

# Briarcrest Neighborhood Newsletter

Winter Edition  
January 2018

## Letter from the Director

Happy New Year from your Briarcrest Neighborhood Association! Hope your holiday season was filled with light, laughter and love and that 2018 is starting out well for you.

The BNA had a busy autumn. We've been focusing on neighborhood emergency preparedness and how we can build and strengthen community disaster readiness for an event such as an earthquake. Topics of discussion have included food, water, and sanitation, with special presentations from the Shoreline School District (school emergency plans) and Shoreline Fire (fire suppression). Our next topic will be first aid. We continue to work with the City to create a neighborhood Emergency Hub location.

We would love to have you join us for these discussions at our regular monthly meetings! Pick up materials for your own "Map Your Neighborhood" disaster planning block party from the City of Shoreline by contacting Victoria Alie at (206) 801-2254 or [valie@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:valie@shorelinewa.gov).

The BNA is happy to announce that we received our second Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council grant! We will use this award to co-sponsor "1,001 Nights," a two-day storytelling event featuring the classic tales of Scheherazade, which takes place May 4 and 5 at Shoreline Universalist Unitarian Church. Family stories will be told on Saturday with adult-oriented stories both nights.

Our local every-other-month storytelling evenings continue to bring neighbors together for sharing tales and treats. Please join us on the first Friday of odd-numbered months from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Jon & Amy Anscher, 16010 - 25th Ave NE.

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 or Emergency Preparedness 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!

If you're new to Briarcrest or know someone who is and you'd like a Briarcrest Hospitality Packet, just contact us.

We invite you to join us at our regular Briarcrest Neighborhood Association meetings (second Tuesday of each month at Patty Pan Co-operative Kitchen, 7:00 to 8:30 pm) as well as our neighborhood events.

We look forward to meeting you or seeing you again!

Jean Hilde-Fulghum  
BNA Director

## Get Connected with Your Neighborhood Online

Website: [Briarcrestneighbors.org](http://Briarcrestneighbors.org)

Google Group: [groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/briarcrestneighbors](https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/briarcrestneighbors)

Facebook: [facebook.com/BriarcrestNeighbors](https://facebook.com/BriarcrestNeighbors)

## BNA Officers 2017-2018

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For content suggestions to be included in upcoming newsletters, contact Emily Shuel, BNA Newsletter Editor  
[EmilyFShuel@gmail.com](mailto:EmilyFShuel@gmail.com)

Next BNA newsletter scheduled for Spring 2018



## FREE Neighborhood Signs Still Available

Help make Briarcrest Neighborhood a welcoming and friendly place by adding a FREE two-sided yard sign to your yard or window. Contact Jean Hilde-Fulghum and pick yours up today! Neighborhood signs are available thanks to a grant from the City of Shoreline.



## One Thousand and One Nights

Save the date for One Thousand and One Nights, a storytelling event presented by The Seattle Storytellers Guild and The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association.

Friday, May 4 and Saturday, May 5  
Shoreline Universalist Unitarian Church  
14724 1st Ave NE  
Shoreline, WA 98155



Join in for an epic telling of the classic tales from the Middle East and Asia, told by storytellers from near and far. Family stories will be featured Saturday during the day and adult stories both evenings. We hope to also include traditional food, music and dancing to accompany our stories!

The famous tales of the One Thousand and One Nights were collected over many centuries by various authors, translators, and scholars across West, Central, and South Asia and North Africa and the Middle East. The tales themselves trace their roots back to ancient and medieval Arabic, Persian, Mesopotamian, Indian, Jewish and Egyptian literature and folklore.

Hosts are needed for visiting tellers (a place to sleep, a meal or two, and perhaps a ride). Or, if you're interested in volunteering to perform, or staff this event, contact Allison Cox: [Allison@dancingleaves.com](mailto:Allison@dancingleaves.com) or call 206-463-3844.



### Happy Birthday Bettelinn!

Longtime Briarcrest resident, Bettelinn Brown celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this December with a party in the gym at Briarcrest Elementary School, complete with food from neighborhood establishments Patty Pan and The Everest Kitchen. Bettelinn has been a bedrock of the Briarcrest neighborhood, helping to foster community by beginning the neighborhood newsletter, helping to preserve the South Woods, and being active in the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association. If you see her, be sure to wish her a happy birthday!

Pictured: Bettelinn the evening of her birthday celebration with John Krizek of Prescott, AZ and Joanne Schalch of Middleton, WI

## Invasive Weeds in the Neighborhood

Now, while the soil is wet and before plants flower and develop seeds, is the best time to control the invasive plants/noxious weeds. These introduced species cost our region millions of dollars in lost agriculture production, environmental degradation, and added maintenance cost. Once "invasive" plants spread to natural areas, they harm native plants and wildlife, and can be difficult to impossible to eradicate.

English Ivy, Himalayan Blackberry, Yellow Archangel and Morning Glory, to name a few, were once popular garden plants that have easily escaped from our yards to nearby parks and forests. They are all considered "invasive" by the King County Noxious Weed Control Program.

We are all so fortunate to live in the Briarcrest neighborhood with our wonderful parks and trees. As neighbors, we can help control the spread of noxious weeds by learning to identify them, by removing/controlling them in our own yards, by only planting non-invasice plants, and by disposing of weeds responsibly.

For information on how to identify, control, and sipose of these weeds, please visit [kingcounty.gov/weeds](http://kingcounty.gov/weeds) or call 206-477-9333.

- by Lois Harrison, Ann Lynch and Lee Keim

## The Opiate Crisis - A Community Forum

You are invited to a forum designed to provide an opportunity for discussion and education about the opiate crisis and how it affects our communities. The forum will feature a variety of speakers ranging from law enforcement to treatment specialists.

Date: 01/23/2018 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
Shoreline Center - Shoreline Room  
18560 1st Avenue NE  
Shoreline, Washington 98155

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## Neighborhood Storytelling Night

Come enjoy a lively, friendly evening of stories -- some from the tellers' lives, some from other sources -- at the BNA Storytelling Evenings on the first Friday of odd-numbered months. The next one will be March 2, 7:00-9:00, at Jon and Amy Anscher's home, 16010 25th Ave NE, across from the east entrance to Hamlin Park between Kellogg Middle School and Shorecrest High School. You're invited to tell a story, too! If you do, please practice it for both smooth telling and making sure it fits the 7-minute maximum. Bring a treat to share, if you wish.

If you'd like to be on the mailing list for these evenings, write to [briarcrestalice@gmail.com](mailto:briarcrestalice@gmail.com). We hope to see you on March 2!

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## Patty Pan Cooperative brings local foods, community to Shoreline

A few years ago, farmers market vendor and chef Devra Gartenstein noticed a strange phenomenon in the food community. "I'd get asked sometimes to be one of the chefs at upscale, local foods dinners," she said.

"I was at one of those dinners, and I was looking at the food, and it was all really expensive and fancy. "I thought: 'This is not the idea of local food that I want to get out in the world.'"

For nearly two decades, Gartenstein has been combating this exact problem. In 1997, she started a farmers market concession that aimed to showcase different regional foods and flavors unique to the Pacific Northwest. That business, the Patty Pan Grill, has since made locally sourced meals enjoyable and inexpensive for the public – and has now become the oldest concession of its kind in the Seattle area.



Devra Gartenstein, the founder of Patty Pan, prepares food for the monthly Humble Feast dinner event on Nov. 6. Gartenstein has hosted Humble Feast events around the Seattle area for several years, but found a permanent home in Shoreline in 2014.



Shoreline community member tries out a variety of dishes at Humble Feast, a prix fixe dinner event hosted monthly at the Patty Pan Cooperative, on November 6. This month's items included locally sourced pilaf, lamb and chickpea stew, kale slaw, candied squash, and more.

Currently, it sells food at more than 15 Seattle-area markets during the summer and winter seasons, with menu items including hot, ready-to-eat tamales and quesadillas, as well as zesty tomatillo and smoky ancho handcrafted house salsas. Most meals are supplemented by fresh, locally grown vegetables that range from season to season but frequently include squash blossoms, spring onions, asparagus and brussels sprouts. You can wash down a meal with spicy ginger-mint iced tea or homemade lemonade depending on the time of year.

The secret to Patty Pan's success? "Perseverance ... tenaciousness, and some insanity," Gartenstein said. Around 2013, Gartenstein knew she wanted to expand Patty Pan. There was both an urge to have an official



Shoreline community members dine and chat during this month's Humble Feast dinner event. Most people who attend Humble Feast are from the neighborhood and use it as an avenue to catch up with old friends.

space to do prep work for the concession and a desire to have a designated space to host community dinner events. "I realized that I'm not getting any younger," she said. "I have a great group of people here ... So I asked if they were interested in starting a cooperative."

In 2014, Gartenstein attained a space in Shoreline's Briarcrest neighborhood. Though it was affordable, what appealed to Gartenstein most was how welcoming the community sounded. Alongside information about the property, the realtor had posted a message from the neighborhood that encouraged local food vendors to buy the building.

Since Patty Pan opened its kitchen, itself run by a total of seven co-owners, the cooperative has become a major part of the Briarcrest community. In addition to housing every neighborhood association meeting, the

business has also become renowned for its monthly Humble Feast community dinners.

Usually occurring on the first Monday of every month, Humble Feast is a prix fixe dinner event that highlights local ingredients primarily sourced from neighboring farmers. Though it's only recently become a hit in the Briarcrest community, Humble Feast events have been happening as early as 2010, with Gartenstein and her fellow co-owners hosting them in various locations around the Seattle area. "We rented a community center once or twice," Gartenstein said. "We did it as a pop-up restaurant. Some of those were more successful than others." So she, along with other members of the community, has been delighted to find that the monthly dinner program has become so successful in Shoreline. "There's been nothing like the way it's been in Briarcrest," Gartenstein said.

Neighborhood association member and long-time community leader Alice Keller appreciates the way Patty Pan, as well as Humble Feast, has had a favorable impact on the area. "We didn't have any gathering spot before," she said. Keller loves the array of local foods offered at Humble Feast, but another reason she keeps coming back every month has to do with the event's welcoming atmosphere. "You see people greeting each other as neighbors," she said. "It's a place Shoreline really needs."

Bettelinn Brown, another community leader and association member, considers the Patty Pan space to be a hub. Having lived in, and served, the Briarcrest neighborhood for more than 30 years, the self-described activist has noticed that Humble Feast in particular has had a positive effect on the area. "It's brought us together," she said. "No one comes in with their phones." A fervent supporter of the business, Brown eagerly said that she will soon be reserving a space in the neighboring elementary school to celebrate her 80th birthday — and that Patty Pan will be doing the catering.

The treasurer of the neighborhood association, Sarah Kaye, always looks forward to Humble Feast and attends regularly. Like Keller, she likes how sociable the event is. "Everyone sits and chats," Kaye said. While there is a core group of regulars, Kaye said that it's not uncommon to befriend strangers.

Because Humble Feast has made such waves in Briarcrest, Gartenstein said she hopes other neighborhoods will do something similar. But she still believes that the cooperative has room to grow. Within the next five years, Gartenstein primarily intends to achieve stability. "We just want to be creating good jobs people stay with," she said. "We want to keep making great food, and we want to keep exploring new avenues."



Foods are all locally sourced from area farms and food producers.



The menu board for the Humble Feast tells where the food was produced.