

Overlook Views

your neighborhood newsletter

Summer 2014

May/June/July

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Portland Oregon
www.OverlookNeighborhood.org

New Life at Overlook Park

By Jeremy Spurgin
TVA Architects & Overlook Neighbor

Construction on a new 63-unit apartment building is slated to begin early this summer just past the Northeast corner of Overlook Park. Planning for this project has been underway for well over a year, with the developer, VWR Development, completely scrapping early designs based on neighborhood feedback. The result is a handsome proposal, elegantly skinned in metal, cement and glass designed by Bob Thompson, FAIA, TVA Architects. The design capitalizes on the inherent qualities of the area and includes both vehicular and bike parking. Views of the Park, River and City beyond are maximized and the density of housing is managed well by breaking up the overall mass and integrating balconies. The building will rise six levels above Overlook Boulevard, where pedestrian access to the main entry and lobby will be located. An additional level of below-grade parking will be accessed via a newly constructed 'alley.' This passage, constructed on an existing right-of-way, will connect to Interstate Avenue and also provide a new access point for Park users. In addition to the mix of one and two-bedroom apartments, the building also features two bike storage rooms and a public transit interface.



Current planning suggests the building to open in mid-2015.

Neighborhood Cleanup Shredded Plenty

The annual OKNA Earth Day Cleanup was held Saturday, April 26th at Bethel Lutheran Church on N Denver Avenue. We shredded 960 pounds of unneeded documents from more than 30 neighbors! All participants received a tomato start to kick off the spring planting season, surely a tasty reminder of our pledge to clean up our offices as well as the neighborhood.

While the shredding was a valuable service, based on feedback during the event, we'll do



something different again next year. If you have ideas for the neighborhood cleanup in 2015, please drop us an email info@OverlookNeighborhood.org or come by a meeting to share your thoughts.

Special thanks to the following organizations for their Earth Day help!

- Bethel Lutheran Church
- Resilience Design
- Metro
- The Portland Bureau of Sustainability
- North Portland Neighborhood Services
- Overlook Neighborhood Association
- Sustainable Overlook

Do It For the Bees: Creating Urban Pollinator Habitat

by Mulya Melco
Sustainable Overlook

What's all the buzz about bees? They have been in the news lately because honey bee populations are in crisis and our native bees are under threat from habitat loss, pesticide use and other stresses. Our food security is at stake, so this is a big deal. The good news is that you can help! Overlook neighbor Rich Hatfield, a conservation biologist for the Xerces Society, an international invertebrate conservation group, says any size plot can become pollinator habitat, even a container garden on a porch. "One of the great things about pollinator gardens is that we know they make a difference." Gardens are important habitat and help create corridors so bees can travel between wild areas.

Rich has been interested in bees, insects and other pollinators for a long time and enjoys photographing them. So when he was thinking of how to landscape his unused sloping front lawn, a pollinator garden was an easy choice. He hoped it could turn into something beautiful that would engage his children and neighbors with nature, even in the city.

The process involved digging up the turf and amending the soil with an organic planting mix. While he could have sheet mulched (a labor-saving method of layering compost and other organic matter to prepare the soil) and waited for the ground to be ready to plant, he wanted instant gratification. Rich looked to the Xerces Society's regional-specific plant list to choose the most beneficial plants for our native bees. Finding a source for some of the native plants was a challenge, but some local suppliers came through. Family, friends and neighbors helped with the installation. "I've heard lots of compliments from folks as they walk by or come to visit. It has been a great conversation starter, and I feel the garden has helped raise awareness about pollinators in the neighborhood. People ask for plant recommendations, and occasionally I get to point out and identify different bees with people!"

Rich says that the best thing about pollinator conservation is that everyone can do something. With many conservation-related causes, the help you provide is usually indirect, and tracking results is difficult. With pollinator conservation if you build it, the bees and other wildlife will come! "The more habitat the better, but every little bit helps, especially if your neighbors are doing something too. Creating pollinator habitat requires three things: nesting habitat, flowers in bloom from spring through fall, and a pesticide-free environment." You can also add a water source for bees, similar to a bird bath but shallower, with rocks for bees to land on. Leaving



some bare soil in your yard offers ground-nesting solitary bees a home, while bumble bees might like taller grass, a brush or compost pile or a meadow planting.

If you'd like to plant a pollinator garden of your own, Xerces' approachable book "Attracting Native Pollinators" is a great place to start. Their website is also a great resource with plant lists, instructions on building native bee houses and

tips for protecting bees from pesticides. There is also a list of local nurseries that stock pollinator friendly native plants.

Once you start gardening for bees, you might just get drawn in by the excitement of spotting bee visitors (and hummingbirds and butterflies).

Creating pollinator habitat is something we can do together as a community to make a difference!



The Xerces Society:
www.xerces.org/bringbackthepollinators/

Help make our whole neighborhood a pollinator-friendly zone!
Register your yard as pesticide-free at www.sustainableoverlook.org



Hi, Neighbor!

We'll see *you* at the Overlook Neighborhood Meeting

Come meet your neighbors & find ways to make your neighborhood better for all!

The 3rd Tuesday of Every Month
May 20, 2014
7:00-9:00 pm
@ Kaiser Town Hall
3704 N Interstate Avenue
Corner of N Interstate and Overlook Blvd

On the Agenda in May:
Zoning Questions; meet our new Urban Designer Leslie Lum
Apartment Building Coming to N Killingsworth @ N Greeley
Organizers from the North American Organic Brewers Festival at Overlook Park



This is not to say home ownership has not been without its challenges. For example, the yard is currently about 90% weeds with a 10% smattering of grass thrown in here and there. Luckily we both like the sparse Southwestern look when it comes to decor, so that is on the list as our first summer project. Of course a true Portland home would not be complete without chickens, but we're not quite ready to graduate to fowl just yet. Maybe next summer...

Market Your Neighborhood Business & Make Contacts at the Speakeasy

by Brent Young
Young Design Studio

The Speakeasy is proving to be not only an opportunity to interact with a highly diverse group of business owners, but also a source of business for some of us. Pinky’s Pizzeria's comfortable atmosphere was the backdrop for our April meeting, the sixth Speakeasy, where our conversation covered the mortgage market, business marketing, estate planning and the value of Yelp. Attendees included the fields of real estate, mortgage, cabinetry, architecture, skin care, law and dance. The Speakeasy is a fun social opportunity to market neighborhood businesses, to network, and to share common experiences.



Mark your calendar for our next meeting on **Wednesday, July 16th** at 6pm, the place has yet to be determined. If you are interested in joining us next time please email Brent Young at youngdesignstudio@gmail.com. The event is open to Overlook residents and business people who want to promote their business in the neighborhood. The following is a list of businesses who attended the April meeting:

The Aspire Project- a non-profit organization providing year-round quality dance classes to financially disadvantaged students who are genuinely interested in the arts, but whose families and schools cannot provide such opportunities. We offer classes on sliding scale tuition rates in our North Portland studio at the IFCC, for kids and free classes for adults!
contact.us@theaspireproject.org 503-505-0382

Young Design Studio LLC, Architecture and Interiors - With a background in both architecture and interior design, Brent Young's firm is passionate about excellent design and customer service Designing everything from residential additions to new commercial buildings, they can help you plan, visualize and realize your project. Currently under construction in the neighborhood is the new office for Bellmoore Realty at the K-Station Building on N Interstate Ave.
www.youngdesignstudio.com 971-222-562

Tamara Maher, Attorney specializes in elder law, including wills, trusts, probate, medicaid planning, powers of attorney, and all manner of legal problem-solving for aging. She also proudly serves as a member of the Elders in Action Advisory Commission, which has the honor of advising the city and county on matters of interest to the elderly and disabled community. She works with clients of all ages and provides the personal connection needed to build trust and confidence in her clients. Her office is elder-friendly, with a street front, ground level entrance, and a friendly office dog to greet you.
tamara@tamaramaherlaw.com 503 285-1294

Metropolitan Design Studio+Architecture, LLC - Jeremy Miller's firm offers design services for remodels, new buildings and accessory dwelling units (ADU's). Recently completed work includes a 15,000sf community clinic in Virginia. He has practiced on the East and West coasts and has a long history of referral work.
jeremy@mds-architecture.com 503-867-5615

Value Mortgage - Lauren Green is a well-versed mortgage broker with Value Mortgage with very insightful information about the current market. In addition to setting you up with a mortgage, she can offer pertinent advice for your planning. Lauren is also connected with the Energy Trust of Oregon so she is intimately familiar with home energy audits and fiscal incentives for green remodel projects.
lauren@valuemortgageinc.com 503-887-7333

Into Eden Skincare - Sally-Ann Hobart's list of happy clients is even happier now because of her new Micro Current and Energy Light Rejuvenation treatment. This system has been very popular, providing facial sculpting and rejuvenation with lasting results and without surgery.
sallyann@intoedenskinicare.com 503-752-3508

Urban Pacific Real Estate - Ritchie Metzler introduced his real estate firm to the Speakeasy group this quarter. Inspired by a passion for helping people buy and sell their homes, Urban Pacific Real Estate supports a relaxed, fun, and interesting home buying process.
ritchie@urbanpacificrealestate.com 503-740-2043

Madrone Studio - Alexander Anderson has been a fine wood worker since age 15 and his furniture designs have won several awards. His studio creates fine furniture and custom cabinetry. Some of his work is on display at Pinky's Pizzeria.
alexander@madronestudio.com 503-593-4423

Pinky's Pizzeria - Pinky’s has been a welcome addition to our neighborhood since last fall. It’s a true neighborhood joint, a hangout, a place to meet your neighbors, a place to visit, laugh, eat, indulge, relax, and let go a little. They offer a humble menu with the intent to serve guests a healthy dose of sanctuary with every meal.
pinkysgoldbar@gmail.com 503-282-1259

Sick Time Ordinance in Effect

Protected Sick Time is here!

As of January 1, 2014, the City of Portland’s new Protected Sick Time ordinance went into effect, providing workers in Portland with a protected right to earn sick time to use when they or a family member are sick, injured, or in need of preventive health care.

The ordinance applies to all employees who work within the geographic boundaries of the city of Portland for 240 hours or more in a calendar year. Employers with six or more employees must allow workers to earn paid sick leave. Employers with five or fewer employees are required to provide unpaid sick leave. Full, part-time, and temporary employees should accrue one hour of job-protected sick time for every 30 hours worked and, if earned, can accumulate up to 40 hours paid or unpaid sick time per calendar year. Earned sick leave may be used in increments of one hour or greater, and may be used to cover all or part of a shift.

For employers and employees interested in learning more about this new law, visit www.portlandoregon.gov/sicktime, email sicktimeinfo@portlandoregon.gov or call 503.823.3994.

Real Estate Recap

Here is a round-up of recent real estate sales completed in the past few months in the Overlook neighborhood.

Thanks to neighbor **Dawn Barry-Griffin** of Portlandia Properties (503-381-7035) for sourcing this information for you!



Address	SF	Bed/ Bath	List Price	Sold Price	Days on Market
5615 N Montana Ave	1348	3/2	\$269,000	\$269,000	0
4114 N Longview Ave	961	2/1	\$300,000	\$275,000	0
2618 N Willamette Blvd	2394	3/1	\$379,000	\$392,500	3
1624 N Emerson St	1344	1/1	\$175,000	\$223,350	4
1815 N Prescott St	960	2/1	\$245,000	\$255,000	4
5625 N Delaware Ave	2527	3/1.1	\$369,000	\$375,750	4
3963 N Colonial St	2260	3/2.1	\$550,000	\$550,000	4
5535 N Denver Ave	832	2/1	\$249,900	\$250,000	5
5324 N Maryland Ave	2907	5/3	\$275,000	\$265,000	5
1654 N Willamette Blvd	1646	3/1	\$325,000	\$315,000	5
1828 N Jarrett St	2764	4/2	\$435,000	\$433,300	5
3927 N Massachusetts Ave	2608	3/1.1	\$397,000	\$419,000	6
1935 N Willamette Blvd	2612	3/2.1	\$399,950	\$425,000	6
5617 N Denver Ave	2166	3/1	\$349,950	\$375,000	7
1455 N Killingsworth St	676	1/1	\$236,726	\$230,700	11
1411 N Alberta St	553	1/1	\$145,000	\$136,000	12
2525 N Killingsworth St	862	2/1	\$199,900	\$199,900	13
4709 N Colonial Ave	2240	4/2.1	\$439,950	\$439,950	13
3970 N Interstate Ave	1295	2/2	\$294,900	\$280,000	16
5732 N Interstate Ave	1461	3/2	\$245,000	\$227,500	18
2036 N Wygant St	2466	3/2	\$449,900	\$457,500	20
1606 N Blandena St	2163	4/2.1	\$435,950	\$430,000	22
1552 N Prescott St	2400	3/1	\$299,000	\$292,000	56
4064 N Court Ave	3447	5/3	\$669,000	\$639,000	103
2148 N Alberta st	1492	3/2.1	\$375,000	\$343,700	117
1804 N Church St	918	2/1	\$217,300	\$209,900	165
2525 N Killingsworth St	840	2/2	\$174,900	\$174,900	182
2525 N Killingsworth St	840	2/2	\$174,900	\$174,900	242
2525 N Killingsworth St	840	2/2	\$219,900	\$174,900	473

Real Solutions to Traffic Safety Problems

Your experience helps guide real solutions to traffic safety problems, and the Portland Bureau of Transportation wants to hear from you. When you have a concern, please call the Transportation Safety and Neighborhood Livability Line (823-SAFE). You may also email safe@portlandoregon.gov. For 24-Hour Maintenance & Repair of Traffic Signs, Signals & Equipment, Pavement Markings and Condition, Sidewalks or potholes, please call 503-823-1700.

Your calls make a difference! Neighbor Jaymz got an immediate result when he reported the crosswalk at the Prescott Street MAX station ! The Safety and Livability Line helps the Transportation Bureau respond to the following transportation safety issues:

Traffic Safety Issue	Examples of Service Requests
Intersection Safety	Pavement Markings / Signals / STOP Signs
Pedestrian Safety	Crosswalks / Curb Ramps / Signals / Visibility / Enforcement
School Safety	Safe Routes / School Drop-Off and Pick-Up / Crosswalks / Bus Zone / Education
Speeding	Enforcement / Speed Zones / Residential Speed Bumps
Visibility	Lighting / Pruning / Signage
Parking	Limited On-Street Parking / No Parking

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31 – IT’S A GO!

by Cynthia Sulaski
OKNA Movie Committee

I’m happy to report that Portland Parks and Recreation approved our request to show Raiders of the Lost Ark on Sunday, August 31 (Labor Day weekend). Mark your calendars now; you won’t want to miss this fun evening at Overlook Park.

Yes, I know that’s Labor Day weekend and you were thinking of leaving town so you and the kids could have one last summer trip before they go back to school. However, I can promise that our film extravaganza will be worth returning early or staying home for altogether. Neighbors are still talking about how much fun they had last year at our E.T. movie event.



A Special Appearance?

Although we’re still working out the details, I can tell you that we’re planning some fun interactive experiences for the kids and adults before showing the film. Look for more information in the next issue of the Overlook Views and email me if you want to help:

movie@overlookneighborhood.org

Swan Island-North Portland Air Quality Forum Report

by David Goodyke
Overlook Neighbor

The Swan Island – North Portland Air Quality Forum had its second meeting on April 2. This forum has been convened by Oregon House Speaker Tina Kotek and METRO Councilor Sam Chase to understand air quality on and around Swan Island and to make recommendations for addressing neighbors’ concerns. The forum consists of representatives from surrounding neighborhoods and Swan Island industry. The big news is that Speaker Kotek and the Oregon Legislature have committed \$375,000 to the Department of Environmental Quality for staff time and monitoring equipment to enable full-spectrum air quality monitoring capable of detecting and measuring a wide range of toxics and metals as well as localized meteorological information such as temperature and wind speed and direction. Swan Island will be the first monitoring site, and the equipment will then be moved to other sites around the state. The DEQ will work hard to get things set up by this fall and will monitor our area for one year. More information here: <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/AQ/Pages/monitoring/NPqmonitoring.aspx>

Forum attendees also heard four presentations. Christine Svetkovich, DEQ, presented an introduction to currently permitted emissions on Swan Island with an overview of what they have determined is actually being released and who is releasing it (amounts released are lower than what is permitted).

Sara Armitrage, DEQ, reviewed the Portland Air Toxics Solutions report. The report resulted from a two-year collaboration between a diverse advisory committee and DEQ to identify and reduce emissions of air toxics in the Portland area. The study found major threats are coming from our cars and trucks, especially on our highways, and wood burning for heat. ESCO also shows up as a major point source for air pollution. To learn more about this, visit www.deq.state.or.us/aq/toxics/pats.htm

Alan Sprott, Vigor Industrial, summarized what his organization has been doing to address air quality. They have consulted ERM Engineering to conduct a thorough analysis of their shipyard emissions and make recommendations. They are also working with Neighbors for Clean Air, North Portland Neighbors for Clean Air, and the DEQ in what appears to be an open and productive process.

Paul Erdy, Daimler Trucks North America, presented their progress. They have done internal reviews of their processes and facilities, and hired an independent consultant to work with neighbors to study air quality for one year. They have reformulated and omitted certain coatings and substantially reduced emissions. They are working with the University of Portland faculty and students to review to data.

For detailed minutes and to review available handouts, see the Oregon Consensus website: http://oregonconsensus.org/projects/swan_island_air_quality_forum/.

If you are interested in joining the forum as my alternate, please email info@OverlookNeighborhood.org; we have remaining meetings in 2014, and it would be great if at least one Overlook neighborhood resident could attend.



Beer Festival Returns to Overlook Park, Benefits OKNA

**10th Annual North American Organic Brewers Festival
June 26 -29, 2014 in Overlook Park**

Noon to 9 p.m. Thurs, Fri & Sat, and Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday

Two of Portland’s beloved industries – organic beer and sustainability – come together in an annual celebration designed to raise awareness of them. Organic beers and ciders alongside live music, food, sustainability-oriented vendors, non-profits and a children’s area are offered up in a beautiful tree-lined setting. This year, the festival again benefits the Overlook Neighborhood Association, so drink your share and give to OKNA! Come meet the organizers at the May OKNA meeting, Tuesday, May 20th.

‘Lady in the Tree’ Could Be Mother of Pittman Addition HydroPark

by Marci Macfarlane
Friends of Pittman Addition HydroPark

The Pittman Addition HydroPark is the first of its kind in Portland and came together thanks to a group of neighbors that were committed to making the overgrown, empty piece of land a destination space.

The park was started with the installation of "The Lady in the Tree". In the summer of 2007, my husband went to volunteer at the Oregon Country Fair to help get it ready. There was this wonderful sculpture that had toppled over, the top was a woman's torso, the bottom was her skirt. The fair management was going to burn the piece since it was not possible to repair it according to Nicodemus MacDonald, the artist who created the piece. My husband convinced Nicodemus to give the piece to him so he could install “The Lady” in the giant apple tree at the end of the park.

After that first piece of art was installed my husband and I wrote a grant, to see if we could get some support to improve the area. It turned out that the Portland Water Bureau owned the property and was interested in our little project. Although we didn't get a grant we were contacted by Darcy Cronin about creating a HydroPark in North Portland. We had several community meetings at the Overlook House talking about what we wanted to see, would it be more playground equipment for the kids? Would it be a field full of flowers? The community liked the Lady in the Tree, so after a lot of discussion it came about that we would create a rotating display art park.

Friends of the Pittman Addition was formed and worked for three years to put together a plan for the park. We received a community livability grant from the Portland Development Commission and the park was given much-needed landscaping upgrades, including new shrubs and trees along the sound wall that blocks the traffic noise from N Going Street. We installed concrete pads to provide a base for sculptures. And we received a grant from Union Pacific Railroad to install sculpture.

Here it is five years later and we now have three benches made from recycled materials, two recycled-materials picnic tables and five temporary sculpture installations. New sculptures will rotate in every couple of years to keep the community coming back to see what is new in the park.

The Lady in the Tree has lived in the tree since the beginning and watched over the park’s transformation. We have watched her decay over the years but she's still hanging on and people come to visit her daily. She has been lived in by squirrels, pulled on by crows and recently some young kids used part of her arm as light sabers. Her apple tree home is very old but each summer the branches are so full of fruit that they bend almost to the ground. New sprouts are growing through The Lady now, in a way keeping her alive and making her part of the tree, as well as a permanent part of the park she started.

On **Sunday, June 22, 2014** from 3pm-7pm the Friends of Pittman Addition HydroPark will host a grand opening party to celebrate the sculpture installations.

Stop by after your Sunday Parkways ride to enjoy some local music, meet some of the artists and participate in a community art project. This is a family-friendly event with a kids' lemonade stand to raise funds for future art installations.

The Pittman Addition HydroPark is located between N Interstate Ave and N Concord on N Going Court. Find it at the north side of the Going Street Pedestrian Bridge.

Join us! Friends of Patton Square Park

We’re dedicated to taking care of Overlook’s little gem of a park. Find the park at 5300 N Interstate Avenue (which was originally called N Patton Avenue, named for the pioneer owner.) Help us care for this newly remodeled treasure. greenacres@OverlookNeighborhood.org.



Overlook Garden Tour

Saturday, June 28, 2014

All gardens open 10 am to 3 pm

by Mulya Melco
Sustainable Overlook

The 3rd annual neighborhood garden tour will feature 10 yards that express Sustainable Overlook's mission of 'Building Community and Resilience'. Explore neighbors' creative landscapes and see rain harvesting solutions, edible gardens, outdoor play spaces, use of reclaimed materials, bird and pollinator-friendly gardens and much more. Each tour stop will host an information table from one of our community partners. All the gardens featured are pesticide-free so it's a great chance to visit organic yards, learn natural gardening tips and be inspired! Visit sustainableoverlook.org for more details.

Sustainable Overlook

by Mulya Melco
Sustainable Overlook

Now More Beautiful!

Look for our new sprouting acorn logo and posters for the Pesticide Free Neighborhood Project around the neighborhood. Jen Kilcoyne, an Overlook neighbor since 2009, got involved to design the new pieces to help get the word out about the project. An independent graphic designer with a passion for her work, Jen creates logos, album covers, websites and more. She focuses on local clients doing positive work and was excited about working on this project "because it directly supports the neighborhood I live in, and that just feels good." See some of her work at <http://jenkilcoyne.com>



Overlook Yard Sale & Free Share

Saturday & Sunday

July 19 & 20 10AM - 4PM

By Josh Cabot
Sustainable Overlook

Organized by Sustainable Overlook, this 4th-annual event needs little introduction. Over 50 households participate each year to offer unwanted home items for sale on Saturday. Then on Sunday, participating neighbors set out by the curb any items they're happy to give away to neighbors. De-clutter your home and get unwanted items into the hands of folks who would happily reuse them.

If you have questions or would like to participate please e-mail Josh with your home's address at sustainable@OverlookNeighborhood.org before July 6th. By signing up, you will have your house added to our amazing map that is shared in hard copy form as well as digitally for those shoppers using mobile devices. The map won't list your name, but will help the hundreds of visitors know where to find your sale. Can't wait to see what you have to share in July!



Sustainable Overlook Tip:

Put off by the idea of 'trying' to get ready for the Yard Sale Free Share? Take a tip from Leslee Lewis, who decided to make it easy on herself and stay in the spirit of the event. Instead of pricing items ahead of time, just put them out and let the bargaining begin! Since these are items you are committed to moving along, why not sell them to the first person who can put them to use.. Any price will be fair! Remember, anything that doesn't sell on Saturday can be put out on Sunday for Free Sharing neighbors to pick up and anything left after that can be donated instead of returning to your home. Happy Purging!

Save this Date!!

Saturday, May 31, 2014 from 9am-4pm

BIG Party At The Intersection (N Concord and Overlook Blvd)!!

I'll never forget the way I felt when I rounded the corner to help out on the intersection project. It may sound sappy, but I was overwhelmed by the beauty of the scene; a multi-generational neighborhood connected by creativity, pride and pitching in! It was amazing to see families I had known over the years and to witness how each one of our stories had evolved: new neighbors, partners, children, friends, pets...

Year 2 was just as magical (the handsome Station 24 firefighters and Ken's pastrami certainly helped!) Already, my children are asking when we "get to" clean up the intersection. Passing the thriving planters, I am reminded of the spirit of those days and feel grateful for the result as well as the generous collective effort behind it.

-Lauren Holden Kilbane

by Leslee Lewis
Sustainable Overlook

We'll be putting a brand spankin' new coat of paint on the roadway and the planter boxes. There will be food and drink, music, Bee-Friendly Info, Emergency Preparation Info and lots of painting neighbors of all ages! Will we break the record from two years ago and have more than 180 helpers?! We will with your participation! Join us on the day! And bring a paintbrush just in case we get mobbed.

Join us in advance! Email sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org if you want to step forward to help with: paint table, pot luck, music, kid's activities, or any other addition you think will add to the day!

Ken is bringing Kenny & Zuke's pastrami again, and we're asking neighbors to bring veggie dishes... our awesome Station 24 Firefighting crew will have rinsed the intersection, so we'll get right to the painting! Come early, stay late – we're going to have more than a little bit of a good time. Help us spread the word.. your personal invite will have more impact than just our outreach, so grab the neighbors, share the Facebook posts and we'll have crowd for a party. Join Us!



Sustainable Overlook Tips & Resources

Is it hard to be Green? Well, is ANY habit hard to form, especially at the beginning? SURE!! The point is to take a step, even a small one, and a bigger one when you can. You will generally find that you will save money with your actions too!

Here are three ideas from neighbor Leslee Lewis...

Toe In The Water: 'Use Half' – cut consumption by using half as much – shampoo? coffee? water during your shower? number of lights 'on' in the kitchen? whatever you can think of, it really adds up! (\$)

Waist Deep: Pledge to recycle or compost ALL YOU CAN from the garbage you discard. This will reduce your garbage... can you go to a smaller garbage can? (\$\$)

Deep Green: Cut your auto use in half – drive half as many miles or if you have two cars, give one up! (\$\$\$)

Sustainability Resources: Wondering where to find information about Sustainability? One of our favorite sources is Rob Hopkins' blog, *Transition Culture*. Rob is the terrifically engaging founder of the Transition Towns movement, a permaculture-informed response to the three challenges of climate change, rising energy prices and the economic downturn. You'll find his writings, reports from other experts and reports from TT groups across the globe at: www.transitionnetwork.org/blogs/rob-hopkins - from Leslee Lewis

Send us your ideas for **SO Tips**: small, medium and large actions we all can take, and **SO Resources**: favorite links or books. We will publish them on our SO website, and select our favorites for each issue of the Views.

Changes Coming to Beach School This Summer

By Rebecca Torres
Principal, Beach School



You will notice some exciting changes at Beach this summer. As part of the bond measure passed by Portland voters, our school will be getting seismic upgrades, two newly remodeled science classrooms for our 6-8 grade students, and several ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) upgrades. These improvements include an elevator that will be completed by the 2015-16 school year. In order to allow contractors to work on the building, our campus (**including the playground**) will be closed from June 18th to August 27th. A satellite site for our office will be set up for our summer hours and workdays. Also, due to increasing enrollment, Beach students will fill two additional classrooms next year.

Anne Greenwood, parent and artist, is working with students and staff to design a community mural for the west playground walls, which is scheduled to be completed during the fall of 2014. Some of the middle school students are using the theme of personal identity as they reach out to the larger community to develop the mural’s design.

Some highlights of what’s happening in the classroom this spring include:

Michaela Caldwell, a sixth grade teacher, is offering student leadership class for our middle school students as an elective. Students have already shown lots of interest and ideas to promote spirit in our school.



Students in Ms. Bokenyi's 2nd grade class practice drumming with musician Aaron Nigel Smith. (Steve Lanigan photo)

Through our partnership with the Right Brain Initiative, all grades are getting additional visual art or music classes. For example, students in grades K-3 are working with a musician, Aaron Nigel Smith. In the kindergarten classes, students are studying animals and creating songs about animals. Their work includes drawing, playing instruments, and movement. In first grade, students are connecting their study of three-dimensional shapes to music and creating instruments out of common materials. Second graders are writing and singing a two-song opera to tell a familiar story. Finally, in third grade, students are studying Portland musicians and learning to sing a song by a local artist.

Beach PTA sponsors our after school program called Beach After School Enrichment (BASE). This program, run by Self-Enhancement, Inc., offers a wide variety of after school activities that include sports, dancing, ceramics, music, science

and much more. These programs offer activities that students might not otherwise have the chance to experience.

We are proud that our neighborhood school is able to offer such great opportunities to help support our students’ educational experience and strengthen community involvement. Please contact me (rtorres@pps.net) if you’d like any additional information about what’s happening at Beach School.

New Beach School Foundation to Raise Funds for More Teachers

by Steve Lanigan
Overlook Neighbor & Beach School Parent

The Beach School Foundation was formed this year for one purpose: to raise money to pay for teachers. By supplementing the Beach budget for teachers, Foundation funds can help reduce class size and allow a wider variety of courses/electives to be offered. For example, with additional funding Beach could offer additional middle school electives, increase the technology support to teachers, increase the amount of visual art and music offered to students, and/or hire a school improvement specialist that works directly with teachers to help struggling students. This past February, collaborating with Chief Joseph/Ockley Green School, the Beach School Foundation organized a full month of indoor soccer for area kids with a bi-weekly free clinic run by University of Portland Division 1 soccer players to raise funds.

The Foundation Board will also be holding community-building fundraisers during the next year, but also welcomes anyone who’d like to make a direct (tax-deductible) donation to the Foundation. More information on how to make a direct donation can be found on the Beach School Foundation website: www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/beach/784.htm.

We are looking for an Overlook resident to join the board of the foundation to act as a liaison between the residential community and the school. Please contact us at BSF.chair@gmail.com if this position interests you or if you’d like to nominate a neighbor.

It is NOT



for Health Insurance!

by Lisa Wills
Overlook Neighbor

Did you know it may not be too late to get health insurance? Even if you missed the deadline to sign up for private health insurance, which was April 30 this year, you may still be able to get insurance if you qualify for the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). In the past, access to OHP was so limited that names were drawn at random, which we called the "health care lottery." The lottery is gone and now everyone who qualifies financially is eligible to sign up for OHP or Healthy Kids at any time during the year. In fact, enrollment is always open for these programs. If you qualify for food stamps through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), you automatically qualify for OHP insurance. You may qualify for OHP even if you’ve been denied in the past. For free assistance signing up for coverage from certified insurance agents or trained specialists, visit CoverOregon.com or call 1-855-CoverOR (toll free 1-855-268-3767). Because the CoverOregon.com website is not fully functional, you can use it to check your financial eligibility for OHP, but then you should contact an agent or specialist to help you complete the process. Coverage is now available for people earning up to 138% of the federal poverty level. That means an individual who makes about \$15,800, or a family of four who make about \$32,500 a year, can qualify for OHP. Check the CoverOregon.com website or call them for more information.

Despite the negative stories we’ve all heard and seen on the news, signing up is fast and easy. The fact that the Cover Oregon website is not fully functional to process eligibility online should not stop anyone from applying for health care. With the changes to federal law, no one is turned away for pre-existing health conditions. Everyone who qualifies financially may sign up for OHP and there are no longer requirements that you must also meet disability criteria. For individuals or families who make too much to qualify for OHP, they still can receive assistance in paying insurance premiums and that information can be found at the Cover Oregon website. The coverage you can get through OHP is comprehensive and includes preventive care, hospitalizations, maternity care, prescription drug coverage and mental health services. Please give it a try if you don’t have health insurance now. Your health may depend on it!

Campus Improvement Gatherings

Portland Public Schools project teams are visiting school communities in the coming weeks to preview summer and longer-term work that is transforming schools with the PPS School Building Improvement Bond.

Families who live in the Jefferson/ Roosevelt dual assignment area have the opportunity to find out more about the Roosevelt High School Modernization work. The work has begun with construction taking place in 2015-17 and updates on the plans will be offered for families at the following locations:

- Beach PTA Meeting: Tuesday, May 13 @ 6:00pm
- Woodlawn PTA Meeting: Tuesday, May 20 @ 6:30pm
- Chief Joseph Campus K-3rd Principal Coffee: Friday, May 30 @ 8:30am
- Ockley Green Campus 4-8th Principal Coffee: Friday, June 6 @ 8:45am

Residents in North, Northeast and South-east Portland have a chance to learn about roof, seismic, accessibility and science lab improvements at 12 schools this summer.

Open houses in the Roosevelt/Jefferson Clusters:

- James John: Tuesday, May 6th - 5-6:30pm
- Woodlawn: Tuesday, May 20th - 5-6:30pm
- Beach: Wednesday, May 28th - 5-6:30 pm

Keep PPS Schoolyards Safe & Healthy



Leash Pets • Scoop Poop
It's the Law!

Dog owners asked to Help Keep Kids Healthy

Dogs may love playgrounds and ball fields as much as kids, but Portland Public Schools wants to remind dog owners to leash pets and scoop and remove pet waste to keep schoolyards safe and healthy.

Although Multnomah County and the City of Portland have codes and ordinances that forbid dogs from being off leash, many dog owners disobey the law. PPS for years has received dozens of complaints about dogs running off leash at schools across the city. On April 1, Portland Public Schools, Portland Parks & Recreation Bureau and Multnomah County Animal Services launched a Spring education and enforcement campaign that aims to increase dog owner law compliance. Throughout April, dog owners were reminded to leash pets and scoop poop on school grounds because it’s the law. In May, targeted enforcement will be conducted at three PPS schools — Beach, da Vinci and Duniway — where leash law violations are a chronic problem.

Dog owners will be fined up to \$150 for not leashing pets and for failing to clean up and remove animal waste. To report dogs off leash on school grounds, contact Multnomah County Animal Services. The Portland Parks and Recreation Bureau, which operates more than 30 off-leash dog parks across the city, issued 110 citations for dog owners violating the leash law after the fines went into effect last year. Please help keep our schoolyards, ball fields and playgrounds safe and healthy!

Car Prowl Prevention

Theft from a vehicle, more commonly known as car prowling, is the unlawful taking of motor vehicle contents or parts. Car prowls are crimes of opportunity. An offender makes a split-second decision to break into a vehicle based on perception that there are items of value in that vehicle, therefore making the potential payoff worth the risk. This crime is consistently one of the top three reported crimes in Portland during the last five years. Although there is no profile of a typical car prowler, a number of offenders break into vehicles to support drug addictions.

A car prowling can be completed in a minute or less, and a significant number of these crimes occur between the hours of 10:00 pm and 4:00 am. Methods of entry include: entering into the vehicle through an unlocked door, breaking a car window, or using a wedge to gain access. Items frequently stolen include GPS systems, laptops, electronic devices, CDs, purses/wallets, etc.

The good news is that car prowls are one of the easiest crimes to reduce with increased awareness and a change in habits. The best way to protect yourself against car prowls is to **never leave anything in your car**, whether it's something valuable like a laptop or something seemingly insignificant like loose change. This simple step can really help prevent this too common crime. Keep your car showroom clean! And if you do have to leave valuables in your car, put them in the trunk before you get to your destination. If your car is broken into, report the crime to police. If you observe the crime happening, call 9-1-1. If not, call the non-emergency number, 503-823-3333, to report the incident. You can also report car prowls and certain other crimes online at <http://www.portlandonline.com/police/cor/>.

Live Safe

Public Safety & Crime Prevention



Sara Hussein
City of Portland,
Crime Prevention
Coordinator

503-823-4098 sara.hussein@portlandoregon.gov

Chronic Problems? Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Contact Sara!

Mock's Crest Parklet/The Bluff

As we transition from our dreary, wet Oregon winter into our beautiful spring and summer seasons, more and more people flock to Mock Crest Parklet at the end of Skidmore Terrace. The influx of people to the parklet can cause many headaches for neighbors of the park. Although there are clearly "No Alcohol" signs posted, park visitors are still consuming alcohol in the park. Both Portland Police and Park Rangers are very aware of the ongoing issues with this park and will conduct regular patrols to this area to educate park users that alcohol is not permitted and about the other park rules in place. If you see people violating park rules, **please call the Park Rangers' dispatch number at 503-823-1637**. This number is good from 7:00 am – 9:30 pm. After those hours, please call police non-emergency at 503-823-3333.

P S A C **The North Portland Public Safety Action Committee**

Meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month to solve your crime problems.
Meet at the Historic Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N Schofield from 7:00 pm—9:00 pm. Free Pizza!

Operation Safe Summer Program

Summer is just around the corner and if you have school aged children, you might be wondering what activities are out there to help keep your kids safe, busy and active during the summer months. The Portland Police Bureau has put together a program on youth summer activities called "Operation Safe Summer".

Originating in 1996 as "Operation Refocus", the program's goal is to reduce the number of youth involved in criminal activity or behavior during the summer months by providing safe, supervised and structured activities. Law enforcement, Portland Parks and Recreation staff and many other organizations join together to provide youth in the Portland Metropolitan Area with fun and safe activities. In 2003, the program was renamed Operation Safe Summer. Today, the publication lists over 30 various camps and programs for youth to participate in during the summer months and is available online at www.portlandoregon.gov/police/operationsafesummer.

If you have questions about Operation Safe Summer, please contact Deborah Monk in the Police Bureau's Youth Services Division at Deborah.Monk@portlandoregon.gov.

Overlook Livability Team

O L T This neighbor-created team meets monthly for regular graffiti and trash clean up. The diverse group gathers at 9:00 am on the first Sunday of the month (unless it falls on a holiday weekend, when meetings move to the second Sunday). We're always looking for new volunteers to adopt a portion of the neighborhood; keeping the area litter and graffiti-free reduces crime and builds community. Email graffiti@OverlookNeighborhood.org or stop by a monthly OKNA meeting for more info.

Making Overlook a Great Community

Ever wonder how great things happen in your neighborhood?

Yes, we mean the community gardens, public art, informational kiosks, tool libraries, community centers, movies and concerts in the park—and no, the list doesn't end there!

Your neighborhood association has been hard at work ensuring that your neighborhood is thriving.

Join your neighbors this fall for their annual elections and discover what's new in your community and how to get involved. Not sure what a neighborhood association is? You live in Overlook, one of our city's officially recognized neighborhoods – each armed with its own association. A neighborhood association serves its residents by holding a friendly and encouraging space for community action and input. This is a place for neighbors to come together to address various issues and hopes for their neighborhood and that aim to create a platform from which all neighbors can effectively work to improve their communities.

It's a participation-based system though; without you there, your ideas can't be put into action. OKNA elections are in September and we're eager for some fresh input and willing hands and minds. We have a wealth of talent in Overlook and we'd all appreciate your contribution. Please take a look at your schedule for the coming year and consider joining the OKNA board or a committee. Questions? info@OverlookNeighborhood.org

You're Invited! A Free Ballet Recital

by Erin Fried
Program Coordinator, The Aspire Project

It is not every day that a 5th grader has the opportunity to dance in front of 400+ people; an opportunity that most adults would shy away from in a heartbeat. But there is no doubt this 5th grader, Anna, is excited. And she says the best way to achieve her aspiration to be ballerina someday is, "to take a lot of classes and do the best you can."

Anna is one of the many economically disadvantaged students learning ballet from The Aspire Project, a non-profit dance organization teaching studio classes out of the historic Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center (IFCC). These ballet classes are offered to the Overlook Neighborhood and other North Portland economically diverse youth, making dance accessible to all passionate children through the organization's sliding scale tuition rates. And once a year, these students exhibit their hard work in front of a huge crowd for free!



Ballerinas in Action! Photo: Sue Darrow



THE EVENT:
On **June 8th, 3:30-4:30 pm** at Roosevelt High School, The Aspire Project invites our Overlook neighbors and all other North Portland community members in celebrating the dancing achievements of our enthusiastic, young students in our **FREE Community Ballet Recital!** Audience members will enjoy student performances to nostalgic "Movie Melodies," and complementary desserts and refreshments offered after the recital.

Attending this annual demonstration represents more than a single day's support; for some of these children it empowers them to work hard and seek positive avenues to achieve their aspirations; investments in their well-being that last a lifetime.

"It gives these dancers confidence in themselves," Executive Director Sue Darrow said. "No matter what their circumstances are, they know that if they work hard enough, and practice, they'll be able to accomplish what they set out to do and aspire to be whatever they want to be."

Coming up next at The Aspire Project...

Affordable, fun summer camps (with sliding scale tuition)!
Weeklong camps span from: June 23-August 15th, 2014.
Register at: www.theaspireproject.org or call 503-505-0382

OVERLOOK ESSENTIALS

May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11	12 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	13	14 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	15	16 Interested in zoning and development rules? Ask about joining the Land Use Committee.	17 Overlook House: Villages Presentation, see page 2.
18 It's planning time for the summer Ice Cream Social.. See Page 2	19 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	20 OKNA General Meeting 7-9pm Kaiser Town Hall	21 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	22 Bridge Pedal volunteers needed for 8/9; see page 1	23 Violations at Mock's Crest Parklet? Call 503-823-3333 & report.	24 Have you planted a pollinator-friendly plant this month?
25 Overlook House Ice Cream Social is August 3rd—volunteer! See page 2.	26 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	27	28 Overlook House Yoga 5:30-6:30 PSAC meeting Kenton Firehouse	29 Movie in the Park is Coming! Join the Adventure.. See Page 4.	30 This Weekend! Livability Team Meeting Day 9am See Page 7.	31 BIG Party At The Intersection 9am–4pm. Join us! See page 5.

June 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Livability Team Meeting Day 9am See Page 7.	2 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	3 OKNA Board Meeting 7-9pm Overlook House	4 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	5	6 Bridge Pedal volunteers needed for 8/9; see page 1	7 Are you cleared out and ready for the Overlook Yard Sale & Free Share?
8 Free Ballet Recital, see page 7.	9 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	10	11 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	12 Overlook House Ice Cream Social is August 3rd—volunteer! See page 2.	13 Movie in the Park is Coming! Join the Adventure.. See Page 4.	14
15 Bridge Pedal volunteers needed for 8/9; see page 1.	16 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	17 OKNA General Meeting 7-9pm Kaiser Town Hall	18 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	19	20 Have you planted a pollinator-friendly plant this month?	21
22 Party at Pittman Addition HydroPark! 3-7pm, Page 4. Sunday Parkways	23 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	24	25 Overlook House Yoga 5:30-6:30 PSAC meeting Kenton Firehouse	26 North American Organic Brewers Festival, 12-9pm, Overlook Park. See page 4.	27 North American Organic Brewers Festival, 12-9pm, Overlook Park. See page 4.	28 Overlook Garden Tour 10AM - 3PM NAOBF continues 12-9pm

July 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 29 North American Organic Brewers Festival, 12-5pm, Overlook Park. See page 4.	June 30 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	1 OKNA Board Meeting 7-9pm Overlook House	2 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	3	4	5 Are you getting ready for the Yard Sale/Free Share? It's coming up July 19 & 20!
6 Livability Team Meeting Day 9am See Page 7.	7 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	8 Overlook House Ice Cream Social is August 3rd—volunteer! See page 2.	9 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	10	11 Movie in the Park is Coming! Join the Adventure.. See Page 4.	12
13 Have you 'liked' us on Facebook yet? OKNAinPDX	14 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	15 OKNA General Meeting 7-9pm Kaiser Town Hall	16 Overlook Business Speakeasy, 6pm See Page 3 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	17	18	19 Overlook Yard Sale & Free Share 10AM - 4PM
20 Overlook Yard Sale & Free Share 10AM - 4PM	21 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	22	23 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30 PSAC meeting Kenton Firehouse	24 Have you planted a pollinator-friendly plant this month?	25	26
27	28 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	29 New to Overlook? Don't miss the OKNA webpage & Facebook.	30 Overlook House •Yoga 5:30-6:30	31	August 1	August 2

Where to go? Who to call?

OKNA Board Meetings
1st Tuesday Monthly 7- 9pm
Overlook House
3839 N Melrose Drive

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

Crime Prevention Coordinator
Sara Hussein: 503.823.4098

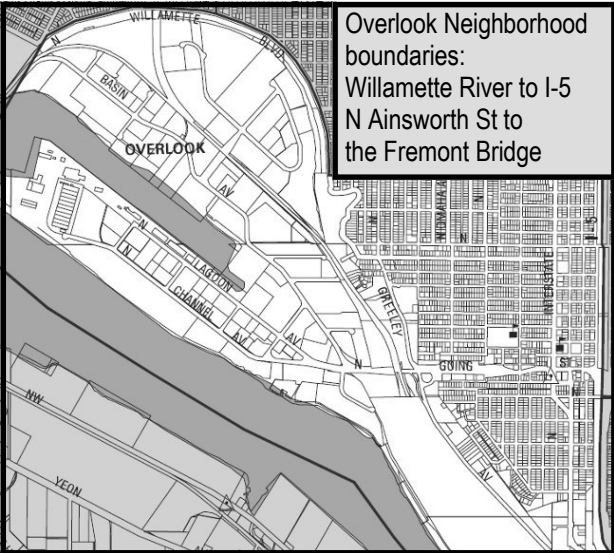
Police Non-emergency: Report it!
503.823.3333

North Precinct Neighborhood Response
Officer Steve Jacquot: 503.823.5700

Graffiti Hotline, 503.823.4824
email graffiti@OverlookNeighborhood.org

Abandoned Auto 24hr Hotline
503.823.7309

Metro Recycling Information
503.234.3000
www.metro-region.org



Stay Connected!

To receive **The Weekly OKNA Email** for more time-sensitive items, visit **www.OverlookNeighborhood.org**, enter your email address in the Yahoo! box and join our mailing list. Submit your short item to info@OverlookNeighborhood.org with ‘Post to List’ in the subject line. All submissions subject to review and edit.

Can’t wait? “Like” us on **Facebook**: OKNAinPDX and share your thoughts immediately. Business neighbors: your commercial postings are welcome.

Overlook Neighborhood Association
2209 N. Schofield Street
Portland OR 97217
info@OverlookNeighborhood.org

Chair@OverlookNeighborhood.org reaches the Board Chair, or you may leave a message at North Portland Neighborhood Services: 503.823.4524

Newsletter: Michelle Thompson
views@OverlookNeighborhood.org

2013-2014 OKNA Board Members:
Alan Cranna, Cynthia Sulaski, George Spaulding, Kent Hoddick, Leslee Lewis, Michelle Thompson, Nicole Vasilevsky, Tamara Maher

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