



Overlook Views

Winter 2017

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Portland, Oregon
overlookneighborhood.org

If you'd like to be better informed about what's going on in Overlook and Portland, sign up for our weekly email update by contacting info@overlookneighborhood.org. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chris Trejbal at chair@overlookneighborhood.org.



OKNA Will Build on a Successful Year

by Dannielle Herman and Chris Trejbal

Dannielle Herman was chair of the Overlook Neighborhood Association 2014-16. Chris Trejbal became chair in September.

We're very excited about the year ahead for the Overlook Neighborhood Association. Our excellent leadership team is returning with only minor changes in titles. Thanks to all of them for continuing to serve. We also welcome a new addition to the board, Gabriele Hayden, who was elected at our September general meeting.

We and the rest of the board will continue to remain on top of things that affect the quality of life in Overlook and provide opportunities for residents to have fun, learn about the neighborhood, and engage with each other. To those ends, we will continue to host events such as the upcoming Holiday Party as well as our regular meetings.

We don't want to host meetings for meetings sake, though. You might have noticed we cancelled the October OKNA general meeting. With no pressing business, a break was in order. The Nov. 15 general meeting, on the other hand, is shaping up to be very informative. We're still finalizing the full agenda, but we expect to have several developers working on projects in the neighborhood who will present their projects and answer questions from residents.

Meanwhile, the neighborhood will continue to engage with stakeholders on things that matter to residents such as traffic, neighborhood cleanup and homelessness. OKNA is widely regarded as one of the best, most active neighborhood associations in the city because our residents are engaged in making sure that we remain the neighborhood with a heart.



Help clean up Going Street on Dec. 4

Join your Overlook neighbors on Sunday, Dec. 4, noon-2 p.m. for a quick site cleanup on the north side of Going Street west of the Concord

pedestrian bridge. We will bag trash and move large debris to the side of the road for pickup. This will help restore the natural area for the winter season so that it can blossom come spring.

It takes all of us working together to keep Overlook beautiful. Going is an important bicycle and vehicle transportation corridor that serves as the gateway to the neighborhood for many people. Let's not leave it looking trashed. Bring heavy work gloves if you have them.

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

Smell It & Tell It!



www.deq.state.or.us/

complaints/dcomplaint.aspx

Highlights of the past year include:

- Held multiple community forum meetings on issues affecting Overlook: Homelessness, renters rights, air quality, development along Interstate and public safety.
- **Neighborhood cleanups:**
 - * Earth Day Cleanup – Neighborhood volunteers removed 1.17 tons of waste from Overlook.
 - * Fall Cleanup in partnership with SOLVE and Love PDX – Keep it Green, Keep it Clean picking up litter along N Killingsworth Street.
 - * Continued monthly clean-up efforts by the OKNA Livability Team: removing posters for poles, cleaning graffiti, picking up litter from neighborhood streets and up N. Interstate Ave.
 - * To get involved with future cleanups email livability@overlookneighborhood.org
- Delivered the Overlook Views to approximately 3,500 households and businesses each quarter.
Interested in writing an article? Email views@overlookneighborhood.org.
- Weekly neighborhood update emailed to 425 subscribers with information on upcoming community events, city council hearings, and projects happening in and around Overlook. Sign up by emailing info@overlookneighborhood.org.
- Maintained neighborhood website at overlookneighborhood.org
- Organized Movie in the Park and raised more than \$600 for two family shelters: Community of Hope in St. Johns and Portland Homeless Family Solutions.
- Organized the annual Overlook Yard Sale / Free Share.
- Sustainable Overlook presented a Fall Film series on community resiliency and sustainable gardening practices.
- Overlook Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) and Sustainable Overlook put on a Resilience Summit that provided information and resources to help residents prepare for a major earthquake or other catastrophe.
- Sustainable Overlook held workshops on carbon footprints and energy conservation.
- OKNA hosted a booth at the Organic Brewfest at Overlook Park to increase community awareness and meet more of our neighbors.
- OKNA represented neighbors in discussions with Mayor Charlie Hales' office about Hazelnut Grove and other homeless camps within Overlook.
- Members of the Homeless Task Force gave presentations to several neighborhood and business association groups in an effort to increase community involvement, work towards community minded solutions and to hold the mayor's office accountable to all residents.

OKNA seeks a volunteer editor to oversee publication of Overlook Views, our print newspaper distributed throughout the neighborhood. This is an excellent opportunity for someone with a sense for news to give back to the neighborhood and gain valuable experience as part of a news gathering and design team. Anyone interested should contact the OKNA board at info@overlookneighborhood.org.

“There’s No Place Like Home” Event a Success

by Cynthia Sulaski



More than 500 neighbors came out to enjoy a lovely evening watching the “Wizard of Oz” together in Overlook Park on Sunday, September 4. It was a joy to see kids who came dressed as Dorothy, the Tin Man and even Toto!

While kids climbed walls and got their faces painted, OKNA ran a fundraiser to benefit two homeless family shelters. Thanks to all who purchased tickets. In total, you raised \$1,300 that was evenly divided and given to Community of Hope and Portland Homeless Families Solutions (PHFS).

In response, Linda Jo Devlaeminck from Community of Hope wrote: “Your support helps us pay staff so they can encourage, celebrate with, commiserate with and hold accountable our women clients as they live and grow here. Thanks so much for your help.” And Brandi

Tuck from PHFS told me: “We are so grateful for your support and partnership to bring in \$650. This goes a long way at PHFS to make some families get back into shelter.”

And in turn, we call out the following generous local businesses that donated prizes for our ten raffle packages:

- Blooming Moon Wellness Spa
- Eddie's Flat Iron Pizza
- Eisenhower Bagelhouse
- Firelight Yoga
- Garagiste Wine Bar
- Lovely's Fifty Fifty
- Lucky Labrador Brewing Co.
- Miho Izakaya
- Mississippi Pizza Pub
- New American
- New Seasons Market
- Oregon Children's Theatre

- Patton Maryland
- Pinky's Pizzeria
- Rhythm Bodyworks
- Smartypants
- Spoke & Vine
- The Old Gold

- Widmer Brothers Brewing

A special thanks to Autumn Webring and Teresa Perrin for helping me secure those donations; OKNA board members for selling raffle tickets; and Pat DiPrima-LeConche and Barb Brooks for helping at our booth.



ADOPT-A-NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY

DECEMBER 21ST

(LAST DAY FOR ITEM DROP OFF)



The holiday **Adopt-a-Neighbor Program** with REACH Community Development is preparing for it's 6th year. Team up with family members, co-workers or friends to expand the impact in your neighborhood. More information will be available in mid November.

6th Annual Adopt-A-Neighbor Program

Overlook neighbors have shown amazing selfless spirits the past 5 years and REACH Resident Services is anxious to get the ball rolling for the holidays. Families like those living at Patton Park Apartments (5272 N. Interstate) 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 (food, diapers, bus tickets), a sense of community and hope is restored. REACH Community Development's Patton Park Apartments is home to over 90 residents living below median income and therefore we are seeking Overlook neighbors who are interested in adopting a neighbor/neighbors for the holidays. If interested in adopting or for more information contact Patricia Haggerty, Resident Services Coordinator, at (503)546-1662 phaggerty@reachcdc.org.



The August Wilson Red Door Project Gives Portland Students A Shot At Broadway

by Katie Watkins

The August Wilson Red Door Project is thrilled to announce the re-launch of the August Wilson Monologue Competition, which gives Portland-area high school students, grades 10-12, the opportunity to perform monologues from African-American playwright August Wilson's plays and compete for a chance to win an all-expenses paid trip to New York City for the National Finals.

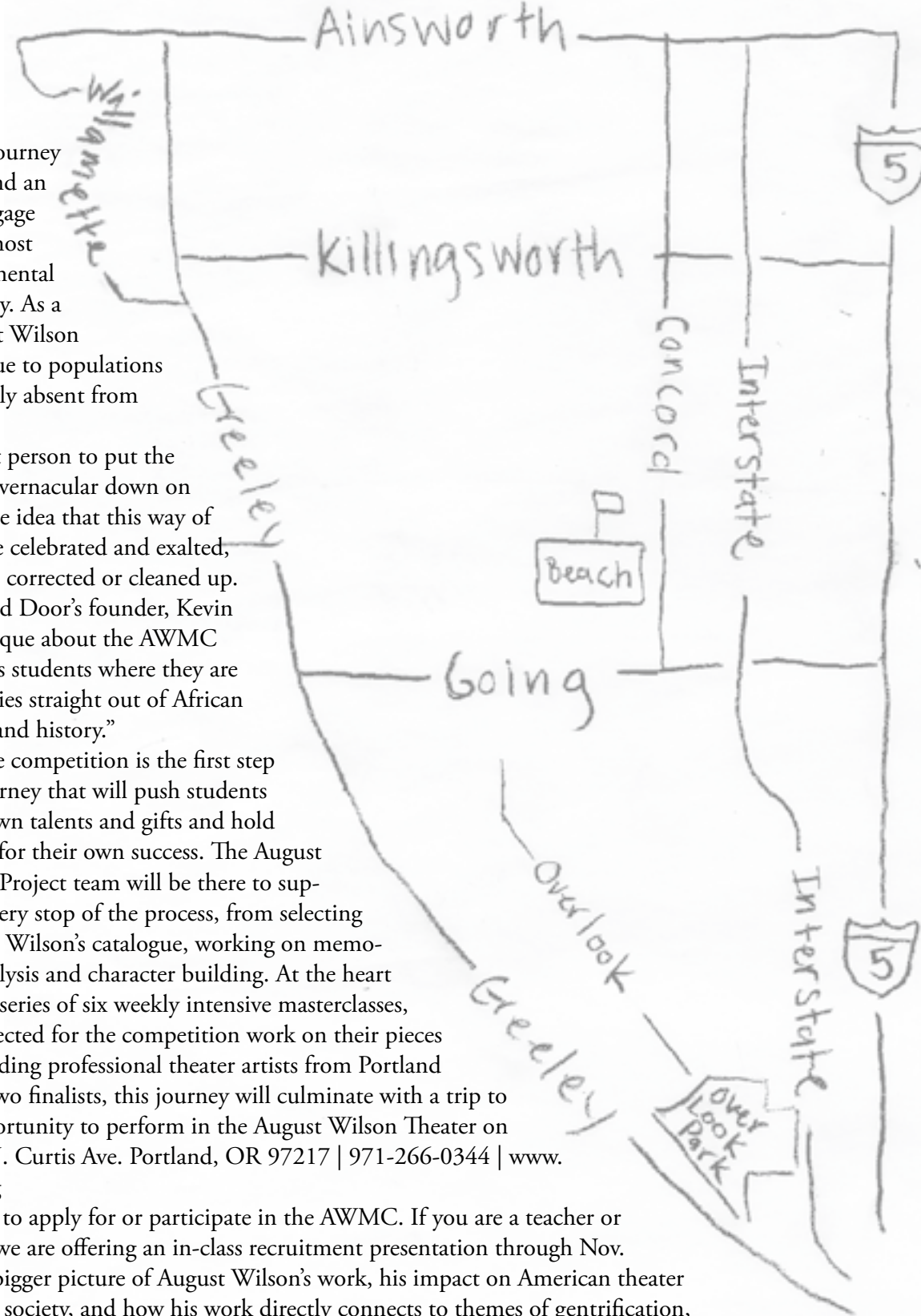
So much more than an acting competition, the AWMC is a transformational journey of self-discovery and an opportunity to engage directly with the most urgent and fundamental issues in our society. As a playwright, August Wilson gave voice and value to populations who were previously absent from American stages.

Wilson, the first person to put the African-American vernacular down on paper, put forth the idea that this way of speaking should be celebrated and exalted, instead of ignored, corrected or cleaned up. In the words of Red Door's founder, Kevin Jones, “What's unique about the AWMC program is it meets students where they are with powerful stories straight out of African American culture and history.”

Applying for the competition is the first step of a six-month journey that will push students to discover their own talents and gifts and hold them accountable for their own success. The August Wilson Red Door Project team will be there to support students at every stop of the process, from selecting a monologue from Wilson's catalogue, working on memorization, script analysis and character building. At the heart of completion is a series of six weekly intensive masterclasses, where students selected for the competition work on their pieces with help from leading professional theater artists from Portland and beyond. For two finalists, this journey will culminate with a trip to NYC and the opportunity to perform in the August Wilson Theater on Broadway. 6344 N. Curtis Ave. Portland, OR 97217 | 971-266-0344 | www.reddoorproject.org

There is no cost to apply for or participate in the AWMC. If you are a teacher or work with youth, we are offering an in-class recruitment presentation through Nov. 30, which gives a bigger picture of August Wilson's work, his impact on American theater and contemporary society, and how his work directly connects to themes of gentrification, incarceration and social justice that are so alive in our current times. While we are actively looking for students of color, we encourage students from all ethnicities, backgrounds and experience to apply online by November 30 at reddoorproject.org.

Founded in 2011, the August Wilson Red Door Project's mission is to change the racial ecology of Portland through the arts. Through our programs Hands Up!, a theatre production written by seven African-American playwrights in response to the police shootings in Ferguson and beyond, the August Wilson Monologue Competition, and diversity workshops, talkbacks, and equity training, the Red Door Project is founded on the belief that the right education, exposure, and support, everyone is capable of growing their capacity to create, to achieve, and to thrive. And this belief is our driving philosophy – the core of everything we do. 6344 N. Curtis Ave. Portland, OR 97217 | 971-266-0344 | www.reddoorproject.org For more information or media inquiries: Contact, Katie Watkins, Program Director, (971) 266-0344 or Katie@reddoorproject.org To schedule a workshop: Contact, Alonzo Chadwick, Outreach Coordinator, Alonzo@reddoorproject.org.



Key upcoming dates for the Monologue Competition include:

Application Deadline: November 30, 2016

Orientation: December 30, 2016

Preliminary Auditions: January 7

Callbacks: January 8

Master Classes: January 14, 21, 28 & February 4, 11, 18

Regional Finals: February 27

National Finals: April 28 - May 2

Overlook NET: The Year in Review

by Mitch Bixby

There's still so much to do in the world of preparedness in Portland, but the last year has definitely been a productive one for Overlook Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). Even while the number of officially trained NET volunteers is increasing slowly, the number of interested residents seems to keep going up. And we love that. We are always glad to have folks connected: no interest or contribution is too small, no question is unimportant.

Outreach -We had a good run in outreach this past year. The emergence of PortlandPrepares.org, a website for NETs across the city, marks a new milestone for citizen-based emergency preparation. Overlook NET now has an online calendar, and has posted a map of our staging areas. We've also included descriptions of each area. While these descriptions are still a bit basic, they do represent the most recent conversations about each area.

The combined Sustainable Overlook/Overlook NET summit in February was another success. Just over 100 people visited Beach School to gather ideas and insights about preparedness, and meet other concerned Portlanders. We heard from geotechnical engineer Allison Pyrch, and our local firefighters in the morning; the afternoon open house looked into using radios, public sanitation, freeze-dried food, and what one person's go-bag looks like. We are currently planning the next summit for February 2017, so watch this space!

Training - Both trained and untrained volunteers from Overlook participated in two Scenario Village exercises this year. These exercises are run by Portland Bureau of Emergency Management at the Police Bureau's training facility in East Portland. They are fast, loud, confusing, and extremely eye-opening. For these trainings, Overlook NET was welcomed into a collaboration with our neighbors to the east: Sabin, Boise-Eliot, and

Irvington. These new partnerships, coming on top of our strong relationship with Arbor Lodge and Kenton NETs, will be critically important should a major disaster occur.

Additionally, Sustainable Overlook hosted 2 workshops last December for folks wanting to seismically brace their homes. Nearly 20 homeowners participated, preparing the groundwork for a safer Overlook.

Materials - Starting in the fall, Overlook NET became involved in discussions with Metro. Their Paint Recycling Center, on Swan Island, recycles hundreds of 5-gallon buckets every month. These buckets will be invaluable as composting toilets, as demonstrated by New Zealanders during their

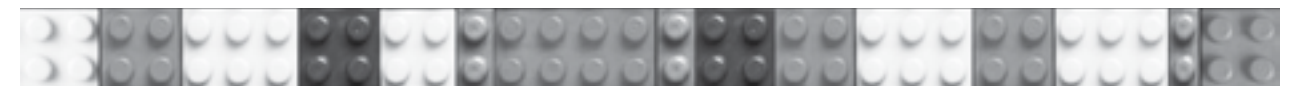
earthquake period. Incredibly, they are completely free for the taking: just ask! Distribution around Overlook and Arbor Lodge has already begun, and PCC Cascade just took ownership of 40 buckets for campus buildings. Drop us an email (overlookprepares@gmail.com) if you'd like some for yourself.

There is still much preparation to be done, but, as we look ahead to the next year, some key questions rise to the top: how do we help our renting residents feel prepared in a limited space? What other challenges do apartment/condo blocks present? How can we help those who are struggling to get through the day-to-day? How can we help our businesses make plans in advance, so they can get back on their feet? We continue to keep our ear to the ground for new solutions, and are anxious to hear from the community. As always, we can be reached at overlookprepares@gmail.com, or check our meeting schedule at portlandprepares.org. Stay safe....



Easy Care for Storm Drains

Your Overlook NET team asks you to check the gutters and storm drains adjacent to your property or business – before a heavy rain - and rake them clear before the rain hits! The city of Portland has information on how to easily and safely clear gutters and storm drains here: Your neighbors will thank you! <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/319801#D>



The Little Free Lego Library

by Amy Higgs

The Little Free Lego Library is something that my 9 yr-old son started in our neighborhood. At school, he was studying how toys are made and learning about all the waste. He decided he wanted to share his Legos with other kids and he came up with the idea of a little free library for Lego minifigures. The library, which Taz and I built together, opened earlier this summer and has daily visitors. The idea is to take a minifigure and leave another that someone else would like. It was posted on facebook and got 20,000 views in the first few days. Hundreds of minifigures have been traded, and visitors write notes in a little log. It seems to be the first Lego library. There is a steady drain of Legos from the library, which Taz works hard to replace - doing jobs to earn money for replacements. If you have any unloved Lego minifigures lying around and want to help Taz with the cause, you can find the library at a tree on Massachusetts Ave, a few houses North of Overlook Park.



Business Directory

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

Piano Tuning- Tom Levings, 503-285-2454, lvngs@comcast.net, www.levingstune.com
Discount for Overlook residents

North Portland CC is a community-based homeschool program for ages 4-12. Contact Calyn Hauck at nopocc@gmail.com for more info.

Paw Paw Pet Care focusing on personal service and exceptional care, we treat your beloved fur-balls like family. From daily dog walks to vacation pet sitting, we're here to make your life easier and your 4 legged best friends life happier! pawpawpdx.com pawpawpdx@gmail.com 503-877-4738

Piano Tuning- Tom Levings, 503-285-2454, lvngs@comcast.net, www.levingstune.com
Discount for Overlook residents

Tamara Maher – 503-285-1294 - www.tamara-maherlaw.com - tamara@tamaramaherlaw.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. 4503 N. Interstate, 503-287-4090.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Overlook

Fifty Years Ago: a serial

Overlook Views has been featuring a series of tales about Overlook written by former resident, Rob James. Look for all the stories in our Overlook Views Newsletter pdf's on our website views@overlookneighborhood.org.

Growing up in Overlook, biking was another big activity and generally safe as traffic through the neighborhood was typically light except of course, along Interstate Ave. However, in 1964, I paid the price for inattentiveness when I was hit broadside attempting to cross Interstate at Overlook Blvd. My sole head protection was my always dependable baseball cap but it proved ineffective as I was flipped in the air and fell head first into the car's windshield. I was lucky though, no broken bones but I was confined to Emanuel Hospital for a week undergoing observation. It was a week my mom would never forget.

For a time I helped deliver the Clark Community Press every Wednesday. It was a neighborhood newspaper consisting mostly of ads, coupons and uninteresting articles (from a kid's perspective) about local businesses and people. We were required to deliver it on every doorstep in order to get paid. Knowing that most people didn't want it, we would sneak up on the porch under the cloak of darkness, drop it and run. On one occasion, one "friendly" homeowner decided he had enough and he chased us down the steps, onto the sidewalk and hurled the paper back at us. It was all good fun!

Grade school transitioned into high school and college was not far behind. My circle of friends expanded, Overlook no longer was the focus of my domain but I always called it home. My sister and I still own the house we grew up in. For some reason I can't seem to let go of my connection to this place. I love seeing how the neighborhood has grown or hasn't grown over the years--perhaps matured is a better term.

Sure, Interstate Ave. has changed dramatically but the core within Overlook is still the same: beautiful quality homes, welcoming tree lined streets and best of all, great neighbors!



Rob James 1967 in front of his house

Dec 9th

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Daybreak Cohousing

2525 N Killingsworth St

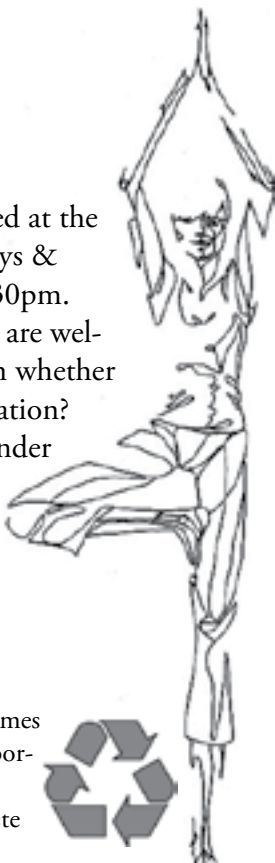
Friday, Dec. 9 from 6-8 p.m.

Come celebrate the Solstice, Hanukah, Christmas, Kwanza or whatever else fills your heart with cheer this time of year.

The long, dark nights of winter will start to shorten soon. Please bring a dish to share if you are able.

Yoga Classes At Overlook House

Hatha yoga classes are offered at the Overlook House on Mondays & 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.



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

Sustainable Overlook Fall Film Series Presents



Tuesday, November 22 at 7pm. Free!

Lucky Lab Tap Room,

1700 N. Killingsworth St.
Discussion afterwards.

Food and drink available for purchase.

The last film of our documentary series is about one family's exploration of our food system. "In a nation where one in 10 people is food insecure, the images they capture of squandered groceries are both shocking and strangely compelling." This award winning film has been called "Delicious entertainment – you'll never look at your fridge the same way again."

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

2016-2017 Board Members

Chris Trejbal (Chair), Alan Cranna (Vice-Chair), Dannielle Herman, Mitch Bixby, Kent Hoddick (Secretary), Leslee Lewis, Tamara Maher (Treasurer), Mike Shea, George Spaulding, Cynthia Sulaski, & Gabriele Hayden. **Layout design & editing** - Merideth Boe