

SEPT/OCT  
2009

# Briarcrest neighborhood news

## Neighborhood Calendar

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

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

### Opportunities for Involvement

**Briarcrest Neighborhood Association Meeting, second Mondays 7:00 pm**, Congregational Church, 15518 27th Ave. Fellowship Hall, downstairs.

**Council of Neighborhoods, First Wednesdays, 7:00 – 9:00 pm**. Shoreline City Hall. Come, observe & see the new City Hall.

**Blood Pressure Check, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays** at POPY's Community Dinner, 14514 20 Ave NE. Suzanne Gillette, RN donates her time. Info: 363-8100.

**IvyOut at South Woods Park, 3rd Saturdays, 10 - 2**. South Woods Preservation Group: [savesouthwoods.org](http://savesouthwoods.org).

**Second Annual Steps Against Domestic Violence Fundraiser Walk Around Greenlake, Sunday, October 4** Meet at Aqua Theatre at 10 am (registration at 9 am). [sadvarthurseattle@comcast.net](mailto:sadvarthurseattle@comcast.net) or register at [stepsagainstdomesticviolence.com](http://stepsagainstdomesticviolence.com).

**Candidates' Forum, Thursday, September 17, 7:00 – 8:30, Sponsored by the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association for all the Shoreline City Council Candidates, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 14514 20 Ave NE. See article on page 2 for more details.**

**Table Meeting, Thursday, October 15, 7 pm**, at Bettelinn's to plan the Nov/Dec/Jan issue of the BNA newsletter.

**Halloween Carnival and Silent Auction, Saturday, October 24, 10 – 3**, Shoreline Co-operative Preschool, 816 NE 190 St, Free Entry. Contact Tracy Henry 306-1311

**Sustainable Shoreline Education Association**. 4th Fridays, 7 - 9 pm, 14555 25th Ave NE, room 202. [sustainableshoreline.org](http://sustainableshoreline.org)

**Block Parties** – see web site for photos

**New Math Curriculum at Shorecrest** – see web site

**Hamlin Park ball field construction has started and will run through the winter.** Although bids came in under budget, the city chose the base plan only with no extras. Read more at our web site.

Submit newsletter articles to:

- Bettelinn Krizek Brown, Editor  
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[bettelinn@hotmail.com](mailto:bettelinn@hotmail.com), 363 5517
- Marcia Taylor, Layout  
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### Briarcrest Neighborhood Association Officers

Arthur Peach, Director	412 3198
Sarah Kaye, Asst Director	522 6233
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
Alicia Guy	418 0478

### 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.

## Director's Report

I would like to share a personal and painful story that will explain how I came to value community and to put my name forward as director of the Briarcrest Neighborhood Association.

The morning of October 4 will find me at Green Lake, participating in the second annual Steps Against Domestic Violence Walk to benefit children's services at the New Beginnings shelter. To me, the Walk is a way to build community among people who have been touched by domestic abuse and to memorialize the all too many victims.

My sister was murdered by her fiancé January 5, 2007. This tragedy made me realize how important community and communication are in our lives. I volunteered to serve as a member of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for the Southeast Sub Area Plan. This process made me aware of situations and issues we must address in the future, so that we have choices before they are made for us.

I encourage taking time to attend the monthly Briarcrest Neighborhood Association meetings. We need and want your support. At the last meeting, we discussed how each of us can help encourage responsible behavior and respect in our high school students. I have been out of high school for almost 10 years, but I remember two kinds of students; the ones who follow the rules and the ones who don't.

Most of our local students follow the rule, but we need to hone down on the few who are making the streets dirty with graffiti and other mischievous activities. I would like to involve students with our neighborhood, starting in their freshman year and following through to their senior projects.

As my predecessor, Bill Bear, has said in the past, we create successful students in this district and that is what we manufacture in Briarcrest, with our three public and one private school. Remember to drive carefully in school zones as students return to school.

I also want us, on a citywide level, to reach out to other neighborhoods. We are a city, not an island. Maintaining more communication with other neighborhoods, cities, and organizations will keep us working toward our goals. Let's work in the coming weeks, months, years to create a better Briarcrest, a better Shoreline, and a better Washington.

- Arthur Peach

## You, Me, and Sustainability

During this long, glorious summer, we visited a friend who makes his living as an environmental scientist, and the conversation turned to Global Climate Change. My jaw dropped when he explained that he remains unconvinced that humans are driving this, or that weather patterns have even changed significantly! Yet, my enthusiasm for a national shift toward sustainable practices remains hearty and completely undiminished, because this basic premise holds true: it makes sense.

As defined on the Sustainable Shoreline website, "It is possible to live without using up resources faster than they can be recycled back for reuse." Economic stability, respect for all living things, and healthy air, soil and water help create vibrant populations, and communities where we want to live and raise our children. Long term, we cannot have part of this equation if we ignore the other parts. This is common sense. And it makes sense locally, nationally, and everywhere on this beautiful planet. Since we are most powerful in our every day, local actions, this is the place to start.

Now, if you support these goals, how are you going about making them manifest in your life? Are you changing all your light bulbs to CFL's? Going local and organic to feed your family? Insulating your house? Helping plan a really green, community-friendly remodel for Shorecrest High School? Changing the recycling climate where you work? Smiling at every neighbor? Please share your ideas in this newsletter.

Here are some resources you may find handy to learn more about the Sustainability movement, ranging from our local friends to the global partnerships forming around this singular, yet infinite idea. We look forward to hearing your ideas in the near future! Enjoy!

- Margot Richardson

[illuminahealingart@gmail.com](mailto:illuminahealingart@gmail.com)

Sustainable Shoreline:  
[sustainableshoreline.org](http://sustainableshoreline.org)

Puget Sound Energy Weatherization program:

[pse.com/solutions/foryourhome/Pages/rebatesOnWeatherization.aspx](http://pse.com/solutions/foryourhome/Pages/rebatesOnWeatherization.aspx)

350 Movement for Climate Crisis Solutions:

[350.org](http://350.org)

### **Elections Do Matter**

Is voting important to those of us who live in Briarcrest? Not really. Based on stats from the recent primary, less than 31% of Shoreline residents bothered to vote even though ballots were delivered to each and every registered voter.

An election is the selection of a person or persons for office by vote or a public vote upon a proposition submitted. To elect is to choose or select by vote, to determine those in favor of a course of action, or to choose. A vote is a formal expression of opinion or choice, the right to such expression, a collective expression of will or choice and so forth.

Voice and choice are priceless. Decide for yourself. There is an alternative: one is free to live vacuously in hopeless, hapless, dumb-downed oblivion.

- Lillian Hawkins

### **Mini-Grant Program**

Come and meet your neighbors and help to improve the streetscape along 25<sup>th</sup> Ave NE. Jason Henry and Bettelinn Brown have applied for a neighborhood mini-grant to purchase mulch, compost, and plant materials to help improve the right of way adjacent to eastern edge of the South Woods Park.

The plan is to remove the weeds in the planting strip and replace them with a mix of native groundcovers and perennials. In order to meet the requirements of the mini-grant, the neighborhood will be responsible for providing the labor to install the project as well as the maintenance to keep the plantings well watered and weed-free until they are established. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the community while helping improve the environment. The installation is scheduled for October 10 and 11. For details and to participate contact me at 306-1311 or [henryjmt@comcast.net](mailto:henryjmt@comcast.net)

- Jason Henry

### **Trees are the Lungs of the Earth**

This neighborhood is special because of the many large trees. Planting trees helps reduce global warming by absorbing CO2. It follows that the bigger the tree, the more it can absorb--therefore people need to seriously consider all aspects before cutting down any trees, especially large ones. Let dead trees remain as snags for the woodpeckers--Downy's, Hairy's, Flicker's, Pileated's, and Red-breasted Sapsucker's-- all of which live in Shoreline and are cavity nesters that need old large trees. Please help keep bird populations viable! Don't use pesticides (all birds eat lots of bugs). Don't let a "Silent Spring" happen here.

Keep your cats from hunting wild birds. I have two cats. One insisted that it wanted outside; I built a bird excluding outdoor run that it can access through a cat door, anytime it pleases.

- Christine Southwick

### **Candidates' Forum**

Here's your chance to make an informed decision. The Briarcrest Neighborhood Association is hosting a Shoreline City Council candidates forum Thursday, 9/17. This will be an opportunity to ask questions specific to our community.

Each candidate will be given time for a short introductory speech. Then the moderator will ask questions from the audience, and the candidates will answer them in rotation. Selection of questions will be limited by the time available. At the end of the Q & A segment, each candidate will wrap-up.

The forum will be moderated by Dru Williams, a Briarcrest resident and a PhD candidate in Communication at the University of Washington. He is collecting questions to ask the candidates, both in advance of the meeting or in person at the event. You can e-mail questions to him at [druw@u.washington.edu](mailto:druw@u.washington.edu)

The forum will run from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 14514 20th Ave NE.

- Dru Williams

### **Bike, Pedestrian Plan**

Briarcrest resident Kathy Hall has been named to Shoreline's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Group. The citizen committee will advise staff and help with the creation of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. As part of the city's Transportation Master Plan update process, the committee will be discussing the City's pedestrian and bicycle needs. These may include bike trails, walkways, paths, bike lanes, sidewalks, bike racks and crosswalks. If you have concerns you would like to bring to the city's attention, contact Kathy at [kjhseattle@earthlink.net](mailto:kjhseattle@earthlink.net) or Senior Transportation Planner, Alicia McIntire at [amcintire@shorelinewa.gov](mailto:amcintire@shorelinewa.gov) or 801-2483. The committee's first meeting is scheduled for late September.

- Alicia McIntire

### **Northwest Chorale**

Do you like to sing? Want to help feed the hungry? I have been singing with the Northwest Chorale for four years. It is challenging and fun. We perform two concerts a season and all proceeds are donated to Northwest Harvest. This fall we'll be performing Handel's Messiah. Rehearsals are on Monday nights from 7:30 - 9:30 pm at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 12509 27th Ave NE, Seattle. First rehearsal is Monday, Sept 14. More information at [nwchorale.org](http://nwchorale.org).

- Kim Bateman

### **Back to School Consortium**

With the start of the school year there is always a need for school supplies and clothing for the less-advantaged students. The Back to School Consortium is a community effort to provide assistance. All donations can be dropped off at the First Seattle Christian Reformed Church, Prince of Peace Church or the Center for Human Services at 17018 15th Ave NE.

- Dick Potter

### **Practical Ayurveda**

Fall is fast approaching, which means cold and flu season is right around the corner. By having a balanced lifestyle we can avoid illnesses and the costs of trips to the doctor's office and pharmaceuticals to fight off airborne illness. Balance can be achieved in many ways, one of which is an Ayurvedic (pronounced *Eye-yer-ved-ick*) lifestyle. In direct Sanskrit translation, Ayurveda is "the science of life". This is a 5,000 year-old science originating in India and thought to be the oldest form of health care in the world - even predating Chinese Medicine.

The purpose of Ayurveda is to heal, maintain a high quality of life, and increase the longevity of the individual. Ayurvedic science treats the person, not the illness or symptom, in a very individualized and holistic way. Your path to optimal health is different from any other individual and depends upon your unique constitution, daily habits, environment and family medical history. In the modern, fast paced world, the levels of stress cause toxins to accumulate and make it harder for your body to stay healthy and your mind to remain calm and positive.

Ayurveda offers therapies to support your individual constitutional harmony while promoting cellular rejuvenation, immunity and overall vitality.

If you'd like to learn more about Ayurveda please read the basic guidelines I've posted on our web site and feel free to email me at [d.oenning@comcast.com](mailto:d.oenning@comcast.com).

- Dana Oenning

### **Play and Learn group for pre-kindergarten aged children and parents**

Beginning Tuesday, October 6, Laurie Murphy, Briarcrest Elementary School kindergarten teacher, will host activities and play time for parents to participate with their children from noon - 1:30 pm for 28 weeks concluding at the end of the school year. Paid for by Shoreline residents with a Community Bond Dollars grant. Information at 368.4175 or [laurie.murphy@shorelineschools.org](mailto:laurie.murphy@shorelineschools.org)

### **Botanical Interests Seeds**

We have a new fundraising venture with Botanical Interests Seeds! Order online and BNA gets 25%. Tested in Briarcrest: the Xeriscape Mix is blooming at my place now in late summer with zero watering or maintenance. Information at [briarcrest-neighbors.net/fundraising.html](http://briarcrest-neighbors.net/fundraising.html). There you'll find a list of varieties for late summer/early fall planting.

- Sarah Kaye

*"A job well done is time well spent."*