

BARA Bugle

Broadmead Area Residents' Association

Spring Issue, 2013

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President's Message

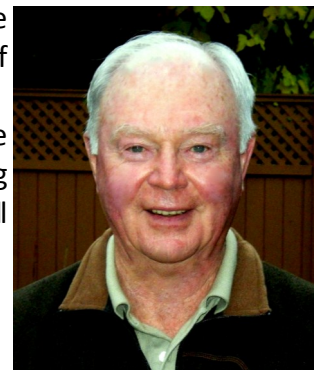
This will be my last message as President of BARA. I have served as President for the past five years and believe that it is time to give up the position to a new face and new ideas. It has been an enjoyable experience, not without its challenges, but overall a very positive one. I have met many interesting residents and have come to appreciate all sections of the Broadmead Community. Working with BARA has reinforced, for me, the fact that we are fortunate to live in such a beautiful residential area. There is no place like it.

I would like to thank all those who have served with me on the board over the past five years. They have certainly helped to make my tenure a most pleasant one. Everyone has been willing to take on responsibilities and to pitch in whenever and wherever needed. We owe a huge thank you to the dozens of volunteers who have contributed in so many ways to work on behalf of all of us. Reflecting back, a few things come to mind: Community Day is now an Annual event, the BARA Bugle has a new image and serves the community by keeping neighbours informed about significant happenings, our membership numbers are in the 500 range each year, BARA's financial situation remains healthy, our Covenant Contingency Fund continues to grow and, for the first time, we have 12 residents serving on the BARA Board. We have developed a close working relationship with several municipal departments and have represented Broadmead's position on several significant issues.

Although development in Broadmead has virtually ended, BARA continues to work with owners as they redevelop or renovate their properties. There are a few major projects such as the re-development of the Broadmead Village Shopping Centre and the future plans for the church at the corner of Chatterton Way and Emily Carr Drive.

I encourage you to stay involved if you are a volunteer and, if not, consider becoming one. Both you and your community will benefit from your effort.

Best Regards, *Jim Griffith*



Covenants Commentary: Paul Stringer

As a Broadmead home owner you probably were attracted to the area because of the general ambiance, the architecture, landscaping, natural trees, and gardens. This was the vision of Broadmead Farms as the area was developed. To keep it this way the original developers and planners made sure that a covenant was attached to every lot intending to make sure that all future homes maintained the look and feel of the neighbourhood. Overwhelmingly, the residents of Broadmead support the covenants and wish to maintain or even improve the ambience of the area. Please review your covenants so you are familiar with the home owner's responsibility.

Unfortunately, there are always a few people who disregard the covenants when it does not suit them. The main complaints are the number of vehicles parked in driveways and on the street, boats, trailers and motor homes parked for longer than a few days, and rented illegal suites. Commercial panel vans are becoming a source of complaint as more of them appear to be parked in driveways every year. Commercial vans with company names and advertising are illegal in Broadmead according to the covenants, and are not the pleasant sight envisioned by the founding fathers of Broadmead.

If you are an owner and rent your home, it is your responsibility to ensure that the people renting the property are aware of the covenants and are willing to abide by them. You are ultimately responsible for covenant issues should they arise.

Every year you elect BARA directors and volunteers who work hard to protect the neighbourhood and control tree planting and removal, fencing, house construction and additions, paint and roofing colour, driveway colour and of course all the parking problems. In addition, BARA works closely with the municipality advising on the walking trails and other aspects of municipal interest in Broadmead. BARA also keeps in close contact with the Saanich Police regarding crime, graffiti, speeding, and Neighbourhood Watch. To maintain a happy relationship with your neighbours please consider why you, and everyone around you, chose to live in Broadmead. If you need a guide or a reminder, then perhaps it is time to review your covenants.: www.broadmead.ca/covenants.htm



Editor's Corner

Bill Wong



February 15, 2013

As I am writing this, media worldwide report that a meteor exploded in Earth's atmosphere near Chelyabinsk, Russia, causing damage and injuring over 1,000 residents. Meanwhile, an asteroid—about half the size of a football field—is supposed to pass by Earth, within a too-close-for-comfort 27,600 kilometres.

These dramatic events remind me to think about my preparedness for more likely occurrences in my community. Am I ready for disasters such as earthquakes and aftershocks? What about storms, tsunamis, power outages or whatever else? This seems to be an opportune time to think about emergency preparedness.

Whether cosmic or not, if the thought of such events leave you feeling "shaky", take action to settle your uneasiness. Set yourself a realistic timeframe in which to gather the necessary emergency supplies. Perhaps, write a notation to complete this task within a week or whatever timeframe you feel is realistic. Of course, we cannot anticipate all eventualities but this thought shouldn't be the hindrance that perpetuates your procrastination. Your task is to determine what is needed given your unique situation. For instance, if you have ambulatory limitations, consider keeping a whistle or horn nearby to signal for help. There are many websites that outline supplies and equipment that would "most likely" be useful and I have listed two of them below. As well, local hardware stores have put together complete kits for purchase. If you have already done this, think about someone else who could benefit from a bit of assistance to gather these supplies.

For more information and to locate free emergency preparedness presentations, check these websites: <http://www.saanich.ca/sep>
<http://www.preparevictoria.ca>

Remember When...

By Kathleen Bellamano

the Great Blizzard of '96 hit southern Vancouver Island? Now that winter seems to be over and our crocuses and cherry blossoms are peeking out, we thought it would be fun to reminisce about that storm. The "Whitemare of 96", as it has been called, started on December 26th and continued until Dec 29th. We had four feet or 1.25 meters of snow fall during that time and a whopping 24 inches fell in just 24 hours, December 28th and 29th. These heavy snowfalls, coupled with high winds, affected our whole region and left about \$200 million in damages in Greater Victoria. Immediately after the storm the rain started which made the snow incredibly heavy and caused significant flooding. There are numerous stories about the storm but it's the stories about our own neighbourhood I was most curious about. I took the opportunity to connect with a few long time Broadmead residents; Gary Potter, Donna Johnson and Ralph Ward about what they remember from that time. Gary and Donna both mentioned a house on Emily Carr, with a completely collapsed roof. Fortunately no one was hurt, but apparently that house was almost completely rebuilt after the storm. Donna described being at a neighbourhood New Year's Party and watching cracks appear on the ceiling in the front entrance of the home. A quick scrounge in the garage for some lumber to support the structure and the homeowner on the roof with a shovel allowed that family to avert disaster though Donna remembers that part of that house did need to be repaired following the storm. Gary mentioned another house, on Carlowood Court, that sustained substantial roof damage although they managed to avoid a complete collapse with some speedy snow removal. He also remembers that the folks over at the Lodge at Broadmead were really struggling. A lot of the staff couldn't get to work which left them short-handed. Broadmead community members trudged on over and made sure the residents at the Lodge were cared for. Ralph described snow drifts that were 10 to 15 feet high around homes and buildings and 6 foot drifts across his freshly shoveled driveway. He said his car spent a week buried in mush and snow before they could dig it out. Gary remembers what seemed like a very long walk over to Country Grocer across the highway and that the shelves were pretty bare when he got there. Thrifty's at Broadmead Village was closed for a while during the storm as there was some concern over the snow load on the roof. Fortunately, there was no damage and the store reopened in short order.

The thing I noticed most from Donna, Ralph and Gary was their kindness and positivity. Donna "felt great sympathy for those who had boats in boat houses in Sidney as the heavy snow pushed the boat houses, AND the boats inside, underwater". Ralph stated "fortunately, we retained power supply throughout" and Gary said that "people didn't really get too upset; it seemed like a pretty calm time, for the most part". If I ever find myself in snow up to my hips again, I will try to remember those thoughts.

Special thanks to Donna Johnson, Gary Potter and Ralph Ward for their generous contributions.

Photographs by Ralph Ward.



Broadmead Talk

Community Day: Mark your calendars now for Community Day 2013, Sunday, September 8, 11:00-2:00. It will be the 1st major function to be held at the newly renovated Broadmead Village Shopping Centre.

Thanks go to Paul Stringer who is leaving the BARA Board after serving as Manager of Covenants for the past three years.

Imperial Oil Grant: BARA is once again pleased to announce that a Volunteer Involvement Program (VIP) grant, on behalf of Ralph & Mary Ward has been received from Imperial Oil in the amount of \$1000. Imperial Oil created this program to encourage and support the community volunteer efforts of their employees, annuitants and spouses. BARA wishes to thank Imperial Oil for supporting its work within the Broadmead community. This grant will be directed towards purchasing playground equipment.

Saanich Parks and Recreation has told BARA that the playground equipment presently used in Emily Carr Park is set to be replaced in 2015. \$70,000.00 will be allocated towards this project.

Welcome packages: Please let us know about new people moving into your neighbourhood. A BARA representative will be happy to deliver a welcome package to their door.

Provincial Election, Tuesday, May 14: An all-candidates meeting will be held on Monday, April 29 at Lochside School beginning at 7:30. BARA is pleased to partner with Blenkinsop residents in sponsoring this event.

Thank you: To all our sponsors and volunteers who made Community Day a successful event. Your generosity and support enabled us to attract hundreds of residents and provide them with a pleasant and entertaining day.

We have acknowledged your contribution on the BARA website www.broadmead.ca. The business community and residents of Broadmead have worked together successfully on several occasions.

Municipal Affairs

Saanich Councillor,
Susan Brice



It is springtime at Saanich Council and we are pouring over budget estimates as we establish priorities for the coming year and prepare the dreaded tax notices. These are challenging times as we attempt to balance the wishes of the residents and still keep within our ability to pay for those services. As we review the numbers we are mindful that we have to ensure value for money for the residents of today but there is also an obligation to invest in the infrastructure of the municipality. Expenditures for replacing pipes and rebuilding roads don't seem like glamorous projects but we have a responsibility to maintain the very basics and not leave a crumbling infrastructure for future generations.

At this time it's a good opportunity to remind seniors that they are eligible to defer their taxes; if this is something you are interested in finding more about, I suggest you call Saanich Municipal Hall and ask to speak to Finance.

In our midst in Broadmead, Outerbridge Park is reappearing along Royal Oak Drive near Lochside Elementary School. BARA members will remember the announcement in 2005 when Saanich bought the Outerbridge property, which included gardens and ponds, on the understanding that the park would be kept as a bird and nature sanctuary. Much of the area had become quite overgrown and anyone who entered the property until recently would have realized that there was a lot of work to be done if this little wildlife oasis could be enjoyed to its full potential.

Then a fabulous partnership was arranged between Saanich and the Horticultural Centre of the Pacific. A group of amazing volunteers lead by Dave De Shane have done an outstanding job of returning the site to a park that you should definitely visit. With time and sweat the volunteers removed invasive species, upgraded trails, installed an irrigation system, and initiated planting a Garry Oak meadow and garden areas. To make this park more visible, Saanich installed a park sign at the entrance.

I suggest you see this delightful park and watch as the volunteer team plants native species at the entrance to the park and installs 24 bird houses they constructed themselves. Future plans may include picnic tables and benches. Right in the heart of our community we have a public space that is worthy of the name it used to bear: Shangri-La.

Broadmead Village Shopping Centre is Undergoing a Transformation



Broadmead Village Shopping Centre began the New Year with an accelerated construction pace. Construction work is taking place at several locations around the Centre and the transformation is visibly taking shape.

Spring temperatures mean paving will commence at several locations. The Chatterton Way exit will be repaved in late March and then will open to two-way traffic for the first time, improving access and egress to the Centre while reducing congestion at the Royal Oak entrance.

For pedestrians, raised crosswalks will be installed to maintain clear pathways connecting buildings in the Centre through the Breezeway. The pedestrian environment will be more clearly defined, improving safety and mobility while ensuring ease of traffic flow for vehicles.

Once the storefront upgrades are completed in the Breezeway area the renovation focus will shift to construction of Breezeway amenities including a new water feature, covered all-weather seating area and fireplace. By July, guests will be able to enjoy free Wi-Fi, games tables and ample seating in the beautiful outdoor environment that defines Broadmead.

While the renovation is underway, Broadmead Village is open for business as usual. Some of your favourite retailers will be expanding into the available space at the Centre. Watch for their announcements over the next few months! Additionally, several exciting new retailers are coming to Broadmead Village! This spring the first *Colour Me Mine* and *Menchie's* locations on Vancouver Island will open at Broadmead Village in the Breezeway.

Over the next several months, every time you visit your favourite shops at Broadmead Village you will see a new aspect of the shopping Centre enhancement unfolding. Watch the Breezeway for a first glimpse into what the reinvigorated Broadmead Village will offer for customers and our community. If you have questions about the renovation you can reach our project team at bvrenovation@gmail.com.



Exploring, Conserving, Playing and Contributing: Saanich Parks.



There are approximately 13kms of trails that meander through 185 acres of parkland in the Broadmead neighbourhood. There are another 5.5kms of trails if you include the Lochside Regional Trail from Donwood Park to McMinn Park and the Royal Oak Centennial Trail from Lochside Elementary School to the Patricia Bay Highway underpass to explore.

The main Broadmead trail is the Rolston Trail which makes its way from Royal Oak Drive at Pondwood Park through Emily Carr Park and Shadywood Park to Rithet's Bog. Its namesake, Gordon Rolston, was a local developer/planner who was instrumental in the development of the Broadmead subdivision. His vision was to intersperse the residential development into the landscape while remaining sensitive to the environment. In doing so, linear parkland was created that naturally provided trail corridors linking streets and other parks to one another.

Sprinkled throughout parkland in Broadmead are four tennis courts, three playgrounds, a sport court and a little gem of a pond at Lohbrunner Park. The trails offer a variety of experiences to enjoy, challenge, and reward you with spectacular views of the neighbourhood and beyond or to show you the natural wonder for small, yet beautiful native plants and wildflowers. The nearly three kilometre loop trail through the Rithet's Bog Conservation Area offers glimpses into the in-

credible work volunteers and municipal staff are doing to restore the bog to its former state. The bog is home to a wide variety of plants, animals, birds, butterflies and other insects crucial to this rare ecosystem so do not forget your camera while walking this unique area.

Over the next few years, Saanich Parks expects to engage with neighbours around McMinn Park and Emily Carr Park to discuss playground improvements as the current playgrounds are over 20 years old and are nearing the end of their useable life. There are many new and exciting designs from various playground manufacturers and if you have children we encourage you to visit some of the recent playgrounds we have completed such as Browning Park, Playfair Park, Copley Park, Glanford Park, Mount View Park, and the nearby Falaise Park. For more information on other Broadmead area parks and trails, visit our website at saanichparks.ca.

Mike Goldsworthy



Provincial Election All-Candidates Meeting
Monday, April 29, 2013, Lochside School, 7:30 PM

Hosted by

Blenkinsop Valley Community Association and Broadmead Area Residents' Association

Meet Your Neighbours

Susan Brice: A Lifetime of Community Building

Meeting Susan Brice is a wonderful pleasure. I knew about her community involvement but I did not fully comprehend the depth and breadth of her public service until this interview. In addition to being a Saanich Councillor, she is also the Director at the Victoria location of Silver Threads, Chair of the Victoria Transit Commission, and Chair of the Regional Parks Committee. These concurrent leadership positions have culminated from a lifetime of work in the community. Public service was not something she initially planned and there was no political lineage.

She was born and raised in Greater Victoria (4th generation) and has two grown sons and two grandchildren. I was not surprised to hear her speak about the importance of family and friends during her longstanding and continuing public duty.

In the early 1970's, as an elementary school teacher in Esquimalt, she lamented to Walter Donald (School Trustee) about the lack of women leaders in the local school system. Mr. Donald suggested that she remedy this by running for the school board. This advice served as a catalyst and laid the foundation for subsequent years of public service.

In between, there was a ten-year period (1990-2000) when she was not in office and hosted the CFX show called "Talk it over with Susan Brice". She fondly reflects on that experience and appreciates all that she gained from hosting an open format show with such a diversity of guests and callers. She was also the Executive Director of the Better Business Bureau for seven years during this time.

To date, her memorable public accomplishments include getting the '9-1-1' phone service operating in the CRD, back in the late 1980's. Coincidentally, in 1878, her great grandfather, R.B. McMicking collaborated with Bell Telephone Company to install the first two telephones in Victoria. (These were located in the Colonist & CPR offices.)

She is also proud of her role in acquiring park land for Saanich and the CRD. She views these achievements as being enormously important with lasting impacts. Some recent acquisitions include the Western Forest Products land in Sooke, an agricultural area in Saanich known as Panama Flats, and Haro Woods, an urban forest located near Cadboro Bay.

I asked her to identify the most challenging part of public service. Without hesitation, she says that it is vital to 'be persuasive without being argumentative.' Working collaboratively is the key to solving problems and making progress at any level of politics. You would expect this from a community builder.

Bill Wong



Broadmead Garage Sale: Saturday June 15, 9-3, 2013

Do you have lots of stuff you would like to unload? Would you like to empty your garage and clean out your basement? Here's your chance. BARA is proposing a community wide garage sale on Saturday, June 15. Set up your own sale on your property and we will help you promote it. Just think, if a few hundred garage sales are all held at the same time, the chances of attracting a large number of buyers is much greater than if you go it alone. Register your address with BARA at

info@broadmead.ca and we will include it in a newspaper ad prior to the event .

How can we strengthen business in Saanich? **10% Shift**

One argument I hear repeatedly from small businesses in Saanich is that consumers don't realize that shifting even a little more of their purchases to local or independent businesses has a big impact on the local economy.

To explore this idea and engage with the community, my constituency office recently organized a community event with a dinner (tickets were \$10 and the meal featured local food) and a talk by CUPE-BC President Barry O'Neill.

You might be surprised that a union leader has emerged as a lead proponent of the 'buy local' movement but Barry is very passionate on the subject and has even teamed up with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business to push the idea. He has created a campaign, tenpercentshift.ca, and received positive reviews from Chambers of Commerce across the province.

One example from Barry's talk in Saanich that really struck me is this: spend a \$100 at amazon.com and the benefit to the local economy is \$0.00; buy at Chapters and the benefit is \$13; but if you buy at Munro's Books or Bolen Books \$45 out of the \$100 stays in the community.

Of course it isn't always practical or even possible to buy local, but there is solid evidence to support the argument that shifting more of our purchases to local or independent business has a positive impact on our local economy and quality of life.

According to the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, "Money spent in locally-owned businesses has three times the impact on your community as dollars spent at national chains". When shopping locally, you simultaneously create jobs, fund more city services through sales tax, invest in neighborhood improvement, and promote community development."

More than 100 people attended this community event and the feedback was terrific. It is my privilege to engage with constituents on such issues. The main focus of my community office remains as always to provide assistance with programs and agencies of the BC provincial government. I'm here if you need me.

Regards, Lana Popham,

MLA Saanich South
Phone 250.479.4154
4085 Quadra Street, Victoria,
Lana.popham.mla@leg.bc.ca
www.saanichsouth.ca



RITHET'S BOG SWALLOW NEST BOXES: 2012 was A BAD YEAR

Rithet's Bog Conservation Society has been operating a nest box program since 2006 which now includes 8 nest boxes spread around Rithet's Bog. The program was initiated to encourage native swallows, which feed on flying insects such as mosquitoes. The boxes are usually occupied by either violet green or tree swallows. Native chickadees also utilize the boxes to a lesser extent, but we have been successful in our efforts to exclude non-native English house sparrows.



Our nest boxes usually fledge about 75% of the eggs laid and produce 20 to 30 swallow fledglings per year. However, in 2012 we experienced a setback. Only 27% of the eggs successfully fledged, producing only 3 to 8 young swallows. Most of the mortality occurred when the nestlings were at the same stage of development, being well feathered and a reasonable size. This suggests that most of the deaths occurred within a short period of time.

Examination of the nests during winter cleaning of the boxes indicated that nest predators, nest parasites, and widespread loss of parent birds to predators or disease were not the cause of the nestling mortality. The nestlings may have succumbed to a disease outbreak or food shortage. An elevated presence of predators could disrupt adult foraging even if the adult swallows were not killed. Some flying insects which are important food sources may have emerged in much lower than normal abundance or not at the normal time, resulting in a temporary food shortage that exhausted the nestling's energy reserves. Insecticides were not likely a direct cause of the food shortage, but could be a contributing factor if nearby applications reduced the surrounding area's insect biodiversity. Greater diversity can help to compensate for local anomalies.

Our restoration efforts do not always proceed in as steady and orderly a fashion as we would like. Nature has its own agenda. We must learn to adapt to these periodic setbacks and keep focused on the long term progress.

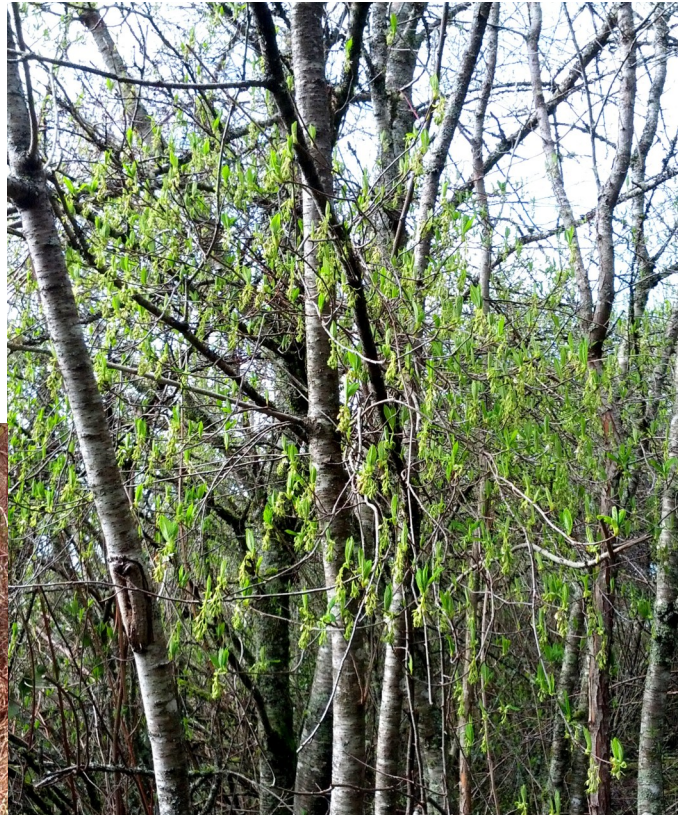
Russ Pym

Notice of: BARA Annual General Meeting (AGM)**Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 7:00pm,****Gateway Baptist Church, 898 Royal Oak Drive**

and an information session with

Deputy Chief Robert Downey &**Inspector Brett Fryer of the Saanich Police Department:****Safety and Your Community**

Commitment: Accolades to dedicated volunteers who keep our nature 'natural' by removing invasive species. This photo and comment were provided by a resident of Fir Tree Glen: *"Here's a picture of volunteer Chris whom we watched at work for at least 6 hours at the Fir Tree Glen end of Rithet's Bog. He was clearing blackberry bushes and just kept on going like the Energizer Bunny. We had to offer him muffins to get him to take a break! Good job by a dedicated individual."*



BARA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**Officers:***President:* **Jim Griffith***Vice President:***Kathleen Bellamano***Treasurer:* **Neil MacLean***Secretary:* **Doug Baer****Directors:****Lorie Bradley****Mary Brookes****Julian Dunster****Thomas Godfrey****Robert Hehn****Michael Mercier****Jeff Millar****Paul Stringer****VOLUNTEERS****Membership List:**

John Fahey

Refreshments:

Maxine Campbell

Community Day:

Sulo Saravanabawan

Bugle Production & Distribution:**Editor:** Bill Wong**Layout:** Jean Ives**Photos:** Lois Brown**Ads:** Robert Hehn & Neil MacLean**Distribution:** Barb Lawton,
Glen MacDonald, Gary Potter,
and 50+ carriers**Meet Your BARA Board Members****Jeff Millar**

Jeffrey Millar has lived in the Broadmead area since 1989. He and his wife visited Vancouver Island in 1978 and fell in love with the Island and its beauty. Jeff enjoys Broadmead because of the walking, and biking trails, and proximity to the airport and ferry services. He has two children, one on the Island and the other in Toronto.

Jeffrey was raised in Saskatchewan and moved to Calgary to begin a 30 year career with Coca-Cola, 10 of those years in Victoria. Ten years working in property management with WCG International followed and then eighteen months with the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce. Semi-retired for the last two years Jeff has more time for his interests in biking, walking, hiking, and Hot Yoga. When approached late in 2012 by BARA to become a Director Jeff decided it was time to give back to the community; he thinks it is very important that we keep Broadmead as a unique and desirable place to live.

**Thomas Godfrey**

Thomas grew up in Victoria and received a master's degree in Economics from the University of Victoria. He's been working as an economist in the provincial government since 2005, which is also where he met his wife, Teresa. The two of them moved into Broadmead in 2011, after a lengthy search that lasted a few years. Despite looking in other areas, they kept coming back to Broadmead given the style and quality of the houses, the easy access to amenities, the majestic curving roads, nearby woodland trails and the overall park-like setting. The way Broadmead integrates a residential community with the existing natural landscape is truly unique. Thomas is a serious photographer, long-time car enthusiast and reluctant gardener. With his wife expecting their first child very soon, Thomas is looking forward to raising a family in this neighbourhood.

**BARA MEMBERSHIP FORM** (January 1—December 31, 2013)

Complete and mail this form with your cheque for \$15.00 payable to BARA, for a one-year household membership, to: Broadmead Area Residents' Association, Box 53527, Broadmead RPO, Victoria, BC V8X 5K2.

Renewing Member: New Member: Cheque: Cash:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Tel No. _____

Email: _____

(Email addresses are protected and not placed on any web site)

You may inquire about the status of your membership or update your email address by sending an email to info@broadmead.ca or by mail to the postal address above.

A Welcome Package with The Broadmead Story will be delivered to New Members

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Lana Popham, MLA Saanich South

I work in a non-partisan way to improve our
quality of life. If you are concerned about a
provincial issue, please contact me.

Community Office

4085 Quadra St. Mon-Fri, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

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