

# Beechwood Park Homes Association

INCORPORATED

*Mailing Address:*  
PO Box 22016  
Westmount Postal Outlet  
Waterloo ON N2G 6J7


*Recreation Centre:*  
293/5 Shakespeare Drive

*Web Site:* [www.bpha.ca](http://www.bpha.ca)

## SPRING NEWSLETTER

April 2017

### BPHA VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS and OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Dianne Ratcliffe	<b>Maintenance Director</b>	Don Capes
<b>Vice President</b>	Ivy Friedman	<b>Social Director</b>	Sue Edwards
<b>Secretary</b>	Alison Frayne	<b>Tennis Director</b>	Mark Baetz
<b>Treasurer</b>	Luke Eret	<b>Pool Co-Director</b>	Christine Valente
<b>Payroll Officer</b>	Lisa Heaton	<b>Pool Co-Director</b>	
<b>Membership Director</b>	Shelley Nippard (Until May 30, 2017)	<b>Bookkeeper &amp; Membership Director</b>	Jun Jiang (effective June 1, 2017)

Currently Recruiting for: Pool Co-Director

**Spring Clean-up at the Rec Centre Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup> (rain date May 6<sup>th</sup>)**

### 2017 BPHA BOARD MESSAGE

#### **President's Message: Look What's Happening!**

On behalf of the entire Board, we welcome the 2017 season and are starting to look ahead to 2018<sup>th</sup>, which will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Association! We encourage all neighbourhood residents to become BPHA members and have attached a Membership Form/Calendar of Events should you wish to join us. Keeping the association strong keeps our neighbourhood strong. We all benefit in terms of the quality of life, the safety of our surroundings, the financial value of our homes and the general well-being that comes from the knowledge that neighbours are looking out for neighbours here in Beechwood Park!

Our Association is only as strong as its membership base and it's Board; and this year our Board is off to a stellar start! Our first year members/officers include:

- **Christine Valente** as Pool Co-director (she & her family have lived on Mohawk for approx. 8 years)
- **Ivy Friedman** as Vice President (she & her family have lived on Hiawatha for more than a decade).
- **Jun Jian-Campbell** as incoming Membership Director & Bookkeeper (she & her family moved to Mohawk in August 2016).
- **Mark Baetz** as Tennis Director (he & his wife have lived on Amos for over 30 years, where they raised their children). In fact, this is a return engagement for Mark, as he also served as our BPHA Tennis Director several decades ago. Welcome back Mark!
- **Lisa Heaton** as Payroll Officer; Lisa & family have lived on Algonquin for decades.

Returning Board Members include:

Alison Frayne; secretary since February 2016; Don Capes, Maintenance Director since 2014; Luke Eret Treasurer since 2012; Shelly Nippard-Roussel, Membership Director since 2015 (retiring on May 30); & Sue Edwards, Social Director/Bookkeeper/Secretary since 2013 & myself, Dianne Ratcliffe, President since 2016.

This is an amazing group of like-minded people who are committed to the success of our Association and our community. It is a privilege to serve on the Board with them! We also must send a heartfelt 'thank-you' to all those Board members who retired during 2016: Christy den Haan-Veltman, Kathryn Craig, Michelle Bridgeman, Mark Church, and Susan Rosenblum. Thank you for your service to our BPHA!

This newsletter includes our **2017 Annual Calendar of Events** which we hope will find a spot on your family bulletin board! Some of the **NEW items** to note include:

- **'Neighbours Being Neighbourly'**: with Valentine's Day & Family Day, February is a month all about relationships. In keeping with that theme, we encouraged neighbours to invite a few others over for drinks/food/games). This suggestion was met with at least **12 social gatherings** during the month of February. Congratulations to us! Let's see if we can top this in 2018!
- We've added early pool opening on **3 PD days on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**. Pool opens at 1pm!
- We are introducing Pancake Lunch Fridays at the end of each summer lesson session (July 14 & 28, August 11 & 25); same price as the hotdog lunch (\$3.00). Children, of all ages, will be welcome for lunch. ☺
- The final hour of swim **EVERY NIGHT** of the week, will be **Adult Swim & Quiet Family Swim**. This is in response to interest from our adult members to create some time for them to mix & mingle more frequently. We hope many adults will walk over to chat quietly as evening falls - you don't need to be a swimmer to come visit.
- Continuing to build on the Adult Member theme, our brilliant Social Director, Sue Edwards, has also re-jigged the Women's Summer Social & the Cookie Exchange into events for all adult members. Hence our introduction of the **'Adult Summer Social'** - August 24<sup>th</sup> - & the **'Holiday Cheer & Cookie Exchange'** - December 6<sup>th</sup>.

The final part of this update regards our Summer Staff Team! We are pleased to welcome returning team members:

- Michael Frazer as our Pool Manager; Michael has lived in the neighbourhood forever & has worked at our pool for 3 summers, in fact, his Mom, Becky, was a Board Member way back when.... If you look carefully, you'll find Michael's name on our Mini Olympics Trophy! A real neighbourhood star! Michael currently attends Guelph University.
- Zoe Anders as our Assistant Manager; this is Zoe's 3<sup>rd</sup> year at our pool and we are so happy to have her returning! Zoe & her family have been very active associate members for many, many years! Zoe attends University of Waterloo/Conrad Grebel Campus.
- Lauren Hunter; returning after one year. Lauren lives in the neighbourhood with her family and is a student at Guelph University.
- New this year are: neighbourhood students Carly Knibutat, Victoria Giguere, Erik Steiner (part-time guard) & Tessa Hedrick (substitute guard). In addition, we are welcoming Abigail Toman, a former resident of the neighbourhood & Shealyn DeCoppel, recommended by both Michael Frazer & Lauren Hunter!
- Our Tennis team will consist of many returning neighbourhood faces including: Tom Paraschuk, Oscar Judelson-Kelly, Kimia Kordestani and Carly Knibutat.

Looking forward to a great year ahead for our community and hoping to see loads of neighbours out for our Spring Clean-up on Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>! *Kind Regards, Dianne*

## **THE 10<sup>TH</sup> SEASON OF THE BEECHWOOD PRODUCE STAND BEGINS JUNE 14**

We are very excited that our Beechwood Produce Stand will be up and running less than 2 months from now when strawberry season is upon us. If you or your children would like to help out at the stand in any way this summer, just let Dolores Penner or myself know. *Thanks, Farmer Steve*

## **RETHINK WASTE: The New Waste Collection Changes are here!**

The new, every second week garbage collection schedule applies at our Rec Centre as well & it will take all of us to make a successful transition to the new system. Last year, we easily put out 3-4 bags of waste EVERY week! This year we will be limited to 4 untagged bags every 2 weeks. To that end we will:

- Increase the number of blue boxes & green bins on site. As well as posting educational materials regarding what items can be recycled & which must go to the landfill.
- Ask our summer staff to encourage the children to properly recycle items
- We need the help of all adult members to help educate & supervise the children. To help 'lighten the load' at the Rec Centre, we encourage members to consider simply taking their waste home with them to dispose of there.

## **A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BEECHWOOD COVENANTS**

Beechwood Park is one of 12 Beechwood Homeowner Associations that was established by Abraham Wiebe's Major Holdings Development Corp. between 1968 and 1982. Each of these 12 Associations was gifted Recreation Centres by Major Holdings that were to be owned and managed by the Association through a Voluntary Board of Directors. Funding for these recreation centres was guaranteed through a legal covenant inserted in the property deeds requiring all homeowners to pay annual dues. These covenants were to remain in effect for a specified period of time; in our case approximately 40 years after which they would become null and void. Our Dues Covenant had a staggered expiration period; 110 homes in 2005 and the remaining 35 homes in 2010. Since then Beechwood Park has operated successfully on a voluntary basis with no restrictive Dues Covenants in place to ensure a guaranteed stream of income.

Beechwood Park is the only Beechwood that operates in this way. Some Beechwoods still have covenants in place while others, like Beechwood 2 and Beechwood South, have elected to become part of the City's Special Area Levy (SAL) Program after their covenants expired. This SAL program ensures that all homeowners in these areas continue to pay annual dues; just as the deeded covenants did before. Recently, a third Beechwood Association, Beechwood North, went through the process of trying to get approval from the neighbourhood to join the SAL program. However, as described in the March 23<sup>rd</sup> issue of the Waterloo Chronicle, unlike Beechwood South and Beechwood 2, their attempt unfortunately proved unsuccessful when they were unable to attain the 2/3's homeowner vote threshold required by the city. It remains to be seen what the future now holds for them.

Through the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers who have served the Association during the past decade, as well as the support of its membership, Beechwood Park has continued to thrive and maintain the legacy begun almost 50 years ago. However, the Beechwood North story serves as a cautionary tale that we can't become complacent and take the continued health of our Recreation Centre and Association for granted. Our Recreation Centre has been a place where for almost 3 generations neighbours young and old have come to meet, chat, have fun and create lifelong friendships. It binds our community together. Let us all do our part so that Beechwood Park continues to thrive.

## **LOOKING FOR A LARGER HOME**

Dear Fellow Beechwoodians: We are a family of 5, our newest member joined us last May. We are quickly outgrowing our home on Iroquois Place and are on the lookout for something bigger. We absolutely love this neighbourhood, and are hoping to find a new home here. If you are thinking of selling your 4+bedroom home, we would love to hear from you. Happy Spring! *Joel, Lisa, Alexandra, Nicolas & Theodore Blit (jnblit@yahoo.ca)*

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD CAR BREAK-INS ALERT**

Recently, there have been several car break-ins on Hiawatha, Coleridge, and Amos. Thieves mostly stole from cars that were left unlocked on the driveway. These are not sophisticated thieves but every time they are successful, it encourages them to come back to our neighbourhood. There are some simple things we all can do to avoid these incidents including:

- Always locking your car doors, whether the car is on the driveway or in the garage
- Never leaving valuables (wallets, loose change, keys, garage remotes, gps units, etc.) in the car
- Keeping your garage doors closed (thieves will walk in and take a bike, tools, lawnmower, or something from your car)
- Keeping your door from the garage into the house locked
- Keeping an eye out for suspicious people in the neighbourhood and reporting them to police if necessary.

Unfortunately, our sister neighbourhood, Beechwood South, has also seen trouble. Car vandals slashed tires in over 17 driveways the last week of March. For more information on this see the link below.

<http://www.cbc.ca/beta/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/waterloo-cambridge-vehicle-damage-vandalized-thefts-1.4045621>

## **NEW NEIGHBOUR ARRIVALS IN BEECHWOOD**

On behalf of the entire neighbourhood, we welcome the following new families who have moved into our community recently. We know you will enjoy living here as much as we all do.

- 285 Algonquin: Pat and Lynn Pavlich and their children Julie and Natalie. Pat and Lynn were Associate members of BPHA previously and loved the area so much they decided to move back.
- 253 Shakespeare: Dick Schnarr, an original resident since 1971 recently moved into a Seniors Home in Waterloo. His children Karen, and Phillip (and Phillip's wife), who grew up in Beechwood, are moving into the home; maintaining the legacy of the Schnarr name in our neighbourhood. Wonderful!
- 298 Algonquin: Like the Schnarr home above, Steve Kelley, his wife Jessica, and his 2 children Sam (7) and Findlay (4) have moved from Westmount to Beechwood to Steve's childhood family home. Steve's parents were longtime Beechwood residents and Steve said he always had it in the back of his mind to move back to the street and neighbourhood where he had so many fond memories.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Like the Kelleys and the Schnarrs there are several other neighbours including the Camerons on Shakespeare and the Chris family on Hiawatha who moved back to their family homes here in Beechwood.

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE KEATSWAY SCHOOL COUNCIL**

Keatsway Public School is having their 2017 Spring Fun Fair on the evening of Thursday, June 15, 2017. All proceeds raised from this event will be going to the school's new playground. This project is a huge endeavor, but an important one that will provide our students and all neighbourhood children with a safe environment in which to play. To assist in raising these funds, Keatsway is requesting donations of items that may be used for the Fun Fair Silent Auction. As always, our local families that don't attend Keatsway are also invited to attend the fun fair and enjoy an entertaining evening for both children and parents alike. Former Keatsway students looking for volunteer hours, your help with various events for the evening of the fun fair would be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions about the playground project, or would like to contribute to the Fun Fair, please contact us at [Keatswayschoolcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:Keatswayschoolcouncil@gmail.com). *Thanks, Christine Valente*

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH JOB ADS**

- Madeline Parker (270 Shakespeare Dr.) Hi. I'm Madeline and I am now available for babysitting and as a mother's helper. I have taken the babysitting course and have already begun babysitting in the neighbourhood. I can be reached at 519-579-7678. Thanks.
- Emy Mingiardi (273 Shakespeare Dr.) I am 13 years old. Do you need a babysitter to look after your kids? Or pet care? Or help around your house. I am responsible and experienced with a Babysitting Certificate from the Red Cross. If interested, please contact me through Anne Marie [amingiardi@rogers.com](mailto:amingiardi@rogers.com) or at 519-886-5602. Thanks.
- Lucas Midwood (Craigleith Drive) Whether you're stuck in traffic and require a visit on short notice, or you wish to leave your pet at home whilst away on vacation, Lucas is able to visit your pet, feed and exercise as instructed. He has familiarity with fish, birds, reptiles, cats and dogs. Lucas can be reached at 519-957-9136.
- Jenn Czekus (Longfellow Dr.) [jennifer.czekus@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.czekus@gmail.com) 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.
- Oscar and Hannah Judelson-Kelly (Hiawatha). Do you need someone to look after your kids? We are responsible, hard-working, fun and caring babysitters who would love to help out. We are certified by St. John's Ambulance and The Red Cross and are available to tutor in both school subjects and musical instruments. You can call us at 519-342-4764 or email them at [oscarjk10@gmail.com](mailto:oscarjk10@gmail.com). We are frequently around the pool area and outside in the neighbourhood. Oscar is also available for house work such as house and pet sitting and yard work.
- A.J., Zack, and Josh Gay (Browning Place) We are called A to Z Outdoor Maintenance and we are available to do your lawn mowing, snow shoveling, and leaf raking. Feel free to give us a call or text at either 519-242-7221 or 519-658-7221. Thanks.
- Daniel and Peter Marshall offer premium hardwood firewood for pickup and delivery at competitive rates. For more information please contact Daniel at: 226-929-1825 or [firewood@danieljmarshall.ca](mailto:firewood@danieljmarshall.ca). See our website at [www.danieljmarshall.ca/firewood](http://www.danieljmarshall.ca/firewood).
- Marshall Services is operated by Daniel and Peter Marshall who live on Mohawk. They are experienced in landscaping and lawn maintenance. They are open to seasonal contracts or on a week-to-week basis for lawn care. They also offer landscaping services including: new sod, garden construction, mulching and more. Please contact Daniel at 226-929-1825 or [daniel@danieljmarshall.ca](mailto:daniel@danieljmarshall.ca). See our website [www.danieljmarshall.ca/contact](http://www.danieljmarshall.ca/contact).
- Stratton and Emma Windsor (Shakespeare Drive) Stratton (16) would like to snow shovel for neighbours ([swindsor15@gmail.com](mailto:swindsor15@gmail.com)) and Emma (14) is available for local babysitting ([winde2003@gmail.com](mailto:winde2003@gmail.com)).

## **A POEM AND A JOKE**

A Joke by *Kyri Friedman*: Which city is the opposite of New York City? Answer: Mini-apple-is (Minneapolis)

A Poem by *Rivi Friedman*

On a small sandy island, Where palm trees grow tall,  
The sun burns the plants, Like knees scraped from a fall.  
And hours on end seem to go by, As the fish keep on jumping,  
some seeming to fly.  
The clouds start to thicken, Sun starts to go down,  
As it seems to set fire, To waves not yet found.  
All through the night, Stars seem to be lit,  
By the old glowing moon, Throwing a fit.  
And somewhere at sea, A boat floats away,  
In search of a new land, On a moonlit pathway.

## **CLAIR LAKE PLAYGROUND COMMUNITY BUILD DAY JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2017**

As you may know, our new Playground, situated on City Land between Centennial School and Clair Lake, will be built this spring. We are so excited that this new addition to the neighbourhood is becoming a reality so quickly through the unbelievable community and municipal support we received. We'd like to invite you to help complete the Clair Lake Playground and celebrate reaching this major milestone! Preparatory work will be completed in advance so that, with the help of neighbourhood volunteers like you, we can complete the playground on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details regarding the groundbreaking celebration, duties of our community volunteers, and activities for children, and the timing. *Sincerely, Elana Chand, Amos Ave., elanazc@outlook.com*

## **THE PASSING OF DIGGY**

Our newsletter has never included the passing of a pet, until now. Diggy Armbruster, the German Shepherd dog of Joanna, Armand, and Elena for 17 years, passed away peacefully last week. Diggy was a fixture in the neighbourhood around the Clair Lake Path on Shakespeare Drive for many dog walkers and others who she sweetly greeted as she patrolled her domaine. She will be missed.

## **GUATEMALA VISION MISSION TRIP FEBRUARY 2017**

Jim and Carole Wilkinson, who live on Mohawk and are both Optometrists, describe below their recent volunteer experience in Guatemala.

VOSH, Volunteer Optometric Service in Humanity (Ontario) has had another successful mission trip to provide eye exams to the most neglected and impoverished citizens of Guatemala. Farmers and their families must pick crops of corn, black beans, sugar cane, and coffee, receiving a wage of only dollars per day. Our group has for over 15 years gone to remote villages to do approximately 900 eye exams per year and match patient prescriptions to donated glasses largely collected by the Lions club through Optometric offices. We also make an average of 65 referrals per year to Dr. Hernandez, a Guatemalan eye surgeon for nearly blind cataract patients who donates his time. All the volunteers donate all the costs for meals, travel and accommodation, medications and surgical supplies. Special cases of unusual and extraordinary glasses prescription that are beyond the best match practice from donations are specially ordered. Cases requiring oculo-plastic surgery or advanced specialty surgery are considered by the group for compassionate fundraising, often with support from the team. This year we were thrilled to have two new doctors on the team; Dr. Carole Wilkinson (Optometrist, Elmira) and Dr. John Wilkinson (Ophthalmologist, Cambridge). Due to the remoteness and limited mobility between these mountain based farming communities, a very strong expression of recessive gene conditions exist. It often takes three years to see just the most needy in a given region. Despite getting up at 5am for 8 days and working in conditions that are improvised, the strong support from the town and village leaders make it all worthwhile. We are like family now and each year our community is able to give to their community the gift of sight. This compassionate and rewarding experience draws us back every year.

For those who may be interested in supporting our work, donations to VOSH.org Ontario Chapter would be appreciated. Our contact person is Dr. John Hohner and his email address is: [eyeguy@ezlink.on.ca](mailto:eyeguy@ezlink.on.ca). He will advise on how to direct the funds to the appropriate project. Tax deductible receipts will be provided by VOSH. All funds go straight to the Guatemalans in need.

*Sincerely, Jim and Carole Wilkinson*

## **NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

- Marjah Tajibnapi and Chris Copp (Coleridge) are happy to announce that their daughter Roz and fiancée Greg Stewart are getting married on July 5<sup>th</sup> in Puglia, Italy.
- Alison and Bruce Frayne's (Hiawatha) 2 boys Oliver and Nicholas are currently on coop terms from U. of W. Oliver, who is in Urban Planning, worked in Perth, Australia with Creative Design & Planning. Nicholas, who is in Architecture, is working with Moshe Safdie & Associates in Somerville, Mass. Mr. Safdie is a world renowned Israeli/Canadian/American architect who has designed numerous iconic buildings around the world.
- Jim and Carole Wilkinson (Mohawk) have 3 children. Their son Lucas has just accepted a job at Apple headquarters in Cupertino, California. Their daughter Christina is beginning an internship at an internationally acclaimed architecture firm in Hong Kong. Their other daughter Janelle is enjoying her Family Medicine Residency at Shand's Hospital in Florida.
- Judy and Bob Blowes (Upper Shakespeare) are pleased to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Liam, to their daughter and son-in-law Beth Blowes and Paul Cescon on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Beth was an instructor/guard at our Rec Centre back in 2003-2005 and returns quite often to enjoy the neighbourhood.
- Sherry and Gary Hauser (still members after moving out of their home on Mohawk last year) are pleased to announce the birth of a grandchild, Eleanor Jane, to their daughter and son-in-law Andrea and Matthew Dec. 31. Andrea grew up in the neighbourhood and was also an instructor at our pool centre for several years.
- Congratulations to Frank Janssen, a longtime resident on Shakespeare, whose company SpinRite Yarns of Listowel was recognized by MacLeans magazine as one of the top 50 Best Managed companies in Canada. SpinRite employs 500 people and is one of the world's leading manufacturers of knitting yarn. Frank is their Operations Manager.
- Congratulations to Summer Lemieux (Stage Name: Summer Raedell) who lives on Longfellow for being chosen to play her original composition entitled Storm at a PreGrammy Event in Los Angeles in February at the El Rey Theatre. What an honour! Summer is graduating from the Eastwood Arts Program this year. Some of you may also recognize her as our resident Facepainter in the neighbourhood during the summer months.

## **BEECHWOOD PARK REFUGEE GROUP UPDATE**

Our sponsored family has now been in Canada for about 8 months and is doing quite well. Chantale (mom) has been attending ESL at St. Louis school. Son Roland is just completing the courses he has taken at St. Louis school. He has been accepted into WLU's Financial Math program and is waiting to hear from UW and McMaster regarding the other programs to which he applied. Daughter Yolande has completed grade 11 and is working on getting the required grade 12 academic credits to apply to university this fall. Niece Abigaele and nephew Gradie have been getting ESL help as well as taking regular high school courses and are also doing quite well. They will both continue at Eastwood Collegiate next year.

As our neighbourhood's financial commitment to the family will end in July, all 5 family members are looking for work. Chantale would like to get a permanent, full time job. Roland is available for full time work, starting now, through to the end of the summer. Ideally, he would like to continue with part time work while he pursues his university studies, Yolande, Abigaele and Gradie are looking for full time summer work, for the months of July and August.

We are hoping that some of our neighbours might have ideas on employment opportunities for the family. They live just behind Fairview Mall in Kitchener, and can commute by bus as needed.

We continue to be impressed by the family's work ethic, ambition and desire to make a success of their transition from their past, a very harsh life as refugees in Uganda, to contributing members of Canadian society. Please feel free to contact me or any other members of our sponsorship committee if you have any questions or suggestions for employment. Our email addresses are below.

*Sincerely, Dave Hare, Chair, Beechwood Park Refugee Group: deghare@aurigaimaging.com*

*Jan Phillips: rnj\_phillips@yahoo.ca, Yusuf Mnyusiwalla: ymnyusiwalla@rogers.com,*

*Helene Janssen: janssen@golden.net, Pamela Kellerman: pamelakellerman@hotmail.com,*

*Gary Pooley: poolgary@rogers.com*

## **INDIGENOUS STREET NAMES IN BEECHWOOD**

As you may know, the streets in Beechwood are named primarily after English Authors and Poets (Longfellow, Browning, Shakespeare, Marlowe, etc.) or Indigenous names and tribes (Mohawk, Iroquois, Hiawatha, and Algonquin) One of our neighbours on Mohawk, Lorraine Stillaway, explains below her inquiry into whether these aboriginal names are respectful of our Indigenous heritage.

In the fall, I took a course at Osgoode that taught Indigenous perspectives and worldviews. I also was fortunate enough to attend Osgoode's Anishinaabeg law camp hosted by the Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation. The more I learned about reconciliation and Indigenous-non-Indigenous relations here in Canada, the more concerned I became about the name of the street on which I live. I used the little I had learned of protocols appropriate to many of the Indigenous Nations to try to respectfully seek guidance regarding the street name from the Nations affected.

For anyone who, like me, was concerned about the use of the names Mohawk or Iroquois for the street names in our neighbourhood, you can now put your mind at ease. Chief Ava Hill, the Mohawk Chief of Six Nations of the Grand River, and the Council of the Six Nations do not consider these street name to be offensive to the Mohawk Nation or to the Iroquois Confederacy (the settler name for the Haudenosaunee),

In her January 26, 2017 response to my email regarding the names Mohawk Avenue and Iroquois Place, Chief Hill stated:

“Our Council does not feel any disrespect. We do not feel that the name of the street needs to be changed. In fact, we look at the name of the street as a reminder to everyone who travels on this street that the Mohawk People were one of the First Peoples on this land.”

Now, instead of feeling concern regarding Mohawk Avenue and Iroquois Place, we can take pride in these names knowing the Six Nations of the Grand feel they are respectful acknowledgements of their presence on these lands.

*Sincerely, Lorraine Stillaway*

That's all for the Spring Issue of our Newsletter. We hope you find it informative and useful and encourage feedback on anything in this issue. Once again, a big thanks to our amazing newsletter editor, Tracey Nairn, and to all the volunteers who deliver this newsletter to the 400 homes in our community.

Sincerely, Steve Singer, 269 Shakespeare Drive, singercutt@golden.net