

BEECHMONT BUGLE

Official Newsletter of the BEECHMONT ASSOCIATION

Editor: V. Stanionis

SUMMER ISSUE

www.Beechmont.us

July 2022

Missing Beechmont Sign Found

During recent storm, Ida, the north wall, with the Beechmont sign, collapsed at North Avenue. Luckily, the City rescued the sign and we have been asking the City to restore the wall and sign. However, the



sign seemed to be missing until it was finally located in a City office and is now in the hands of the Department of Public Works for restoration.

It was in 1999 the sign was purchased by the Beechmont Association and installed by the Association as well as the one on the south wall and smaller versions on the 12 stone pillars surrounding Beechmont.



We have asked the City to check the twelve smaller signs to see if they need to be secured further. They are located on Montgomery Circle and Forest Place, Antler and The Esplanade, Ellenton and

Claire, on Pinebrook Road, on Mountain and Woodlawn, Mountain and Avimore. We have pointed out that after 23 years of weathering they may need attention.

Beechmont Lake Dedication

Mayor Bramson has stated that the opening date for the Lake has not yet been determined but they are hoping to do it in July.

We were told that a small portion of the flex-path could not be installed at the southeast corner of the Lake because of utility obstructions. Our request for additional benches was not in the plan.

Unfortunately, about a dozen mature trees on east end of the Lake did not survive the project and will be removed. New trees will be planted in their place, but the timing all depends on the City's larger forestry contract.

New Iona Dean of Health Sciences

Iona College announced that Kavita R. Dhanwada, Ph.D., has been named founding dean of the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences.

She has served since 2017 as founding dean of the Borra College of Health Sciences at Dominican

University in River Forest, Ill. She joins Iona effective July 1, 2022. Established in July 2021 and supported by a \$20 million gift, the NewYork-Presbyterian Iona School of Health Sciences will be primarily located on Iona's new 28-acre campus in Bronxville, N.Y.



Previously, Dhanwada served as associate provost for Academic Affairs and dean of the Graduate College at the University of Northern Iowa. She also served there as associate dean for the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, department head, faculty fellow and a long-standing faculty member.

In addition to being widely published for her research work, Dhanwada is also a member of the Council of Independent Colleges, the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and the American Conference of Academic Deans. She received a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Ph.D. in Microbiology/Immunology from Loyola University of Chicago

The Beechmont Association Will Resume Activities

The Covid epidemic slowed the Board of the Association in carrying out its activities in support of our mission. However, our president, Jane Vanlare is anxious to resume activities with your help. Remember your dues pay for the publication of the Bugle, the envelopes, labels, its mailing and for the gardener. With the pandemic, and vaccinations taking up time you may have forgotten to send in your dues of \$50 to Susan Schlecker, 55 Melrose Drive, New Rochelle, NY 10804.

Beechmont Booklets Available

If you haven't received a copy of the booklets on the **History of Beechmont**, **Beechmont in Pictures 1931**, and the copy of the **City Realty Development brochure** for Beechmont, there are still some available. Please contact V. Stanionis, VP, at Vstanionis@verizon.net with your name and address and we shall try to get them to you as soon as possible.



How to Keep Beechmont Beautiful!

1. Remember the whole is the sum of its parts. So, begin by assessing one's own home, property, and landscaping. Is it beautiful? Stand at the curb and ask yourself: Are there any "broken windows" or dilapidated fencing, peeling paint, dead trees, and dead shrubs?

2. Correct the various and obvious flaws that may exist.

3. Ask yourself the question are flowering shrubs, flowers needed?

4. What is the condition of walkways Do they need repairs or railings?

5. How about house numbers? Are they large and visible from the street in case first responders are called?

6. Next look at our nearby traffic islands. Are they well maintained?

Should the gardener that Beechmont employs, Mr. Mendez, 914-776-4663, be called and reminded about cutting the grass once per week and removing weeds and removing the occasional wild tree. The 12 islands belong to all of us. The Beechmont Association does its best but cannot be everywhere.

7. The junipers on The Esplanade as well as the 10 Kwanzan cherry trees scattered around in various places in Beechmont were planted with your dues and are pruned periodically by Almstead Tree or Ramiro Tree services, again paid for by your dues.

8. The Belgian block curbs around the traffic islands were installed and paid for by the Association and donated to the City. They may need repointing or replacement. Some may be missing and need to be replaced. Let the City know.

9. The Beechmont bronze signs on the pillars may need repointing and cleaning. The large one at North Avenue and Beechmont Drive needs to be restored and the stone wall that collapsed during Ida rebuilt. Help us let the City know.

10. Help by removing unauthorized signs that appear periodically on poles and intersections such as the one at Pinebrook Boulevard and Beechmont Drive. Such advertising for tag sales, houses for rent, athletic clubs, are not permitted and add to visual clutter that takes away some of the beauty of our residential neighborhood. If one is left, another will soon appear and then many others.

11. Help The Beechmont Association carry out its mission of "improving and beautifying Beechmont and protecting the community interests" with your reminders, observations, and letters to our City Council Representative, Sara Kaye, and our City Manager, Charles Strome, and our Mayor and Beechmont resident, Noam Bramson.



Finally, if you have not sent in your dues of \$50 for 2022, please remit them as soon as possible in the enclosed envelope or send or deliver them to Susan Schlecker, Treasurer, 55 Melrose Drive, New Rochelle, NY 10804.

The Beechmont Association is not a political organization, a social organization, or a club and has a narrow well-defined mission to accomplish and with your help and contributions it will be enabled to do so.

Welcome New Residents

Please let us know your name, address, and email so that we may contact you periodically about important Beechmont issues.

Send the information to:
Vstanionis@verizon.net to be added to the homeowners mailing list and email list.

The Association is also interested in volunteers. To be added to the Volunteer List please send us your name and email. If you have a skill in gardening, writing, planting, beautification let us know. Be persistent.

Please feel free to pick up litter and remove unauthorized signs on poles and wire frames. The City in renovating Beechmont Lake has provided numerous receptacles for trash,

Please check our website: www.Beechmont.us for more information about the Beechmont Association, its history, activities and officers.

THE BEECHMONT ASSOCIATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Beechmont Association was organized in 1904 for the purpose of improving and beautifying Beechmont and protecting the community interests of its residents.

Beechmont People in the News

Beechmont Resident Dr. Darrell Wheeler New President of SUNY New Paltz

Iona Provost Dr. Darrell P. Wheeler has just been named president of SUNY New Paltz.



Wheeler has served as Iona's provost since July 1, 2018. Among his many distinctions, he has served as vice chair of the U.S. Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (2016-17) and president of the U.S. Board of the National Association of Social Workers (2014-2017).

100 Year old Beechmont Residents

Yvette Gordon, sculptor, and a resident of Beechmont Drive is 100 years old. Shown below when she attended the restoration of the flagpole in 2020 at Beechmont's Monument Park at Beechmont Drive and Montgomery Circle. She is in good spirits and sharp as a tack. Her children held her 100-year-old birthday party for her at Beth El.



She and her husband, Herman, built their house in 1950 and it was "the first small house in Beechmont!" She takes numerous on-line courses, and she still sculpts in her basement studio.

Westchester County Executive George Latimer marked the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor by honoring **Leroy Fadem** of Melrose Drive and two other local World War II veterans

.. At 101 years old, Fadem is a Navy veteran who served on the U.S.S. Stevens. Leroy Fadem was born in February 1921 in New York, New York. His father worked on Wall Street

and his mother was a home maker. Fadem was educated in Brooklyn before attending college at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



He is a Navy veteran who while serving on the U.S.S. Stevens, earned the moniker "Fearless Fadem" serving as a torpedo officer, gunnery officer and catapult officer.

Mayor Noam Bramson featured in WAG Magazine

Pinebrook Boulevard resident Noam Bramson was recently featured in **WAG Magazine** June 2022 edition which highlights local business lifestyles. He is characterized as having a compulsion to improve all aspects of life in the city in which he was born, raised and continues to live with his wife and two sons

Bramson's wife, Catherine ("Catie") Stern, is a clinical pediatric neuropsychologist affiliated with Family Health Associates of White Plains and Manhattan. Sons Jeremy and Owen attend the New Rochelle public schools as did their father. Bramson not only went on from New Rochelle High School to Harvard University, but he also earned his undergraduate degree in three years and then received a master's in public policy.



"We're enjoying unprecedented success," he tells WAG about the transformation and revitalization of the City of New Rochelle.

Mr. and Mrs Beechmont

The January 2022 edition of **New Rochelle Neighbors** featured two Beechmont residents, Victor and Lydia Stanionis, who have lived on Pryer

Place for 48 years and cites them for "fighting the good fight" and for trying to improve the world around them.

Victor was a professor of Physics at Iona for 60 years and served on and off



for thirty-one years as the president of The Beechmont Association. He retired from Iona in August 2021 and was awarded the title of Professor Emeritus of Physics. Lydia also taught at Iona as an adjunct professor for many years.

They were cited for their work in beautifying Beechmont, and for their work with New Rochelle Opera and Symphony of Westchester. Victor was also instrumental in gaining for Iona recognition by the American Association for the Advancement of Science for being at the forefront of teaching science in the new millennium.

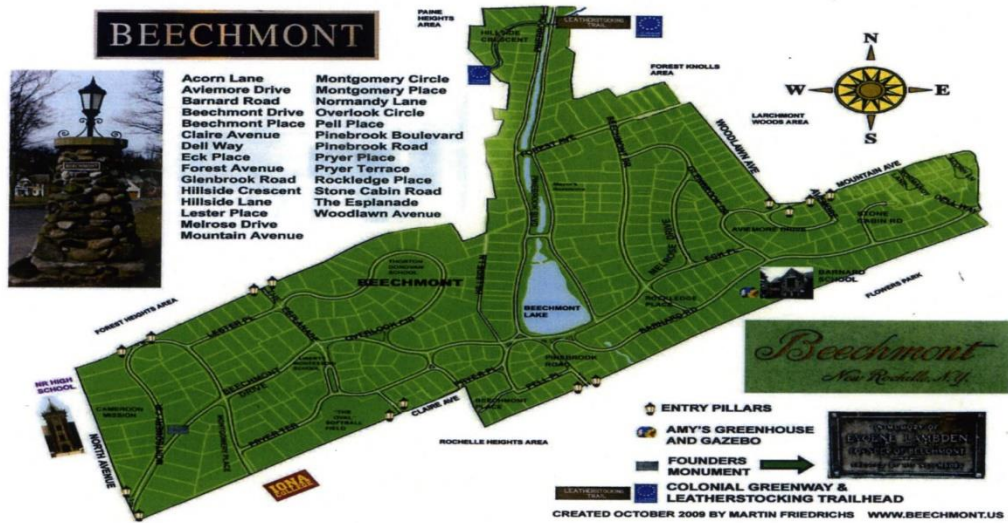
New Rochelle Library Trustee Elected

Pryer Place resident Rhiannon Navin was elected to the New Rochelle Library Board of Trustees with 100 % of the vote in an uncontested election in the recent School Board and Library election.

She views the New Rochelle Public Library as a vital community resource committed to offering equitable access to programs and resources for all residents.



She brings to the NRPL Board the unique perspective of an author of an international bestseller and that of a former advertising executive with extensive experience in communication and marketing as well as managing large budgets.



BEECHMONT IN THE SPRING