



City of Portland

The Other Side of the Fence

E-News from ONI ~ July 2005

Enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation



National Night Out brings neighbors together for food, fun and a sense of community. The ever-popular annual event will be held August 2 in neighborhoods across Portland. Above are a group of folks from the Piedmont neighborhood at Peninsula Park during last year's festivities.

PHOTO BY JOHN DUTT

National Night Out parties being planned

By William Warren

From 10,000 to 12,000 neighbors are expected to attend the approximate 130 neighborhood celebrations in 40 neighborhoods across Portland. The unique community event that focuses on prevention of crime and drug activity will be held Tuesday evening August 2.

Corporate sponsors for this year's premier crime prevention event include the perennial Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar partnering with Infinity Radio, New Seasons Market, Qwest, and Target—the National Association of Town Watch sponsor, reports William Warren. Along with his regular crime prevention duties in the Northwest neighborhoods, William is charged with crime prevention citywide special events.

Crime prevention's principal partner for National Night Out is the Portland Police Bureau. PPB is fully committed to participate in the multitude of parties being held throughout the city. With the approaching deadline of Friday, July 15 to register on-line, <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=28986>

Eric King, crime prevention manager, and I are keeping a close eye on the number of party registrations. So far, we're at the 50% mark of last year's 130 parties.



Neighbors gather at Applebee's Restaurant at NE 15th and Halsey last year for free soft drinks, barbecue chicken and ribs.

PHOTO BY CAROL JUSTICE

Eric developed a theme for this year's National Night Out. It focuses on forging a link between neighborhoods and the local businesses. To help accomplish this a small, but very dedicated committee, representing residents and businesses crafted a Portland Pre-Party Planning Packet. The packet includes tips on how to approach a local business to encourage their participation in National Night Out. Coupled with the tips/script is a bright two-sided yellow flyer that advertises NNO.

We hope the party organizers (veteran and novice) will ask the business to display the flyer in their

establishment. After NNO the flyer can be reversed to promote a public safety message that re-enforces Crime Prevention is Around the Clock and Around the Block. The packet is mailed to party hosts who register their event on-line. Some parties happen the week before and the week after the official NNO day. We do that to accommodate residents who are unable to celebrate the first Tuesday of August. Other city partners such as Parks and Recreation and Noise Control willingly go the extra step to help expand that Tuesday window.

Another committee is the City and Corporate Partners consisting of this year's corporate sponsors and our city colleagues in PPB, PF&R, BES, PDOT, and Mayor Potter's office. Both Mayor Potter and Portland Police Chief Derrick Foxworth have cut radio announcements advertising NNO as a way to reduce crime and the fear of crime.

Once the big day is over, the work isn't. The city will compile all their efforts into the National Association of Town Watch's NNO competition. Portland has been honored twice before. Finally, Eric, William, crime prevention program coordinators, the corporate sponsors, the public partners and the residents' business committee will analyze this year's celebration in an effort to improve National Night Out 2006. To register you party, go to:

Party registration site <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=28986>

New financial analyst joins ONI staff

Michael Kersting started his new duties last month, just in time to bring his Jack Russell terrier to the office July 1 for National Bring Your Dog to Work Day. Michael is a long-time city employee who comes to us from BHCD.

Michael was born in Cincinnati, the youngest of five kids. The family moved to Canby, OR when he was five to the house his grandparents have owned since 1939.

He attended Oregon State University and graduated with a BS in accounting and financial management.

He worked for Avia shoe company and First Interstate Bank before joining the City of Portland in 1996.

His first job with the City was in City Payroll as the City's PERS administrator. After 1.5 years with Payroll, he moved to BHCD as an Assistant Financial Analyst. When BHCD's Financial Analyst retired in 2003, Michael replaced him.

He lives with his wife, Cathleen, and dog Petey in the Laurelhurst neighborhood. On his down time, he enjoys vegetable gardening and fixing up their old house. He and Cathy are season ticket holders for OSU football, and he is a big Cincinnati Reds and Bengals fan. Welcome aboard Michael!



Michael Kersting with best pal Petey

ONI bids farewell to co-workers Joleen, Art and Nancy

Due to budget cuts requested by City Council this year, three co-workers at ONI were laid off as of the end of June. Joleen Jensen-Classen was serving as the Deputy Director of the Bureau. Her duties focused on managing the neighborhood service centers of the bureau including the Neighborhood Inspections, Noise Control, Crime Prevention, and Neighborhood Livability Services. Joleen started out with ONI as a coordinator for the neighborhood program working directly with District Coalitions and Neighborhood Associations. She also coordinated for a time the ONI partnership with the Bureau of Environmental Services focusing on community and business outreach for the Combined Sewer Overflow project.

Art Hendricks leaves the bureau after assisting the neighborhood program for the past year as a Resource Development Coordinator. In this capacity Art coordinated several key grant driven projects including the Safe Neighborhoods project –a gun violence reduction project funded by the federal government. He coordinated ONI’s neighborhood leadership workshops, management of the seven District Coalition contracts, and assisted the Diversity and Civic Leadership Committee - a group that developed a proposal to Council to provide more financial support for diversity outreach efforts. Previously Art was Manager of ONI’s Crime Prevention Center for several years since 2000.

Nancy Blackledge’s time with Neighborhood Resource Center has been extended through July 20. Nancy has been a management analyst assisting numerous ONI programs and administration. Nancy coordinated the Spirit of Portland Awards, updated the Neighborhood Directory, developed the Neighborhood Inspections Policy Manual, reorganized appointment procedures for City boards and commissions, and assisted with payroll and other financial services. Nancy has been with the City for some 18 years moving from the Bureau of Development Services along with the program change of Neighborhood Inspections to ONI in 2003.

Neighborhood Resource Center

Mayor’s Bureau Innovation Project to examine future of neighborhood system & public involvement effort

By Brian Hoop

Efforts are getting under way for a yearlong community dialogue on the future of Portland’s neighborhood system as well as public involvement efforts by City agencies. The Mayor’s far ranging Bureau Innovation Project has initiated 20 different committees examining everything from purchasing procedures to technology services. Committees number 8 and 9 address topics of direct importance to the Office of Neighborhood Involvement, District Coalitions and Neighborhood Associations.

Both of these committees will have diverse participation with involvement from neighborhood associations, diverse community groups, City staff and professional experts. The #8 committee of the BIP is generally seen as envisioning what would an ideal civic governance structure look like in Portland, meaning how do we achieve partnerships between residents and City staff in policy and budget development. At its heart will be an examination of Portland’s neighborhood system and what structures need to be in place to reach the potential of a civic governance model.

The second, committee #9, will continue the work of the Public Involvement Task Force to develop minimum standards for how City agencies engage the public in their outreach and decision-making processes. Both groups will closely work together recognizing how integrated the two topics are to each other.

Recruitment for committee members is just beginning. Chairs for both groups have been appointed by the Mayor’s office who will lead the effort to form the committees working with the Mayor’s office. Jimmy Brown and Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong are the initial chairs for the #8 committee. Joann Bowman, Barbara Hart, Eileen Argentina and Brian Hoop are the co-chairs for the #9 committee. The work of these committees will last into next summer of 2006.



Many thanks go to a GREAT group of people who have been working for nearly four years to update neighborhood guidelines. They are in front (l to r) Amalia Alarcon-Gaddie, Kathy Bambeck, Nancy Chapin. Back row (l to r) Moshe Lenske, Leonard Gard, Jerry Powell, Mark Sieber, Jimmy Brown, Brian Hoop, Ray Hites, Michael O'Malley, Stan Lewis. Not shown are Patricia Gardner, Catherine Crawford, Charles Shi, William Warren, Ruth Spetter. PHOTO BY BRIAN HOOP

Council set to vote on Neighborhood System standards update this week

Portland City Council held their first reading of proposed changes to City Code Chapter 3.96 and the Standards for Portland's neighborhood system on Wednesday, July 6th. The City Code provides the authorizing language for ONI and neighborhood system.

The Standards, previously called Guidelines, describe in more details procedures for recognizing neighborhood and business associations, what needs to go in their bylaws, grievance procedures, and open meetings and public records rules. The Guidelines Review Empowerment and Assessment Team, or GREAT, has met for the past four years methodically reviewing existing rules. Their proposals, and background information can be found at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=29023>. A second reading and likely vote will take place the week of July 11th.



Singing for peace at the 3–Corner Block Party are from left to right Malia Brannon, Julie Moody, Colletta Moody and Linda Hornbuckle. They are from the PEACE Campaign.

Neighborhood Livability - Crime Prevention

3-Corners Block Party transforms neighborhood

By Celeste Carey

On May 14 at 4p.m., residents near Northeast Garfield and Failing left their houses and headed for the streets...streets full of yelling children, police vehicles, crowds of people, a fire engine and loud voices. Smoke everywhere. The air crackled...with music...barbeque and fun. This was a party, and residents of the Maple-Mallory/ Garfield and Failing area had good reason to celebrate.

What better way to celebrate than with grilled burgers and dogs, face painting, the NE Precinct Mobile Police Unit, Fire Station 14 engine and Linda Hornbuckle and Janice Scroggins performing? County Commissioner Serena Cruz, City Commissioner Sam Adams and Precinct Commander Bret Smith joined residents, and several community partners to put on the best time this community had seen in years.

For over twenty years, the corners of Garfield and Failing were the market for many an addiction. Maple-Mallory, the nearby Housing Authority of Portland complex, suffered an unwarranted reputation as a haven for drug dealers and users. Residents felt trapped and victimized. Drug affected people haunted the streets; frustrated police pounded their beats. And while the dealers made a profit, the community felt defeat.

Fast forward to May 2005, and enter a different world. Three years of community organizing and activism inspired neighbors to take back and occupy their spaces. A strong collaborative of Maple-Mallory residents, HAP management and Northeast precinct police partnered with the Mallory Church of God in Christ, on NE Mallory and Failing- which had started serving weekly breakfasts. Rhone Williams (former Multnomah County Parole and Probation Officer) and Pam Ballentine (Multnomah County Health Department Community Capacitation Center) collaborating to bring various social and health services to the area.

Next, we invited Paul Staadt, of the Hughes Memorial Methodist Church to join in and broaden the partnership. From there, our combined efforts continued to grow. The collaborative mentored the "Our Garden" Community Garden as it began to transition out of the area. Pam Ballentine and I facilitated meetings with the community. Initially, we thought to save the garden, and preserve the area green space. As it became apparent that this was no longer an option, we began searching for new sites. During the community meetings, we also addressed creating a stronger partnership with the police, and determined what our area safety issues were. Surprisingly, the garden turned out to be a magnet for crime: the large Arbor Vitae provided shelter for various criminal acts...something that would have never been discovered without neighborhood input. "Our Garden" staff trimmed the bushes, making the area less attractive, and more revealing of the criminal activities in the garden.

I also trained and organized neighbors and Maple-Mallory residents into a Neighborhood Watch and Foot Patrol to keep the pressure on the drug dealers. After a few trial patrols, escorted by NE Precinct Officers Anthony Eugenio and Brian Dale, the 3 Corners Foot Patrol kicked off its official trek right after the party. Channels 6, 8 and 12 interviewed partygoers and the Foot Patrol, eager to highlight the success of community based anti-crime initiatives.

However, the work isn't over. Within a few weeks, dealers were pushing back, hoping residents will tire or grow complacent. Residents continue outreach to maintain the foot patrol; the meetings and strategizing continue, understanding that all criminals need to succeed is for good people to do nothing. 3 Corners won't grow complacent, or tire...they know how to keep the pressure on. But for now, they know...it's time to party.

P.S. Join the 3 Corners for their National Night Out Celebration on August 2!

N/NE crime prevention teams up for July 4th celebration

By Tom Peavey

ONI Crime Prevention coordinators Tom Peavey and Walter Garcia teamed up to assist the Hayden Island Neighborhood Network in planning for 2005's July 4th fireworks population crush. The Vancouver, Washington sponsored 4th of July event stimulates hundreds of people to seek good viewing spots along the south shore of the Columbia River each year.

The Portland Police Bureau each year establishes an operations plan for the special details assigned to public roadways and areas on Hayden Island. Access to private roadways, private

parking, trespassing on private property and safety issues are major concerns impacting residents and business representatives each year. ONI Crime Prevention assists the neighborhood network and government agencies bridge the gap in applying service to the community area through facilitating advanced planning meetings.

ONI Crime Prevention coordinators facilitated a problem-solving meeting on July 12th with resident complex, business and Portland Police Bureau representatives. Developed from the meeting was an event plan, communication network and a volunteer base to set up barricades and apply barrier tape to private property areas.

The result was a successful event having no major livability or safety issue related impact. Special thanks goes out to members of the Portland Police Bureau, Portland Fire Bureau, Hayden Island resident Rick Gill who served as the community liaison and Gary Rice of Interstate Security who headed up the barricade and barrier tape detail.

New Intern joins graffiti program

A big welcome to Tajitu Jara, who will be interning with Graffiti Abatement for the next four weeks. Tajitu is originally from Ethiopia. She has been in the US for four years, and just graduated from Centennial High School in East County. She will attend Oregon State this fall, and plans to study pharmacy (at least until she finds something she likes better).

Please make Tajita feel welcome during her time with us. (Her Outlook email is 'onjara')



Open House slated

SEUL's Crime Prevention Office focuses on public safety projects

The following public safety projects are in process at the Southeast Crime Prevention office:

1. SE Precinct's Community Open house scheduled for July 16. At the open house community members will meet with our local offices, crime prevention staff, precinct command staff, get a guided tour of the precinct and a mobile precinct. Southeast Precinct, located at 4735 E Burnside. The open house will be from 12 noon to 4 pm. The precinct serves an area between the Willamette River (west), I-205 (east), I-84 (north), and Clackamas County/City Limits (south). The SE Precinct is the second largest precinct of the Portland Police Bureau serving over 144,000 residents in 20 neighborhood associations. Bring your family, neighbors, and friends to meet your local police officers, crime prevention personnel, learn about what's happening in the precinct and in your neighborhood, and more. Light refreshments will be provided. The open house is an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the community and the local police staff, make new connections, network, and have a good time. Check the Tri Met Trip Planner for bus route options at <http://www.trimet.org/go/cgi-bin/plantrip.cgi>

2. As a response to increased burglaries, the Crime Prevention Office in conjunction with the Portland Police Bureau has scheduled a Free Residential Burglary Prevention Training for residents of Laurelhurst and HAND neighborhoods. The training will cover crime prevention and public safety topics applicable to prevention of this growing property crime including how and why properties get cased, when incidents occur, individual responsibility of property owners, security tips and strategies, neighborhood watch organizing and more. RSVP is required to 503-823-3432.
3. In addition, the office is working on a number of identified problem locations via community organizing and education to support various police missions including drug house missions in June and July, livability missions on Hawthorne, and much more.

For more information about the crime prevention program in SE Portland, contact Galina Grigoryan 503-823-3432 or Rosanne Lee 503-823-0540.

Resolutions Northwest mediation program has moved

Located for years at the King Facility at the Northeast Coalition Office, the neighborhood mediation program operated by Resolution Northwest moved to its new location on NE 44th July 5th. The new address is: 1827 NE 44th Ave, Suite 300, Portland, OR 97213. They also have new phone numbers. They are: Phone: 503-595-4890 and Fax: 503-595-489.

Information & Referral

I&R intern distributing new pocket directories

By John Dutt

- Another great job by the I&R staff on the phones for the month of June. For the month of April we had a busy month with 14411 calls answered at 90.75%!
- We just completed updating and reprinting 20,000 Pocket Phone Directories. We have a summer intern, Saleena Anderson from Jefferson HS who is helping us update the marketing database and get those out to our partner bureaus and agencies.

Elders in Action

Focus + Friends = Healthy Changes

Aleta was packing for a 4-day trip she'd helped one of the senior centers plan to the Oregon Caves, Rogue Jet Boat, and Wildlife Safari. Aleta has been a regular of the Healthy Changes group sponsored by the YWCA at the East Portland Community Center since September. She has already met her goal, which was to reduce her average blood-glucose. The new schedule she found for taking her medications has "made all the difference. By attending weekly."

Aleta says "I find a renewal of my goals. The fact that others are facing the same challenges/problems helps me keep focused." A more recent addition to the East Portland group, Neva finds "her desire and the group support really kicked in 7 to 8 weeks ago". Her goal is to loose weight, and prevent blindness, or other complications that commonly develop from unmanaged diabetes. Neva is now a regular walker and has lost 16 lbs. Her blood

pressure has dropped and she is optimistic about the results of her recent blood-glucose test. She enjoys every group meeting. Neva says of her experience “I can talk the fur off a monkey, love to share... possibly, I am helping some others who need encouragement.” West Linn resident Linda, has been driving to the weekly meetings in Wilsonville for the past 10 months. She continues because “I’m the type of person, if I’m going to do something I want to really understand it. So I keep learning about the disease. That, and the people, the support is great.” Linda has learned new ways to exercise despite discomfort in standing and walking resulting from nerve damage caused by her diabetes. Now Linda has a commitment to the others and to her exercise routine. “The repetition keeps it in the front of my mind.”

What these three women have in common is that they all credit their group experience for improving self-management of their diabetes! The supportive meetings have a positive impact on their individual behavior. With different goals, limitations, and personal experiences, each have found a way to “take charge” of their diabetes!

Currently, 85 older adults attend seven community-based support groups, underway in the tri-county area. Designed to share ideas and information to help people lose weight, improve nutrition and become more physically active, they offer the essentials for better self-managing diabetes. Weekly meetings are led by specially trained Elders in Action volunteers who have personal knowledge of diabetes, encouraging participants to learn and share goals toward a healthier lifestyle. Support group meetings are free and educational material and topics are provided. To find out more about Healthy Changes, call Michaela at 503.823.5844 or check www.eldersaction.org.

Out and About

Window Project opens July 30

North Portland artists take over store windows in the St Johns neighborhood of Portland. Be surprised every few feet! Each participating store is a mini exhibition and could contain a "Transformed Chair" by one of 24 artists; a print based on St Johns history; or an installation artwork relating to a particular business.

The 3rd Annual St Johns Window Project will run from July 30 – August 20 with an opening celebration July 30, from noon – 5p.m.

Tour a sculpture garden with a collaborative work by area sculptors. Guided walking tours on opening day and maps available at participating stores for

self-guided tours throughout the month. Enjoy entertainment and an art marketplace at the opening celebration. Meet the artists at an evening reception August 17th.



Art on the Peninsula

N. Portland Neighborhood Services
Historic Kenton Firehouse
2209 N. Schofield St.
Portland, OR 97217
503-823-4099

Art on the Peninsula is a community and artist-networking group in North Portland and its St. Johns Window Project showcases visual arts, dance, music and performance from the North Portland community.

“The St. Johns Window Project is an exciting way to bring local artists and businesses together who share an interest in their community and creates exposure for artists and businesses alike,” says Weirs Cyclery owner, Steve Weir.

For more information contact Mary Jaron Kelley at 503 823-4099 or mkelley@ci.portland.or.us
The St Johns Window Project is sponsored by Art on the Peninsula, North Portland Neighborhood Services, North Portland Business Association, PGE and the North Portland Trust Fund.

Matt receives Purple Heart



At left is Matt Braddock in front of the quilt that ONI's Kimberly Mark Villela assembled with signatures and well wishes from ONI, other city staff and members of Matt's guard unit. At right is Matt receiving his Purple Heart from Gen. Byrne during a ceremony in April with his Mom Rhetta Drennan looking on.

War hero recovering and back on his feet

By Rhetta Drennan

Matt is now castless! He is able to wear his Army boot on his right foot again, and walk with only a cane. His recovery has been a remarkable thing, considering on January 13, he was injured, had an arterial graft to his left arm, shrapnel removed from his left leg, and was flown to Germany, then to Washington D.C, then to Ft. Lewis here in Washington, and then to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. That's a lot of moving around in 3 weeks when your feet are in agony and you have to depend on other people to move you around!

On February 8th doctors amputated his left foot 9 inches above the heel, and reconstructed his right foot. Since then he has learned to walk using a prosthetic limb, and waited to see how much use he will have in the right foot. As of two weeks ago his complete out of a cast has started physical therapy on that side. Movement is still very limited, but he is hopeful he will regain most of the movement.

Matt continues to push himself to advance in his therapy. He has purchased a Jeep and is now able to drive himself around. As in all recovery, he has times where he advances quickly, and other times where his body and injuries demand he take a rest and slow down. As any of you who know Mall can attest, slowing down is not something he does well, or joyfully.

Matt was very moved by the quilt you all signed and set to him at his Purple Heart ceremony. (Everyone has been wonderfully supportive!) The ceremony was held at the Forest Grove Armory, home of the Oregon National Guard 162nd Infantry. Represented at the ceremony was the 116th Calvary. Matt's home unit is the 162nd, but he was deployed with the 116th, as a Calvary Scout. He was present the Purple Heart by General Byrne.



Noah Johnson-Greenough, left, and Jonah Willbach are ONI's two new interns.

Two new interns join neighborhood program

Jonah Willbach started this month as an intern with the neighborhood program at ONI for the summer and likely through next year. Jonah is currently in the Masters of Public Administration program at PSU. He is also a canvasser with the Downspout Disconnect program with ONI/BES.

Also, joining ONI for the summer is Noah Johnson-Greenough who is in his last year getting a BS in Urban Planning at Arizona State. He is from Portland.

They will likely be assisting with the visioning effort, Bureau Innovation Project #8 and #9 committees, updating our lists of diverse community groups, and preparing for leadership workshops next year and getting leadership materials up on the web. They can be reached at 503-823-5202.

Also two IRCO student interns are onboard and will be working with ONI City Hall through July and early August. Sine Sekabera will be working with Brian Hoop and Tylynn Preston will be working with John Dutt.

Do you know your city?

The much anticipated grand finale of our Portland Trivia Contest over the past year is finally upon us! Last month Dan Collins captured his third victory of the campaign by being the first to correctly answer that Council Crest was the once host to an amusement park at the end of the trolley line on top of the highest point in Portland.

This victory solidifies his standing as a major contender for the true *Guru of Rose City Trivia!* Our final contest will be open only to our previous winners but all are welcome to play for the fun of it.

Our finalists are: Dan Collins, with 3 victories; Joleen Jensen-Classen, with 3 victories, David Pool, Rhett Drennan, Marcia Dennis and Jim Powell with 1 victory each.

The way it will work is these 6 finalists will each have a chance to click on the following link, www.portlandonline.com/oni..... which will take them to a section of our Website where they will be able to answer three final questions. Any of these 6 who correctly respond by Friday 7/15/05 will be entered in the final drawing for the Grand Prize! Dan and Joleen by the nature of them each previously being our first correct responder 3 times will receive 3 entries into the final drawing if they are able to correctly answer these 3 questions by the deadline. Anyone may feel free to complete the online trivia test but only these 6 contestants are eligible for the Grand Prize. **Good luck to all!**



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