

Briarcrest

neighborhood news

FEB / MARCH
2009

Neighborhood Calendar

www.briarcrestneighbors.net

Submissions for the Briarcrest website:
info@briarcrestneighbors.net

Council of Neighborhoods, First Wednesday of each month, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Shoreline Historical Museum, 749 N 175th Street. Your participation is welcomed.

BNA General meeting, Monday, February 9, March 9, April 13, 7:00 pm, Congregational Church, 15518 27th Ave.

IvyOut at South Woods Park, Saturday, February 21, March 21 & April 18, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. South Woods Preservation Group: savesouthwoods.org.

Table Meeting, Thursday, March 19, 7:00 pm, 15517 27th Ave NE. Bring articles for the newsletter.

Spring Clean-up, Neighbor's Helping Neighbors, Sunday, March 22, 10:30 & 1:00. First Christian Reformed Church. For information contact Tom at 367-3265 or John at 425 280-0663.

BNA Party – Saturday, April 18, 5:00 - 9:00 pm, First Christian Reformed Church. Planning meeting Tuesday, February 10, 7:00 pm at Margot Richardson's house. Call 365-2619 or email illuminahealingart@gmail.com

Sustainable Shoreline Education Association. For information on upcoming meetings, go to: sustainableshoreline.org

Shoreline Visioning Process: Vision Statement and Framework Goals. In context of Shoreline's Comprehensive Plan, Growth Management Act. Meeting dates of City Council & Planning Commission. **Monday, February 23, 6:00 pm**: Council review and input. **Monday, March 2, 6:30 pm**: Community Check-In Town Hall Meeting – Meridian Park School. **Friday, March 27**. Posting of drafts and comments on City Web Site; 10-day public hearing notice. **Monday, April 13**. Legislative Public Hearing by City Council on draft Framework Goals, "bullets," and Vision Statement. Potential for Council adoption.

Laughing Ladies Café Comedy nights Thursdays till 10 pm, music weekends, – 17551 15 Ave NE, laughingladiescafe.com

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
Fawzi Khoury	367 0221

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.

Director's Report

We had 20 people at the last BNA meeting January 12th. What convinced them to come? It could be the topic or the phone call I made a few days before. In a day of internet, computer, cell phones and pagers, people are more likely to come if they are personally invited. The topic was mapping your block. It was very informative.

Gail Marsh, Shoreline Emergency Management Coordinator presented the new program to help everyone build and strengthen disaster readiness among neighbors.

If you are interested in organizing for an emergency or disaster please call Gail Marsh at 801-2271 or Peggy Williams Scott at 801-2256. They can help set up a meeting of all the neighbors on your block at one of the homes and will provide the hosts with a DVD video to watch, booklets and detailed information. These materials will guide you in leading the meeting. Check out the education plan at 3days3ways.org, gmarsh@shorelinewa.gov or pscott@shorelinewa.gov.

How well we survive as a neighborhood and a city has a lot to do with the quality of your life and your wellbeing. It is possible to define wellbeing: a stable marriage, the company of friends, rewarding work, sufficient money, a good diet and physical activity, sound sleep, engaging in leisure, spiritual belief and practice, optimism, trust, self-respect, autonomy, a sense of belonging, a sense of being connected. We can say we want to preserve the character of our neighborhood and have a city that is sustainable but how does one measure and quantify these abstract values? B-Sustainable.org has done this type of measurements for Seattle. We can try to do the same for Shoreline or just for the Briarcrest neighborhood. How we function in the event of an emergency or disaster may be dependent on your participation in the Map Your Neighborhood Program.

It was a very encouraging to see so many Block Contacts come out to the BNA January meeting. When we have our anniversary party in April and our block parties this summer let us make sure to invite people personally and not just use mail, email and fliers.

- Bill Bear

Animal Surgical Clinic of Seattle

Given the run of bad weather we've had lately, we are happy to report that construction at the new facility for Animal Surgical Clinic of Seattle at 15th Ave and 148th is progressing on schedule and the surgeons and staff are very excited about the upcoming move this spring! The interior is currently being painted, and work on the exterior of the building and surrounding property will begin as soon as the weather permits. Clients from all around the Pacific Northwest come to ASCS, trusting in our surgeons and technicians to deliver exceptional and compassionate surgical care for their pets. In addition to our normal cases, ASCS provides veterinary surgical services to the Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle Aquarium, Seattle Animal Control, PAWS and several local law enforcement agencies. If you would like to learn more about the services we provide, please visit our webpage at animalsurgical.com.

- Jane David, LVT, Hospital Manager

Shoreline Goodwill

The Shoreline Goodwill store and Job Training center recently celebrated its one year anniversary.

This is our second largest Goodwill store at 40,000 square feet. We have a wonderful Fashion Focus section right up front that holds great fashion items. The Job Training center, which opened in December 2007 to address the growing needs in the community, offers free job and skills training for the community to help people find and keep good jobs, including English for Speakers of Other Languages.

The donations of gently used clothing and house wares sold in our store raise funds for our job training programs. We are so grateful to the Shoreline community for its support of Goodwill through these donations and through financial contributions. The store and donation hours are on our website at seattle-goodwill.org/shop/stores/shoreline.

- Catherine McConnell | VP of Development and Communications | Goodwill

Briarcrest Neighborhood Website

Neighbors! Check out the Briarcrest website at briarcrestneighbors.net. There you will find more news and information that doesn't fit into the newsletter, along with photos of local events, volunteer opportunities, a larger map than the one on page 2, and much more. If you'd like to contribute to the site send your ideas and contributions to info@briarcrestneighbors.net

- Ian Taylor

Citizens' Advisory Committee

I didn't know what to expect when I signed up to be part of the South East neighborhoods sub-area committee, but I did know that they were going to be making plans for the future of the sweet little neighborhood I call home. I figured I'd better try to be part of the process now and not just complain about what I didn't like later.

Up to this point the committee has heard from the water district, parks and recreation, public works, traffic planner/engineers and community/housing design, the economic advisor and toured the area, all in an attempt to gain the knowledge to move on to the next process; making a master plan for the area.

It's been a great educational experience having access to these people to ask questions and learn how the business of a city works. Sometimes overwhelming, sometimes frustrating because we would like to take more time on a particular subject, other times enlightening and encouraging.

We finished our last "informational" meeting Tuesday, Jan. 6th and now we get to move on to figuring out what is most important for us to focus on for our neighborhood and start making decisions. I'm hoping that this part will go smoothly, as it seems our group is on the same page as far as what we want for the area.

Some of the things that are of concern for all of us include the wonderful trees that we have in our corner of Shoreline. We want to keep them. Our goal is to figure out how to encourage new developers and current property owners to take care of them.

Traffic is another big issue. 145th was a big concern for a lot of people, and we found out some very interesting information about that hurdle. Three entities have domain over it- the City of Seattle, King County, and the Washington Department of Transportation- but *not* the city of Shoreline. Shoreline only extends to the northern side of the north sidewalk. What that means to us is that any problems that we had wanted to address on 145th need to be dealt with by taking

measures inside of our area; zoning, traffic flow, disbursement, etc., and although this isn't ideal, we will have to do the best we can.

The main puzzle for us to figure out is how to plan for increased density. As we were told when we first became a Citizen Advisory Committee, density *will* increase, we can plan for it and guide it, or just let it happen without regard for the character and values of our neighborhood. It makes sense for the people concerned with this "sub-area" of Shoreline to come up with a plan that addresses the needs of this area. Because of the easy access to I-5, bus lines along 145th and 15th Ave., and the proximity to amenities we are in a prime location to take on higher populations. Easy access to I-5 will be great when the new light rail is up and running and we were told there will be a station at 145th and I-5.

But, are we a prime area? What about all the traffic along 145th during commuting hours? What about all the single-family residences that don't want to be boxed in by massive town homes and apartments? How can we plan for this increase in density in a way that will be good to the environment and good for the well being of our community? How do we best promote public transportation and encourage local businesses that will provide jobs and social opportunities for the residents? That is our task.

That being said, I would urge anyone who has any concern for our neighborhood to get involved, let us know what you love about this area, what would your vision of this area be 20 years from now ideally? What do you see as problems? Any input that you give will help us represent the area in our planning.

I've enjoyed my time so far with the committee, and am looking forward to digging in to the next part of making our vision into a plan for the future of this little sweet spot that we all call home!

- Rebecca Tracy

Community Gardening

Given the current national circumstances, now is a time to bond together as a community and to help your neighbors. That being said, what could be a better community project than a large community garden? In just one year during WWII home grown vegetable harvests accounted for one third of all vegetables consumed that year. On average our food travels 1500 miles from farm to table. That's ridiculous if you really think about it. Especially when you take into account all of the packaging and fuel it takes to transport it. If we grew our own vegetables in our own gardens it would cut down on pollution and we would know where the vegetables actually came from. Sixty-six years ago emphasis was placed on making gardening a family or community pastime. We can continue this emphasis by supporting local farmers, joining a community-supported agriculture CSA, or by having our own gardens. For more information: juanfarmer@gmail.com.

Community-supported agriculture (CSA) is a socio-economic model of agriculture and food distribution. A CSA consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes the community's farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production. CSA's focus is usually on a system of weekly delivery or pick-up of vegetables and fruit, sometimes dairy products and meat. The term CSA is mostly used in the USA, but a variety of similar production and economic sub-systems are in use worldwide.
-Chris Field

Newsletter Costs Covered!

Thanks to Kathy Hall, a community activist in Briarcrest and in her program at the UW, for paying the complete cost of this edition of the newsletter. Though BNA receives many small donations and an occasional large one, this is the first time anyone has made a donation designed to cover the cost of a newsletter.

