



Overlook Views

your neighborhood newsletter

Vol 6 No 2

July/August

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Portland Oregon
www.overlookneighborhood.org

Organic Brewers Festival Overlook Park June 26-28

The North American Organic Brewers Festival returns to **Overlook Park June 26-28th**, featuring the world's largest variety of organic beers.



The NAOBF, presented by **Roots Organic Brewing**, is in its 5th incarnation, and promotes sustainable living as well as organic beer.

The NAOBF benefits the Leukemia Lymphoma Society, the Oregon Tilth, which promotes organic agriculture, Willamette Riverkeeper, a local non-profit organization whose sole mission is to protect and restore the Willamette River and the Oregon Food Bank, which feeds the hungry. A diverse program of music runs throughout the event, and a children's area provides activities for youngsters. Local food vendors offer a variety of cuisine from naturally raised local pork sausages, to organic African cuisine, to veggie dogs.

NAOBF organizers strive to make it the most earth friendly beer festival in North America. Festival attendees sample beer from compostable corn-starch tasting glasses instead of the heavy plastic mugs used at other beer festivals. Composting and recycling stations are provided for festival waste and food vendors are required to use compostable cutlery and plates.

The NAOBF will be open from 12-9pm Friday, 12-9pm Saturday, and 12-5pm on Sunday. A tasting glass is \$6, and 4 oz. tastes of beer are \$1 each. A \$1 discount is given in exchange for three cans of organic food for the Oregon Food Bank or presenting a validated MAX light rail ticket.

Please visit the event's website at www.naobf.org for more information, and a preview of the music lineup.

It's Still June! Don't Miss This Month's Events Still in Progress...

OKNA General Meeting
Tuesday, June 16th 6 — 8pm
Kaiser Town Hall

Kicking Hunger Overlook Park June 20-21

Kicking Hunger; a non-profit formed of and by Portland kickballers raising money for Oregon Food Bank (OFB) while promoting the sport of kickball, are attempting to break the current world record (as set by Guinness) for the longest kickball game. We are looking to best the current record and play for 30 hours, while raising money for the OFB through sponsorship, pledges, donations and on-field non-perishable food collection.



The game will commence 10:00 AM on Saturday, June 20 and continue to 4:00 PM Sunday, June 21.

The festival will be open to the public from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM on Saturday, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM Sunday. Food/Drink vendors will be closed at 7:00 PM and the soundstage will promptly close at 8:00 PM on Saturday night so we can provide those who live in the neighborhood relative calm as we play through the night.

Oregon Food Bank's Mission:
To eliminate hunger and its root causes
... because no one should be hungry.

Sunday Parkways 2009 North Portland June 21

The City of Portland, Kaiser Permanente and OR-bike are hosting three Sunday Parkways in 2009. On **June 21, from 9am-4pm**, people will take to the streets to celebrate community, health and fun.



The streets will be open for people to walk, bike, run and roll, and the parks will host entertainment, activities and food.

www.GettingAroundPortland.org — click on Sunday Parkways.

Other Sunday Parkways:
Northeast Portland — July 19
Southeast Portland — August 16

Contact Janis McDonald at 503.823.5358 or janis.mcdonald@pdxtrans.org

Digital TV Change June 12

Urban League of Portland reminds you that television is changing; do you know someone that needs HELP with the TV change? Think of those people in your life that need help with tech changes & ask if they have taken the steps to keep their TVs working.

Urban League has access to DTV coupons to defray costs. You can donate your coupons to them. **Please call: 503.280.2600**
Urban League of Portland: 10 N Russell St

Cleanliness is... next door? 2009 Overlook Clean Up

by Alan Cranna
OKNA Overlook House Rep Board Member

The annual Overlook Earth Day Clean Up this year was on April 25, part of a citywide clean up day, and one of Overlook's most successful to date! Thanks to the enthusiasm of our neighbors the number of volunteers doubled this year to over 20 (people move around fast, it's hard to count!).

Mark Pickett of Revolver Bikes joined **Darcy Cronin** from the Bureau of Water Works, **John Meskimen** and **Frederic Butzon** in tidying up the new Pittman HydroPark.

George Spaulding, Marcia & Mark Shuford, Angela Cash and Tim Mongin took on the no-name park at N Interstate & Going. **Vickie Rennick, Rebecca Wahlstrom, Kathy Murphy, Cynthia Sulaski, Jim Heiman, Roger Freidel and Chris Radcliffe** braved the banks of N Going and discovered how difficult it is to clean this major thruway. Tran-



*Clean up volunteers named below celebrate after a successful day
photo courtesy Alan Cranna*

sient camps and steep terrain made every wrapper an adventure.

Chris used his golf cart to haul the heavy trash to the 30 yard dumpster. Jim was so intent on collecting trash that he climbed a 20' foot bank to get an old bucket.

George White cleaned up in many of the out of the way places over the whole weekend.

Special thanks to **our Arbor Lodge neighbors** who joined our cleanup. You folks can come over any time!

Among the unusual stuff found was an industrial boiler shaped like an old divers hard hat, a safe and lots of odd metal stuff. Chris saved the volunteers some sore muscles!! We **filled** that 30 yard dumpster with broken furniture, 30 bags of garbage, lumber and wood. A truckload of ivy and weeds topped it all off.

An extra large thank you to our volunteers and sponsors:

- North Portland Neighborhood Services
- Overlook Neighborhood Association
- City of Portland; Bureau of Water Works
- Swan Island, TMA
- METRO; Office of Planning & Sustainability



Our neighborhood businesses are part of what makes living in Overlook so wonderful. Take a moment to find out what they have to offer...

AlexSandra's Vintage Emporium offers apparel and accessories from 1968 and prior. Specializing in costume jewelry and items union made in the USA. Sign up for her monthly email newsletter for coupons and the scoop on her touring vintage fashion shows. www.alexsandras.com 6726 N Interstate Ave 503.735.4420

DiPrima Dolci Italian Bakery & Café—Serving breakfast & lunch daily, and now dinner till 9 pm Wednesdays-Saturdays. Pizza, pasta, pastry and pane every day! Our garden patio is a trip to Italia! 1936 N Killingsworth, 503.283.5936 www.diprimadolci.com

ROUX features Happy BBQ Hour all summer from 4:30 - 7:00 & 9:00 - Close seven days a week. The menu stars brand new BBQ fare perfect for the season. No RSVP necessary. 1700 N Killingsworth 503.285.1200

Arciform now offers maintenance & home repair services! Begin with a professional top to bottom evaluation by one of our old home craftsmen! Schedule before 7/31/09 and receive your FIRST HOUR FREE! (A \$65 value) 503.493.7344

Queens Mab is a fun baby and maternity boutique featuring new and gently used items. Check out www.queensmab.com to see all we offer. Mention this ad for 25% off all new apparel. 1920 N Killingsworth

Nourish your skin and soul with a calming holistic facial or spruce up for summer with waxing services from **Jackie at Essential Skincare Therapies**. 10% off first service. By Appointment only. 503.753.1477 1920 N Killingsworth

Sagittarius: Comfort food, killer cocktails & friendly neighbors. The kitchen is open until close every night (late!). Happy Mondays, Last-Tuesday Trivia, Mojito Pitchers. M-Sat (4-Midnight), Sun (4-10). Next to Blend on Killingsworth & Greeley. www.sagittariusbar.blogspot.com 503.289.7557

Yoga for every body. 4 levels of classes, 7 days a week and numerous teachers from which to choose. Smaller class sizes for more personal attention, many North Portland neighbors in class. 503.249.3903 www.prananda.com

Serving Overlook neighborhood with Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture for 8 years, **North Portland Acupuncture Clinic** at 1905 N. Killingsworth is Open M-F, 9-7 and Sat. 9-3. Call Chris Slama, Licensed Acupuncturist and Overlook resident at 503.517.2020

Best Friends Bath and More, 2148 N Killingsworth, has been here since 2000. Dog and cat grooming, and self-wash facility. We welcome the animals and their family to come by and say "Hello" and enjoy our treats for visitors. 503.283.0327

Friends of Overlook House Ice Cream Social

by Mary Ellen Baldauff

Join us for a hot summer's evening and a long running Overlook tradition, the Friends of Overlook House Ice Cream Social.

This multi-generational gathering always features the neighbor kids dishing out the top-pings as you create your own custom sundae and grab a chance to gab with friends and take in the sunset.



Overlook neighbors will gather on **Sunday, August 2 from 6 to 8 pm at the Overlook House**, 3839 N Melrose Drive.

Sundaes are a bargain at just \$2 bowl for adults and \$1 a bowl for kids.

Mark your calendar now for a lovely summer evening in our neighborhood!

Penny's Puppets was "fun day" for 60 pre-school children from St Johns neighborhood James John School on May 4th. Two buses brought children and adults to the Overlook House Community Center for the "Red Hen and Fox" puppet show and a grand time was had by all.



Penny's Puppet's shows resume in October 2009. Look for her schedule to be posted on our website:

www.HistoricOverlookHouse.org

Thank you Penny Walter for making the world a better place, one puppet show at a time!

What would Halloween, Christmas or Easter be without candy? Our "sweetest" and youngest Overlook residents would like to thank **Janice Schott** (the sister of Overlook neighbor Julie Rawls) and the **Jelly Belly Candy Company**, for their generous donations for children's events at the Overlook House Community Center. Trick-or-treat bags, Christmas stockings and Easter baskets have been filled with mouthwatering gummies, sour candies and other confections the past four years! Thank you Jelly Belly!

Art & Sole - Comfort Footwear offers quality comfort shoes for work. Ariat, CROCS, Dansko, Red Wing, Troentorp Clogs, NAOT & Alpro-Birks. We fabricate custom orthotics. N Interstate at Rosa Parks Tues-Fri 10-6 - Sat 12-5 www.artnsole.net 503.285.SHOE

What's happening in your Overlook business? Please join our email list to speak directly to your neighbors and customers!

views@overlookneighborhood.org

The Northwest Children's Theater Summer Camp

Join us at camp!

Stories, crafts, games, music and a costume presentation are built into five fun-filled mornings at the Overlook House July 13-17, 9:30am to 12:30pm. The \$40 fee per student is discounted from \$100 thanks to the Overlook House and NWCT. Open for ages 4.5-6 years old; maximum of 12 students.

As we are nearing registration deadlines, please call Carol Padden, program director at your earliest convenience: 503.823.3188.

Outdoor Family Movie Night!

July 12 at dusk (weather permitting) Bring blankets for the Overlook House lawn and snacks — **FREE admission!**

Email movie suggestions (PG or G) to kvanzanten@comcast.net Details posted at the Overlook

Introduction to Buddhism

Overlook resident, **Debbie Liptan**, is repeating her free introduction to the benefits of Buddhism and explaining its history and application in your life today.



Topics include:

- What happened 3000 years ago to get it all started?
- What is a Buddha?
- Basic Buddhist philosophy of life
- The Practice of Chanting
- A Movement for World Peace through Individual "Human Revolution"

This meeting includes a 20 minute video, 30 minutes of presentations followed by a Q&A/discussion session.

Join Debbie for this free introduction on **July 6th from 7—8:30pm** downstairs in the Overlook House.

For more information contact Debbie at debbie@liptan.net

Debbie is a life-long Oregonian, long-time Overlook resident and has studied Nichiren Buddhism since 1969. A lay Buddhist, her primary focus is on teaching people how the ancient philosophy of Buddhism applies to every day life in our very real world. Debbie has decades of experience presenting Buddhist concepts in an easy to understand style.



photo courtesy of Deborah Lockwood

early childhood education to 100 children aged 0-5 each weekday. The Center also offers family support programs, and before and after school care at three elementary schools. 70% of its families are low-income.

The Center thrives in part due to wonderful volunteers who share a wide variety of skills. The photo shows a child watering the vegetable garden that volunteer gardeners helped plan this spring.

For information on summer activities, contact Volunteer Coordinator Deborah Lockwood, 504.280.0534 x14 or deborahlockwood@penchild.org. The Center's Boomer Match initiative extends a special welcome to volunteers aged 45-68.

HOWDY NEIGHBOR!



by Claire Paris
OKNA Board Chair

It's summer again in Overlook!

Summer's always a great time of year in Portland and especially in Overlook. Whether you've been here for a while, or you're a new neighbor, there's plenty to do. Check out our own Interstate Farmer's market or take a stroll through Overlook Park, have a brew at the Organic Brewer's Festival or have dinner with neighbors at OKNA's annual picnic...there's always something fun and interesting right outside your door.

Many of these activities were created, supported or funded by the Overlook Neighborhood Association. OKNA works hard to bring you a multitude of activities as well as keeping you well-informed.

We plant trees. We work with planners to better design buildings. We organize picnics. We follow up on park safety and prevent bluff fires. We print this newsletter and schedule events at the Overlook House. We work with police officers to better insure the beauty and safety of our neighborhood. We organize garbage clean-ups. We support local businesses and business organizations.

Your neighborhood association works hard to support your quality of life. And with significant budget cuts on the horizon in everything from the graffiti abatement program to park maintenance, OKNA and neighborhood associations in general will have to help pick up the slack. Your community and your neighborhood need your help.

I know you've been considering volunteering so just pick up your phone, or email us. Make

OKNA:

by Matt Scoggin
OKNA
Membership Chair

Do you have an interest in helping to create change? Do you want to make a difference in and around where you live? Do you have a passion for something that you'd like to share with others or could that passion be used to aid those around you? If you can answer yes to any of those questions, then OKNA is looking for you! Summer is almost here (June 21st), which means that OKNA Board elections (held on September 15th) are also right around the corner. Currently, there are several open Board positions. Always receptive to new people jumping in and helping out, the Board is a group that welcomes all who want to join, no matter their level of interest or abilities.

Opportunities for participation include, but are not limited to:

Secretary:

The basic responsibilities include taking notes/minutes at both our General and Board meetings and distributing them. If you are someone who is more comfortable listening rather than speaking and prefer being a 'fly on the wall,' then this job is right for you. Taking minutes is not difficult, especially if you bring your laptop to the meetings, but it is an essential part of meetings. Board members would be ecstatic and grateful to see this position filled.

Environmental Chair:

Duties required for this position are pretty broad; basically it's up to the individual to bring it alive. A person who has a passion for keeping our environment clean and who is up on the "green" movement could fill this niche in OKNA. Generally speaking, you'll be responsible for reporting on topics concerning our local environment, promoting local programs (e.g. clean-ups, research) and act as liaison for OKNA to the Bureau of Environmental Services and any other public or private organizations concerning the environment.

Transportation Chair:

The role of this position is to report to OKNA any relevant changes, plans or issues of transportation affecting the Overlook Neighborhood. This person would be in regular communication with the Portland Bureau of Transportation, the Oregon Department of Transportation, and Tri-met. Pedestrian concerns and bicycle use would also fall under this person's purview.

Area Representatives:

These individuals serve as a voice for specific geographical areas in the Overlook Neighborhood. Representatives should be able to communicate to the Board any specific concerns that their neighbors may have. They can take on specific issues or projects that they think are needed for their own area or for the neighborhood as a whole.

These specific positions are what we currently have available, however OKNA is open to creating new positions and/or accepting other forms of help. As our neighborhood grows and becomes more popular, participation from resident is crucial and the Board is reaching out to find the ways for you to participate.

Since our last issue appeared, we've been brainstorming more ways for you to be involved (hey, check out **the Overlook Social Club** in the next column over!) and we're excited to see more new faces at our monthly General Meetings (3rd Tuesday of the month at Kaiser Town Hall) and at our volunteer opportunities. You don't need to be somebody famous or have already put in X number of hours with OKNA to qualify; your enthusiasm and willingness to raise your voice and hand to help is the only advanced degree we're looking for.

Becoming involved with OKNA is easy, rewarding and less intimidating than many think. I encourage all OKNA neighbors to give some thought to how you can be more engaged with your neighborhood. Then, pick up your phone or tap out an email to one of us.

It's something you won't regret.



a commitment to help yourself and your community. Help shape Overlook into the place you'd like it to be.



Overlook Social Club: A New Way to Meet

Thursday, June 18 from 6:00-8:00pm

Yetti's Wine Bar

1914 N Killingsworth Street

Hey Overlookers, if you've been wanting to meet more of your neighbors in a relaxed and fun social atmosphere, this event is for you!

Connect with some of the familiar faces you keep seeing in the 'hood or on MAX. Enjoy good conversation with fun-loving folks over **happy hour priced drinks and food**. Meet neighbors as passionate about cycling as you. Bond with brethren beer buffs. Share slug suppression strategies for stopping spineless sprout scourges. Have fun! Build community. The vision is to visit various Overlook venues every few months.

Interested in the concept, but can't make it this time? Email oksocialclub@gmail.com and receive updates about future outings.



Overlook Annual Picnic

August 18, 6 — 8pm

DiPrima Dolci & Yetti's

Summer is sliding up on us quickly and this is our last opportunity to invite you to dinner! Continuing a long tradition of getting together for dinner instead of our August General Meeting, the OKNA Board hopes you will attend this meeting if no other.

This year we're trying something different! What started as a potluck picnic on the Overlook House lawn has morphed at your requests to this year's homemade dinner at DiPrima Dolci, 1936 N Killingsworth (at Denver) with socializing in their garden and at Yetti's Beer and Wine Bar. We hope the variety of the locations and the change of scenery cause you to say,

"You betcha, I won't miss THIS picnic!"

At just \$8 per person (\$5 for kids under 12), we'll enjoy:

- Grilled pork or chicken sausage or veggie option on hero roll
- Italian tri-color bean salad
- Lemonade or Iced Tea
- Italian ices and cookies

Wine, beer and other drinks will be available at DiPrima Dolci and Yetti's.

We appreciate your **RSVP** so we can make enough sausage and rolls; why not drop us an email or call today to reserve your spots!

views@overlookneighborhood.org or
Claire Paris: 503.998.4878

See you for dinner & socializing!

OKNA Board elections are held at the September General Meeting. Why not think about which position would be fun and interesting for you and consider putting yourself forward? **Insider tip: the Board is happy to have you join us now, too! You don't need to wait for September. Hope to see you there soon!**



by Lenny Anderson
Project Manager, Swan Island TMA

When I moved back to Portland in '86, my wife and I rented an apartment at NW 20th and Overton and I found work at a printing outfit at NW 19th and Raleigh. What a commute! Five minutes on foot. Where we choose to live and to work are the biggest “transportation” decisions we make. If you live in Overlook and work on Swan Island, you know how sweet it is and how many hours your brief commute adds to your life every week.

Swan Island TMA (Transportation Management Association), the project I manage, seeks to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips to, from and around Swan Island. The fact is, transit

TNT...Trip Not Taken: it's one sweet deal!

and bike options work best if you don't live too far away. Since 2007, the TMA has promoted living close to where you work with its “N/NE PDX TNT...Trip Not Taken” project.

“TNT...Trip Not Taken” has increased the awareness of Swan Island employees about adjacent neighborhoods and business districts as places to live, shop and play. This project has also worked closely with Portland Community College's Cascade Campus and Metro Workforce Center to help those already living in north and inner northeast Portland to learn about the job and career possibilities on Swan Island.

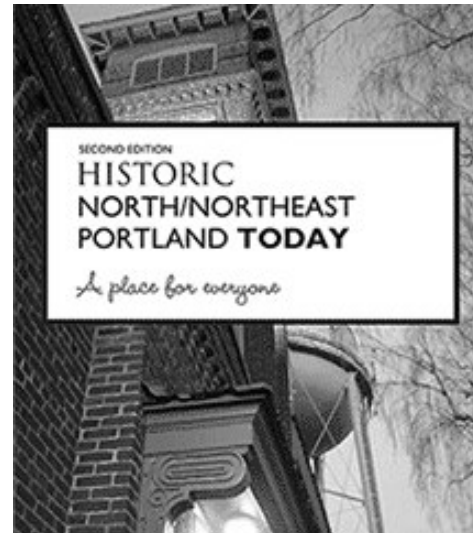
At PCC/Cascade Jobs Fair in early May, I spoke with several hundred job seekers and handed out information about the range of employment opportunities just down at the end of the # 72 Kill-

ingsworth bus line. Unfortunately, employers currently hiring are the exception, but we can expect things to get better before too long.

In partnership with APNBA (Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations), “TNT...Trip Not Taken” published “Historic North/Northeast Portland Today,” a map/guide to the area from St. Johns to Beaumont Village and from Broadway to the Kenton neighborhood, highlighting the area's 14 business districts. Over 10,000 copies were distributed throughout north and inner northeast Portland and to most Swan Island employees.

Look for a “2nd Edition Historic North/Northeast Portland Today”

at a neighborhood business near you soon and then check our new TNT...Trip Not Taken website www.nnepdxtnt.org to be hosted by neighborhoodnotes.com. In addition to the map/guide, the site will include information on housing and home ownership, jobs and career opportunities and a rundown of your transportation options...biking, walking and riding public transit.



Finally, I want to acknowledge Cynthia Sulaski, Overlook resident, for contributing to the creation of the original and second edition map/guide. Her work with the business districts was especially vital to the success of this project. I am delighted that she will continue working with me, focusing her attention on the new website.



Interstate Farmers Market: Fruits, Veggies, and Small Business Incubation

by Clare Matthias
OKNA Business & Community Relations Chair

On the opening day of the 2009 Interstate Farmers Market season, I was eager to get down to see what was new, what was returning and if there were any berries yet (okay, so I rushed the season a bit on that one...). But one thing I was certain I'd find was a group of earnest, fresh and prepared food vendors, some of whom were getting their first chance at a retail presence through our neighborhood farmers market.

While not an official part of the market's mission, the Interstate Farmers Market does strive to select at least a few vendors each year representing businesses that are new or have recently started up. “As a board, we really enjoy this, we're really thrilled to help give these newcomers an opportunity to build their businesses,” says Erin McGovney, Chair of the Interstate Farmers Market Board of Directors. “When choosing each year's selection of vendors we definitely look for those that may be just starting out but that have also demonstrated some strength in running their business so far. And then we do our best to set everyone up for success.”

For the vendors, the market is a good option for trying out their retail and customer service skills. Many are operating on a shoestring budget and maintaining a store just isn't an

option yet. But a little practice can go a long way.

Dave's Killer Bread is a brand and story that many Portlanders know. Since 2005, Dave Dahl, a four-time ex-con and son of Nature-Bake founder James Dahl has grown a highly successful company making delicious whole grain sandwich breads that can be found in grocery stores across Oregon and Washington. What a lot of Portlanders may not know is that the Interstate Farmers Market was one of the company's very first farmers market stalls, before their launch into selling through large retailers.

Other start-up vendors from past years include Micro Mercantes, Nonna's Noodles, Sweet Leaf Farms, and Barker Bones. New participants in this informal program in 2009 are vendors Lillikoi (Laotian baked goods and food vendor), St. John's Coffee Roasters, and J & K Growers, a newly founded farm enterprise from The Dalles.



MicroMercantes photo courtesy IFM

So if you needed another reason to come down to the market each week (besides all of the delicious fresh and prepared goodies and a chance to catch up with your neighbors) now you've got it: knowing that you're supporting micro-economic development and small business growth in our community and region.

Where Do All the Farmers Market Leftovers Go?

While it would be great if every fresh food vendor at the market sold out by the end of Wednesday evening, the reality is there is always something left over. So what happens to all that extra bounty? Well, anything the vendors don't wish to cart home with them is picked up every week without fail by the **Carpenter's Food Bank**.

“This is one of the most difficult parts of managing a farmers market—getting good, nutritious food remainders to a food bank for use by the needy” says Erin McGovney, Interstate Farmers Market Board Chair. “Each week the people of the Carpenter's Food Bank quietly come and go at the end of the market. They are the ones that make this possible, for the market to get this fresh, extra food to people who really need it.”

The Carpenter's Food Bank was started in 1983 by a group of Carpenter and Steelworker union locals in North Portland who wanted a way to provide food to the hungry families of out-of-work and striking union members. 25 years later, the food bank now serves any individual or family in the community that comes to them for food assistance. Each month from their location at North Lombard and Brandon Avenue they distribute between 450 and 650 boxes of food.

Music at the Farmer's Market!

Check the calendar on the back page for weekly musician listings for this summer!

Music in Overlook Park; nice!



Surf over to www.overlookneighborhood.org for more up to the minute news.



Busy Festival & Street Fair Season

by Clare Matthias & Michelle Thompson

Two area business association street fairs are among the many events this summer, offering fun for neighbors and promotion for themselves.

We're sorry that not all details are available at press time but keep your eyes peeled for these two Overlook events:

The newly formed **Overlook Village Business Association** is for businesses on N Killingsworth from I-5 to N Greeley. Join them at their Street Fair:
Saturday, August 1st
N Killingsworth

The growing **Interstate Corridor Business Alliance** is looking for volunteers for its upcoming Street Fair:
Saturday, September 19
Patton Park, N Interstate Ave
www.icbaportland.com

Free Yoga classes for seniors this summer at Northminister Presbyterian Church, 2823 Rosa Parks Way. 1-2pm every other Wednesday from June 24-August 26.
Call for info: 503.310.9534 or 503-289-0318

Livable Communities

This summer, a group of Portland State University students enrolled in the course ***Creating Livable Communities for an Aging Society*** will be working with residents and leaders in the Overlook neighborhood.

The program is a partnership with Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Multnomah County's Aging and Disability Services Division, AARP Oregon, Elders in Action, PSU's Institute on Aging, and Jewish Family & Child Services' NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) program.

Students begin class June 22nd and will be working within the Overlook neighborhood to **conduct interviews, focus groups, and a community assessment of the "livability" of Overlook for those of all ages and abilities** throughout the month of July.

If you are interested in participating with the program, please contact the course instructor **Alan DeLaTorre** at aland@pdx.edu or 503.725.5168.

Live Safe



The New North Police Precinct

What will it mean for the Overlook Neighborhood?

by Mark Wells
Crime Prevention Coordinator

As you may have read or heard elsewhere, this year's City budget process called for cuts everywhere and one noticeable change is in the Portland Police Precinct Restructuring Plan. The plan entails merging the current five patrol precincts into three larger precincts effective June 11th.

Overlook will receive police services from the **new** North precinct, which you have known as the NE precinct, located at **449 NE Emerson St.** (MLK and Killingsworth area). Commander Jim Ferraris, currently Commander in the same office, will lead patrol response from Kelley Point Park & Linnton out to about I-84/185th Ave.

"What about us?" was the natural response from area residents; it certainly sounds like fewer resources will be farther away but the very good news for Overlook and environs is that the plan will not change the patrol districts. That means the same patrol cars assigned to Overlook remain where they have always been, with the officers who already know our area best staying right here.

What does change is the precinct building the officers report to for the beginning and end of their shift. We should not anticipate any changes or impacts to our police services and response times with this new plan. We might even come out better if officers are responding from the precinct, since it is now closer to Overlook than the old North building in St Johns. This 'old' North building in St Johns will continue to be staffed by a Police Desk Clerk Monday through Friday.

Another key component to this restructuring plan is that Council approved keeping the current number of Neighborhood Response Officers or NRT's as we call them. These fantastic Officers work directly with Crime Prevention and our residents to address specific crime related problems and work as a team to prevent and address unique criminal activity to each area. This was a big save for our community policing programs and it was encouraging to see our Commissioners keeping the vital NRT program intact and preserving our crime prevention programs.

The Police Bureau and Crime Prevention have been working hard to make this transition as smooth and efficient as possible. I will remain your assigned Crime Prevention Coordinator and I will remain at the Kenton

Community Contact Office in downtown Kenton. The economic recession has caused many very difficult decisions to be made, but our dedicated and hard working Police Officers will continue to serve the Overlook neighborhood as they always have. Please remember we are all part of the public safety system and our Officers need our assistance and support to do their job well. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like more information on the restructuring plan or any general crime prevention questions.

Don't forget: if you are a victim of any crime, report it to the police promptly!

See the Police Restructuring Plan and a map of the new Police Precinct Patrol areas:
<http://tinyurl.com/oz54fz>

Effective June 11th, 2009
North Precinct
Commander Jim Ferraris
449 NE Emerson St.
Portland, OR 97211
503.823-.700

To report a crime not requiring immediate police response or to file a police report:
Non-emergency: 503.823.3333

Crime Prevention Coordinator:
Mark Wells
Kenton Contact Office
8134 N Denver
503.823.4098
mark.wells@ci.portland.or.us

Seniors: FREE Assistance for Living at Home

There's No Place Like Home for Growing Old!
NORC = Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities

"Ask NORC" is a one-call information & referral service for North Portland seniors.

Thanks to a grant from the federal government, the JFCS NORC Project is able to offer North Portland seniors **FREE help** to locate and connect to the resources they need to live safe, healthy, happy lives in their own homes.

If you have questions about Medicare, Legal issues, Refinancing, Home Care Services:
Ask NORC!

If you want to learn more about Weatherization, Transportation, Making Your Home Senior Friendly:
Ask NORC!

If you want to find a local Book Club, Knitting Circle, Exercise Program, Walking Buddy:
Ask NORC!

If you need help with Grocery Shopping Repairs, Respite Care, Medical Appointments:
Ask NORC!

Knowing where to turn to get the services and support you need can be tough! Who will give you the straight scoop? And how can you find businesses, organizations and individuals you can trust? Protecting you from senior fraud and ensuring you get the free and low-cost help you deserve is what the JFCS NORC program is all about.

For the help you need, contact Frances Spak, 503.226.7079 x11
frances@jfcs-portland.org

Volunteer Opportunity

Join OKNA Board member and super volunteer Alan Cranna as he hosts the St. Johns rest stop and directs traffic for the Providence Bridge Pedal.

This annual tradition is a community celebration of Portland, the Willamette River bridges and bicycling. It is your one opportunity each year to bicycle across all of Portland's bridges from the Sellwood to the St Johns.



Sunday, August 9th from 7am-12pm
PBP donates \$25 for each volunteer for a non-profit in Overlook and you'll get a PBP t-shirt!

Please contact Alan Cranna:
503.285.7944 or
ascran3@hotmail.com

Our Bluff Parklet Gets Some Needed Attention

by Cynthia Sulaski and Steve Lanigan
OKNA Board Members

Do you remember when the Boy in *The Velveteen Rabbit* loved his toy rabbit so much that he rubbed the pink off the Rabbit’s nose and the whiskers off his face? Well, our little neighborhood “park” at the bluff end of both Skidmore Terrace and Skidmore Court is going through a bit of a similar experience. More than 30 neighbors recently came together to make sure that it gets the special positive attention they believe it deserves.

Just a few acres in size, the parklet (alternatively referred to as “Skidmore Bluffs” and “Mocks Crest Bluffs”) has historically been a quiet spot where mostly neighbors would linger while on their walks to watch the sun set or the activities on Swan Island and the Willamette River. But it’s not so quiet any more.

With the mention of this viewpoint spot in several publications and blogs, the number of visitors has increased dramatically in the past two years. Unfortunately, a minority of them have been the cause of graffiti, vandalism, drug dealing, trash, unleashed dogs, trespass-

ing, and other just plain rude behavior affecting the quality of life of nearby residents.

The good news is that our city partners (Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland Police and Office of Neighborhood Involvement) are ready and willing to help. During the recent meeting, PP&R staff informed us that the parklet area is actually owned by several city bureaus and one individual. So, they are actively working to consolidate the ownership under PP&R, which will grant the entire space “park” status and corresponding protection under their rules and regulations.

In the meantime, on a regular basis, PP&R maintenance staff will mow and remove trash and Parks rangers will patrol the parklet. Mark Wells, the North Portland Community Prevention Coordinator, has distributed a flyer to residents in the immediate area with contact numbers to various city resources and information on how to document properly and report criminal activity. No matter what the issue, neighbors are encouraged to call the non-emergency police number 503.823.3333 whenever they see problems occurring there.

Finally, we would like to **set up a “friends” group for our special neighborhood open space.** If you’re interested, please contact us at lanoman@worldaccessnet.com or csulaski@comcast.net.

Everything’s Coming Up ... Sunflowers!

By Cynthia Sulaski and Tom Kilbane
OKNA Board Members

The **Killingworth Station** development targeted for the NE corner of Interstate Avenue and Killingsworth Street has been delayed yet again by PDC due to the tight credit market and the weak demand for condominiums. After looking at the vacant block for more than five years, some Overlook residents approached PDC about doing something to improve the site until market conditions improve and the development moves forward.



Imagining of a new field of sunflowers at Killingsworth Station, courtesy Pasqual Contreras at PDC.

We are happy to report that PDC agreed to provide funds for a temporary beautification project for this summer and fall. By the time this edition of the Views hits the streets, sunflower and wildflower seedlings should be poking out of the soil. Within a month or so, a large area of the lot should be awash in color and beauty.

Thanks to the PDC staff, neighborhood volunteers and local businesses who helped till and amend the soil, protect the area with straw bales, plant and water the seedlings and make the sign informing passersby of this phase of the project.



Should we know?
Email Michelle with
your school or
neighborhood info:
views@overlookneighborhood.org

UPDATE: Patton Park Apartments is now home to 106 residents, including 45 children as people fill the new building on N Interstate. Two local, family-friendly businesses have taken space at street level; please welcome **Aprende Con Amigos & Portland Community Land Trust** to Overlook!

The demolition is estimated to cost more than \$100,000.

According to Brendan Lawrence, the Project Manager with Prescott Partners “it’s a tough decision to spend this kind of money on the site when we don’t have an economically viable project, but we understand the concerns of the neighborhood and want to maintain a good relationship with the residents of Overlook. We intend to be owners in the neighborhood for the long term and want to show that commitment to the neighborhood”.

We applaud Prescott Partners decision to invest in cleaning up the site and hope they are able to move forward with their project soon.

Fire Risk Reduction Efforts Continue On the Bluff

by Steve Lanigan
OKNA Bluff Fire Prevention Chair

Anyone who looks over the edge of the Willamette Bluff in the Overlook Neighborhood will see that the City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services work crews have done a good job of reducing the fuel loads caused by invasive plants. Many areas are now covered in grass instead of blackberry, clematis, thistle, and other broadleaf weeds thanks to the City’s efforts the past three years. However, the battle to remove invasive plants is an ongoing one, so resprouting invasive plants will receive spot herbicide treatments throughout the treatment area, beginning around the first of June.

If you’re wondering why tree trunks are on the ground in the treatment area, it’s likely many are the result of workers felling invasive trees, including English hawthorns and black locusts. The tops and branches were chipped to minimize available fuels, and the boles (trunks) were left on the ground. The city’s environmental zone codes require that trees that fall or are cut in natural areas remain on site to add structural diversity and decaying matter to support local ecology.

With hot summer weather approaching quickly,



Bluff photo courtesy Steve Lanigan

people living near the bluffs/vegetated areas should do their best to keep shrubs and trees pruned and away from structures. And don’t forget to keep removing viney overgrowth of things like blackberry and clematis or they’ll eventually take over your property while also increasing your fire risk.

As far as funding after FEMA funds run out this fall, Darian Santner, program manager, says “We are anticipating that some of the FEMA funded work will be continued through BES’s participation in the State Department of Environmental Quality’s state revolving fund loan program. Currently we are working to prioritize areas and tasks for expenditure of these funds.” Questions about the fire risk reduction program should be referred to Darian (Bureau of Environmental Services, 503.823.5669).

at the SE corner of N Interstate Ave and N Prescott St has stalled due to the current real estate climate.

The good news is that the owner/developer, Prescott Partners LLC, has decided to move forward with the demolition of the vacant houses on the property. Prescott Partners maintained a weekly patrol around the site and tried to keep the fence intact, but evidence of squatters in some of the houses and complaints from the neighbors and the city convinced them to move forward and demolish the houses.



On the Grow!

N Prescott & Interstate Ave

by Tom Kilbane
OKNA Area Rep

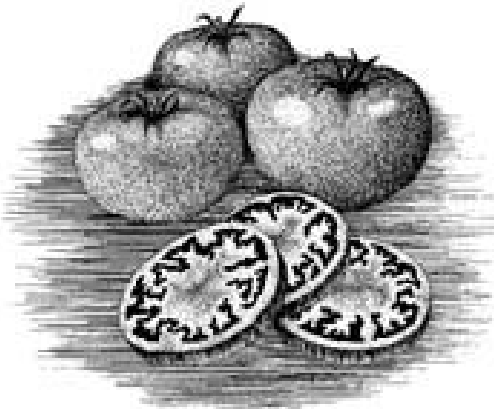
As we reported in the last edition of Overlook News, the development of the block

Grow Tomatoes in Overlook

by Jane Finch-Howell
Overlook Neighbor

In the last issue of Overlook Views, Pat Collins made some great suggestions for incorporating vegetables into your garden this year. I want to take that one step further: if you grow only one kind of vegetable this summer, consider tomatoes. They’re easy to grow, and there’s just nothing like the warm, sweet, vine-ripened goodness of your own home-grown tomatoes.

If you don’t have room in the ground for tomatoes, don’t worry - you can grow them in big pots. That way you can pick the sunniest spot available for them along your driveway, or on a patio or deck. Tomatoes need at least 5-6 hours of direct sun daily, but almost everyone has enough sun exposure for a pot or two somewhere in the front or back yard.



Whether you grow them in a pot or in the ground, **here are a few tips** that will help your tomato crop achieve maximum flavor:

Soil: In pots, use a quality potting mix that contains peat (for moisture retention) and perlite (to keep the soil light and well drained.) Don’t use garden soil in pots – it’s too heavy and dense.

Amendments: Whether you plant in pots or in the ground, dig a small amount of lime into the soil a couple of weeks before planting. Lime is basic and helps neutralize our Northwest soil that’s typically more acidic than tomatoes and other warm-weather vegetables prefer. Add a balanced fertilizer as you plant, and several times during the summer, top-dress the plants by working a small amount of fertilizer into the surface of the soil.

Water: Water regularly, and don’t let the soil dry out until well into fall. Consistent watering helps prevent the blossom end-rot that can ruin tomatoes. Water in the morning, and avoid watering the foliage or the fruit: that tends to encourage powdery mildew.

Pittman HydroPark Progress

by Darcy Cronin
Facilities Services Specialist
Portland Water Bureau

If the Concord Street pedestrian overpass is part of your neighborhood route, you may have noticed some changes already: piles of boulders and heaps of dirt, plus new native plants in place of invasive ivy. Expect more improvements soon.

The Portland Water Bureau is currently working with community members in the Overlook neighborhood to transform a small vacant property near the Denver Tank into Pittman Addition HydroPark.

The park’s design incorporates a lot of the community’s creativity, and will feature locally made benches and tables, along with a community kiosk and archway. There are also long term plans to add rotating sculptures to the site, once the community has secured funding and developed a jury process.

Neighbors have been very engaged in the planning process since last October, and have recently volunteered at a clean-up and native planting events. Tree pruning and bench installation work parties may have occurred by the time you read this report; please join us if you read this in time!

Tree Pruning Workshop Monday, June 8th
7 to 8:30 pm
Meet your neighbors, have fun, learn tree pruning, and help prune the trees at Pittman Addition HydroPark at 4634 N Concord.



*Erica Hassinger and Amy & Owen Eshelby dig in to plant trees on the berm at Pittman Addition.
photo courtesy Darcy Cronin*

Community Bench Building
Saturday, June 13th
9 am to mid-afternoon

Join community artist and fabricator **Matt Cartwright** in a bench-building workshop at Pittman Addition HydroPark. Matt has several installations around Portland, and will show Overlook neighbors how to install a “spool” bench.

Mark your calendar now for the

Pittman HydroPark
Opening Celebration
Saturday, September 26th
5 - 7pm

Contact Darcy if you’d like to help plan the event. darcy.cronin@ci.portland.or.us

More information online at:
portlandonline.com/water/pittman_addition

There’s a tomato for everyone, from the hybrid beefsteak type that are perfect for hamburgers, to unusual and delicious heirloom varieties. Early and Oregon-bred types such as **Early Girl** and **Oregon Spring** are more reliable if we have a cool summer. If you have the room for more than one plant, try both hybrid and heirloom types. We’ll grow three along our sunny driveway this summer, but choosing which three is always the hardest part!

So choose your tomatoes, plant, water, harvest when ripe, then enjoy your own, delicious home-grown summer goodness!

Contact Michelle if you’d like to contribute a gardening or other article to Overlook Views:
views@overlookneighborhood.org

Free Water Gauge & Garden Fame

by Jan O’Dell

Last issue’s water article told us about the Regional Water Providers Consortium and their free Weekly Watering Number. Designed to help us conserve water, especially for lawns, the number factors in the weather and calculates how much supplemental watering we gardeners will need to do. Part of watering correctly is knowing how much volume your sprinkler system is putting out, and your FREE water gauge is your new measure. Surf over to conserveh2o.org for more details on the Weekly Watering Number and how to get your water gauge or call 503.823.7528.

Since we’re just now rolling into the driest part of the Oregon year, here are five easy watering tips to help you conserveh2o:

- 1:** Water lawns and gardens before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. to slow evaporation — it can save as much as 300 gallons of water per month!
- 2:** Fertilizers increase water consumption, so apply the minimum amount of fertilizer necessary.
- 3:** Aerate! It prevents runoff and gives water easier access to the root systems.
- 4:** Mow your lawn high and often. Cutting your lawn higher (2–3 inches tall) encourages a stronger root system and reduces evaporation.
- 5:** Select a sprinkler that releases water slowly and close to the ground rather than one that releases a mist, which tends to evaporate quickly.

Overlook Neighborhood residents!

Are you proud of your water-efficient yard? If you’ve taken steps to conserve water by reducing your lawn, planting natives or other low-water-use plants, grouping plants with like-water needs, or have used other water-wise techniques in your yard and garden, the Regional Water Providers Consortium would like to hear about it.

Send a short description of the changes you’ve made and why you were motivated to make them (150 words or less, please) to: jan@odellcommunications.com. Your yard could be chosen to be featured on the Regional Water Providers website, www.conserveh2o.org, or in a local newspaper. If you have one or two photos, e-mail those as well.

Sunday Market in the King Neighborhood

Dates: May 3 - September 27 Times: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Location: The King Sunday Market is at NE 7th & Wygant between NE Alberta and Prescott St

The King Market was established with the tremendous support of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN). This organization supports twelve neighborhood associations and over 65,000 households located in inner North/NE Portland. Overwhelming community demand to have a farmers market in their backyard was the impetus behind this market.

OVERLOOK ESSENTIALS

June 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
14 Edward Gorey Garden Party 4-8pm Overlook House	15 Registration due for Magic Forest Play- house Summer Camp	16 OKNA General Meeting 7-9pm Kaiser Town Hall	17 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Njuzu Mbira	18 Overlook Social Club 6-8pm Yetti's Wine Bar 1914 N Killingsworth	19	20 Kicking Hunger 10-8pm Saturday & Sunday Overlook Park
21 Sunday Parkways Event 9-4 First Day of Summer!	22 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	23	24 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Steve Chesebor- ough	25 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	26 Organic Brewers Festival 12-9pm Overlook Park	27 Organic Brewers Festival 12-9pm Overlook Park

July 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 28 Organic Brewers Festival 12-5pm Overlook Park	June 29 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	June 30	1 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: James Clem	2	3	4 Celebrate! But don't burn down the bluff.
5	6 Family Movie Night! <u>Outdoors at dusk</u> Introduction to Buddhism: 7pm Overlook House	7 OKNA Board Meeting 7-9pm Overlook House	8 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Café Cow- boys	9 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	10	11 Mississippi Ave Street Fair All day
12	13 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	14	15 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Kate Mann	16 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	17	18
19 Sunday Parkways Event Northeast Port- land	20 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	21 OKNA General Meeting 7-9pm Kaiser Town Hall	22 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Rachel Starshine Robinson	23 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	24	25
26	27 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	28	29 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Steve Che- seborough	30	31	August 1 OVBA Street Fair N Killingsworth Watch for details in the neighborhood

August 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Friends of Overlook House Ice Cream Social 6-9pm	3	4 OKNA Board Meeting 7-9pm Overlook House	5 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Café Cow- boys	6	7	8
9	10 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	11	12 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Sambafeat	13 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	14	15 Intercultural Community Gath- ering 11am-5pm Overlook Park
16 Sunday Parkways Event Southeast Port- land	17 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	18 OKNA Annual Picnic 6-8pm DiPrima Dolci	19 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Jerome Monaco	20 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	21	22
23	24 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	25	26 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Steve Chesebor- ough	27 "Bean Sprout" Story Hour 10:30- 11:30 Overlook House	28	29
30	31 Crafting, Knitting, Crochet forum 6:30-9 Overlook House	September 1 OKNA Board Meeting 7-9pm Overlook House	September 2 Interstate Farmers Market 3-7pm Music: Kate Mann	September 3	September 4	September 5

Where to go? Who to call?

Overlook House
503.823.3188
3839 N. Melrose Drive
www.HistoricOverlookHouse.org
OKNA Board Meetings
1st Tuesday Monthly 7-9pm

Kaiser Town Hall
Corner of Interstate and Overlook Blvd
OKNA General Meetings
3rd Tuesday Monthly 7-9pm
Please join us!

Crime Prevention Coordinator
Mark Wells
503.823.4098

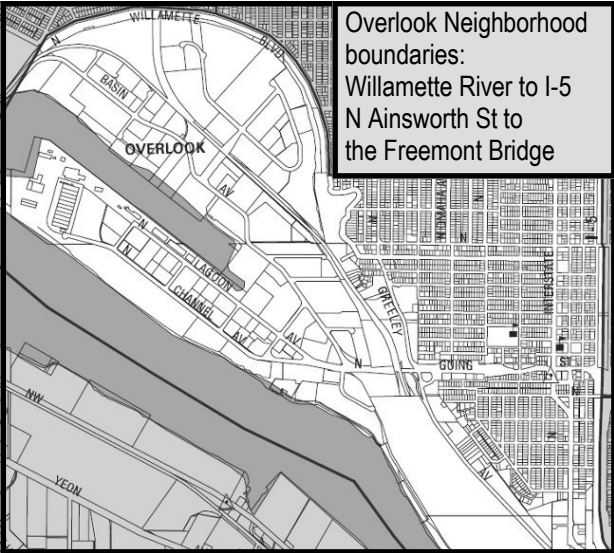
Police Non-emergency
503.823.3333
Report it!

Graffiti Hotline, 503.823.4824
Cell phone photos help!

Abandoned Auto 24hr Hotline
503.823.7309

City of Portland: Information & Referrals
www.portlandonline.com 503.823.4000

Metro Recycling Information
503.234.3000



Stay Connected!

For up-to-the-minute reminders about your neighborhood happenings, surf over to www.overlookneighborhood.org, enter your email address on the home page and join our mailing list.

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views@overlookneighborhood.org

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Newsletter Committee members collect and coordinate items of interest to the Overlook neighbors; thank you!

David Chott, Alan Cranna, Carol Cushman, Tom Kilbane, Steve Lanigan, Clare Matthias, Claire Paris, Matt Scoggin, Cynthia Sulaski, Michelle Thompson

Special thanks to our contributors!

Lenny Anderson, Mary Ellen Baldauff, Darcy Cronin, Jane Finch-Howell, Jan O'Dell, Carol Padden, Mark Wells

Contribute your articles and information by email
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