

## Neighborhood Calendar

[www.briarcrestneighbors.net](http://www.briarcrestneighbors.net)

Submissions for the Briarcrest website:  
[info@briarcrestneighbors.net](mailto:info@briarcrestneighbors.net)

### Meetings & Activities

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

**Shoreline Visioning Statement and Framework Goals, Monday, April 13.** Legislative Public Hearing by City Council for public review and comment.

**BNA General meeting, Monday, April 13 & May 11 (Election of Officers), 7:00 pm**, Congregational Church, 15518 27th Ave.

**Earth Day at South Woods Park, Saturday, April 18, & May 16, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.**

Come by and help the efforts to rid the forest of holly and ivy. South Woods Preservation Group: [savesouthwoods.org](http://savesouthwoods.org).

**Getting School-Ready Follow Up-Event, Thursday, April 23, 7:00 pm**, Briarcrest Elementary School. Care providers & parents will learn to prepare pre-kindergarten students for school through a series of 20 minute make & take/hands-on workshops. Pizza will be provided! Jonathan Nesson, Principal, 368-4170.

**Prince of Peace Church Plant Sale, Saturday, May 9, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

A popular spring community event where folks from all walks of life come together to share their enthusiasm of gardening. 14514 20 Ave NE, 363-8100.

**Table Meeting, Thursday, May 14, 7:00 pm**, 15517 27th Ave NE. Bring articles for the newsletter. Contact [Bettelinn@hotmail.com](mailto:Bettelinn@hotmail.com).

**BNA Party – Saturday, April 18, 5:00 - 9:00 pm**, First Christian Reformed Church. Contact Margot Richardson, 365-2619 or email [illuminahealingart@gmail.com](mailto:illuminahealingart@gmail.com)

**Sustainable Shoreline Education Association.** For information on upcoming meetings, go to: [sustainableshoreline.org](http://sustainableshoreline.org)

### Announcements

To get a **Block Watch** organized, contact: Deputy Greg McKinney, Eastside Neighborhood Center, 521 NE 165th, 363-8424, Monday-Friday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Submit newsletter articles to:

- Bettelinn Krizek Brown, Newsletter Chair  
15517 27th Ave NE  
[bettelinn@hotmail.com](mailto:bettelinn@hotmail.com), 363 5517
- Marcia Taylor, Layout  
15858 28th Ave NE  
[iptaylor@earthlink.net](mailto:iptaylor@earthlink.net), 725 1377

### 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.*

### We need to talk

Lately these four words have an ominous sound. Am I being laid off? Is the relationship over? Our popular culture has insisted that we are each responsible for our own success or failure. I hope recent events have helped us to realize that is a lie. I would not have been able to accomplish very much if I had to do it by myself. Our neighborhood is what it is because we have all worked together to improve it. But there is more to improving the quality of our lives than working on neighborhood projects, attending meetings, and working on the newsletter. The other day I received a call from a neighbor with a problem. Was there anything I could do? Probably not, but I spent the next hour talking. I had other things to do. But I stopped and listened because they needed to talk and I needed to listen. For too much of my life, I was too busy to do that for my own family and I see some consequences of that today. Our local business, home owners, renters, youth, seniors, working people, families, and single adults are all feeling the stress of these difficult times. I am certain that within walking distance of your home is a neighbor who really needs to talk.

I am not going to be running for reelection in the BNA. New officers will be elected at the BNA General meeting on May 11 (see the Neighborhood Calendar in the left column). There are neighbors who have been active in the Sub Area Plan and showing up at BNA meetings. You need to find out who these folks are and talk to them. You have had the opportunity to read their articles in the newsletter. Do you want them to lead or do you have someone else in mind? With your involvement and support, new leadership can continue the reputation we have as a strong, connected, active neighborhood. It has been a great joy for me to serve my neighbors and friends. Thanks.

- Bill Bear, Out-going Director BNA

### Shoreline's Trees

A Tree Ordinance is under consideration by the City of Shoreline. The City Council and Planning Commission have both been presented information and have begun to study this issue. Proposals for permitting requirements for cutting significant trees are being considered and 2 to 1 replacement if a tree is cut. Also, under consideration are incentives for preservation, pruning, preservation of rare plants and special habitat trees.

Shoreline City councilmember Janet Way is co-sponsoring this update to the Shoreline Tree Ordinance Code which would, among other things, establish healthy tree canopy goals, define significant, exceptional and landmark trees along with regulations for removal and replacement of such trees and identify numbers of trees to be retained when developing a site. Other suggested provisions of the code include establishing an Urban Forestry Management Plan and an effective public education program for adults and children to encourage tree preservation and urban forestry. The Planning Commission meeting and hearing dates will be posted on the city web site under "It's Happening." Call Paul Kohen, Sr. Planner, 801-2551.

- Lee Keim

### Shorecrest High School Remodel

On March 19, some 50 enthusiastic parents, students, teachers, and neighbors gathered together in the Shorecrest High School library to take a look at possible design concepts for a new high school. Principal Pat Hegarty kicked off the meeting by describing the scope of the project, which will include an ambitious combination of new construction, as well as renovation of existing buildings. Integrus Architecture then gave a presentation of four possible design concepts, and encouraged the audience to ask questions as well as give written feedback on the designs.

In order to minimize disruption to the school year, all of the design concepts call for construction of temporary portables where classes would continue to be taught during the renovation. The design schemes also call for a new gym, and an emphasis on reducing the school's "footprint" by building up rather than out. Some buildings may be three stories tall, which will give the school room to grow in the event of future increased enrollment.

All of the community comments will be considered and one site design will eventually be presented to the school board. Shoreline residents will then have an opportunity to vote for the reconstruction project in a bond issue, which will be put before the voters. Despite the current economic conditions, Principal Hegarty is optimistic that the voters will come through once again for Shoreline Schools.

A third community meeting will be held on June 4, when the final plan will be presented. For more information, go to [www.shorelineschools.org](http://www.shorelineschools.org)

- Kim Mahoney

## Fircrest

Warm caretakers and a welcoming community are the ideal setting for a developmentally disabled person. This is reality at Fircrest. Fircrest has 206 clients with 682 round-the-clock staff. It is a self-contained city with church, gymnasium, swimming pool, cafeteria, clinic, infirmary, dental clinic, laundry plant, administration, school, auto shop, and fuel depot. It is staffed accordingly with doctors, nurses, direct-care staff, psychologists, social workers, speech pathologist, physical therapist, beauticians, pharmacists, welders, painters, electricians, computer techs, safety and security personnel, gardeners, and those who drive buses, trucks, snow plow, sanding vehicle and the garbage collection trucks.

I had the opportunity to leave the Fircrest Institution and work in a group home, a Sola Home as the State of Washington called theirs. At first it sounded like a good set up. But overnight I changed my mind. After having been given the position I realized it would mean working with maybe one other staff and two or three clients; developmentally disabled individuals who have difficulty communicating, maintaining and growing relationships. It would be a very lonely and vacant experience for all involved. Scattering clients in community homes means loss of rich relationships and vital services. I am happy to have spent 20 years at Fircrest.

At Fircrest the residents relate to many people, both workers and other residents in a give and take manner. The routine includes craft activities. It is a lively, very exciting place to work and for the residents to thrive. Here the employees, skilled in their jobs, are sensitive to the disabled in a way that those in the community are not. At Fircrest nearly every client is known by name by literally hundreds of staff of many nationalities, languages, education levels and backgrounds. My work is always fun, always fulfilling. How could it not be? The clients are well cared for and the people I work with are caring.

- Paul Kowalski

## BNA 12th Anniversary Party on Earth Day!

You and your family are invited to join us in celebrating the 12th Anniversary of our Briarcrest Neighborhood Association, affectionately known as the BNA. This year's party and dinner will be held on Earth Day, Saturday April 18, 5 - 9 pm at the First Christian Reform Church at 14555 25th Ave NE. We'll be serving a delicious dinner, fun and games for kids, and a free salsa dance lesson! The price is right at \$3 per person or \$5 per couple and \$1 per child (including high school age). Bring your neighbors, make new connections, and learn more about the great goings on in our community. Contact me at [illuminahealingarts@gmail.com](mailto:illuminahealingarts@gmail.com), or 365-2619.

- Margot Richardson

## Green Street Meeting

Changing 17th Ave NE into a Green Street has been a city goal for some time. The Green Street Demonstration Project is included in the adopted 2009-2014 Capital Improvement Plan. \$200,000 is budgeted for the improvements between 145th and 150th Streets. The city is required to involve the citizens in decision making; however it appears that the approval of the neighborhood was asked for later, after the final design plan was presented. We know that the commitment of the neighbors who live on 17th is vital for the success of the project. Will there be flexibility and choices that the neighbors can make? Some Briarcrest residents think there are much better places for such a street, especially if Green Streets are designed to lessen the environmental impact of urban development. The next step of public outreach will begin in April with education that encourages participation by every household. Residents and property owners of 17th Avenue are invited to be part of the process and come to a meeting on April 8. For more information about Green Streets, contact Project Manager Jon Jordan 801-2473.

- Bill Bear, Bettelinn K. Brown, Jonathan Melusky & Charlie Brown

## Sub Area CAC Update

The Sub Area Citizens Advisory Committee has moved through the introductory phase and is currently working to create values, goals, policy recommendations and zoning maps. Things are progressing...slowly. Now that we are in the writing stage, people's differences and preferences are coming up. For a group this size, things are working through fairly well. An open house will be scheduled for the end of April or the beginning of May. Look for a flier on the city web site. The meetings, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, are open to the public.

- Jeff Mann

## Meet at the Fircrest Cafeteria

The Fircrest Cafeteria is open for use by the community! Meals are prepared to serve staff and visitors. Breakfast specials. Excellent salad bar. Reasonable prices. Hours are: Monday - Wednesday 9:00 am - 7:00 pm, Thursday - Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Breakfast is served 9:00 - 11:00 & lunch 11:00 until the food is gone.

- Kristin Ellison-Oslin

## Becoming a Better Neighbor: A Story of Karma

A few years ago a neighbor of mine got pregnant. I didn't know her very well, but what I knew was that she was newly single, her mother was deceased, and her ex-boyfriend/sperm donor showed no interest in helping her during a difficult pregnancy. I said to my husband, "As soon as this baby is born, we have to help her out by babysitting whenever she asks if we can. She is going to be a single mother and she needs support." He agreed and our family quickly fell in love with her adorable baby girl, so much so that my son Jonah chided me once when he overheard me saying we couldn't babysit because I was too busy on that particular date. "Mom! You could have cancelled your plans!"

Fast forward a few years. What started out as an interest in being a better neighbor has now become a source of enrichment in my own life, with the very woman I set out to help helping me by watching my children when I was in a jam for childcare, or just to let my husband and me go out on a date. She and I visit at the gym and share cups of tea. She passes along to me her magazines and garden design ideas. I share this story as a reminder to all of us, that helping others blesses and enriches our own lives.

- Tanya Ruckstuhl-Valenti

## School Landscaping Project

Embrace Shoreline Schools Landscape Project is a biannual event (spring and fall) sponsored by a coalition of local churches, the school district, PTA's, neighborhoods and our cities Lake Forest Park and Shoreline, to beautify our Shoreline School District properties.

Neighbors, parents, students and local business people are all encouraged to show up at your local public school in Shoreline from 9am-noon on May 16. Anyone may join to garden, help clean up the school grounds, donate backpacks, or make a monetary donation to BTSC so students may be ready to learn in the fall.

Bring: gloves, hand tools, and a willing heart. If you don't have the back for the yard work, drop by with a treat and socialize with your neighbors. More information at [www.embraceshorelineschools.org](http://www.embraceshorelineschools.org).

- Sherry Marlin



**The Everest Kitchen**  
Nepali ~ Indian ~ Tibetan

<b>Chef Special</b> 	<b>Dinner</b> 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Nepali, Indian, Tibetan <b>Dinner</b> Authentic ethnic food <b>Buy two, get one free</b> Drinks not included Dine-in only with coupon Expires June 30, 2009	<b>Lunch Special</b> 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. <b>Free Delivery</b> within 2.5 miles with a minimum dinner order of \$25 <b>14561 Bothell Way NE</b> (206) 440-0321 (Restaurant) <b>6016 NE Bothell Way</b> (425) 402-0979 (Grocery) <a href="http://www.theeverestkitchen.com">www.theeverestkitchen.com</a>
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**Nepali Special**  


**Indian** **Nepali** **Tibetan**