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THE OFFICIAL BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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Cover Photo by Kelsey Emes



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SCAN HERE TO VIEW ADDITIONAL BRENTWOOD CONTENT

News, Events, & More



Crime Statistics



Real Estate Statistics



The Dog Days Are Here

The popular phrase, "the dog days of summer," actually has nothing to do with pets!

It originated from the Greeks and Romans, who saw the rising of Sirius, the brightest star in the Canis Major constellation, and associated it with the growing heat.

Dear Brentwoodians,

Bugle Contributors

A couple of notes about some of our regular contributors: as she states in her column, our Development and Transportation columnist, Melanie Swailes, is formally stepping down from her role with that committee at the Brentwood Community Association. However, she has promised to continue writing, although not quite as regularly as in the past. Similarly, Rosemary Brown, who writes our Indigenous Book Club column, is taking a break over the summer and will be coming back at a possibly reduced frequency in the fall.

This is a great opportunity for any community members who might want to begin writing for *The Bugle* – whether it be a regular column or occasional articles, we would be happy to include your views! You can write about community issues, or more general topics if you like. Music reviews? Local wildlife? Your favourite hobby? Share your passion with our readers! If you are interested, please email beabugle@telus.net.

Reader Corrections

It is always a pleasure to receive emails from *Bugle* readers because it tells me that readers are engaging with the material that we compile here every month. Reader Evan wrote in about the June “Scribblings” column to take issue with a couple of points regarding my summary of the issues around the blanket rezoning debate. He pointed out that the proposed changes (since rolled back) did not automatically approve multi-unit developments. These still had to undergo the Development Permit process, as has been described many times in the Development and Transportation Committee reports in these pages. What was removed was the need for City Council to approve individual rezoning applications.

Second, he challenged the use of the term “eight-unit apartment blocks”, noting that only row houses were permitted (with separate street entrances), and that eight units were only possible if secondary suites were installed. He caught me in a bit of hyperbole there, but I will leave it to readers to decide if it makes a difference to have your backyard overshadowed by a 3-storey apartment building, or a set of four 3-storey rowhouses.

Photo Contest

The Bugle is looking for Brentwood’s best amateur photographers to provide cover images each month. If you have a great snap of our neighbourhood saved on your phone or posted on your social media feed, send it in for a chance to be featured on the cover of an upcoming issue! Photos must be 300 DPI or higher (i.e. from a newer model phone or good digital camera), 2400 x 1600 pixels minimum size, and portrait orientation. If submitting pictures of minors, please make sure that you have direct, express permission to submit the picture from a parent or guardian. Send your photos, or any questions to bcabugle@telus.net.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Jucker

Editor, Brentwood Bugle





Now Hiring

The Brentwood Sportsplex is looking to hire for the Occasional Labourer position of Assistant for the Arena Attendant for the 2026/2027 hockey season.

- Applicant must be 15 years of age and older.
- Must be self-motivated, able to take instruction well, and able to work well in a busy environment.
- Must be able to work evenings Monday to Friday and on weekends.
- Majority of the work involves maintaining facility cleanliness.
- You will assist the Arena Attendant with ice resurfacing.
- Snow removal is also included in the job description.

If you are interested in this position, an application form can be found online at BrentwoodCommunity.com under Programs/volunteering and casual labour.

If you have any questions, please call or email for more information.

Steve Dietrich, Sportsplex Manager

Phone: 403-284-3477

Email: steve.dietrich@brentwoodcommunity.com

Got Junk?! 2026 Triwood-Brentwood Community Cleanup

Sunday, August 9, at Triwood Community Centre, 2244 Chicoutimi Dr NW, lower parking lot.

Brentwood is co-hosting again this year with Triwood Community Association.

Not sure what items are accepted or not? Check out <https://www.calgary.ca/waste/drop-off/community-cleanups.html>.

Volunteers needed! Sign up at <https://www.triwoodcommunity.com/volunteer>.

Brentwood Cares - Little Food Library and More!

With your donations and support, we continue to stock the Brentwood Cares Little Food Library twice daily, for use by people of all ages and circumstances, from elders to students.

Unopened, sealed items can be dropped off in the Library itself or in the box beside the door at 3624 Boulton Rd at any time. Hats off to Brentwood for your continued support!

Liza and the Brentwood Cares Team

Buy Nothing Brentwood

Give freely; share creatively! Post anything you'd like to give away, lend, or share; ask for anything you'd like to receive or borrow.

Check out the Buy Nothing Brentwood/Charleswood/Collingwood Facebook page, or buynothingproject.org.

Calgary Police Service on Nextdoor!

Calgary Police Service now has a dedicated space to engage with community residents.

Check out <https://ca.nextdoor.com/agency-detail/ab/calgary/calgary-police-service/>.

For more information, or to join Nextdoor, download the app or visit nextdoor.ca today!

CPS Community Safety Guide

<https://brentwoodcommunity.com/2024/11/21/cps-community-safety-guide/>.

Your Representatives in Brentwood

- City Councillor: D.J. Kelly (Ward 4): ward4@calgary.ca.
- MLA: Luanne Metz (Calgary-Varsity): Calgary.Varsity.com; 403-216-5436.
- MP: Corey Hogan (Calgary Confederation): corey.hogan@parl.gc.ca; 403-410-2121.
- CPS Community Police Officer: Constable Reinders: pol4241@calgarypolice.ca; 403 428-6342.



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Brentwood's Neighbour Day Was a Hit

by Lee Hunt



On June 20, the rain and wind held off just long enough for another successful Brentwood Neighbour Day.

Started in 2014 by then Mayor Naheed Nenshi to help Calgary bounce back from the big 2013 flood, Neighbour Day continues to draw Calgarians together. Approximately 65 Calgary communities took part this year with Brentwood being one of them. An estimated 300 to 400 individuals attended in Brentwood this year.

Younger folk enjoyed the bouncy castle, Jenga, chalk drawing, and mural painting provided by Tourism Calgary. They also enjoyed *Storytime* presented by Nose Hill Library's, Ricky Poon. The older set visited displays from the Calgary Humane Society, Brisebois Bees, and the Brentwood Development and Transportation Committee. Everyone enjoyed checking out the two firetrucks—one modern and one vintage. All were fascinated watching artists Garry and Jessica sketch portraits of attendees.

Mayor Jeromy Farkas and Ward Councillor D.J. Kelly stopped by for a while. Councillor Kelly also took a turn at reading to the children.

The Bow Valley Dumpling table along with food trucks Zilford's Fried Chicken and The Dumpling Hero were onsite to make certain that no one went hungry.

Kudos to event co-ordinator Deonte Doslov-Doctor plus his energetic assistants Bonita McCurry, Cam Howey, and Melanie Swailes. With thanks to generous volunteers Lisa Boychuk, Shiney Choudhary, Benjamin Joergensen,

Ranjani Kannaiyan, Paul Duguay, Jeff Swailes, Lee Hunt, and Chris Grant. We also appreciated the help of youth volunteers Zach and Xander who helped with set up.

Further gratitude goes to our local businesses who contributed door prizes for Brentwood Neighbour Day—Coast to Coast Gondola Pizza, Petals N Blooms, Pharmasave, and Brentwood Co-op. When next you patronize those businesses, please thank them for their community support.

Though Neighbour Day is over, let's keep Brentwood spirit growing. Perhaps you could help with coaching, or you could volunteer to serve on the Brentwood Community Association Board. You could volunteer at Nose Hill Library, go for a swim at Churchill Rec Centre, play tennis, or donate to the Little Free Food Library in front of 3624 Boulton Road NW. The possibilities are numerous.

Thanks again to all who helped with or attended Brentwood's Neighbour Day 2026.

Congratulations

Congratulations to those who won prizes at Brentwood's 2026 Neighbour Day:

- Pharmasave Gift Basket | Sennay
- Petals N Blooms Gift Certificate | Elaine
- Coast to Coast Pizza Gift Certificates | Sky and Liza
- Brentwood Co-op Gift Baskets | Anna, Zayna, and Sheetal

Thanks to these four companies for supporting Brentwood. In turn, please patronize them.



Sky won a gift certificate from Coast-to-Coast Gondola Pizza.



Anna (right) receives Co-op gift basket prize from Lee.



Zayna won a Co-op gift basket.

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403-284-3477

Stepping Down and Lessons Learned

At the Annual General Meeting on September 8, 2026, I will formally step down from the Development and Transportation Committee (DTC) after nine years as chair. Last year, I had intended to step down, but then ended up staying on for another year, largely because of the blanket rezoning repeal public hearing. I will stay on as part of the BCA Board and may continue to write *Bugle* articles. This past year, the DTC has been actively encouraging new members to join us, plus there is a lot of lived experience within the committee.

When I try to sum up all the lessons learned, there are a few themes:

1. Planning decisions do not impact all communities equally. Established communities like Brentwood and other Ward 4 areas are far more likely to experience redevelopment change than newer areas. For example, under blanket rezoning, "Of 639 development permit applications enabled by citywide rezoning, 165 are in Ward 7, 86 in Ward 11, 83 in Ward 9 and 78 in each of Wards 1, 4, and 6. There are zero in 2, 3, and 12, and only two in each of 13 and 14."
2. Nobody understands or cares about your neighbourhood more than the people who live there. Residents are not NIMBYs (Not In My Backyard) when they oppose something whose scale they could not have anticipated and when they feel that local context has not been considered. Existing communities are not blank slates. NIMBYism has become a convenient and lazy way for developers to dismiss opposition from neighbours, but perhaps it reflects a failure on the part of planners and developers to reflect the local community context in the first place.
3. Does this mean that nothing would ever get built? No, not at all. Rather, it would put more onus on the developer to ensure that a proposed development fits into the area with a gradual, rather than drastic change. Most residents I talk with understand the need for more affordable housing options and are supportive of some gentle densification. Consider two recent DP applications received by the BCA, each replacing an existing single house. One was for a duplex with two suites (a total of four units), while the other was for a total of ten units on a single lot (including 29 bedrooms and 25 bathrooms). Would you be equally supportive of each of these next to you?
4. Unfortunately, most people do not really care or get involved with City planning matters until it impacts them directly, such as a development permit (DP) next door. Sometimes, residents then expect that their Community Association can work miracles to stop a proposal that they don't like. We can't. Essentially, neither the CA nor community residents can oppose what the current bylaws allow. You can make arguments about discretionary DP items such as massing, shadowing, context, use and enjoyment of your property, etc. You have the right to appeal a decision, but these are difficult to do if you have no understanding of the City's planning process or of the bylaws. Learning these things within a week or two after a DP notice is almost impossible.
5. Planning is not an exact science—sometimes it's more of an experiment: "let's try it and see what happens". Only if there is feedback can there be knowledge of the impacts. It is only after repeated comments that changes are even considered at a higher level. Consider trees in Brentwood and the relatively recent change to the front setback (the distance from the front of a house to the sidewalk) bylaw. The front setback used to be contextual, meaning that it was based on the average of the adjacent houses, but under the blanket rezoning change to R-CG zoning, it was amended to be three metres (10 feet). That means regardless of how far back the majority of houses are on a street, a new building could be just three metres back. In Brentwood, that creates a big conflict with large mature trees on City property, which may have a spread of 15 to 20 feet or even more. Three recent DPs received by the BCA have proposed the removal of City trees, or a new building within a few feet of an existing tree trunk. If we wish to retain our large City trees, the contextual rule would have to be amended; only if there is a lot of public feedback might that even come up for consideration at council.
6. Keep trying. Sometimes residents tell me they won't make a difference anyhow, so there's no point in trying. Looking back on topics like blanket rezoning, I've failed more times than I've succeeded, and there

have definitely been many frustrating moments but at least I've tried. If you don't try, you're right, you can't make any difference at all.

On Tuesday, September 8, at 7:00 pm, attend the Brentwood CA Annual General Meeting. You are welcome to attend as a community resident just to see a summary of all that went on in Brentwood last year. Consider whether there is one area that you find interesting, be it community gardening, events, or other areas. If nothing else, attend to show the volunteers that you appreciate their efforts.

Thank you to everyone who supports the DTC by writing emails or letters, attending meetings, or by letting us know what's happening on your street. Special thanks to Bonita McCurry (the BCA president) and Linda Van Holst (the BCA office manager) for their support of the DTC, and to Peter Johnson (DTC member) who helps me so much and makes my role much easier. Finally, thank you to Lee Hunt for proof-reading and editing help, and to Jonathan Jucker, *Bugle* editor, who always accepts my submissions, even if they are frequently late!

If you would like to join our community association, you are always welcome to do so. Contact the office at office@brentwoodcommunity.com or at 403-284-3477.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

I went to buy some
camouflage pants, but
I couldn't find any.

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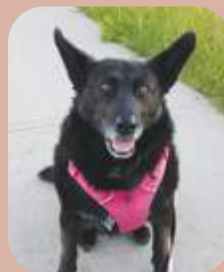
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Dating Safely: Recognizing the Red Flags of an Unsafe Relationship

by Nancy Bergeron, R.Psych. | info@nancybergeron.ca



Dating can be exciting. However, it's a time when we overlook warning signs because our attraction leads us to want to believe the best about someone. According to security expert and author Gavin de Becker in his bestselling book *The Gift of Fear*, our intuition is one of our greatest tools for recognizing danger. Learning to trust our instincts and identify red flags can help us avoid unhealthy or unsafe relationships before they become deeply established.

One of de Becker's central messages is that fear is not something to dismiss. It is valuable information.

Many people who later experienced emotional abuse, coercion, or violence report that they had an uneasy feeling early on but talked themselves out of it. Rather than ignoring these feelings, de Becker encourages us to pay attention to them.

A common red flag is boundary violations. Healthy people respect your "no," your need for space, and your personal preferences. An unsafe person may repeatedly push your boundaries while disguising their persistence as affection or determination. One of de Becker's most important observations is that when someone ignores

a small “no,” they are often testing whether they can ignore a larger one later.

Another warning sign is forced teaming. This occurs when someone creates an artificial sense of connection by speaking as though you are already a team. Statements such as “We’re exactly alike,” “No one understands me like you do,” or “We’re in this together” early in a relationship may be attempts to accelerate trust and intimacy before it has naturally developed.

Becker also describes the danger of love bombing, where a person overwhelms you with attention, gifts, praise, or declarations of love very early in dating. While genuine affection develops gradually, love bombing often creates pressure to reciprocate feelings that have not had time to develop authentically.

Another tactic he identifies is charm versus genuineness. Genuine people do not need to work hard to convince you they are good people. Excessive charm, flattery, and polished behaviour can sometimes be used to lower your guard. As de Becker notes, charm is often a strategy intended to persuade, while genuine kindness expects nothing in return.

Watch for loan sharking, another concept from *The Gift of Fear*. This occurs when someone does favours, buys gifts, or provides help that you did not ask for, then expects gratitude, access, attention, or compliance in return. Healthy generosity is freely given without creating a sense of obligation.

Becker also discusses typcasting, a manipulation tactic where someone makes a subtle negative comment in order to provoke you into proving them wrong. For example, “You’re probably too busy to talk,” or “You seem like someone who wouldn’t give people a chance.” The goal is often to influence your behaviour by triggering a need to defend yourself.

The most important lesson from *The Gift of Fear* is simple: trust your instincts. If you feel pressured, confused, manipulated, or unsafe, you do not need to justify those feelings. Your intuition exists to protect you. Healthy relationships feel respectful, safe, and consistent. When something feels off, listen to that inner voice, it recognizes danger before your conscious mind can explain it.



News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

As I write, it is Calgary Aboriginal Awareness Week. In 1979, the Native Urban Affairs Committee was established to represent Aboriginal issues and concerns. In 1987, the name was changed to the Calgary Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee. I was contacted by a grade nine Math and Social Studies teacher who wanted to plan a tour of Nose Hill by a First Nations guide. There are a few documents related to the protocol for inviting Indigenous Elders. If you are in the Calgary area and need to connect with an Elder or Knowledge Keeper, you can consult the City of Calgary Indigenous Collaboration policy or the CBE Indigenous Education Protocol for local guidance. In First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultures, the Elders are leaders, teachers, role models, and mentors. The CBE Indigenous Education team has kept wisdom and teachings shared orally from Elders and community Knowledge Keepers for several years. The CBE document represents a summary of those teachings. It also includes knowledge gained from other organizations and districts. The Alberta Teachers Association offers a guide to accompany the Association’s Stepping Stones, Truth and Reconciliation resources. Crystal Manyfingers and her family are all members of the Kainai Nation of the great Blackfoot Confederacy who signed Treaty 7 in 1877. Crystal holds a B.A., B.Ed., and a Master’s degree in Education (Adult and Workplace Learning) from the University of Calgary. She has written numerous magazine articles, published a children’s book, and was awarded the Faculty of the Year Award for 2020 from Bow Valley College as a Learning Design Consultant for Indigenization and Decolonization of Curriculum, Research, and Innovation. Crystal serves on the Board of Directors for the Calgary Public Library as well as the Alberta Library Trustees Association.

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Perched at the top of Edgemont, this top floor suite delivers sweeping views of the city and Nose Hill from the living room and private balcony.

Asking \$251,900 mls# A2294846

4824 CLARET STREET NW (CHARLESWOOD)

This bungalow offers a total of five bedrooms. A newly built, legal, and registered secondary suite finished with durable Hardie Board siding sits above a brand new triple detached garage.

Asking \$1,186,000 mls# A2313861

11186 HARVEST HILLS GATE NE (HARVEST HILLS)

Beautifully maintained townhouse in Harvest Hills, two generously sized bedrooms, each featuring its own walk-in closet and private ensuite bathroom. Modern kitchen with granite countertops. Minutes away from the Calgary International Airport and Deerfoot Trail.

Asking \$399,900 mls# A2314504

BRENTWOOD—BLAKISTON DRIVE

Charming bi-level family home offers approx. 1960 sq. ft. of total comfortable living space. Exterior siding on home and garage (2021), windows and doors (2018).

Asking \$719,900 mls# A2279381

HARVEST HILLS—HARVEST HILLS WAY

Wonderfully appointed 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath 3-storey townhouse with air-conditioning system, centrally located in Harvest Hills, minutes away from the Calgary International Airport and Deerfoot Trail.

Asking \$469,900 mls# A2305843

BRENTWOOD—BOULTON ROAD

Perfect family home in Brentwood, 4 total bedrooms +2.5 bathrooms, SW backyard. Offering nearly 1,200 sq. ft. above grade. Just minutes from the University of Calgary, Foothills Hospital, and Alberta Children's Hospital.

Asking \$719,000 mls# A2317997

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