

Briarcrest Neighborhood News

March 2015

Calendar

Briarcrest Neighborhood

Association: No monthly meetings for the time being.

*Every Mon., 5:30-7:30, 15550 27th Ave NE – **Patty Pan Cooperative's Humble Feast** of local foods. Info: neighborhoodkitchen.org*

Patty Pan is now making their own tortillas from local, organic flour. You can also enjoy Patty Pan's food at the **Shoreline Farmers Market** -- new location: Aurora Square (near Central Market & Sears), beginning June 20.

*Every Wed., 5:00-6:30, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church -- **Popy's Café**. Free meal, all welcome. To volunteer: 206-363-0446.*

*Wed., March 11, 7:30, Shoreline Public Library – **Presentation re. proposed parking lot** at 1520 NE 148th St., next to and for the Animal Surgical Clinic of Seattle.*

*Sat., March 14, 2:00-3:30, Shoreline Fire Dept., 17525 Aurora Ave. N – **State Sen. Maralyn Chase & State Rep. Cindy Ryu** will host a town hall meeting.*

*Fri., March 27, 6:30-9:00, Richmond Masonic Center, N. 185th & Linden – City of Shoreline **World Dance Party and Potluck** for all, esp. families.*

Candidates Debate Night

The BNA will be holding its third Candidates Debate Night this coming summer. My goodness, do we have some issues to discuss! Light rail, redevelopment, and of course, the potential work on NE 145th St, which will directly impact all of us. Previous debates have been lively and informative. Exact date TBD -- probably late August. Any questions, write to **Sarah Kaye** at stckaye@gmail.com.

Swingin' Summer Eve

This annual Shoreline city party at Cromwell Park will be Wed., July 22. It always includes a book and CD sale to benefit neighborhood organizations -- including ours if we have a **few volunteers (how about you?)**, and at least 150 items to sell. Contact Alice Keller, briarcrestalice@gmail.com or 206-362-1125.

Start a Shoreline Watch Group on your block!

The Briarcrest Crime Prevention meeting on Jan. 20 was a big success, with 30 attendees! **Officer Steve Perry** put on a very informative and entertaining presentation. One of his topics was the Shoreline Watch program (our city's version of Block Watch). With the recent rash of burglaries and porch pilferings, getting to know our neighbors and keeping an eye out for each other is more important than ever, and that's exactly what Shoreline Watch helps us do!

Most Watch groups include 5 to 15 household groups, usually the residents on both sides of a block. To get a Watch going in your neighborhood, talk with your neighbors, and then contact Shoreline Police Sergeant Bruce Bartlett at bruce.bartlett@kingcounty.gov or (206) 801-2713 to request an officer for your Shoreline Watch meeting. The City of Shoreline website has meeting locations, invitations, and more info here: <http://www.cityofshoreline.com/government/departments/police-department/crime-prevention/shoreline-watch>

One of the single most important ways to reduce crime in our neighborhoods is to know our neighbors and watch out for each other. Starting a Shoreline Watch group will bring you and your neighbors together to promote safety and communication. And who knows, it might be fun!

-- Jean Hilde, BNA Webmistress

Shoreline begins 145th St. Future Design Study

The City of Shoreline has begun a study to analyze and determine the future design of the 145th Street/SR 523 corridor. This corridor, a key east-west connection for the region linking bus and rapid transit on Aurora, regional bus service on SR-522, future light rail, and I-5, will not be able to safely handle increased traffic, transit, pedestrians, or bicycles without significant upgrades. Shoreline's corridor study will include development of a master plan for improving pedestrian and bicycle mobility, safety and operations, transit speed and reliability, and freight mobility.

One of the critical components of the study will be public input, including that of residents and business and property owners along and near 145th Street. To help facilitate this input, the City has formed a 12-person Citizen Advisory Task Force (CATF). After a public announcement seeking interested participants, **Hunter Fulghum** was designated the representative from Briarcrest. The first meeting of the new CATF was held February 12.

Over the next year, CATF members will consult with their neighborhood constituencies in order to represent viewpoints and issues of concern on behalf of their neighbors, as well as to disseminate information to their communities about the project. The City is planning three open houses in 2015 for Shoreline residents to learn about the project and to give input. Briarcrest neighbors should feel free to contact their CATF representative, Hunter Fulghum, at hfulghum@comcast.net for more information.

-- Jean Hilde

Nurse at Briarcrest Elementary honored

Gary Eneberg, nurse at Briarcrest Elementary School, was selected as the 2015 Shoreline Schools Support Person of the Year. He was honored on March 2 for his meticulous and caring work, including teaching anti-bullying lessons in classrooms. The school is lucky to have him!

My friendship with Charlie Brown

I moved to Briarcrest in 2007 and met Charlie shortly afterwards through the Neighborhood Association. Since he tended towards the quiet side of things and spoke to the point when he did speak, it took a while to get to know him. Once we recognized a common love for nature and wild lands, our conversations rapidly branched out.

I was extremely impressed when he told me his plans to kayak on one of the lakes of the Grand Canyon, not a trip for wimps. He immediately became a role model for me. As he slowed down through the successive years, I enjoyed sitting over maps with him and talking through our respective trips. We covered some of the same territory, generally in different ways.

When Charlie became aware that his time was short, our conversations changed. It was a privilege for me to discuss death and dying with him, because his perspective was always thoughtful and perceptive, never morbid. I can still hear his gravelly rumble in my memory. I hope that I can bring his insight to bear on my own life in the future. -- Sarah Kaye

BNA Summer Party

There are no plans for a spring neighborhood party this year. However, plans are afoot for a new venue for a summer party to particularly include the children of Briarcrest. We have a fabulous local park with space to run, plenty of seating for conversation, food, and pie-tasting. Hamlin Park has a fire pit and even space for a plant exchange. All this and we still need other ideas and willing neighbors to come forward to make this year's party a success -- maybe on Saturday, June 27, or an August date. Jean Hilde and Erin Middleton will chair a committee. If you have ideas and you'd like to be a part of this exciting community-building event, contact either of the two co-chairs: Jean at jmhilde@earthlink.net or Erin at erin12901@gmail.com.

Shoreline Walks seeks volunteers

The Shoreline Parks and Recreation Department is seeking volunteer walk leaders for the 2015 Shoreline Walks Program. This is a free program to help adults stay active, meet new people (or connect with old friends), and feel safer and more confident exploring our city on foot. Walks explore trails, neighborhoods, parks, and streets and often incorporate interesting conversational topics and stops at local coffee shops and other destinations.

New walks will begin again in April and run through the summer. If you know of great walking routes around our city and would like to lead a group walk, please contact Marianne Johnson, Recreation Assistant, at mjohnson@shorelinewa.gov or 206-801-2638. Training is provided.

Our Urban Forest

Our neighbor, the late Charlie Brown, a wilderness ecologist with the National Forest Service, recognized the value of preserving South Woods for future generations. Located at NE 150th St. and 25th Ave. NE, adjacent to Shorecrest High School, it is sixteen-plus acres of mature lowland forest rarely found in an urban setting.



*Charlie Brown in South Woods with a weed wrench he used against countless invasive holly trees.
Photo by Janet Way*

The South Woods Preservation Group (SWPG), a small but dynamic group, thwarted commercial development and worked together for ten years to achieve the preservation of this land as a park. Along with friends and neighbors, this group of concerned citizens helped pass the Parks and Open Spaces Bond in the spring of 2006. Once the woods was saved, the City helped to get research done to map the vegetation.

The goal was to restore the land to an approximation of its original state, and together the SWPG and its supporters helped save the woods and worked to restore its ecological integrity. This has been done mostly by the removal of invasive ivy and holly. Thanks to Charlie for his vision and for pulling out acres of the roots of holly stems with the City's weed wrenches. The winding paths through the forest belong to us as a Shoreline Park and invite us to explore the beauty of the undisturbed forest.

There is continuing interest in promoting a unique partnership with schools and in exploring how to achieve the park's potential as a special environmental educational resource, both for students in the district and for the community. -- Bettelinn Krizek Brown

Little Free Libraries: Another one is at NE 146th St. and 17th Ave. NE – which makes 5 in Briarcrest announced so far in these newsletters. Yay for books!

Have items for the next newsletter?

Contact Alice Keller, editor:
briarcrestalice@gmail.com or 206-362-1125.
The next issue will appear in June.

Join Briarcrest Next Door to get and share neighborhood information by email. To join, contact Jean Hilde-Fulghum, jmhilde@earthlink.net.

