



DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT
THE SPRING DISTRICT

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POINTS OF INTEREST

Bellevue Brewing Wins!

Holiday Party in The Spring District!

Meet Dote Barista: Jenny

NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURE

BELLEVUE BREWING: OUR AWARD-WINNING FAVORITE LOCAL PUB!

[Bellevue Brewing Company](#) invites you to bask in the glow of The Spring District holiday decorations and enjoy one of their award-winning beers. They recently won a gold medal for their Schwarzbier, and a Silver for a Uno Mas Mexican Lager at the [Washington Beer Awards](#) competition. See the winners listed [here](#).

In addition to their award winners, Bellevue Brewing has a couple seasonal beers to help you celebrate the PNW dark season. Here are their wintertime beverages:

Coco-LoCo Coconut Dark Ale: Big notes of chocolate and coconut up front, with a hint of tropical fruit in the background. Coconut sweetness dominates the middle of the palate, before a soft chocolaty-smooth finish (4.9% ABV//20 IBU).

Freds SFS! Hazy IPA: Sweet notes of honeydew melons and fresh tangerine up front, with orange creamsicle in the middle. Finishes sweetly in your mouth. Then, slowly turns dry (5.3% ABV// 31 IBU). ***A dollar for each pint purchased is donated to the Ales for ALS foundation.***

Convergence IPA: Snappy bitterness upfront wakes you up like a cold hop bath in the middle of Summer! Wildberry notes wander aimlessly like children in the middle of a Bill Murray movie. The back end mouth-feel fills you up with a coating of sticky Centennial Resin (5.9% ABV // 78 IBU).

Gold Medal Winner
Schwarzbier



Silver Medal Winner
Uno Mas Mexican Lager

Do some shopping while watching the game. Right now, any tab of \$50+ gets 50% off merchandise (Hats, Hoodies, Shirts)



Bellevue Brewing has delicious bites to go with all their topnotch beers!

MEET THE BARISTA

When a new coffee shop opens in your neighborhood, you want to try everything! With the opening of [Dote](#), that is most definitely true. From the mouthwatering chocolates to the deliciously crafted espresso drinks, join us as we work our way through the menu. In addition to their delectable menu, they have skilled and friendly baristas serving up the treats. Meet Jenny Pae, Director of Operations for Dote:

How long have you worked at Dote? 6 years

How long have you been a barista? 6 years

Do the customers in The Spring District have a favorite drink? They are enjoying the ganache signature drinks where we incorporate housemade ganache of your choice, espresso, and milk!

Do they have a favorite chocolate treat? They enjoy the pecan brownie!

Favorite thing about your job? My favorite part about my job is building relationships and connecting with people from all different parts of life. I truly enjoy the connection where regulars come and share their lives together from both the front and back of the counter.

Do you have a favorite coffee to make? I love making the honey dark mochas. The dark chocolate and milk combination brings latte art to the next level!

Do you have a favorite coffee to drink? My go-to coffee drink is an iced americano no matter how cold it can get outside.

Favorite thing to do outside of work? I enjoy spending time with family and friends outside of work. Whether we find a fun new place to eat, or stay inside and watch a movie together.

What's your favorite restaurant? It's hard to choose one favorite restaurant, but if I had to it would be between Walrus and the Carpenter or Di Fiora.

GET YOUR DELICIOUS GINGERBREAD LATTE!



DECEMBER HOLIDAYS



HANUKKAH DECEMBER 7-15, 2023

This is the eight-day Jewish festival of lights, which celebrates the Maccabean revolt in Israel. Eight candles are lit with a menorah to honor the holiday. Learn more [here](#).



CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 25, 2023

Christmas is primarily a Christian holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. To celebrate many people attend church, have family parties and exchange gifts. To learn more, read [here](#).



WINTER SOLSTICE DECEMBER 21, 2023

Solstice is the point in the year "when the earth is most inclined away from the sun. It is the most southern or northern point depending on the hemisphere," according to Interfaith Calendar. Solstice marks the symbolic death and rebirth of the Sun; the gradual waning of daylight hours is reversed and begins to grow again. Some ancient monuments such as Newgrange and Stonehenge are aligned with the sunrise or sunset on the winter solstice. Learn more [here](#).



KWANZAA DECEMBER 26, 2023 - JANUARY 1, 2024

Kwanzaa is a seven-day, non-religious celebration of family, culture, and community. Each day honors a particular African-derived principle and the final day culminates in a feast (called Karamu) on New Year's Day. Learn more [here](#).

BELLEVUE HOLIDAY EVENTS



SNOWFLAKE LANE

Each night at 7:00pm through December 24, 2023, you will find a winter wonderland between Bellevue Square and Lincoln Square. It's a parade with music, dancers, falling snow and dazzling lights. Make sure to catch this holiday tradition in downtown Bellevue. Learn more [here](#).



GARDEN D'LIGHTS

Be enchanted by over half a million twinkle lights in the shape of plants, flowers, birds, animals and more! For 29 years Bellevue Botanical Gardens has been "d-lighting" visitors and this year is no exception. Step into the garden . nightly through December 31st for a whimsical escape. Visit their website, [Garden d'Lights](#), to learn more. Including \$5 nights!

LEAVE THE DRIVING TO BELLHOP!

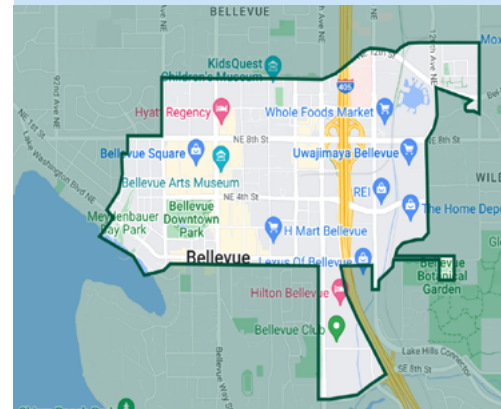
This holiday season use [BellHop](#) to dash around Bellevue! BellHop to your office holiday party, the Bellevue Botanical Gardens for Garden d'Lights, The Spring District to pet a reindeer on 12/6! Take BellHop anywhere within their 6 square-mile range. It hits all the hot spots for holiday entertainment: from Maidenbauer Bay Park to Bel-Red, they can pick you up and drop you off.

It's super easy:

Download the [Ride Circuit App](#)

Request a Ride

Sit Back & Enjoy!



BELLEVUE HOLIDAY EVENTS CONT.



BELLEVUE DOWNTOWN ICE RINK THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2023

The Bellevue Downtown Ice Rink presented by Symetra is the perfect venue for a family outing or to gather with friends. For 26 years Bellevue has been coming together for wintertime fun at Bellevue Downtown Park! Don't miss out on a variety of fun theme days, skate lessons, and you can even buy a season pass.

Learn more and buy tickets [here](#).

The Spring District is a proud sponsor of this yearly event and we want you to enjoy the fun for free. Enter to win tickets to the Ice Rink at the Holiday Party @ The Spring District on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.

We'll see you next Wednesday!



FEATURED ORGANIZATIONS

THE SOPHIA WAY

**Supporting women experiencing homelessness
to find a place to call home.**

Since December 2008, more than 5,000 women have been sheltered and supported by [The Sophia Way](#), and many have found their way to stable living.

Helen Leuzzi, founder of The Sophia Way, named the organization after Sophia, a name derived from σοφία, the Greek word for “wisdom.” Her vision was that the “Way” is the path we seek to walk alongside the women in need to support them from homelessness to housing.

Some facts about homelessness:

It is a systemic failure; people don't choose to be homeless; addiction is a serious issue for the housed and unhoused; and providing services is not a cause of rising homelessness. According to 2019 data, 84% of those experiencing homelessness claimed Seattle as their last place of residence; 46% were born in King County or had lived in King County for ten years or more.

This winter please consider supporting this local organization working to provide stable, safe housing for local women going through a very difficult time. Your financial support helps provide nourishing meals; access to showers; laundry services, computers and phones; and supportive case management. Make your contribution [here](#).

You can also donate specific items via their [Amazon Wishlist](#).



You can't wrap a blood donation up and put it under the tree, but for the person who receives it, it'll be the best present they get all year. Take a little time off from the holiday hustle to make this season brighter for someone who needs it - a patient in our community.

During the holidays we see an increase in demand at our local hospitals, so the more people who donate, the bigger the impact we can make across the Pacific Northwest. [Find a donation opportunity near you](#) and [make an appointment today](#).

[Evergreen Health/Kirkland](#)

December 8

[Overlake Medical Center](#)

December 22

[Swedish Medical Center/Issaquah](#)

December 26

[Village Theatre/Issaquah](#)

December 26

**Remember to Create Your New Account at
www.bloodworksnw.org/giveblood**

Use the new [Donor Scheduling Portal](#) to book your appointment to save lives. Get ready for a new donor scheduling experience that's mobile responsive and makes booking an appointment from your phone or desktop easy. [\[Watch Video\]](#)

What you'll need: Have your Donor ID handy when creating your account. Your Donor ID is on your donor sheet (received during donation) or in the email announcement going out to all donors on October 18th. Have a question? Our Donor Care Team at 800-398-7888 or schedule@bloodworksnw.org can look up your Donor ID, provide support, reset passwords, and trouble shoot. We've got you covered!



BloodworksNW.org / 800-398-7888

Easy Mediterranean Chicken

by [Days To Fitness](#)

This time of year we need healthy meals ready in a flash without a lot of fuss. Serve this healthy meal to your family after a long day of school and work. The best news of all, it only requires 5 ingredients, plus the chicken!

COOKING TIME: 20 MINUTES

SERVINGS: 4

INGREDIENTS

- 4 5-ounce boneless chicken breasts
- ¼ teaspoon sea salt
- ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons of freshly chopped basil
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 ½ cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- ¼ cup olive tapenade

INSTRUCTIONS

Put the chicken breasts on a lightly oiled baking tray, and sprinkle them on both sides with salt and two tablespoons of basil. Cover with a sheet of baking parchment and then hammer them flat with a meat mallet until they are about ½ inch thick.

In a frying pan, heat the oil on a medium heat and then cook the chicken breasts for around 5-6 minutes on each side, until they are brown on the outside and no longer pink in the middle. Remove the chicken once cooked, and wrap in aluminum foil to keep warm.

In the same pan, add the tomatoes and olive tapenade. Cook for 2-3 minutes.

Pour the tomato and tapenade mixture over the chicken breasts, sprinkle with the remaining basil, and serve.





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