



Message from the President – Jim Griffith

Dear BARA Member:

Communicating with the 1,800 families residing in the community is not an easy task. In many ways we are much like a small town, but without the infrastructure of a municipality. There are thousands of towns in Canada with less than 2,000 households – think Corner Gas, but they have a mayor and council, an administrator, support staff, police, fire department, and probably a newspaper. While Broadmead does not have to deal with many of the issues that a small town would, we do share the problem of keeping in touch with what is important to our residents.

BARA has several means to keep you informed of what is happening in our community: the Bugle, our website,

telephone, contact with board members, our AGM and email. This is our second *Electronic Newsletter* and I am pleased to say that we now have an email distribution list of more than 350 people. We have not yet reached our objective of 1,000 but we are moving in the right direction. If you know of any residents of Broadmead who may not be on our list, please encourage them to provide us with their email address through info@broadmead.ca.

For the present we will continue to publish two electronic newsletters and two printed copies of the Bugle each year, so that we can continue to reach all members of our community. The issues and interests of our residents are what we want to see in these publications, so please speak up by contacting us. Delivering the Bugle door-to-door requires a large number of volunteers and I am happy to say that we have 40 residents who cover the community when they are needed.

We would like to see our membership increase to better represent what we know is a vibrant and interested community. Again, we ask that you spread the word about being a member of BARA.

By now you are getting the theme of my message: we want to hear from you because staying in touch is a dual responsibility. We aren't a small town where everyone knows everyone and everything that's going on, but we can talk together. It's the neighbourly thing to do.

Let us know what you want to say and hear and we will do our best to spread the word.

Best wishes and Happy New Year to all,

Jim Griffith

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Coming Soon – Broadmead Community Day



Discover the beauty of Broadmead and join our first **Bike and Hike**, to be held on Father's Day:

Sunday, June 20
from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This is a family event which will encourage residents to visit our wonderful trails and then join in on fun to be held on the greenspace at the corner of Chatterton Way and Emily Carr Drive.

There will be food, music and activities for children. And the event will offer a great opportunity to meet residents of our community.

More information will follow as the date draws near. If you would like to volunteer and help plan this event, we would welcome your assistance. Please contact us at info@broadmead.ca.

Tennis Court Upgrades

The District of Saanich recently received a federal grant to supplement its ongoing Recreational Infrastructure Program. A number of projects in Saanich Parks are being undertaken, including the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Maltwood Park and Parkwood Park.

The courts will receive a tennis court coating which provides participants with excellent ball play, safety and traction.

CONTACT US



Email: info@broadmead.ca
Voicemail: 250-744-1416

Snow Removal



Residents have a role to play with respect to snow removal in Saanich. And in the last five years we have had at least one snowfall each year.

Let's hope that we are not betrayed by the weather this year. But if we are, did you know that it is the responsibility of all property owners and occupants to clean snow and ice from municipal sidewalks adjacent to their property?

This means when it snows we must locate our boots and shovels, and dig out our driveways and sidewalks. Fulfilling your responsibilities can improve the quality of life for all residents and reduce injuries caused by slipping and falls. Moreover, it's the LAW: "Streets and Traffic Regulation Bylaw, 2002, No.8382, material upon streets".

BARA Notes....

Annual General Meeting 2010

The BARA AGM is scheduled for **Thursday, April 29th**. Details on time, location and guest speaker will be published shortly.

Please make sure that if you wish to have an item placed on the agenda that you notify the board at least 14 days in advance, especially if it requires a motion to be put forth at the meeting.

Membership Fees

Membership fees for BARA are for the calendar year and are now due. The fee is \$15.00 per household per year. Renewal forms are available on our website at www.broadmead.ca.

Our Condolences

Members of the BARA Board of Directors wish to express their deepest sympathy and convey their condolences to Susan Brice and family on the recent passing of her husband George.

Call to Artists

Artists living in the Broadmead area who may be interested in participating in this years' annual Art Studio Tour on the weekend of May 1st and 2nd can contact Karen Casey at 250-658-4177 for more information.

The deadline for inquiries is February 7, 2010.

Block Watch

by Ian Gibbs

Crime Prevention Programs & Volunteer Coordinator, Saanich Police

Beginning a new position with the Saanich Police Department with a special focus on Block Watch, I had some questions:

What is Block Watch?

Block Watch is a crime prevention program that asks members of the community for help in preventing and reducing neighbourhood crime; it is a partnership between the police and citizens.

It is also a neighbour-helping-neighbour program teaching citizens to secure their property, be aware of their surroundings and report suspicious activities to police. Participants in the program form a communication chain aided by a block map of names, numbers and addresses.

Originating in Seattle in 1973, Block Watch has expanded to become one of the largest community crime prevention programs in North America.

What benefits does Block Watch offer?

- A reduction of criminal activity in your area.
- Getting to know your neighbours.
- Home security tips.
- A Block Watch newsletter – with crime prevention tips and articles.
- A Block Watch sign posted on your street as a warning to thieves that they are being watched.
- Block Watch stickers for your doors and windows to let burglars know that your property is marked for police identification.
- Messages from the Block Watch office informing you of occurrences in your area.
- A feeling of safety and pride in your community.
- A discount on your home insurance.

What is Block Watch NOT?

- Block Watch does not ask that you perform any special tasks, go to meetings or take on extra responsibilities. It does ask that you be alert as a part of your everyday life.
- Block Watch does not ask you to be part of your neighbour's life. It does ask that you be familiar with who belongs in the neighborhood and who doesn't.
- Block Watch does not require that you own your own home. Upgrading home security, engraving an identification number on your property (i.e. your B C Driver's License number) and the Block Watch concept of "neighbour watch out for neighbour" are just as important for renters as for homeowners.
- If you would like more information on Block Watch, please let us know!

Saanich Block Watch Office

Email: BlockWatch@saanichpolice.ca

Phone: 250-475-4365