



office of  
neighborhood  
involvement

# The Other Side of the Fence

E-News from ONI ~ October 2004

Enhancing the quality of neighborhoods through community participation

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Carol Justice, center, enjoying a quiet moment at home with her two daughters Stephanie, left, and Sarah, after the Block Captain Recognition event Thursday night.

(Photo by Caron Cox)

## Hub of the Universe

### **Single Mom juggles life, two daughters, ONI politics**

By Nell Wagenaar

She stacked two cords of wood the other weekend to heat her house this winter. Sells Tupperware on the side to make ends meet. She's a single mom and raising two teenage daughters. Is still recovering from surgery last month. We know her best as Queen Carol, all-knowing office goddess, who will tell you where to find the Spirit of Portland Awards applications, the neighborhood directories and how she likes your haircut.

The one thing they'll never put on her tombstone? "We never knew how she felt." It's that goofy, no-holds-barred sense of humor that has become her trademark and that will be sorely missed in the City Hall ONI office when she moves to the Columbia Square Building later this week.

**"LABELS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"** she yells and the whole office chimes in to echo the call to stop printing any documents until the labels go through.

"I'm shameless with my goofiness. I have a twisted sense of humor." And she's not afraid to use it. It's how she holds it all together in the midst of the daily pressure of office life . . . by a string of goodwill and sheer attitude.

She told a crime prevention coordinator the other day, "if you don't refill the paper tray in the printer . . . I'm going to have to hurt you." It shows the depth of her relationships and the easy-going repartee she has with her co-workers. WOOHOO!!! And now she's moving.

She'll be moving and continue as administrative coordinator for Crime Prevention and manager Eric King, help with administrative projects and provide office support to new Interim Deputy Director Joleen Jensen-Classen.

### *A hard decision*

Carol, who's been with ONI for four years, toiled for weeks making the decision. She'll miss her co-workers at City Hall and says John (Dutt) was her "best boss ever!" But change is good. She's been promised a chance to develop new job skills. "I'm a detail chick. I may not see the forest through the trees....I see the blade of grass, the insects and seedlings."

Carol's been on the front line for most of her working life. It's the hub of the universe, she says, always exciting. "I love being the Go-to-Girl at ONI" but admits it's very hard work juggling customer service, demands from the various ONI departments and answering a stream of constant questions. But it's that multi-tasking that she loves. "It's a sickness," she laughs.

She answered the phone at Information and Referral for three years going that extra mile to connect people to services. Dealing with "difficult" folks, she says, especially on a continual basis was the hardest part of the job. "Sometimes I'd just have to send them off to people making the bigger bucks."

Advice for frontline fledglings? "Be real and be genuine. People can sense phoniness a mile away. Remember to treat customers the way you want to be treated.

"I really care about my co-workers, their feelings and what kind of day they're having...Everything we've been through at ONI, I feel we're more like a family than ever before."

She had a serious scare last month dealing with an infected lymph node that grew bigger and bigger and finally had to be surgically removed. "I really thought my number was up. I have a history of cancer in my family and I was very, very scared....my friends got me through it." They drove her to the hospital, brought her flowers, and saw her through the post op emotional rollercoaster.

## *Country girl at heart*

Carol is a country girl at heart. She was born and grew up on a small family farm in Chattaroy, near Spokane, Washington. Her job was tending the chicken coop, the cows, the cats, dogs, turkeys, geese and the pony that was hers. To this day she loves the outdoors. She putters in her garden whenever she can and likes to fish for sturgeon at Bonneville Dam.

“What I miss most is the deep peace and quiet of the country. The traffic, the noise of the city gets on my nerve.” If she had her druthers, she’d move to the coast and run her own bed and breakfast, maybe volunteer in a worthy cause mentoring teenagers or working with retarded citizens.

At age 17, she attended the Job Corp program in Astoria. She wanted to go to college but Reagan cut off the funding. Instead, she entered a Voc Ed program where she tried her hand at carpentry, complete with boots and hardhat.

But one day of roofing during a cold downpour carrying 90-pound bundles of shingles up scaffolding cooled her jets considerably. She switched to clerical and business administration, moved to Portland where her family had relocated and entered the Industrial Work Experience Program. She landed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Edith Green Federal Building where she was office support for the federal office of personnel management for six months until again, funds dried up.

## *Pregnant*

She got a job working for Multnomah County purchasing, as an office assistant II/construction bid clerk. While working, she enrolled in the business management program at Portland Community College where she met her ex husband. They married. She got pregnant with Stephanie and quit college, 11 credits short of getting her Associate degree. (“Someday I will finish.”)

After the birth of her second daughter, Sarah, the family decided she would stay at home to take care of the kids. For the next five years, she raised her daughters Stephanie, now 17, and Sarah, 15 and pretty much stayed home. “I sort of lost myself in my family. I missed adult interaction, couldn’t do soap operas so I got involved in my neighborhood.” She started a foot patrol program in the Woodlawn neighborhood, which was facing rising crime and vandalism.

After her divorce, she was “an open wound” with her self-confidence shaken. She got her life back together when a call came through from Multnomah County asking her to come back as a temp working in contract administration in the purchasing section.

Two years later, she was hired full-time as the Program Assistant to the Minority, Women, and Emerging Small Business Program. Five years later, she made a lateral move to the county’s telecommunications department, knowing that she would be transferred to the city via an intergovernmental agreement (IGA). In November 2000, the contract was approved and she transferred, becoming an I&R specialist for the city and county.

Though her road has had its bumps, she feels very blessed. The other day she lost her wallet but someone returned it intact and refused the reward. She saw it as a sign of coming good fortune.

Her family and friends are her mainstay. “Life is all about the relationships you’ve built with people and they determine the quality of your life.”

## Vital statistics

### Congratulations John & Katy Dutt on the birth of Madeleine



A happy Madeleine Malone Dutt, born October 5, 2004 at Good Samaritan Hospital, greets her family and first day of life on planet Earth with a big hearty scream. She was born at 8:08 a.m., weighed in at 8 lbs. 1 ounce, and measured 21 inches long. Brother Jacob, who's been waiting a long time for her arrival, holds his little sister before she falls soundly asleep.

"Baby and mom are healthy and doing well!" John reports. "I am definitely a proud papa! Everything went very well and we feel very blessed indeed."



### ***Eric & Martha get hitched***

Crime Prevention Manager Eric King and Martha Ketsdever were married last month. The happy couple traveled to Italy for a honeymoon.

They exchanged vows on September 18th in Hood River, Oregon.

"We went to Southern Italy and Sicily for our honeymoon. Got an overload of carbs... pasta, pizza, pannini... and lots and lots of gilato! "

The photo at left shows Eric and Martha hiking this past winter. They got back just last week and the wedding pictures have not been developed yet. Stay tuned.



# ONI teams up with adjudicated youth to clean up nuisance sites



## Pilot program helps at-risk youth

A pilot program, teaming up young offenders with ONI's efforts to clean up trash and debris at public properties around town, has proven to be a big success story. The teens were kept busy during the summer months with clean up projects that benefited the community and fulfilled their community service requirements.

Also, it gave them basic job experience that will help them stay on the right track. The program has two components—The VIC program involves 15-20 kids and the Summer Stipend program involved about 30 youth including both boys and girls from ages 15-18.



Juvenile Justice program coordinators Will Willhite, left, and Steve Walker

## Information and Referral

### ***I&R staff completes County Directory, Language Bank next***

By John Dutt

- September was the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive month that I&R exceeded the 90% of calls answered under 25 seconds. Another fairly busy month as well with **14176** calls answered. For the year we have answered **126,812** calls thus far which is **3.23%** more calls than in 2003 and **5.46%** more than in 2002.
- We just completed updating the County Departmental Directory that we supply the County Telecommunications Office with thanks to one of our I&R Specialists Teresa. Every six months we supply the County with this update for them. They use this document mostly as an internal tool on their internal County Employee Website but it is also available for purchase to the public in a CD ROM format.
- Teresa is also working on updating the City and County Employee Language Bank. This is a comprehensive listing of all current City and County employees that possess second language skills. I&R is able to use this to assist with translating calls when necessary and to help callers who speak other languages to access the services they need.
- Another of our I&R Specialists, Nicole Murphy Garcia, is leading up the task of reconvening a Frontline Staff Meeting. Up until a couple of years ago the I&R Unit would organize quarterly meetings of all the City frontline staff. These meetings are an excellent opportunity for City staff who work the front desks and/or phones to network and share information about what is going on across the City. They are also useful means to have speakers/trainers come in to speak with these staff to enhance skills we need to deal with the public and be more successful in our customer service roles for the City. This go around we are planning on inviting County staff as well and hope to get good participation for as many bureaus and departments as possible.
- I&R will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary this fall! We are starting to plan for some celebratory events to commemorate this exciting milestone. The Mayor's Office has said they will issue a statement and we will use that as well as a press release as a marketing tool to get the word out about the program to the public. The Portland Tribune has indicated an interest in doing a news story and we hope to get more press involved as well. We will also be putting together a lobby display for the first 2 weeks of December in the Portland Building. Ten years and almost 1.5 million calls deserve a party!
- John is completing the migration of the data to our new and improved database which we plan to start using in early November.
- The North Portland eVolvment project is ramping up and ONI and the I&R program are integral parts in the success of this project. In addition to the community outreach that ONI is involved with concerning this project I&R will play a key role in helping to moderate and populate the content in this site. We have already begun this role in populating the North Portland Online site with Frequently Asked Questions to a portion of the site. Several of the I&R staff and the Community Outreach interns have been working on coming up with comprehensive answers to almost 100 different frequently asked questions that North Portland residents may have and look to find on this site. This will be a key part of the site that we hope will attract and keep many users to the site. This content is static and we



hope to be able to replace this static content soon with a live link to the actual I&R database. I&R will also be a key part of the site once it goes live in that we will be serving as moderators to make sure that questions posted to the back fence and bulletin boards are being responded to by appropriate City staff.

## Neighborhood Inspection Team

### **NIT partners with county health on tracking mold, asbestos, garbage**

By Ed Marihart

We are busy preparing here for the Big Move to our new location at 111 SW Columbia #670. The move date is still Oct. 15th and we will be in our new "digs" on Monday, Oct. 18th. Come and visit us at our new location.

We are working with and collaborating on a new project with the Environmental Health Services Section at Multnomah County Health to help develop a plan to use housing inspections to track health-related environmental conditions such as mold, garbage, vector, insects, asbestos in a uniform way and maintain a database of this information. One of the goals of the project is to initially develop specific outreach strategies to communicate Environmental Health data to the North/Northeast community to improve community awareness and reporting.

We are a partner working in collaboration with the new Hazelwood/Montavilla Weed & Seed Group to be a member of the Steering Committee and provide enhanced Housing and Nuisance Services to the neighborhood. We will sign a Memorandum of Agreement and participate in a 5-year strategy plan similar to our participation and commitment to the Lents/Brentwood Darlington Weed & Seed group.

## Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Livability Center

### ***Block Captains honored at 3<sup>rd</sup> annual recognition ceremony***

About 75 people attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Block Watch Captain Recognition event at East Portland Community Center Thursday evening. They included the Captains, their guests and ONI staff. It was the first year ONI offered a training program during the program. The four training modules were on noise control, the Time, Place and Manner Ordinance, Project Safe Neighborhood and Meth Watch.

The following Block Watch Captains were recognized:



**Crime Prevention Manager Eric King, left, chats with the Block Watch Captains honored Thursday night. (Photo by Carol Justice)**

**Old Town/Chinatown**

Carol McCreary, Old Town/Chinatown

**Central Northeast Neighbors Inc**

Iola Halligan, Beaumont Wilshire

**East Portland Neighborhood Office**

Jim Taylor, Pleasant Valley and  
PPB East Precinct Lieutenant Chris Uehara

**Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods**

Anna Marchese, Woodlawn  
Anne Taylor, Piedmont

**Neighbors West Northwest**

Bob Arkes, Goose Hollow  
Gregory Crawford, Pearl District  
PK Wall, Sylvan-Highlands

**Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program**

Dave Hillman, Mt. Tabor  
Charise Prouty, Hawthorne Business Watch

**Southwest Neighborhoods Inc**

Bill and Jill Case, Maplewood

## **Irving Park crime sparks citizen/agency response**

By Tom Peavey

Increasing criminal activity in and around Irving Park at NE 7<sup>th</sup> and Fremont stimulated citizen problem solving efforts and a multiple agency response during the months August and September. Intervention efforts by city agencies, non-profit youth at risk programs and citizen group efforts were successful, according to neighbors.

“Since the meeting with Portland Police and ONI Crime Prevention Officer, things have improved GREATLY in the park. They (neighbors) are noticing more patrols in the park. . .now two Neighborhood Watch programs are being formed and the dog group (Dogs in the Park Steward Group) is informally communicating with them,” said Peggy Glascock, supervisor for Parks and Recreation, after a conversation she had with Eve Vogel, a member of the Off-Leash Dog Steward Group.

The framework for change was first initiated at a meeting with representatives of the Off-Leash Site Steward Group at the Northeast Neighborhood Coalition. ONI and Parks & Recreation hosted the meeting. Neighborhood Watch programs were then facilitated by ONI Crime Prevention in two separate Irvington neighborhoods blocks near Irving Park. The established Neighborhood Watch groups then created a communication link with one another as well as with the Off-Leash group. The Northeast Precinct Neighborhood Response Team and district officers offered additional support by increasing police presence in and around the park. Increased attention by members of N.A.C.O. (New Approaches to Community Outreach) and the Gang Outreach Youth Gangs Program have been given to at risk youth within Irving Park. Both organizations are based in the King Neighborhood Facility and serve all Portland neighborhoods in offering programs and counseling to at risk youth. Finally, ONI Crime Prevention and Parks and Recreation recently completed a crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) study of problem areas identified by citizen groups using the park.

## **CNN presents how-not-to-be-a-victim trainings**

Preston Wong, Crime Prevention, is currently doing a series of "How Not To Be A Victim", street safety and security presentations for most of the HAP properties in the city. There has been high demand for the trainings and they have been well received.



Preston is also in the process of forming two youth basketball teams for the Madison Park (formerly known as Rose City Village) Apt area. One is a 7th and 8th grade girls' team and the other is a 7th and 8th grade boys' team. The primary goal is to teach young players the importance of teamwork and preparation. The secondary goal is to keep kids away from gangs, drugs, and crime. Both of these teams are in need of coaches for one hour on Saturdays and 1 1/2 hrs during a weekday evening through the month of March. If you would like to volunteer time, please contact Preston Wong, Crime Prevention, CNN at 503-823-2781

## ***NWNW educates public on home burglary prevention***

Central Precinct NRT Officer Katie Goodner and Northwest crime prevention coordinator William Warren will educate Arlington Heights residents on how to reduce home burglaries. The neighborhood has a history of break-ins during the holiday season. Officer Goodner and William are working a new strategy to involve the residents to increase their awareness and involvement in crime prevention.

William reports that Northwest Neighborhood Block Watch Captains Bob Arkes of Goose Hollow, Gregory Crawford of Pearl, and PK Wall of Sylvan-Highlands are honored for their work at the ONI Crime Prevention Block Watch Captain Recognition Event.

## **Southwest crime prevention targets public drinking**

In Southwest Portland, Crime Prevention Coordinator Stephanie Reynolds has been working with the Corbett-Terwilliger-Lair Hill Neighborhood Association and several neighborhood businesses to address increasing problems with street drinkers in the northern parts of the neighborhood. Neighbors have reported increasing incidents of public drunkenness, litter, urination and defecation, and trespassing. Stephanie hopes to implement a Good Neighbor Agreement between the CTLH NA and three particular convenience stores to reduce these incidents.

## ***Liquor Licensing Program thanks Crime Prevention staffers***

By Kimberly Mark-Villela

I would like to thank Galina Boyechko and Rosanne Lee (SEUL) and Walter Garcia (NPNS) for hosting the Time Place and Manner Presentation to their Public Safety Action Committees. We've had three presentations to date and each has been well received. Everyone in attendance had very insightful questions. I look forward to many more community presentations.

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission is hard at work to meet public information requirements. They have attended three neighborhood association meetings to date. They have prepared a presentation with a Q & A at the end. This presentation is about the State Licensing Process and Enforcement Process relating to liquor. It is very informative and gives you an opportunity to meet with officials within the Commission. If your neighborhood association would like to host the Oregon Liquor Control Commission's presentation, please contact me at 503-823-3092 or email at [kmarkvillela@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:kmarkvillela@ci.portland.or.us)

## Neighborhood Resource Center

# Resource Center presents newsletter-publishing workshops

By Art Hendricks

- After a two-year hiatus the Neighborhood Resource Center provided two workshops in collaboration with Central Northeast Neighborhoods in the month of September. On September 29, 2004, fifteen neighborhood representatives attended Publishing Your Neighborhood Newsletter. Brian Hoop facilitated the workshop which covered different newsletter formats, methods of newsletter distribution, and the ONI guidelines regarding the publishing of newsletters. Representatives from Concordia and Beaumont-Wilshire shared their experience in the printing and distribution of their newsletter.
- On September 30 at Central Northeast Neighbors, Joleen Jensen-Classen facilitated a workshop for twelve participants on the Roles and Responsibilities for Neighborhood Association and Coalition Board of Directors. The topics covered in the workshop were director's responsibilities, organizational roles, organizational documents, and recruiting and preparing new board members.
- The Neighborhood Resource Center sent a survey in September on asking neighborhoods to help prioritize future training on 43 proposed topics. About a quarter of the surveys have been returned and the Neighborhood Resource Center will be analyzing the results and setting its priorities for 2005.
- Lastly, the Neighborhood Resource Center will be assisting the Bureau of Development Services and the Bureau of Planning in providing the ABC's of Land Use Planning sometime in November. A date, time and place are yet to be determined.
- If you have interest in training please contact Art Hendricks at (503) 823-3048 or at [ahendricks@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:ahendricks@ci.portland.or.us)

## ***Downspout Disconnection Program marks 9<sup>th</sup> season***

By Lauren Norris

On October 2, the Downspout Disconnection Program completed its 9th season of community involvement. Each year, March-October we launch a new outreach and involvement campaign that includes mailings, door-to-door outreach and volunteers actually helping disconnect downspouts for homeowners.

We will be diligently working to enter data to determine the success of the outreach efforts in the next month. We do know that ONI's downspout outreach staff launched the season working to contact almost 10,000 homeowners and 6300 rental owners. This was the first year for direct contact for landlords. It included a phone bank and tabling at the Neighborhood Inspections Landlord training.

We were pleased to see that this initial effort has already resulted in the disconnection of 350 rental properties! ONI's Downspout canvassers Bob, Alison, Sheri, Julie, Jonah and Bethany did an outstanding job this year and I hope that we can look forward to some of them returning to work with us next season!

Community involvement continued to be an important component of the Downspout Disconnection Program. From March to October we had 24 events where almost 30 community organizations

such as AmeriCorps, neighborhood associations, schools, religious groups and youth groups mobilized volunteers to disconnect downspouts.

Over 400 volunteers participated helping remove almost 15.4 million gallons of water from Portland's busy sewer system. Downspout disconnection is a fundraiser for organizations, and in this season they raised almost \$12,000. Some of the projects downspout disconnection helped fund include church renovations, cultural events, tree plantings, neighborhood newsletters, sports teams, youth mentorship programs, classroom science supplies or fieldtrips and public art.

The next month will be spent evaluating the seasons outreach efforts and how it has gotten us closer to the over all flow removal goals. Once this is done we can begin to assess the possibility of another season of community involvement. Original estimates of the level of sign ups for the program had me worried this was the last season, but participation proved to be more successful then expected this year.

The Eastside Big Pipe design process is also reevaluating the original flow removal goals of downspout disconnection. They may determine that a high rate of participation will be needed to keep costs of the big pipe down. For these reasons, we are confident there will be another season for Downspout Disconnection. The question will simply be focused on the length and number of events in the season. An end-of-season report on ONI's Outreach and Involvement efforts this season will be available in the next few weeks.

## Noise Control

# Noise Control on moving again . . . for 7<sup>th</sup> time

By Paul van Orden

A little history is in order with the upcoming move for Noise Control on Oct. 18, 2004 to our new location at 111 SW Columbia, Suite 670.

Over the last eight years Noise Control has made no less then seven moves including the upcoming move to our new Columbia Building location. My first few years in 1996 to approximately 1999 the Noise Control Office moved to four separate Floors in the Portland Building. In August of 1996 we were on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor. We moved to one end of the 12th floor, only to move less than a year later to the opposite end of the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. Our next move was to a dark corner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Portland Building far from the tiny windows in the building, which Architect Michael Graves designed.

The Noise Office was excited in August of 1999 with our move to the newly built 1900 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Building. At that time we were still located in the Bureau of Development Services (BDS). Then BDS Director Margaret Mahoney was instrumental in rewarding our patience for moving to so many locations in a short time and we moved to the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the 1900 Building. We had one of the nicest locations in the 1900 Building, with a beautiful view of Mount Hood and a view of the expanse of downtown Portland.

In July of 2003 we officially became part of the ONI team and moved into our current "digs" in City Hall. It's been a little more then a year later and we are heading to a new office location at 111 SW Columbia.

The new location, as you are reading in other sections of this environmentally friendly e- newsletter, will include Housing and Nuisance Inspection staff, Crime Prevention, Graffiti, and Liquor Licensing. The new location offers the neighborhoods throughout the city a consistent location to find the primary elements of ONI that focus on enforcement and resolution of community livability concerns.

The move will offer ONI staff working in this enforcement/ livability segment of our agency's work an increased capability to internally coordinate on cases that include multiple issues.

So come on down and see our nice new offices. We hope to settle in and stay in our new location for an extended period so you can find us when you need us!!!!

## CITYHALLBEATCITYHALLBEATCITYHALLBEAT



**Mauricio Carvajal,  
left, and ONI's  
Amalia Alarcon-  
Gaddie do the  
Salsa.**

*(Photos by Nell  
Wagenaar)*

### **ONI teams up with OMF**

## **Food & dance are the stars at City Hall Hispanic event**

About 75 folks, mostly City of Portland employees, came down to the atrium at City Hall Friday Sept. 24, for a potluck lunch and a dance demonstration by Mauricio Carvajal, one of Portland's Salsa dance instructors, and our own Amalia Alarcon-Gaddie, manager of the Neighborhood Resource Center. It was all part of the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and various city bureaus supplied the food—tacos and fillings, refried beans, homemade tortillas, flan, spoon bread, corn casserole, tamales, rice pudding, picadillo and more.



It's one of the perks working at City Hall. Every now and then employees get to enjoy a musical event, a lecture, a demonstration or a festive holiday potluck. The city sponsors heritage celebrations once a month. September was designated Hispanic month and in October the city will be celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness.



**Getting the lead out. . .**

**Mauricio explains “the clave,” the basic 2/3 or 3/2 underlying beat of all Salsa music to a flock of eager learners.**

## ***Native American culture, GLBT community also honored***

The Office of Sustainable Development sponsored a citywide diversity brown bag highlighting Native American practices and mythology around sustainability last week Monday.

Today, in honor of National Coming Out Day, the Bureau of Licenses joined Multnomah County, Tri-Met, and Wells Fargo Bank to present “Have You Worked OUT Lately” from 12 to 1 pm in the Portland Building Auditorium to celebrate GLBT pride. Speakers included Roey Thorpe, director of Basic Rights Oregon, and City Commissioners Dan Saltzman and Randy Leonard

## ***Coffee is flowing again at City Hall***

Justin Lim has a ready smile, a good story and a hot latte for Susan Kelly from the Water Bureau at the Jupiter Coffee Cart he opened Sept. 22 on the first floor of City Hall. The coffee, which was free that day, is getting rave reviews and so are the prices. He's trying to expand by catering coffee and light refreshment for city meetings and is always open to suggestions. Justin, who owns and operates four espresso vending machines around town, said he got tired of the corporate world and started his own business. Remember to shop local, said Onessia Wells from the Treasurer's office, another satisfied customer.



## ***Lauren Norris to return to Guatemala with more supplies***



**Lauren with Claudia, left, Jaquelin and Heidi, three sisters she befriended at an orphanage in the Guatemalan highlands where she is volunteering in community building efforts.**

**By Nell Wagenaar**

It's not everyone's idea of a vacation but Lauren Norris, of ONI/BES's Downspout Disconnect Program, is off to Guatemala, for a fifth time, to help needy kids and families devastated by 36 years of civil war. She'll be gone for a month starting Nov. 19 and hopes to fill two backpacks with donations of vitamins, art supplies, children's books (*en Espanol*) and clothes to bring to the communities she will visit. Please get donations to Lauren by Oct. 24. You could also donate kid-size sunglasses, prenatal and multi-vitamins, tylenol, monastat, antifungal cream, cleaning supplies, toothpaste, brushes, and soap. If you don't have time, get some Target gift certificates and she will do the shopping. Lauren is working with the Mayan National and Oregon Methodist Churches. In the mornings, she will be building a community center. In the afternoons, she'll be volunteering in the medical clinic providing translation services for visiting doctors. "This is an opportunity for our group to show with our hands what we can't say with words," said Lauren.

### **East Portland Neighborhood Office**

## **Project Safe Neighborhood to target gun violence**

**By Juan Mayoral**

The Project Safe Neighborhood Community Action Team (PSN CAT) will be using a two-prong approach in East Portland to make folks aware of gun violence in their neighborhood. First, the team will use educational materials to inform residents about gun awareness. They will use posters, flyers, and media for this endeavor. Team leaders have decided to use real victims of gun



violence for its educational outreach project. Officer Lawrence has agreed to work with PSN CAT on identifying gun violence victims in East Portland.

The second prong will be conducting surveys to a controlled group. PSN CAT has decided to target high school students at David Douglas High School. The survey component has two separate tracks. One for adults and the public in general, and the other is the targeted control group. The survey is in its final stages and is currently being reviewed by staff at Portland State and ONI.

On September 2, 2004, PSN CAT committee members, Glen Taylor, Eric Flores and Juan Mayoral, met with Superintendent Barbara Rommel and Assistant Superintendent Mike Stout from David Douglas School District. It was decided that the survey outreach this fall will include 10<sup>th</sup> graders from David Douglas High School.

Juan Mayoral and East Precinct Officer Jim Lawrence met with family members of recent gang shootings in East Portland. The purpose of this meeting was to encourage participation from family members with Project Safe Neighborhood. The objectives are to have affected family members, in conjunction with other members of PSN CAT, act as spokesperson for Project Safe Neighborhood. Call 503-823-5531 for more information or to find out when the next PSN CAT meeting is scheduled.

## **Welcome Juan Mayoral**

**By Richard Bixby**

Juan Mayoral has now been hired as the coordinator for our East Portland Project Safe Neighborhood. He has been filling the Coordinator position since June as a temporary employee.

Juan Mayoral has a proven track record with community-based projects and grass roots organizing. Prior to this position, he was the target area coordinator for St. Johns. During his time in St. Johns, Juan brought together, for the first time, the Latino and Hmong communities with City officials and neighborhood coalition leaders to work on projects such as the St. Johns Main Street/Lombard Plan. This was City's 20/40 plan for the North Portland area. He was also instrumental in opening the first Latino Resource Center in the heart of the St. Johns Business District.



Juan's grass-roots experience stems from his work with the ACLU of Oregon, One Stop Immigration in Oregon, (an non-profit immigration service organization), and past President of MEChA (El Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan) Statewide, a non-profit agency for Latino students.

We welcome Juan to EPNO and look forward to establishing better connections with the Latino and Russian-speaking communities while raising community awareness of gun violence issues.

# Auditor's office to host SPARC Open House Thursday

City employees, come enjoy a root beer float and a public works display: From Cesspools to "Big Pipe," Portland's Sewer Project (1870 to the present) at an open house at the Stanley Parr Archives & Records Center Thursday from 1-4 pm. Tour the Center, identify unknown people, places, events at the Mystery Photo Gallery and test your knowledge of Portland trivia.

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

*Who was the mariner who helped establish Portland as the principal townsite by spreading the word about Portland as the best site for a port? He backed up his assertion by making his land claim in the area now known as NW Portland/Pearl District/Old Town/ChinaTown and now has a park in NW Portland named in his honor. Name this famous Portlander?*

The first person to correctly respond by emailing the Trivia Guru at [jdutt@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:jdutt@ci.portland.or.us) will be crowned our monthly winner. At the end of the year we will have a final showdown of our monthly winners to determine the grand prizewinner and the ONI Portland Trivia champ for 2004.

Congratulations to our September winner, David Pool, editor of the [www.News4Neighborhoods.net](http://www.News4Neighborhoods.net) website. David was the first to correctly respond that Portland's first official airport was located on Swan Island.



## **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)