

# OVERLOOK VIEWS

AUGUST/SEPT 2008

*The Newsletter*

Vol.5 No. 2

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Portland, Oregon

www.overlookneighborhood.org



## WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

By Eric Gale



**ARE YOU** interested in making our neighborhood a better place, helping shape its future, feeling connected, and staying informed? There are lots of ways to get involved but a great one is to become a member of the neighborhood association board. Our annual elections will take place at our September general meeting (**Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m.**, Kaiser Town Hall). All positions will be open for election, including the officer positions (chair, chair-assist, secretary, and treasurer), committee chairs (transportation, trees and parks, land-use, safety, publicity, environment, membership, bluff fire prevention, and business/community relations), and area

reps for each of our four sub-regions. Folks east of Interstate Ave. are especially encouraged to run.

## WHAT'S INVOLVED?

No experience or special skills are needed, just an interest in Overlook and a willingness to help out (plus being a resident, a business owner, or a property owner in Overlook). The board meets on the first Tuesday of the month (7:00 p.m. at the Overlook House). In addition, general meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month except in August and December. The general meetings take place at Kaiser Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. Life can make perfect atten-

dance difficult, but regular attendance is expected.

## WHAT WE DO

The primary role of a neighborhood association is to provide a way for people to communicate with each other. The board plays an important role in making these discussions happen, getting the information we need, getting that information out, and organizing around topics where we need to be heard or we need to act. We also help organize and support a whole host of events and projects that support the livability of our neighborhood.

(Continued next page)



## A NEIGHBORHOOD CHAT: "DIALOGUE ACROSS DIFFERENCES" By Matt Scoggin

What are our experiences with people who are different from us? Why do many of us find it difficult to talk about race and class? How can we explore our own beliefs and encourage our neighbors to do the same? Please join us for a free workshop/discussion facilitated by staff from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement about some of the challenges involved in creating an inclusive neighborhood and neighborhood association.

This dialogue, organized by the Diversity Committee of the Overlook Neighborhood Association, will take place on Monday, **September 8** from 7 to 9 p.m. upstairs at the Overlook House at 3839 N. Melrose Drive. Refreshments will be served.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Matt Scoggin [scogginm@gmail.com](mailto:scogginm@gmail.com) or call 503-522-1889.

*Editors' note: Another member of this committee has put together some further thoughts regarding the subject of diversity, which is pertinent to the **September 8** meeting. See next article.*

## A DIVERSE OVERLOOK—

### The Reality and the Hope

By Molly Franks

A few of us have started a diversity committee within the Overlook Neighborhood Association. The impetus was to follow up on the issues that surfaced during the discussion of changing Interstate Avenue to Cesar Chavez

Boulevard. We're also interested in having the neighborhood association more closely resemble the neighborhood, by including: people from all geographic areas, backgrounds, socioeconomic classes, all ages, ethnicities, and both renters & homeowners.

This article focuses on ethnicity, but many of the barriers to having an inclusive neighborhood association are similar across issues of race, class, and age. Many times when we think or talk about "diversity," the assumption is we're talking about people of color. I am white, as are most of the people involved in the neighborhood association. What's our role in this work? A very important place to start is thinking about our own experiences and beliefs — our own culture.

(Continued next page)

(Diversity Continued)



I once read an article by Peggy McIntosh, entitled "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack," that has had an enormous influence on my thinking about diversity. McIntosh created a long list of things most white people rarely if ever think about, but that, when added up, have a tremendous influence on our daily lives. Here are some excerpts from that list:

I can if I wish arrange to be in the company of people of my race most of the time.

If I should need to move, I can be pretty sure of renting or purchasing housing in an area which I can afford and in which I would want to live.

I can be pretty sure that my neighbors in such a location will be neutral or pleasant to me.

I can turn on the television or open to the front page of the paper and see people of my race widely represented.

When I am told about our national heritage or about "civilization", I am shown that people of my color made it what it is.

Whether I use checks, credit cards or cash, I can count on my skin color not to work against the appearance of financial reliability.

I can easily buy posters, post-cards, picture books, greeting cards, dolls, toys and children's magazines featuring people of my race.

I can swear, or dress in second hand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to the bad morals, the poverty or the illiteracy of my race.

I am never asked to speak for all the people of my racial group.

I can choose blemish cover or bandages in "flesh" color and have them more or less match my skin.

I can be pretty sure that if I ask to talk to the "person in charge," I will be facing a person of my race.

I can take a job with an affirmative action employer without having my co-workers on the job suspect that I got it because of my race.



(Words from the Chair continued)

**...The foregoing is all a little vague...so,**

## LET'S GET SPECIFIC

**O**

A lot of work centered around rezoning (inviting planners to talk with us, educating ourselves and each other about the details, and organizing our response to various city agencies, commissions, City Council, and even the media).



We also worked hard to keep people informed during the proposed renaming of Interstate Ave. and letting the city know of the concerns that people had with the process.

**K**

Board members have also been involved in representing the neighborhood in the discussions of the new I-5 bridge to Washington, PDC's Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area, and on parks boards.



**N**

Board members have also been busy on traffic issues, wildfire-prevention efforts along the bluff, organizing the re-opening of Patton Park (after getting its facelift to happen in the first place), supporting the Interstate Farmers Market and Overlook House, working with the organizers of the Earth Day Festival, Organic Brewers Festival, and Sunday Parkways events as well as people working on Bicycle Boulevards, creating a neon sign district, and our Neighborhood Emergency Team, organizing the Willamette Bluff lighting project, and helping to organize neighborhood clean-ups, graffiti clean-up events, and tree-plantings.



At our general meetings we've also had great exchanges where we gathered input, asked questions, and shared concerns with our community policing officer, TriMet security, multiple developers of condos and apartments along Interstate Ave., and planners working on the I-5 bridge, East-Side Big Pipe, and Interstate/Greeley intersection.

**A**

As a board we've also started a Welcoming Committee and Diversity Committee. Whew! All that and I haven't even mentioned this fantastic publication and everyone who hand-delivers it lovingly to your door.

**&!**

To be much less wordy, elections are in September, we do a lot of great stuff, and join the board if you can. If you're interested, please contact me (Eric Gale) at [ericsgale@yahoo.com](mailto:ericsgale@yahoo.com) or 503-737-5227.

These privileges (often unconsciously) influence how we think about ourselves, how we interact with our neighbors, and how groups like our neighborhood association function. Such privileges don't make us bad people, or mean we should feel guilty. If we want to work toward inclusivity, it is useful to be aware of our privilege, and try to use it for the benefit of all, rather than just ourselves.

If you are interested in talking about these issues, we invite you to join us for the event noted in the announcement preceding this article:

A Neighborhood Chat: "Dialogue across Differences".





## OVERLOOK AS A SUMMER FESTIVAL

## COMMUNITY FAIR

Overlook neighborhood based Community Help Institute for Learning and Development (CHILD) Inc. is sponsoring its First Annual Community Fair at Overlook Park on August 2 from noon until 5:00 p.m. The Community Fair is a gathering of local community organizations that want to bring about awareness to their programs and services. At the fair will be free children's activities and live entertainment including live music and family friendly comedians. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Some food will be available, but it will be served on a first come, first serve, basis. If your family wants to bring its own picnic lunch, that is perfectly fine. If you have any questions, feel free to contact CHILD Inc. at [child.inc.pdx@gmail.com](mailto:child.inc.pdx@gmail.com) or call 503-484-5306. The mission of CHILD is to help at risk youth and families become productive members of society through supplemental education, job training and placement, and overall self-esteem elevation. They currently offer two annual programs: first, The Career Showcase during Spring Break, which is early introduction of professional careers to 5th grade students, and second, their Annual Community Dinner before Christmas. They are in the process of upgrading their facilities on North Killingsworth to offer two additional programs: full time childcare and a Peer Homework Assistance Program for all students through 8th grade.

## READY TO PARTY?

By Warren Cassell

Here's a great idea for a cool summer evening in August. Celebrate National Night Out on August 5 by organizing a block party or simply a gathering of your neighbors in your home. National Night Out is a unique community event celebrated in towns and cities all across the country on the first Tuesday in August. Portland is no exception. In practically every one of the hundred plus neighborhoods that makes up our aptly named Bridge City, there will be gatherings, festivities and parties bringing about a sense of community, good will and safety. One major purpose of these gatherings is to help prevent crime by making it possible for individuals to know more people who live nearby on their street or in their neighborhood and to build bridges of understanding.

It is easy for you to participate in National Night Out by hosting an event or a party. If you would like to take part in the festivities, you should register your event through the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Crime Prevention Program. There are several advantages for registering. You will be eligible for waived fees for street closings (think big!), park reservations and noise variances. Start planning now and register your party or event (remember, think big!) by the July 22 deadline by calling 503-823-4064 or go online at [www.portlandonline.com/oni/nno](http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/nno). Either of these contact points will be able to provide additional information and answer your questions.

## HOW COOL IS THIS?

Our annual Ice Cream Social for the neighborhood will take place on Sunday, August 3 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Overlook House. Please come and enjoy an ice cream sundae for a very unusual price of \$1 with choices of toppings. This will also be a great occasion to take the time to visit with your neighbors and to participate in our Silent Auction.

The auction returns this year with gift certificates from neighbor businesses and of course, its traditional white elephant tables. The funds raised will pay for future events at Overlook House.

So, for a delicious ice cream treat and a fun time with your neighbors, come to Overlook House at 3839 N Melrose Drive. See you there!

## PAUSE FOR OKNA COOKOUT

By Warren Cassell

The Overlook Neighborhood Association (OKNA) is pleased to announce a Tuesday, August 19 celebration of good neighbors at *Pause Restaurant* at 5101 N. Interstate Avenue. The event will take place from 5:30 to 9:00 P.M.

Last year, OKNA tried something new in lieu of the neighborhood's traditional summer potluck, which had had waning attendance the previous years. And it worked! A successful and happy event brought together nearly one hundred fifty Overlook neighbors to *Pause* for a refreshing change. *Pause* will again set up a large barbeque grill in their outdoor dining area and will offer grilled burgers and sausages along with the usual condiments. Other goodies including salad, corn on the cob and an ice cream dessert will fill out the menu for this traditional summer cookout. The modest and all-inclusive food cost will be 7 dollars for adults and 3 dollars for kids under the age of twelve. Drinks will be extra. However, **if you reserve by August 10, your first liquid refreshment of beer, soda or lemonade will be on the house.**

This is a gathering of many good things: people getting together, a new business reaching out to the community, a satisfying summer dining event --- all of which add up to a bonus for Overlook residents. Right on!

You can make your reservations by email or telephone. In either case, make sure you note the number of adults and children as well as approximate time of arrival. For email, send to Kent Hoddick at [hoddick@teleport.com](mailto:hoddick@teleport.com) or by telephone, leave your message for Kent at 503-286-9803 **by August 10.**



A larger publication might call these the

## FOOD PAGES: TWO KINDS OF WILD

### NORTH INTERSTATE NEIGHBORHOODS ABOUND IN WILD FOODS

By John Kallas, Director, Wild Food Adventures Institute for the Study of Edible Wild Plants and Other Foragables

I live in Overlook on Colonial Avenue and every year around September, I do a workshop in our neighborhood called “Neighborhood Foraging - Fall Harvest of Fruits, Nuts, & Vegetables”. About 25 of us walk around Overlook, looking at both wild plants and ornamentals that produce food. (*See editors’ note at the end of this article.*) Along the way we, with permission from the owners, snack on apples, pears, gather fallen nuts from the sidewalks, and sample wild greens. But you do not have to wait for September. There are some fantastic wild greens growing in your own garden as you read this that are delicious and nutritious. And by delicious I do NOT mean bitter, spiny, choke the throat kind of delicious that only a masochistic survivalist would tolerate. I mean the kind of delicious that normal humans would enjoy, fresh off the plant, without having to boil, beat, or torture the food into submission. The greens I refer to, flavor-wise, are in the ballpark of lettuce or spinach. What I call a foundational green — something so good that it can serve as the base of a restaurant salad.

What follows is a reprint of an article I wrote about one such plant for the *Wild Food Adventurer* newsletter. The article is copyrighted and reprinted here with permission.

#### Wild Spinach: Delicious, Nutritious, and Abundant



Healthy young wild spinach about six inches tall

Wild Spinach (*Chenopodium album*), also known as goosefoot and wild lambsquarters, is the most nutritious “green” analyzed to date. It’s wide-spread and grows in gardens, recently disturbed soil, and farmland — basically anywhere in North America where the soil is rich and moist. While most people know it as lambsquarters, it’s called goosefoot because of the shape of the leaf — which resembles a webbed foot. It is also called wild spinach because its flavor resembles conventional spinach. Wild spinach is related to conventional spinach and to the grain quinoa, a Central and South American staple of historical importance.

Wild spinach emerges from the soil in late spring to early summer and grows fast. If you look close enough at the leaves, you can see the tiny waxy granules that help distinguish this plant from all the look-a-likes (some poisonous) and wannabes. These granules are concentrated at the new growth areas making developing leaves in those areas appear whitish. As the leaves grow, the granules become more spread out. Take care not to confuse the whitening appearance of hairs on other plants with the whitening appearance of wild spinach’s powdery granules. Another way to identify wild spinach is to wash it in cold water. It floats and resists mixing with the water because its waxy surface granules make it water repellent.

This herbaceous (not woody) annual grows a main stem that begins branching with age. Under ideal conditions wild spinach can grow to seven feet. Under horrific conditions, it will be stunted to only a few inches. The leaves and branches are alternately arranged on the stem. Stem and branch tips are terminated eventually by a vertical cluster of flower buds. Those buds eventually turn into flowers, then seeds.

#### Nutrition

Of all the leafy greens that have been analyzed, both conventional and wild, wild spinach is, overall, the most nutritious. According to the USDA’s Agriculture Nutrient database, for one hundred grams of food, wild spinach has more calcium than turnip greens, collard greens, amaranth, and kale. No leafy green has more calcium. In fact, wild spinach has more calcium than an equal weight of almonds, hazel nuts and Brazil nuts. One hundred grams of wild spinach provides about 39% of your daily requirement of calcium. Calcium is important for bones, teeth, blood clotting, nerve impulse transmission, and muscle contraction.

Wild spinach has more riboflavin than turnip greens, collard greens, and dandelions. No leafy green has more riboflavin. This is a nutrient you usually associate with dairy products, not plants. One hundred grams of wild spinach provides about 25% of your daily requirement of riboflavin. Riboflavin is important for the metabolism of macronutrients (protein, fat, and carbohydrates) and energy.



The upper 12 inches of a healthy growing wild spinach about 20 inches. Soon flower buds will form at the top of each branch of this plant.

In addition, wild spinach has a plentiful amount of Vitamin C (Ascorbic acid). One hundred grams of this green provides 133% of your daily requirement of Vitamin C. Vitamin C is important for general body function, cell structure strength, iron absorption, and wound healing.

Wild spinach is one of the top six providers of Vitamin A. Leafy greens with more “A” include blue violet, wintercress, chrysanthemum, dandelion, and dock. Wild spinach exceeds kale, turnip greens, spinach, mustard, and collard greens. One hundred grams of wild spinach provides about 116% of your daily requirement of Vitamin A (in retinol equivalents). Vitamin A is important for vision, and assists in the formation and maintenance of skin, mucus membranes, bones and teeth.



**Harvesting the tender edible leafy-stem tips. Just bend the stem until you find the tender "snap" point. From where it snaps upward, the greens and stem will be tender. The upper leafy stem and all the plant's leaves are tender, edible, and delicious.**

#### Gathering Wild Spinach

The upper, leafy stems can be used as long as the stem breaks cleanly. If the stem resists and pulls, try snapping the stem further up the plant. If the stem resists all the way to the top of the plant, then just use the leaves. All leaves of wild spinach are edible, palatable, and chewable, but younger leaves will be more tender and flavorful.

The very young flower bud clusters of wild spinach are also edible and can be gathered until they flower. Once they flower, the buds become extremely bitter and unpalatable.

(Continued next page)



(Wild Overlook continued)

### Preparation and Use

Raw, all by itself, wild spinach is delicious and a wonderful snack right off the plant. For some, the waxy powder produces a barely perceptible dryness. Most people do not perceive it. Wild spinach is an excellent addition to a fresh, dressed salad. Its taste is reminiscent of fine spinach. Use the dressing of your choice.

Raw or cooked, use wild spinach leaves and tender stems any way you might use conventional spinach. Just look up any recipe from your favorite cookbook and substitute. No one will know that it's a wild spinach lasagna except the most discriminating spinach connoisseur. Once cooked, wild spinach is more firm than conventional spinach. Also, note that cooking melts the waxy granules, rendering a moister product.

Enjoy this wild gourmet garden vegetable as a regular part of your summer cuisine. It's delicious, nutritious, and gosh darn you'll like it!



**A sandwich with wild spinach used in place of lettuce served with boiled wild spinach greens - topped with almond slivers and served with a dressing of your choice.**

*Editors' note: John has scheduled his 2008 Overlook foraging walk for September 28. In addition, he has many other workshops scheduled during this summer. For more information about any of them, get in touch with John at his website [www.wildfoodadventures.com](http://www.wildfoodadventures.com) or email at [mail@wildfoodadventures.com](mailto:mail@wildfoodadventures.com) or phone 503-775-3828.*

### ANOTHER WILD—AS IN “YUM!”

### BENVENUTI a DiPRIMA DOLCI BAKERY and CAFÉ!

By Jane Finch-Howell

Overlook resident Patricia DiPrima-LeConche has a passion for the importance of food in our lives. She grew up eating simple but lovingly home-cooked Italian meals and believes “every meal can be something to share with family and friends, and be thankful for.”

DiPrima Dolci, her Italian bakery and café at 1936 N Killingsworth embodies Pat's passion. She calls it an “old-fashioned kind of bakery,” because her breads are made from just four ingredients: water, flour, salt and yeast. But there's much more than just bread at the bakery. Pat points out that “dolci” is a plural form: “it means a lot of sweets,” she explains, like the festive Italian doughnuts made only on the last Saturday of each month.

DiPrima Dolci opened six years ago with a lot of hard work and little fanfare. Along the way, Pat has weathered city requirements, personnel changes, the purchase of her building, and has learned what works for her business and her bottom line.

She has built a core group of employees and is quick to credit head baker, Dean Martindale, who has been with her almost since she opened. Also an Overlook resident, Dean is Pat's friend, co-worker and inspiration. She says his support has kept her true to her desires and passion for the bakery. The recent addition of Pat's brother Frank to the staff means she can now take a rare weekend off.

Opened initially as a bakery only, DiPrima Dolci now serves breakfast and lunch seven days a week until 5 p.m., and dinner on Friday and Saturday until 10 p.m. Wine and beer are available. For warmer weather,



Funny hat Pat taking a break in her sunny garden

Pat has created a delightful alfresco dining option in the space behind the bakery. A central seating area is surrounded by verdant raised planters of young trees, shrubs, and perennials, as well as vegetables and herbs that will find their way into delicious meals this summer. Pat is having so much fun with the garden she confesses her goal right now is “to fill cannolis for customers and work in the garden.” The garden also has been the site of the Metropolitan Garden Club's spring plant sale for the past two years: watch for it again next April.

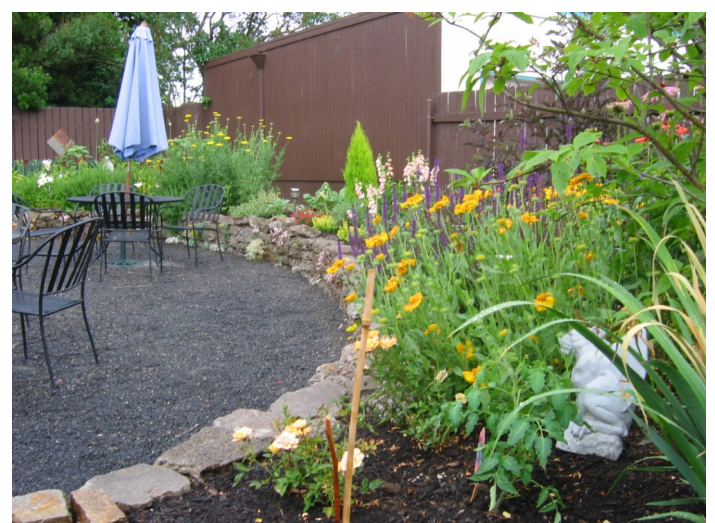
Meanwhile, enjoy a meal at DiPrima Dolci with family or friends. It's a place to savor real food, made lovingly by hand and served in a beautiful garden setting. You'll be thankful — and that's exactly what Pat intends.



Beginnings of a new garden



Pat's garden in bloom with happy customers



Pat's garden in bloom



## CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT OVERLOOK DATES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

**Saturday Aug 2**      **Community Fair**  
**Overlook Park**      **12 to 5**  
(See page 3)

**Sunday Aug 3**      **Ice Cream Social**  
**Overlook House**      **6 to 8**  
(See page 3)

**Tuesday Aug 5**      **National Night Out**  
**Your place, your block?**      **Evening**  
(See page 3)

**Tuesday Aug 19**      **Annual Overlook Party**  
**Pause Restaurant**      **5:30 to 9**  
(See page 3)

**Monday Sept 8**      **Diversity Dialogue**  
**Overlook House**      **7-9**  
(See page 1)

**Tuesday Sept 16**      **OKNA Elections**  
**Kaiser Town Hall**      **7-9**  
(See page 1)

**Sunday Sept 28**      **Foraging in Overlook**  
**The Neighborhood**      **Time to be arranged**  
(See page 4)

## HEARTY THANKS FROM THE BREWERS FESTIVAL

Cheers to the Neighborhood! The North American Organic Brewers Festival would like to raise a glass to our Overlook neighbors for hosting another successful year of the festival. The three-day event brought in four barrels of canned food for the Oregon Food Bank, and several thousand dollars for charities including the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and Oregon Tilth. Waste from the event was composted and recycled, diverting about 12 cubic yards of glass, cardboard, plastic bottles, food waste and compostable flatware and tasting glasses from the landfill. The festival featured the world's largest selection of organic beer. We hope that you will join us at next year's North American Organic Brewers Festival.

Thanks.



## WELCOME BACK, PATTON SQUARE PARK!

By Cynthia Sulaski

“Family fun and respect for the environment,” “We hope Patton Park will always be a great place to play,” “Community-lots of beauty, fun and happiness.” These were just three of the many wishes that neighbors and friends bestowed on Patton Square Park on June 14. Hundreds of people came to welcome the park back into Overlook after a year’s closure for renovation.



Community wishes



All-new playground equipment

Besides trying out the new play equipment, enjoying the new benches and picnic tables and munching on pizza from Eddie’s Pizza and complimentary ice cream, visitors were entertained by talented and engaging youth from the Trillium School Drummers and the Portland Theater Brigade. The Flash Choir performed a song they wrote in less than thirty minutes from words given by neighbors describing the park. Their song was so well received that the Flash Choir performed it a second time.

One of the many highlights of the day for me was the storytelling hour in the Interstate Firehouse Community Center (IFCC) Theater. Alan Cranna reminisced about delivering newspapers to the firehouse (now IFCC) in the 1950’s and often being invited for breakfast by the firefighters. Dan Haneckow did some research and found out that the property only became an official park in 1962. Up to that time, the land was used by the firehouse for various other purposes.



Flash Choir

What enriched the discussions we had during that hour was the presence and participation of seven members of Matthew Patton’s family. If it hadn’t been for the research that an Oregon Historical Society staff member did, I never would have found Robert and William Patton, Matthew’s great-great grandsons. I had almost given up my initial search after finding 225 Patton names in Oregon in whitepages.com!

So it was heartwarming to meet the Pattons and see how much being invited to attend the re-opening meant to them.



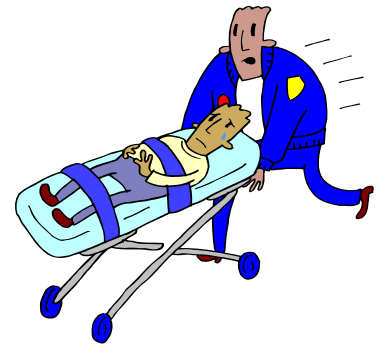
Trillium School Drummers

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the tremendous support that the Overlook community received from Portland Development Commission, IFCC, Portland Parks and Recreation and Trillium School staff in making the re-opening such a successful and fun event. We in Overlook thank them for sharing their time, talent, ideas and energy. The celebration was delightful and the park is beautiful!



## BICYCLE NEWS IN OVERLOOK GREELEY/INTERSTATE CLOSURE TO BE PERMANENT

After discussing the issues and options with the Overlook Neighborhood Association, Kaiser Permanente, and through an internal review process, the Portland Office of Transportation has decided to proceed with permanently closing the right turn lane from North Interstate Avenue to North Greeley Street to address bicycle safety at this intersection. Despite some impact to local traffic circulation, the full closure option was deemed the most effective in terms of improving overall safety. The existing slip lane will be filled in with concrete. Construction has not yet been scheduled. For more information, please contact Rich Newlands (503) 823-7780 ([rich.newlands@pdxtrans.org](mailto:rich.newlands@pdxtrans.org)).



**Editors' note:** *The above announcement, with its matter of fact language and terse delivery--- doesn't even begin to refer to the anguish and anger engendered by recent bicycle accidents at not only this location, but at too many others in Portland recently.*

*In the "something must be done" spirit, we received the following message from a concerned citizen who wants to strengthen bike safety awareness and create a more bike friendly future for our children, their parents and grandparents.*



## BICYCLE SAFETY

By Stephen Onisko

Let's get together to build bicycle safe streets in the Overlook neighborhood safe enough for everyone--children and adults alike. Others have done it and we can too. It just takes hard work, organization and commitment. If you would like to get involved and you are interested in being part of a committee to further this goal, please contact Stephen at 503-287-0013 or via email at [stephen\\_on@hotmail.com](mailto:stephen_on@hotmail.com). We can do it.



Patton Park Apartments currently under construction

## DOWNSIZING IN OVERLOOK?

By Warren Cassell

If you have been thinking about selling your home and moving into smaller quarters, but would like to remain in our neighborhood, the solution could be found at the corner of Interstate and North Sumner. Alternatively, if you are in the market for a brand new apartment, the same solution applies starting in January 2009. A wait list is now open for the Patton Park Apartments (formerly the Crown Motel) to all of those who qualify. The developers of this project would particularly welcome Overlook residents in need of a studio or a one, two or three bedroom apartment conveniently adjacent to the newly renovated Patton Square Park and right on the Yellow MAX Line.

Most of the 54 available apartments are single bedroom units renting for about \$525.00 monthly and these have approximately 600 square feet of space. Also available are a couple of studios, a few two-bedroom and a dozen three-bedroom apartments ranging in size from about 480 to 1230 feet. The studios and two-bedroom units range between \$450 and \$650 monthly.

All of the 1200 square foot three-bedroom apartments are reserved for families who qualify for project-based Section 8 and meet the screening criteria for the REACH Community Development

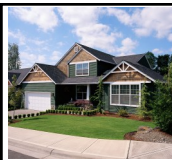
The other apartments at Patton Park are open to anyone who meets REACH screening criteria and has an income under 60% of median income. Income limits vary by household size. Additional details about these numbers are available at REACH, 971-255-4444.

Some additional features to be found in this energy efficient, smoke free building, to be managed by a professional management service, include complimentary internet access, a computer lab, community and playrooms, a laundry and free gated parking for tenants.

It is expected that the wait list will fill quickly and though Overlook residents can't be given preferential treatment (actually no one can be given preferential treatment!), the developers would like to welcome as many neighborhood tenants as possible. For additional information, go to [www.reachcdc.org](http://www.reachcdc.org) or call 971-255-4444.



Patton Park Apartments—January, 2009



REAL ESTATE UPDATE PORTLAND/OVERLOOK



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

As of the end of May, 2008, the average time for a residential property to sell in the Portland Metropolitan area was 79 days, compared to 60 days a year ago. The number of new listings decreased by 12.1% compared to May, 2007, pending sales were down by 30.5% and closed sales decreased by 33.5% (compared to April, 2008 new listings dropped 2.1%, closed sales were up 17.8% and pending sales increased by 2.6%).

In North Portland, at the end of May, there were 570 active listings (including 217 new ones), 120 pending sales, and 95 closed sales with an average sale price of \$268,000 and an average market time of 50 days. Appreciation has increased by 6.5% from a year ago (the highest rate in the metropolitan area). Listed below are properties that have sold in Overlook since the last Newsletter.

Address	Bed/Bath	List Price	Sale Price	Days on Market
3970 N. Interstate Ave., #309	1/1	\$219,000	\$219,900	229
5715 N. Detroit Ave.	2/1	239,900	242,000	3
3970 N. Interstate Ave., #210	1/1	234,900	242,400	235
1420 N. Alberta St.	3/1	299,000	261,000	87
1712 N. Sumner St.	3/2	269,000	267,000	22
1635 N. Alberta St.	2/1	269,900	267,000	5
2054 N. Humboldt St.	2/1	269,900	269,900	3
5611 N. Campbell St.	2/1	269,900	276,000	2
3956 N. Montana Ave.	4/1.1	317,000	287,000	303
2629 N. Killingsworth St.	3/3	329,900	289,900	69
2633 N. Killingsworth St.	3/3	329,900	295,000	68
2544 N. Willamette Blvd.	4/2.1	299,900	297,000	22
2639 N. Killingsworth St.	3/3	339,900	300,000	57
2137 N. Sumner St.	4/1	309,000	303,000	7
1540 N. Sumner St.	5/4	349,900	333,000	70
4016 N. Castle Ave.	3/1.1	355,000	330,000	27
5537 N. Delaware Ave.	3/2.1	345,000	335,000	106
4015 N. Colonial Ave.	3/1	350,000	350,000	0
5215 N. Denver Ave.	4/1	429,500	360,000	80
3918 N. Colonial Ave.	2/2	414,750	390,000	34
4115 N. Longview Ave.	3/2.1	499,000	490,000	11
4668 N. Campbell Ave.	4/2.1	550,000	510,000	261
3946 N. Massachusetts Ave.	5/2.1	549,900	549,900	190

IMPORTANT NITTY-GRITTY

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

Or via snail mail:  
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OVERLOOK VIEWS

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**Jane Finch-Howell, Molly Franks, Eric Gale, Brad Halverson, John Kallas, Bob LaDu, Matthew J. Scoggin and Cynthia Sulaski.**

The Overlook Views is published six times a year and your comments, suggestions and/or contributions are welcome. This really is your newsletter! Deadline for the next issue is September 3. Articles must be submitted electronically and should not exceed three hundred words unless there is prior agreement with the editors. Submissions should be sent to: [warrencassell@wcassell.com](mailto:warrencassell@wcassell.com). For additional information, either email above or call 503-288-8323.

DISCLAIMER

The ideas expressed in any editorials are the thoughts of the editors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the OKNA board unless explicitly stated otherwise. In addition, the Overlook Neighborhood Association and editors do not endorse, warrant or assume any responsibility for the ultimate value, quality, safety or fitness of any of the people, establishments or events identified in the newsletter or other forum. The Association and editors strongly support the concept of using local stores and services, and visiting events that are neighborhood based.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD?---With Elementary School Age Kids?

Beach School is now accepting registrations for the 2008-2009 school year. Children must be 4 years of age on or before September 1 to qualify for Pre-K and 5 years old on or before September 1st to qualify for Kindergarten. To register we request birth certificate, immunization records and 2 proofs of address. Unfortunately, we are currently full for Pre- K. However, we will gladly add your applicant's name to the waitlist when we receive a complete registration packet. For additional information or questions, call Heather Ramirez, school secretary of the Beach School at 503-916-6236 or email [hramirez@pps.k12.or.us](mailto:hramirez@pps.k12.or.us).