



Briarcrest Neighborhood Newsletter



BNA Director's Message

Hi Neighbors,

The fall seems to have come upon us all of a sudden! Hope you're staying warm and enjoying watching the leaves change and the rain fall. All of us in the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association sincerely hope that you and yours are staying safe and healthy during this difficult time.

The BNA continues to meet on a monthly basis, using the Zoom platform online to "get together." Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. If you'd like to join us, please contact me at jmhilde@earthlink.net and I'll send you the Zoom link. If you'd like to receive our quarterly newsletter, please contact our editor at w.lewis734@gmail.com. Our Briarcrest Google Group is a convenient way to share neighborhood news: just email me or go to Briarcrest Neighbors Google Group and request an invite if you'd like to join the group.

Our every-other-month storytelling events are back in action, also on Zoom. Join us for a fun evening of shared storytelling on Friday, November 6th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Come prepared with a practiced five- to seven-minute story or just come to listen and enjoy! Contact Afifi Durr at affidurr15@gmail.com for your Zoom invitation.

While we were unable to host our annual Briarcrest Summer Picnic due to the pandemic, we instead created a fun new event that allowed for appropriate social distancing while still connecting our neighborhood: The Briarcrest Neighborhood Discovery Tour! The Tour took place Saturday, August 22nd on a perfect blue-sky day. Seventy or so neighbors enjoyed discovering many unique, "only in Briarcrest" features of our wonderful neighborhood while savoring free hot dogs, chips, cookies and beverages along the way. The Tour even included a voter registration table!

As always, the BNA would like to make a difference in our neighborhood by helping neighbors in need. If you have a neighborhood issue you need help with or would like to discuss at our monthly meeting, please don't hesitate to contact one of our officers!

Again, I and the entire BNA Leadership Team hope that our neighbors are staying safe and healthy. We can continue to make progress against the pandemic if we all, as a community, diligently comply with recommended health practices like social distancing, wearing a mask, and staying home if we feel ill. A good, practical at-home regimen for prevention and treatment of Covid-19 has been published by the Eastern Virginia Medical School and can be found here:

https://www.evms.edu/media/evms_public/departments/internal_medicine/EVMS_Critical_Care_COVID-19_Protocol.pdf

Stay well, neighbors, enjoy the brisk autumn weather, and we hope to meet you or see you again soon... at a safe distance, of course.

Jean Hilde-Fulghum
BNA Director

The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association recognizes and denounces the history of systemic, pernicious racism in the United States of America. Parts of our own neighborhood were at one time covered by legal covenants restricting homeownership to white residents. Nobody should be denied housing, education, employment, or even survival based on the color of their skin. We acknowledge that in addition to overt racism, we may also be subject to unconscious bias which impacts the way we view and interact with others.

We pledge to attempt to improve ourselves, work to eliminate all forms of racism, and practice acts of kindness in our community.

Events Calendar

BNA General Meeting
2nd Tuesdays
Nov 10, Dec 8, Jan 12
7:00 - 8:30 PM
Zoom Link

BNA Storytelling Evening
Friday, Nov. 6
7:00 - 9:00 PM
affidurr15@gmail.com
or for the Zoom link

BNA Officers 2020-2021

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For content suggestions you would like to include in upcoming newsletters, contact
William Lewis, BNA
Newsletter Editor
w.lewis734@gmail.com



Volunteer opportunity available:

Low time investment, socially distanced. We think it would be great if someone could check the city website for new construction permits and zoning requests in our neighborhood periodically, perhaps once a month, and report back to the neighborhood association. Shouldn't take too much time and it's all online. Think that could be you? Write to Sarah Kaye (BNA treasurer) at skbriarcrest@gmail.com.

Another fun neighborhood project

The BNA would love to have your thoughts on this:

How would you describe the character or spirit of this neighborhood? What do you appreciate and enjoy about Briarcrest? This can involve people, places, trees, animals, or the neighborhood as a whole. Think creatively! Have fun brainstorming, maybe with your family. Open to all ages!

Your thoughts could be in prose or poetry, a drawing or painting or photograph, or even a song. We'd like to compile replies to post on the Briarcrest Neighborhood website – as an online collaborative scrapbook -- and/or in the Briarcrest kiosk in the Hamlin Park parking lot on 25th Ave NE and/or in a book to share when we can finally meet in person again.

Send your ideas to Jean Hilde, jmhilde@earthlink.net, by Sunday, Nov. 8th.

We'll be looking forward to them!

Food waste, an environmental problem!!!

If your garden overflow catches you without a plan for using all those fresh fruits and veggies it can lead to wasted food. The reality is, wasted food is a serious problem at all times of the year. The average U.S. household tosses out 25% of the food we buy. That's like walking out of the store with four bags of groceries, dropping one in the parking lot, and not bothering to pick it up!

Considering the energy, water, land, and fuel that go into producing and transporting food that gets wasted, the impact is huge. Looking at greenhouse gases alone, the amount of food Americans waste every year generates emissions equivalent to 39 million cars.

Reducing food waste begins as we make our food plans and grocery lists. Before you shop, check your fridge, freezer, and cupboards so you can plan meals with items you already have. At the store, use a list (and restraint!) to avoid buying more than you need. Freeze those extra leftovers and garden overflow or give them to friends and family (or a neighborhood pantry).

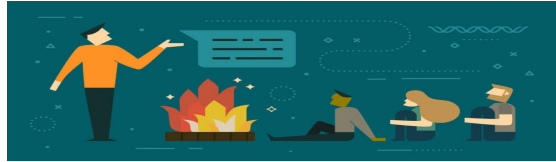
Another common cause of wasted food is throwing it out before it's gone bad. Labels such as "use by," "sell by," and "best by" are misleading and result in too many people throwing away food too soon. Except for infant formula, manufacturers use dated labels to indicate peak quality, not food safety. Additionally, any food scraps that can't be eaten should go in the food and yard waste cart or your compost pile.

Why is reducing food waste important? Because it's good for your community, your planet and your household budget too!

Adapted from Hannah Scholes article in Woodinville Weekly News



THE BNA STORYTELLING GROUP



The BNA Storytelling group is still in full flight. We will continue meeting on the first Fridays of odd-numbered months, as is our pattern. The new part of the pattern is that we will be meeting via Zoom, as we have been since May. We are now partnering with The Seattle Storytellers' Guild for our storytelling evenings. Our first time joining forces occurred on September 4th and was well attended. Please join us on Nov. 6th at 7:00pm for the next combined evening, with a story to share and/or with eagerness to listen.

If you are planning to storytell, prepare one story on a topic of your choice, with a maximum length of 7 minutes. For more info, contact Afifi Durr, affidurr15@gmail.com or for the Zoom link, Barry McWilliams, eldrbarry@gmail.com.



Needs are met, thanks to Shoreline UMC Little Free Pantry!!!

Shoreline United Methodist Church Little Free Pantry is thriving! Items coming in and going out have ranged from tomatoes, to plumbing supplies, all the way to clothing and hygiene items. Items that are not taken within a few days, are given to a thrift store, or properly disposed of. The pantry regularly features 3-4 masks for those in need. This has become a true neighborhood effort, as the pantry often even receives pet food donations. Thank you for helping your neighbors and continuing to support each other in our Briarcrest Neighborhood community. Content provided by Janelle Woolsey, Shoreline United Methodist Church.



Black Coffee Northwest Grand Opening



On October 17th the City of Shoreline welcomed a new coffee shop to the neighborhood. This was not just a new business for us to support in our local community, but a black-owned, youth-serving establishment. This coffee shop was funded and built by donations from the Shoreline community and greater surrounding areas, in response to the need for social movement awareness, this summer. The Weary family and others have put together an establishment for families to call their own. When you swing by and grab your day's coffee and some grub, you are also contributing to small businesses, local youth and their future aspirations.

Get Connected with Your Neighborhood Online
Website: Briarcrestneighbors.org
Google Group:
groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/briarcrestneighbors
Facebook: facebook.com/BriarcrestNeighbors

Letter to the Editor: We can do more to save our significant trees

During September this magnificent native Pacific Madrone, near Richmond Beach Saltwater Park, was brought down. This tree was a home for birds and a friend to Shoreline citizens who enjoyed its beauty. This 100 year old tree was at least 36” DBH which is a significant tree.

Save Shoreline Trees is about saving our significant trees and we believe we can do better, much better. Replacing trees can be good, however we should stop and consider this question; with each tall evergreen and native tree that comes down in Shoreline, what is the consequence?

What happens to the migrating birds that count on trees to be there when they need to stop and rest? What happens to the shade these trees provide to our homes? What happens to the calming influence these trees provide on our streets and the noise abatement from our growing city’s population? What happens to the fish and the Orcas in Puget Sound when the tall trees aren’t filtering the watersheds?

One 12” Douglas Fir reduces carbon by 4# a year. One 30” Douglas Fir reduces carbon by 580# a year. A car produces 11,000# of carbon a year. From a health vantage, reducing our tall trees and increasing our population will increase unhealthy air and reduce our quality of life. The new trees will take decades to be significantly effective. In contrast, an existing mature tree continues to increase their effectiveness in reducing carbon, with age.

We scan our horizon and see plenty of trees, so why worry? Except when our existing tall trees are gone they are gone forever and the new trees coming up will not replace them.

Please visit our website, www.saveshorelinetrees.com to learn more about our efforts to save our trees.

Melody Fosmore

Chair, Save Shoreline Trees

A Washington State Non-Profit Corporation



100 year old madrone was cut down for development
Photo by Frank Kleyn

Looking to Downsize or Caught the Donating Spirit?



Covid is a time where we have found ourselves in our houses looking at all the items we have collected over the years. One human's lightly used items, is another human's treasure. Interested in starting the giving spirit of the holidays, feel free to share and support your community members with things they need at these below online locations.

Check out these Websites

- 1) Freecycle.org
- 2) Offerup.com
- 3) Nextdoor.com



Tis' the Holiday Basket Season

Registration is now open for the Holiday Baskets: Food, Toys and Teen Gifts Program! The deadline to register for this year's event is November 12, 2020. Holiday Baskets provides holiday food and gift support to Shoreline School District families who are experiencing circumstances that make it challenging to provide those things for their children. Learn more and register [HERE](#).



Spotlight on Equity

Every month, a Book of the Month is posted on our [Equity and Family Engagement webpage](#). This month, in honor of LGBTQ+ History Month, “[By Any Means Necessary](#),” by Candace Montgomery was chosen.

Equity Leads have book studies each year and are currently reading “[How to be Antiracist](#)” by Ibram X. Kendi and “[Stamped](#)” by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi. Family Advocates are also engaged in book studies and are using “[Just Schools](#),” by Dr. Ann Ishimaru as their text.

