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February Newsletter

Big interest in little backyard houses

"The Seattle City Council is trying to figure out how to permit more backyard cottages because they can offer a moderately priced option to the growing demand for rentals. If just 5 percent of the eligible single-family homes added cottages, that would add almost 4,000 dwellings to the city.

But it turns out these little houses face big challenges. Just 159 of them have been built in Seattle since they were legalized in 2010.

Late last month, Stevenson (above) completed construction of a two-story,

Recipe of the Month

Cauliflower "Shawarma"

"This obviously isn't really a shawarma —there is no lamb and no fat—but it is a way of slow-cooking cauliflower that makes it feel substantial and tasty enough to warrant the association." -- Recipe by Itamar Srulovich and Sarit Packer on epicurious.com.

482-square-foot cottage behind the 1944 Fremont house he's owned for 11 years. He and his wife see it as an investment they might move into when their children are grown.

It wasn't cheap, though. The cottage cost them $160,000.

Under city rules, they had to create two parking spots they didn't have — one for the cottage and one for their house. That added more than $5,000 to the project, Stevenson said.

He and his wife plan to charge $150 a night for the cottage as a short-term rental, or $1,800 a month for a longer-term tenant."

Read more about "detached accessory dwelling unit," or DADU's, and their strict and expensive permitting requirements here.

Bob Young, The Seattle Times, 1/6/16

Save the date!
Saturday, February 27 7:30-10pm

Compare wines and hang out with neighbors at the 2016 PNA Wine Taste. You get 10 tastes of wine, appetizers, and live music for $30 ($25 if you're a PNA member). Some bottles will be available for purchase as well.

Tickets and more info here.

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