

Neighborhood Calendar

www.briarcrestneighbors.net

Council of Neighborhoods meeting, Wednesday, February 6 and March 5, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, Shoreline Conference Center, Spartan Room 18560 1st Ave NE

Democratic Caucus meetings, Saturday, February 9, 1:00 pm, Briarcrest Elementary School, 2715 NE 158 Street.

Table Meeting, Thursday, March 20, 7:00 pm, 15517 27th Ave NE. Bring articles for the newsletter.

RECURRING NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

BNA General meeting, Monday, February 11, March 10, & April 14, 7:00 pm, Congregational Church, 15518 27th Ave (always 2nd Monday).

Bible Study for Women, Thursdays, 9:45 - 11:30 am, First Christian Reformed Church. Childcare for infants and Story Hour for children 2 to 5. Info: Church office (206) 364-3021.

IvyOut at South Woods Park Saturday, February 16, March 15, & April 19, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (always 3rd Saturday). Check the web site for the South Woods Preservation Group at www.savesouthwoods.org, dedicated to environmental education and preserving South Woods.

Sustainable Shoreline Education Association, February 22, March 28, & April 25, 7:00 pm, First Christian Reformed Church, 147th St and 25th Ave. For details of meetings, go to www.sustainableshoreline.org/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you'd like to work on the planning committee for the Annual Briarcrest Neighborhood Anniversary Party, please contact Margo Richardson illuminahealingart@gmail.com.
- If you're interested in helping with this year's Briarcrest Neighborhood Association Spring Plant Sale, contact Sarah Kaye: shareayak@yahoo.com
- Interact with the Shoreline Wiki at <http://shoreline.wikispot.org>. Instructions for use on page 2.

Submit newsletter articles to:

- Bettelinn Krizek Brown, Newsletter Chair
15517 27th Ave NE
bettelinn@hotmail.com, 363 5517
- Marcia Taylor, Assistant Editor
15858 28th Ave NE
iptaylor@earthlink.net, 725 1377
- Submissions for the Briarcrest website:
info@briarcrestneighbors.net

Briarcrest Neighborhood Association Officers

Bill Bear, Director	368 0858
Jon Melusky, Asst Director	361 2563
Bettelinn Krizek Brown, Secretary	363 5517
Charlie Brown, Treasurer	363 5517

Block Contact Coordinators

Jon Melusky	361 2563
Glinda Mathews	361 1917
Dan Henry	363 9562
Dennis Lee	362 7798
Bettelinn Brown	363 5517

BNA Mailing Address:

c/o Sherry Marlin
14750 20th Ave NE

Thanks to the Seattle Congregational Church & the First Christian Reformed Church for the use of their buildings.

This newsletter is published by the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association and is distributed by the volunteer Block Contacts who live on your block. We appreciate your comments, your donations to the BNA which offset the printing costs and your patronage of the local businesses that advertise with us.

Fircrest Master Plan

The Fircrest Campus Excess Property Study, a document drafted to assist the State Legislature with determining what should be done with 33 underutilized acres on the Fircrest campus, will be submitted to the State Legislature before the end of January. At that time, the study will be available to the public. The City of Shoreline has requested a copy of the study. When the document is received, the City will post information regarding on the City's website.

The campus, a 90 acre, state-owned property located at the northeast corner of 15th Ave NE and NE 150th Street is bounded by Hamlin Park on the north, and South Woods and Shorecrest High School on the east. Working as directed by the state legislature, DSHS has created three land use options for the 33 acres. Phase 1, the public input phase comprised two open houses, on October 10 and November 8, 2007, to present the three suggested options for use of those 33 acres and public comments and suggestions through November 21, 2007. (Any input received after 11/21 has been stored in the database and will be reviewed during Phase 2.) Using the input he received, Ed Valbert, DSHS Project Manager, prepared a draft report and presented it to the DSHS Board for review. Following their review, DSHS will send the finalized report to the Legislature for action.

According to Rachael Markle, Fircrest Master Plan Project Manager, the study will most likely recommend to the Legislature that a hybrid of the three options be employed. These options, which were the subject of the two open houses emphasize: 1.) maximum financial return to the state, 2.) use by the state, and 3.) maximizing benefit to the local community. Details regarding the three options can be seen by going to www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/projects/fircrest/index.cfm.

The Fircrest School and other organizations presently on the remaining 57 acres were not part of this study. The details of the study are not yet public, however features common to all options previously discussed are: residential uses and affordable housing; continued education partnerships at Fircrest School; preservation of unique physical features; local benefit features such as trails and open space. After the study has been sent to the State Legislature and the Legislature provides direction to DSHS, Phase 2 of the Master Plan will begin and is scheduled to go through 2009.

- Marcia Taylor and Rachael Markle

32nd Ave NE Rezoned

The "R 24 Rezone" on 32nd Avenue NE in the Briarcrest Neighborhood was approved by the City of Shoreline Planning Commission at the January 17, 2008 meeting.

Scott Solberg, one of the rezone applicants, did an excellent job presenting his justification for the rezone of the seven lots on 32nd Avenue NE. in the South East Area of the Briarcrest Neighborhood.

The neighbors in the area have reached a critical mass of frustration. The conditions of decline in that area are appalling. It is hard to rent any housing at market rates. The conditions on 32nd Avenue NE between 145th Street and 149th Street are only going to get worse if nothing is done to start some new development.

Briarcrest neighbors want to help those on 32nd to rebuild their part of our community. One thing we can do is move quickly and carefully to get the Briarcrest Neighborhood Sub Area Plan (BNSAP) under way. This process could connect and revitalize the whole neighborhood.

Our City Council and Planning Commission staff (www.cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/departments/planning/index.cfm) needs to hear the neighborhood's feedback and concerns. With neighborhood approval the outcome of our Briarcrest Neighborhood Sub Area Plan could include design standards like small houses on small lots. This is called Appropriate Infill Development which is suitable for adjacent parts of Briarcrest. Uncontrolled destruction at the southern edge of Briarcrest could occur unless we are vigilant.

Please stay tuned in and get involved when asked.

- Dennis Lee

New Space Theatre

Located at 17517 15th Avenue NE, in the heart of North City, the New Space Theatre has been open for almost 3 years. Our professional theatre company was created by teachers and students of Shoreline Community College. Our next play, 'The God Of Hell' written by Sam Shepard, runs February 1 - 23, 2008. For more information, contact Eduard Zanidache at 206.795.0224 or visit www.thenewspace.org.

Take a look at the SL Wiki!

A wiki is a collaborative website, that anybody can contribute to and edit. The People of Shoreline's wiki, an online place to provide information, have discussions, post events, etc. about Shoreline, is at <http://shoreline.wikispot.org>.

Sign Up

Anybody can edit anonymously, but we encourage you to create an account with the "New user" link on the top right corner of the front page. Your articles and edits will be marked with the name or nickname that you choose.

Create and edit entries

From the "Front Page," click on "All Pages." To see if the entry you're interested in has already been created, enter any term in the Search box; if the page does not exist, wikispot will ask if you want to create it.



Click on the link, and select "Create this page."



For a simple topic, enter a paragraph or two of plain text, click on "Preview" to see what the page will look like, and "Save changes" when it's done.

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Seattle's Trees Are Dying

Driving around the greater Seattle area, you will see what looks like a very picturesque scene -- trees and English ivy growing together to make a beautiful green landscape. But looks can be deceiving



and this pleasant green view hides a potentially devastating problem. More than a century ago, the vast forest that covered the hills that later became the city of Seattle were clear-cut. Large native maple and alder trees grew in their place. Those extensive clear-cuts significantly reduced the seed source needed for native conifers, such as Douglas firs, Western red cedar, and Western hemlock, to regenerate. Over the years several non-native invasive plants, such as English ivy, blackberries, and holly, began to establish under the canopy of the city's forest. In many parks the invasive plants now

dominate and cover the ground, blocking the potential for all native trees to naturally regenerate.

Since then, the leafy trees have grown large and old. At ground level, where cedar, pines and Douglas firs might have begun to sprout, the earth is covered with invasive plants – and no tree seedlings can survive.

Now many of those big trees are nearing the end of their natural life, and the ivy—like a disease taking advantage of a frail, elderly individual—may speed the decline. Ivy robs the tree of nutrients and increases the "sail" effect—the risk that high winds could topple the tree.

Today, 3,200 of Seattle's 3,700 acres of natural areas are forested parks and greenways—remnants of a once vast forest that covered the entire Puget Sound region. After 150 years of logging, view clearing, and passive management, these remnant forests are sick. If nothing is done, within 20 years, 70% of our forests (2,500 acres) will be an ecological dead zone were invasive plants predominate, trees are dead or dying and wildlife habitat is gone.

For more information, go to www.greenseattle.org/



The formatting buttons at the top right work the same as any editor: select a block of text, click on "B" for bold, "I" for italic, etc. Click on the globe symbol to enter a link to another website. The link is entered in brackets: change the text to the URL you want.

For more complex topics, use the "=" symbol to designate headings and enter "[[TableOfContents]]" at the top for the table of contents. For example, this text:

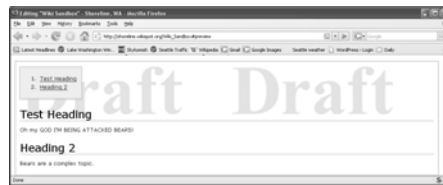
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[[TableOfContents]]
= Test Heading =
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Oh my GOD I'M BEING ATTACKED BEARS!

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= Heading 2 =
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Bears are a complex topic.

Will appear like this:



Visit <http://shoreline.wikispot.org/Help> with Editing for further information about formatting, linking, uploading pictures, etc.

Events

The Events Board is a built-in bulletin board for posting upcoming events. Click "Events Board" on the Front Page to view events or post a new one.

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Copyright

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Contact me

If you have any questions, send me email at info@briarcrestneighbors.net. Please share with your friends and neighbors! More is better.

- Sarah Kaye

Join the Pesticide Free Zone

Being a good steward of our backyards is easy! Join the movement toward sustainability by making your corner of the ecosystem a pesticide free one. The Natural Landscapes Project, a nonprofit outreach organization in Kitsap County, can help you. At their website you will find tips for healthy, natural lawn and garden care: www.naturallandscapes.org.

And, celebrate your commitment to a yard that is free of toxic weed and bug killers, by putting up a Pesticide Free Zone yard sign. It's free! Help us encourage others to protect water quality, our children's safety and wildlife. If you have questions or to receive your free Pesticide Free Zone sign, call Bobbie Morgan, 206-842-5955.

- Bobbie Morgan

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