



Overlook Views

Spring 2016

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Portland Oregon
www.overlookneighborhood.org

Homeless Camps in Overlook

By Chris Trejbal

The homeless camps near N Greeley and N Interstate Avenues are undergoing changes, and the Overlook Neighborhood Association continues to work with neighbors, nonprofits and campers to learn more and to seek to engage with the city on the best course forward.

In mid-January, City of Portland officials asked many campers to leave the site. The number of homeless people camping there had swelled to several dozen as the Forgotten Realms camp joined the original Hazelnut Grove.

Mayor Charlie Hale's office chose to allow Hazelnut Grove to remain but not Forgotten Realms. Some of the displaced campers set up a new camp in the Boise Neighborhood near Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

Passersby on Greeley will see that the camp now has a fence surrounding it. It will delineate where Hazelnut Grove residents may camp and enable them to prevent new camps from setting up where Forgotten Realms was. The city also directed campers to remove structures from the slide-prone bluff.

The mayor's office says it will issue a permit for Hazelnut Grove to continue to exist on the site. It had not released the details or a draft in time for this issue of Overlook Views.

The Overlook Neighborhood Association Board continues to try to work with the city to

include reasonable restrictions in the permit.

The mayor's office also has announced that the city will tolerate camping on many city-owned lands. Such camps must have four or fewer people and not create an active nuisance, leave garbage or engage in criminal behavior.

The OKNA board is consulting an attorney in the neighborhood on legal options and is working with other Portland neighborhoods as well as service providers to better understand how to proceed. City officials and homeless advocates working with Hazelnut Grove have said that they want the Hazelnut Grove in Overlook to serve as a model for camps in every Portland neighborhood.

Neighborhood residents who wish to share their thoughts about homeless camping can reach the OKNA board at info@overlookneighborhood.org. Check the OKNA weekly email (send an email to the same address to subscribe)

or the OKNA website (overlookneighborhood.org) for updates.

Let Mayor Hales know what you think

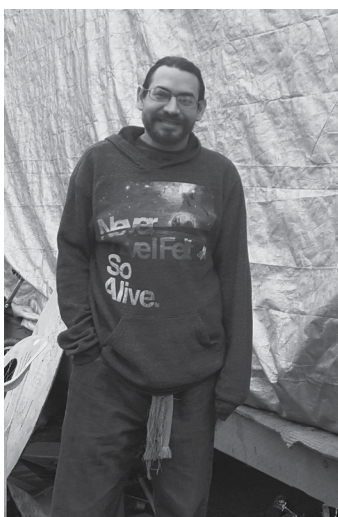
The city has set up "one point of contact" for people who have concerns about homeless camping. Anyone experiencing issues should complete the reporting form online at portlandoregon.gov/campsite. Users must first create a City of Portland account. A city staff member will work with an intern in the mayor's office to review reports submitted through the form. They will seek to identify problem sites, determine whether they are on city-owned or privately-owned

land, and then to share information with the mayor's office, appropriate city bureaus and others to alert them to any problems.

Residents witnessing potential criminal or other dangerous activity can always contact Portland Police by calling the non-emergency number at 503-823-3333 or, in case of an emergency, 911.



photo's taken by Merideth Boe



Meet RavenWolf Schmick Justice, one of the spokespersons for Hazelnut Grove



Attend our Feb 16th General Meeting

- Parking questions will be answered
- Presentations followed by Q & A by: Grant Morehead – PBOT Parking SAC Committee
- Jay Rogers – Special Projects Coordinator
- Mark Freidman (or Designee) – Parking Enforcement
- Coming Up in March
- Presentations from Local North Portland Shelters and Transition Projects

To keep up to date on Agenda's and Meeting times follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/OKNAinPDX or sign-up for the weekly email at <http://www.overlookneighborhood.org/>

"Back over the summer all I wanted was a fence to keep the needles and garbage that was collecting from entering the garden property and ports potties so our disabled elderly vets could go to the bathroom a lot easier without trekking up a hill to Kaiser. I felt that if ODOT could not manage their land properly then give us the land and we will do it for them. I started that movement late May early June. I am and have been an active volunteer at Greeley garden for over a year now. It was because of my involvement at the garden that gave me the opportunity to stay when ODOT swept us in late may. So I was not going to let anyone or thing hurt our garden. This is the best it has looked in 6 going on 7 years that is has been here. So yeah, I'm out to protect my safety".

Lack of Affordable Housing and Homelessness in Portland

by Shannon Singleton, Join Executive Director, and Marc Jolin, A Home for Everyone Initiative Director

There has been a homelessness and affordable housing crisis in our community for years. According to our biannual point-in-time count, the number of people experiencing homelessness has remained relatively unchanged since 2013

with 1,880 people sleeping on the streets and an additional 2,000 sleeping in emergency and transitional housing. But the population has become more vulnerable. We've seen a 15% increase in the number of unsheltered women, a 48% increase in

unsheltered African American single adults and a 24% increase in unsheltered families.

In an effort to respond to this crisis as effectively as possible, Portland and Gresham, along with Multnomah County, created A Home for Everyone. Over the past year, this collaboration of stakeholders from government, non-profit, business, and faith identified strategies in housing, employment, health care and shelter aimed at reducing the unmet need for permanent housing in our community by 50% over the next three years, and from there eliminating the remainder of the unmet need. You can learn more at www.ahomeforeveryone.net.

As rents continued to increase, reports of mass evictions increased, and middle-income households felt the impact of our difficult rental market, the City of Portland, following the example of the Community Alliance of Tenants, declared a housing state of emergency. With this came funding commitments from both the City of Portland and Multnomah County to invest an additional \$30 million dollars in the ending homelessness work of A Home for Everyone. But government can't solve this crisis by itself. There

needs to be community involvement of all kinds.

You may be asking, "What can I do?" You can get involved by doing drives for items like socks, hygiene supplies, blankets and cold weather gear for outreach providers like JOIN (www.joinpdx.org). You can work with local shelters to volunteer and bring food or volunteer for a shift at one of the severe weather shelters by contacting Transition Projects (lauren.holt@tprojects.org) or day center programs like JOIN's. You can engage in advocacy and

policy through groups like the Welcome Home Coalition (welcomehomecoalition.org), which is seeking a dedicated funding source for the development of affordable housing. You can connect with programs seeking to match low-income tenants with affordable housing options for your accessory dwelling units or mother in law units.

If you own rental property, consider contacting JOIN's landlord recruitment and retention program (lrrp@joinpdx.org) to support our neighbors' transitions back inside.

There is amazing work happening in our community and homelessness is ended every day. Agencies like Janus Youth, Transition Projects, Central City Concern, Human Solutions, and Cascadia, to name a few, are working to support our neighbors transitions back into housing. Challenges for our community include: more people continue to slip into homelessness, access to mental health and addictions treatment is challenging, rents continue to increase, and wages are stagnant. Yet we can remain hopeful and committed and all pitch in because it truly does take a community to end homelessness.



photo from www.endhomelessness.org



You're Invited - Friends of Patton Square Park Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, March 2, at 5pm at IFCC to begin planning for a small addition to the playground and to discuss other issues affecting the park. Please RSVP at greenacres@Overlook-Neighborhood.org. We're dedicated to caring for Overlook's little gem of a park.



The Overlook Neighborhood Association, in partnership with Viva La Free, has won a \$2,000 grant for our Community Mural Project from the North Portland Neighborhood Services Grant Review Committee. The grant will help cover labor costs associated with working with youth to create and promote the project.

Layna Lewis — an artist, activist and founder of Viva La Free — will supervise and instruct a youth team, teaching them comprehensive skills through experiential learning. For two years she has brought a weekly art group to Portland's only safe house for sex-trafficked and sexually exploited children. Creatively processing difficult emotions empowers survivors to self-determine their own healing. Currently two youths are working on this project with more to join.

The mural project will be completed in late summer. It will beautify the Overlook neighborhood, spotlighting our history and many beautiful green spaces while also generating positive public attention to Viva La Free's work. Over the next few months we will continue to raise funding and begin the design process. We looking forward to keeping you updated on the project's success.



New Year-New Grant Cycle!

Strong small businesses are essential to a vibrant community. Lester Viles North Portland Project Association provides micro-grants for small businesses and community organizations in North Portland — Application Deadline is April 30, 2016. lvnpa.org for application and grant guidelines

Preparing Together with Fire Station #24

By Josh Cabot

On Saturday January 9th, a group of neighbors visited with our local Fire Station #24. The meeting with Captain Corey Wilson was designed to further coordinate our efforts in preparation for a large scale disaster, such as a Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake. This meeting, organized by Overlook's Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET), included people from Overlook as well as from other neighborhoods within Station 24's service area, including Humboldt and Boise-Eliot.



photos from <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/fire/article/56417>

Together we learned that in the event of a large scale disaster, 24's first priority will be to leave the station and drive the perimeter of their coverage area, which extends from the Fremont Bridge up to Ainsworth Street, and from MLK Blvd on the eastern edge extending westward to the Wil-

lamette River, including all of Swan Island. Their goal is to accomplish this circuit in 30 minutes, using only major streets, in an effort to assess damage and help them prioritize their responses across the area.

Captain Wilson stressed that this initial drive-around will mean that they may not be able to respond to each emergency along the way. With only 6 members and two primary vehicles, Station 24 will do its best to follow up on what they see as quickly as they can, but the reality is they will probably not have the ability to respond to everyone in a timely manner following a large disaster.

With this in mind, it seems imperative that we prepare as a neighborhood together so that we can rely on each other in what could be a very challenging aftermath. Our city's emergency responders will likely be stretched too thin to provide immediate service. Overlook NET

has a huge role to play in providing local support, including: setting up rendezvous points at Overlook Park, Beach School, Patton Park, and the N Omaha Avenue Parkway; providing triage and as much treatment to injured residents as our collective resources

allow; reestablishing lines of communication with emergency responders and government authorities; and sending out parties to identify potential threats and areas of need across Overlook.

It's important to point out that Overlook NET is currently only a small band of dedicated neighbors that are focused on becoming as prepared as we can. NET can use your help, no matter what



photo from <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/fire>

kind of skills you have. A coordinated community response needs a community, and the more diverse and wide-ranging the better. Of course, there is also much you can do within your own home, street, and block to become more self-reliant in the face of an emergency.

If you're ready to learn more about how Overlook NET is organized and real steps you can take to prepare yourself, please mark Saturday February 20 on your calendar for Overlook's Resilience Summit to be held at Beach Elementary School in the Auditorium, from 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. We would love it if you let us know you might be able to join us, visit www.sustainableoverlook.net/summit and sign up online, or e-mail us at sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org. You can also reach Overlook NET at overlookprepares@gmail.com.

Anyone can join Overlook NET's Facebook page too: <https://www.facebook.com/OverlookNET/>. We keep it updated with trainings, workshops and fun (yes FUN) events related to disaster resiliency.

The Portland Police Bureau's Gang Enforcement Team (GET) Actually has 5 different teams.

1. Uniform afternoon shift gang enforcement team, which has 13 officers and 2 sergeants
2. Detective unit, day shift, 6 detectives and 1 sergeant
3. Investigative unit, day shift, 8 officers and 1 sergeant
4. Gun Task Force, day shift, 4 officers
5. Metro Gang Task Force, FBI task force, 5 officers, 2 special agents, 1 sergeant

These units all work in concert with each other to solve gang specific crime. The majority of what these units work on are measure 11 crimes. The team responded to 193 gang violence incidents (GVRT) last year to conduct investigations on, these investigations are all measure 11 crimes, consisting of assault and attempted murder investigations. Additionally, our investigative units work on proactive enforcement, attempting to interdict criminal gang activity as it is happening. For instance, they will conduct enterprise drug trafficking cases or human trafficking cases.

The Gun Task Force officers work primarily on cases involving crime guns. They will conduct proactive investigations as well as follow up on cases that involved a firearm used in a crime in the City.

Our afternoon shift are all uniform officers working gang interdiction on the street every night. They have a lot of contact daily with folks and get to know most of our people and families that are gang impacted. Oftentimes they are the first responders to our GVRT incidents and deal with the crime scene. In 2015, we saw the most GVRT incidents that we had seen since we began recording those numbers, the typical number we see per year is around 100.



Lt. Mike Krantz

- Tactical Operations Division
- Gang Enforcement Team
- Gun Task Force
- Metro Gang Task Force

449 NE Emerson Street
Portland, Oregon 97211
(503) 823-4881 – Office
(503) 793-3750 – Cell

RESILIENCE SUMMIT

PREPARE, CONNECT, ADAPT

Speakers

Featuring Allison Pyrch, a geotechnical engineer featured in last year's *Unprepared* documentary shown on OPB, along with first responders, local leaders, and NET volunteers

Demos

Real world tips and steps to help prepare your home, such as building a bug-out bag, connecting with neighbors to map your street, and communicating following a disaster

BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1710 N Humboldt St, Portland, Oregon 97217

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20

10am - 3pm

Free Event! Everyone is welcome, whether you're an individual or a family. CATERED lunch by local restaurant *New American* available at reduced cost.

Keynote Presentation by Allison Pyrch:
Surviving a 9.0: Lessons from Japan and Beyond

Allison Pyrch is a local geotechnical engineer who travelled with a technical team to Chile in 2010 and Japan in 2011 after the major earthquakes and tsunamis in those countries. Her presentation focuses on the effects of those earthquakes and the damage we can expect here in the Pacific Northwest when a similar quake event occurs. She has a host of lessons learned in those communities to share, some of which she discussed in last year's OPB documentary, *Unprepared*.

Pyrch's presentation will be followed by a panel discussion looking at the question of earthquake preparedness from various points on the scale of response: local government, neighborhood fire station, neighborhood volunteer team, block volunteer and individual home. The panel will be followed by lunch (for sale or byo), workshops, tables of information and opportunities to learn more and get involved. Learn more and register at sustainableoverlook.org/summit.

Beach School is now a

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

GEAR UP

FOR COLLEGE

College Ahead” Program Participant

Beach K8 School was one of 14 Portland Public Schools chosen in spring of 2015 to participate in the GEAR UP College Ahead Program. This seven-year grant, funded by the United States Department of Education provides mentoring and tutoring support to about 1,700 students and families to help students graduate from high school and continue to postsecondary education. This grant is designed to follow a group of students starting in their middle school through high school years; allowing GEAR UP to give support to our present sixth graders through their high school years.

At Beach, an important part of the program involves having college students from Concordia University, Portland State University, and Portland Community College mentor our Beach Middle School students each week. These mentors were often previously students themselves at Beach School. GEAR UP also supports visits to Oregon colleges and universities. In November, Beach eighth graders were taken on a tour of Oregon State University. During this tour, students visited different buildings on campus including the Engineering buildings, Valley Library, and Memorial Union. They participated in a classroom activity where they were first given a lesson on wind power as a source of alternative energy. They then competed against each other in a wind turbine design competition. The students were even able to get a taste of campus life by having lunch in

the McNary Dining Hall using a card loaded with Dining Dollars to choose from one of the many food options. A component of this program ensures that parents will also be highly involved and supported. Some of these supports include informational events that will help families and students prepare for postsecondary opportunities, information on obtaining financial aid, assistance with the paperwork that comes with applying for college and financial aid, and even an additional field trip to universities. This GEAR UP program also coordinates and facilitates professional development for the teachers in these 14 schools and the high schools the children will transfer to in a few years. Teachers will be given the tools and strategies needed to teach students to take on more rigorous courses in high school and then in college. Over the summer of 2015, a Beach teacher was able to participate in a Transformative Data Inquiry Project Fellowship that was a collaboration between GEAR UP at Portland Public Schools and Portland State University. This fellowship focused on using data to address barriers to college, start the conversation early on steps towards college, and develop skills in working with families by conducting home visits. Beach is excited to be a part of the GEAR UP program and to continue supporting our middle school students through their high school and postsecondary education!

If the BIG ONE

happens and you are separated from your loved ones, how do you communicate? Not with cell phones, regular phones, texting or email since all will likely be down or overloaded and not usable. Power will certainly be out. Satellite phones MAY be an option although they may be prohibitively expensive and even these are subject to overloaded circuits. As in all disasters where normal communication methods are disrupted, radio is often the only option.



For us regular citizens, there are two radio options: FRS/GMRS radios and amateur (ham) radios. FRS/GMRS (Family Radio Service/General Mobile Radio Service) are those small, handheld radios sold at Costco, Fredies or other retail outlets. They usually come two radios to a blister pack and retail for less than \$80. Despite claims of huge distances on the packaging, these radios generally have a range of 1-2

Earthquake Retrofit Wrap Up

By Leslee Lewis
The December 5 Home Earthquake Retrofit workshops were terrific and super informative. At the two workshops, a total of 27 households came and learned the basics of bolting a house to its foundation. Steve Gemmell from Earthquake Tech demonstrated the techniques, and gave us an idea of how to assess whether a foundation is solid enough to handle the method. He also showed us and explained the workings of a Seismically Activated Emergency Gas Shut Off Valve (SAEGSOV). Steve also made three offers:

1. A neighborhood discount on installing the SAEGSOV. 10 households have signed up to have Steve's company install the valves for the discounted price of \$450 for the valve and installation (discounted from the normal price of \$550). We are pulling together another group for this installation - let us know if you want to be part of that group! Email Sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org
2. Steve also offered to purchase for us - at his professional discount - a set of tools for installing the brackets that are used for this kind of retrofit. We're in the process of buying a set of tools, so anyone who is trained and willing to tackle that project for their own home can borrow the tools. We're in the process of pricing and acquiring a set.
3. Lastly, Steve offered to get us the brackets used at his professional discount.

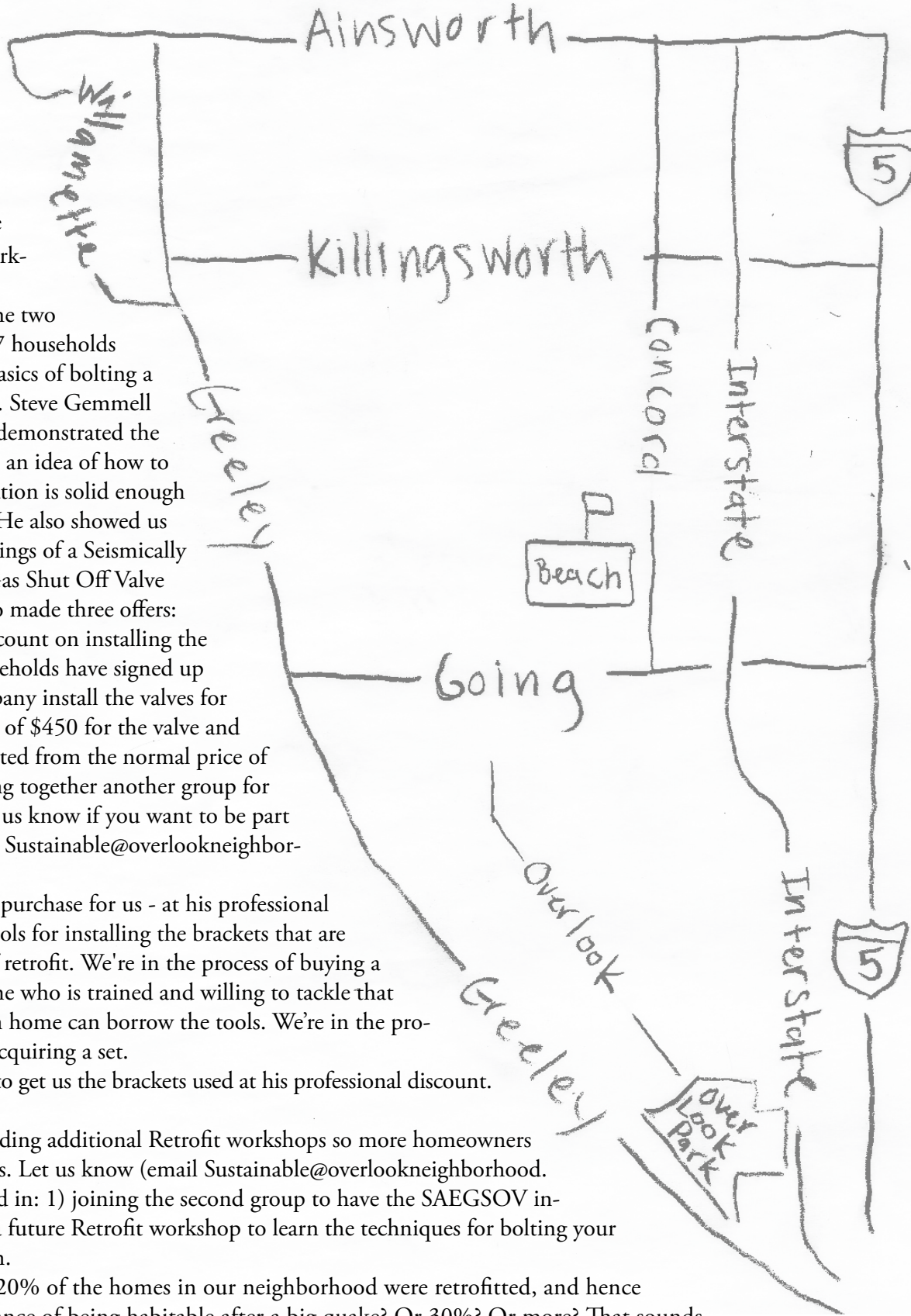
We look forward to holding additional Retrofit workshops so more homeowners can learn the techniques. Let us know (email Sustainable@overlookneighborhood.org) if you are interested in: 1) joining the second group to have the SAEGSOV installed or 2) attending a future Retrofit workshop to learn the techniques for bolting your house to the foundation. Can you imagine if 20% of the homes in our neighborhood were retrofitted, and hence had a much greater chance of being habitable after a big quake? Or 30%? Or more? That sounds to Sustainable Overlook and our Overlook Neighborhood Emergency Team like a really positive step forward in preparedness!



Bracket used to bolt a home to it's foundation



Seismically Activated Emergency Gas Shut Off Valve



miles in an urban/suburban setting. Another area of claims is the number of channels. These radios should have 22 basic channels. Any number of channels beyond 22 are usually variations built on top of the basic 22. Channels 1 through 14 are the license free, anyone can use, FRS channels. If you have a GMRS license, you can use higher power on Channels 17 and have exclusive access to Channels 1522. (Channels 8-14 are for low power only.) The GMRS license has no exam but does require a \$65 fee to the FCC for a 5 year license. The license applies to everyone in your family. So, if it is likely that your loved ones will be less than 2 miles away, FRS/GMRS radios may be a good solution.

A few caveats. Remember to agree on a particular channel (do not pick channel 1 as it is reserved for emergencies), keep the radios charged up and have a spare set of batteries. It is a good idea to practice using the radios and to test for desired range ahead of time. Another consideration is that there are lots of people with these radios so there may be lots of interference. It may take patience to get through. For communication beyond the reach of FRS/GMRS, amateur/ham radio is the other option. Amateur radio has been the mainstay of emergency communication for years, through tornados, hurricanes, landslides and earthquakes. Through having a wide variety of frequencies, modes and power levels, hams can communicate across town, around the state or throughout the country. Changes to the amateur regulations over the years have made ham radio much more accessible to us average citizens. The entry level

ham radio license does require a 35 question exam, however it no longer requires knowledge of Morse Code. There are many online study resources and several local in person classes. Radio prices have also come down dramatically. A good, basic handheld radio starts at \$50-70 with accessories. Most people interested in emergency communication start with a handheld. Hand helds are able to communicate around the metro area via many available repeaters (radios on surrounding high elevations). And the portability of hand helds make them great for take anywhere, all the time convenience.

All Portland NETs (Neighborhood Emergency Teams) use FRS/GMRS radios to communicate within the team. Overlook NET uses Channel 5. If you happen to already own a FRS/GMRS radio, please join us practicing on Channel 5 as we travel to our monthly team meetings. Feel free to contact me with questions. John K7TY, Overlook NET, k7ty@arrl.net



the little one

Real Estate Recap

Compared to our 26 closings in the third quarter of 2015, we only posted 14 closings this quarter. Inventory has been quite low, which makes this market a challenging environment for buyers. Bidding wars are par for the course for properly priced homes. Overlook in particular is incredibly popular. It's common for inventory to dip during the fall / winter, but it's a little unusual that the demand did not also slow. It's been a very active time for buyers. Interest rates are still low, and people are flocking to this city. Upward pressure on prices continues due to this strong demand, and low supply. And it doesn't look to be slowing down any time soon...

For the numbers people: The highest sold price point was \$640,000 while the lowest was \$345,000. Average List Price came in at \$439,471. Average sold Price \$462,057. Average days on the market was 8. Sold to list ratio 105%. Have a lovely Spring. I'll check back with you in the Summer. Emily Ordas Real Estate Broker PDX Urban Real Estate 503-267-4946 www.emilyordas.com. Your referrals are truly appreciated!

Overlook Neighborhood Sold Listings 4th Quarter of 2015

Address	Sq Ft	Beds/ Bath	List Price	Sold Price	Days on the Market
4931 N Denver Ave	960	3 / 1.1	\$350,000	\$350,000	11
4206 N Montana Ave	1810	3 / 1	\$379,900	\$365,000	16
1520 N Alberta St	1694	2 / 1.1	\$369,900	\$369,900	5
1521 N Humboldt St	1820	2 / 1	\$389,900	\$389,900	17
651 N Boston Ave	1856	3 / 1	\$419,000	\$420,000	5
2426 N Webster St	1860	2 / 1	\$387,000	\$425,000	3
4914 N Maryland Ave	2440	3 / 1	\$360,000	\$430,000	4
5316 N Greeley Ave	2959	5 / 2.1	\$425,000	\$445,000	7
1726 N Willamette Blvd	1872	3 / 2	\$389,900	\$450,000	5
2214 N Willamette Blvd	1980	3 / 2	\$485,000	\$485,000	7
1712 N Church St	2939	3 / 3	\$529,000	\$529,000	15
2005 N Webster St	2401	4 / 2	\$499,000	\$575,000	4
2105 N Skidmore Ter	2402	4 / 2	\$550,000	\$600,000	6
3966 N Overlook Ter	2678	5 / 3	\$619,000	\$640,000	10

**All data sourced from RMLS*



Smartypants is the new art studio and sensory play space for children 1-10

years old. Our focus is on the process and play of creating art. We strive to expose kids (and their grown-ups) to the joy of creativity through opened ended art projects, large scale messy art, and quality art classes. With lots of different stations and ever-changing art projects, we are sure to have something for every budding young artist. From a rainbow rice pit to sit in, a wall you can paint on, slime and playdough to wiggle your fingers in, and just the right amount of glitter (lots!) in our creative-free-for-all corner. We keep our shelves stocked with art supplies, and our stations ready with project ideas....you just bring the creativity! <http://www.smartypantspx.com>



Firelight Yoga Anniversary It's been one year already! On January 3, 2015, we opened our doors to the community for the practice of yoga and to support healthy lifestyles. Thanks to YOU, and the rest of the community, we not only survived our first year, we supported each other and literally changed lives! It's true. We hear it practically every day. We will continue to support local charities and be involved in the community wherever we can. We look forward to many more years of growth and happiness together! <http://www.firelightyogapdx.com>

We are looking for contributors for OvelookViews. Send us your ideas and suggestions

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

Overlook

By Rob James

Fifty Years Ago: a Serial

Overlook Views is featuring a serial of tales of Overlook written by former resident, Rob James

There was a family-run hamburger stand on the corner of Interstate Ave. and Mason St. and it was a frequent lunch spot for us. It was owned by the family of a friend of mine and I thought that was pretty cool. Hamburgers were 25 cents, fries were a nickel. They also owned the hobby shop still located on Interstate Ave. just north of Prescott St. Nearby, on the corner of Interstate and Prescott, was an ice cream shop called 24 Flavors. During summer vacation it was part of my daily routine to buy a real "made from scratch" milkshake for 25 cents or splurge for a 35 cent chocolate malt. It was also the best place to buy the latest Superman or Army at War comic for 10 cents.

This was the time before the I-5 freeway was built and Interstate Ave. was the main artery between Portland and Vancouver. During rush hour, it would literally be a parking lot and climbing over the bumpers of cars to cross the street was a common practice.



Rob James 1967 in front of his house

GET AN EARLY START

It's Tax Time Again – FREE – AARP/ Tax Aide

This FREE program will again be doing taxes at two locations in our community. Both sites are walk in sites meaning that you cannot make an appointment beforehand.

There is no charge and it is for low to middle income people. All returns are electronically filed and both the federal and state forms will be completed. For other sites and times please call 1-888-227-7669

Free Tax Prep

North Portland Library

512 N Killingsworth.

Thursdays 12:30pm - 4:30pm

February 4th - April 12th

Peace Lutheran Church

2201 N Rosa Parks Way

Tuesdays 9:00am - 12:30pm

February 2nd - April 12th.

Please bring your Picture ID, SS Card, W-2's, 1099's, SS Statement, Health Coverage Statement, etc along with a copy of last years' taxes.

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



Annual Overlook Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday, April 30

10am – 12pm

North end of Concord Street

Pedestrian Bridge (just north of Going St.)

Mark your calendars now to join us on April 30th for our annual community cleanup. Meet new neighbors, get some exercise and help beautify neglected parts of the neighborhood. The Swan Island Business Association will partner with us, adding to our numbers and results. Bring work gloves, dress down and in layers. We'll supply refreshments and two more incentives. Participants will receive an organic tomato start (until we run out) and the opportunity to throw into our dumpster any home items that are too big to put in your own garbage can and aren't recyclable or reusable. (Yard debris and hazardous waste will not be accepted.) This event is sponsored by:

- Metro
- Overlook Neighborhood Association
- Swan Island Business Association

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



Do you ever go outside in the morning and smell an oily, or chemical smell? It's pollution and it's not okay.

Smell It & Tell It!

www.deq.state.or.us/complaints/dcomplaint.aspx



Friends of Overlook House 10th Anniversary Celebration and Fundraiser

Join the Friends of Overlook House to "Spring into the Next Decade" on Friday, April 22, from 6-9pm. This special event marks ten years since the Friends assumed management and promotion for the unique community center of Overlook House. The celebration will feature delicious food and drink, entertainment, and a "fun"draiser to kick off their second decade. Save the date and watch for more details in the coming months!



Easterific Egg Hunt Recap!

Little candy fans greeted the tallest Easter Bunny ever at the 2015 Eggstravaganza - the annual Friends of Overlook House Easter Egg Hunt, held this past April 4th. The rain just barely held off as 3-to-6-year-olds ran madly, finding nearly 2000 filled eggs, toys, balloons and treats. Toddlers 2-and-under started on the far back lawn to find age-appropriate treats and toys. It's a toss-up whether the 75 or so children or their parents and grandparents had more fun! Many thanks to Kathy Murphy for organizing this well-loved annual event, and to volunteers Mary Ellen Baldauff, Carol Cushman, Annette Dieker, Greg Du Four, Jane Finch-Howell, Jay Hunt, Marcella McGee, Mike Murphy and Marsha Parks. Additional thanks to the generous Overlook parents and grandparents whose contributions help fund next year's hunt. Put the date on your family calendar now: Saturday, March 26th, 2016 – it's always the day before Easter at 10:30am sharp.



Santa 2015 Recap

by Merideth Boe

"We can't be late because Santa is never late" That's why I told my kids to hurry up and get their Dino boots on. Last year we were late. This year he came to Overlook on a fire truck!

It's first come, first to be on the list! The list to see Santa that is. After putting our name on the list to see Santa, past the kitchen down the hall, we headed for the cookies. Then, in my sugar rush I somehow became separated from my family and later found them at the arts and crafts table upstairs. Of course, we also did some coloring in the sun room.

We didn't have time for face paint but they did go fishing and left there with some real keepers. With so much to do, I was worried about missing our name being called, but one of the elves said they will let you go next in line if that happens. I had a lovely time and I won't soon forget but if I do at least I took some pictures. See ya at Easter.



Yoga with Maneena & Ruth

by Merideth Boe

I have been reading the Overlook Views for 9 years now and as a neighbor I knew about the free yoga. Well...its free the first time then its nice to leave a small donation. Either way I had never made over there until now.

The instructors are Maneena Douglas on Mondays and Ruth Oclander on Wednesdays. It's one hour starting at 5:30pm. Beginners are welcome. That's me. There is a well lit staircase (outside of the house) that goes to the basement. Like the entrance from "Cheers." but your going to yoga class.

Soft sounds of zen, check. Working string of Christmas lights, check. Space heater, check. Flameless flickers? I'm not sure. There *is* a cabinet with blankets, yoga blocks, and belts. Come to think of it, mats might even be provided too,

Um..ROSS had some yoga mats for sale on a clearance table. I was motivated to buy a new one because of the leaving pain felt from days before. "I will keep the pain alive" I'd say to myself aloud. "There is nothing wrong with your old yoga mat". I'd argue. Aloud.

I wish I hadn't opened it in the car before class. I call it "The headache smell" was everywhere. Sorry everyone. A 24 hour "air out period" for a new yoga mat seems so obvious now.

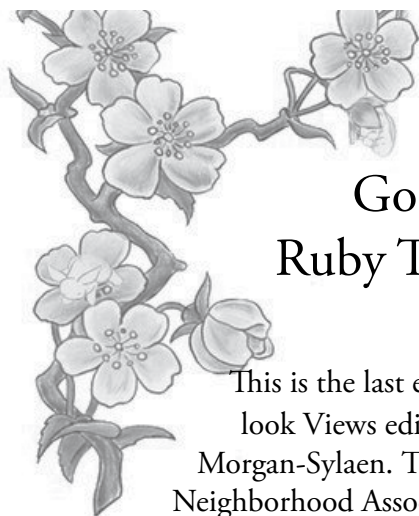
Of the 5 or so sessions I've been to they weren't too crowded. 4-5 people on average and that's good because it's not a huge space. I'm betting the classes get bigger in the Summertime because they are held on the lawn. I liked it, I would recommend it to my friends and you are my friends. So try it if you enjoy no cost commitment, no fills, and laid back classes.

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 weather permits! Want more information? Email instructor Ruth Oclander directly at ruth.oclander@gmail.com.

Don't forget your Mums.

May 8th



Goodbye Ruby Tuesday

This is the last edition of Overlook Views edited by Dayan Morgan-Sylen. The Overlook Neighborhood Association Board will miss her smiles and her hard work putting together our quarterly newspaper. Knowing that she loves a good haiku, we offer this thanks:

When the call went out
that Overlook Neighborhood
sought a new wordsmith,

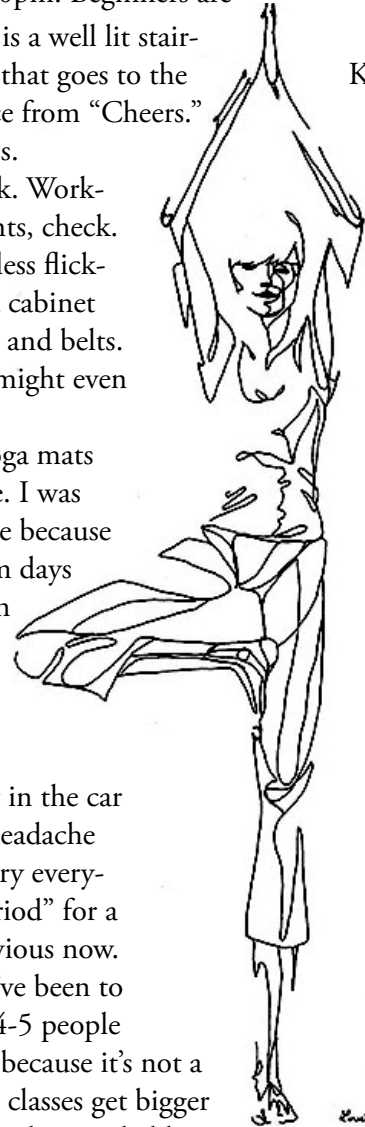
Dayan came forward.
She took on the tough job that
no one else wanted.

With her hair glowing
in myriad colors, she
delivered the news.

Movies in the park,
parties, socials and home sales
kept us all informed.

The best of all, though,
Was the fun she brought under
the deadline pressure.

Thank you for sharing
your editing gift with your
Overlook neighbors.



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 household per year and proof of your Overlook residency. Not available May-October weekends and other limitations may apply.

Business Directory

Want your business included? Send us your contact info, a few words about your company, and you'll be listed. It's that easy!

Have you always wanted to try Acupuncture? Now you can. Acu Pop-Up comes to you.
jenward@beingelemental.com

Bellmoore Realty LLC - 5520 N. Interstate Avenue - 503-922-2206 - BellmooreRealty.com - Sandy@BellmooreRealty.com

Katie Guinn is an artist and apparel designer. She specializes in bespoke garments and commissioned portraits. She creates hand painted textiles and original prints for the eclectic artistic dressers of the world. www.katieguinn.com-infokatieguinn@gmail.com-@katie_guinn_studio

Firelight Yoga - 1475 N Killingsworth St - 503-972-1987 - www.firelightyogapdx.com - holly@firelightyogapdx.com

inspiration, exploration and mess making for young artists. www.smartypantspdx.com

Get It Straight Organizing & Events 971-258-2050 www.getitstraightorganizing.com

GreenSky Collective - 4027 N Interstate Ave - 503-208-9775 – greenskycollective.com

Interstate Dental Clinic - 5835 N Interstate Ave 503-285-5307 Drwardinterstatedental.com

Investments for Developing Communities - lisa@idcempowers.org - 971-400-2181 - idcempowers.org. Lisa Whitridge's non-profit provides education assistance and enrichment to local under served school children.

Chris Lazarus Associates LLC - 503-867-1370 - chris@chrislazarus.com. Chris Lazarus is a writer, publicist, photographer and marketing consultant.

Tamara Maher – 503-285-1294 - www.tamaramaherlaw.com - tamara@tamaramaherlaw.com

Metropolitan Design Studio – 503-867-5615 - www.mds-architecture.com – jeremy@mds-architecture.com.

New American Restaurant – 2103 N Killingsworth St-971-229-0570 - newamericanpdx.com.

Emily Ordas - PDX Urban Real Estate - 503-267-4946 - www.emilyordas.com

Sirena Pictures – dreamscopepix@hotmail.com - 503-890-9304.

United Advantage NW FCU – 1430 N Killingsworth St – uanw.org as a local credit union that recently become open to the public.


Young Design Studio LLC, Architecture and Interiors - youngdesignstudio@gmail.com - 971-222-5629 - www.youngdesignstudio.com

Crows Foot Construction LLC. CCB# 202888 MatthewBoe.crowsfootconstruction@gmail.com

Rick Willworth, new owner since sept. 1 of Hobbies Unlimited. We have many hobby products and parts such as R/C Planes, cars, 4x4's, dirt racers, boats, and a good selection of quadcopter drones. Come see out expanding model Railroad

section, as well as plastic models and science kits. We strive to beat all prices. on 4503 N. Interstate, 503-287-4090.


The Speakeasy is a quarterly forum for businesses to share information, resources and services. Whether generating new business, sharing ideas, or just getting to know other entrepreneurs, the Speakeasy has become a rewarding resource for Overlook. Interested in joining us for the next Speakeasy? Mark your calendar for our next meeting on Wednesday January 6 at 6pm, the place has yet to be determined. Please email us at youngdesignstudio@gmail.com if you plan to attend. The event is open to everyone who wants to promote their business in the Overlook Neighborhood.



HippityHop...

Saturday, March 26

The Easter Bunny is already busy planning his annual, early morning visit to Overlook House: Bring your basket and discover the hundreds of eggs containing treats and the many other treasures he will leave there. Find a shining Golden Egg and turn it in for a special prize! The Eggstravaganza takes place on Saturday, March 26, promptly at 10:30 a.m., rain or shine. Hop on down to this free popular event sponsored by the Friends of Overlook House for neighborhood children!



where to go?

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

OKNA General Meetings
No December Meeting
3rd Tuesday Monthly 6:30-8:30pm
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
Mary Tompkins, 503-823-4764, mary.tompkins@portlandoregon.gov .

Mark Wells, Neighborhood Watch and Foot Patrol
503-823-5532
mark.wells@portlandoregon.gov

This issue was produced thanks to the financial support of our business neighbor Daimler Trucks North America. Thank you!



History of May Day Baskets

As the blog Old Fashioned Living describes it: Handing out May Day baskets is a charming and gentle activity for children and adults. It's a tradition that Louisa May Alcott wrote of in "Jack and Jill" (Chapter 18): "The job now in hand was May baskets, for it was the custom of the children to hang them on the doors of their friends the night before May-day; and the girls had agreed to supply baskets if the boys would hunt for flowers, much the harder task of the two. Jill had more leisure as well as taste and skill than the other girls, so she amused herself with making a goodly store of pretty baskets of all shapes, sizes, and colors, quite confident that they would be filled, though not a flower had shown its head except a few hardy dandelions, and here and there a small cluster of saxifrage." (a type of herb called Greater Burnet) *from <http://www.edinahistoricalsociety.org/blog/celebrate-history-with-may-day-basket-tradition>*

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.

Have something to say? Submit a short item to info@OverlookNeighborhood.org with 'Post to List' in the subject line. All submissions subject to review/editing.

Can't wait? 'Like' us on Facebook: OKNA in PDX and share your thoughts immediately.

Business neighbors:
your commercial postings are welcome.

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

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!

2015-2016 Board Members

Mitch Bixby, Alan Cranna (Vice-Chair), Danielle Herman (Chair), Kent Hoddick (Secretary), Tamara Maher (Treasurer), Leslee Lewis, Mike Shea, Chris Trejbal, Dayan Morgan-Sylvaen, George Spaulding, Cynthia Sulaski
Content Editors- Dayan Morgan-Sylvaen, Julia Hakes, & layout design-Merideth Boe



Overlook Views is published 4 times per year by the Overlook Neighborhood Association (OKNA). This paper is 40% post-consumer waste content. Please recycle!