

***There is virtually nothing that hasn't been impacted by the turbulent times we have experienced in 2020. We have been challenged as individuals and as a community. Our patience has been tried, our faith has been tested. Our big questions are not able to be answered with simple, step-by-step solutions.***

**Yet, in the last nine months, a great amount of good came about because our community cared and we put our emotion into action.**

In mid-March the pandemic closed our doors and put an abrupt stop to most all the activities that bring us together. Two months later, our area was devastated by floods. Without hesitation, local people stepped up to assist government agencies, organizations, churches and corporations in providing relief for our neighbors in desperate need. We collected and distributed food, drinkable water, clothing, household and personal care items. We cleaned up the messes that an overwhelming amount of mud and muck left behind and helped rebuild homes that were destroyed. Through late summer and fall, we widened our focus to the needs of our school and continued support of local businesses and essential services that we truly cannot live without. There is still so much to be done and quite a lot of need, but the people of our community have never stopped caring and sharing physical, emotional, and spiritual strength.

**A great amount of good has resulted in our community because we are people who open our hearts and lend our hands.**

We roll up our sleeves and work together to meet life's circumstances where we find them. With a shared idea and a glimmer of optimism, we find the deep-down determination of the people we come from. We summon up the courage to try and, in doing so, we take the steps to make life better for everyone.

Think about this. We opened the doors to the Beaverton Activity Center in October 2015 after five years of working together. It took thousands of hours, all kinds of ideas and experience, creativity and compromise, plus physical labor, a mountain of monetary donations, and, yes, a great amount of courage. What started as a dream to preserve and restore an old space has created new opportunities for people of all ages. The opportunities have blossomed in countless ways, and, in unison, our community has blossomed. A great amount of good has occurred because of the support of BAC's meaningful partnerships, the time and talent of volunteers, and the generosity of donors at every level.

**The new year brings new light and new hope. It's a time to pause and count our blessings. Just one moment of gratitude can produce a great amount of good.**

The coming months will bring back opportunities to live what "community" means to us: the enjoyment of togetherness and shared values that motivate us to achieve common goals. A year from now, our can-do spirit will have been empowered by thinking big, and fueled with hope, pride, and resourcefulness!

When once again we are able to stretch our imaginations to ask "what if?" we hope a renewed effort to build the BAC Endowment Fund will be set in motion. An endowment is an interest-earning fund, kind of like a savings account that belongs to our entire community. Our goal is to grow the fund over time, dollar by dollar, to an amount that will sustain the BAC forever. Thank you for your generous support in the past. We will ask for your consideration to help in the future.

**May you and your family be blessed with health, happiness and peace in 2021.**

**We look forward to the right time to open our doors and welcome you back to a place you belong – a place that belongs to all of us!**

**BEAVERTON**  
*Activity Center*

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