



Beechwood Park Homes Association

INCORPORATED

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Waterloo ON N2G 6J7

Recreation Centre:
293/5 Shakespeare Drive

Web Site: www.bpha.ca

SPRING NEWSLETTER

April 2015

BPHA DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

President	Nader Mohazab	Legal &	
Vice President	TBA	Tennis Director	Kathryn Craig
Secretary & Bookkeeper	Sue Edwards	Maintenance Director	Don Capes
Treasurer	Luke Eret	Social Co-Director	Tammy Chalk
Pool Co-Director	Susan Rosenbloom	Membership Director	Casi Zehr
Pool Co-Director	Christy den Haan-Veltman	Member-at-large	Mark Church
Past President	Joanna Armbruster		

WELCOME TO THE 2015 BPHA SEASON FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SPRING CLEANUP AT REC CENTRE SAT. MAY9TH(DETAILS BELOW)

The winter was cold and long, but your BPHA Board has been busy at work! We had a successful AGM in December, hosted in the wonderful new facilities of our community neighbour, Conrad Grebel. Our association continues to be in good financial shape thanks to the support of our membership and the work of your Board. With the weather warming up, the countdown is on until our facilities open for the summer. We are planning a spring clean up on Saturday, May 9th from 9:00a.m.-11:00a.m. We would love to see as many members out, as many hands make for light work! Please bring rakes, blowers, gloves, brooms, hedge trimmers etc and we will provide refreshments and snacks!

Weather permitting, the pool will open for swimming on Friday, May 22nd. With ten full weeks of summer vacation this year, we will be offering five full 2-week sessions of swim lessons starting June 29th and ending September 4th. This means there will be no swim camp this year. We are happy to announce that Eliana Rosenblum will be returning as Pool Manager and Maggie DiGravio will be returning as Assistant Pool Manager. They are excited to be returning and are looking forward to a fun filled summer.

Please mark your calendars for our opening BBQ on Monday May 18th in the parking lot of our Recreation Centre.

If you have not yet submitted your membership forms, never fear. Local Members(those families who live within our local boundaries between roughly MacDougall and Amos, east and west, and Lions Gate and Keatsway, north and south) are welcome to join at any time, and there is no limit on the number of Local members who may join our association!

Please use the link from our website, www.bpha.ca, to print the online application/waiver form **or use the hardcopy at the back of this newsletter**, and submit it with your cheque payable to "Beechwood Park Homes Association Inc."(sorry, but "BPHA" is no longer acceptable at our bank.) You can drop off or mail your signed application, waiver, and cheque, to our membership director, Casi Zehr, 347 Browning Place, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 2W2.

Your Board is excited about our upcoming 47th year of operation and is already preparing our facilities. Beechmount Pools was here this week to remove the cover and clean and start up the pool and before you know it tennis will be in full swing once the nets are in place. There will be plenty of activity this summer including our annual summer party in June, the neighbourhood Produce Stand every Wed. afternoon, and hopefully, some interesting speakers at our pavilion. If you are interested in getting involved on any of the Board committees (maintenance, pool, tennis, social, finance) just let us know. Thanks and see you at the pool!

Sue Edwards, BPHA Secretary/Bookkeeper (suecross15@gmail.com)

FAREWELL FROM TAMMY CHALK-SOCIAL DIRECTOR

I am sad to say that my time as your BPHA Social Director has come to an end as my husband Kevin and I are moving out of the neighbourhood. Thank you for the privilege of being part of such a wonderful, fun and caring community. Its been both fun and rewarding working as head of the Social Committee getting to know many of you and spending time with you at our many events.

Social Director Board Position Available: Since I am leaving there is an opening for a new Social Director. The Social Committee comprises 3-4 individuals who operate as a team so the load is not only on one person; the rewards absolutely outweigh the work. We would love to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering for this position. The other members and myself would be available to provide support so if you are someone who enjoys social activities and getting to know your neighbours this is the job for you!!!

UPCOMING BPHA SOCIAL EVENTS

- Victoria Day BBQ/Soapbox Derby/Fireworks, Monday May 18th 5:00p.m. at the Rec Centre. Bring a sidedish of your choice and plates/cutlery/chairs. And don't forget your ride for the Soapbox Derby! Fireworks at Clair Lake will follow at 9:00p.m.
- BPHA Garden Tours: Last year's Spring Tours were a huge success. If you would like to have your home included in future tours please let us know. Hopefully this event can take place again this year.
- BPHA Pool and Patio Party: Date to be announced shortly but usually around the 3rd week in June.

Thank You. Tammy Jordao Chalk, Social Director,(tammy@rogers.blackberry.net) Committee Members include Charlotte Schwartzentruber-Holmes, Monica Furniss, and Shannon Down.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS-BUY AND SELL

The McKennas on Shakespeare are searching for an adult size violin to purchase. If you have one for sale, please contact Katie at 519-725-5812 or email at kmacguire@gmail.com. Thanks.

The Hausers on Mohawk are selling their piano. It was built in 1993 from cherry wood, a Baldwin acrosonic, includes bench and tuning drone. Asking price: \$2000. If interested, please contact Sherry Hauser at hausersherry@gmail.com or 519-746-4829.

LOOKING FOR A HOUSE TO RENT THIS SUMMER IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

- We - the Andres family (with kids Kira, Thea and Zoe - a BPHA lifeguard) - are renovating our house this coming summer. We are in need of alternative housing from May through August. We would love to find a home in the wider Beechwood area, preferably an easy bike ride to the pool. A three bedroom home would be plenty of space. Please let us know if you hear of any homes available. Thanks, Margaret and Nolan Andres (519-746-7145 or Margaret@andresfamily.org).
- Bess Assimacopoulos-Markou, a local realtor who lives on Tennyson, is looking for a rental home in our community for a professor and his family and a pathologist. She can be contacted at markou123@rogers.com or 519-588-1834.

BPHA GETS A LITTLE LIBRARY

You've likely seen them the around K.W., or in towns and cities you've visited. The Little Free Library is a "take a book, return a book" gathering place where neighbours share their favourite literature and stories. In its most basic form, a Little Free Library is a box full of



books where anyone may stop by and pick up a book and bring back another book to share. Thanks to our Beechwood Produce Market we were able to purchase our very own Little Free Library. It will be installed in the next week or so once we figure out the best location for it. However, you won't be able to miss it. Three of our extremely talented neighbourhood artists have taken this little wooden box and turned it into a gorgeous piece of art. Thank you to Denise Strong, Kathy Chandler, and Sherry Czekus for creating something that we will all cherish for years to come. Come out and use our new Little Free Library.

Sincerely, Raegan Little (*Editor's Note: Thank you Raegan for spearheading this project from beginning to end.*)

WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The following families have recently moved to our community. We hope you enjoy living here as much as we all do and look forward to meeting you in the neighbourhood. Many of these families have or plan to join the BPHA.

- **Tolly Henderson and Alexa Hodgkinson** at 200 Mohawk and their children Kamilah 11 and Adrienne 7. Tolly and Alexa are coming from another Beechwood community .
- **Drs. Jim and Carole Wilkinson** at 189 Mohawk and their children Janelle who is studying medicine, Christina who is studying architecture and Lucas who is in Engineering. Jim and Carole moved here from Elmira.
- **Tim Shi and May Li** at 303 Algonquin. Tim and May recently moved here from Toronto. For Tim it's a bit of a homecoming, since he graduated in Computer Engineering from U. of W. seven years ago.
- **Brian Parker and Michelle Bridgman** at 270 Shakespeare Dr., and their children Madelaine 10 and Ruby 8, who moved here from the Mary/Allen neighbourhood last year.
- **Goran Rakita and Erin Smith** at 339 Coleridge, their 4 year old daughter Angela and their dog Lucy.
- **Robert and Laura Lemieux** at 323 Longfellow and their children Michelle and Renee.
- **Robin and Phyllis Lowe** at 249 Lion's Gate.

A DRIVEWAY STORY BY GRACE HARE, 271 SHAKESPEARE DR.

Grace, who is 10 years old, wrote this story in coloured chalk on her driveway. She rescued it before the rains could erase it. She hopes you like it.

My name is Grace. My last name is Hare. My favourite colour is Purple! I also love Cats! I love Art, Science, and doing gymnastics in gymtime.

My favourite store is Chapters! My favourite car is Acura. I go to Knox Church. My best friends are Naomi, Tessa, and of course Jorja!

Jorja is hilarious! Naomi is born to be loud. Tessa is born to be a Drama Queen! Maddy is also a good friend. Maddy isn't in our class so we don't talk as much.

My family is huge! I have my mom, my dad, 3 sisters, 2 cats, and soon to have fish! This is my life!

A POEM ENTITLED "A 2013 SUMMER IN BEECHWOOD" BY ROSE HARE, 271 SHAKESPEARE DR.

Rose is 12 years old and as you can see, a budding poet!

Summer Days, lonely nights, without anybody, cause they've turned out the lights.
A swaying step, a dip in the pool, all the shrimp we ate, made the heat feel cool.
Laughter over a wet skirt, cause ice turns to water, and a fight with wet dirt.
The creek is cold, a shock to your senses, I thought that we would never grow old.

THE HARRY POTTER INTERNATIONAL "LEAKYCON" CONFERENCE

What happens when you take several thousand young adult literature fans, put them in a building together for a weekend, and add just a touch of magic? You get an awesome Harry Potter conference! This past summer, my

sister Alison and I had the pleasure of travelling to our third LeakCon in Orlando Florida. Named for the Leaky Cauldron, a location in the Harry Potter universe, it's the world's largest Harry Potter conference.

LeakCon is amazing. The conference boasts numerous guests from the Harry Potter films, as well as internet celebrities like Hank Green, Neil Cicierega, and Hannah Hart. Its demographics are diverse as well. While the majority are teenagers and young adults, there are significant numbers of older and younger people as well, which only confirms the intergenerational appeal that Harry Potter has long been known for. Its also unique because a significant portion of LeakyCon's programming is driven not by special guests, but by regular participants. I had the opportunity to lead a talk this year on "Crazy Potter Questions", asking silly and perplexing questions about the Harry Potter world and all things in it.

LeakyCon is a great conference for anyone interested in Harry Potter or who wants to spend a unique weekend talking about wonderfully nerdy things. The conference teaches that it's not what you love, but rather how you love it. By creating an event centered on Harry Potter, LeakyCon is not only an awesome conference but an even better community.

Cheers, Nick Penner *(Editor's Note: Nick grew up on Longfellow and is graduating from Carleton University with majors in Communications and Political Science. He was also one of first Produce Stand volunteers! He will be working for the Liberal Party full time in Ottawa during the upcoming federal election.)*

NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH JOB ADS

- **Ryan Ellis**, 519-884-9896. If you'd like help with your spring yard clean-up, please give me a call. I'm a hard working high school student who lives near Centennial Public School.
- **Daniel J. Marshall Services**, 226-929-1825, danieljmarshall01@gmail.com. I offer lawncare and landscaping services. Feel free to call me. Thanks, Danny Marshall.
- **Oscar and Hannah Judelson-Kelly**, 519-342-4764, judelsonkelly@gmail.com. Are you looking for someone responsible to look after your kids? Well you are in luck! Hannah (16) and Oscar (14) are responsible, hard working, reliable, fun to be with and certified babysitters (Hannah by Red Cross and Oscar by St. John's Ambulance). Oscar is also available for garden work (pulling weeds, mowing lawn.) We are often around the community and the pool and would love to meet your kids!
- Need a Babysitter? The **Nairn** sisters (**Shannon** 17 and **Megan** 15) are here to help. We are both experienced babysitters with our Red Cross Babysitter training.
- Going away for a day or several? Need your mail picked up or your pet taken care of? The **Nairn** children (**Shannon, Megan and Daniel**) have helped neighbours with this and can help you too! Call us at 519-747-0827 or tgnairn@gmail.com.
- **Jenn Czekus**. I am a recent mathematical physics grad from UW and current graduate student available for elementary and high school tutoring in math and the sciences. I am also available for piano lessons. Jennifer.czekus@gmail.com.

ADULT JOB ADS

-**Anicka Bakos** (a.bakos@gmx.net) Need someone to proofread a document, an essay or a report? I am a U. of W. graduate with excellent language skills ready to help you with your writing needs! I am also available to assist with data entry.

-**Jeannie MacGregor** RMT, LionsGate, 519-888-9947 Jeanniemac@sympatico.ca. Besides being a Registered Massage Therapist for more than 25 years in our community, I also do canine massage and laser for injured and arthritic conditions and after care surgery. When owners bring their dogs to me, (or home visits) I show them how to comfort their dogs with some massage techniques to calm and reduce swelling and pain.

REALLY LOCAL SERVICES IN OUR COMMUNITY

While we don't normally highlight businesses in our newsletter, there are 3 unique services offered by individuals who both live in our community and do the great majority of their business in Beechwood that we thought would be of interest. Here they are.

- **Neighbourhood Lawn Care:** Joe Wyatt, who lives on Mohawk, has been offering high quality lawn care services to members of our community the past 5 years. Joe can be reached at 886-1648 or jnewyatt@rogers.com.
- **Black Island Bakery:** Bruce Frayne, who lives at 291 Hiawatha, is a passionate sour dough breadmaker (as well as a university professor), who began making bread for our Produce Stand a couple of years ago. You can now buy Bruce's delicious loaves all year round by ordering online at www.BlackIslandBakery.com and clicking on Bread Share, or emailing Bruce at blackislandbakery@gmail.com. Pickup is Saturday mornings.
- **Eric Gawman's Landscaping/Garden Design and Maintenance:** For many years, Eric Gawman, who grew up on Coleridge and still lives in the neighbourhood, has been offering unique, high quality, landscaping and garden design, installation and maintenance services; predominantly to homes in Beechwood. You can often see Eric hard at work in the neighbourhood with his white pickup parked nearby. Eric can be reached at 519-503-1041.

GIVING BLOOD

I encourage the members of BPHA to contact the Canadian Blood Services and donate blood. "It is in you to give". Less than 10% of the population donates and the need increases every year because of cancer and children's needs. O-negative (the universal donor) inventory is very low at 1,350 units. Please call 1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-230-6283)

Thanks, Sherry Hauser.

NEIGHBOURHOOD YARD WASTE PICKUP SCHEDULE

Dolores Penner wants to remind everyone that yard waste is only picked up every two weeks; the pickup schedule can be found here:

<http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/aboutTheEnvironment/resources/CityYardWasteScheduleRev.pdf>. Note that pickup of yard waste in Waterloo is only on the weeks shown in red on the calendar. Thanks, Dolores

FORMING A BEECHWOOD RESIDENTIAL RENTAL BYLAW COMMITTEE

The City of Waterloo's 2012 Residential Rental Bylaw (By-Law 2011-047) allows the city to regulate landlords regarding setting and enforcing property standards and tenant safety, and charging them an annual rental licence fee. This is an innovative bylaw in Ontario, attempting to balance the impact of student rentals in "family" neighbourhoods; and will be up for review in 2016. The City will be reviewing the current bylaw in 2016 to ensure it adequately meets the needs of all stakeholders and will most probably be heavily contested by the Waterloo

Regional Apartment Managers Association and the Ontario Landlords Association; both of whom would like the bylaw revoked or substantially amended. As one of the few remaining single family residential neighbourhoods near the UW campus, it will be important that we provide input during this review.

There are two ways for us to be proactive and make our voices heard at the City during this Bylaw Review:

- Form a Neighbourhood ByLaw Review Committee to provide the City input on the Student Housing issue. Both our local City Councillor, Jeff Henry, and City Bylaw Enforcement Staff have expressed a willingness to meet with our residents to build an understanding of the current Bylaw and its enforcement policies.
- Have a representative on the Town and Gown Committee: a joint committee with representatives from the campuses, the City and the residents. (I would be willing to serve as our representative on this Committee)

Any Beechwood residents interested in getting involved in this committee should contact Dianne Ratcliffe at Dianne.b.ratcliffe@gmail.com. Our efforts will be very important to the long term health of our wonderful community.

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD? DRS. ROLAND AND MARGARET AUSTRUP 290 ALGONQUIN DRIVE - 51 YEARS OF MARRIED LIFE IN BEECHWOOD AND STILL LOVING IT

If you ever want proof of the old saying “Home is where the Heart is” you only have to spend time with Roland and Margaret Austrup in their wonderful place on Algonquin Drive. Sitting with them in their lovely “living” room that overlooks their hillside treed backyard while drinking homemade Chai tea in front of a roaring fire, they took turns telling stories of their lives. Roland is 91 and Margaret ageless? Yet there is absolutely no thought of downsizing from the only home they have known during their 51 years of marriage. Not when they live in their dream home that they custom designed back in 1963, surrounded by a lifetime of possessions, books, family photos, and memories that represent the tapestry of their lives together; not while they continue to enjoy good health, and certainly not while their grandson Orion lives with them while he attends the University of Waterloo. It's not surprising, after listening to their interwoven biographies, that they continue to chart their own path in life which was serendipitous to say the least.

Roland and Margaret came from worlds apart. Margaret grew up in Pakistan, the daughter of a Christian missionary doctor and devoted mother. Her father, originally of the Muslim faith from Afghanistan, moved to Pakistan as a young boy where he was mentored by a British Doctor named Pennell who encouraged him to convert to Christianity and become a physician. Margaret remembers her father as a determined, ethical, dedicated man of medicine who served the people of their region for decades. Her father obviously was a major influence in Margaret's decision to follow in his footsteps and attend medical school in southern India after spending her teenage years in a British boarding school. Roland on the other hand, was from across the world, born in Münster Germany, the son of a Dentist, who went to medical school in Münster and Kiel after surviving 3 years of combat during WW 2.

Roland and Margaret both emigrated to Kitchener Waterloo to pursue their medical careers; Roland aboard the Arosa Star ship in 1954 and Margaret in 1960. Margaret planned to return to Pakistan after completing specialty training in Canada but fate had other ideas. It was in the Grand River Hospital cafeteria, only weeks after arriving from Pakistan that Roland, who was by then practicing family medicine, sat down to chat with Margaret while she was eating lunch with a friend. He was smitten immediately and their first official date was two weeks later at the

Charcoal Pit restaurant (now the Charcoal Steak House) where Margaret remembers ordering a hot dog because of a billboard sign she had seen shortly after landing in Canada. Roland chuckled heartily as Margaret told this story. After completing her residency, Margaret headed to Toronto to do a three year specialty in Obstetrics/Gynaecology while Roland stayed behind, living in a flat at the corner of Belmont and Victoria. They were married in Toronto on Dec. 21st 1962, honeymooned in Jamaica, after which Margaret returned to their flat in K.W. to begin her career. Their first child Roland was born in the spring of 1964 and they needed a bigger place to live in, in a hurry!

As luck would have it, they were invited to a party at a colleague's home, Dr. Cowan, on Algonquin Dr and soon thereafter purchased the lot next door at 290 Algonquin from Abraham Wiebe, the developer of our Beechwood community. They settled into their life together in Beechwood and their daughter Mona was born a couple of years later. They were one of the few doctor couples in K.W. at that time. For most of their careers their offices were in the same building on King St. in Waterloo and they often assisted one another with surgeries. As Roland explained it, in those days Family Doctors performed minor surgeries like appendix, tonsils, hernias, as well as delivered babies, and assisted specialists with more complex surgeries on his patients. And he made house calls! Always with a shirt, tie, and jacket, even at 1:00a.m. Roland retired about 25 years ago while Margaret was a respected gynaecologist in K.W. for almost forty years, serving as Chief of Obstetrics at St. Mary's hospital for seven years and delivering thousands of babies in the community during her career, including some right here in our community. She still acts as a surgical assistant at both hospitals on a regular basis leaving Roland time to pursue his love of reading history and doing the cooking.

Notwithstanding their busy professional lives, Roland and Margaret have always had a zest for life and lived life to the fullest. Their son Roland pursued a career in finance and is married with three children while their daughter Mona is an anesthetist and is married with one child. Skiing was a passion for the entire family and they belonged to the Conestoga Sailing Club. They always had many friends in the Beechwood community including the Stevens, Currants and Hausers, and were members of the BPHA neighbourhood association when it began in 1968 and have recently rejoined. They also love to travel the world, which they continue to do even now with trips to Turkey and India the past couple of years and a trip to Peru planned for this year. According to Margaret, Roland was once mistaken for Prince Rainier during a trip to Monaco until they looked at her and realized she was not Grace Kelly (the black hair gave her away!).

Before leaving their home, Roland and Margaret were kind enough to lead me on a photo tour of their life, stretching back in time to their home towns and countries right through to today. What a great life it's been!

I hope you enjoy the Spring Edition of the Beechwood Newsletter. If you have any suggestions to make it better please let me know. Many thanks once again to all those who provided content for this issue, and especially to my able editor Andrew Beamish. Have a great summer!

Steve Singer (singercutt@golden.net) 269 Shakespeare Drive