

Briarcrest

neighborhood news

SUMMER 2010

Neighborhood Calendar

www.briarcrestneighbors.net

Submissions for the Briarcrest website:
info@briarcrestneighbors.net

Opportunities for Involvement

Briarcrest Neighborhood Meeting, 2nd Thursdays, July 8 & August 12, 7 pm, Congregational Church, 15518 27 Ave NE, Fellowship Hall, downstairs.

South Woods Ivy Out, third Saturdays

"The Revival" June 25 and 26, 8 pm, Shorecrest Performing Arts Center. This show of favorite numbers choreographed by Rex Kinney features routines of Shorecrest's Hip Hop team. \$13 Adv/\$15 at Door. Tickets available at BrownPaperTickets or Facebook.

20th Annual Shoreline / Lake Forest Park Arts Festival, June 26 and 27, Saturday 10-7 and Sunday 10-5, Free. Shoreline Center, 18560 1st Avenue NE, Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council 417-4645 shorelinearts.net

Aging Your Way: Conversations for Community Change, Tuesday evening, June 29, 5:30-9:30

Shoreline City Hall, 17500 Midvale Ave N. 268-6737, or Dori Gillam at dorig@seniorservices.org. RSVP required by June 25. Senior Services launches this new initiative to plan for future services, programs and supports to help people age confidently right here in Briarcrest.

Illumina Girls Day Camp, Nurturing the Spirit through Art and Adventure, July 5-9, right here in our neighborhood at Margot's home studio, Margot Richardson, 913-3962, illuminahealingart@gmail.com, details & registration forms at illumina-girls-camp.blogspot.com

Shoreline's Community Wildlife Habitat Tour, Saturday July 10, 10 - 4. Seven habitats divided between the Echo Lake and the Hillwood Neighborhoods, tour begin at Calvin Presbyterian Church 18826 3 Ave NW.

City of Shoreline's Swingin' Summer Eve, Paramount Park, Wednesday, July 21, 5:30 - 8:30 pm, 15300 8th Ave NE. All events FREE This festival features: BBQ sponsored by the Shoreline CERT program, inflatables, face painting, games, and the **Used Book Sale sponsored by the Shoreline Council of Neighborhoods**. Bring books (no CDs, DVDs, VHSs) to Charlie Brown.

Announcements cont'd on next page

Submit newsletter articles to:

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- Marcia Taylor, Layout
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iptaylor@earthlink.net, 725 1377

Briarcrest Neighborhood Association Officers

Arthur Peach, Director	412 3198
Sarah Kaye, Asst Director	522 6233
Bettelinn Krizek Brown, Secretary	363 5517
Kathy Hall, Recording Secretary	459 2109
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

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

Walking through the neighborhood recently I thought of our many accomplishments in the last year, achieved because neighbors like you volunteered your ideas and time.

We can take pride in the open communication that we value in our neighborhood. Lack of communication can lead to plans and events that may not be right for our neighborhood.

By keeping good lines of communication we were able to:

- Celebrate at the Anniversary Party.
- Become informed at the successful candidates forum
- Add a position for recording secretary to BNA leadership
- See the result of several years of planning and hard work when the city adopted the Southeast Subarea Neighborhood Plan on May 24th.

This year I want to organize more committees to achieve specific goals. I invite you to get involved in the process and come to the monthly Briarcrest Neighborhood Association meetings.

- Arthur Peach

Southeast Neighborhood Subarea Plan Adopted!

The City Council initiated this project back in January of 2002. We appreciate the many hours the Citizens' Advisory Committee spent volunteering to create the Plan, which won praise when it was adopted by the Planning Commissioners. All five officers of BNA and BNA member Diana Herbst were present to watch the Council review the document at its meeting of May 24th. In the discussion that followed, Will Hall found concepts and wording in the CAC report that he would like to see used in the next update of the comprehensive plan. Mayor Keith McGlashen said it will serve the City well to use the SE Plan as a model. The amendment, Ordinance 575, to include the Southeast Neighborhood Subarea Plan into the Comprehensive Plan was approved.

As the plan moves along, the Planning Commission has tools available for implementation, including the possibility of a Planned Area in the large parking lot on 32nd Avenue NE. This type of zoning could provide open space and other community amenities. The Planning Commission will begin its work on this zoning change at a Study Session Thursday, July 1 and implementation work will begin August 19.

- Kathy Hall

University of Washington Planning Studio Gives Fresh Hope for a Thoughtful and Innovative Southeast Subarea Plan

As a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee I grew very discouraged by the CAC process. The committee spent several months creating a written document that integrated all of the community's hopes for our future community. The zoning map process of the CAC is where this difference became apparent. Instead of the group coming together with a common vision the city initiated a piecemeal parcel approach, voting on different sections from different plans. This process did not provide for a fluency in the overall plan. Going to the open house June 1st I was pleasantly surprised at what the UW graduate group presented. The 3-D renderings showed that the Masters of Urban Design and Planning Class listened to our community and worked closely with community groups during the past five months. Lower height mixed use buildings and preservation of existing residential neighborhoods housing stock was emphasized. Their presentations displayed less density than what our citizen CAC committee voted on.

The UW planning studio's vision for the neighborhood is a step in the right direction for a well designed, well thought out community. These students were free to think out of the box, without angry input from developers and the demands for the bottom line, as well as dealing with citizens who are very happy with the status quo and do not want to see any change. The class also conducted a consistency evaluation with current land-use codes to determine if Shoreline codes are consistent with the comprehensive plan. The UW class members found numerous discrepancies between the two documents.

We the citizens of Briarcrest need to make sure the city implements the goals and recommendations of the comprehensive plan. By doing this we will force the city to change some of the archaic land use laws.

Was the UW presentation perfect? No, but I do feel that it is a step in the right direction.

- Cara McKinnon

City Council Sets New Rules for Public Comment

The Shoreline City Council recently changed its rules for public comment, and it is important to understand how the system works so you will know at what point to speak out. Your voice counts in our community.

The new rules (resolution 298) went into effect June 7; they limit Public Comment during City Council business meetings and study sessions. The Council's rationale was to balance its commitment to public comment during meetings with the need for thoughtful deliberation of City business and decorum, especially during election season. Among other things, the council has eliminated general public comment from its study sessions, though exceptions are possible. The city created a new online tool, eComments, as a way for citizens to provide input on agenda items.

We elect City Council members at large to serve the entire community. The Council acts like a CEO and sets strategy that is implemented by the City Manager and staff.

Recently we had a situation where neighborhoods weren't informed about proposed cutting of street trees on 15th Avenue NE. This case points up a lack of communication within the different departments of the city. We hope to work with the city to make sure citizens are involved with Public Works decisions.

- Kathy Hall

Create A Great Block Party

Summer has arrived, and it's time for block parties! You'll reap rewards throughout the rest of the year, as neighbors stop to talk, laugh, share ideas and resources, and generally feel more connected. Are you inspired? Here are the basics:

Recruit a few neighbors to help with the event. Choose a date, place and time. Plan the party around a meal, either lunch or dinner, and then organize a potluck. Invite neighbors to bring their own utensils, plates and cups. Organizers can provide extra reusable's. Ask volunteers to bring equipment: tables, chairs, barbecue grills, garbage and recycling bins, games for the kids, and music! Make arrangements with your fellow organizers to plan for set up and take down. Now print up fliers, delivering one to each neighbor and saving a copy for the City.

The City of Shoreline has simplified the permit forms for us. You don't have to close off the street, but it makes for a more relaxed atmosphere. The basic steps to follow are: contact the City at 801-2500, and allow two weeks for the street closure permit to be processed. The City waives permit fees to support block parties which are open to the public. Contact one of the BNA officers to qualify for a fee waiver and sign off on the application. The City provides free road closure signs. They must

Block Party cont'd on next column

Lab Expansion

Looks like the Department of Health is playing it pretty close to the vest in the Briarcrest Neighborhood. The mission of the Public Health Lab has morphed into the Laboratory Response Network which is responsible for much more than to test drinking water, shell fish and new born baby screening. In 2007, the United States Government Accountability Office said these response labs are terrorist targets. The GAO said so again in 2009. The lab facility is located next to one of the largest food depositories in the Seattle area, Food Lifeline. It is adjacent to the Fircrest campus, nearby three public schools and one private school and across the street from houses and apartments.

There is no evidence that the Department of Health ever considered the efficacy of another location for its operation when its mission expanded after 911. There is a more suitable site up the road near Paine Field at the emergency response center. This work should be done at a secured military site. After all, it is dealing with hazardous materials and biocontainment.

Recently the lab has been engaged in public outreach events. It wants to expand its empire and presents only favorable perspectives. Even if nothing unfortunate ever occurred at the lab we are faced with the prospect of looking at a heavily fenced and guarded site. The character of our neighborhood would be changed. We need to speak out.

- Rajah Hawkins



Lois Harrison (center) has lived in Briarcrest since 7/1955, and Audrey Jacobson (left) moved here in 9/1946 when Neil (right) was 2.

Block Party cont'd

be picked up and dropped off at City Hall as part of the permit process. It's easy and very worthwhile. Enjoy!

- Margot Richardson

Commercial Solicitors Require City License

A permit is needed in order to solicit door to door. Currently there are four licensed commercial solicitors: Merry Maids, Edward Jones, Student Painters and Energy Exteriors. All licenses expire at the end of the year. All other solicitors can not do business here. According to the city staff, residents need to call Police at 911 when

Solicitors cont'd next column

Solicitors cont'd

non-registered solicitors come to your door. This is because the City Prosecutor's office has instructed Police to make contact, warn and get the solicitor and company information often calling supervisors or the company to tell them of the Shoreline Code. Our officer Greg McKinney can be reached at the Eastside Police Storefront, 363-8424.

- Arthur Peach

Web Site Helper Wanted

I am the Assistant Director of BNA and manage our web site. I am looking for someone to mentor who wants to learn how to make web pages. I will give an introductory HTML class in order to have help in getting material formatted. Please write if interested! info@briarcrestneighbors.net.

- Sarah Kaye



Announcements cont'd

Weeding Party for the 2009 MiniGrant Plantings, Saturday, July 24, 10-12, east of South Woods. Contact Sarah Kaye 522-6233.

Celebrate Shoreline, "Bridging Families, Communities and Cultures" August 17 - 22. Parade, Saturday 21, 12 noon along 15 Ave NE between 180 St and 165 St. **Festival, 11 - 5**, Ridgecrest Elem. School grounds.

Help homeless kids and their moms!

The foundation of Vision House/Jacob's Well, 23rd and Ballinger Way, is nearing completion. We hope to have the project sealed and weather proofed by this winter. To learn more about how your church, company and/or community group can get involved contact the office at 425-228-6356 or nohomelesskids.org.

Table Meeting, Thursday, August 19, 7 pm. Prepare Sept/Oct Briarcrest Neighborhood News - Bettelinn's.

The Back to School WORKS Clothing Room Event, Saturday, August 28, 1 - 4, North City Elementary. Gently used children's and teen clothing and shoes needed at the PTA sponsored clothing room. The event provides school supplies, haircuts, and clothing 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. Families can register at btsconsortium.org or call The Back-To-School Info Line, 393-4916. To donate, call Lisa Sharratt, 369-5548.

Lake City Farmers Market, Thursdays, 3-7 pm, 125 Street and 28 Ave NE.

Recycle Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs

You can take up to ten compact fluorescent light bulbs and tubes at a time to household hazardous waste drop-off locations in Seattle or King County, or bring them to approved Take It Back Network locations. When recycled properly, nearly every component of a fluorescent bulb can be separated and reused - even the mercury.

Mohan Gurung, of the Everest Kitchen has been appointed to the Economic Development Committee for the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

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