

Briarcrest Neighborhood Newsletter

*Spring Edition
April 2017*

Letter from the Director

Happy Spring from your Briarcrest Neighborhood Association! Hope you're enjoying all the daffodils, crocuses, and flowering fruit trees that our record-setting rains have brought us.

The BNA worked on a number of projects this winter. The kiosk in the east Hamlin Park parking lot was chosen as Briarcrest's first Emergency Hub location. A Briarcrest-side entrance to Grace Cole Park was proposed to the City of Shoreline's Parks Department. The BNA expressed its support of a community grant proposal to refurbish the Fircrest swimming pool. We are beginning to brainstorm slogans for Briarcrest Neighborhood signs!

With summer just around the corner, the BNA is looking forward to welcoming neighbors to two fun events. A Storytelling Workshop (more information below) and the Third Annual Briarcrest Neighborhood Picnic! Save the date, the picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 26 from 3:00 to 7:00pm at the Hamlin Park Picnic Shelter. Hot dogs and burgers, an ice cream feed, cake walk contest, kids' activities and lots of good conversation, all sponsored by BNA. Hope to see lots of neighbors there!

As always, the BNA would like to make a difference in our neighborhood, whether by helping with school or community projects, assisting neighbors with establishing their own Shoreline Watch program, or hosting discussions of neighborhood issues of concern. If you have a project or an issue you'd like help with, let your Briarcrest Neighborhood Association know about it!

If you're new to Briarcrest or know someone who is and you'd like a Briarcrest Hospitality Packet, just contact us. You can find us at our website, our Briarcrest Neighbors Google Group, and on our Facebook, or contact me at jmhilde@earthlink.net or 206-362-4315. We also invite you to join us at our regular Briarcrest Neighborhood Association meetings as well as our neighborhood events.

We look forward to meeting you or seeing you again!
Jean Hilde-Fulghum, BNA Director

Storytelling

Neighborhood storytelling events are scheduled the first Friday of odd-numbered months. These friendly, informal events are becoming quite popular! You can come just to listen, or prepare a story to tell. Stories should be about five minutes in length, and can be something from your life or a fictional story such as a folk tale. If you are new to storytelling, it's a good idea to practice beforehand (with a timer), which will give you more confidence, help you focus your story, and make sure you're around five minutes. Everyone's invited, including teens and non-native English speakers. Bring a snack to share if you like. The next one is May 5!

Yard Signs

The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association welcomes input for its mini-grant proposal: Yard signs! Briarcrest is one of Shoreline's most diverse neighborhoods where everyone is welcome. What might our very own yard sign (or signs) look like? If you have an idea for a friendly message, contact any BNA officer and share it!

Calendar of Events

BNA Meeting –
2nd Tuesday of each month
7-8:30pm, Patty Pan
15550 27th Ave NE

Humble Feast Community
Dinner –
1st Monday of each month,
5:30-7:30pm, Patty Pan

Briarcrest Storytelling –
Friday, May 5, 7-9pm
Jon and Amy Anscher's home
16010 25th Ave NE

Good Neighbor Give Away
Saturday, May 20, 9am-2pm
14511 25th Avenue NE

Storytelling Workshop
Saturday, July 23, 1-4pm
North City Water District
Boardroom

Briarcrest Neighborhood Picnic
Saturday, August 26, 3-7pm
Hamlin Park Picnic Shelter

BNA Officers 2016-2017

Director
Jean Hilde-Fulghum
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Assistant Director
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Treasurer
Sarah Kaye
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For content suggestions to be included in upcoming newsletters, contact Emily Shuel, BNA Newsletter Editor
EmilyFShuel@gmail.com

Next BNA newsletter scheduled for Summer 2017

BNA Elections



Your Briarcrest Neighborhood Association will be gathering for our monthly meeting this Tuesday, April 11 from 7:00 to 8:30pm and you're invited! It's time to submit nominations for BNA officers, so come throw your hat into the ring. The term of office is June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. New members are always welcome to join the Leadership Team, and perhaps run for office in the future! Elections will take place at the May 9 meeting. Presently, the nominees are:

For Director: Jean Hilde-Fulghum has been the Director of the revitalized Briarcrest Neighborhood Association for the past two years. She's enjoyed working with her fellow BNA team members and other Briarcrest neighbors on the BNA's Storytelling Evenings, the Summer Picnic, welcoming new neighbors to Briarcrest, and starting the process of establishing an emergency hub for the neighborhood. She hopes to continue working on fun projects such as the BNA's Storytelling Workshop in July (sponsored by a Shoreline/LFP Arts Council Grant) and a City of Shoreline mini-grant to create Briarcrest neighborhood yard signs, and to continue enjoying monthly meetings with the BNA leadership team.

For Assistant Director: Alice Keller has served as Assistant Director for the past year. She was the editor of the newsletter for 3 years before that, served as the BNA representative to the Shoreline Council of Neighborhoods in 2014-15, and revised the bylaws with Jean and Devra in 2015. She helped to organize the BNA's two grant-funded storytelling events last year and is enthusiastic about our ongoing monthly evenings. Alice is a retired community college teacher and has lived in Briarcrest since 2008.

For Secretary: Devra Gartenstein landed in Briarcrest early in 2014 when she moved her business, Patty Pan Cooperative, into the old Sunshine Grocery. She's an avid cook and eater, and is especially excited about building community by sharing food. In 2015, Devra worked on revising BNA bylaws. She has been the BNA Secretary since 2015.

For Treasurer: Sarah Kaye has lived in Briarcrest for 10 years. She enthusiastically organizes the City Council Candidates' Debate Night every two years. Sarah has served as the BNA Treasurer since 2015.

Good Neighbor Give-Away

Shoreline United Methodist Church invites you to attend their very first Good Neighbor Give-Away, May 20 from 9am-2pm in the church parking lot, located at 14511 25th Avenue NE. Attendees are invited to take five items from their selection of household items, books, toys, games, sports and camping gear, jewelry, purses, tools, craft supplies, and small furniture. There will not be electronics, clothing, or large furniture.

If you have items to share with other neighbors, the church will be accepting clean and usable donations May 17-19 from 3-7pm. The event will need many volunteers to facilitate, and neighbors are invited to sign up. The first shift begins at 7am and the last shift begins at 1pm. May the joy in reducing clutter be equal to the joy of receiving free treasures. Questions? Call 425-326-0207.



Park Entrance: Update

At the Shoreline City Council meeting on March 6, Ian Taylor presented the proposal for a new entrance to Grace Cole Nature Park from the Briarcrest side. He asked the council to include the proposal in the draft PROS Plan. Councilman Keith Scully spoke approvingly of the proposal and asked the City Manager, Debbie Tarry, to look into it. Debbie has reached out to the City Manager for Lake Forest Park, but has not received a response at this date. On April 12 the board of the LFP Preservation Foundation meets at the LFP Library at 7pm. Ian will speak about the proposal and ask for their support. If you are interested in supporting this proposal please contact Ian at iptaylor@earthlink.net.

Grant Awarded for Storytelling Workshop

The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association will present its first Storytelling Workshop this summer, thanks to an arts grant from the Shoreline/LFP Arts Council. The Storytelling Workshop with special guests Norm Brecke and Anne Rutherford will happen Sunday, July 23 from 1-4pm in the North City Water District's boardroom, located at 1519 NE 177th Street in Shoreline. Storytelling students age 12 and over will enjoy learning tips for creating and telling a personal life story during this interactive afternoon. Attendance is limited, so contact any

BNA Leadership Team member to reserve your spot!

Get Connected with Your Neighborhood Online

Website: Briarcrestneighbors.org

Google Group: groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/briarcrestneighbors

Facebook: facebook.com/BriarcrestNeighbors

Open House

By Sarah Kaye

On March 18 I had the privilege of visiting the Bosnian Community Mosque in Ballinger, when they invited neighbors in for an open house. Along with 2 or 3 dozen others, I participated in a lively discussion about culture, language, Islamic values, and the challenges of raising kids. I won't attempt to describe the free-ranging conversation but one statement stood out for me: when a woman who came here as a war refugee from Bosnia answered a question about the political climate, she said, "This is how it started at home. First they separated us by class and religion. Then everything else followed."

In these times of people trying to create separation and fear, I would recommend that anybody who gets a chance to interact with people of a different ethnicity/religion take the opportunity. I didn't know if the open house would be comfortable or not and it turned out to be a great experience. I would like to thank the Bosnian Community Mosque for holding this event.

Students Thank Leaders

At Shoreline Christian School, Elementary Student Guides are the student leaders in their grades. The students meet twice a month to discuss ways they can improve life at the school and be of service to others. The children decided in early January that they'd like to thank the police and the road crews that service the roads at school.

Students brought doughnuts and thank you posters to the Shoreline Police department headquarters and to City Hall. Students got "deputized" by the Shoreline Police, learned about snow plows from Public Works, and got to sit in the city council chambers and meet Mayor Chris Roberts.



The students enjoyed their time at City Hall, especially meeting with Mayor Roberts. Sixth

grader Victoria said, "It was an educational and interesting experience because we got to learn more about what the mayor does and how he helps other people in the community." First grader Ethan said, "The mayor was nice. He let us sit in his chair. He answered lots of our questions, too."



Shoreline Christian School is currently enrolling new students in Preschool through 12th grade.

Diversity in Our Community Schools

By Valerie Anker

As the Family Advocate for Briarcrest Elementary School, I am lucky to meet with and talk to the many parents within our community. Shoreline's cultural tapestry has expanded greatly over the past decade and we are now rich in a potpourri of traditions, religions, languages, and garb.

I moved to Seattle almost two decades ago and was concerned that I was giving up diversity for less pollution and snow topped mountains. I was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY and was surrounded by folks from all over the world. I had friends of different ethnicities and cultures and I knew no other lifestyle than one where everyone looked and sounded differently from one another.

When I look at the students enrolled in our school, it reminds me of my home. Children learning and playing together; a myriad of colors and accents, all unaware of the issues that have already or will arise between themselves, their friends and ignorant strangers who may judge them for simply being 'different'.

Our school is committed to embracing all children and families into our fold and making them feel honored, appreciated, valued and loved. A school truly represents the future of a community, a window into the 'what is to come' and 'what to expect and accept' as we continue moving forward in solidarity and respect for one another.