

OVERLOOK VIEWS

January/February 2007

The Newsletter

Vol. 3 No. 4

Overlook Neighborhood Association

www.overlookneighborhood.org

EDITORIAL

By Warren and Melisa Cassell

As we watched this issue of Overlook Views take shape we realized it contains a recurring theme that might be called "In Praise of Volunteering." There is Lauren Kilbane's piece on Brad Halverson and his volunteer activities, Carol Padden's thanks to Overlook House volunteers and our "It Takes a Neighborhood" acknowledging the many residents who make this newsletter a reality. All of these articles emphasize the important role volunteers play in the everyday activities of our community. In fact, there seems to be a plethora of civic minded Overlook residents who give some of their free time to benefit others---be that church group, OKNA, political party, school, and/or other non-profit organizations. Adrian Campbell, a former OKNA board member and current contributor to the Views, recently said that volunteering in your neighborhood association is one of the few places where your voice can be heard loud and clear, where you can actually make changes happen for the betterment of your community.

If you have been promising yourself to become more active in the neighborhood, now's a good time to make a new year's resolution to help make a difference in Overlook. There are opportunities to express your interest and utilize your talents on the Overlook board and its various committees. In addition, we can always use additional contributors to the Overlook Views.

For board interest call or email: Tom Kilbane, Co-Chair at 503-284-6211 or tom.kilbane@comcast.net or Jennifer Callison, Co-Chair at 503-285-0364 or calhill@spiritone.com.

For contributions to the newsletter: Warren Cassell, Co-Editor at 503-288-8323 or w.cassell@comcast.net or Melisa Cassell, Co-Editor at 503-288-8323 or melisa.cassell@comcast.net.

A GOOD NEIGHBOR

By Warren and Melisa Cassell

We are absolutely delighted to announce that our good neighbor, Freightliner, L.L.C., has renewed its \$5,000 grant to continue publication of Overlook Views. This is the third Freightliner grant awarded to the neighborhood association and it is a stunningly unique partnership between corporation and community---certainly unlike any other in Portland. We appreciate the commitment Freightliner has made to the Overlook Neighborhood Association and to the continued publication of our newsletter. We hope to be able to honor this commitment by maintaining the high standards we have set for ourselves producing the Views. This is the very least we can do in response to our good neighbor's generosity. Thanks so much, Freightliner.



WORDS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

By Tom Kilbane and Jennifer Callison



IT'S ALL GOOD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD (ALMOST)

2006 has been a good year for the Overlook Neighborhood and a fun time to be involved in the neighborhood association. The City of Portland's unique Office of Neighborhood Involvement has given us the opportunity to be involved and have an impact on many of the things happening in our neighborhood.

A great example of this is the traffic calming activity on Denver Ave. Unbeknownst to most neighbors, Portland Department of Transportation (PDOT) began construction of pedestrian islands along Denver Ave. in October. This would have eliminated much of the on-street parking. At the request of a neighbor, OKNA contacted Commissioner Adams' office and asked for the construction to be halted until the City better communicated its plans, thus giving the neighborhood an opportunity to provide feedback.

The City agreed and after several spirited meetings, a consensus was reached; much of the parking along Denver was saved and a significant cost savings was realized for PDOT as well. A win-win situation.

We have not always been able to have an impact, though. In spite of our best efforts, power lines have been strung along the new power poles on Killingsworth and down the bluff. We have not given up. Repeat, we have not given up. PGE and the City of Portland have signed a Memorandum of Understanding obligating them to share the cost of moving the line if an acceptable alternate solution can be found. PGE is currently engaged in developing a cost-estimate for the alternate route along Basin Avenue on Swan Island. OKNA is pursuing CBO (Community Benefit Opportunity) funds to help pay for the City's share of this project. Stay tuned.

Looking forward to 2007, there are several projects in which OKNA can and should have a voice. These projects have the potential to shape the future of the neighborhood.

Interstate Ave Zoning Review - What will Interstate Avenue look like in 5 years? 10 years? The Portland Planning Bureau will be conducting a zoning review along Interstate Avenue beginning in January. If you have a vision or just want to know more, check out the Planning Bureau's web site (<http://www.portlandonline.com/planning/index.cfm?c=43260&>) or contact OKNA at info@overlookviews.org

Killingsworth Station Development – Portland Development Commission (PDC) has selected a new development team to design and build the mixed-use building at the corner of Killingsworth Street and Interstate Avenue. Do you live nearby? Are you concerned about the impact or excited about the possibilities? In either case, the Winkler Development Corporation will be doing outreach in the coming months and you can get involved. If you want to know more, please contact us at info@overlookviews.org.

You can also get involved by joining us for a screening of the film "An Inconvenient Truth" at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center on Tuesday, the 30th of January at 6:30pm. Before the film, Commissioner Sam Adams will talk about what the City of Portland is doing to reduce its CO₂ emissions and after the film, Jeff Berebitsky, the Chair of OKNA's Environment Committee, will lead a discussion on what we as neighbors can do about global warming.

If you have questions, comments or concerns or if you have an idea or project that you would like the neighborhood association to consider, please contact us or come to a general meeting. General meetings are held 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 participate. Remember, the neighborhood association is here for you

On behalf of the OKNA board, we wish all our neighbors a healthy and happy new year!

Tom and Jennifer

IT TAKES A NEIGHBORHOOD TO PUBLISH A NEWSLETTER

By Warren and Melisa Cassell

I wasn't really aware of how many people were involved with this newsletter until the last edition when we had a small crisis. Before we get to that crisis, let me share some background about our distribution network. When the newsletters are finished at the printer, they are delivered to one of our delivery co-captains, Alan Cranna. Alan, in turn, delivers half the batch to the other co-captain, Carol Cushman, and both of them then count out the number of newsletters

needed for each route. These bundles are then delivered to the individual carriers who get them to you. Now back to the crisis. The November/December issue was delivered to Alan as usual and on time. Unfortunately, Alan was having car, problems and I volunteered to help deliver. We loaded the sacks for 16 routes (plus Carol's batch) into my car and in fairly short order, had them all out to the volunteers who deliver them. I took some

extras for myself and went home to take a good look. OUCH! A good look turned into a brief moment of despair because the printer had goofed in a major way. He had printed color on pages where we had requested black and white and of course, black and white where we had requested color. Color is no small thing in terms of expense and we spend our funds judiciously, using color only on rare occasions when the newsletter content cries out for it. I called the printer and explained

It Takes a Neighborhood

as calmly as I could (!) they had made a huge blunder that needed to be addressed promptly. And respond they did, offering to reprint the paper correctly at no charge and deliver it to me the next morning. Meanwhile, Alan had to email and/or call all sixteen of his deliverers to tell them not to deliver, and that replacements would be made the next day. I emailed and phoned Carol to tell her not to sort out her routes because replacement copies were on their way.

Getting this first hand look at the newsletter's entire delivery system considerably raised my consciousness about the numbers of dedicated Overlook neighbors who are ultimately involved with the production and distribution of the our bi-monthly publication. In addition to Alan, Carol, their several dozen-plus deliverers, two proofreaders (Brad Halverson and Sarah Friedel), and Melisa's and my efforts, there are usually at least ten others, named and un-named, who contribute articles and information which is included in every issue of Overlook Views.

In other words, there are nearly fifty volunteers who, in one way or another, help to publish each edition of the newsletter. Their contributions' importance is equal to the continuing financial support of Freightliner (See p. 1), and if we weren't blessed with both corporate and volunteer support... What then? So it really does take a neighborhood to publish a newsletter. Thanks so much from both of us.



AND THE WINNERS ARE...

By Warren Cassell, Senior Contest Editor

I'll bet that many of you will go immediately to picture number 9 which seemed to be a source of total frustration for dozens of Funky Sites of Overlook contest entrants. We had comments like, "I haven't a clue," "Finally forced to give up," and "My dog and I have been up and down every street north of Going and still have not found it. Aaargh!" Well, I'll admit that was a tough one. So tough that only three entrants could identify the location of this lovely mural on the side of an office building on Swan Island.

The three intrepid scavenger hunters: Jeanne Burns, a 20 year Overlook resident, Robert Swann, who has lived here for 35 years and very new resident, Shel Seaver who has lived in the neighborhood only one year. Neither Jeanne nor Robert were aware that Swan Island is part of the political entity called Overlook and Jeanne almost gave up before deciding to drive around Swan Island. Shel also drove around searching until she met with success. Robert thought the lawn in front of the mural looked like it was in Swan Island so he decided to walk every street there with his dog and they eventually found the holy grail of scavenging Overlook. The three winners will each get a choice of one of the \$25.00 gift certificates donated by Ainsworth Drug, Sal's and Fire on the Mountain. In addition one \$50.00 donation in their names will be contributed to Beach School. That leaves one prize left, a gift certificate in the amount of \$15.00 to DiPrima Bakery. Seven second place winners who had correctly identified eight of the nine locations will have their names placed in the proverbial hat at the holiday neighborhood potluck and one will be selected to receive that prize.

This was a fun event for many people, and if I can find some more funky sites next year we'll do this again. Or perhaps you know one or two places? If so, send them in to the newsletter.

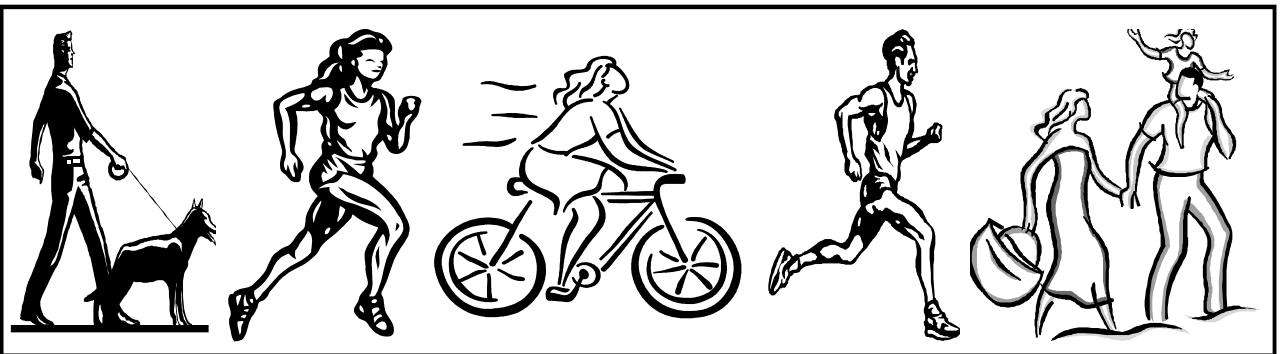
NEW GREENWAY TRAIL OPENS IN OVERLOOK'S NON-RESIDENTIAL BACKYARD

By Warren Cassell

The current Random House Webster Unabridged Dictionary defines greenway as "Any scenic trail or route set aside for travel or recreational activities." Somehow I always thought that a greenway should have some green trees or plants in both definition and the reality---but I was wrong, wrong, wrong. And there is some, but not too much green in the recently opened greenway on Swan Island adjacent to the new Swan Island Pump Station. However, it is scenic with really splendid views of the Willamette, several bridges, downtown Portland and the West Hills.



The goal by npGreenway for this section of trail is eventually to extend it along the Willamette River between the Steel Bridge and Cathedral Park and eventually to Kelly Point Park. (You can follow the progress of this project as well as get involved in its realization by checking out their website: www.npGreenway.org.) This expansion will include a network of trails used for such activities as walking, biking, jogging, cycling, fishing, wildlife viewing, boating, skateboarding, skating, etc. The new segment in Overlook's non-residential back yard can be easily accessed by driving, walking or biking down Going Street to Swan Island and turn left at Port Center Way into the McDonald's parking lot. Then start walking toward the river where the greenway will come into view. One caveat however: during the several walks I have taken on this lovely new path I found a great number of cracks in the pavement. This pavement has been installed recently ---during the past year. It seems to me that it should take more than a year before a newly poured concrete surface starts to disintegrate. The cracks are relatively small now but if they get worse, they will pose a safety threat to walkers, bikers and others. So, enjoy the view and the exercise, but walk or ride carefully. Tongue-in-cheek thought: if the cracks offer housing to seedlings then the greenway becomes a green way.



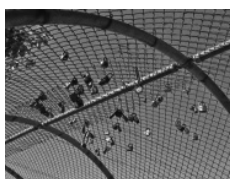
1 Shellgate
N. Going Court



2 —Mid-Century Ford
BlackberryN.Skidmore/
N. Prescott—alley



3—Bra Brouhaha
N. Sumner



#4 — Lots of
Locks
Going Ped
Bridge



5 —Ellis
Island—not
North Shaver



6 —Schillings
Only
North Skidmore



7 —Where's Wemme?
Overlook Blvd and
(Little) Overlook Ter-
race



8 — Contemplation and
Condiments
N. Killingsworth



9 — Sharp Curve N. Cutter and Leverman
on **Swan Island**

...TWO IN THE BUSH

By Bob La Du

It was about 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 22 – a beautiful spring morning, soft sunlight, not a cloud in the sky. My wife and I were having coffee, gazing westward from our dining room bay window, admiring the treed slope and the view overlooking Greeley and the river.

Suddenly, on a dead branch at the highest part of an immense oak tree, a large form materialized. Out came the binoculars, followed by a bird book which confirmed that we were looking at a Turkey Vulture (the largest bird in North America after the Condor and two Eagles), probably recently arrived from its wintering in South America.



Turkey Vulture

Its red head turned in all directions before beginning a thorough preening of its black feathers. Letting one of its 3' wings dangle, it first preened the under side, then the top side before addressing the other wing in the same way. It then cared for its breast feathers and those of its back, as far as it could reach. All the while it stood out clearly, bathed in the clear sunshine, against an azure sky, allowing us a superb view for more than 20 minutes. Then, with a barely perceptible movement, it simply stepped off the dead branch and with a long sloping dive glided out of sight.

Welcome to the world of Overlook birds!

One of the Overlook's distinct amenities is the wide variety of bird sightings that occur year 'round in our own back yards, in our tree lined streets, and in the flights of many species that traverse our air space as they transit to destinations that call to them throughout the seasons.

The Willamette River acts as a natural flyway for many migrating species, a number of which will choose Overlook (and its tree lined bluff – The Willamette Escarpment) for nesting in the spring, giving our neighborhood more than its normal share of avian variety. Following the flyway, the fast flying Brants, ducks, geese, and gulls on their way upstream to Oaks Bottom, Willamette Falls and beyond, or downstream to Sauvie Island and the Ridgefield marshes will sometimes pass over our neighborhood close enough to let us admire their brief presence, but, except for the gulls, these are truly birds of passage – traversing our neighborhood without pausing. The occasionally seen Bald Eagle is like this as well.

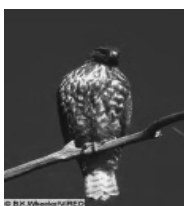


Bald Eagle



Red-tail Hawk

By contrast, the soaring Red-tail Hawks and the Peregrine Falcons keep an eye on the Overlook regularly as part of their hunting territory. We should mention that the Fremont Bridge has been one of Oregon's premier nesting sites for the Peregrine Falcon since 1993. These birds, recognized as the fastest on Earth (clocked at over 200 mph in their dives) seem to have a proprietary interest in the flocks of pigeons (Rock Doves) that frequent the U.P. yards and the grain elevators.



Peregrine Falcon



Violet-Green Swallow

Spring is marked by the arrival of the Violet-Green Swallows to our neighborhood; and the birds that dazzle our eye most often visit us in the spring and summer. When the wild cherries ripen in June we marvel at the Western Tanager whose red head, bright yellow body and black/white/yellow wings startle our complacency. Amazing, too, is the sight of the Robin size Bullock's Oriole, with



Western Tanager



Bullock's Oriole

its burnt orange and black coloration set off by the white/black of its wings. We were fortunate to have a pair build their pendulous nest secured to the very tip of a new oak branch in our front yard tree. They had found a discarded Christmas tree and constructed their 12" hanging nest from silver tinsel. Probably 25' above the ground, hanging in the open space, it was ideally protected, especially after the pair terrorized any squirrel near the tree. Even our cat cowered beneath the patio table whenever they were near. Caring parents, each in turn went on flights to capture insects for the chicks – chicks that we never saw, for one day, after about three weeks, the nest was empty, both parents and offspring had departed. The shiny nest remained in place for several years, an unusual reminder of beautiful visitors. While that nest was high and virtually inaccessible except by air, I later saw another on a neighboring street built no more than 7' from the ground in a small ornamental tree in the parking strip.



Evening Grosbeak

Evening Grosbeaks, with their brassy feathers (and sometimes Black-headed Grosbeaks), stop for sunflower seeds as the summer progresses, as a flock of sleek Cedar Waxwings bathes in the sprinkler, their welcome presence set against the background of the other frequently present actors: the finches, sparrows (both White-crowned and Golden-crowned), juncos, cowbirds, warblers, gold finches, and hummingbirds (both Rufous and Anna's). Day in and day out, throughout the year the Rufous-sided Towhee shows his black/orange/white colors as he flits and flutters through the ground cover (sometimes in company with his brown cousin) scratching for seed and insects. These dramatic colors are challenged by those of the Varied Thrush, especially when several are seen in the car's headlights on the icy streets of winter.



Anna's Hummingbird

I envy my wife's ability to hear bird songs. Often she is aware of a hummingbird's arrival before she sees it because of its chatter. My own viewing of hummingbirds is like watching a silent movie (although in color) as I see a Rufous or Anna's floating among the fuchsia blossoms or watching two spiral in a split second from ground level to 50' high or more as one chases another from "his" territory. I can hear a few of the louder calling birds, such as the crows when they stop to break off young limbs for their nests, or the rasping sawing (Cont'd next column)

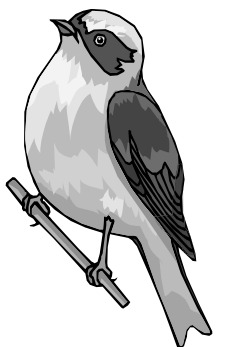
of the handsome Stellar Jays. My favorite is the throaty call of the Mourning Dove in the quiet of a young summer morning. But the language of the chickadees (whether Black-capped or Chestnut-backed) and most other birds, I have yet to hear.



The pecking order of our avian visitors is frequently seen near the bird feeder when a Scrub Jay will scatter a group of smaller birds, or when the more aggressive finch will displace something as large as a Towhee. But these encounters are not life and death matters. We were reminded, however, of the "law of the wild" one late March day when a Merlin brought its freshly captured Starling to our patio and proceeded to devour it there: we were surprised at how large the Starling seemed in relation to the 12" hawk.

Once I saw a large owl gliding silently in broad daylight near our house, and once a Ring-necked Pheasant, but I never saw these again. It's always a pleasure to look at the fir tree in our back yard. Something is always happening there.

Sometimes a group of Bush-tits will arrive to search its branches for delicacies; at other times one or two Downy Woodpeckers will have their turn. Red-breasted Nuthatches and Golden-crowned Kinglets also search that tree for seeds. One snowy day in January, two Red-breasted Sapsuckers (with their red/yellow/black/white plumage) ascending the trunk of the same food giving tree, thrilled us and hopefully filled themselves with nourishment.



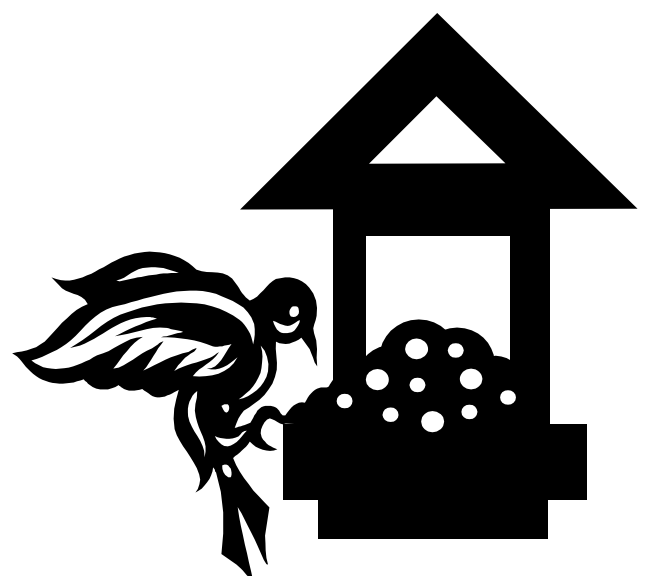
Bushtit

And now another New Year is here...one that will surely be made more pleasant, as the seasons unfold, by the presence of our Overlook birds.



Red-breasted Sapsucker

Note: *Special thanks to birder Cynthia Sulaski who generously proofread this article.*



FREE MOVIE —————PLUS

By Warren Cassell with Jeff Berebitsky

The Overlook Neighborhood Association is pleased to announce a free showing of ‘An Inconvenient Truth’ on January 30th at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center. This is no ordinary popcorn and coke flick at the local multiplex. Rather, it is an effort to bring people together to address a very important concern. **How can we confront and reverse global warming?** Outlined below is a short summary of the evening’s program followed by a more descriptive account:

1. Brief remarks by Commissioner Sam Adams about Portland’s environmental concerns and the need for citizens to be more conservation oriented
2. Brief Introduction to ‘An Inconvenient Truth’ by Jeff Berebitsky, Environmental Chairperson of the Overlook Neighborhood Association
3. Showing of the movie—about 90 minutes
4. Discussion facilitated by Jeff—about 60 minutes
5. Handout---the Eco-action Pyramid

This project’s name is: **Is it Warm in Here or is it Just Me**, and our goal is to ensure that everyone attending will leave with at least one environmental related action they will take to make a difference. We hope to achieve this in several ways. The highly acclaimed documentary ‘An Inconvenient Truth’ narrated by former Vice President Al Gore will be shown; it will illustrate the less than salutary effect we, the people have on our environment. Gore makes a strong case for how our American lifestyle plays a critical role in shaping the health of future generations and the health of the planet. Some reject this concept as a doomsday scenario with little merit; others wholeheartedly agree that we as individuals can make a meaningful difference reducing greenhouse gases by altering our daily activities. These topics will be part of the focus for a discussion after the movie showing. Other issues we expect to cover through a facilitator include, but aren’t limited to: Is global warming real? What is your carbon footprint? How can the individual positively effect a more healthy environment? Etc.

After the discussion an Eco-action Pyramid will be distributed to all attendees. This is a form developed to help participants quickly reference approaches to limiting their lifestyle routines so as to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Similar to the food pyramid, it is a user friendly visual document which guides the individual to a carbon neutral lifestyle.

FIRE ABATEMENT PROJECT... TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

By Liz LaDu

In summer of 2001 a fire set by sparks from a passing train burned 45 acres on the Willamette Bluff below the University of Portland. The fire was contained before engulfing the university or private homes abutting the bluff, but it was a very scary close call.

The Willamette Bluffs are prime targets for wildfire due to build-up of vegetation, largely non-native species. In a dry summer season this fuel load, once on fire, can race upward threatening the homes at the top. If a fire such as this reaches the treetops (a crown fire in Portland Fire Department terms), it cannot be extinguished. Thus the homes along the bluff as well as those located on nearby streets are vulnerable in late summer.

Along with Overlook neighbor Steve Lanigan, I attended a Citizens Advisory Committee meeting for a joint fire abatement project of the Portland Bureau of Fire and Rescue, Parks and Recreation and Bureau of Environmental Services. This project has a federal grant for fire-risk reduction which will target the fuel load build-up along the bluff. At this meeting a firefighter and a BES spokesperson detailed the immediacy of the summer fire danger. After the bad news came the good news...a project presentation which sounded almost too good to be true.

With federal funding from FEMA, crews are projected to clear the underbrush of Himalayan blackberry (by far, the worst offender), Scots broom, English ivy and clematis as well as too-thickly grown trees. The clearing process will target non-native species. Soil erosion will be prevented by the planting of native grasses which do not present the same fire hazard. The grant also includes maintenance clearing until 2009.

Similar work has already been accomplished in the Oaks Bottom area to the satisfaction of the neighbors. The first steps in the clearing of the northern Willamette Escarpment (i.e. bluffs) will begin soon at Madrona Park. This was the site of a fire this past summer. Fortunately it was small. Since the bluffs are a patchwork of public and private ownership the cooperation of private landowners is essential. The first step in this is to get the word out about this danger and the goal of producing a more fire safe and aesthetically pleasing landscape which will showcase the beautiful native tree species without the tangle one currently sees.

For more information attend the next OKNA general meeting on Tuesday, January 16 at KaiserTown Hall or contact me at bobladu@msn.com or Steve Lanigan at slanigan@fs.fed.us.

MORE INFORMATION THAT WE CAN HANDLE...SOMETIMES

By Adrian Campbell

Do you ever feel as though there’s no end to the bad news about environmental pollutants and the havoc they wreak on us? I certainly do, and the month of November was no exception. Numerous articles in the Oregonian, on OPB radio and local television stations informed us of the abnormally high amounts of benzene, a cancer-causing pollutant, found in Oregon’s air--more than twice as much as in other states. Benzene makes its way into the air we breathe from burning of fossil fuels and wood. Much of the gasoline we use in the Northwest comes from oil fields on the North Slope of Alaska. This oil has a higher percentage of naturally occurring benzene present than “normal.” That, by itself, does not account entirely for the higher levels found in Oregon’s air, though. More to the point, is that our generally higher air quality in Oregon has kept the EPA from placing more stringent controls on air quality here, and as a result, allows for higher levels of benzene to be present in our air than in other states that have dirtier air. The EPA has focused first on areas of the country with the dirtiest air. At the legislative level, Oregon Senator Ron Wyden has weighed in by stating that he will hold up the confirmation of a high-level EPA nominee, Roger Martella, until the EPA addresses this issue for Oregon and the Northwest.

What else is being done? At the November 2006 OKNA general meeting, a motion was made and passed requesting the OKNA board to send a letter to Senator Wyden urging him to continue to put pressure on the EPA to work towards cleaning up Oregon’s air. OKNA’s environmental chair, Jeff Berebitsky, who is penning the letter, plans to hold an informational session on air quality in Oregon some time in early 2007 for the neighborhood association.

What can we do as individuals? According to Geoff Stuckart, who handles press-related matters for Senator Wyden in Wyden’s Portland office, we can write to the EPA’s Region 10 administrator and express our opinions. Please send comments to: Ms. Elin Miller, Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA, Region 10, Regional Administration Office, RA-140, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101. The telephone number is 800-424-4EPA. Letter writing is a small but significant way to speak out and also have a potentially positive impact on the environment.



THE SINISTER TAILORS

By Melisa Cassell

There they sit
Hunched and cackling
Stitching
Stitching together
pieces of wind.
Stitching, snitching
tucking, folding and pleating
bleating, cheating.
Making
hole cloth
into an invisible
suit of clothes for the imperor.

KILLINGSWORTH STATION PROJECT—NEW DEVELOPER SELECTED

The Portland Development Commission (PDC) has selected a new developer for the PDC-owned property at the corner of Interstate Avenue and Killingsworth. Winkler Development Corporation was selected by the PDC Board of Commissioners in August 2006 based on the recommendation of a Selection Advisory Committee comprised of neighborhood, community, affordable housing, and development representatives. The Winkler proposal for the property is for approximately 50 one, two, and three bedroom condominium units and just over 9,000sf of retail space. Approximately half of the condominium units are anticipated to be affordable to families with incomes that are 80-100% of

the median family income for the Portland metropolitan area.

Come learn more about this project

and provide your input at the February, 20, 2007 Overlook Neighborhood Association Meeting. (7:00 p.m., Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N. Interstate Ave) PDC and the Winkler team will attend the meeting to discuss the emerging plans for this key site in the Overlook Neighborhood.

For questions about this project, please contact Kate Deane – Interstate Corridor URA Development Manager at (503) 823-3313 or deanek@pdc.us.



A GUY WHO GIVES NEW MEANING TO THE TERM **GOOD NEIGHBOR**: Q&A with **BRAD HALVERSON**

By Lauren Holden Kilbane



You, like my 3-year old son, may know Brad Halverson as “the man who can read while walking.” An oncology pharmacist at Kaiser, Halverson can be seen commuting to work by foot, often with his nose in a book or newspaper, weekdays along Over-

look Boulevard. His talents however, extend far beyond that of pedestrian literacy to effective and generous neighborhood involvement over the years including: a variety of OKNA positions, Interstate MAX Advisory Chair, S/N Light Rail Committee, Columbia River Task Force and Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area and Transportation Sub-Committee. There’s no doubt that in his time here, his efforts have made Overlook a better place in which to live.

Where are you from originally?

I grew up right here in Portland, on the Westside behind St. Vincent’s hospital, and was a student at both Sunset High School and Oregon State. I left Oregon to complete my graduate studies at Ohio State. Afterwards, we moved to Tacoma so that my wife, Katrina, could take her turn in grad school. We returned to Portland in 1990.

Why Overlook?

We lived for a year in Johns Landing before finding our current home on North Court Avenue. I was working at Bess Kaiser Hospital (now adidas) and wanted to live near work. Though our neighbor across the street has us beat for longevity (she lives in the home where she was raised), our roots continue to grow deeper.

How has Overlook changed since 1991?

People are proud to say they live in Overlook, the image has improved and people are no longer afraid to go out at night. Neighbors are using local businesses, and most can get everything they need in the area. Those are all very good things.

Are there specific things that brought on these changes?

People never expected that Bess Kaiser would close, but I think adidas has been a good, if somewhat quiet, neighbor. Having the national headquarters of an iconic, destination employer added a lot by bringing stability and identity to the neighborhood. And, the Interstate MAX line continues to work as advertised and is meeting most Interstate Corridor development expectations since opening in 2004.

Your family has been part of the Beach School community, how has that experience been for you?

In the time since my oldest son Ben (12) started at Beach, it has shifted from being a large ESL magnet to become a smaller neighborhood school. Both Ben and Chris (9) have profited from the quality and challenge of the dual immersion program there. Katrina volunteers as Chess Club coach twice a week - over 55 kids participate.

You’ve been active in the OKNA from the start - what first compelled you to get involved?

Katrina and I met through Student Senate at OSU, so I’m predisposed to this kind of activity. I just kept going. But specifically, soon after we moved in, Bob Peterson came to me to talk about the A-overlay allowing “granny flats” in the neighborhood. It didn’t seem like a big deal to me, but I went to a neighborhood association meeting to hear what people had to say. Again, I just kept going from there.

What keeps you involved?

I like knowing what’s going on. Being informed allows you to share news with neighbors. The more people are engaged, the better the outcome for the neighborhood. Sharing good news means projects and businesses get the support they need. Sharing other news means you can enlist others to help do something about it. A recent example is on Denver: PDOT had begun installing pedestrian islands that would eliminate much of the on-street parking but had never discussed plans or preferences with the neighbors. Overlook and Arbor Lodge residents made it clear to ODOT that it was unacceptable to put up construction barriers without first having a conversation with the neighbors. A meeting was scheduled and the issue was resolved to the satisfaction of everyone involved.

What’s next?

We’ve got to get the darn trucks off Interstate. And it will be nice to wrap up the I-5 bridge project. Other than that, I’m looking forward to a trip to El Paso and the Sun Bowl. Go Beavers!



OUR UNITED VILLAGES INVITES YOU TO AN INSPIRING EVENING WITH JOHN KRETZMANN

When: February, 2007—Date to be announced.

Where: Kaiser Town Hall on Interstate Avenue.

Who: John (Jody) Kretzmann is Co-Director of the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute located at Northwestern University. Jody is a nationally renowned specialist who researches and helps community based groups help realize their considerable potential.

Why: Because the Overlook neighborhood is in the process of “building community,” Jody’s presentation will be valuable, inspirational and informative for all of our neighbors.

Details:

Our United Villages will send a postcard announcement with the **firm date** to every resident in the neighborhood.

Limited free tickets will be available for the first 300 people that RSVP to 503-546-7499 or info@ourunitedvillages.org.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Childcare and interpretation provided, with two weeks advance notice.

Stay Tuned

IF YOU CAN IMAGINE IT, YOU CAN DO IT

By Scott Endicott and Cory Omev

A group of Overlook neighbors got together last month and talked about what it would take to establish a data base, or directory, for neighbors who are interested in sharing and connecting with other neighbors regarding skills, needs, hobbies, activities and/or any other personal interests.

- Did you ever wonder who is the jam maker in our neighborhood?
- Do you want to learn new skills, or share your interests with others?
- Did you ever wonder who is the person to ask about the best time of year to plant?
- Do you ever need someone to watch your home or pet while you're away?
- Did you ever walk by fruit trees and think it would be great to get together with other neighbors and have a fruit canning party?
- Did you ever think it would be great to have a clothing or household items exchange in the neighborhood, or want to have a way to donate to Overlook neighbors in need?
- Did you ever think it would be great to learn who has a similar interest to your own in the neighborhood, and connect with them?

Well, that’s just an example of what we could achieve for the neighborhood by establishing an Overlook interest directory.

Some of the skills that are needed to create the directory are:

- Someone who knows how to create a data base or directory
- Web designer
- Neighbors who are willing to reach out to other neighbors to collect the information.
- And any other skills that would support the effort.

The group tried to come up with a name for the idea, and so far we’ve come up with "Community Interest Map" or "Overlook Connect". If anyone has other name ideas you are encouraged to share them.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday January 8th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM at the Trillium School located at 5420 N. Interstate Ave. All neighbors who are interested in helping are invited. There will be some snacks and drinks provided.

If you're interested in contacting the group you can email them at: overlookconnect@yahoo.com or you can call Our United Villages at 503.546.7499. OUV has agreed to take messages for the group until a dedicated phone line is established.

OUV MOVES ON FOR NOW

Our United Villages has temporarily moved to 3810 N Mississippi Avenue Portland, OR 97227.

We will be at this location for the Winter and Spring and will be at our final location 3625 N Mississippi Avenue, Suite A Portland, OR 97227 in the Summer.

Our mail will be forwarded to the temporary location so please change your records to 3625 N Mississippi, Suite A.

Our phone number will remain the same: 503.546.7499.

Our fax number will now be 503.331.1873.

DREAMS, PERSISTENCE AND A PURPLE FURNITURE STORE

By Zita Podany

PART ONE

Nestled between St. Stanislaus and the Alibi, the little purple furniture store stood as an icon to a bygone time -- a time when it flourished, a place where you could buy the usual and in most cases, the unusual, a place that sold used, new, and refurbished furniture. For several years now the store has looked forlorn, paint fading to pinkish lavender, its hazy windows displaying a tired façade to the public. In its heyday, Marino's Furniture store was a thriving business open seven days a week offering free delivery and extending credit to those who needed it.

The matriarch of the business, Lou Marino, was one gutsy lady, who was not afraid to roll up her sleeves to lay tile or brick or conduct business in a mostly male-dominated field. As a single mother in the 1950s it wasn't easy starting a business. When Lou Marino applied for a business permit to open her furniture store, she was met with resistance from then Mayor Dorothy McCullough Lee who is quoted as saying, "After all, Portland is the City of Roses". Lou Marino, full of determination told her, "Well, you sure as hell can't eat roses." They ended up giving her a permit to start her business.

Marino's Furniture opened its doors a little over half century ago on the same lot, in the same space in Overlook. Present owner Tony Marino (and Lou's son) was 14 years old at the time. The store used to be open seven days a week, most nights from 9 am to 11 pm. As time went by, the hours changed to 10 am to 9 pm. By 1971, the hours changed to 11 am to 6 pm and no Sundays, and thus the hours remained for the next three decades. But, during the last couple of years the store was open by appointment only. Lou Marino retired in 1971 and Tony and Linda, his wife, bought the business.

But the story doesn't begin and end here. The building itself has a story of its own. It began life on the Willamette River in 1910 as a clubhouse for the Portland Motor Boat Club, on the riverbank where the Ross Island Bridge now stands (end of SE Woodward St.). It was 26 feet wide and 55 feet long, with a porch along the front and it stood upon timbers 28 feet above low water. The cost was a princely sum of \$2,000. In 1926 the clubhouse had to be moved to a new location due to the construction of the Ross Island Bridge. The clubhouse was lowered and floated to the Columbia River. The club changed its name to the Portland Yacht Club. In June 1931 the clubhouse was finally raised from its floating logs to a bank along the Columbia River alongside present day Marine Drive. By September 1931, a front entrance was built onto the clubhouse giving it a regal presence as seen from the Drive.



The Portland Yacht Club, circa September 1931 when the clubhouse was raised to the bank from its floating logs on the Columbia River. They added the "front" to the clubhouse in 1931 to make it look more presentable to the public, which is now the back side of the Marino's Furniture Store. The clubhouse was moved from the Willamette to the Columbia River in 1926 when the Ross Island Bridge was built. The Marino building was actually the second clubhouse of the Portland Yacht Club.

In 1948 though, the clubhouse fell victim to the raging waters of the Vanport Flood filling the clubhouse to a depth of five feet. Members rowed in and out of the clubhouse windows as seen here.



When the flood waters receded, the maple floor was ruined, and the building suffered a lot of structural damage. At that point the Portland Yacht Club decided to remove the building and to build a new clubhouse on nearby higher ground. For a while the new and old stood side by side.

And this is where a spunky, single mother with a dream in her heart comes into the picture. She saw the old building, fell in love with it and bought it. The building was sold in 1950 and was moved from Marine Drive to an empty lot on Interstate Avenue -- 3950 N. Interstate, the present day site.

Originally the building was supposed to be at ground level. During the move, Lou and her son were in California for a family emergency. When they came back they found that the contractors had plopped the clubhouse on stilts on the vacant lot on Interstate. Lou had no choice but to build a foundation around the stilts and steps to get in and out of the store. Initially the steps were semi-circular. Later to meet building codes, the entrance was re-designed with steps leading up from two sides with a rail.

The women's lounge in the clubhouse had a small kitchen in it, so from 1951 to 1959 Lou and her son, Tony lived above the store. The store was white but customers would remark that they thought the store was a home instead of a business establishment, so they painted the house red but that only faded into pink, then they painted it white with green stripes to try to distinguish it from other houses on the street. So how did they finally settle on purple? Well, one day Lou, about to go out with her sister, donned a purple velour coat and a moment of inspiration hit her, "I think I will paint it this color!" And so it began and so it stayed -- purple, with purple business cards and purple receipts -- a little purple furniture store with a missing E and an upside down sign. The upside down sign, without the E in Furniture, was just plain serendipity -- an honest mistake while hanging a sign but it added character and so it remained.

The backside of Marino's was actually the front entrance of the clubhouse, and the side that faces Interstate Avenue was the backside, the side that faced the river.. The original windows, through which club members paddled during the flood, were much smaller. Lou had them enlarged so they could be used as display windows.

The Marinos found it wasn't so much the standard type of furniture that attracted customers, but rather the "uglies," the unusual pieces displayed in the windows that would entice the customers to come into their store. Tony would work in the store whenever he could-- he helped fix, sell, move, deliver, run errands -- anything that needed doing, he would be in the thick of it.

Marino's Furniture usually did not charge a delivery fee. Tony recalled the time he delivered a 300-pound wood cook stove purchased for eight dollars by a customer who lived all the way out in Rhododendron; it cost more to deliver it -- so a nominal delivery charge came into existence after that but only for those far away delivery destinations.

During "off" times, Tony and his friends would work on their cars in the "back yard"; it just so happened that their back yard was next to a gas station. In 1972, Lou and Linda purchased the gas station, Art Brock's Service Station, with the agreement that they would not sell gas. The Marinos joined the buildings together to house their inventory and to have a space for fixing freight damaged furniture. Later on, they expanded their business to include floor covering -- laying carpet and vinyl flooring.



Circa 2006—Before the demolition

The area around the furniture store was a mixed-use space before mixed-use spaces became a household phrase; it included a Union 76 gas station and a dry cleaning business. As long-time residents they saw a lot of changes in the neighborhood -- empty lots developed, small stores closed, others changed owners or remodeled. They remember Hermann's Grocery, Waddles and the Golden Coach Drive-In. Both Linda and Tony are graduates of Jefferson High School. Their daughter, Kelly Marino, was a 1980 runner up Rose Princess at Jefferson. For half a century, their lives were a part of the neighborhood. Linda and Tony want to express their thanks to the community for supporting them for all these years and they will miss all of their customers.

PART TWO

The building has been sold, whatever inventory remaining after the liquidation sale, was donated to Green Roots, a non-profit organization that benefits the elderly. Their last sale -- going out of business -- ushered in a new phase of their lives. After all, doors don't really close for the family of a feisty, Montana-born mother who always wanted to be in show business, who learned to play the trumpet from Louis Armstrong, and who could lay brick and tile with the best of them, and whose favorite phrase was, "the show must go on."

And it does go on to the next scene as the purple furniture store with the upside down sign will soon be razed to make way for a new mixed-use 32-unit condo facility.



Enter Mark Kirchmeier. Mark, part Polish ancestry is a member of the Polish Library Association. About five years ago, he and another member, Chris Gniewosz were concerned that the property to the immediate north of St. Stanislaus was starting to look neglected. After much thought and negotiations, they decided to re-develop the property. They admired the work that Reverend Mike Maslowsky, a priest and lawyer, had done with Assumption Village in St. Johns. Rev. Maslowski had built "beautifully designed and affordable condos for retired people who wanted to stay near their church and/or near their neighborhood."

They needed money to finance their project and after many months they were able to raise the needed funds. They took ownership on December 6, 2006. The plan is for a mixed-use building with 32 condo units and 1500 - 2200 square feet of commercial/retail space. At this time they are still working on finding business for the retail space. Gated parking space for the tenants is planned but retail shoppers will have to find parking on the street. The alley right behind the new building will be paved.

There were various reasons Mark and Chris toyed with the idea of a multi-use building. As Mark explained:

- 1) 90 years ago, south Interstate/Mississippi was a "little Warsaw." We would like in a small way to recreate that. Our view is that all of the public appreciates history, whether the historic Italian neighborhood in Ladd's Addition, Greek neighborhood off Glisan, African-American by Russell Street, etc. So we wanted a storefront business below the condos.
- 2) Overlook is a prosperous neighborhood that lacks prosperous neighborhood services. We feel there will be a market for retail.
- 3) Having first-floor retail makes the condos more appealing to potential condo buyers.
- 4) We believe in the urban village philosophy of encouraging people to live along LR lines to reduce fossil-fuel consumption, air pollution, dependency on foreign oil etc. Mixed-use helps that more than solo residential buildings.

The existing buildings will be taken down in December and early January. The Rebuilding Center on Mississippi Avenue will be salvaging most of the materials. Ground breaking is slated between February 1 -10. Pre-selling of the condos will begin in spring, with both condos and commercial spaces to be open on October 1, 2007.



Circa 2007— Overlook Heights

Photo Credits: Linda and Lou Marino, owners of Marino's Furniture and Walter A. Witschard, Portland Yacht Club historian.

CROWN MOTEL REDEVELOPMENT —A NEW UPDATE

Work continues to redevelop the Crown Motel and the adjacent vacant lot to the south. The new building will offer space on the ground floor for retail and approximately 52 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. TriMet owns the property and selected REACH Community Development as the developer in May 2006. The project design is evolving based on feedback from a community meeting held in June 2006 and to allow the project to move forward within financial resources available. TriMet and REACH plan to hold a second public meeting about the project on Tuesday, the 23rd of January at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center at 7:00 P.M. Plan to attend if you are interested so that you can provide the kind of feedback this project needs. For more information, contact Michelle Haynes, REACH's Project Manager at (503) 231-0682, mhaynes@reachcdc.org or Jillian Detweiler, TriMet's Project Manager at (503) 962-2292, detweilj@trimet.org.

OVERLOOK HOUSE----THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS

from Carol Padden
By Warren Cassell

This past December has brought a myriad of community events to Overlook House which could not have joyously happened without the contributions of a cadre of hard workers contributing their time and energy to benefit so many others. Following in less than alphabetical order were the Santa at Overlook House Volunteers on December 9:

Jeanette Stoddard	Mathew Weres
Clarice, Angela and	Kendra Padden
Teresa Barrett	Melissa Baker
Olivia and Kyle Skalbeck	Alan Cranna
Jim and Audrey Leverich	

In addition, several individuals and companies made substantial donations to both the Santa event and the Holiday Bazaar. These were: Julie Rawls, Linda French and DiPrima Dolci Bakery, Harbor Freight Tools and FedEx Kinkos.

A week earlier another creative crew of hard working volunteers helped make the Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale a huge success. In addition to the dozens of neighborhood bakers who contributed their goodies to the bake sale table, the following on-site contributions of their time and presence are very much appreciated:

Jeanette Stoddard	Anna Gretz
Kendra Padden	Alan Cranna
Julie Rawls	Jim Leverich
Mary Ellen Bouneff	Phil and Linda Gorg
Carol Cushman	Pat Hazlett
Jessica Dillingham	Christine Quigley



Milo with local resident Phil Horine doing his Santa job at the Overlook House festivities.

OVERLOOK HOUSE --- CLASSES OLD AND NEW

OLD--The ever-popular yoga class taught by Heidi Jo Timm continues to be offered at Overlook House on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 P.M. There are now a few openings available for new and returning students. Costs are \$20.00 per month or \$4.00 per walk-in fee. For further information contact Heidi Jo at 503-341-4688 or heidijotimm@gmail.com.

NEW—Tai Chi Chih will be a new offering at Overlook House starting on Thursday, February 22 from 6:30 to 7:45 P.M. with the course running 8 weeks. This American form is easy to learn (and remember) with great circulation and balance of chi energy. It does not require physical fitness or coordination but will provide many health and well-being benefits. Seniors are welcome. Cost of the 8-week session is \$67.00 and class size is limited to insure as much individual attention as possible. There will be a free preview class held on Thursday, February 8 from 6:30 to 7:15 P.M. Fee is payable at the preview class or the first evening of the series. For further information or registration, contact instructor Steve Marsh at 503-283-4991 or tecmmarsh@hotmail.com.

NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

By Mike Moran, PTA President Beach School

Music at Beach

Thanks to a Portland Schools Foundation First Octave grant, Beach will begin a new **After-School** music program in January in partnership with Ethos Music Center. The original grant was scoped to fund after-school music programs for two days a week. But, Principal Paige Fox has also acquired additional funding to expand the program, and Beach teacher Leslie Rizzo will contribute additional support. The new program will offer three separate opportunities for students: **1.** an introduction to music class for kindergarten and first graders, **2.** a choir class for second through fourth grade and **3.** a choir class for fifth through seventh grade. The new program is the first step in introducing a full school time music program. A good portion of the additional funding acquired by Principal Fox is earmarked for music equipment such as a marimba ensemble. Look for performance schedules in future newsletters.

The Edible Schoolyard

Building on the work of Mona Brown and the Beach Garden Club, and a new Edible Schoolyard group that has emerged from the Our United Villages meetings, Beach has received a grant through the Portland Neighborhood Grants program for design and materials improvements of the existing school garden. Teacher Brenda Bokenyi is also applying for additional funding from Growing Gardens and Organically Grown Company. These funds will be used to expand and improve the existing garden, and Ms. Bokenyi will be working with other faculty to further integrate the garden curriculum in to the classroom. Katie Bueh, a landscape designer who has worked with school garden programs in Eugene and the Sauvie Island Center has joined the effort providing garden design and planning expertise. To get involved please contact Brenda Bokenyi at bbokenyi@pps.k12.or.us for more information.

Looking Forward

At the November general meeting, the Beach PTA voted to establish a new strategic planning committee to define the long term goals for our organization. The first meeting of the committee was held on December 6th where we defined the goals of the committee and outlined a work plan. The committee has been charged with identifying short, mid and long term priorities and to make recommendations for implementation. Parent Felicia Tripp is chairing this committee and brings her impressive background in planning and development to bear on this exciting new project.

Thank You

The Beach PTA Fund Raising committee is winding up its "Pour on the Gravy" giving campaign for this season, and we want to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to the fund. Early counts show in excess of \$2500 of contributions from Beach families and Overlook neighbors, and contributions continue to arrive. Funds raised will be used for a new reader board in front of the school and a fund for classroom supplies. This campaign has truly demonstrated the broad and growing community support for Beach, and we are all truly grateful.

SLOW DOWN ON OVERLOOK BOULEVARD

By Warren Cassell

About a year ago Overlook Views wrote about a one person campaign by a local resident to slow down traffic traveling east and west on Skidmore Street from Interstate to Overlook Boulevard. Much of this was accomplished by her purchasing and posting large yellow signs indicating both the presence of children and asking drivers to slow down.



Approaching east from Interstate with Longview in the foreground on the right and Melrose Place on the left.

Now, another local resident, Chad Jibril, has been instrumental in attempting to moderate drivers' habits at a really dangerous section of Overlook Boulevard at Melrose Place. As the pictures show, this is a blind spot for motorists approaching east from Interstate or west from Overlook Boulevard at Colonial. What's new in these

pictures are the two signs establishing a fifteen mile per hour zone for this short but hazardous stretch in our

residential neighborhood. These signs were erected as a result of Chad's persistent efforts with the traffic department to alleviate the dangers of this really bad intersection. A number of accidents occurring here in the past have caused damage to both property and vehicles. We hope that the signs and more careful driving by (mostly) non-residents will help to prevent more accidents.



Approaching west from Overlook Boulevard with Colonial (not shown) on the left.

TAX AIDS NEEDED

AARP is looking for volunteers to do free tax assistance and preparation for low and moderate-income individuals with special attention to those ages 60 and older. Training is provided during January and volunteers work one 4 hour day each week from February 1 to April 15. Overlook resident Kent Hoddick is the local coordinator and he can be reached at 503-286-9803 or go on-line at www.aarp.org/volunteer. Workers are needed any day of the week and the work would be locally based. Last year AARP did taxes free for 32,000 Oregonians and over 2 million taxpayers nationwide.



REAL ESTATE UPDATE PORTLAND/OVERLOOK



An overview of the Portland Metropolitan area as of the end of October, 2006 shows that the average market time for a residential property was 47 days, compared to 36 days a year ago. The number of new listings increased by 20.8% when compared to October, 2005, though pending sales and closed sales declined by 12.6% and 14.3% respectively. The average sales price for the Metro area increased 15% from a year ago.

In North Portland there were 415 active listings (including 189 new ones), 142 pending sales and 128 closed sales. The average sale price was \$245,300 and the average market time was 38 days. Appreciation has increased to 19.7% since October 2005. Listed below are properties that have sold in Overlook since the last Newsletter.

RECENT OVERLOOK SALES

Address	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Days on Market
1732 N. Blandena St.	3/1.1	\$219,999	\$203,499	67
1523 N. Prescott St.	2/1	\$240,000	\$223,000	40
1623 N. Prescott St.	4/2	\$269,000	\$240,000	34
1519 N. Blandena St.	2/1	\$238,000	\$243,000	7
1521 N. Church St.	2/1	\$269,900	\$275,000	16
4310 N. Overlook Blvd.	3/1.1	\$310,000	\$290,000	8
1726 N. Willamette Blvd.	3/2	\$299,000	\$299,000	5
1526 N. Prescott St.	3/1	\$309,900	\$305,000	32
5635 N. Delaware Ave.	3/2	\$343,000	\$317,000	78
2223 N. Webster St.	4/2	\$364,900	\$326,900	104
1515 N. Killingsworth St.	4/2	\$349,000	\$329,500	5
1911 N. Alberta St.	2/1	\$325,000	\$335,000	4
2426 N. Sumner St.	3/1	\$334,000	\$336,000	10
1834 N. Willamette Blvd.	3/2	\$349,000	\$345,000	21
5636 N. Burrage Ave.	4/2	\$375,000	\$363,700	25
4177 N. Overlook Ter.	3/2	\$549,900	\$465,000	43
2227 N. Skidmore Ter.	3/2	\$535,000	\$480,000	32
2214 N. Skidmore Ct.	4/2	\$579,000	\$550,000	62

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

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 and subscribe by entering your e-mail address as directed on the home page.

Or via snail mail:

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OVERLOOK VIEWS

A bi-monthly publication of the
Overlook Neighborhood Association
Made possible by a very generous grant from
Freightliner L.L.C.

Co-editors: Warren and Melisa Cassell

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Carol Cushman

Thanks to the following lovely people whose contributions made this edition possible: Jeff Berebitsky, Jennifer Callison, Adrian Campbell, Shane Endicott, Sara Friedel, Brad Halverson, Lauren Kilbane, Tom Kilbane, Bob La Du, Liz LaDu, Mike Moran, Cory Ome, Carol Padden, Zita Podany and Cynthia Sulaski.

For information about submitting articles:
503-288-8323 or w.cassell@comcast.net.

TRANSPORTATION MATTERS

By Brad Halverson, Transportation Committee Chair

Looking for another way to get home to Overlook? ODOT just finished adding a second lane to the Kerby St. offramp from the Fremont Bridge. That means you don't have to wait in the long queue with everyone else trying to head to inner Northeast Portland or Emanuel! Be ready for the hairpin right turn and the stop sign at the end of the ramp. This eventually puts you on Interstate below the Greeley hill where you can access the southern end of the neighborhood or use Greeley for the western side of Overlook. Enjoy!

If you travel on Denver Avenue, be careful of the new pedestrian islands and other changes along the street between Killingsworth and Kenton. The traffic calming project will hopefully slow down the traffic a bit and make it easier to cross Denver on foot or by bicycle. Thanks to the neighbors in Overlook and Arbor Lodge who spoke up and changed the project to something they can live with!

