbors,

Fall has always been my favorite season of the year. But for the fact that it's followed by winter, my (and my car's) least favorites season. Fall in Beaverdale is particularly beautiful, I think. I love walking the streets of our neighborhood, with our mature trees and landscaped yards. I take as much inspiration as I can from everyone's plantings and decorations and have tried this year to make our front yard Beaverdale-worthy. As with everything, it's a work in progress.

As I'm writing this president's letter, I'm proud of a particularly seasonal addition to the landscape: **yard signs**. The number and variety of yard signs on display speaks to the engagement and commitment of our neighbors to our community, both close to home and on a broader scale. We're teaching our children a very important lesson – that they have the right and the obligation to participate in the political process. Your BNA Board endeavored to hold a candidate's forum for all running for elected office in this area, but scheduling the event around everything else unfortunately proved impossible.

This year's **Beaverdale Fall Festival**, held September 20 and 21, was again a rousing success. By my estimate (and I was pretty much everywhere in the neighborhood most of the night), Friday's night's crowd was a record-breaker. The rain held off long enough for the longest-ever parade on Saturday morning and wasn't near enough to deter our hardy neighbors and visitors from continuing the celebration well into Saturday night. My thanks to the entire Fall Festival Committee for their tireless work on this neighborhood showcase.

On October 10, we welcomed **Rebuilding Together Greater Des Moines** back to the neighborhood. Thanks to the generosity of **Meredith Corporation**, **Ashby Park** is now the home of beautiful new playground equipment. This is in addition to the work that started there last year, thanks to a bequest in a neighbor's Will.

Work continues at **Witmer Park**, where we also plan to install new playground equipment and a state of the art bathroom facility. Fundraising for these elements will gear up next year.

Business is booming in Beaverdale and we're pleased to welcome several new ones to the neighborhood. **Motley School Tavern** opened this summer in the old Chef's Kitchen space. **Oh! Sushi** opened on October 11 in Joe's Square (where LeJardin used to be) and **Curbin' Cuisine** has taken over the old Goodson's Pizzeria space next to Grounds for Celebration. **Franklin Jr. High** has been and will be the site of a number of events, including concerts, meetings, candidate meet-and-greets and, in February, precinct caucuses.

Fall is a relatively quiet time for your BNA Board, giving us some time to "catch up" on busy work. **Tom LaPointe** and **Nick Mertes** are getting ready to launch our membership drive neighborhood canvass. Look for the new Beaverdale Neighborhood Association door hangers. If you've joined or renewed your BNA membership lately, you received (or will) one of our new window clings. Just a little something to say "thanks" for your help funding the work we do.

Our revamped website is up and running, thank to **Brent Millis**. I got my membership renewal reminder for the first time, which I appreciated. I was quite embarrassed to discover I had let my membership lapse for several months last time around (not a good thing for your neighborhood president).

**Adam Plagge** has started uploading old Sidewalks and other memorabilia to the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association Facebook page. It's our goal to some day have a dozen plastic tubs of documents, photographs, etc. scanned, uploaded and available to the public on our website and social media.

**Jay Kozel** and **Kate Ross** are chairing this year's **Shop Hop** committee. Save **December 7, 2019** on your calendars for Shop Hop, a bar crawl and other fun neighborly events.

As I near the end of my second term as president of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association, I want to extend my thanks and gratitude to all who make this neighborhood what it is: the best darn city in the City of Des Moines.

**CeCe Ibson,**  
**BNA President**



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# BEAVERDALE HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

JOIN US ON DECEMBER 7TH FOR BEAVERDALE'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY TRADITION, FEATURING SANTA CLAUS, A BAR CRAWL, SHOP HOP, AND THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS BIKE RIDE.

Purchase a \$5 wristband at Grounds for Celebration (5-9pm) to get access to Bar Crawl specials and bonus Shop Hop offers all night long! All proceeds benefit the BNA. Join the BNA or renew your membership at the wristband table and your wristband is complimentary! PLUS...Snap a selfie at any three Bar Crawl or Shop Hop establishments and post them to the BNA's Facebook event with the hashtag #BdaleHoliday to be entered to win prizes!

## SANTA CLAUS

Snap a photo and have a laugh with Santa at Grounds for Celebration from 5:00-6:00pm. All attendees will receive a gift bag, and those who join the BNA or renew their membership will receive a complimentary Beaverdale tote bag. At 6:00, Santa will head to Beaverdale Books for storytime.

## SHOP HOP

Enjoy late hours, refreshments, events, and specials at these Beaverdale businesses. Get bonus offers at select locations with a wristband.

- ACE HARDWARE
- BACK COUNTRY
- THE FLOOR DOCTORS
- VINYL CUP RECORDS
- THE BACKROOM
- BEAVERDALE CONFECTIONS
- UPTEMPO MUSIC

## BAR CRAWL

Show your wristband and get food and/or drink specials at the following watering holes:

- THE DAM PUB
- MOTLEY SCHOOL TAVERN
- SAINTS PUB & PATIO
- GOODSONS
- PLAYERS SPORTS BAR & GRILL

## HOLIDAY LIGHTS BIKE RIDE

5:30-7:30pm starting at Beaverdale Bicycles. Come join us for a fun night of riding through Beaverdale and looking at the amazing lights! We will have cookies, cider and hot cocoa...plus some fun giveaways!!! Hosted by Beaverdale Bicycles. Follow @beaverdale-bicycles on facebook for more details!

FOLLOW @BEAVERDALENEIGHBORHOOD ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS.



## SHOWCASE YOUR HOME ON THE BNA'S 2020 TOUR OF HOMES (OR VOLUNTEER)!

The biennial Beaverdale Tour of Homes is scheduled for Saturday, June 13, 2020. 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. 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 2020 Tour, or if you'd like to volunteer for this event, please contact Sasha Kamper ([mikesashakamper1@msn.com](mailto:mikesashakamper1@msn.com)/515-279-0410).



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## BNA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2019

PLEASE JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

Our membership drive for 2019 is coming to an end! Throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall we have been encouraging business and neighbors to become members and /or renew their memberships to the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association. We have had many memorable conversations with neighbors, visitors from near and far, former residents and friends at the weekly summer long Beaverdale Farmers Market and this past month's annual Beaverdale Fall Festival. All were fun and chocked full of shared memories and experiences of the neighborhood. We have 5400 households in the neighborhood, but surprisingly less than 10% are members. The continued well spring of the neighborhood association, the SIDEWALK and other events, is your membership and your membership dues. So as we wind down this year's membership drive for 2019, consider joining or renewing, so we can close a financial gap in the membership account. You can do it with the form printed here or by visiting the website and doing it online. This will continue our investment in your neighborhood for next year and years to come. If you have joined or renewed, we Thank You.

## BEAVERDALE FARMERS MARKET

WRAPS UP ANOTHER FANTASTIC SEASON!

Beaverdale Farmers Market thanks all the vendors, visitors, shoppers and musicians for another successful season for our local market. We hope you enjoyed new features this year, such as the balloon artist and public safety night. The children's craft area was alive with activities and cheerful sounds; thanks to As always, the food and drinks are delicious and the vendors offer quality, locally produced produce, crafts, pet and personal care products. Parking and walking for people and pets is easy in our compact space.



Look through photos from this year's market on Facebook or Instagram: search for Beaverdale Farmers Market, then like and follow us. Thanks to Megan, our social media intern, for capturing the friendly vibe of Beaverdale.

We invite others to join the volunteer force at Beaverdale Farmers Market. BFM has an all-volunteer board; our only paid staff is our security officer. To learn more, message us through Facebook @BeaverdaleFarmFest or email info@beaverdalefarmersmarket.org. Keep tabs on the market and visit us online at www.beaverdalefarmersmarket.org.

## WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME A BUSINESS MEMBER OF THE BNA AND WHAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES SUPPORT

For only \$60 a year, your business can support the BNA's work on behalf of Beaverdale and engage thousands of residents. Benefits of business membership in the BNA include a free "Featured Business" spotlight in the Sidewalk, a listing on the BNA's website, and members-only emails that keep you up-to-date on neighborhood news and events. Help the BNA serve Beaverdale, and demonstrate to proud Beaverdale residents your commitment to the neighborhood with a BNA business membership! Join or renew at beaverdale.org, or email bna@beaverdale.org for more information.

## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE BNA JOIN TODAY!

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business District Advocacy

#### BEAVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL (FALLFESTIVAL.ORG):

Planning Committee     Volunteer     Sponsorship

#### BEAVERDALE MERCHANDISE:

I would like to receive more information about purchasing:

Apparel       Yard Signs / Address Signs

### REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.BEAVERDALE.ORG OR MAIL YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

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## CURBIN' CUISINE FROM FOOD CART TO FOOD TRUCK — TO A BRICKS-AND-MORTAR RESTAURANT IN THE HEART OF BEAVERDALE

Jarrod and Misty Fontanini started Curbin' Cuisine in May 2013 with just a food cart at the Beaverdale Farmer's Market and Beaverdale Fall Festival. Over the next several years, Curbin' Cuisine grew more popular and was repeatedly requested by numerous businesses and event coordinators in Des Moines and in surrounding towns. In January 2015 they expanded their business to a fully equipped Food Truck. This allowed them to go to more locations for lunches, dinners, and special events. In 2018 and 2019 they were voted into the Top Three Best of the Best Food Trucks by CityView. In October 2019 their dream to have a brick and mortar restaurant became a reality. The Fontanini's get to return 'home' to Beaverdale where it all began for them. Curbin' Cuisine is now open in the old Goodson's Pizzeria space next to Grounds for Celebration. Stop in for lunch or dinner Tuesday through Saturday and enjoy globally inspired foods to feed your body & soul: gourmet wraps, sandwiches, fry baskets and pizza's. Follow them on facebook @curbinuisine.

**Curbin' Cuisine**

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## NEW ASHBY PARK PLAYGROUND

THANKS TO REBUILDING TOGETHER  
AND MEREDITH CORPORATION

In October, the Meredith Corporation and Rebuilding Together Greater Des Moines donated new playground equipment valued at over \$150,000 to Ashby Park. Volunteers from both organizations constructed the new equipment—which includes sections for children aged 2-5 and 5-12—with assistance from the City’s Parks & Recreation Department, which also contributed additional site amenities and vegetative improvements. The BNA would like to thank the Meredith Corporation, Rebuilding Together, and the City’s Parks & Recreation Department for their generous contributions to this project, and encourage those in the vicinity of Ashby Park to go visit and enjoy the new equipment. Photo Credit: Tim Hielkema



## WITMER PARK PROJECT

### FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

FOR A NEW PLAYGROUND AT WITMER PARK

Construction is well underway on the Phase 1 improvements at Witmer Park. The park will be closed through May 2020 while work continues on ecological improvements, new concrete walking paths, a fishing pier, open air shelters, and pond rehabilitation. Thank you for respecting the park closure so the contractor can work safely and efficiently.

In the meantime, fundraising for Phase 2 amenities continues. The Witmer Park Project is pleased to announce that funds have been secured for a restroom facility, but fundraising for a new playground is ongoing. You can learn more and donate at [GoFundMe.com/WitmerParkProject](https://GoFundMe.com/WitmerParkProject). Together, we can make Witmer Park an even better place to play! If you prefer to donate with a check, please make it payable to Friends of Des Moines Parks with “Witmer” in the memo line and mail to: Back Country c/o Jay Kozel 2702 Beaver Ave. Des Moines, IA 50310.



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Please notify one of our membership coordinators if your address is incorrect or if you'd like to be removed from our mailing list. Please include your contact information in your message.

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Beaverdale Fall Festival.  
Photos courtesy of John Holtorf



**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**  
**BEWARE OF YOUR SPEED WHILE DRIVING!**

Drive like your kids/pets live here! A safe neighborhood begins with us. If your daily commute takes you through residential streets in order to reach major arterial streets, be respectful of others and slow down. Unless it's an emergency, 25 mph is the speed limit on residential streets. If you are experiencing issues with habitual speeders, contact the police traffic section 515 323-8370 or the non-emergency number 515 283-4811.



It won't be too long before we need to shovel snow. A driveway that hasn't been cleared is a strong indicator to a burglar that no one is home. Don't be a victim. Additionally, please be a good neighbor and clear sidewalks in a timely manner. On the flip-side, if you know a neighbor that may have health issues or is unable to clear their sidewalk, offer to do it for them. Take care and stay safe!