



# The Other Side of the Fence

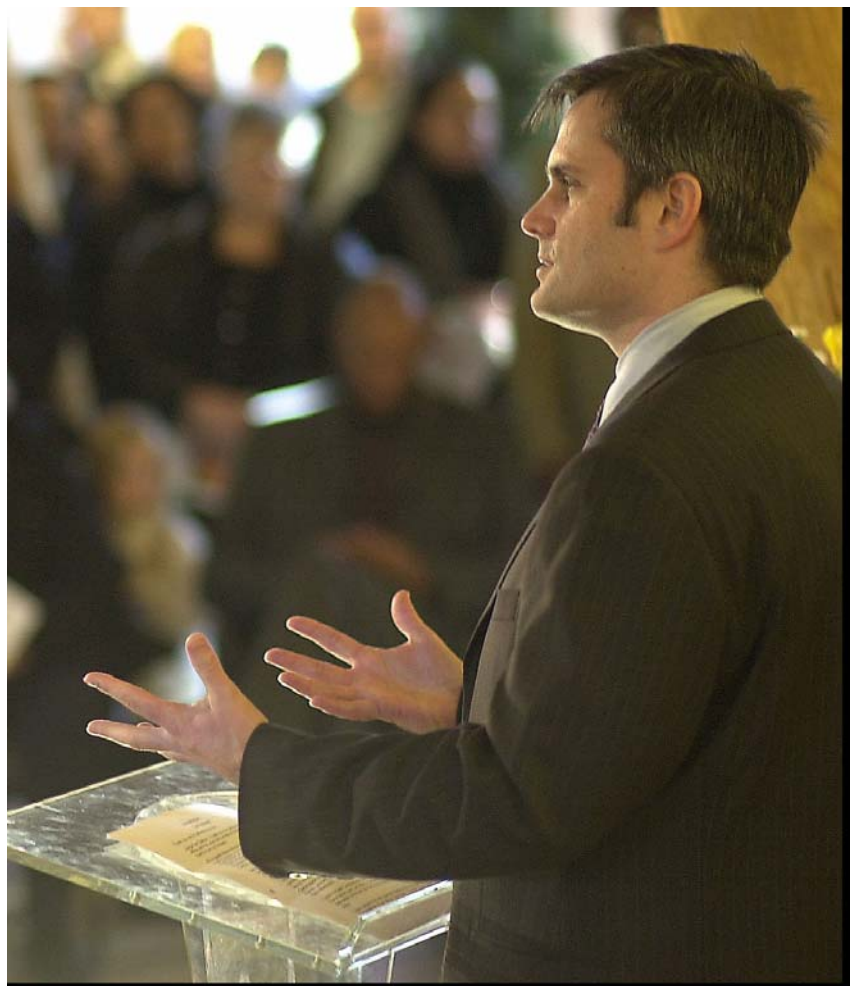
E-News from ONI ~ February 2005

Enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation

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At his Inauguration, Commissioner Sam Adams stresses jobs, education and open government as his priorities for Portland.

FILE PHOTO



## **New commissioner Sam Adams learned self-reliance at an early age**

By Nell Wagenaar

A teacher and vice principal at Eugene High saved Sam Adams during one of the most “vulnerable parts” of his life. “My life was in crisis,” said the new city commissioner during an

interview earlier this month. “I was living alone. They pulled me through and made sure I graduated.”

“My Mom could only find work in Portland after she graduated from college and we lived in Eugene, I did not want to move to Portland. My Dad lived in Eugene but was struggling with alcoholism, so I didn't think it was healthy for me to live with him. I thought I was ready to be on my own, so I stayed in Eugene and my Mom would come back periodically check up on me.”

**He worked as a dishwasher** and a cook to help support himself. Except for a few close friends, he never told anyone he lived on his own. During those troubled times, his two heroes were Sue Addicott, one of his teachers, and Vice Principal Byron Dudley. “They took me under their wing and made sure I finished high school.”

Born in 1963 in a small Montana town, Adams came from a family of modest means and grew up with food stamps and subsidized housing. “I’m a product of five recessions. I understand living on the economic edge.” At a young age, he and the family moved to Newport, Oregon and then to Eugene where he went to school. His mother Kara describes him as independent and reliable. He eventually graduated from University of Oregon with a degree in political science. He also attended the University of Guadalajara to learn Spanish. To this day, from his office on the second floor of City Hall as a newly elected commissioner, he thanks his early high school mentors for their belief in him.

“Every kid needs people like that. That’s why I have always been passionate about public education.” Sam has also been passionate about public service, giving back to the community for it what it gave to him while growing up.

He worked as an intern for Peter DeFazio, then Chair of the Lane County Board of Commissioners, and became press secretary for DeFazio’s successful 1984 bid for Congress. After meeting House Speaker Vera Katz in Salem, she asked him to manage her mayoral campaign. She won and he served as her chief of staff for nearly all of her 12 years in office.

He gained a reputation for his ability to bring people around a table and dig into an issue until it got resolved. He talks about his role in developing the first Information and Referral program in the city. Channel 8 did a special investigation 11 years ago trying to catch city employees lax on the job while driving around town. “At the time everyone called the Mayor’s office to complain because there was no other single phone number. It was bad customer service.” Talk about improving customer service, he said, converged with talk about putting a phone number on all those city vehicles...the rest is 823-4000 history.

**Favorite thing about Portland?** The unique neighborhood districts and strong neighborhood identities. He’s also constantly amazed by the spirit and attitude of Portland residents.

“People really give a damn about what happens in this city and are willing to fight to keep what’s unique about our town.” Even though discussion can get contentious around issues like the Big Box development at the east end of the Burnside Bridge or the covering of the Mt. Tabor reservoirs, people get involved.

Top priority? Economic security. Jobs that pay enough to buy housing, he said. Otherwise we risk being like San Francisco, a town of the rich and subsidized poor, a town that is losing its middle class. Shaking up City Hall has also been one of his campaign themes. He means to make city government more transparent, bringing more citizens into the decision-making.

Accountability, instituting performance measures and slashing \$10 million in wasted government spending are among his goals. He's also looking at merging city and county functions in such areas as IT, HR and Facilities and possibly save \$300 million in overhead.



## New City website event deemed a success

Above, two community members try their hand at using the new North Portland eVolvment website to gain better access to city services while the Mariachi band plays on.

Below, I&R manager John Dutt, explains to Kay Newell from Boise how to keep current on neighborhood news.

### Information & Referral

## N. Portland eVolvment Open House draws crowd

By John Dutt

More than 150 people attended the eVolvment Open House at the North Portland Library last month and learned hands-on how to improve their access to city services and events.



They also learned how to communicate with each other via the Internet.

The event, complete with food and live music, was co-sponsored by the City of Portland and Multnomah County. It was held Tuesday, January 25 from 5:30-7 p.m. to celebrate the debut of the new community Website for community members living or doing business in North Portland. ([www.portlandonline.com/northportland](http://www.portlandonline.com/northportland))

With city staff on hand, neighbors learned how to connect to North Portland, other neighbors, request services, find answers to questions and keep current on neighborhood news. City/county I&R staffers John Dutt, Teresa Solano, Nicole Murphy-Garcia, Anna DiBenedetto were among those who helped folks log on as members and access the "The Back Fence," an online problem solving forum with neighbors and city staff. They were also shown how to submit community events and news and provide input through an online survey.

The event was a collaborative effort between the eVolvment outreach staff and the North Portland Library staff. Doretta Schrock and Maria Elena Guerra, the outreach staff for the eVolvment project, have been working diligently to spread the word to the community about this site since its debut in November.

The Community Open House came together as the result of a suggestion from the North Portland Library staff. Doretta and Maria Elena have been promoting the event over the past month by distributing posters and fliers to schools, businesses and community centers. Fliers were also handed out in person at the yellow Max line. Ads were placed in the local community newspapers, *In & About* and the *St Johns Review*. A press release was sent out and a community event item was posted in *The Oregonian* the day of the event. Bookmarks were distributed at the library with information about the site and event for two weeks prior. The outreach staff also spent considerable time working the phones and email to get community members to the event.

***"It was a lovely evening. The food and Mariachi music blew me away and the website demonstration was awesome!"***

--AN ATTENDEE

Food was catered by a community volunteer, Saideh Haghighi, and wonderful music was provided by a local band named Trio Latino. Folks had fun and the good energy in the room was palatable. The 10 computer stations that were set up to demonstrate the site were in constant use. A couple of teachers brought students from their ESL classes in to learn about the site.

In addition to the ONI outreach staff working the event, we had four City staff from the Information and Referral Program as well as an ONI staff person and some community volunteers to assist users at the computer stations. A PowerPoint presentation was scrolling through on the big screen highlighting some key features. The feedback about the site was very positive and many good suggestions were made to staff. Participants who were already familiar with the site had an opportunity to meet face-to-face and build relationships that should strengthen community building North Portland Online hopes to facilitate.

"What a good time! Great place to meet new folks and see the neighbors, and I even learned a couple of tips about using this website. Who provided the food? It was wonderful! And I really enjoyed the music, too - so nice to have live musicians," said one attendee. "It was a lovely evening. The food and Mariachi music blew me away and the website demonstration was awesome! Thanks again," said another. Staff has also received a number of positive written comments through the North Portland Websites "Back Fence" forum feature.

As one of the event organizers, Doretta Schrock, put it “The goal of the event was to symbolize the community-oriented focus of the website and to create some buzz about how cool it is as well as to introduce the website to some people who would likely not find out about it otherwise.”

Among the guests were representatives from several key community partners. These included the BeeHive, Oregon Helps, Hacienda CDC, Los Ninos, Housing Authority of Portland, Multnomah County Office of School and Community Partnerships, OCHA, The North Portland Tool Library, NPNA, PCC ESL Class students and 211Info.

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**Brian Hoop, one of the solid rocks of ONI, who learned the basics of community organizing in the 1986 cross-country march for nuclear disarmament, says there’s always hope.**

PHOTO & TEXT  
BY NELL WAGENAAR

## Brian Hoop still organizing for progressive causes

A well-seasoned political activist, Brian Hoop says individual commitment and a willingness to do the nitty-gritty phone calling and envelope stuffing on a local level is the best way to affect change. Despite enormous inroads by the political Right over the last 40 years, Brian Hoop

believes with anthropologist Margaret Meade that a small group of people can still change the world. “There’s always hope. You don’t give up.”

**Portland has been deemed a beacon** of progressive thought in an atmosphere of increasing conservatism, he said. “We need more discussion about what we believe in. Living wages for families, access to health care, quality education—these should be our moral values.” “We’ve become such a consumer society, consuming news, information as well as products. It’s easier to send a \$25 check to some cause than really getting involved and making the phone calls, writing the letters... participation is hard work.” But he feels there are more opportunities to get involved with grassroots organization now than there ever was.

Brian, whose whole life has been about civic participation, is on the board for the Linnton Community Center acting as their treasurer and organizing fundraisers with Portland's own Darcelle XV, who grew up in the neighborhood. He is an avid union supporter volunteering as a phone steward for Jobs with Justice and participates in many of their union rallies. Several years ago he led an effort to unionize several hundred non-represented City employees and is still committed to the idea. During the past election season he organized several house parties for defeating Measure 36, which bans gay marriages, and one for Sam Adams' campaign.

A community relations specialist with ONI's Neighborhood Resource Center, Brian provides technical support to the coalition and neighborhood association offices. He also organizes the annual events like the Neighborhood Summits, maintains a huge outreach database, organizes leadership development trainings, and updates association maps and bylaws. He and the Guidelines Review, Empowerment and Assessment Team (GREAT) Committee are nearing completion of ONI's guidelines updates after nearly four years of work.

**Plus he's just a plain nice guy** and always available to answer questions about ONI either from co-workers or citizens stopping by at the front desk. Born and raised in the Midwest, he attended a Jesuit high school in Kansas City, MO. “My commitment to social justice is rooted in the ‘liberation theology’ of the Jesuits and their progressive interpretation of church doctrines.”

His community building started with the creation of a community garden in high school. “We took over an empty lot, plowed it and planted vegetables. After the harvest, we took the produce to a food bank.” He studied architecture at the University of Cincinnati and Oregon thinking that building low-income housing was the way to change the world. “I was a very serious student, even in high school.” He organized the first environmentalist group at U of C in 1984 and shortly after, started preparing for the 1986 cross-country peace march to protest the global build-up of nuclear arms from Los Angeles to Washington D.C.

“It was a defining point in my life,” he said.

The march of about 500 people with high hopes and camping gear was featured in the January 1987 issue of Life Magazine. It took nine months, from February to November, and presented many challenges— from where to camp at night to setting up a democratic decision-making process. They walked about 15 miles a day in the 3,701 mile-journey across 15 states camping in parking lots, farmer's fields, and state parks.

**“We quickly realized we were all strangers.** We had to deal with how we were going to eat, who would cook, who would deal with garbage. I was on the garbage and recycling crew...that's how I got interested in recycling.” The group almost split up when they ran out of funds in California's Mojave Desert and had to fundraise for food. It was an experiment in

creating an intentional community. "Weather and internal process were our biggest challenges."

"No, we didn't achieve our goal of stopping the nuclear arms race but we did renew our commitment to peace and raised awareness along the way. We learned about direct democracy and that we don't need to wait for others to make decisions for us."

Since those early years in Brian's activist life, he finished architecture school along with many other political campaigns. The late 80's found him organizing numerous civil disobedience efforts with Earth First! during the height of the ancient forest conflicts in Oregon. With the emergence of Measure 5 and its draconian effects on public services, he was elected to serve as a student leader at the University of Oregon and led numerous student-lobbying campaigns to the state capital in Salem.

**In response to the Rodney King** incident, Brian led a coalition of student groups that succeeded in the University of Oregon adopting a race, gender and class curriculum requirement. With the emergence of Lon Mabon's anti-gay first ballot measure 9 in '92, Brian dropped out of school to work on the campaign and coordinated a voter-registration drive that registered over 8,000 new voters in Eugene. His work was recognized in *Mother Jones* magazine calling U of O one of the most politically active campuses at that time.

Before arriving at ONI, Brian's work career led him to jobs with HIV prevention, union organizing, and campaign finance reform. While at Cascade AIDS Project he led a leadership training program for young gay and bi men directed at building culturally appropriate community-based responses to the epidemic. On the heels of turbulent fiscal crises at CAP Brian led a successful campaign to unionize the staff with SEIU.

This spark of union activism led to his hiring by the state SEIU office under Tim Nesbett to work on statewide campaigns to counter Bill Sizemore's anti-union initiatives in the late 90's. He also also served as Associate Director for Oregon Action, (formerly Oregon Fair Share) working on the failed Measure 6 in 2000 that would have brought publicly financed candidate elections to Oregon.

**The other defining point** in his life was learning last fall that he's going to be a Papa come July. He beams when he spreads the word to his co-workers. His wife Kelley Weigel is also a community organizer working for the Western States Center.

She is a Program Director coordinating efforts to support the development of statewide progressive coalitions in the seven Northwest states. Whether building statewide coalitions of women's, LGBT, and immigrant rights or local coalitions of Neighborhood Associations, both share a vision of a future where community and democratic participation are values cherished by all.

"Perhaps the most important value we can instill in our children is the importance of respect, tolerance, and caring for community. If we can accomplish that much, I'll call it good."



## Rachel Summer joins ONI

I am Rachel Summer and will be working in ONI on a six-month project to assist neighborhood coalitions. Which one(s) hasn't been decided yet. Everyone in ONI has been very welcoming and I feel I've been blessed with the opportunity to help my community. I am eager to start. I feel like I've come full circle and am coming back to citizen involvement after many years in public service jobs.

Born right here in Portland, I have lived in the area my entire life with a foot in the Native and European American cultures.

I've been with the City 17 years, first in the Portland Center for the Performing Arts on Broadway, then at the Bureau of Licenses and now at ONI. Prior to that I was in the



health care insurance field in training and development and three years assisting new providers of drug and alcohol treatment establish programs and procedures. Prior to sitting down at a desk, I spent a few years as a welder dispatched out of local unions during the late 70s and early 80's, many times being the first and only woman in the shops—quite an education without written tests.

I eternally pursue knowledge and understanding of my fellow human beings by people watching, reading and asking sometimes-embarrassing questions. I'm always looking for the answer to the never-ending question of why. I have a lazy love of the outdoors and hang around my friends the forests, mountains, ocean and places that allow me to reconnect to my roots and Mother Earth, but nothing that requires major physical exertion—too much like work. And road trips with great music blaring are high on my list of favorite activities.

## Schools and Neighborhoods Unite around common causes

With the goal of identifying ways to build bridges 25 Central Northeast neighborhood and school leaders came together on January 19th to identify ways to work more closely together to support neighborhood schools and community. The event was organized by Sandra LeFrancois, CNN organizer, and Kathy Moran, with Multnomah County's School Age Policy Framework program. The goal was to connect Neighborhood Association leaders with the local Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) Community Schools, PTA's and school Site Councils.

SUN Schools are a partnership between Multnomah County and the City of Portland in an effort to better utilize public school facilities such as connecting students and families in need with area social services. ([www.sunschools.org](http://www.sunschools.org)) Another longer term goal is to better utilize schools for community use after-hours such as for community meetings, workshops, and



events. Ideas brainstormed included coordinating distribution of newsletters for both neighborhood and PTA groups, promoting high school students to serve on neighborhood boards, organizing joint neighborhood fairs and candidate forums. The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association and RCP Elementary School organize a joint picnic each year in September with nearly 750 participants. The school is also a frequent recipient of the Neighborhood Association's "Random Acts of Neighborliness" which has included residents helping clean-up school grounds.

## *Travis Koopman to work with street intervention program*



Travis Koopman started in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Crime Prevention Center last month. After 9+ months as the Police Intern to Mayor Vera Katz, Travis is now providing administrative support to ONI's new ACCESS Street Intervention Program. He helped coordinate the program's development by offering his expertise in data management and analysis. Travis was also an active participant in the Mayor's Bi-weekly Community Livability Workgroup and Livability Steering Committee.

Before coming to Portland to attain a Master of Science Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Portland State, Travis received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Rochester in both Economics and Political Science. During college he worked in London, England at the House of Commons as the executive assistant to a Member of Parliament.

He was born in Salem and grew up in Eugene and Coos Bay where he went to middle and high school. His eventual goal is to work for the city or county in the criminal justice arena. He's applied to OHSU to get a Masters degree in public health because he wants to combine public health and public safety in his career plans. For fun, he likes to scuba dive, wake board and snow board.

### Neighborhood Livability Center

## SE Portland tackles rise in residential burglaries

Since August of 2004, SE Portland's Crime Prevention office has been receiving a number of reports from residents regarding increased burglary and car prowling activity in the area.

In order to help residents with the reduction of these events, the Crime Prevention office implemented a three point problem-solving approach based on Education, Enforcement, and Engineering.

As part of our enforcement efforts, CP staff worked with the local police precinct on several door-to-door crime prevention missions and helped the precinct identify hot spots.

To implement the educational element, we conducted two community-wide burglary and car-prowl prevention trainings and are planning a third training in February 2005. Additional educational efforts include on-going publication of prevention techniques and information in neighborhood newsletters and via weekly e-mail updates to block captains and neighborhood leaders; burglary prevention information and presentations at various neighborhood and community meetings, and more.

The engineering element of our approach has included CPTED assessments of properties including many commercial establishments, participation in the PDOT's Street Light Pilot program and a request to purchase 5 street lights in the areas where new neighborhood watch groups have been established, and on-going delivery of CPTED techniques and information to individuals interested in improving their properties.

Most recent crime statistics for our area have illustrated an area-wide decrease in both burglary and car-prowls, but on-going analysis of the crime stats will be able to show the long-term results of our problem-solving approach. As we continue to move forward with the problem-solving approach, we realize that most important element is the community involvement process, which allows residents to take action on their block and at their homes to reduce the level of opportunity linked with these crimes.

## 22 new Neighborhood Watches and Foot Patrols formed

For the past several months the neighborhoods in Central NE Neighbors (CNN) have been inundated with burglaries and car break ins (otherwise known as car prowls). Crime prevention, as a result, has formed twenty two new neighborhood watches and/or foot patrols mostly in the Rose City Park, Beaumont Wilshire, Cully, and Roseway neighborhoods to combat these two crimes. Along with working with the Neighborhood Response Teams at East Precinct, we are hoping to identify suspects and reduce daytime residential burglaries.

There has also been a dramatic increase of reported car prowls. It is believed that the burglaries and car prowls are related to drug usage and the high unemployment rate. East Precinct recently ran a car prowl prevention mission during which flyers and literature were passed out in high car prowl areas warning and educating car owners. In both these crimes citizens being cautious, alert and taking preventative measures are the best strategy to reducing rates of occurrence. For CNN residents, contact Preston Wong, Crime Prevention, for more info or questions. Call 503-823-2781.

## Northeast Crime Prevention, Parks Bureau and Youth Gang Outreach programs team up

By Tom Peavey and Celeste Carey

If you query the most recent State of the Union press release at [www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/02/20050203-11.html](http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/02/20050203-11.html) you will find that the President has proposed a three-year, \$150 million initiative to help youth at risk of gang influence and

involvement through grants to faith-based and community organizations. Portland has had a rich history in developing program response to this nation wide epidemic affecting area youth since the late 1980's.

Developed in Portland, Oregon in 1988, the Gang Outreach Youth Gang Program addresses the need to positively impact youth, families and communities whose lives have been negatively affected by the presence and culture of street gangs. Developed in Portland, Oregon in 1999 was the New Approaches for Community Outreach Program with a mission statement of establishing positive relationships with youth, to redirect them from violence, build stronger communities and to empower others. Both private non-profit programs are currently housed in the Northeast Coalitions of Neighborhoods office at 4815 NE 7<sup>th</sup>. Combined, the programs have seven staff members who supply service to youth at risk city wide. These programs are now being requested by ONI Northeast Crime Prevention coordinators to offer support to all youth at risk projects.

Since the fall of 2004, ONI Crime Prevention, the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Portland Police Bureau, Piedmont Neighborhood Association, Gang Outreach and Youth Gangs Program, New Approaches to Community Outreach and other community members have been working on a solution to youth violence associated with Peninsula Park and adjacent neighborhoods. A very important piece of a multiple faceted approach to reduce the fear of crime in and around Peninsula Park has taken flight from an idea to reality. The Peninsula Park Job Fair event will take place on April 22, 2005 from 5 pm to 7pm, at the Peninsula Park Recreation Center, 700 N. Portland Blvd. The Job Fair will offer the following tips to youth ages 17 to 22:

- How to fill out a job application
- How to write a resume
- Dealing with peer pressure once you've decided to "make a change"
- Dress for Success/Hygiene/Grooming
- Mock Interviews
- How to Apply for an Apprenticeship
- What does your future hold for you
- Using the Computer to search for a job

Youth attending will be able to attend a dance at the Recreation Center following from 7-9pm.

If you have or are able to offer resources to this project or have questions, please contact Amie Massier, Recreation Supervisor and Director for Peninsula Park, at (503) 823-3620.

## **Burglary Prevention Outreach Slated for East Portland**

Residential burglary rates are increasing in East Portland and Commander Greg Hendricks, East Precinct, has asked Crime Prevention Coordinators Katherine Anderson, Preston Wong and Teri Poppino to assist in a targeted effort to reverse the trend. He selected the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association to focus initial prevention, education and enforcement efforts.

Preston Wong provided burglary prevention training to officers at Roll Call. The officers, in turn, will conduct brief Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) surveys of homes while they are there taking the initial burglary reports. This information will be left with the residents so they will be able to better address the vulnerabilities of their property.

Katherine, Preston and Teri will coordinate outreach to neighborhood volunteers to participate in two education campaigns which are scheduled for Saturday, February 19 and March 5, 2005. Volunteers will distribute packets of information door to door which will include flyers on home security, notices of upcoming CPTED and burglary prevention training opportunities as well as information on how to form Neighborhood Watches. Katherine, Preston and Teri will create the handout information and provide training on these topics in the targeted area.

## Homeland Security: Engaging the Community

Crime Prevention Coordinators William Warren, Galina Grigoryan, Katherine Anderson and Teri Poppino attended training last week provided by the Western Community Policing Institute (WCPI) in beautiful downtown Brooks, Oregon. Two representatives from Portland's Water Bureau security were also in attendance and Water Bureau Security Specialists Josh Miller and Jeff Farrell rounded out the Portland contingent.

This two-day training focused on the All Hazards Approach to preparedness and encouraged communities to include all potential hazards, in addition to terrorism, in their response plans. Three major topics were covered: vigilance, preparedness and resiliency as well as the abundance of partners available to work with us on a local, state and national level. This information will be used to augment our Neighborhood Watch training and encourage our communities to be proactive.

## SE car prowl mission decreases incidence by a third

Community policing partnerships have paid off and reduced car prowls in Southeast by 32.2 per cent. Late in November and on into December, SE Precinct Officer Dave Golliday, SE Precinct Cadets, Crime Prevention Program Coordinators Galina Grigoryan and Rosanne Lee along with volunteers from the Woodstock Foot Patrol leafleted cars in "hot spots" where the rate of car prowls had been higher than in other neighborhoods.

We went out on four consecutive Saturday mornings placing 3300 informational flyers on every car windshield that was on the street. When in business districts we also visited merchants asking them to display the flyers.

As a result the incidence reduction rate of car prowls in the targeted areas were as follows:

Buckman, Hosford-Abernethy	-47.8%
Kerns	-36.9%
Montavilla, Mt. Tabor	-18.7%
Sunnyside, Richmond	-7.1%
South Tabor, Foster-Powell	-39.1%
Sellwood, Eastmoreland	-40.0%
Woodstock, Brentwood-Darlington	-73.9%

## Southwest Crime preventions targets peeping tom

In Southwest Portland, Crime Prevention Coordinator Stephanie Reynolds has been working with Neighborhood Response Team Officer Scott Westerman and the Homestead Neighborhood Association to address a rash of incidents involving a peeping tom/burglar.



Several women who live in the area immediately around SW 12<sup>th</sup> and Gaines have recently reported to the police and to their landlords that a man has been coming onto their decks and porches to look in their windows, and in at least one instance, entered an apartment before being scared off by the two female tenants. In many cases, no police report was made.

Reynolds and Westerman organized two public meetings in the last week of January to tell the community what was known about the case so far, to tell community members how they could improve their home security and personal safety, and to encourage victims to come forward to report the incidents. The investigation is continuing, but the neighborhood residents seem to feel more empowered to respond to the situation should it happen again.



### **Group celebrates 10-year mark**

From left to right are PPB AC Ferraris, Roni Lang, Katie Potter, William Warren, Amber Lewis, Michele Lish, and PPB Chief Derrick Foxworth.

## **Sexual minorities 1994 partnership agreement renewed**

By William Warren

Portland City Hall's Atrium on Tuesday, Feb. 8 was the site for the 10th anniversary celebration of the Portland Police Bureau's Partnership Agreement with the Sexual Minorities Community.

The original agreement stemmed from former Chiefs Tom Potter and Charles Moose's monthly round table problem solving meetings with community members. A small working committee consisting of PPB personnel and community members, among them William Warren, met regularly in spring and summer of 1994 with then Chief Moose's designee to the community, Assistant Chief Dan Noelle.

"The Sexual Minority Roundtable has been an invaluable advisory group to the Police Bureau. We rely on them to help us continue to build better relationships, create a better understanding

and educate police on the sexual minority community. It is a true example of community policing and why it works," said Portland Police Chief Derrick Foxworth.

The committee created a formal document that incorporated opportunities for increased communication between the partners; the creation of a PPB sponsored Sexual Minorities Crisis Response Team, staffed by trained community members; periodic evaluation of the partnership agreement, and the development of the Sexual Minorities Roundtable. The original agreement was signed on October 11, 1994. The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office joined the partnership in 1996.

Joining the signatures of Portland's Mayor, the City Council and City Auditor, the Portland Police Chief, the Multnomah County Chair and County Commission, Multnomah County Sheriff, the Multnomah County District Attorney, Portland Police Association, and the Portland Police Commanding Officers Association, were multiple members and leaders of the Sexual Minorities Community including the co-chairs of the Roundtable at Tuesday's 10-year re-signing commitment.

**Theme: 'Bridging Generations'**

## **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Prevention Conference Scheduled**

Today, more than ever, public and private coalitions of Oregon working with citizens to prevent and reduce crime are essential. They must work together to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas pertaining to crime prevention among all levels of stakeholders; provide a forum for community involvement on crime prevention and public safety issues; focus attention on local, regional, state, and national crime prevention issues and concerns; and to facilitate local government agencies in Oregon to work in partnership, rather than in isolation, with concerned citizens of their community in order to improve the quality of life for all.

The Crime Prevention Association of Oregon (CPAO) is charged with this relationship building and partnership development philosophy and has developed an annual conference to bring stakeholders together to have a state-wide crime prevention forum across all levels of the community from community volunteers to government executives.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Prevention Conference entitled "Bridging Generations through Crime Prevention" will take place on April 13 – 15 in Wilsonville, Oregon at Holiday Inn located at 25425 SW 95<sup>th</sup> Ave.

This year's event will focus on generational issues and broader community issues related to the prevention of crime and will include topics related to Youth Gangs in Oregon, Perverted Justice information, Elders in Action Program, Meth Watch Program, preventing methamphetamine production information, and more.

Keynote speakers include Kerry Thomlinson, Fox 12 news, and Sheriff Rob Gordon, Washington County Sheriff's Office. Other highlights of this year's conference include the Washington County Sheriff's Color Guard, CPAO elections, CPAO awards ceremony, CPAO sponsored Resource Fair, free entertainment, and much more.

Registration Information is available on line at [www.cpaio.org](http://www.cpaio.org)  
Contact Registration Coordinator - Ella Kimble at 503-657-0225 or via e-mail at [eKimbleCPAO@aol.com](mailto:eKimbleCPAO@aol.com)

Vendors are needed! If you are a crime prevention and/or public safety vendor and would like to reserve a table at the resource fair, please contact Galina Grigoryan, City of Portland's Crime Prevention Program Administrator at 503-232-0010 x23 or at [ggrigoryan@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:ggrigoryan@ci.portland.or.us) Vendor space is limited and reserved on a first-come-first served basis.

## Neighborhood Resource Center

# *Learn how to be an effective neighborhood Chair*

By Art Hendricks

ONI is providing training on How To Be An Effective Neighborhood Chair on February 16, 2005, from 7-9 p.m. at East Portland Precinct Room. The Neighborhood Resource Center is developing the material for the training and one of the components is Effective Traits or Characteristics of a Chairperson.

I know all of you are busy folks, but I would like your input and experience on what you have found to be effective traits or characteristics of a chairperson. Some of you have attended neighborhood association meetings and have observed someone do a superb job of facilitating a meeting or situation.

I am taking an unscientific poll of ONI staff's opinions regarding what makes an effective chairperson. Listed below are two questions that I would like your opinion. So, if you could, please e-mail me your opinion or a situation where you observed a neighborhood chair use a skill that you are willing to have shared as a general example with new volunteers to the system. I will not use any specific information about a person(s) in the training or the curriculum, I'm looking for good examples to share in the training.

1. What are the traits or characteristics of an effective chair
2. Describe a situation, and the skills used by a neighborhood chair, which facilitated the group arriving at an effective decision, or taking action on project/issue.

Please send me your response or call me by Monday February 14, 2005.

For workshop info and to register online go to:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=37088>

For workshop flier go to: <http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=70987>

### **What you will learn:**

- Roles and responsibilities of organization chairpersons
- How to run an effective meeting
- Basics of parliamentary procedure
- How to make meetings fun and accessible
- What's worked/not worked for other leaders
- Resources available from Coalitions & ONI

### **Who should attend:**

- Recently elected Neighborhood Association leaders or emerging community leaders
- Board members thinking about being an Association or group president

## **Other February neighborhood workshops:**

### *How to get that Grant & other ways find resources*

**Thursday, February 24**

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

3534 SE Main, Southeast Uplift office, Fireside Room

Please try to park in parking lot

Bus: #14

For workshop info and to register online go to:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=37089>

For workshop flier: <http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=70989>

#### **What you will learn:**

- Development strategies from neighborhood leaders
- Making fundraising a part of your group's work plan
- Making the ask to neighbors and area businesses
- Researching, building, and writing the grant proposal
- Who has money, the world of local foundations

#### **Who should attend:**

- Representatives from Associations and groups wanting to raise money
- Individuals interested in organizing special projects

#### **For information and to register:**

Art Hendricks, 503-823-3048, [ahendricks@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:ahendricks@ci.portland.or.us) Brian Hoop, 503-823-3075, [bhoop@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:bhoop@ci.portland.or.us)

Workshop is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is highly recommended, as space is limited. Those pre-registered have priority. The event is co-sponsored by the City of Portland, Office of Neighborhood Involvement, East Portland Neighborhood Office, Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program.

Upcoming workshops this spring include how to organize special events for the neighborhood and how to set up a website for the neighborhood association in March. April will provide a land use basics workshop and traffic planning and calming workshop. A diversity training will take place in May along with how to find your way around and make City Hall work for you. In June will be a workshop on recruiting, training and retaining volunteers.

### ***Neighborhood Guidelines: public comment summary available***

The guidelines committee, (GREAT), received lots of public comment this fall. 466 people attended some 27 neighborhood presentations. 56 people provided comment. Over 4,000 summary fact sheets were distributed with over 1,000 copies of the full text distributed.

## **Downspout Program celebrates whopping success**

Cake and refreshments were the order of the day at the BES 10<sup>th</sup> floor Pine rooms last Tuesday to celebrate the Downspout Disconnect Team meeting the combined sewer overflow (CSO) plan goals this year.



While the Downspout Program is expanding its goals this year, we did not want to lose sight of the fact that we actually **met the original goals** that were set out for us in 1995! In order to help stop CSOs, the program set out to remove 52% of the residential roof water in two targeted areas in Portland. 44,000 properties are now disconnected removing more than one billion gallons of sewer!

## Noise Control

### Council to review nighttime garbage collection noise

The Noise Review Board's report and recommendations on reducing nighttime noise from garbage and recycling collection will be heard by City Council on Wednesday, Feb.16, at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.

During the Noise Control Task Force and the Noise Review Board's four-year study of noise issues within our city, the pervasive noise of nighttime garbage and recycling collection was identified as a growing cause of citizen complaint.

In concentrated study of this issue, it was found that the sound levels associated with nighttime collection are in a decibel range significant enough to impact the health of the community.

The Board finds that our current system of responding to complaints is neither effective nor efficient in resolving community concerns related to nighttime collection. The system, jointly operated by the Office of Neighborhood Involvement and the Office of Sustainable Development, relies primarily on requests from the City for voluntary action on the part of garbage haulers and their commercial customers to resolve complaints.

After reviewing the work of the Noise Control Task Force (2001) and the research and findings of city staff, the Noise Review Board recognizes that the most effective way to eliminate this source of nighttime noise would be the most obvious: to simply ban collection at night. If noise were the only consideration, that would be the Noise Review Board's straightforward recommendation. However, it appears that the effects of such a ban could go far beyond nighttime noise reduction, with impacts that the Noise Review Board and its staff are not equipped to evaluate. Among the unintended consequences could be increased daytime traffic congestion in those busy neighborhoods as garbage trucks operate and double-park, as well as an interruption of pedestrian traffic as haulers roll dumpsters across sidewalks.

**Because of these considerations, the Noise Review Board recommends that a thorough evaluation of the option of a nighttime garbage and recycling collection ban be made should it be found that no other solution is adequate.**

**A second far-reaching solution would be to institute some form of franchising of commercial collection in Portland. The Noise Review Board felt that franchising would offer an immediate improvement to the noise impact on the community.** The Board respectfully recommends that City Council implement a Commercial Franchising system for recycling and garbage collection. The Noise Review Board learned that all of the communities surrounding the City of Portland use a commercial franchise system, as do many major cities in other states. The idea is not unusual and should not be regarded as unfriendly to business, since this model is used throughout Oregon and is common elsewhere.

**The final option for City Council is the implementation of the full body of mitigation techniques outlined by the Garbage Truck Noise Subcommittee in their April 16, 2004 report to the Board.** These include a list of items that both commercial haulers and the City should implement immediately and one item that city planners should incorporate in Title 33. A second list of 8 other items, which would be applied on an individual complaint basis, is included in the body of work from the Subcommittee. All of these items are further detailed in the full body of the Noise Review Board's report.

The report can be viewed online at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=32769> or reviewed in person at:

Office of Neighborhood Involvement, City Hall, 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Room 110  
Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Noise Control, 111 SW Columbia, Suite 670  
Office of Sustainable Development, 721 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 350

A paper copy of the report can be purchased for a nominal fee of \$5 at the above locations. Please call the Noise Control Office at 503-823-7350 with any questions you might have on the report.

Public testimony is welcomed at the Council Hearing. If you are unable to attend the hearing and wish to provide comment, written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on February 16, 2005. Written comments may be sent to the Council Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1221 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave., Room 140, Portland, OR 97204. Comments may also be e-mailed to Sue Parsons, Assistant Council Clerk, at [sparsons@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:sparsons@ci.portland.or.us). Written comments should be sent to the attention of City Council and reference nighttime garbage noise.

## Elders in Action

# Citizens urged to get involved, help seniors

Seniors in the Portland metro area need help and assistance, and local citizens are urged to take up the charge. Elders in Action, a non-profit organization and a powerful voice for seniors, is actively recruiting volunteers to assist with a wide variety of programs that benefit local seniors. From working one-on-one with seniors to help solve problems related to housing, fraud and health care, to evaluating how friendly local businesses are to seniors, the volunteer opportunities are many and varied.

Elders in Action needs help more than ever right now, as cuts to social services and programs have left many seniors without much needed support. The organization anticipates that the problem will grow during this legislative session, as the state faces more budget cuts and Portland's population continues to age.

"Increasingly, it's up to communities, groups and caring individuals to help provide services seniors need and make sure that in Portland, good quality of life never depends on age," said Becky Wehrli, executive director of Elders in Action.

# Who is Ed Stone?



Volunteer Ombudsman Ed Stone arrives at Elders in Action's downtown offices to discuss a new case with our staff Ombudsmen.

Prompted by an article in the Seniors Studies Institute newsletter at Portland State University, Ed got in touch with Elders in Action more than a year and a-half ago. Ed explained he “had the desire to keep active with an organization that provided a meaningful opportunity” since retiring from work as a clinical psychologist. He decided to become an Ombudsman volunteer, and attended training held that summer.

Since then, Ed has helped 22 people throughout the Tri-County area, with restraining orders, medical access and neighbor disputes to name a few. Ed always takes on additional responsibilities and is willing to go the extra mile for the seniors he helps.

Ed is proof that volunteering improves the overall quality of life because it gives meaning and purpose to their lives. On February 3rd Ed celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. In addition to giving his time to Elders in Action, Ed also volunteers at the Chinese Service Center and the Oregon Food Bank. We are grateful to have Ed as a volunteer Ombudsman and want to congratulate him on his many years of service to others in the community.

## Volunteer trainings held at Elder offices

Unless otherwise indicated, volunteer trainings are held at Elders in Action offices located at 501 S.W. Washington St., in Portland and interested participants can call (503) 823-5269 for more information. **Opportunities for involvement and upcoming training dates:**

**Ombudsman Services:** Ombudsman volunteers provide individual problem-solving assistance and emotional support to seniors and persons with disabilities in the areas of housing, health care, elder crime and abuse. Community educators who help seniors learn how to avoid being victims of scams and fraud also are needed. Volunteers receive 12 hours of training and commit to 8 –10 hours of service each month including continuing education. Ombudsman training sessions will be held at Elders in Action in Portland, March 28 – March 30 (times vary, contact Elders in Action for more information).

**Elder Friendly Evaluators:** Volunteers 60 years or older help evaluate local businesses to determine if they are “elder friendly” and make recommendations for how they can better serve older customers. Elder Friendly training will be held Monday, February 14 from 9:30 a.m. – noon.

**CHAMPS Training (Community-Based Home Arthritis Management Program for Seniors):** This is a special training session for how volunteers can assist in connecting homebound seniors to an arthritis management program. Training will be held February 4 at 10 a.m.

**Healthy Changes for Living with Diabetes Training:** Become trained to assist with weekly diabetes self-management groups for people age 55 and older. Ombudsman, Group Leaders and "substitute" Leaders are needed at various community centers. Training will be held March 2 and 3 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., at Loaves & Fishes, 7710 SW 31<sup>st</sup> Ave., in Portland. Call (503) 823-5844 to register.

**Web Evaluators:** People ages 60 or older have an opportunity to volunteer from their home and help improve Web access for older adults by evaluating elder-friendly Web sites. Contact Elders in Action for more information about training.

**Elders in Action Commission:** Support the work of the Elders in Action Commission, a citizen group that advises Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services and the city of Portland on the concerns and needs of older adults in the community. The Commission meets the third Wednesday of the month from 1 – 3:30 p.m. Contact Elders in Action for more information about Commission opportunities.

**Office volunteers:** Elders in Action needs part-time support to help answer phones, greet visitors and to tackle clerical projects. Contact Elders in Action for more information.

## Out and About

# Kenton to host art supply sale and swap

On Saturday, February 19 from 10 am to 1pm, *Art on the Peninsula* will be hosting an Art Supply Swap and Sale at Kenton Firehouse, 8105 N. Brandon, at the corner of N. Brandon and N. Schofield, one block west of Denver Ave. in the Kenton neighborhood. The Swap and Sale is a free event offering space and tables for people to sell or swap artist supplies, tools or craft items. This is a good opportunity to clean out your closets or find new treasures. Spread the word to your friends and local schools. Donation to Art on the Peninsula suggested. SCRAP, the School Community Reuse Action Project, will take remaining items.

*Art on the Peninsula* is an informal networking group consisting of artists, art lovers and art advocates from North Portland. They network, share information, and participate in art related community events such as the St. Johns Window Project. The Art Supply Swap and Sale is their fourth community event open to all—in and outside of North Portland. Contact Mary Jaron Kelley at 823-4099 for more information.

## Who/what do you love most? Why?

*This was the question posed to ONI staffers. Here's the two responses we got:*

The people I love most are my three boys. Why? Well, I love Saturday mornings with 12 extra little legs and arms quietly sneaking into my bed to ask for breakfast at 7 in the morning. I love teacher planning days which means all my kids stay home and play together. I love the smell of Johnson & Johnson baby lotion on their hair after a bath. I love red t-shirts tied around their necks and used as Superman capes. I love goodnight kisses and watching The Lion King three times in a row. Most of all, I love that I get to be their Mama..... *Nicole Murphy-Garcia*

I love family time with all three of us—me, Maya and Rebecca—gathered around the dining room table doing each our own art projects with snippets of paper and yarn all over the floor, paint on my shirt and glue in Maya's hair. (Rebecca is a Virgo and remains very tidy throughout while Maya and I merge with our media). We break for popcorn and rock and roll....*Nell Wagenaar*

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY EVERYONE !**



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

*In the summer of 1970, the only state-sponsored rock and counterculture festival in American history 'went down' in an Oregon State Park. Name the event and the park where it took place.*

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 fiscal year in June, we will have a final showdown of our monthly winners to determine the grand prizewinner and the ONI Portland Trivia champ for 2004/2005.

Congratulations to Dan Collins, NIT Inspector, the first to answer last month's trivia question. He correctly responded that Vanport, OR, was the city destroyed by a flood on Memorial Day of 1948.



### **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)