

# OVERLOOK VIEWS

Nov./Dec. 2006

*The Newsletter*

Vol. 3 No. 3

Overlook Neighborhood Association

[www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org)



## WORDS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

By Tom Kilbane and Jennifer Callison



### SHOW US THE MONEY!

**D**o you have a great idea for a community-based program but don't have the resources to get it off the ground? Do you have a neighborhood project that you've been trying to get started but lack the funds?

Well, you are in luck. The City of Portland, through various grant programs, has money available for just these types of projects. It takes some effort to keep track of the different grant programs and complete the applications, but if you've got a good idea and need the money, it is time well spent.

The North Portland Neighborhood Services (NPNS) office administers several grant programs specifically for community building.

The first, Portland Neighborhood Grants, will distribute twenty thousand dollars to North Portland neighborhoods through their Fall Neighborhood Grants program. The deadline for applications is Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> and the funds will be made available after the first of the year. This is an annual program so if you miss the deadline this year, start planning your project for next fall. More details can be found at <http://www.portlandonline.com/northportland/>.

Another grant administered by NPNS is from the North Portland Trust Fund. Approximately thirty thousand dollars will be distributed by this program. Grant applications will be due March 1.

For both the Portland Neighborhood Grant and the North Portland Trust Fund grant, contact grant administrator Tom Griffin-Valade for assistance at 503.823.4513 or at [tgriffinvalade@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:tgriffinvalade@ci.portland.or.us)

Big bucks, two million dollars, will be made available through the East Side Community Benefit Opportunity (CBO) Program, and is administered by the Bureau of Environmental Services. This fund was established to help the communities affected by the Big Pipe project. More information on this program can be found at <http://www.portlandonline.com/cso/>.

OKNA is planning to submit a proposal to BES for some of this CBO money to pay for moving the PGE power line going over the bluff at N. Killingsworth St and Willamette Blvd. PGE and the City have tentatively agreed to share the cost of moving the power line and any CBO funds OKNA receives would go towards the City's share of this effort. Applications are due on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January, 2007.

Finally, Metro also has a grant program, the North Portland Enhancement Fund, which will pass forty thousand dollars to area non-profit organizations for projects to benefit North Portland.

More information can be found at <http://www.metro-region.org/article.cfm?articleid=536>.

So who has received money from these grant programs in the past? Just look around! Beach Community Garden was a recipient of a fifteen thousand dollar grant from the West Side CBO program and Lenny Anderson was successful getting funding for the Going to the River trail on Swan Island.

The City's Office of Neighborhood Involvement hosts grant-writing workshops throughout the year, and we will post these to the Overlookviews e-mail list (sign up for the Overlookviews e-mail list at [www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org)) For more information about these grant opportunities, check out our web-site at [www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org).

We hope some of the many creative people in our neighborhood will take advantage of these grant opportunities to make Overlook an even nicer place in which to live. The Overlook Neighborhood Association holds a general meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N. Interstate, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Everyone who lives or works in Overlook is a member of the neighborhood and encouraged to attend.

## POUR ON THE GRAVY

By Melisa Baker

**I** am an Overlook resident and parent of a first grader at Beach School where I am an enthusiastic member of the growing PTA. Beach is having a great start to the year with exceptional teachers, amazing parents and as always, a truly marvelous group of children.

November invariably brings a time of giving thanks for the important things in our lives. The Beach PTA fundraising committee believes this is an appropriate month to kick off our fundraising efforts. Many people have asked if they could make a monetary donation, instead of buying cookie dough or wrapping paper. This idea speaks to us, and after some vigorous discussion, we've decided on a campaign of **just giving**. We are calling it "Pour on the Gravy." Because even though Beach already offers so much nourishment to the students and community, a little extra gravy goes a long way.

Educating and raising children really is a community effort and we hope that no matter who you are— a parent, grandparent, alumnus, a neighbor, or a business— you will join us in enriching the educational foundation of our future community leaders. Any contribution is welcome, so go for it...pour on the gravy!

(Continued next column)

You can mail or drop off your contribution at Beach School: 1710 N. Humboldt, Portland, OR, 97217. Please make checks payable to the Beach PTA. The Beach PTA is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization, and all donations are tax deductible within the limits of the law. If you have questions please contact Melisa Baker at (503) 288-8680 or [bakers6020@comcast.net](mailto:bakers6020@comcast.net). Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!

## NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

By Mike Moran, PTA President

**T**he school year is well underway at Beach Elementary, and the energy and excitement is palpable. Continuing the trend of previous years the first PTA meeting saw record attendance. Parents and Staff discussed goals for the year, and planned some great events. For more information on how to join please contact Mike Moran at 503-735-3867 or [mmoran@easystreet.com](mailto:mmoran@easystreet.com).

On October 7<sup>th</sup> Beach was a host site for the district's Community Care day. Over 80 volunteers from the neighborhood and adidas repainted the interior hallways, stairwells and cafeteria with paint and materials generously donated by Sherwin Williams. The students and staff are delighted with the new warm and cheery colors throughout the school.

(Continued next column)

In addition to the Chess Club and Garden Club, we have added another after-school program at Beach. In partnership with Higher Stages, we now have after-school drama and performance two days a week. With activities for all ages, children are learning how to juggle, ride unicycles, and design their own performances. Look for performance schedules in the near future. We are working on also adding after-school soccer and a music program starting in January.

As part of our strategy for improved communication, the PTA will be launching its new and improved website and internet group. The website will feature up-to-date information and events, opportunities, and an interactive calendar of activities at and around Beach.

Looking for a way to support Beach? Volunteers are always needed. There are opportunities galore from including helping in the classroom, being a reading coach for the SMART program, supervising on the playground, working in the school garden, to organizing materials for the teachers, and traffic control during morning and afternoon arrivals and departures. For more information please contact Mona Brown at 503-916-6236 or [lil\\_ms\\_mona@msn.com](mailto:lil_ms_mona@msn.com).



## Community Nurturers in Overlook

# CAFÉ CULTURE

By Lauren Kilbane



Few things connect people in the way coffee culture does in the Pacific Northwest. Our neighborhood is no exception – here’s how 3 unique spots create a feeling of community in Overlook.

### DiPrima Dolci Bakery and Cafe

People love Pat DiPrima. DiPrima Dolci is as much a community center as it is a bakery. DiPrima goes out of her way to make people feel welcome and comfortable, dispensing heavily accented howyadoin’s and hugs to everyone who comes through the door.

After 11 years as a communications manager for TriMet, and homesick for certain elements of her native New York, she decided it was time to bring a bit of East Coast tradition to her Overlook neighborhood. Intent on recreating a version of the Italian bakeries she grew up with, she went to culinary school, enrolled in some intensive bread baking courses and opened her Killingsworth Street bakery in 2002.



Zeppoli the Diprima way

There’s a celebratory quality to the place and it’s never more festive than on the last Saturday of every month: Zeppoli Day. Beginning at 9am, DiPrima’s crew serves up addictive Italian fritters doused with powdered sugar – but only as long as the batter lasts.

But there’s more to DiPrima than doughnuts: she’s at the Interstate Farmer’s Market every Wednesday, hosts Wine and Antipasto Night on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month and offers an on-going schedule of bread making classes. This summer, she marked her 4th anniversary by opening a backyard garden filled with shaded tables. It didn’t take long before regulars like Kit Patton devised creative ways to use the outdoor space. Patton and a few friends began the informal Bounty of Summer Exchange: on Sunday mornings, they invited neighbors to bring garden surplus to trade and share. “There were a lot of tomatoes,” she laughed, “Next year we’ll start earlier in the season and include more plants and flowers.”

East Coast “expats” make their way to the bakery, too. Pat says she recognizes them immediately “It’s a funny kind of dance,” she says. “They want to know: Is it authentic? What kind of ricotta do I use in my fillings? How come cookies aren’t sold by the pound?” Inevitably, they leave having indulged in cannoli, cheesecake, biscotti and a good cup of coffee and, like the rest of her fans, return often.



### SohBet

What do you get when an organic farmer and visual artist/designer ask themselves: How do we really want to spend our working hours? SohBet.

Overlook residents David and Julia Santangelo moved to Portland from the Bay Area by way of Seattle and opened up their corner coffee house in September 2005. The experience of spending time there is best described by the personalities of the pair themselves: Julia radiates a deep and easy warmth, and David possesses a calm and quiet intensity.

The names of their young children, Clea and River, came to them in dreams, but the name for what Julia laughingly describes as her “third child” revealed itself in the work of the Persian poet and theologian Rumi. Loosely translated, sohbet is “the chit chat and the sparkle between two beings.”



Plates as beautiful as the food tastes at Sohbet

The modern industrial space is gently lit by skylights and touched by an artful eye. Community farm tables are decorated with seasonal squash and garden arrangements and reading chairs are set off by colorful wall hangings and inviting piles of art books and magazines. Tucked along the back wall of the café, an inspired children’s area is both convenient for families and considerate of visitors without children. Free wi-fi keeps the wired set happy, too.

Just as much attention is paid to the food and drink they offer. The menu, elemental and delicious, features seasonal salads, small plates for sharing as well as inventive sandwiches, soup and buttery small batch pastry, all thoughtfully presented on ceramic plates designed by Julia. Organic teas, Stumptown roasts and Turkish, Vietnamese and Cuban coffee prepared in the traditional manner round out the offerings.

With an infant in her arms and toddler nearby, Julia explains, “We have always loved to go to coffee and appreciate eating really good food...this is what we set out to do, create the kind of place we’d love to go to. And we made it happen.”

### Madrona Hill Café

When Natacha and William Price were looking for a place to live in Overlook, they made it a priority to find a home within walking distance of a good place for coffee. They ended up around the corner from the bright windows and open kitchen of the Madrona Hill Bakery. Though the hours were sporadic, it quickly became their “local.” They even rented the Greeley Street space for their wedding reception.

While pregnant, Natacha mentioned the possibility of helping establish more regular hours to Madrona’s owner. She soon found herself with both a new baby and the lease for the café.

These days, her 2 1/2 year old son Ethan toddles around the café while she pulls perfect shots for the neighbors. A well-stocked children’s corner was born out of necessity but has become a mellow gathering spot for parents and friends. “There are a lot of young families in the neighborhood and I like that they can come here to take a break for themselves,” she says.

Other people gather here too: a team of cyclists takes advantage of “Free Coffee Friday” (offered to those 60 “and better” with the purchase of a pastry), and a natural fibers group meets regularly as does a craft and political discussion circle which includes Madrona’s head baker, Nicki.

Though she’s a native Parisian, Natacha refined her barista skills in Portland, and it is here where she first experienced “the pleasure of serving a very nice cup of coffee.” Still, her French roots are evident: heart shaped palmiers and croissant au beurre are baked from scratch and baguettes are baked-off as needed to ensure crispy crusts for sandwiches like the classic Parisian (butter and ham) and Tartine (an open face baguette served warm, slathered with brie).

“I want to help people get their day started in the right way. For me this is good smells and simple indulgences,” she explains. “To bring this kindness to their day, this is important to me.”



French breakfast at Madrona Hill Cafe







Shellgate  
Picture #1



Mid-Century Ford Blackberry (will not drop your call)  
Picture #2



Bra Brouhaha—Hah!  
Picture #3



Lots of Locks—Very high key  
Picture #4



Ellis Island—not  
Picture #5

### THE CLUES:

Going Street is the place to be  
If you delight in decoding  
our mystery  
Going itself sits right in the  
Middle  
A gang of nine comprises  
the riddle.  
One at the center (as mentioned  
above)  
And eight dispersed equally  
Four to push, four to shove.  
Look north of the street,  
so wise, so knowing  
You'll find four that we  
Picture  
Yes, four north of Going.  
Then south, what's the sum?  
Nine's the maximum.  
So it's four south of Going  
and that's all the faximum  
If you find them and name them  
We'll all be extolling  
If, not—here's the bonus  
This gig's great for strolling.



Shillings Only  
Picture #6



Where's Wemme?  
Picture #7



Contemplation and Condiments  
Picture #8



Sharp Curve  
Picture #9

## DISCOVER FUNKY OVERLOOK CONTEST

By Warren Cassell, Senior Contest Editor  
with poetry contribution by poet-in-residence  
Melisa Cassell

As an inveterate walker of practically every street in the Overlook neighborhood for the last four years, I have always been delighted by its visual anomalies. I would like to encourage our readers to discover these pleasures on their own by suggesting that they take to the streets from Ainsworth to Fremont and from I-5 to Swan Island. (And yes, even in the rainy season.) In order to motivate recalcitrant meanderers the Overlook Views is holding its first annual Funky Overlook Contest---with prizes!

**THE CONTEST:** To the left of this column are nine pictures of unusual sights found in Overlook. Can you identify on what street you would find each of these sites? Exact addresses are not necessary or wanted; the name of the street or location will do just fine. You don't have to be able to identify all of them but the entries with the most correct answers will be eligible for the prizes. You could make this a family affair. If you have kids who have been around the neighborhood more than you, they may be invaluable sources of information.

**THE CLUES:** See poem set in the middle of the funky sights pictures. (Pictures captions are not clues; just for fun only.) **Keep in mind that if you can identify at least four or five or more of these unusual sights you may be a winner.**

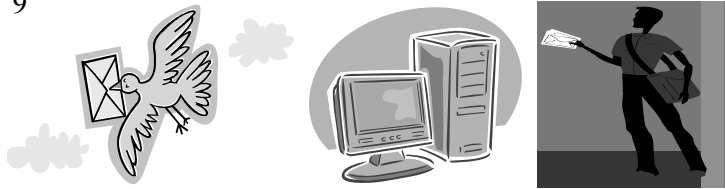
### THE RULES:

1. Only one entry per household
2. Owners of property pictured are not eligible to participate
3. If more than one entry gets all of the correct answers, those entries will be placed in the proverbial hat and several winners will share the prizes in a manner to be determined.
4. Winner(s) will be announced at the Holiday Potluck in December. (See page 8.) Winner(s) need not be present to claim prize, but the potluck will be a fun event.
5. Entries must be submitted no later than December 1 via snail mail or email. For snail mail entries see the entry form on the next page. For email entries click on the OKNA website:  
[www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org).

**THE PRIZES:** The winning entry will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate for Ainsworth Drug on Interstate, a \$15.00 gift certificate for Di Prima Bakery on Killingsworth, a \$25.00 gift certificate for Fire on the Mountain on Interstate, a \$25.00 gift certificate from Sal's Restaurant on Killingsworth AND a \$50.00 donation contributed to the Beach School PTA in your name.

**YOUR ENTRY FORM WILL BE  
FOUND ON THE NEXT PAGE**





**USE THE FOLLOWING FORM TO  
SEND ENTRIES VIA SNAIL MAIL OR  
CARRIER PIDGEON. SEND TO:**

Funky Overlook Contest  
4037 N. Overlook Terrace  
PDX, 97227

**Or fill in the entry form found on the  
OKNA website at:  
[www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org).**

Picture 1  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 2  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 3  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 4  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 5  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 6  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 7  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 8  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Picture 9  
location \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (please print)

Address

Telephone No.

Email Address

Note: If you DO NOT want your email address added to the OKNA emailing list please indicate here \_\_\_\_.



**THE GOOD SAMARITAN —  
SOUGHT AND FOUND**

**People Reaching out in Cyberspace  
and Face-to-Face**

By Melisa and Warren Cassell

Following are several emails related to a really good (and very young) Samaritan literally found in our neighborhood. The emails have been edited for brevity and clarity.

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Spitz Barnicle

>> Sent: Friday, September 29, 2006 3:56 PM

>> To: tom.kilbane@comcast.net

>> Subject: My mother

>>

>> Hi Tom,

You had mentioned you could shoot out a message to the neighbors with kids re: my mother's accident. From asking around, someone thought maybe it was a boy named Spence Johnston on Overlook Terrace (the big one)???

At the end of the summer my mother ran into the street sign at the intersection of Skidmore and Overlook Blvd. (She had passed out while driving her car on Skidmore.) She said a young boy with brown hair helped her - she described him in almost angelic terms (and even decided that if she couldn't find out who it was than he must have been an angel.) We appreciate so much that this boy was so composed and helpful to my mother, we'd love to know who he is. My mother would really like to thank him. Thanks a lot, hope something turns up.

Take care,  
Spitzi

> --- Tom Kilbane

<tom.kilbane@comcast.net> wrote:

>> Neighbors,

See note above from Spitzi Barnacle - her parents live on Overlook Terrace. Her mother had an accident and a young man helped her out. She is trying to find this young man. Any idea who it might be?

Thanks and regards,  
Tom K

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Margaret King

[mailto:margaretmaryking@yahoo.com]

> Sent: Su> To: Tom Kilbane

> Subject: Re: Request for help - finding a Good Samaritan

> Hey Tom - Spence's sister Sara baby sits for us once in awhile. Their phone number is xxxxxxxx if your friend wants to call and confirm. The parents' names are Kathy and Spencer...

Peg

Monday, October 01, 2006 11:57 AM

On 10/2/06 9:28 A.M., "Tom Kilbane"  
<tom.kilbane@comcast.net> wrote:

Hi Spitzi,

See note above from our friend Peg King.

Please let me know if this is the guy.

Thanks and regards

TK

-----Original Message-----

From: Spitzi Barnicle

[mailto:barnicle1@comcast.net]

Sent: Monday, October 02, 2006 5:07 PM

To: Tom Kilbane

Subject: Re: Request for help - finding a good samaritan

Thanks Tom - I just called and spoke with his mother and YES it was him.

She said my mother had recently dropped off a thank you note and a gift and they were so appreciative. I knew though that my mother wasn't certain that he was the "Good Samaritan". It was really nice to make contact - thanks so much for facilitating this.  
SPitzi

> --- Tom Kilbane

<tom.kilbane@comcast.net> wrote:

Neighbors,

FYI, the young man responsible for the good deed, Spence Johnson, has been located.

Thanks and regards,  
Tom K

Editor's note: It turns out that the email sleuthing eventually became a simple confirmation about the Good Samaritan's identity. A note to the editor from Spitzi Barnicle revealed that,

"I should clarify that at the Ice Cream Social (my mother) ran into Ward Mann who confirmed that he was 98% certain that Spence Johnson was indeed the angelic Good Samaritan. Based on that, she mailed a thank you note to and gift to him. A week later, through the email chain I was able to get their family phone number. I called and spoke with Spence's mother who said that yes, it had been he. So, through a combination of neighborly efforts the mystery has been solved. We are so appreciative that this special boy helped our mother through his gentle and composed manner."

The foregoing sequence of emails is self-explanatory. Suffice it to say that we are so glad that Tania Ursin's accident was not a more serious one, that her generosity of spirit made finding her young helper a first priority and that Spence Johnson's compassion enabled him to rise to the occasion—even in anonymity.

Spence, who is fourteen years old (and thirteen at the time), is a credit to his parents and upbringing; residents here should be proud to have him and his family as part of the close knit group known as the Overlook neighborhood.



## Our United Villages

WORKING FROM THE ROOTS

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WORKING FROM THE ROOTS

### ACTIVITIES IN OVERLOOK

**“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead**

#### NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION

**September 9, 2006** – Nine Overlook neighbors came together at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center to turn their ideas about Neighborhood Beautification into reality using a Community Building Plan, and two groups emerged from this workshop.

**Growing Overlook Green** is a group that wants to have more large mature trees lining the streets, more trees that will make it to maturity, to increase the number of tree liaisons in Overlook, beautify the neighborhood, increase property value and add grace to the neighborhood through trees.

**Overlook Skills Exchange** wants to connect people that need assistance with home or yard repair with those who can help and to create a sense of community.

You can view the plans on our website and learn how to connect and get involved with these efforts, at [www.ourunitedvillages.org](http://www.ourunitedvillages.org). Or call us at 503-546-7499.

#### ELDER INVOLVEMENT

**September 14, 2006** – Nine neighbors from Overlook came together at Kaiser Town Hall to share their ideas for creating a senior center in Overlook. They envisioned a center that would be a relaxing place to make friendships, offer a variety of social activities, and provide resource information and services. According to one neighbor, a big coffee pot and popcorn is a must!

#### SCHOOLS & EDUCATION

**September 26 & 28, 2006** – Thirty-three Overlook neighbors gathered at Beach Elementary to discuss Schools & Education in Overlook. The neighbors talked about having an edible garden on the school grounds at Beach, ways to get more community support and have more community events at the school.

**September 30, 2006** – OUV hosted a workshop and three groups/projects emerged.

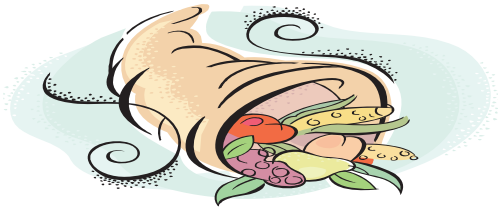
**Friends of Beach** wants to create grounds that engage the students, neighbors and the community, create a critical open space for children and neighbors, provide recreation opportunities and build pride by communicating the value of the school and children.

The **Edible Schoolyard** wants to engage children in healthy food practices connect the schoolyard and the classroom, utilize food to subsidize the cafeteria and gain an understanding of the food cycle from soil to plate and beautify the school grounds.

The **Beach School Neighborhood Spanish Immersion Potluck** group wants to involve the community within and around the school, bridging cultures and raising awareness of what the school is doing with Spanish immersion and build stronger bonds in the neighborhood.

You can view the plans on our website and learn how to connect and get involved with these efforts, at [www.ourunitedvillages.org](http://www.ourunitedvillages.org). Or call us at 503-546-7499.





It's that time of year...!  
**A CORNUCOPIA OF EVENTS at  
OVERLOOK HOUSE**



...Beginning in Early November

**A PARENTING DIALOGUE**

for moms and dads of babies up to twelve months. This is a free one hour session for the **first** and **third** Mondays of the month at 9:00 A.M. starting **November 1**. For more information, call Carol Padden at 503-823-3188 or email to [coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org](mailto:coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org).



...Second Annual Overlook House...

**HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR**

**Saturday DEC 2 — 10-5 \*\*\*\* Sunday DEC 3— 9-3**



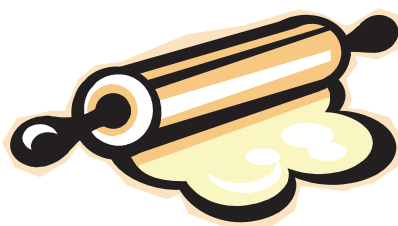
Neighbors! (Near and far). This bazaar promises a splendid bounty of lovely gifts to give and get because of the high quality of the vendors' offerings.

**Vendors note:** Contact Carol Padden for details regarding table costs, set-up and other information at 503-823-3188 or email to [coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org](mailto:coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org).

**THE BIG BAKE SALE**  
(A part of the Holiday Bazaar)

We need bakers to contribute their goodies for sale at the holiday bazaar above. All proceeds of the bake sale will go to programming for children at Overlook House.

Contact Carol Padden for more information at 503-823-3188 or email to [coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org](mailto:coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org).



**HERE HE COMES—  
SANTA AT THE  
OVERLOOK HOUSE—**

Sunday, December 9 from 12:00  
noon to 3:00 P.M. Ho, Ho, Ho!

Pictured to the left at last year's  
Santa visit: Kris Kringle with Kyle,  
Kendra and Keegan.

...a new event at Overlook House

**EASTSIDE ART MIX**

**Sunday, December 10 from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.**

A talented group of Eastside artists will gather at Overlook House to show and sell. A wide spectrum of media—painting, sculpture, fiber, metalwork, ceramics and jewelry —promises an exciting gallery ambiance with a price range (\$20.00 to \$200.00) for inspired holiday shopping.



**BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN**

By Jonathan Brown

Tucked away in almost rural isolation beneath the water tower between Beach School and N. Going Street, Beach Garden is a festival of colors this fall as the garden's signature sunflowers start to hang their heavy-seeded heads and the last of the bright red tomatoes and peppers hang on, hoping to be picked. The strong green leaves of spinach, chard, and kale are enjoying the cool weather—with luck, gardeners will be eating them all winter long. As long-time Overlook residents know, the sunny site at N. Campbell Avenue and Going Ct. has been gardened since the 1960s, when two families started a "hippie garden" there on unused city land. In those early days, they would hire a farmer to plow the site each Spring and plant large crops of potatoes, corn, flowers, and much else. By the 1980s, the garden was so well tended that it won a national contest and was featured on the popular "Victory Garden" show on public television.

Marge White, the daughter of one of the founding families, still co-manages the garden, and her mother, brother, and cousin all have plots. Since 2003, the garden has been part of the City of Portland's Community Garden network and many other Overlook neighbors (and at least two gardeners from other neighborhoods) are now helping out. All but one of the gardens' 23 plots were actively gardened this summer, with great results. In addition to all the tomatoes, raspberries, broccoli, sweet onions, chard, peppers, cantaloupe, beets, and Brussels sprouts that gardeners are eating and freezing and sharing with families and friends, the garden donates about 450 lbs. of produce each year to Raphael House, the battered women's shelter. Overlook resident Megs Guth coordinates the donation program.

Gardeners at Beach and at other Department of Parks and Recreation's 30 community gardens around the city pay \$45 a year (plus a \$10 initial deposit) for the use of plots that usually measure about 20 feet x 20 feet. Water, sun, friendship and good health are free—unless you count all the digging and weeding and harvesting, which is exercise and therefore a benefit, as well. To learn more about Portland's nationally renowned community garden program, or to sign up for a plot at Beech or other nearby gardens, call 503-823-1612 or visit <http://www.portlandonline.com/parks/?c=39846>.







Another view of Beach Community Garden's summer harvest

## 1901 CAFÉ REDUX

By Dan Haneckow

Now returning for a limited engagement on the North Portland streetscape: The 1901 Café! It has been 49 years since the 1901 Café was open for business on the corner of



Killingsworth and Campbell. A recent renovation has stripped away a layer of siding to reveal the walls of the long vanished eatery, along with 7-Up advertisements that feature the oddly anthropomorphic slogan; "You Like It, It Likes You."

The building (1901, 1903, 1905 and 1909) has hosted grocery stores, barbershops, cafes, repair shops and an acupuncture clinic. It saw the rise, the fall and rise again of Killingsworth as a retail street. It was built in 1909 at 87 Killingsworth Street (the pre-1933 address), a corner grocery store along the streetcar line to St. Johns. In 1911 it was the home of Fish and Wheeler Grocers. W.H. Wheeler assumed sole ownership a year later. He ran the store until 1920, when he sold it to J.C. Ransom. Four other operators followed in the twenties and thirties.

This location also witnessed a small part of one of Portland's and the nation's sadder and more shameful episodes. In 1937 the store was known as the Fairview Market. It was run by George T. and Itsusaburo ("Kayo") Mita, a married couple of Japanese descent.

Kayo Mita, (born June 10th 1880) first appears in the 1934 Portland City Directory as the proprietor of the Tourist Hotel at 1021 SW 1st Avenue. George T. Mita appears in the Directory three years later, living with Kayo at the Fairview Market. They ran the store together until 1942. Then they disappeared from Portland. It is more than likely that they were taken, along with 3,500 other United States citizens of Japanese descent, to the Portland Assembly Center which was located in the former Pacific International Livestock Exposition Building on Marine Drive. From there they were removed to the Minidoka Internment Camp, near Hunt, Idaho. However they arrived, it was at the Minidoka Internment Camp that Itsusaburo "Kayo" Mita died on August 29th 1942, less than a year after leaving Portland.

George T. Mita does not appear in later post-war Portland Directories. A Private First Class George T. Mita does however appear on the roster of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (442nd Infantry, 232nd Engineer Company, and 522nd Field Artillery Battalion), the highly decorated World War II Japanese-American US Army regiment. Could he have been the son of George T. and Kayo Mita? The address never hosted a market again.



An electrician for the Eastern and Western Lumber Company (on Northwest Front at the foot of 21st Ave) was listed as a resident in 1943 and 1944. The space was vacant 1948-1949.



Mary Lee's Fountain Lunch ushered in the building's restaurant era in 1950. The Nineteen-O-One Lunch Room succeeded Mary Lee's in 1952 (in 1956 it was listed as the Nineteen-O-One Café in the Portland City Directory). It closed in 1957. Three other cafes followed: Eva's Café & Lunches (1959), Bradley's Café (1960) and Ramey's Café (1962). Ramey's closed a year later in 1963.

Elite Radio and Television Service opened in the space in 1965. In 1967 it became Pliska Radio & Television Service and operated as such until 1991. Interior Components Northwest has been located there since 1996. The building is mid-way through a renovation that will restore its character to that of an early 20th century storefront. But for a short time, a bit of Eisenhower era North Portland was recently visible on the corner of North Killingsworth and Campbell.

Editors' note: For more fascinating material about all things Overlook, Portland and Oregon, see Dan's blog by googling: "cafeunknown" and clicking on the first entry.



**BUY LOCAL**  
By Warren Cassell

The merchants contributing gifts for our Funky Sights of Overlook contest and those described in Lauren Kilbane’s article on Café Culture remind us that a neighborhood exists as a thriving entity because of positive interaction between its residents and its retail shops. Part of the charm of Overlook is that our local merchants know us when we drop by to visit their stores and restaurants, and they thrive on providing outstanding service to us. They thrive too, because we support them as we respond to the convenience and quality of their offerings. In order to keep this great synergy going, it is important for us to continue “buying local” and nourishing our neighborhood shops. They need this nourishment in order to continue to thrive. Without our delightful local shops, the neighborhood would lose many of the unique points of view that make us **Overlook**.  
Following are the establishments mentioned in this newsletter with where and when details:

**Ainsworth Drug and Gifts**---503-282-0787---4207 N. Interstate Ave  
Mon-Fri 9:00-6:00, Sat 10:00-6:00

**DiPrima Dolci Bakery and Coffee Shop**—503-283-5936—1936 N. Killingsworth  
Mon 6:30-4:30, Tue-Fri 6:30—7:00, Sat, Sun 7:00—3:00

**Fire on the Mountain Buffalo Wings**---503-280-9464---4225 N. Interstate Ave  
Sun-Thur 11:00—10.00, Fri, Sat---11:00—11:00

**Madrona Hill Café**---503-289-7617--5937 N. Greeley Avenue  
Mon-Fri 6:30—4:00, Sat, Sun 8:00—4:00

**Sal’s Famous Italian Kitchen**—503-247-0500 — 2731 N. Killingsworth  
Mon-Fri 11:30—9:00, Sat, Sun—12:00—9:00

**Sohbet**—503-735-3446—2710 N. Killingsworth  
Mon-Fri—6:00—6:00, Sat, Sun—7:30—6:00

**IMPORTANT NITTY-GRITTY**

Want to join us and receive witty late-breaking e-mail reminders about meetings, events, etc.? Just go to [www.overlookneighborhood.org](http://www.overlookneighborhood.org) and subscribe by entering your e-mail address as directed on the home page.

Or via snail mail:

**OKNA**  
**2209 N. Schofield St.**  
**Portland, Or. 97217**

**OKNA OFFICERS**

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**OVERLOOK VIEWS**

A bi-monthly publication of the  
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Made possible by a very generous grant from  
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Co-editors: Warren and Melisa Cassell

Distribution Captains: Alan Cranna and  
Carol Cushman

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Melisa Baker, Jonathan Brown, Jennifer Callison, Sara Friedel, Brad Halverson, Dan Haneckow, Lauren Kilbane, Tom Kilbane, Bob La Du, Mike Moran and Carol Padden

For information about submitting articles:  
503-288-8323 or [w.cassell@comcast.net](mailto:w.cassell@comcast.net)

**HOLIDAY EVENTS AT AINSWORTH DRUG**

Ainsworth Drug’s annual Holiday Wine Tastings will take place this year on Fridays 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. on November 17, December 1, 8 and 15. This will be a great time to make your selections for holiday cheer. And for everyone (over 21) in the neighborhood, Ainsworth will be serving wine, cheese and crackers on Saturday, December 23. Drop by to greet friends and neighbors and perhaps to get that list minute gift.

**NEW DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE PRECINCT PERSON**

Local resident and attorney, Gareld Gedrose was recently elected to the job of precinct committee person for the Overlook neighborhood by the Democratic Party. His role is to provide outreach, information and registration help to interested neighbors, and to be the “face of the Democratic Party” in the precinct. As both liaison and ombudsman, he welcomes your inquiries, calls and emails. Gerald can be reached at home—503-289-1675, work—503-225-9100 or email at [gareldjoel@msn.com](mailto:gareldjoel@msn.com).



**REAL ESTATE UPDATE  
PORTLAND/OVERLOOK**



An overview of the Portland Metropolitan area as of the end of August 2006 shows that the average market time for a residential property was 39 days, compared to 37 days a year ago. The number of new listings increased by 15.7% when compared to August 2005, though pending sales and closed sales declined by 20.8% and 20.4% respectively. The average sales price for the Metro area increased 16.4%.

In North Portland there were 425 active listings (including 246 new ones), 150 pending sales (just about the same as a year ago), and 145 closed sales with an average sale price of \$243,400 and an average market time of 32 days. Appreciation has increased 21.4% since August 2005. Listed below are properties that have sold in Overlook since the last Newsletter.

Recent Overlook Sales

Address	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sold Price	Days on Market
4931 N. Denver Ave.	3/1.1	\$219,999	\$215,000	58
2320 N. Alberta St.	2/1.1	289,000	258,000	27
1615 N. Webster St.	2/1	269,000	280,000	2
1644 N. Willamette Blvd.	3/1	305,000	297,500	34
2407 N. Willamette Blvd.	4/2.1	307,000	305,000	3
1520 N. Emerson St.	5/3	334,900	317,000	51
2618 N. Willamette Blvd.	3/1	339,500	349,900	2
1613 N. Prescott St.	4/1	399,900	422,500	8
3959 N. Overlook Blvd.	3/1	529,000	535,000	4

Thanks to Overlook neighbor Bob La Du of RE/MAX (503-495-5431) for providing the information for this real estate market update.

**TOTALLY  
MAJOR  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

**POST THIS NOTICE ON  
YOUR FRIDGE OR  
MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS NOW!**

**2006 Overlook Neighborhood  
Holiday Potluck  
Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm**

Join your neighbors for a holiday  
potluck in the cafeteria at Beach  
School

1710 N. Humboldt St.

Bring a covered dish and a serving  
spoon.

Beverages, paper plates and utensils will be provided.

Winner(s) of the Funky Overlook  
Sights Contest to be Announced

Entertainment to be announced