



# The Other Side of the Fence

E-News from ONI ~ September 2005

**Enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation**

## ONI steps in to help 120 families from Gulf Coast

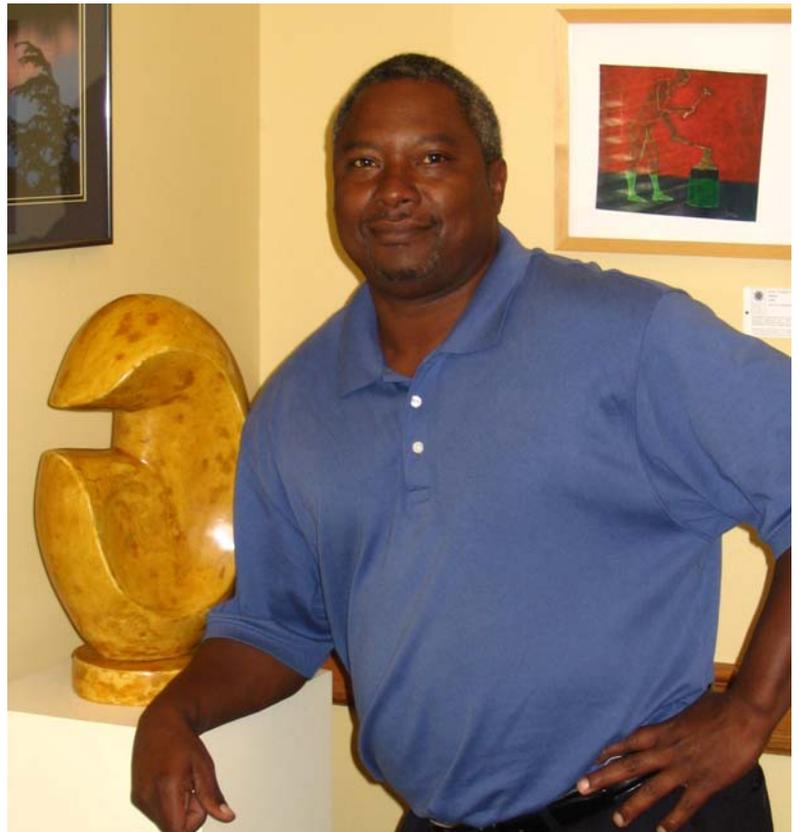
By Jimmy Brown

To say the least, the last week has been more than hectic! As many of you know a coordinated effort was started in Portland beginning Friday, Sept. 2 when area officials were notified that Portland was to receive upwards of 500 – 1000 survivors of Hurricane Katrina.

By Sunday morning the local emergency management mechanism was established with State, City, County and American Red Cross providing oversight. Fresh with the sights of Gulf area residents appearing lost, bewildered, traumatized and without support, the Portland effort was determined to be one of coordination, collaboration, support and focus on those survivors coming to this area.

As the formal management system moved forward, there was a strong recognition that community partnerships needed to be included in the planning and implementation effort. As the Director of ONI, I was asked to participate in a Sunday afternoon planning session with local law enforcement, emergency management, medical and health professionals, community members, elected officials from the City and County and others.

From that point forward, this group was able to bring together resources from government, the social services community, schools, disaster relief organizations, the faith community and a host of others, all working on behalf of the evacuees from the Gulf. Then, like a faucet, the effort was turned off! But not without a service system being established, training provided to well over 300 Portland area residents, meetings occurring in the neighborhood association areas of Buckman, Sunnyside, King, Humboldt, and others. It was good to see neighbors from NE Portland, sitting and talking with neighbors from Inner Southeast. Yes, some of the



**Non-stop ONI Director Jimmy Brown** PHOTO BY JOHN DUTT

conversation was sensitive and delicate, but people came to hear, listen and express their views, concerns and most importantly provide their support.

Families start arriving with nothing but clothes on their back . . .

On Saturday, Portland began receiving families from the storm region who came as a result of local efforts through an area church. While not part of the formal effort, these families came to this City with literally nothing but the clothes on their back. Due to the 100 hours of meetings held since September 2<sup>nd</sup>, the American Red Cross support center housed at Washington-Monroe High School was able to come on-line and provide the needed family services, medical service, and connection to FEMA, local housing and benefit services to the disaster survivors.

Currently some 120 families have been helped thus far. We at ONI can be thankful for the efforts of John Canda/NECN Director and Cece Hughley-Noel for connecting with neighbors and galvanizing support.

Thanks go to Mayor Potter for his concern and efforts to link across municipal government organizational lines. Appreciations are given to our friends in Multnomah County, Chair Linn, DSCP Director Lorenzo Poe, DCJ Director Joanne Fuller, Multnomah County Health and its related services. A very well deserved thanks, goes to Mary Loftin, Executive Director at American Red Cross, Oregon Chapter for her leadership and commitment, ensuring that any person from the Gulf area would be accepted at the support center, regardless of how they got here.

Lastly I want to thank Joyce Harris, Dr. Joy Leary, Bishop A.A. Wells, Paul Brown, Mary Li, Elder Robert Richardson, Marcus Branch, Victoria Burton and the many, many community members in NE Portland who came and gave so freely of their time, their wisdom, care and concern for their brothers and sisters from the storm-ravaged South. Without your dedication we would not have been prepared to assist in the formal survivor relief efforts. Thank you all.

### **Mayor's office coordinates citywide relief efforts**

## **Coalitions, Crime Prevention, I&R step up to plate**

Working closely with Mayor Tom Potter's Office, ONI Director Jimmy Brown worked hard to bring together the welcoming committee for the hurricane evacuees coming to Portland. Other ONI personnel also pitched in. Crime Prevention Manager Eric King worked on public safety strategies and I & R Manager John Dutt coordinated the dissemination of information with 211Info. The I&R staff has been helping out as well by answering relief related questions. They have all been involved since last week ready to help the original group of evacuees and coordinate services and information.

Also instrumental in bringing the community together were the coalition offices, specifically NECN and Southeast Uplift, said Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Mayor's policy manager for neighborhoods and education. She said they are also doing some interesting work to follow-up on the energy that was generated from the effort. The Mayors leadership brought those two efforts together and pulled together a last minute meeting for the Buckman community.

Plans initially were to house the original group of evacuees in the former Washington-Monroe High School but that facility is now a clearing house to help evacuees find temporary housing, meals, clothing, medical attention and counseling.

"Over the past week, folks in our community have stepped forward to ask how they could welcome our guests. Others wanted to know what they could donate. Churches organized fundraisers. Portland's business community gave free computers, phone service, clothing and school supplies. Others allowed employees to donate their time as volunteers. TriMet was ready to alter bus schedules and give out free passes. Some simply called with an offer to open up their homes to total strangers," said Mayor Potter last week.

"To each of you who gave your time, who made a donation, who offered to help in some way no matter how small, I want to say thank you. Thank you on behalf of the survivors of this tragedy, who will still need the support of each of us to regain their footing. Thank you on behalf of all Portlanders - your generosity is what makes our city so special. And thank you from me and my family," he added.

Red Cross officials are using the former high school site from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. to process a full range of benefits including vouchers for housing, meals and clothing, as well as health services for immediate needs and mental health services. Survivors will also be able to access resources from other community agencies.

Additionally, the Mayor has asked that Red Cross volunteers be available 24 hours a day at the high school to provide immediate assistance and housing for any victim of the storm at any hour. Portland-area families already hosting survivors should first call the Red Cross at **503-284-1234** and inquire what services and benefits are available and the best way to access them immediately.

Because rumors can hamper relief efforts, community members are encouraged to call 211 for accurate information. When using a cell phone, they should call 1-800-SAFE-NET"

Also in the news is a Hurricane Katrina Survivors Relief Fund that was created by a fundraising committee that includes public sector organizations, private businesses and Portland residents. County Commissioner Lisa Naito and State Senator Margaret Carter are among those leading this local effort to raise funds to support the victims. The group's first fund raising effort was a Gospelthon held Sept. 2 at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church. Donations can be made to the Black United Fund Hurricane Katrina Survivors Relief Fund at 2828 NE Alberta, Portland OR 97211. Phone is 503-282-1685.

In order to make it as easy for possible for community members to get current accurate information about evacuees coming to Portland and how individuals in the community could help out by making donations and volunteering their time, a single number—211— was publicized. The City/County Information and Referral number, 823-4000, has also been receiving a number of calls from people inquiring how they can help.

Dutt has been in regular communication with the staff at 211Info as well as the Mayor's Office and the County Human Services department to ensure timely and accurate dissemination of information.

The 211Info call center has been stretched to capacity so by staying up-to-date on the current status of developments, the City/County I&R staff has been trying its best to answer community members inquiries and directing them to the appropriate resources without having to go through the 211 call center whenever possible.



## **Japanese officials study Portland neighborhood system**

ONI Director Jimmy Brown hosts a group of Japanese municipal officers at City Hall August 15 to explain how the neighborhood system works. They are participants in the Municipal Officers' Mid-Career Training Program 2005 at Portland State University. Pictured to Jimmy's left is Program Director Masami Nishishiba, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Executive Leadership Institute, Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University.

## ***Japanese study city government in Portland***

A group of eleven Japanese municipal officers from around various parts of Japan were picked by their respective mayors to attend the Executive Leadership Institute at Portland State University to study our neighborhood system. They stopped by last month to talk to ONI Director Jimmy Brown about the neighborhood system this town is famous for.

The group will be learning successful project management and visiting local officials including City Auditor Gary Blackmer, Estacada City manager Randy Ealy, Metro Councilor Carl Hosticka, and Former Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse. They also participated in several cultural events during their stay including the Bridge Pedal and a tour of the Cascade area gorge.

Program Director is Masami Nishishiba, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Executive Leadership Institute, Mark O. Hatfield School of Government, Portland State University.



## Congrats to Portland Trivia Queen Rhetta

ONI /BES Community Relations Specialist Rhetta Drennan beat out the competition this year in John Dutt's Trivia Quiz published monthly in *The Other Side the Fence*. She provided the most correct answers throughout the year and squeezed out her teammates in a final round of three questions in June. As grand prizewinner and the ONI Portland Trivia champ for 2004/2005, she was rewarded with a copy of *The Historic Columbia River Highway Traveler's Guide*. Bon Voyage Rhetta!

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## A 'No-Reason' Pizza Party

No, it wasn't an ONI team building exercise.... It's just good to take a break from routine and throw a pizza party. "There was no reason for it. It was just for fun," said party organizer ONI Business Operations Supervisor Sarah Keele. Shown with her are (L-R) Carol Justice, Nicole Murphy-Garcia, Michael Kersting and Nell Wagenaar

PHOTO BY TERESA SOLANO.

## Information & Referral

# ONI Safety Committee attends Boot Camp

By John Dutt

On August 11<sup>th</sup>; John Dutt, Kathy Saunders, Ed Marihart and Katherine Anderson all attended the City's first Safety Committee Boot Camp training. This was great timing with our being in the process of getting our committee up and running. We took away a lot of new knowledge

regarding the basic purpose of City Safety Committees, some great tips on how to conduct meetings and communicate to line staff and management and some good ideas on how to truly make the Safety Committee a tool to improve our workplaces.

The committee has met one time since this training and we began working on our ONI Safety Committee Charter. We will finish up this document this coming month and sit down with ONI upper management to discuss the role of the committee and the relationship between decision makers and this advisory committee. We hope to start addressing specific safety and wellness issues in the workplace by November. We have already received several specific concerns brought forth from staff to specific members of the committee. This is exciting and we know we have much work ahead of us in the coming several months.

Committee members are:

John Dutt (Chairperson), 503-823-3042, [jdutt@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:jdutt@ci.portland.or.us)  
Kathy Saunders, 503-823-7034, [ksaunders@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:ksaunders@ci.portland.or.us)  
Ed Marihart, 503-823-7272, [emarihart@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:emarihart@ci.portland.or.us)  
Katherine Anderson, 503-823-3505, [kanderson@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:kanderson@ci.portland.or.us)  
John Canda, 503-823-3151, [jcanda@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:jcanda@ci.portland.or.us)

### **Oops...**

**We incorrectly spelled the Linnton neighborhood on pg.11 in the August *Other Side* and inadvertently left out the name of William Warren, a crucial member of the NNO team, under the picture on pg. 2. We sincerely regret the errors.**

## **I&R Team maintains benchmark despite vacations**

- Back about our 90% benchmark this month! 14,855 calls answered at a solid 90.4% of calls answered in less than 25 seconds. Busy month and despite having many staff vacation days we made our 90% goal.
- We continue slow progress on the database migration. During the month of August we completed the updating of the City employee database. John will be meeting with our Filemaker consultant in September to complete some final updates and then we plan to have the I&R group get some training and start using it within the next month. Getting the services database online should follow this shortly.

## **Neighborhood Livability - Crime Prevention**

### **Crime team partners with task force to tackle gang violence**

By Tom Peavey

ONI Crime Prevention is working with the Gang Violence Task Force in addressing Portland's most pressing gang violence issues.

Since April 2005, the Gang Violence Task Force has been addressing the need for resource and information in the wake of Portland's summer gang violence. Government members of the task force include government agencies tasked with law enforcement, parole and probation, prosecution, crime prevention and neighborhood facilitation services. Private organization sector members include gang outreach, youth outreach, faith-based ministries and citizens at large to name a few.

The following is the description of the meeting structure. Building a consensus in dealing with information, problem identification and applied solutions. Presented at the meetings are

agency reports focusing on trends, patterns and emerging gang / youth violence issues. There is an extreme focus on problem solving, as a task oriented forum.

Meeting components include: a briefing regarding the number of incidents which have occurred, identifying additional hot spots outside of those responded to by police, discussion regarding problem solving on those issues and determining the roles each of the meeting members have in problem solving.

Meetings are held at NE Precinct on bi-monthly on Friday at 10am, in the Community Conference Room. The next meeting is schedule for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. You are invited to attend. If you have questions please contact NECN Executive Director John Canda at (503) 823-3151.

## Good Neighbor agreement reached in Southwest

By Stephanie Reynolds

In Southwest Portland, Crime Prevention Coordinator Stephanie Reynolds recently negotiated a Good Neighbor Agreement between the Corbett-Terwilliger-Lair Hill Neighborhood Association and the Swan Mart, an independent convenience store in the neighborhood. CTLH has a long history of problems with street drinking, and Stephanie has been working with the neighborhood on the issue for several years. The owner of the Swan Mart was very willing to sign the GNA, in which she agreed that her store would not sell alcohol to street drinkers. This is the second store in the neighborhood that has signed an agreement with this provision.

## ***Basic crime prevention academy set for late fall***

By Galina Grigoryan

The Crime Prevention Association of Oregon in partnership with the Western Community Policing Institute and the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training has designed this introductory one week course to showcase crime prevention programs for beginning crime prevention and community policing practitioners interested in developing their problem-solving and public speaking skills in a safe, team-based environment. This course is also beneficial to others who are interested in affecting change in their communities including Community Service Officers, Police Supervisors and Officers, Active Community Volunteers, etc.

**Date and Time:** October 31 - November 4, 2005; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily

**Location:** Oregon Military Academy, Monmouth, Oregon

**Cost:** Course Fee - \$165 (limited number of scholarships is available)

**Additional Costs:** Lodging Fee (optional) - \$120

**Registration:** Space is limited and registrations (with payment) are due by October 7, 2005.

Highlights of the academy include special presentations from state wide crime prevention experts on a variety of topics including introductions to Crime Prevention and Community Policing, basics of Community Organizing and Mobilization, overview of CPTED and Physical Security strategies and techniques, Identity Theft Awareness, Violence Prevention, and much more.

Academy participants will have an opportunity to:

- Get DPSST credit if applicable;

- Increase awareness about various crime prevention programs;
- And gain knowledge, skills, and strategies for public speaking, problem-solving and working collaboratively with stakeholders and community partners.

Also, the "Save the date" - Crime Prevention Association of Oregon Annual Conference is April 19 - 21, 2006. at Mt. Bachelor. More info will be available soon at [www.cpaoo.org](http://www.cpaoo.org)  
<<http://www.cpaoo.org>>

The 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue of Roses project is moving forward with its efforts to make 82<sup>nd</sup> a more livable, friendly, and safer for those who live, work, own property, play, and/or visit the street. for more information about the project and the meeting schedule contact Ken Turner 503-771-3817.

## CNN had successful NNO with 17 block parties

By Preston Wong

National Night Out (NNO) the first Tuesday every year in Aug was a huge success. CNN had 17 neighborhood block parties, a record number, with eight additional parties scheduled for the month of Sept. City Commissioner Sam Adams and Dan Saltzman along with other City officials attended many of the parties delivering a strong crime prevention message. Portland Fire Bureau Station 12, police NRT officers and ONI crime prevention also had a strong presence at all the gatherings.

CNN along with Crime Prevention Specialist Preston Wong and partner Asian Family Center implemented a summer youth program, which will conclude with a Blue Lake BBQ trip Aug 31st. During the summer months the program scheduled weekly summer outings ranging from skating, OMSI, golf, swimming, billiards, and movies for at risk youth from Madison Park (formerly Rose City Village) and NE Portland with Wong presenting an anti gang and crime message. More than 100 kids participated throughout the summer.

## Graffiti Abatement

## Council approves two graffiti removal contracts

By Marcia Dennis

Two ordinances approving graffiti removal contracts were passed by City Council on Wednesday, September 7. This is good news for the contractors, who have been working to remove graffiti since July 1.

The graffiti removal contractors for FY2005-2006 are Youth Employment Institute



The Goodbye Graffiti team, recently contracted by the City, includes Greg Rainka, Hans Tash and Jason Cannon.

(YEI) who will work primarily on small business-properties and residential properties, and The Green G Service Company (Goodbye Graffiti) who will work on the more technically demanding removal jobs (pre-approved by program coordinator) and also will provide removal services on any warrant-enforced abatements.

The first-ever warrant enforcing the graffiti nuisance property ordinance was served in July, with work completed on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The property was an abandoned warehouse in NW Portland. Kudos to Hans Tash and crew from Goodbye Graffiti who worked in disgusting conditions to remove years'-old graffiti from the inside of windows (but highly visible to passersby), from the roof, and on the ground-level around the entire block.

The warehouse has several issues besides graffiti, including occupation by drug-using transients and an infestation of aggressive pigeons (who dive-bombed the crews as they worked!) A second warrant has been signed by the court and will be served early next week on a property (also vacant) in NE Portland.



**One of hottest days of year does not stop Ted Okrasinski and a youth group from the Korean Baptist Church to get out tools to clean up graffiti in the Montavilla neighborhood.**

While I was vacationing in Europe last month – it seems like last year already - (I am so glad I don't have to deal with graffiti in Germany and France – it's on **every** highway sound wall and overpass), volunteer *extraordinaire* Ted Okrasinski headed up a graffiti paint-out with a group of enthusiastic youngsters and their adult leaders from the Korean Baptist Church. On one of the hottest days of the summer (August 4<sup>th</sup>) Ted and the group tackled gang graffiti on two buildings in the Montavilla neighborhood. The property owners furnished money for the paint, and signed permission forms. Ted gathered the materials and provided the instruction and supervision. Many thanks to Ted, and the other volunteers who work so hard to make a difference in the livability of our community!

I participated in two capacities at the Marshall Cluster Back to School Fair on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to my mom, Alta Gaylord, who sat in the hot sun with me to hand out graffiti prevention brochures, and bookmarks and coloring pages (Graffiti in Tahiti) AND also invited kids and their families to take the Hands and Words Are Not For Hurting Pledge..."I will not use my hands or my words for hurting myself or others." Kids of all ages, preschool through high school, traced their hands on purple paper and recited the pledge...in both English and Spanish. We gave them magnets in either language to take along with their pledge sheets. I look forward to involving several Portland schools in the Hands Project this school year.



## YEI Crew

The graffiti crew from YEI, recently contracted by the City to work on small business and residential properties, include Carey Gibbar, Bert Wilkins, Sharika Jackson and Tony Armstrong.

Coming up on September 13<sup>th</sup> is a SOLV-sponsored event that will address several issues, including graffiti removal in Portland. I am working with Carolyn David of SOLV, and will be leading a group of volunteers along Lombard in N Portland, to remove graffiti from property in the right of way. Another group of volunteers from Key Bank will work along SE 39<sup>th</sup> in both Belmont and Hawthorne districts to address graffiti.

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, graffiti abatement will have a table at the Small Business Fair at Portland Community College on SE 82<sup>nd</sup> and Division. An important goal of the program is to inform business owners of the graffiti nuisance ordinance, and how it may affect them. We will distribute brochures, removal permission forms, and lots of information about reporting and removing graffiti from 8:00 a.m. until 5 p.m. and expect an audience of up to 600 persons. A special effort will be made to communicate this important information to the diverse population of small business owners, as they are frequently victims of graffiti and other vandalism, and its consequences.

## Neighborhood Resource Center

### Learn the ABC's of Land Use at Saturday workshop

Learn about the City of Portland's land use and development review processes and get hands-on experience responding to typical issues that come up in land use reviews. Come to a workshop Saturday, Sept. 24 in the Community Court Room at the King Facility at 4815 NE 7<sup>th</sup>. The workshop is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and sponsored by the City of Portland, ONI and Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods

Presenters include Ellen Ryker, from the Bureau of Planning and Kathleen Stokes, from the Bureau of Development Services. The workshop is free and open to the public, but you must register in advance. Space is limited and open to the first 30 who register.

Many of our leadership workshops last year were so popular that we had overcrowding so it will be necessary to require advance registration for many in the future to ensure a better learning experience for participants.

#### What you will learn:

- Overview of how state, Metro, and City land use goals and policies are organized.
- What Land Use Reviews (LUR's) are.
- The difference between Type I, II, III and applications.
- How to read a land use notice and how to respond.



Maria Rubio, Policy Manager of Public Safety and Security/Police Liaison for Mayor Tom Potter reports the following programs are offering funds:

**Domestic Grants Program.** *Mattel and the Mattel Children's Foundation* announce the second round of grants to organizations that creatively address a locally defined need directly impacting children (particularly children between the ages of 0 and 13) and that align with Mattel's funding priorities, which include health, education, and girls' empowerment. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations.

The deadline for applications is December 9, 2005. Awards ranging from \$5,000-\$25,000 are available. For further information, go to:  
[http://www.mattel.com/About\\_Us/Philanthropy/ci\\_mcf\\_philanthropy\\_grantmaking.asp](http://www.mattel.com/About_Us/Philanthropy/ci_mcf_philanthropy_grantmaking.asp). GrantID: GD597

**Healthier Housing Grants.** *Green Communities* announces funds to provide financing, grants, and technical assistance to developers to build rental and for-sale homes that promote health, conserve energy and natural resources, and enhance access to jobs, schools and services. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities. There is no deadline date for applications. Approximately \$4,500,000 is available. For further information, go to: <http://www.greencommunitiesonline.org/about-essentials-grants.asp>. GrantID: GD681

**5 Things Every Nonprofit Should Know About Ecommerce.** *Convio* is offering a complimentary online seminar for organizations to learn how ecommerce can help organizations sell goods and services, run effective online fundraising programs, and attract new constituents while strengthening relationships with existing ones. For further information, go to:  
[http://www.convio.com/site/News2?abbr=news\\_&page=NewsArticle&id=2602509&news\\_iv\\_ctr\\_l=1164](http://www.convio.com/site/News2?abbr=news_&page=NewsArticle&id=2602509&news_iv_ctr_l=1164).

**Human and Institutional Capacity Building.** *The Rockefeller Foundation Series* provides analysis of various strategies used to strengthen the skills and capabilities of professional women and men and their institutions to achieve positive social change, underscoring the centrality of capacity building to promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty. For further information, go to:  
<http://www.rockfound.org/display.asp?context=1&Collection=1&DocID=707&Preview=0&ARCurrent=1>

**Enhancing Practice Improvement in Community-Based Care for Prevention and Treatment of Drug Abuse or Co-occurring Drug Abuse and Mental Disorders.** *Department of Health and Human Services* announces funds to enhance the capacity of community-based providers of drug abuse prevention/treatment services, including services for individuals with co-occurring mental disorders, to conduct practice improvement research. Eligible applicants include public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, private institutions of higher education, and for-profit organizations other than small businesses. The deadline for applications is December 19, 2005. Approximately \$1,900,000 is available to fund 8-12 awards, up to \$150,000. For further information, contact NIH OER Webmaster at [FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV](mailto:FBOWebmaster@OD.NIH.GOV); or go to:  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-06-001.html>. GrantID: GD678

**SAMHSA Conference Grants.** *Department of Health and Human Services* announces funds to disseminate knowledge about practices within the mental health services and substance

abuse prevention and treatment fields and to integrate that knowledge into real-world practice as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Eligible applicants include city or township governments, county governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, state governments, nonprofit organizations and private institutions of higher education. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2005. Approximately 9 awards up to \$50,000 are available. For further information, contact Shelly Burgess at

**Striving Readers.** *Department of Education* announces funds to raise the reading achievement levels of middle and high school-aged students in Title I-eligible schools with a significant number of students reading below grade level. The program supports new comprehensive reading initiatives or expansion of existing initiatives that improve the quality of literacy instruction across the curriculum, provide intensive literacy interventions to struggling adolescent readers, and help to build a strong, scientific research base for identifying and replicating strategies that improve adolescent literacy skills.

Eligible applicants include independent school districts, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, nonprofits, community-based organizations, and private institutions of higher education. The deadline for applications is November 14, 2005. Approximately \$24,000,000 is available to fund 8 awards, up to \$5,000,000. For further information, contact Tonja Lark at (202) 245-6160 or [tonja.lark@ed.gov](mailto:tonja.lark@ed.gov); or go to: <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/pdf/05-16135.pdf>. This grant is subject to "Intergovernmental Review" under EO 12372. Go to <http://opgd.dc.gov/spoc.asp> to comply. GrantID: GD667

**Lead Agencies for National Youth Service Day 2006.** *Youth Service America* is looking for lead agencies to increase the scope, visibility, and sustainability of National Youth Service Day by leading city, regional or statewide celebrations. Serving as a lead agency is a great way to increase participation in your programs, garner national media attention, develop new partnerships, and generate support for your programs from elected officials. Eligible applicant includes nonprofit organizations and government agencies. The deadline for applications is September 12, 2005. For further information, go to: <http://www.ysa.org/>

**Computer Lab Installation Projects.** *AOL Tech Corps* is currently seeking nonprofits to receive free Computer Lab Installations. In a Computer Lab Installation project, AOL volunteers install donated software and network the lab computers. At the completion of the project (which typically takes a single day), the nonprofit has a functioning computer lab for use by students, residents, etc. The deadline for applications is October 31, 2005. For further information, go to: <http://www.npowergdc.org/dcaoltechcorps.htm>

## Neighborhood Inspections

### College and Church receive NIT'S Good Neighbor Award

Our Good Neighbor Award for August 2005 goes to two organizations—Slavic Church Emanuel and Portland Community College Southeast Campus—for going above and beyond in doing a fantastic cleanup on the unimproved right of way along SE 80th between SE Harrison and SE Sherman.

In response to a complaint these two organizations were posted as the adjacent property owners to do some cleanup of the unimproved right of way. The Slavic Church brought in a bulldozer and cleared concrete chunks from the entire road and Portland Community College brought in a 40 yard dumpster and did clearing and thinning of vegetation. They also did some scraping with a bulldozer. They both did a lot to improve the unimproved right of way along SE 80th. (Note that the City, per the Policy of the Transportation Bureau, does nothing to maintain unimproved rights of way, it's the responsibility of the adjacent property owners.)

These two organizations are prime examples of Portland's Neighborhood Spirit, citizens helping to improve neighborhood livability by going the extra mile and doing more than just the minimum required. Again a special thank you and recognition for the Slavic Church Emmanuel and Portland Community College Southeast Campus maintenance department.

## Out and About



**An old-fashioned ice cream social is still in vogue in Portland with the second-annual Overlook Neighborhood event held last month at the historic Overlook House.**

## Overlook neighborhood holds ice cream social, silent auction

By Julie Rawls

On Sunday, August 7, neighbors in the Overlook Neighborhood gathered for their second annual ice-cream social and silent auction. At this year's event about 150 bowls of ice cream were served with a large variety of toppings available.

On what was a very hot evening, the ice cream was a big hit! Inside the historic Overlook House, neighbors could peruse and bid on many items, new and used, at a silent auction. Items ranged from holiday décor to gift certificates to area businesses, children's books, CDs, and fresh flower arrangements. All proceeds from the silent auction go toward future community programming at the Overlook House. One of the highlights of the evening was a visit from the firefighters and engine from Firestation #24. Looking over the engine, ringing the bell and trying on some of the equipment proved fun for all ages.

Organizers of the ice-cream social for the second year in a row were Julie Rawls, Mary Ellen Baldauff, GeorgAnn Flagg and Carol Cushman. They had lots of help from other neighborhood volunteers who assisted with the scooping, event set up and clean up. For more information, contact Julie Rawls at 503-282-7198.

### ***Do you know your city?***

*Let's start the new contest for FY 2005-06 with a bit of government trivia... **Portland's City Hall was originally the site of what institution?***

The first person to correctly respond by emailing the Trivia Guru at [jdutt@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:jdutt@ci.portland.or.us) will be crowned our monthly winner. At the end of the year we will have a final showdown of our monthly winners to determine the grand prizewinner and the ONI Portland Trivia champ.



### **The Other Side of the Fence**

***The Other side of the Fence*** is a monthly newsletter published by the City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement. If you have questions or story ideas, please contact Nell Wagenaar, editor, at 503-823-2569 or email [nwagenaar@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:nwagenaar@ci.portland.or.us)