

Inaugural Sustainability Summit

By Josh Cabo

This event is open to everyone: from our local neighbors wanting to learn more about sustaiability and community involvement, to those who live far away that want to learn about inspirational projects and share stories of their own neighborhood's quest for sustainable living.

Sustainability is a broad, often-used and sometimes very ambiguous term. As an already tightly-knit neighborhood community, Overlook is doing amazing things that make it a very livable and enjoyable place to. However, there is always more that can be done. Sustainability is not a definable milestone, but rather an aspirational journey toward living within the means of our community and immediate environment. Together, we can build a greater resilience in the face of potential disasters and ensure that every resident has the same opportunity to achieve a healthy and fulfilling life in our little slice of Portland.

This Summit will be organized around the three primary dimensions of sustainability: ecology, economy and equity. Each of these dimensions will begin with 3 brief 10 minute presentations by distinguished local speakers. Then the floor will be opened up to a whole-room discussion that focuses on that particular dimension. Across all 3 dimensions, topics will range from promotion of social justice in our school classrooms, becoming pesticide free as a neighborhood, and supporting our local small businesses in new and novel ways. Taken as a whole, we hope that this event will help us to better understand the kinds of activism happening in Overlook and will help us to grow an even stronger community network.

The summit is sponsored by Sustainable Overlook, a volunteer committee of the Overlook Neighborhood Association, and is free to the public, although a donation of \$10 is suggested to help defray some of the event costs. To learn more and to sign up for the event, please visit www.sustainableoverlook.org/summit. If you have questions, feel free to e-mail Josh Cabot via sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org. Hope to see you there sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org

When? Saturday, February 21st, 2015 from 12pm - 4:30pm, with lunch catered by New American (the new local restaurant on N Killingsworth Street).

Where? Beach Elementary School Cafeteria.

Why?

To bring committed neighbors and supporters together to talk about a range of efforts underway that are strengthening the resilience, livability and long term health of the Overlook neighborhood.

Cost? \$10 suggested donation.



OLT Needs You!

By Cynthia Sulaski

The Overlook Livability Team (OLT) was a concept that was immediately embraced by an enthusiastic group of neighbors when Mark Wells, former Crime Prevention Coordinator and Overlook resident organized it five years ago. Dedicated to graffiti removal and trash cleanup, OLT members met monthly fanning out throughout the neighborhood.

When Mark left Portland three years ago, David Chott took over as the OLT coordinator. After keeping the group together for almost two years, David stepped down and Lelio Montagnoli took over. Lelio was an enthusiastic and energetic supporter of the OLT and did a fine job of coordinating activities with OLT members. You can read Lelio's article introducing himself in the Spring 2013 Overlook Views issue (at www. overlookneighborhood.org).

Sadly and shockingly, Lelio died unexpectedly last October. He left a leadership hole in the Overlook Livability Team and is missed by his friends and neighbors.

The OLT is at a crossroads right now. A small group of dedicated people continue to clean the pedestrian bridges, Overlook Park, and major streets south of Going on the first Sunday of each month at 9 AM (times and dates may change due to weather or other factors). However, the rest of the neighborhood isn't getting the attention it deserves.

We would like to reconstitute the group with new members and new leadership and could use your help! Why would you want to be a team member? Steve Lanigan, long-time OLT participant, answered that question this way, "I'm part of the OLT because when we remove trash and graffiti, the neighborhood looks better. It looks like we care and take pride in Overlook. Plus, going out once a month is a good way to get fresh air and socialize with neighbors who also care about Overlook."

This volunteer activity is task-specific, so you can see the results of your labor. And it only takes two hours each month. If you're interested, write to graffiti@overlookneighborhood.org with your name and address. After hearing from a number of new volunteers, I'll call a meeting so we can work out the details of reforming the Overlook Livability Team.

Neighborhood News

Did you just move into the neighborhood?
Got accepted into college? Getting married?
Do you have any exciting news that you'd like to share? We'd love to hear from you.

Please contact us at views@

overlookneighborhood.org
with your news!

It's Tax Time Again! Get an Early Start!

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide will again be doing FREE tax returns at the North Portland Library, 512 N Killingsworth. Find them there on Thursdays from 12:30pm to 4:30pm from February 12th through April 9th, 2015. Tax preparers will also be at Peace Lutheran Church, 2201 N Rosa Parks Way, on Tuesdays from 8:30pm to 12:30pm, beginning February 3rd and continuing through April 14th. Both sites are walk-in with no appointment necessary.

There is no charge and the service is available for seniors and/or low to middle income people. All returns are electronically filed and both the federal and state forms will be completed. All Tax-Aide volunteer preparers are IRS certified. For other sites and times please call 1-888-227-7669

Please bring your Picture ID, SS Card, SS Statement, W-2's, 1099's, etc...along with a copy of last years' taxes. A new requirement for this year is that you must also include proof of health coverage.

OKNA Board member Kent Hoddick has been volunteering with Tax-Aide doing free returns for over 10 years and encourages people to take advantage of this free service. Last year, Tax-Aide volunteers completed over 400 returns at these two sites. In the Portland area volunteers completed 17,000 tax returns, throughout the State of Oregon they completed 52,000 returns, and a staggering 2.1 million free returns were filed nation-wide. AARP Tax Aide is the biggest nonprofit organization in the United States.

Free Tax Prep?

North Portland Library

512 N Killingsworth Thursdays 12:30pm - 4:30pm February 12th - April 9th

Peace Lutheran Church
2201 N Rosa Parks Way

Tuesdays 8:30am - 12:30pm February 3rd - April 14th

To find out more go to www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide

New Editorial Team For Overlook Views!

The OKNA is pleased to introduce Overlook Views' new editorial team - Dayan Morgan-Sylvaen, Julia Hakes, and Merideth Boe!

Dayan Morgan-Sylvaen was born in Medford but lived in CA, SC & NM, before returning to Oregon and making Portland her home. Dayan works as an F/X and Make-up Artist for print, television and film – a career that she greatly enjoys. In addition to being an OKNA Board member, Dayan is the Chair of the Portland Chapter of the Oregon Media Production Association (OMPA); she sits on the OMPA Board; and is on the Shambhala Meditation Center of Portland's Art Council. You may have noticed Dayan's bright blue hair as she walks her two Pomeranians around the neighborhood. Dayan brings enthusiasm and drive to her new position as an editor of Overlook Views.

Julia Hakes is an Oregon native from Eugene and moved to the Overlook Neighborhood a year ago. Before living in Portland, Julia was a public high school English teacher in Korea and Northern Spain. Currently, Julia works at a public health nonprofit. In her free time Julia loves walking to the bluffs or spending time with her four cats and her roommates. Julia is excited to be an editor of Overlook Views and to learn more about what makes Overlook such an amazing neighborhood to live in.

Merideth Boe grew up in Des Moines Iowa, finished high school, and promptly moved to Portland in 1997. As an only child, her small family had made the drive from Iowa to Oregon many times to visit relatives. Going on 16 years as an Oregonian this is her home. In 2005, Merideth lived and studied in St Croix VI. In 2006, she then moved back to Portland and finished her bachelor's degree in fine art. Somewhere between starting and finishing college she and her husband met and now have a two and a three year old. She works as a volunteer graphic designer and her husband owns a small construction company.

Thank You To The 2014 Delivery Volunteers

Thank you to the 2014 delivery volunteers who gave their time to bring the neighborhood news to you. Some were out there for every delivery while others were ready to pitch in as substitutes for illness, vacations, and more. A small amount of time, a big effort for you to enjoy Overlook Views!

Amy Altenberger Patty Arjun Kathryn Beamer Jeff Berrier Nancy Bishop Molly Brady Carl Brenden Barb Brooks Maggie Byrkit Charity Chesnek David Chott Janine Eckhart Mary Jane Erdman **Emily Evans** Jane Finch-Howell Lara Gardner Adelle Harris Dan Haneckow

Jay Hunt Patrick Huston Deborah Kalapsa Steve Lanigan Bob Lasich Jerry Lindsay Michelle Lum Tamara Maher Marlo McClure-Porter Courtney & Kelly Olive Debbie Omey Emily Ordas Brian Ronstadt Mark Schuford Mathew Scoggin Michelle Smith George Spaulding

Iim Heiman

Farewell To Editor Of Five Years, Michelle Thompson

The OKNA is excited for new beginnings with Overlook Views but will always be grateful to Michelle Thompson for her many years of service creating Views.

Michelle told us, "Coordinating the newsletter wasn't just personally interesting to me, or a volunteer chore. Documenting and sharing neighborhood successes, projects and challenges made a difference to hundreds of my neighbors. I know, because I heard directly from so many of you. And that made this project meaningful and worthwhile to me."

Michelle may not be part of the newsletter anymore, but is still part of our community and leaves us Overlook neighbors with a challenge, "The challenge I throw down to you - neighbors, readers, members of our community is this: Tend this old fashioned communication and show your appreciation for it by participating! Share your stories and photos with us, write up a little item about what makes your block so great, something you noticed and appreciated in Overlook, something that makes you glad you live in this community. You'll find that contribution worthwhile for yourself".

New OKNA Chair

Hello Neighbors, my name is Dannielle Herman and I am the current Chair for the Overlook Neighborhood Association. I'm twenty-eight and a recent addition to the neighborhood. We bought our first home in July of 2014 and I couldn't be happier to live in our neighborhood. I moved to

Portland to go to school in 2005 from Baker City. Since 2005 I've lived the St. Johns and Irvington and have fallen in love with Portland and how each neighborhood is so vibrant.

Baker City is a small community and I miss how everyone knows one another. Being new to the neighborhood it was very

important to me to get involved and to start to learn about and feel connected to the neighborhood where I plan to start growing my roots. A friend of mine had mentioned that the neighborhood association would be a great place for me to try out my new found desire to be involved. That's what brought me here. Lucky for me the first meeting I attended was one in which you could volunteer to be a member of the board, it was fate!

Originally I had no idea what I was going to do as a board member; I was still learning what

exactly OKNA is. After listening to the various roles and being guided by some fellow members I decided that the Chair position would be a great fit. Being Board Chair will give me the opportunity to build relationships with other people living in Overlook and also to dip my toes into a bit of

everything that OKNA had to offer. As a compliance officer by day it is my job to assess needs of clients, make sure things move smoothly, and to facilitate communication between individuals. I think that this will directly contribute to my successful involvement with the OKNA as chair.

After my first few meetings I want to put my role in to action. I would like to address attendance. Though we have great numbers I would like

to involve all members of our community, focusing on renters, and those newest to our community. I think that inviting new people to attend our meetings will bring additional volunteers and invaluable input.



On December 12, 2014 many of our neighbors and friends gathered in the Common House at Daybreak Cohousing for a holiday celebration of jolly conversation and fun. The potluck food was delicious and plentiful, and music by Joel Eisenhower was a lovely addition to the party. Many thanks to the vendors, local businesses, and individuals who generously donated door prizes that went home with lucky guests: Kent and Jill Hoddick, Mary Skarie, Kenny and Zukes Delicatessen, Co-Creative Pruning - Portland's Bicycling Arborist, Tamara Maher, Eisenhower's Bagelhouse, New Seasons Market, Spoke and Vine, and Atomic Pizza. Our sincere apologies to any who donated that have slipped our failing memories. Thanks for a great evening - see you next holiday season, and around the neighborhood!

Great News!

Overlook Views is seeking delivery volunteers! Once a quarter, you get to hit the streets and go door-to-door to deliver one of Portland's last free print newsletters. Routes are short and easy to handle. Join the ranks of our dedicated volunteer force by emailing views@overlookneighborhood.org

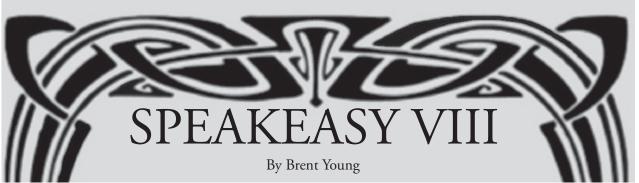
Michelle Thompson Chad Torrey Nicole Vasilevsky

And a very special "Thank You!" to our distribution & delivery coordinators Alan Cranna & Carol Cushman



Special Thanks to Overlook Views Contributors!

Alan Cranna, Carol Cushman, David Goodyke, Katie Collins Guinn, Patricia Haggerty, Danielle Herman, Kent Hoddick, Michelle Hylland, Steve Lanigan, Tamara Maher, Emily Ordas, Mary Skarie, Cynthia Sulaski, Brent Young



Local companies benefit from having a strong network of other businesses and peers to interact with. Whether generating new business, sharing ideas, or just getting to know other entrepreneurs, the Speakeasy has become a rewarding resource for Overlook. We meet quarterly where we have a few drinks, tell a few stories, and brag about our companies. This month the Speakeasy returned to Lucky Lab on Killingsworth. Interested in joining us?

Mark your calendar for our next meeting on Wednesday April 15th at 6pm, the place has yet to be determined. If you are interested in joining us next time please email us at youngdesignstudio@gmail.com. The event is open to everyone who wants to promote their business in the Overlook Neighborhood. The following is a list of businesses who attended the January meeting:

Sustainable Overlook - As an organizer of our neighborhood's Sustainable Overlook Committee, Josh Cabot is organizing the inaugural Overlook Sustainability Summit. In an effort to bring committed neighbors and supporters together to talk about a range of efforts underway that are strengthening the resilience, livability and long term health of the Overlook neighborhood. The event will be held on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 11:30 – 4:30. Josh is also an architect with Livermore Architecture and Engineering focusing on commercial and industrial building design. josh.cabot@gmail.com 971-570-0468

9/1-5/0-0468 www.sustainableoverlook.org/summit

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 interior design, to new commercial buildings. They can help you plan, visualize and realize your project. Current projects on the boards include a tenant improvement in an existing retail space and interior renovation at a Montessori School. Brent is also teaching a design studio on multifamily housing at Portland State University this term. youngdesignstudio@gmail.com 971-222-5629

www.youngdesignstudio.com

Into Eden Skincare - Sally-Ann Hobart's clients have been coming back for the past three years for her skincare services. Her atmospheric salon boasts a new Micro Current and Energy Light Rejuvenation treatment, a system providing facial sculpting and rejuvenation with lasting results and without surgery. Look for her upcoming blog on skincare, health, and wellbeing when she rolls out her updated website in a couple of weeks. sallyann@intoedenskincare.com 503-752-3508 www.intoedenskincare.com

Katie Guinn designer/Artist -

Invest in your wardrobe. You might be surprised how affordable it is to get high quality custom clothes made and designed by Katie Guinn. She has a line of clothes, Katie Guinn, that includes two collections and can be viewed on her website. Katie is also an illustrator with prints and cards available. Her work is currently on display at Green Beans Coffee and Tea. Also look for her column in the Portland Mercury Fashion and Style section and in the Overlook Views. ultrapure25@gmail.com 503-317-2758 www.katieguinn.com

United Advantage - Want to keep your banking truly local? United Advantage is a local credit union that recently became open to the public and is now a resource for anyone who lives, works, or worships in the Overlook neighborhood. Chantelle Castle, the Operations Manager, and her team provide the benefits of small, local business while offering loans, banking, and other services. As a non-profit business, United Advantage is in our neighborhood to serve in its members' best interests with low rates and excellent service. chantelle@uanw.org 503-975-1608

www.uanw.org

New Delicious Places By Katie Guinn

You may have noticed two of our neighborhood's spaces transitioning into new businesses over these past few months. We say farewell to Mextiza and welcome New American. Bring it home. New American is owned by husband and wife Faith and Aaron Dionne who wanted to make family dinners not only easier but healthy, sustainable, hearty, and delicious. Their website is extremely user friendly and their menu has a wide variety in both recipes and sizes for take-out. Next time you're contemplating fast food, don't do it! Try New American! (You can also dine in).

www.newamericanpdx.com/home.php
We're also welcoming Milk Glass Market
to the Killingsworth corridor. Owner Nancye
Benson is the mastermind and master chef
behind this sweet and savory spot. It feels
roomy and open, while also embracing clean,
modern design with dear details. The menu
offers carefully crafted plates that are tasty and
filling. It's the perfect place to take a friend to
make them feel special. Hot drinks are served
in artwork that was hand-crafted by neighborhood gem, Rachel Elizabeth.

The fourth Annual Adopt-a-Neighbor Program By Patricia Haggerty

This past December, the fourth Annual Adopt-a-Neighbor Program through REACH Community Development's Resident Services Department showed that neighbors do care about one another. Overlook Neighbors, Humbolt Neighbors, community members, and Patton Park residents showered love on a total of fourteen families residing at Patton Park Apartments, McCuller Crossing Apartments (in the Humbolt Neighborhood) and Albina Corner Apartments (in the Eliot Neighborhood). Amongst those fourteen families, fifty-one individuals were reached! This was HUGE!

Some families living in REACH housing are often left out of gift-giving and receiving due to the hardships of primarily focusing on meeting basic needs. Through your donations of a new toy, clothing item or basic necessity (such as food, diapers and bus tickets) a sense of community and hope can be restored.

REACH Community Development's Patton Park Apartments is home to over 90 residents living below median income. Below are words from a resident who benefited from the program this past year. I wanted to share to show just exactly what impact the program made.

"For the presents, I am truly humbled and grateful. We sat as a family last night (Dec 22nd) and opened them. I know, I know, but it was amazing! It was a real Santa Claus experience. It was so much more than we hoped for! I know we asked for what we really wanted but we were going to be thrilled with the best anyone could do. It was incredible to open the gifts and find EXACTLY what we wanted most inside of them. We all felt like Cinderella. It was wonderful!!! Please extend our deepest thanks to everyone. I really don't have words for how absolutely amazing it has been to receive those gifts."

—a Patton Park Resident

Measure 91 Passed What's Next?

Measure 91 passed in November 2014 and allows for the personal use and possession of recreational marijuana under Oregon law. Many Overlook residents may wonder what will happen next. The rules for recreational marijuana will take shape during 2015 as our state and local government decides on laws and regulations. The State's Oregon Liquor License Commission (OLCC) is the agency that will tax, license, and regulate recreational marijuana.

- Beginning July 1, 2015, individuals who are over 21 years old can possess up to eight ounces of marijuana and four plants per residence in Oregon. He or she can carry up to one ounce of marijuana in public. However, the substance cannot be consumed in public, including bars and restaurants.
- The OLCC will accept applications for producers, processors, wholesalers, and retailers starting January 4, 2016. Until this time, retail establishments will not legally be open to sell recreational marijuana. The process of recreational marijuana license approval will be developed by the OLCC. Criteria for where stores may be located will also be determined. OLCC has scheduled listening sessions in a few cities throughout Oregon asking the question, "What should marijuana regulation look like in your community?" At least one session is expected is to be scheduled in Portland.
- Measure 91 shouldn't be confused with the State of Oregon's Medical Marijuana Program. The passage of Measure 91 will not impact this program. It will not affect landlord-tenant law or employment law in Oregon. Drivers impaired by marijuana will continue to be subject to Oregon State laws for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants.
- If you would like to share your thoughts and opinions about recreational marijuana with the City of Portland, send an email to marijuana.questions@portlandoregon.gov.
- Measure 91 passed, but there is a lot that needs to be worked out before residents are allowed to possess marijuana for recreational purposes on July 1, 2015. Retail stores open in 2016.

Beach School Principal Applauds SMART Program

Mary Patterson, Interim Principal Beach School

It has been such a pleasure to join the staff as Interim Principal of Beach School this year. Beach has a large volunteer base at the school which includes our parents, community members and strong partnerships with several local companies and programs. The support they provide enriches the experiences we can provide to our students and extends their opportunities to practice new skills.

The SMART, (Start Making a Reader Today) Program coordinated by our SMART Site Coordinator, Ms. Deborah Hall, has developed a strong presence at Beach School. Through this program fifty-four of our kindergarten through second grade students get the chance to read with adult volunteers as a way to increase opportunities to practice their skills and build their enthusiasm for reading. The children meet individually with assigned volunteers twice each week for a half hour and twice each month they go home with the gift of a new book. As of the end of November, fifty SMART volunteers had given 154 hours of their time and donated 109 books to our students. Our SMART volunteer group comprises Beach School parents and grandparents as well as employees of



Sun Program Continues To Offer Fun

Classes To Beach Students

By Cinda Jackson, Beach SUN Site Manager

Our Winter Enrichment Class Program is now off to a great start, and will continue through Thursday, March 12. A special thanks goes to the Kaiser Hospital Foundation which provided a substantial grant to support Beach SUN classes. A donation from the Beach PTA also helps as we continue to offer a rich variety of classes winter and spring term. We are thrilled to have added two new Community Partners to support two new enrichment classes.

- Young Audiences is providing our Music and Movement class in which students will use music and high-energy movement activities to exercise critical thinking skills related to math, science, and
- The Hope Network is sponsoring our Fun with Writing class, where students will learn how to use the five basic elements of story to create imaginative narratives. This class will be facilitated by The Oregon Writers Colony.

Other winter class offerings include: Drama, Lego Robotics, Simple Snacks, Organized Recreation, Leadership, Chess for Success, Playworks, Girls Inc., Violin, Spanish Dance, Dodgeball, Art, Sisters Reflecting Beauty, Brothers Reflecting Brotherhood, Basketball, the Circus Project, Ceramics, Circus Cascadia, AKA Science, and Cheerleading. In addition to diverse enrichment opportunities, Beach SUN School continues to provide Homework Club and tutorial time for students who need additional academic support.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make our first ever Beach SUN Community School Program fall session successful. Working with nine community partners and six consistent volunteers, we offered more than 20 enrichment classes and provided academic support, serving well over 250 students. Highlights from Fall Term include:

- The Rosemary Anderson High School Drama Class brought their Anti-Bullying Tour to Beach SUN.
- Our Leadership class volunteered at the fifth Annual Foot Traffic Holiday Half Marathon and the Portland Rescue Mission's Annual Feed the Homeless Day of Service.

our generous community partners: Knowledge Universe and Daimler. Many employees of these two companies come to the school during their lunch hours in order to meet with the students. Observe these volunteers reading with our students and you see dedication and palpable excitement as the children practice their reading. This is a remarkable gift for each of these children and to

our school as a whole. On behalf of the Beach Staff, I offer our thanks to our parents and community partners for their ongoing support and active participation in our school events. Volunteers make such a difference for our students. I encourage interested adults to contact our school to inquire about ways in which you can become involved!

Beach School Auction

When? March 14, 2015 6pm-11pm

Where?

Riverside Golf and Country Club 8105 Northeast 33rd Drive Portland OR 97211

Support your neighborhood school by participating in the Beach School Auction! All funds raised support programs such as Playworks, SUN programs, teacher grants and so much more! Tickets are \$35.00 per person and can be purchased at www.BeachPTA.org We look forward to seeing you and thank you for supporting Beach School!

The Spanish Dance classes staged a

spectacular showcase. Thanks to the generosity of several Beach parents and a toy drive donation from SEI, we were able to provide clothes, toys and general household items to six needy Beach families during the holiday season.

The Beach Leadership class volunteered at the Annual MLK, Jr., Keep the Dream Alive Celebration Monday, January 19, at Highland Church. This group is also facilitating the Beach SUN School Food Pantry, which operates once a week on Tuesdays out of the teachers' lounge between 4:30 and 5:30pm. The Food Pantry is open to all families in the Beach School Community, and will offer a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, juice and other healthy food items. Students must be accompanied by an adult when getting items from the Pantry.

SUN School at Beach still needs volunteer tutors (English and Spanish-English bilingual), instructors, and support staff, so please contact the Beach SUN Site Manager Cinda Jackson @ cindaj@selfenhancement.org or 503.916.6562 if you are interested.

Curbing Bike Theft

By City of Portland's Crime Prevention Program

For the last few years, over two thousand bicycles have been reported as stolen to the Portland police. Thieves are brazen in You can proactively

their methods including sawing through a bike rack to dislodge a bike or removing the face of a sign to lift a bike over the pole. However, most thefts that occur

bike is stolen! are easily prevented. When it comes to prevention, where you park your bike and how you secure it can make a difference.

Officer Dave Sanders who spoke at a recent Bike Theft Summit estimated that the police property room stores 800 unclaimed bikes. However, if officers don't have record of the serial number on file they can't link the bicycle to its rightful owner. Also, without that information, they can't charge

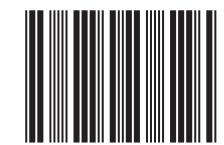
condominium or apartment complex,

If you are a victim of bicycle theft in Portland, file a police report online at www.portlandoregon.gov/ police/cor or call 503-823-3333. If you know your serial number and want to find out if your bike is at the Property Evidence Division, call 503-823-2179.

a person with a crime. So you can proactively sign up online at bikeindex.org project529.com. This website will immediately send out alerts if your bike is stolen. There are a number of security measures you can take to reduce the likelihood of

being targeted. Choose sturdy locks such as a U-lock or very heavy-gauge chain. Lock your tires to the frame and rack. Take all removable parts including the seat with you or lock them up. Even if you are parking in a secured garage of a

lock your bike to a rack or store it in your unit. Don't leave your property unlocked and unattended even if it's for a short time.



New Bottle Drop Center Opens In Delta Park

By Katie Guinn

I've heard Gresham residents speak of a place where they drop off their bags of recyclables which are then scanned and within a couple of days money appears in their account. For a couple years I've been wondering how Portland hasn't introduced this amazing new concept yet: simple and clean can and bottle return. Well, wonder no longer, because finally we have such a facility, and lucky us, it's in North Portland!

The new large facility has an appropriate amount of machines for customers to process up to 350 items themselves. That's quite the increase from the current 177. Staff will even hand count up to fifty containers on the spot. The best part? Just set up an account with the customer service desk upon first arrival and after that, you can drop off bags filled with recyclables with your account ID on them whenever it's convenient, twenty-four hours a day. To understand more, we caught up with Cherilyn Bertges of the Bottle Drop Redemption Center to fill in some details.

Overlook Views: This process has been a reality for many years now in the cities of Gresham and Wood Village. What driving forces made this finally a reality in Portland?

Cherilyn Bertges: Our first three redemption centers in Wood Village, Oregon City, and S. Salem, were all part of a pilot project that was approved by the OLCC. After the success of these centers was assessed, the OLCC gave us approval for a state-wide role out. Our goal is to open 4 centers per year until we have approximately 45 centers across Oregon.

Overlook Views: How many cities/areas are currently participating?

IFCC Transition

OKNA Parks & Greenspaces Chair

As I reported in the last Overlook Views issue,

Portland Parks & Recreation has taken over

management of the Interstate Firehouse Cul-

tural Center (IFCC) from Ethos. Phil Lewis,

Peninsula Park Community Center Director,

was chosen to take over as interim IFCC man-

ager during the transition period. However in

early December, Phil left Portland for another

position in The Dalles. At this time, IFCC is

Sue Glenn, PP&R North Portland Zone

Manager, is currently overseeing IFCC op-

erations. She will attend the OKNA general

meeting on March 17 to discuss IFCC and

listen to our ideas about its use and opera-

tion. IFCC is an important asset to our neigh-

borhood, so please come to this meeting and

By Cynthia Sulaski

doubly in transition!

share your thoughts.

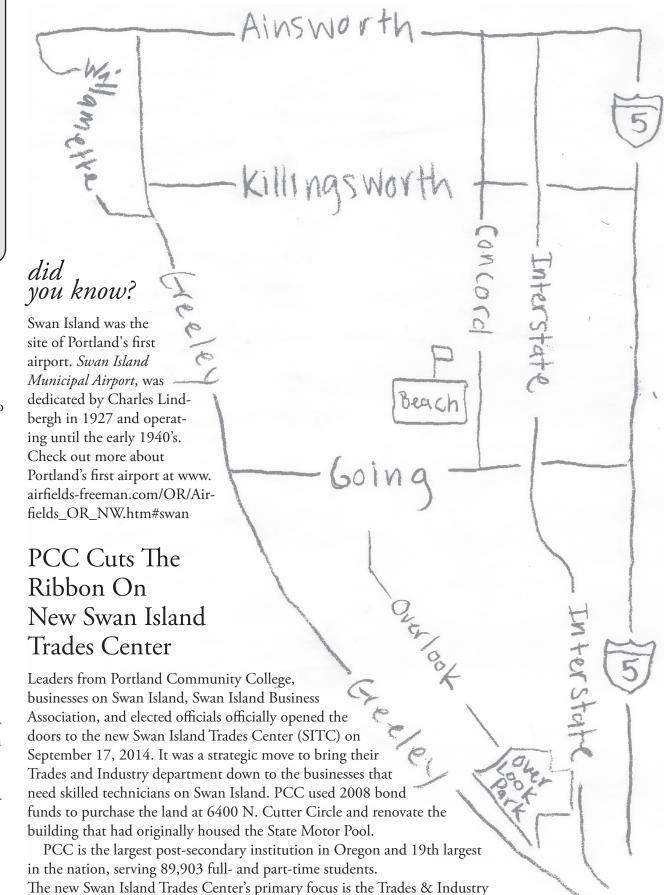
Cherilyn: Our current locations include Delta Park, NE Glisan & 122nd, Gresham, Wood Village, Oregon City, Eugene, Medford, Bend, Redmond and two in Salem.

Overlook Views: Will each neighborhood slowly embrace this and close their store based bottle-return stations?

Cherilyn: Each location must be approved by the OLCC for safety and convenience, and is partially paid for by large, area retailers who choose to participate. You can find a list of participating retailers for each center at www.bottledropcenters.com. Bottle Drop locations are chosen according to a number of factors; some of which are zoning, city approval, OLCC approval, retailer location and participation, container volume, and general access.

Bottle Drop Center-Delta Park 1176 N Hayden Meadows Drive Portland OR 97217 Open 24 hours

Mark Your Calendar Free Tax Prep February 3rd - April 14th Sustainability Summit February 21st Edible Plant Sale Pre Order February 21st - March 31st NET Quarterly Meeting March 12th Beach Auction March 14th Easter Egg Hunt April 4th Speakeasy April 15th Plant Pick Up April 18th Neighborhood Clean Up April 25th Rewild Portland May 3rd Garden Tour June 6th Yard Sale & Free Share July 18th & 19th Ice Cream Social August 2nd Mondays & Wednesdays Yoga General Meetings 3rd Tuesdays



Department, which moved from nearby Cascade Campus on Killingsworth to the

though the Swan Island Trades Center.

new facility this summer. Thanks to the SITC, the department now has expanded space,

integrated classrooms, and upgraded technology to enhance training. The department includes

training and business development classes for new and current members of the workforce. Those

Facilities Maintenance/HVAC-R, Fiber Optics, Pre-Apprenticeship and Electrical Trades pro-

wishing to further their capabilities in management, budgeting, leadership, finance and other

workplace development skills will find a number of diverse offerings for continuing education

grams. In addition to the upgraded department, the center offers a full range of professional

sign up online at

bikeindex.org project529.com

for immediate alerts if your

Wildlife In Overlook

By Cynthia Sulaski

Lions and tigers and bears...hmm, not really. More like coyotes and skunks and opossums! Those are the animals we see in Overlook--plus a few deer (every now and then) and lots of marvelous birds

We live in an area with good habitat: close to the Willamette River, wooded bluffs, lots of trees, diverse and many organic gardens and yards. So it shouldn't surprise us when we see a Pacific Tree Frog or a Snowy Owl, but it inevitably does. Wildlife abounds in North Portland and Overlook.

We need to share the wonder and appreciation of our wildlife sightings with each other. Therefore, I'm starting a new column for the Overlook Views that will record wildlife sightings for all to read. If you spot an unusual animal or bird, let us know! Note the date, time of day, general location (not a specific house address) and name of the animal, bird, amphibian or even unusual insect. Your wildlife sightings will be printed in Overlook Views to be shared with your neighbors. Instead of an annual backyard bird count, we'll be conducting a quarterly wildlife report!

Please send me your sightings (or questions) to greenacres@overlookneighborhood. org. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Sustainable Overlook By Mulysa Melco

Edible Plant Sale Pre-order -

February 21 though March 31. Plant Pick Up - April 18th, 10am to 3pm. Create an abundant food forest in your yard or just add a few fun fruit and berry bushes to your landscape. Sustainable Overlook is holding a preorder plant sale with pick-up at a natural garden-

ing info fair. Order from a selection of hardy fruit trees, berry bushes and fruiting vines, plus veggie and herb starts and seeds. Offerings will include apples, persimmons, blueberries, rhubarb, kiwi and much more! All the plants are locally grown and are organic and/or Salmon Safe Certified. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Sustainable Overlook's neighborhood outreach projects.

Order forms will be available on our website starting February 21. Pick up your plant order on Saturday, April 18th

and check out our spring info fair with natural gardening resources from Metro, co-sponsor North Portland Food Not Lawns and more. Urban Plants Walk with Rewild Portland -

May 3. See the our neighborhood flora in a new way as Rewild Portland's Sarah Hill interprets the weeds and wild plants along our bluff and around the neighborhood. Rewild Portland aims to recon-

Save The Oak Savanna Campaign Underway By Chrystal Smith

Friends of Overlook Bluff (FOOB) has begun the "Save the Oak Savanna" Campaign and is asking for support from all Overlook residents. FOOB must raise nearly \$500,000 to ensure that the privately owned site in the 3900 block of N. Overlook Terrace becomes a public natural area and is not developed. This money must be raised to match the Metro Nature in Neighborhoods grant by the end of 2015.

If you don't know about the Overlook Oak Savanna (or Oak Meadow as it is popularly called), you should – it's a special area that is home to a Heritage Oregon White Oak estimated to be 200 years old. This magnificent tree provides inspiration and solace to visitors, shelters a wide variety of wildlife and insects, promotes biodiversity, and helps clean our air.

Friends of Overlook Bluff and its many volunteers have removed invasive species and restored native vegetation in the meadow and on the bluff. They will continue as stewards of the land, which will be owned by Portland Parks and Recreation for use by all, not just those who move into the houses that will without a doubt be built there if FOOB's campaign does not succeed.

Hand-managed plots of native plants, interpretive signs, and opportunities for environmental education will be highlights of the site if FOOB is successful. If not, development is inevitable and an irreplaceable natural asset in our neighborhood will be lost forever.

Metro, Port of Portland, and East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District have com-

nect people with the ancestral skills and knowledge we were all once rooted in, and by doing so spur regeneration for the land, community and self. Sustainable Overlook Garden Tour - June 6. For our fourth annual garden tour we're teaming up with Trillium School's Garden program to tour their rooftop school garden and several neighbor-

> hood gardens. All the sites showcase organic methods. The tour will be walkable and bikefriendly and will feature gardening demos and information at each site. A \$5 suggested donation benefits the Pesticide-free Overlook project. Look for details on our website in May. Want to nominate a garden to be on the tour? Email sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org

Yard Sale & FreeShare - July 18-19 Mark your calendar for this fun annual neigh-

borhood event. Over fifty households around the neighborhood participate in selling items on Saturday and can give away remaining items on Sunday if they choose. It's a great opportunity to get rid of clutter in your house, reduce waste in our landfills and help find a new home for usable home and garden items, clothing, toys, books, furniture and more!

mitted \$368,000. Concerned individuals have pledged nearly \$14,000 already. Appeals are being made to foundations, businesses, and individuals. WE NEED YOUR HELP – IT'S TIME FOR OVERLOOK RESIDENTS TO SHOW THEIR SUPPORT! Pledge online at www.overlookbluff. org/pledge or complete a pledge when a volunteer comes to your door. Donate now by sending a check made payable to Kenton Action Plan/ Friends of Overlook Bluff to 3966 N. Overlook Terrace, Portland, OR 97227.

Visit FOOB on Facebook or at www.ovelookbluff.org to learn more. Share information about the campaign with friends and family; encourage them to donate. Ask your employer to donate. Volunteer to help with the fund drive. Contact FOOB at info@overlookbluff.org. Every bit of assistance helps - it's time to step up to save the Heritage Oak and the savanna!



Annual Overlook Neighborhood Cleanup

By Cynthia Sulaski

Saturday, April 25 10am – 12pm North end of Concord Street Pedestrian Bridge (just north of Going St.)

About 15 years ago Alan Cranna organized a large neighborhood cleanup in honor of Earth Day and kept it going for the next 14 years. Thank you Alan for your tireless efforts, they made a difference!

We're inviting you to join us on April 25th to keep our community tradition alive. You'll meet new neighbors, get some exercise, and help to beautify neglected parts of the neighborhood. We're pleased to announce that the Swan Island Business Association will partner with us to make our cleanup even more successful.

Bring work gloves and dress in layers. We'll supply refreshments. As added incentives, you'll receive an organic tomato start (until we run out) and the opportunity to bring any home items that are too big to put in your own garbage can. Yard debris and hazardous waste are however, prohibited. This event is sponsored by:

- Overlook Neighborhood Association
- Swan Island Business Association

Please RSVP to Cynthia Sulaski: greenacres@overlookneighborhood.org.





OnThe Grow

A Changing Overlook By Mary E. Skarie

Portland neighborhoods are changing rapidly and the Overlook Neighborhood is no exception. More than 100,000 people relocated to the city last year and apartments and townhouses are being built all over Portland to accommodate our population boom. Zoning regulations along Interstate Avenue allow for new housing development and Overlook's proximity to light rail and bus services makes it attractive for medium-density units with little to no car parking. While increased use of bicycles and public transportation will promote better urban air quality, many people living in apartments own cars as well, which can cause congested street parking in nearby residential neighborhoods.

My husband and I moved to Portland and the Overlook neighborhood three years ago, close to Interstate Avenue when zoning for new apartment complexes began. Although the economy was still sluggish when construction started, The Prescott (155 units, 107 parking slots, 85% occupancy) and the Corso (forty-six units, no parking), both on Interstate, have since been completed.

In the past year, some additional large-scale projects gained approval from the city's Bureau of Development Services. A sixty-three unit complex with sixteen parking spaces at 3711 North Overlook Boulevard recently broke ground adjacent to Overlook Park. A twenty-five unit complex sited in a largely vacant parking lot next to Blend Coffee Lounge at 2730 North Killingsworth Street has yet to get underway. No car parking is planned

Since October, three additional projects have been proposed and presented at the Overlook Neighborhood's general meeting. The first, located at 1532 North Blandena Street near the Plaid Pantry and adjacent to the Sabin Hydro Park, will be owneroccupied with eight units, parking and an eco-roof. The second will be situated on the vacant lot next to Pause, with twenty-five units, four stories and no parking. The third, located at 4620 North Maryland Street will replace an abandoned YMCA structure with forty-two units and ten parking slots.

Our neighborhood is part of the changing face of Portland and we all need to stay informed about these shifts and swirls. Plan to attend meetings on the third Tuesday every month from 6:30 to 8:30pm at the Kaiser Town Hall to get current news on land use and other themes important to our neighborhood. Stay tuned for the next newsletter, when I will provide an update on residential land use, and inform the neighborhood about construction on Swan Island and the Greenway spaces there, where people can bike and hike.

Swan Island Air Quality Forum By David Goodyke

The final meeting of the Swan Island-North Portland Air Quality meeting convened on December 3rd. Ultimately, the group fell short of its goal to create a work plan that seeks to achieve these goals: 1) Establish lines of commu-

nication between the community and industry, 2) Propose a mechanism to make changes and get results toward improv-

ing air quality, and 3) Establish a framework for gathering and evaluating data and adapting as necessary. Despite not having a work plan with all members signing on in support, there are on-going efforts and successes.

The first success and ongoing effort is DEQ's North Portland Air Monitoring Project, which began intensive monitoring of Swan Island air quality and local meteorological conditions on November 1st. The testing will continue through November 1, 2015, and after approximately 6 months of analysis, DEQ will reach out to group members (including the Overlook Neighborhood Association) to present the results. As a reminder, the DEQ is also undertaking parallel nuisance odor investigation of the same area for the same duration. Investigators come out weekly to check for odors. However, with the new meteorological data, it is helpful to DEQ to receive reports from you telling the time, location, and nature of odor

so, "Smell it and tell it!" You can use the DEQ on-line reporting tool: www.deq.state.or.us/complaints/dcomplaint.aspx.

Another ongoing effort is the draft IMPACT 2020 proposal. Forum members Sarah Angell of the Swan Island Business Association and Mary Peveto of Neighbors for Clean Air created this

blueprint for a six-year, districtbased partnership between community and industry to resolve conflicts in the Portland Metro complaints/dcomplaint.aspx area. They propose incentives

> and regulations to promote sustainable business practices and mitigate the impacts of industrial practices. This ambitious concept would expand the conversation from Swan Island Industry to a broader set of contributors including industry throughout the Metro region, diesel emissions from rail and freight, residential wood burning, and emissions from congested roads and freeways Sarah and Mary have agreed to a follow-up meeting with Metro counselor Sam Chase to strategize about opportunities to move these ideas forward.

Finally, with general acknowledgement that some thoughtful conversations had taken place over the last year, the group agreed that the final task is to conclude, evaluate, and summarize the effort of our forum. If I receive a summary in the future, I will share it with the Overlook Neighborhood Association. I am happy to have represented our neighborhood and sincerely hope these efforts will to lead healthier and more pleasing air!

Real Estate Recap By Emily Ordas

Overlook had a incredibly strong finish in the last quarter of 2014. Since the 3rd quarter's newsletter, Overlook has seen 25 closed transactions on residential detached homes. Of those 25 closed houses, 15 sold for \$400,000 or higher. The average home price rose in our neighborhood from \$389,688 to \$419,667 between the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2014. This is a 7.69% increase. The average number of days on the market for 4th quarter in Overlook came in at 28.

Smell It & Tell It!

www.deq.state.or.us/

The greater Portland Metro had a strong end to 2014. The 2,239 closings stood 25.6% higher than the 1,782 closings we saw in December 2013 and 15.6% higher than the 1,937 closings posted just last month. This was the best December for closings in the Portland metro area since 2005, when there were 2,536! Not surprisingly, prices were higher in 2014 than in 2013. The average price in 2014 was \$333,000, up 7.2% from 2013 when the average was \$310,600. In the same comparison, the median also rose 7.7% from \$265,000 in 2013 to \$285,500 during 2014.

Sa Et Beds & List Daign Sald Days on

*All listings and data sourced from Regional Multiple Listing Service by Emily Ordas, licensed Realtor at PDX Urban Real Estate.

Address	Sq Ft	Beds & Baths	List Price	Sold Price	Days on the market
1618 N Prescott St	1574	3 / 2	\$250,000	\$245,000	60
1815 N Humboldt St	824	2 / 1	\$235,000	251,000	2
4227 N Massachusetts	1752	4 / 1	\$258,900	\$261,777	8
5656 N Wilbur Ave	2088	3/2	\$309,900	\$300,400	30
2322 N Webster St	3024	5/2	350000	320000	25
5205 N Gay Ave	1556	2 / 1	\$339,900	\$325,000	5
1916 N Emerson St	1716	2 / 1	\$341,000	\$341,000	8
3860 N Melrose Dr	1781	3/2	\$385,000	\$350,000	8
1541 N Humboldt St	2216	2 / 1	\$349,900	\$352,000	3
2206 N Willamette Blvd	2159	2/3	\$374,900	\$367,500	44
1901 N Willamette Blvd	2650	4 / 1.1	\$400,000	\$400,000	3
1804 N Webster St	2548	4 / 1.1	\$409,900	\$402,500	7
2506 N Ainsworth St	2414	4/2	\$399,000	\$405,000	58
3735 N Overlook Blvd	2452	2/2	\$339,000	\$405,000	3
1835 N Humboldt St	2149	3/2	\$429,900	\$440,000	5
5324 N Maryland Ave	2939	5/3	\$475,000	\$470,000	17
2047 N Sumner St	2698	3/2	\$489,900	\$500,000	5
1827 N Jessup St	2380	4/3	\$539,000	\$500,000	33
5626 N Wilbur Ave	2526	4 / 2.1	\$549,900	\$540,000	152
2017 N Skidmore Ter	2904	3/2	\$549,000	\$549,000	4
1909 N Skidmore St	3310	6 / 4	\$549,000	\$549,000	100
3937 N Massachusetts	2672	3/2	\$540,000	\$550,000	2
3835 N Massachusetts	2553	3/2	\$530,000	\$550,000	4
5711 N Omaha Ave	2526	4 / 2.1	\$559,900	\$550,000	53
4114 N Longview Ave	2600	5/3	\$567,500	\$567,500	25



The Historic Overlook House On Melrose Drive

Summer Is Ice Cream Social Season

Save the date on Sunday, August 2, 2015 from 6:00—8:00pm for the Ice Cream Social. This is Overlook House's end of summer treat! Come join us for this Overlook tradition started by Elvira Raven, the founding resident of the Overlook House. Extra helping hands are always needed for this event and if you can volunteer please contact the events committee: overlookhouseevents@gmail.com with "Ice Cream Social" in the subject line. We need all sorts of help and every event is unique thanks to your contributions!

December 2014 Santa Visit

The Overlook House dressed up for the holidays this winter. A wreath on the front door, garland across the fireplace mantle, and other decorations throughout lent to the holiday spirit. Santa and his elves brought their holiday cheer arriving on a fire truck on Sunday, December 7, 2014 as they joined the children of Overlook for face painting, fun, crafts, and more.

Kids brought their letters to Santa and handed them off to the big man himself. If your child will be old enough to visit with Santa next Christmas, let us know what would make this event special for your family. Santa enjoyed his visit with several neighbors at the Overlook House. He assured us he looks forward to stopping by again next year. If you missed his visit this year, know that besides a fun time there was an opportunity for having a

Stay Connected!

For up-to-the-minute information about the Overlook Neighborhood happenings, go to www.overlookneighborhood.org and enter your email address on the home page to join our mailing list.

Overlook Neighborhood Association (OKNA) 2209 N Schofield St 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

where to go?

OKNA Board Meetings

1st Tuesday Monthly 6:30 – 8:30pm Overlook House 3839 N Melrose Dr

OKNA General Meetings

3rd Tuesday Monthly 6:30pm – 8:30pm Kaiser Town Hall Corner of Interstate & Overlook Blvd

who to call?

Police Non-Emergency 503-823-3333

Abandoned Auto 24hr Hotline 503-823-7309

Crime Prevention
Coordinator

Patrick Owen 503-823-4094

picture taken with Santa. Hope you will join us next year! Thank you to Kathy and Mike Murphy for organizing and taking pictures, Marsha Parks, Greg Dufour, Marcella McGee, and all the volunteers, Fire Station 24 for delivering Santa and his elf, the fantastic face painter, and an especially big Thank You to Santa!

#3

HippityHop...

Saturday, April 4th, 2015

Do you believe in the Easter Bunny? Well, he believes in Easter and he sure hopes you'll come to his Eggstravaganza: the special Easter Egg Hunt for young children at Overlook House! Save the date for the Eggstravaganza at the Overlook House Saturday, April 4, 2015. Bring the kids, bring their baskets and bonnets and let them discover hundreds of Easter Bunny eggs filled with tiny treats and treasures. The shiny golden eggs have special prizes! The Eggstravaganza takes place rain or shine April 4, 2015 promptly at 10:30am. Be sure to mark your calendar for this fun annual tradition sponsored by the Friends of Overlook House for the neighborhood kids. Free, with contributions gratefully



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Want To Be A Reporter?

accepted.

Now is your chance! We are looking for contributors to Overlook Views. Pitch your idea and you might just get featured! Want to write but need some inspiration? We always have topics that

need covering. Email Dayan at views@overlookneighborhood.org
The Editorial Team wants you to be a part of Overlook Views. Bring your ideas, suggestions, and your enthusiasm to our monthly meeting. Editorial meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 7:00pm - 8:00pm. The locations change so make sure to email views@overlookneighborhood.org to receive updates.

Have Something To Say?

Submit a short item to info@overlook-neighborhood.org with 'Post to List' in the subject line. All submissions subject to review/editing. Can't wait? 'Like'us on Facebook: OKNAinPDX and share your thoughts immediately. Business neighbors:, your commercial postings are welcome. Contribute your photos, letters, articles and information: views@overlookneighborhood.org.

By submitting content to Overlook Views, you are granting its Editor(s) the right, in their sole discretion, to review, edit and or modify your submissions.

Yoga Classes At Overlook House

Hatha yoga classes are offered at the Overlook House on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:30pm. Beginner to experienced, all are welcome. Outdoor classes when whether permits! Want more information? Email instructor Ruth Oclander directly at ruth. oclander@gmail.com. Overlook-House Neighborhood Discount! Overlook House is a great location for celebrating that special birthday, family reunion, memorial gathering, anniversary, or other lifetime event! Are you getting ready to celebrate a graduation, business or social meeting? Did you know neighborhood residents receive discounts on Overlook House rentals? There are a few limitations: One application per

Overlook House Programs

household per year and proof of your Over-

look residency. Not available May-October

weekends and other limitations may apply.

Do you have ideas for classes or events? Please let Michelle know; she would love to hear from you! Contact information: coordinator@historicoverlookhouse.org and also check www.facebook.com/historicoverlookhouse or for general information

www.historicoverlookhouse.org

If you are interested in renting Overlook House for any upcoming event, please contact Michelle at 503-208-7312 or coordinator@ historicoverlookhouse.org to set up a tour appointment, or for additional details and available dates.

How Can I Help?

There are many opportunities to contribute to your neighborhood; have you thought of volunteering at the Overlook House? There are many fun events, projects and activities where your help energies would be welcomed! Would you like to teach a class, serve on a committee or help at and event or in the garden? If you are interested in sharing your time and skills, please email coordinator Michelle or, if you want to volunteer to assist with one of the annual events you should write to overlookhouseevents@gmail.com and list the name of the event in the subject line.

2014-2015 Board Members

Mitch Bixby, Alan Cranna (Vice-Chair), Dannielle Herman (Chair), Kent Hoddick (Secretary), Leslee Lewis, Tamara Maher (Treasurer), Ben Meyer, Dayan Morgan-Sylvaen, Mary Skarie, George Spaulding, Cynthia Sulaski

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