

SUMMER ISSUE
2008

Briarcrest

neighborhood news

Neighborhood Calendar

www.briarcrestneighbors.net

Dedication of Mobility Therapy Garden, Friday, June 20, 1:00 pm, behind the south cottages 301 Circle Dr (not the Access Garden at the north end). Provided by a collaboration between Friends of Fircrest, Fircrest staff, and a Fircrest endowment. For more information, call Maria at 425-774-7497.

IvyOut at South Woods Park, Saturday, June 21, July 19 & Aug 16, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, (3rd Saturday). Dedicated to environmental education and preserving South Woods. Check the South Woods Preservation Group at www.savesouthwoods.org.

Sustainable Shoreline Education Association, June 27, July 25, Aug 22, Sep 26 7:00 pm, First Christian Reformed Church, 147th St and 25th Ave. For details of meetings, go to www.sustainableshoreline.org/ (always 4th Friday)

BNA General meeting, Monday, July 14, Aug 11 & Sep 8, 7:00 pm, Congregational Church, 15518 27th Ave (always 2nd Monday).

Table Meeting, Thursday, August 21, 7:00 pm, 15517 27th Ave NE. Bring articles for the newsletter.

Council of Neighborhoods meeting, Wednesday, Sep 3, 7:00 - 9:00 pm (no July or Aug meeting), Shoreline Conference Center, Spartan Room 18560 1st Ave NE (always 1st Wednesday). The Council is made up of two representatives from each of the City's 14 neighborhood associations.

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.

Neighborhood Clean-up, Sunday, June 22, noon, old Sunshine Café. For information contact Jonathan Melusky:jj206@drizzle.com

Swingin' Summer Eve Book Sale Wednesday, July 23, 5:30 to 8:30 pm, Cromwell Park, 18009 Corliss Ave N. Drop off at the Congregational Church, 15518 27 Ave NE, under covered front door.

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.

BNA Director's Report

The first Southeast Neighborhoods Subarea planning meeting, on March 19, focused on City staff presentations of ideas for a subarea plan. The second meeting, May 20, was an opportunity for Briarcrest and Ridgecrest neighbors to hear each others' ideas about planning for development in our neighborhoods. The meeting focused on the neighborhoods' viewpoints and sought a wide representation of neighbors to volunteer for the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC).

Another goal of the meeting was to increase trust in the process for those neighbors who have concerns about the way developments have occurred in other neighborhoods. Mayor Cindy Ryu

and City Council members were there along with more than 50 neighbors. The meeting started with presentations by Miranda Redinger and Steve Cohn from the Planning Department. Members of the Housing Citizens Advisory Committee gave their perspective on working with City staff and how the process worked for them. Our Deputy City Manager, Julie Modrzejewski Underwood, shared thoughts on public participation. There's more information at <http://cityofshoreline.com/cityhall/departments/planning/sesubarea/> and from our neighborhood planning liaison, Dennis Lee, at 362 7798.

Briarcrest neighbor Margo Richardson showed a PowerPoint presentation on the character of our neighborhood showing existing types of housing, emphasizing things we like in our neighborhood and commenting on things we want to change. The slides are on our neighborhood website. Margo led a discussion of issues, including a strong desire to keep our neighborhood green, keep single-family homes, local businesses, neighborhood gathering places like our old Sunshine and provide for better alternatives to driving. We heard from people who have lived here for more than 50 years. Our smaller houses can accommodate younger couples and singles who are just starting out, but there was a sense that appropriate planning can better serve the needs of first-time homebuyers or renters. We discussed the needs of young children and seniors. The meeting generated an enthusiasm to work together with each other and with City staff to create the type of community we want to live in.

Twenty-three people applied for the CAC, which will be meeting over the next six months. From my perspective, this planning process can turn us from a group of people who live in the same place to a community of neighbors who have started to answer the question: "What do we want to create together and how can we accomplish that dream?"

– Bill Bear, BNA Director

Planning for an Abundant Future in Shoreline

Spring rains have brought all manner of verdant, new life to our neighborhood. In our yard, we have a lively mix of young, organic vegetable starts and wildly enthusiastic weeds. Amidst the many tasks springtime brings, dozens of neighbors squeezed in time to attend a meeting on the future of the part of the Briarcrest and Ridgecrest neighborhoods known by the City of Shoreline as the "Special Study Area" (SSA).

A great deal of careful groundwork was laid prior to the meeting to insure that residents attending the meeting were on equal footing with all involved, and would be intrinsically involved in this on-going dialog. The results were exciting! After panel introductions, comments by city officials from a range of planning positions, and a slideshow featuring characteristic elements of our existing neighborhoods, devoted volunteer Dennis Lee encouraged all interested folks to submit an application to join the Citizens Advisory Committee. This group will interface with city planners, offering their observations and recommendations for the future of the SSA. Dennis was all smiles at the end of the evening, as more than a dozen applications were handed to him.

Many thanks go to everyone who contributed to the truly democratic process that created this meeting of concerned parties, including Loretta Van Dyke, Kathy Hall, and city officials who have the wisdom and desire to work hand in hand with us.

And my personal thanks to go Bettelinn Brown, for having the clear vision, kindness and passion to see this baby through to completion. The meeting was a true collaboration, and a labor of love for our community.

- Margo Richardson



Schools in Briarcrest

Richard Potter believes that our children are our future, and our children's education is an investment in that future. He lives in North City and serves on the Shoreline School Board as the Representative for District #5. He attended the June BNA meeting and wants to hear concerns from the community. You can contact him at 367 5477 or email at redptc@gmail.com.

With school out for the summer, now's the time to prepare for active children in our neighborhood.

The Shorecrest PTSA helps our teachers' wishes come true. Periodically a wish list is sent out through the PTSA to interested parents and community members. Contact Sherry or the PTSA if you want to share your talents and help the teachers continue to do an outstanding job for our students.

The Shorecrest PTSA is proud to announce this year's PTA awards! Outstanding Educators: Vince Santo Pietro and Leann Rozema. Golden Acorns were awarded to Karen Dixon and Erin Gordon.

The wish list at Kellogg is for the students who have overdue books to return them promptly before school is out.

A publication, 'Parent's Guide to Teen Parties' put out by a California parent group, reviewed and recommended by the co-presidents of Kellogg PTSA can be downloaded and printed from the Kellogg PTSA webpage.

Since the fall of 2004 Bob Koontz has served as the Principal of Briarcrest Elementary. He will retire as of July 1 and will be missed! We welcome Jonathan Nesson who will take this position. He comes to us from within the Shoreline School District. He attended the June BNA meeting to meet the neighbors.

The Works "Back to School" event for Shoreline School District students takes place on August 23, 2008. The Back to School event provides school supplies, haircuts, and clothing assistance for families who are living with a low income and/or experiencing circumstances in their life that make it challenging to prepare their children for going back to school.

- Sherry Marlin - 883-5916

Shoreline Christian School

SCS has been recognized for their efforts in conservation. The National Honor Society has instituted an expanded recycling program. They are now recycling all paper, cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, milk cartons and other recyclable materials. In addition, the school has replaced all old toilets with low flow toilets. Water usage is down to less than half of what it was with the old version.

- Laurie Dykstra
364 7777

Public Health Lab Concerns

Potential expansion of the Public Health Lab has alerted Friends of Fircrest, Briarcrest and Ridgecrest neighborhoods. The Friends of Fircrest Task Force will determine the impact on the Fircrest School campus including infringement on the cottages at the south end of campus. We intend to stay informed and urge the community groups to ask questions and become involved.

- Maria Walsh, Friends of Fircrest
Editor's note: An article by Maralyn Chase on this topic can be found at www.briarcrestneighbors.net

Would you like to make your neighborhood a safer place?

The Shoreline Police Department is looking for volunteers to staff the East Side Storefront at 521 NE 165 Street. Volunteers work directly with the storefront officer, give four hours a week and help with a wide range of duties. Most of the work is done by telephone or computer and training will be provided. For more information, contact Officer Greg McKinney or our new police chief, Dan Pingrey.

- Dan Henry

Join Seattle Urban Nature at Hamlin Park

Learn about SUN's recent revegetation project in Hamlin Park and take a tour of the experimental plots designed by SUN for the City of Shoreline. We will provide good conversation and information about the restoration efforts taking place in your local park.

Hamlin Park Picnic Shelter, 16006 15th Ave, Tuesday June 24, 5:30 - 7:00 pm. We hope to raise money to continue SUN's education and community outreach in the Puget Sound region. Please bring friends and family and support our mission to create tools to empower stewards for healthy urban ecosystems. sarah@seattleurbannature.org, or the SUN office at 522 0334.

Rights of renters

The Briarcrest Neighborhood has many renters in houses and apartments. Landlords are legally required to maintain dwellings in compliance with state and local codes and to protect the tenant's health and safety. Responsibilities for single-family dwellings differ from apartment buildings. The City of Shoreline is covered by Washington State Law RCW 59.18. Most of the important provisions

are explained in easy-to-understand language in a pamphlet, "Landlord Tenant Law" available at the library, most food banks and online at www.atg.wa.gov/ResidentialLT/default.aspx.

- Bill Bear

Editor's note: For more information see the

Come enjoy the 2008 Sustainable Living and Renewable Energy Fair!

Each summer, our local organization Shoreline Solar Project presents a lively, information-filled fair, sure to give you new ideas for energy-abundant living. Kids will find fun activities, including tools to play with solar energy. Examples of the most fuel-efficient vehicles available will be on display, along with workshops for learning how we can make our homes and workplaces more energy efficient.

This event has transformed our lives around my household, as we discover better ways to commute, garden, maintain our house and yard, and support our community in healthy living. I hope to see you there!

Silent Auction, Haute Trash Fashion Show, July 18, 7:00 pm, Aurora Church of the Nazarene.

Fair, July 19 10:00 am - 8 pm, Meridian Park School, 175th St & Meridian. Information: www.shorelinesolar.org

- Margot Richardson

Summer Clean Up

Your neighbors at First Christian Reformed Church would like to help you with your spring clean up projects during our Neighbor's Helping Neighbors Sunday on June 30 between 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. We are available for yard clean up, hauling debris, or washing windows.

If you choose to take advantage of this free service, you will be contacted before June 25 by a team leader.

On the morning of Neighbor's Helping Neighbors Sunday you can expect a team leader and three to six volunteers to arrive at your home. They will come equipped with their own tools and yard bags ready to brighten up your yard for summer.

This offer comes from our desire to give something back to our community. Please call Tom at 367 3265 if you would like to participate, or if you have any questions.

Sunshine Café (that was)

This space has been rented by an electric company for office space. It will open soon.

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Welcome to the Everest Kitchen!

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