



City of Portland

The Other Side of the Fence

E-News from ONI ~ December 2005

Enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation

ONI Director Brown to join water bureau



Jimmy Brown at a NNO party last August

After two years of leading Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Director Jimmy Brown announced Friday he will be leaving to join the Water Bureau January 10.

Commissioner Randy Leonard said Friday that Brown has agreed to serve as the bureau's manager of the community outreach and customer services group. "I have identified the Water Bureau's relationship with the community we serve as a high priority and the foundation for the bureau's effort to recapture its status as the City's best," Leonard said.

"Jimmy has spent the past 31 years working on behalf of the City and County in the community, most recently as Director of the City's Office of Neighborhood Involvement, and he brings a wealth of knowledge, success and experience to our effort that we are very fortunate to have at the Bureau's disposal," Leonard added.

Jimmy said that he met with Commissioner Leonard in August to discuss some exciting activity that was occurring in the Water Bureau. "My commitment however was to ensure that ONI was firmly connected to the Mayor's Visioning Project efforts and Bureau Innovation Project #8 and Project #9," he said.

"Additionally, I had wanted to ensure that our budget process for FY 2006-07 was established in a collaborative and open environment, ensuring that ONI was not viewed as excluding its key partners and stakeholders. (See story below). I am proud to say that the work of Decisions, Decisions in facilitating the budget process will go a long ways toward building consensus amongst ONI, its partners and stakeholders on the shape and direction of the budget.

"Recognizing that with these elements in place, I felt that I could again look at the opportunity presented by Commissioner Leonard and the Water Bureau. As such, I have decided to accept the opportunity and will be leaving the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to join the Water Bureau! I am truly excited about the direction and activity occurring in Water and look forward to being a part of its team!

“I will take with me the commitment to building connections with City residents, community partners, and key stakeholders. I will also take the memories of working with a dedicated group of employees such as yourselves and offer the best to you on your continuing journey! I will join the Water Bureau Team effective January 10, 2006. Until then I will work with the Mayor's Office on a smooth transition. I look forward to seeing the growth of this Office in building new connections within and through the community.” Good luck and best wishes Jimmy!

ONI's own wins Spirit of Portland award

By Nell Wagenaar

He's a winner on many fronts and ONI is lucky to have him.

Brian Hoop, neighborhood program coordinator, was among the 18 community leaders winning a Spirit of Portland Award at a ceremony Wednesday at City Hall.

He won in one of the new categories instituted by Mayor Tom Potter this year— Outstanding Partnership. Brian was noted for having gone above and beyond the call of duty in streamlining and improving services to neighbors.

"For me getting an award promoting public and private partnerships is a validation that Portland's experiment in civic involvement is worth fighting to improve upon. We all have a right and a responsibility to help define what kind of community we want to live in. Building community is not a solo endeavor," he said after hearing the news of his award.

The Spirit of Portland Award is an annual tradition started by



Double-duty — Brian Hoop, on his way out the door to take 4-month old son Quinn to daycare, heads out to a neighborhood meeting.

PHOTO BY NELL WAGENAAR

former Mayor Vera Katz 12 years ago to honor community leaders, organizations and businesses that have made a difference in our community life.

Brian has worked for ONI for six years and is the one folks seek out to answer any question about Portland's famous neighborhood system. A peacekeeper at heart, he does leadership skill trainings, coordinates dialogues on citywide public involvement policies, and assists district coalitions with organizing issues. On August 1, he and his wife Kelley Weigel were blessed with the birth of Quinn Patrick—very portable in dad's pouch and now a regular at ONI.

Brian, an activist most of his life, was an associate director for Oregon Action and organized around campaign finance reform and economic justice. Also a union organizer, he led efforts to organize Cascade AIDS Project staff. He worked with Tim Nesbitt with the State SEIU to defeat Bill Sizemore's anti-labor and anti-government funding initiatives. He was a tireless volunteer working to defeat several OCA initiatives and led a voter-registration campaign at the University of Oregon. The drive registered more than 7,000 students and earned recognition in *Mother Jones* magazine.

His organizing skills were honed at U of O where he led a large multi-racial student/community/faculty campaign that instituted a race, class and gender curriculum requirement for all incoming freshman. He directed the Survival Center, an environmental campus group working on ancient forest issues. In 1986, Brian took part in the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament and walked from L.A. to Washington D.C., a journey that took nine months.

Spirit of Portland Award recipients are nominated by their peers and chosen by a selection committee of past recipients and city, neighborhood and business leaders. The other 2005 Spirit of Portland Award Recipients are:



Gary Cobb, who won the *Mayor's Award* for turning his life around after a life of drug abuse, petty crime and homelessness. Born in Topeka, Kansas, he moved to Portland five years ago and took part in Central City Concern's recovery programs. He's now employed there and is an advocate for those battling substance abuse. He works with the Recovery Association Project (RAP) which he credits for helping him in his own recovery process, and was recently appointed to the Chief's Forum by Commissioner Sam Adams.

Robert Ridgway, who received the *Humanitarian Award*. Ridgway has worked at Central City Concern since 1979 where he is the construction manager for CCC's Housing Department for new and renovated buildings. Born in Portland, he spent several years in an orphanage, served in the US Army in Vietnam, got a BS in Nursing at the University of Oregon, and worked as a charge nurse at Good Sam Hospital before joining the CCC staff. He and his wife Rosemarie have three children: Talbot, Irene and Makinna.

Ron Tonkin Family of Dealerships, who won the *Large Business Award*. Established in 1960, the dealership is one of Portland's most enduring retailers providing countless jobs while

demonstrating strong civic values. From it's annual "Drive for Schools" campaign to support education to holding the annual golf tournament fundraiser for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oregon Inc. to partnering with DEQ and United Way to provide financial assistance to drivers needing to meet emission standards, Ron, Ed, and Brad Tonkin and their families and employees make an important difference in the City of Portland.

Budd Hoffmann Sanitation Service, who garnered the *Small Business Award*. Long-time Kenton residents and business owners Budd and Joni Hoffman have been part of the Kenton business and neighborhood community since 1967, sponsoring Little League teams, supporting street fairs and providing free dumpsters during neighborhood clean-ups. They have both been Kenton Firehouse volunteers since 1977 with Budd doing maintenance, repair and security inside and Joni maintaining the grounds and exterior of the building. They both continue to serve as active volunteers assisting with tours, coordinating community meetings, keeping the North Portland landmark secure, and tending to the heirloom rose garden in the traffic island.

Maggie Zimmer, who received the *Youth Award*. She is a Wilson High junior and has been involved in Project Green Rose, Back the Track, Annual Culture Night, student government and Students for Environmental Action. She also writes for the student newspaper, *The Statesman* and is part of cross country and track program. Maggie also participates in the Students for Peace and Social Justice Club and is a student counselor in Tryon Creek day camps and at Outdoor School—all while maintaining a 3.9 GPA.

Daniel Ronan, who also won the *Youth Award*. Also a junior at Wilson, Daniel is part of various committees, clubs and activities including Project Green Rose, which planted five shade trees and provided bike racks in the central courtyard, and Culture Night, which celebrates the various cultures found within the Wilson school and community. Daniel is also a member of the Interact, Leadership and Model United Nations clubs and is a track and cross-country athlete. Support public education! is his motto.

Linnton Neighborhood Association, which won the *Neighborhood Award* for its numerous improvement projects including traffic calming along Highway 30, reopening the Linnton Community Center with a \$300,000 grant, and moving a community neighborhood plan forward to the City Council. President Pat Wagner galvanized these projects including "the Four Moms of Linnton" to raise safety awareness along Highway 30. She secured federal grants in excess of \$450,000, got the speed limit lowered and secured a TriMet grant to install bus shelters. She also worked with local artists to install playfully designed street furniture and signage. Pat led the effort to renovate the 80-year old year community center and reopen the preschool program. The association successfully advocated city review of the 15-year old community-initiated Linnton Neighborhood Plan, now at the Planning Commission for review.

West Portland Park Neighborhood, which also won the *Neighborhood Award* for the good works of its volunteers. The diverse neighborhood's median income is 13 percent less than the citywide average and almost half of the Markham Elementary School kids receive free lunch. Twenty different native languages are spoken and more than 20 percent of students speak English as a second language. Association volunteers have been key players in acquiring three public open spaces. They got Metro to buy a 20-acre wild forest green space, Portland and Lake Oswego to buy a 10-acre woodland destined for walking trails, and have a plan to buy a 1.7-acre city park. Board members also lobbied for a crosswalks with volunteers digging and graveling a trail to connect the crosswalk to the Jackson Middle School. Leaders also created a sidewalk plan for SW 35th and helped design a crime prevention plan that resulted in 34 percent fewer reported crimes from 2000-2004.



Albina Ministerial Alliance, which won the *Community Harmony Award* for its 50 years of public service. Started by a group of African-American ministers in North and Northeast Portland, the group today has over 125 member churches and ministers adding a “ministerial voice” in addressing the civil and human rights needs of the community. The AMA addressed employment and training and youth and housing issues. The group has graduated two programs, Head start and Self-Enhancement, Inc. It has also taken a lead role during the most recent officer-involved use of deadly force cases and continues the dialogue on this issue urging training and legislative reforms.

Project Clean Slate, which won the *Independent Spirit Award* for its effort to help individuals with minor criminal records to start over with a clean slate. Under the leadership of Roy Jay, the African American Chamber of Commerce, the Multnomah County District Attorney and Public Defenders offices, the Independent Development Enterprise Alliance and the Alliance of Minority Chambers of Commerce, the program has so far helped 1,3000 people expunge their records so they’ll be eligible for driver’s licenses, public housing and jobs. Project Clean Slate II is now in the works with 1,733 folks requesting expungement and another 8,000 people, who signed up after the event, will also be processed. The program is helping people clear up decades of delinquent and uncollectible fines and penalties, giving them a second chance and allowing law enforcement to focus on hard-core criminals.

**Folks doing
day by day
the little
things is what
matters...**
--Mayor Tom Potter

Robin Plance, who won an *Independent Spirit Award* for his volunteer and fundraising work in the St. Johns community. Plance is chair of the neighborhood association, the Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group, and a member of the St. Johns Bridge Celebration Committee. He helped neighbors in need clean up nuisance properties and helped fundraise for the Pier Park Skate park redevelopment project. He formed the Friend of Pier Park group in 2003, has served on the Portland Utility Review Board, and is “an all-around nice guy.”

Paul Leistner, who received an *Independent Spirit Award* for his public involvement in the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood. He served as president of the neighborhood association from 1998 to 2003 and now serves as a board member. He represented the MTNA on 57th and Division neighborhood/school community center project since 2003 working with people from nearby neighborhoods, the Atkinson PTA, government and the private sector. Enrolled in the doctoral

program in Urban Studies, at PSU, Paul worked with federal, state and local officials to assess the environmental contamination on the site and develop a cleanup plan. He is vice president of SEUL and works on its diversity committee. He also serves on the Mayor's Bureau Innovation team looking at increasing public engagement.

Rick Rivera, who won an *Independent Spirit Award* for his innovative and creative crime prevention work. As president of the crime Prevention Association of Oregon (CPAO), he has revitalized the organization to meet the needs of our community. He's done statewide training titled "How to Talk About Meth" and coordinated a statewide network involving police, community members and crime prevention reps to address this growing social problem. He is involved in the state Met Watch program which was instrumental in making pseudo ephedrine hydrochloride, a key ingredient in meth production, less easily available. He also helped produce a DVD, "Crystal Nightmare," that dramatizes the effects of meth on people and society. It has been shown to law enforcement agencies and community groups.

Michael Roth, who received an *Independent Spirit Award* for his volunteer efforts as board member of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association, working on the Environmental Committee. During the last 7 years, he has served as vice-chair and newsletter editor. He has initiated many projects including the George & Esther Memorial Award, and the bi-annual contest for elementary kids, "Why I love Rose City Park," the Friendly Garden Award. He's also been active in community clean up and organizing to start a new Central sandy Business District. He's also been a leader in many non-profits including SMART, Sisters of the Road Café, Kids N' Tennis and wrote "The Guide to Business Giving in Oregon."

Amanda Fritz, who won an *Independent Spirit Award* for her two decades of community involvement in the schools, and land use, park and environmental issues. She's been a PTA member, chaired the Markham Elementary Advisory Committee, initiated the Markham World's Fair annual multicultural event, and helped fundraise to save drama programs at Wilson High. She served on the city's planning commission for seven years and has helped folks understand city codes. She co-founded the Tryon Creek Watershed Council and helped form the Citywide Parks Team. She volunteers for the Salvation Army, Audubon, the League of Women Voters and the Coalition of a Livable Future. She worked on numerous environmental projects and helped win \$723,000 in grants for her neighborhood parks and schools. She and husband Steve her three children—Luke, Maxwell and Alessandra.



Mercy Corps Northwest, which won a *Non-Profit Organization Award* for its work helping low-income, minority, women, refugee, immigrant, the disabled and previously incarcerated populations achieve economic self-sufficiency and community integration through entrepreneurship and self-employment. MCNW has provided more than \$600,000 start-up business capital to 289 low-income entrepreneurs and has made 72 loans to un-bankable entrepreneurs for more than \$525,000. Some of its new programs include the Prison Project which will provide life and skill training to women prisoners at Coffee Creek and men at Columbia River Correction institution.

Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement, which won a *Non-profit Award* for providing culturally specific services to Latino youth to help them academically and with job and career development. OCHA has four core programs including the Oregon Leadership Institute, a



Jimmy Brown, ONI director, invites students from Madison and Marshall HS, Lane and Gregory Heights MS into his office last Wednesday to show them the Spirit of Portland Award he received in 1989 and to give them an encouraging pep talk about their future! Students are part of the Oregon Leadership Institute, a youth mentoring program that is part of OCHA.

youth mentoring program that trains college students to mentor high school students in leadership skills, improving their grades, community involvement, college and career development. With city of Portland Children's Investment funds, OCHA in 2004 expanded the mentoring program by training high school student to mentor middle school students. Part of the community involvement lesson was cleaning up neighborhood graffiti and getting parents and other volunteers to help.



Congratulations Genny!

Mayor Tom Potter at a City Hall reception Tuesday for Genny Nelson, co-founder of Sisters of the Road who won the 2005 National Caring Award. The Sisters of the Road Café, started in 1979 by Genny and Sandy Gooch, is modeled across the country for providing a safe haven and low-cost hot, nutritious meals or a free meal trading work for food to the homeless and extremely poor. Past recipients of the award include Mother Teresa, President Jimmy and Roslyn Carter for their selfless public service to those in need. Genny received her award Dec. 5 at a ceremony in Washington D.C. Nearly 100 well-wishers attended her City Hall reception with the Mayor thanking her for her public commitment.

Joleen joins PDC staff

After five years at ONI, Joleen Jensen-Classen is now working in Public Affairs for the Portland Development Corporation. A goodbye party, given by her friends and co-workers, was held in her honor at H2O Friday, Dec. 9.

Joleen came to work for ONI in January of 2000. She arrived with her right arm in a sling and then director David Lane was a little surprised. On New Years Eve she had been riding Penn with friends. "On the last jump of the night I popped off and landed directly on my collar bone, breaking it nicely. I am right handed and this meant a big change in daily operations for me. "During the six weeks it took me to heal, David and my new co-worker, Brian Hoop, were gracious and helpful as I learned a new job literally with one hand."

Her first years at ONI were spent working directly with neighborhood associations all over the city on such projects as the Neighborhood Summits, workshops, and providing technical assistance on everything from non-profit law to the public meetings law. "I was fortunate to meet and work with a great number of wonderful volunteers from all over the city who dedicated their valuable free time to help their neighborhoods."

In 2003, she went to work for Environmental Services providing public involvement on the West Side Big Pipe. ONI and BES have an interagency agreement that "loans" ONI employees to BES for specific projects. I joined Joe Annett and Rhetta Drennan who are also ONI employees working at BES under that agreement.

From October 2004 through July 2005 she served as the interim Deputy Director of ONI. "I greatly enjoyed working with the wonderful folks that make up the Neighborhood Inspections, Nuisance Abatement, Crime Prevention, Alcohol Licensing and Noise Control programs." She said. When that position was eliminated through budget cuts, she returned to her friends at BES to work on outreach around capital projects such as the Tanner Extension phase 4.

She is now working in Public Affairs for the Portland Development Corporation. Her assignments include Urban Renewal Areas in Lents, Gateway, Interstate, Oregon Convention Center and special projects in Housing as needed. "It is an exciting place with great people to work with. Even so, I cherish my time with ONI and the people I was privileged to work with. A good thing about my PDC assignments is I will get to work with some of them again."

Joleen is joining former ONI Crime Prevention Manager and colleague Art Hendricks, who was hired several weeks ago as PDC's Public Participation Coordinator.



Joleen with Pendragon of Avalon, also known as Penn.





The annual City Hall Holiday Potluck team that, under the leadership of Angie Harris, has since 1999 provided a fancy luncheon spread for City Hall employees that's second to none with scrumptious desserts, meat and veggie dishes and beverages. The team this year from left to right includes Maria Lim, Barbara Rice, Lesley Kelley, Nicole Murphy-Garcia, Angie Harris, and Peg Genne. Not shown but also on the committee are Lyne Martin, Onessia Wells, Mila Jarvi. Foods on! PHOTOS BY NELL WAGENAAR





Buckman Elementary Chorus brings more holiday cheer

In a flurry of activity and last minute preparations, about 50 kids from Buckman Elementary crowded into City Hall filling the halls with song. Afterwards, they mobbed Mayor Tom Potter who handed out candy canes.

Administration

Director invites staff, the public to help in ONI budget process

By Jimmy Brown



The City of Portland's Fiscal Year budget process has started for the year beginning July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. This year I would like to invite all of you to participate in assisting with the development of the ONI budget, as a joint committee, operating in collaboration with the ONI Bureau Advisory Committee.

The committee will involve about 35 core stakeholders (ONI staff, Coalition Director's and Chair's, and Community Stakeholders), working under the guidance of a facilitator, selected with the assistance of representatives from the Coalition Director's and ONI contractors. The City's budget process starts in earnest during the month

of January, extending through May. This committee's work would begin in mid-December, with extensive work in January and concluding in late May, early June.

Council has established five focus areas to guide decision making for the FY 2006-07 budget processes. They include:

- A family-friendly city
- Sustainable economic development
- Public safety and emergency preparedness
- Energy alternatives
- Infrastructure

The focus areas do not replace the City's existing goals, which are to:

- Ensure a safe and peaceful and community
- Promote economic vitality and opportunity
- Improve the quality of life in neighborhoods
- Protect and enhance the natural and built environment
- Operate and maintain an effective and safe transportation system
- Deliver efficient, effective, and accountable municipal services

City Council has instructed its bureaus to develop budget reduction packages ("cut" packages) totaling 3% of our City General Fund revenues, and to do so in roughly 1% increments. Actual figures relating to ONI have not been determined, but will be known within the next two weeks.

Several key themes have emerged in the budget process, which I believe support ONI's mission and values. Of particular interest are the themes focusing on **collaboration and involvement, support for Bureau Innovation Project work efforts, and seeking out grants and alternative funding sources**. ONI's current Work Plan, developed with Coalition Directors clearly focuses on these themes, along with seeking to increase citizen involvement, communicating with citizens and neighborhoods, supporting the City's Visioning Project, redefining ONI and the neighborhood system and improving public engagement activity and opportunity.

Bureaus are being asked to identify innovative ideas and to think differently about how to complete their work during the fiscal year. I am confident that utilizing a collaborative budget development process will allow us to fashion a budget that meets the community's need and that of the City.

As we move forward with this process, I am asking that each of you be prepared to dedicate initially a modest amount of time during the month of December, approximately four hours of meeting time over two meetings. The month of January would see an increased amount of commitment, approximately 12 – 18 hours, through January 31. I'd like to use three Saturdays during January to have extensive work completed on the budget. These Saturdays would last from approximately 10-3, and give us focused and guided discussion opportunity to review current ONI internal activity and that of its related (funded) programs. Over the next two weeks we will gather various resource documentation (budget projections, program activity reports, staffing and infrastructure) that will be used during the work of the committee. I am asking that each committee member commit to reviewing the information, thus giving you a head start on the work to be completed, and allowing for meaningful, focused dialogue between committee members.

I recognize this is asking much from each of you, and if you are unable to participate in this process, there will be continuing opportunities over the fiscal year to utilize your skills, experience and interest. Simply email me at: jbrown@ci.portland.or.us or call me at 503-823-4134 to RSVP your ability to participate. I look forward to working with each of you in developing a budget for this office, building new relationships and connecting to existing relationships!



Immigrants, refugees air concerns

By Brian Hoop

More than 150 people gathered in City Hall Dec. 3 to hear from immigrants and refugees about both opportunities and barriers to integrating newer residents into the community. Mayor Tom Potter and Commissioner Erik Sten addressed the crowd recognizing the City needs to do more to develop a comprehensive strategy for improving outreach to and addressing the needs of Portland's rapidly diversifying population. ONI co-hosted the event.

One out of every eight residents in the greater Portland Tri-County area is foreign-born. In some East Portland neighborhoods, immigrants represent one out of every three residents. Isolated linguistically and culturally, many recent immigrants are unable to find sustainable employment.



Above, the African delegation and interpreter stop by the ONI office. Below, the Kgotso African Dance Theatre group's Loveness Wesa, performs an African dance.

PHOTOS BY JIMMY BROWN

And the bulk of their time and energy is put toward basic needs rather than civic involvement.

The conference was organized by a Capstone class of Portland State University students and the Community and Language Culture Bank (a community advocacy organization for immigrants and refugees). The Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Office of Mayor Potter co-sponsored the event assisting with logistical efforts.

Panelists included Anya Valsamakis of the Slavic Coalition, Evelyne Ello-Hart of the African Women's Coalition, Maria Lisa Johnson of the Latino Network, Pam Phan of the American Friends Service Committee, and David Ayala of SEIU Local 49.

A standing room only discussion took place on next steps for inclusion on the local level. In a mostly brainstorming format participants raised ideas for engaging the immigrant and refugee community with support for mentorship and leadership training, building an international community center, manuals for how to find your way through government services, and better access to City bureau and elected leaders. The PSU students will be putting together a summary of ideas.

Neighborhood Resource Center

SW associations working out overlap boundary dispute

By Brian Hoop

After months of dialogue an action phase has been put into place to seek resolution to the overlapping boundary dispute between the SW Hills Residential League and Hillsdale and Homestead Neighborhood Associations. The three neighborhood associations came to agreement in mid-November on a strategy for surveying neighbors and businesses in their areas. The response will advise the respective boards of directors in determining appropriate solutions this winter.

The first of two open houses drew some 50 people to discuss the Hillsdale and SWHRL overlap issue. ONI has assisted with mailing out the surveys to several thousand residents, property owners and businesses along with preparing maps for the open houses. For more information and maps go to: <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=40757>

Public takes part in online communications training

Over 40 people participated in a workshop December 1st on Going Online, designing communication strategies for neighborhood and community groups using web sites, forums, list serves, and blogs for communicating with neighbors.

David Pool highlighted the tools available at www.News4Neighbors.com which is a web site available for neighborhood associations to post news and event items. Ryan Matson with the Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Development group and City Repair described how forums worked such as HANDS at <http://www.handpdx.org/forum/index.php>. Todd Coward with Sullivan Gulch Neighborhood Association reviewed a range of effective neighborhood websites such as <http://www.sullivansgulch.org>.

On December 7th the board of Central NE Neighbors met with ONI staff person Brian Hoop for a training on the updated ONI neighborhood Standards. This was a board training to bring neighborhood leaders up to speed on how changes to the Standards, approved by City Council this summer, will affect their associations. In addition they reviewed CNN's contract with the City to better understand the expectations and duties of CNN and ONI outlined in the contract.

ONI and the District Coalitions will be actively working with neighborhood associations in 2006 to provide technical assistance on updating bylaws and familiarizing neighborhood leaders on the updated Standards. Info on the new Standards are at: <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=40257>

Grant now available through the Community Vision Project

The City of Portland has announced a grants program linked to the Community Vision Project. Mayor Potter wants to hear from Portlanders what they want Portland to look like in 30 years. This project-creating a vision for Portland-will include talking to people in all parts of the city about their dreams and aspirations for Portland.

The grants program is an invitation for community based organizations to submit proposals to engage their constituencies. The program will provide funding to support bringing people together with the ultimate goal of asking a series of questions regarding Portland's future. Grant awards will range from \$1,000--\$15,000.

The second of two grants workshops will take place Thursday, January 5th, 2006, 3:00—5:00 pm, at the North Portland Library, 516 N Killingsworth. Please RSVP for workshops by contacting: Amanda Rhoads, amandar@ci.portland.or.us, 503.823.5856. Neighborhood Associations interested in applying are encouraged to connect with their respective District Coalition.

These are funds from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's budget. After the visioning project is completed these funds will be utilized towards priorities identified for neighborhood and community outreach efforts identified in the visioning and Bureau Innovation Project Team 8 efforts. For more information: <http://www.portlandonline.com/mayor/index.cfm?c=39149>

Information and Referral

Charter finalized

Safety Committee recommends changes to ONI office

By John Dutt

After one more round of reviews by committee members and bureau upper management, the ONI Safety Committee was able to finalize the Committee Charter which will be used to guide the work of the committee on into the future. A copy of the final charter can be viewed from the Safety Committee's website at <http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=93893>

The first major undertaking of the ONI Safety Committee is looking at the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) committee's evaluation of the ONI office at City Hall and to forward recommendations to ONI management regarding possible changes to the design of the workspace. The committee received the draft report from the CPTED committee and is working on evaluating the specific recommendations and creating a prioritized list.

Some of the recommendations include equipping entrance doors with pneumatic locks, installing plastic viewing panels, convex mirrors and locking gates at entrances, creating alternate escape routes, clearing trappings and removing some cubicle walls in the back offices. As part of a general plan to beef up City Hall security, it is recommended that visitors by directed to the 4th Avenue entrance, pass through a metal detector, and sign in and out of the building. Members of the CPTED Committee are Crime Prevention Specialists Teri Poppino, chair, Rosanne Lee, William Warren, Katherine Anderson, Tom Peavey and Walter Garcia.

We will also need to do some research to come up with some figures regarding the costs of making certain changes. This information will then be forwarded to the ONI Director as formal recommendations. We look forward to reporting in the coming few months regarding specific changes that are being implemented at City Hall.

In January staff can look forward to a short survey being conducted by the Safety Committee to gauge staff's interest and concern regarding workplace safety and wellness. We are putting the finishing touches on a bureau-wide survey of 25 questions which will give all staff an opportunity to give input to the committee about the issues most important to them individually regarding safety and wellness in the workplace.

The Committee met with Jimmy and Sarah to review and modify the charter to get us to a final document. The meeting went well and set the tone for a cooperative relationship between the committee and upper management. A few modifications were made to the charter based on this conversation. The Safety Committee will be meeting 11/8/05 to finalize these changes and then we will sign it and make it available publicly through our Website.

The committee is now accepting suggestions/concerns from staff using an online suggestion form that staff can access on the ONI Website at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=39337>. The ONI Website has a top-level category titled "Employees" which is where you will find the ONI Safety Committee information and this online suggestion form. To access this category you have to be logged in to PortlandOnline so that the site is able to recognize that you are a city employee. This category is not viewable by those who are not logged in with a city employee account. Staff may also submit suggestions directly to any member of the Safety Committee as another means.

In other I&R news: The month of November was an outstanding month for the I&R unit's call statistics. We answered 92.3% of calls within our 25-second grade of service level. This is one of our higher monthly percentages in the past couple of years. Do to some problems with our call distribution software we do not at this time have complete number on the numbers of calls received and answered.

Neighborhood Livability - Crime Prevention

Crime prevention team does outreach in Arlington Heights

By William Warren

Aided by colleague Stephanie Reynolds, southwest crime prevention coordinator, and PPB Officers Sue Abrahamson and Matt Miller, William Warren teamed with NRT Officer William Winters to bring crime prevention materials door-to-door to Arlington Heights residents on Monday, November 14. This outreach effort reaped success last year when there were no reported B&Es in the Arlington area during the Thanksgiving to New Year's period for the first time in several years.

The Holiday car prowling reduction education community-policing outreach began on Friday, November 18. PPB Central Precinct Commander Dave Benson welcomed volunteers from the Southwest Park Blocks, Nob Hill Business Association, the Pearl, Old Town/Chinatown and Goose Hollow neighborhoods at the kick-off in City Council Chambers. After a brief orientation by Officer Jeff Myers, these volunteers were partnered with personnel from Portland State University Security, Portland Patrol Inc., Multnomah County Juvenile Justice, Portland Police

Bureau Cadets, Reserve Officers, and Neighborhood Response Team Officers, Stephanie Reynolds, Walter Garcia and William Warren from ONI Crime Prevention. Within four hours approximately 10,000 car prowler reduction leaflets were distributed to parked cars throughout the central downtown and adjacent neighborhoods. This effort will be repeated on Saturday, December 10. The final effort will take place during the week of December 12 courtesy of a cooperative effort with City Parking Patrol.

Northwest Housing Authority of Portland managers continue with their monthly schedule. The November meeting introduced Jason Fox the new supervising manager for the northwest properties to the group. A full discussion about the implementation of HAP's new tenant lease program (effective Feb 1, 06) was the principal piece of business. This monthly meeting allows the residential HAP managers of the four high-rise properties, PPB NRT Officer Susan Abrahamson, and crime prevention coordinator William Warren to problem-solve complex livability situations.

Fight graffiti: Remove it as soon as you see it

By Preston Wong

Grffiti is sign of urban decay, it's unsightly, and it's a crime. It can be seen everywhere in the city. If you drive along NE Sandy Blvd between 33rd Av and Parkrose you'll see it virtually everywhere. Graffiti is put up by different people and different groups for a variety of reasons ranging from gangs to individual "taggers". What's important to know about graffiti is that property owners need to remove it as soon as you see it because graffiti encourages more graffiti.

To learn more about graffiti Central Northeast Neighbors (CNN) and ONI Crime Prevention is sponsoring a seminar entitled "How To Read Graffiti and What To Do About It" The seminar is free and open to the public on Jan 24, 2006 (Tues) in the CNN Community Room located at 4415 NE 87th Av from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The instructor is Preston Wong, Crime Prevention Specialist and former Portland Police Officer. For questions call Preston at 503-823-2781.

Survey in works to assess watch systems in Southeast

By Galina Grigoryan

The SE Portland's Crime Prevention Office is currently working on a survey process to assess the neighborhood watch system in our area in terms of its activity, current leadership, and geographic information. In addition, the survey is being used to identify neighborhood watch leaders' needs for crime prevention training and support from our local office. The survey will be completed at the end of this year and will be used by staff for work plan development, scheduling of crime prevention trainings in 2006, and to streamline our service delivery.

In addition, Galina Grigoryan and Rosanne Lee continue to work on a number of problem-location and pro-active projects including:

- 82nd Avenue of Roses Project
- Montavilla Neighborhood Outreach Project
- Crime Prevention missions with SE Police Precinct
- Landlord Forums
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design assessments in various neighborhoods
- Streetlight Pilot Project assessments in Laurelhurst and Richmond neighborhoods

- Foot Patrol Organizing in Sunnyside in Montavilla
- Partnership Agreements in Buckman
- and a number of liquor related issues in various neighborhoods

For more information, please contact Galina Grigoryan at 503-823-3432 or Rosanne Lee at 503-823-0540.

How to do a crime prevention program on a song

The Crime Prevention Association of Oregon presents the ***"How to Do a Crime Prevention Program on Little or No Money"*** training scheduled for Jan. 17, from 1-4 p.m., at the Clackamas Community College campus located at 29353 Town Center Loop, E. Room 111-112, Wilsonville OR. The training is designed to give crime prevention practitioners and their public safety partners information and tools needed for the development and implementation of crime prevention programs at the local level.

Training Presenter - Deputy Sheriff Mark Koberstein from the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, has been in Law Enforcement for 33 years and has been the sole Crime Prevention Specialist for Clackamas County for the last 4 years. Mark has an extensive background in crime prevention programming and fund development and will share his successes and experiences obtaining goods and services needed to develop and deliver programs with the training participants.

The training is open to the general public. Registration fee of \$25 and completed registration form must be received by Jan. 10. Space is limited. This training is FREE to current CPAO members. For more information, RSVP your attendance and/or to request a registration form (for non-members) - please contact Doreen Rivera at 503-846-5930, Doreen_rivera@co.washington.or.us More info at www.cpao.org

Neighborhood Inspections

New employee Veronica Nordeen joins Inspection Team



Please welcome Veronica Nordeen, new program specialist at the Neighborhood Inspections Team at the Columbia Square Building. She replaces Amy Cammack, who returned to the Bureau of Licenses. This is a lateral transfer for Veronica as she was a program specialist at Police Bureau records, reports Ed Marihart, NIT supervisor. She has come home as she use to work for Neighborhood Inspections approximately 10 years ago and worked in other BDS sections before going to the Police Bureau.

She will be working with the management team doing administrative reviews of Title 29 code violations in housing and nuisance. She will also be working on foreclosures in the future.

She was born in Longview and calls herself an "I-5 baby" because she lived in many of the communities along that highway. She lived in Stockton CA for about seven years completing her bachelor's degree at the University of the Pacific. While there, she worked at the National Public Radio station hosting a New Age jazz show and a talk show involving the university community.

She describes herself as an avid animal lover and has a variety of pets. Veronica is currently a foster parent for rabbits, working closely with Rabbit Advocate, a non-profit agency in the community. People get rabbits for pets around Easter or because they look so cute at pet stores. Then they tire of them, don't get them spayed, and leave them in parks or along roads, she explained. Her 2006 New Year's resolution is to volunteer at the Humane Society.

Welcome aboard Veronica!

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Canda lauded for his Peacekeeping efforts

John Canda, who started with the City 17 years ago as a gang outreach worker, is still doing basic street work...trying to keep the peace in the neighborhood after several shootings this year, both in the downtown area and in North Portland.



John Canda, NECN director

Canda, Executive Director of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, was featured in the December issue of **Portland Monthly Magazine** and listed as one of the 25 people who defined the magazine's 2005 "It List". He was included as the "Peacemaker" on page 92 and noted for his calm presence at a shooting in September at the corner of N. Haight and Emerson. Canda works behind the scenes advising the mayor and police but also heads out to the scenes during times of crisis, unarmed, and tries to mediate the conflicts.

Project Homeless Connect set for Jan. 17

Hundreds of volunteers and community groups will gather to launch **Project Homeless Connect** Tuesday, Jan. 17 at the Memorial Coliseum to connect Portland's homeless community with much-needed medical, dental, legal, addiction, and housing-counseling services, staff at SEUL announces.

Help will be provided by professionals volunteering their services on-site, as well as other community volunteers who want to lend a hand. Organizers say the project harnesses the energy and compassion of volunteers to offer care to help Portland's 2,300 homeless. Those attending the event will learn about the causes of homelessness and how to support our many great local organizations that help the homeless all year. Volunteers are needed.

Project Homeless Connect began a year ago in San Francisco and now thousands of volunteers engage six times a year to help thousands of homeless clients achieve self-sufficiency. That city has seen a dramatic drop in the number of homeless thanks to the human connections made and the new community focus on finding resources for housing.

Portland and Multnomah County are working together on a plan to end homelessness in the metro area by 2015, through the implementation of *Home Again, A 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness*. For more information, visit: www.portlandhomelessconnect.com
To sign up to volunteer, visit: www.portlandhomelessconnect.com/volunteer.html

Do you know your city?

In a rare maneuver the Trivia Guru has decided to anoint two winners in last months trivia contest. Dan Collins, of ONI Neighborhood Inspections, was our first to correctly guess that Sullivan's Gulch was once the home to a golf course and Hooverville. A winner title is also being given to Patrick Philpott, from the Bureau of Development Services, for providing enlightenment to the Trivia Guru. Patrick was the 3rd person to correctly answer the question but was also able to provide some fascinating trivia related to this question: The Point West Credit Union at 718 NE 12th was the location of the clubhouse for the old golf course. Patrick forwarded me a copy of some papers documenting the very interesting history of this building!

Continuing on with our theme of neighborhood specific trivia...

Within the boundaries of what existing neighborhood would you have found in the early 1900's a sight, which is still used for a certain form of recreation, that once paid host to such events as greyhound racing, flying exhibitions and a spectacle sponsored by the American Legion featuring a head-on collision between two locomotives?

The first person to correctly respond by emailing the Trivia Guru at 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