



Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Winter 2008

From the President's Desk

The rainy and cold weather has returned. Sadly, it'll be months before we see each other on a regular basis on the playground, walking leisurely, watching a game or practice in Grant Park, standing around and talking (dry and not muddy) while dogs play, or sitting on our porches or stoops. Kids will grow, hairstyles will change, new neighbors will join our community before we reemerge from our hibernation in the spring.

During the winter and early spring, it can be hard to keep connected with neighbors and others we enjoy waving, greeting and smiling at as we walk around. If you're like me, venturing out with my family can be difficult, but, is necessary for sanity.

This holiday season, there will be choral and instrumental events held

at Grant High School and Cleary K-8. Unfortunately, we were unable to get a list of those events before we went to press.... but keep on the look out. They are a local treat that can be enjoyed by the entire family.

Also, this year the Grant Park Neighborhood Association will be hosting a holiday party on November 25 from 6:30 to 8:30, instead of a General meeting. Come and meet your neighbors! If you have any historical pictures of Grant Park, your home, the park, or the neighborhood, bring it and help us learn more about our neighborhood.

Hope everyone has a safe, healthy and happy holiday -

Elizabeth Beeghly,
GPNA President

We Need Your Help!

NEWSLETTERS

This newsletter is a vital part of our neighborhood communication. It is distributed only four times a year. The system is all in place, but we need a Coordinator. This is your opportunity.

We could also use some help with counting/bagging, dropping packets at homes or newsletter delivery. Delivering a newsletter route gives you a chance to get some exercise, say "hi" to neighbors. It only takes about 20 minutes. If you are able to help, please call Merryl Mix at 503-282-5446.

WEB SITE

Grant Park Neighborhood Association is looking for a web master. We need someone to manage the GPNA website, keep information and issues that are important to our neighborhood up-to-date, and to help all our neighbors to stay connected. Are you the person we need? Please call Kate Davenport at 503-288-3340 if you are interested.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Leaf Removal
- Neighborhood Memories
- Newsletter delivery
- GPNA web master
- Grow a Garden
- and more ...

Next General Meeting

November 25, 2008
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Grant Park Church
2728 N.E. 34th Ave.
(at Knott)

Childcare

Childcare will be available at the upcoming General Meeting of GPNA. Please email Grantpark@necoalition.org and give us the number and ages of the kids. We hope to see you at the meeting!

AGENDA

Meet your neighbors and share stories about our neighborhood

Future Meetings

(tentative)

November 25, 2008 (General)
January 6, 2009 (Board)
February 24, 2009 (General)
March --, 2009 (Board)
April 28, 2009 (General)

GPNA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Fall Leaf Removal 2008

The fall leaf removal program runs through mid-December 2008. Portland Street Maintenance crews perform limited leaf cleanup in areas with the high concentrations of mature street trees to help reduce slippery road conditions, increasing the safety of vehicles and pedestrians, and to reduce localized flooding caused by clogged drain inlets.

As in previous years, property owners are responsible for removing and disposing of fallen leaves on their property and from the sidewalks adjacent to their property.

The City asks all residents not to rake leaves into the street. Use your yard debris collection service, or take your leaves to the leaf depot sites for recycling for a nominal fee.

These depot sites will run through December 7, 2008 and are open on either Saturday or Sunday each weekend through Saturday, December 7, 2008. Go to the city of Portland web site for the 2008 Leaf Depot locations, times, dates, and fees. Schedule information will also be advertised in The Oregonian.

Neighborhood leaf removal service is provided in 17 neighborhoods with high concentrations of mature street trees, including Grant Park. Residents in the leaf removal neighborhoods will be notified in advance of their scheduled dates by a door hanger.

For more information go to the City of Portland Department of Transportation web site <http://www.portlandonline.com/TRANSPORTATION/index.cfm?c=47252> or contact the LEAFLINE at 503-823-1784, or call Judy Brown at 503-823-1778 or Tim Thrienen at 503-823-1750.

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Stormwater Drainage

Portland receives an average of 37 inches of annual precipitation, creating about 20 billion gallons of stormwater runoff per year that can cause flooding and erosion, destroy natural habitat, and contribute to combined sewer overflows. Storm drains, ditches, trash racks, and culverts all are prone to blockage, and leaves are the prime culprit in the fall.

How you can help

1. Use a rake or pitch fork to clear leaves and debris from catch basins so that water can drain.
2. Do not rake leaves into the street. Pile them on the curb in the parking strip.
3. For leaves that have already collected on the street, at least 10-12 inches from the curb, allowing water to flow without carrying the leaves with it.
4. When you see City crews out working, please slow down, especially if there is standing water.
5. Watch carefully for pedestrians and bicyclists, who may be in the street to avoid a flooded corner. Darkness limits everyone's visibility.

If you believe an emergency response is necessary, because you cannot clear your street drain, call Transportation Maintenance at 503-823-1700 to report the clogged catch basin.

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GRANT PARK CHURCH

A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO DISCOVER HOW MUCH GOD LOVES THEM. OUR MISSION IS TO BE A PLACE OF HOPE IN PORTLAND. ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT 11 A.M. CALL IF WE CAN BE OF SUPPORT ON YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY.

503-282-5596

GPNA School Closures

Remember as the holidays approach that there will be closures at our neighborhood schools. When schools are closed our kids are back out in the neighborhood and the park. They may even be on the school grounds but they will not be on the regular scghool schedule. Visibility can be poor so drive carefully and watch out.

No school November 24 - December 1
No school December 22- January 2

Family of Friends

Family of Friends is a Portland area program that matches volunteer families with children between 6 and 9 years old who are in need of additional caring, safe mentoring relationships. Family of Friends is designed to involve matched children in a supportive and encouraging family environment. The program is funded in part through a grant from the Portland Children's Investment Fund.

Mentoring families welcome a child into their life a few times a month for a year. The mentor child is included in the natural everyday activities of your family. Simply set another place at the table, buy an extra ticket to a movie or play a game together. It's that simple. You just live your life!

Your family becomes a mentoring family and a source of support while encouraging a child's positive growth and development.

Please contact Trillium's Family of Friends program at 503-813-7724. If you want to be a mentoring family, applications must be completed, references checked, training completed and a home visit conducted.



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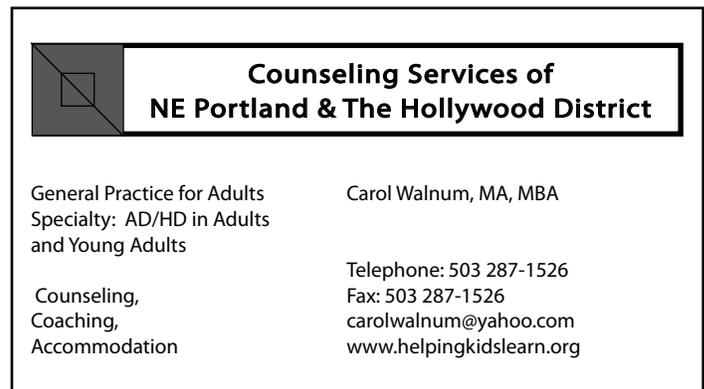
Grow a Garden Campaign

After months of planning, Fernwood campus will be breaking ground on Beverly Cleary School Learning Garden in January. The Garden will be for neighbors, school children, their parents and teachers to learn about science and nature in an outdoor classroom. The completed project will encompass raised beds, irrigation, gravel pathways, fence and gate, benches and tool shed with a green roof.

Some of the needed items:

- untreated Cedar 2" x 4" for raised beds
- someone to construct raise beds
- sand and gravel for pathways
- irrigation supplies and assistance with installation
- design and construct of a tool shed with green roof
- benches, fence and gate
- permeable pavers
- trees
- GRANT WRITING HELP

We know that our community has many neighbors, families and businesses that may be able to donate to the campaign. Please let us know if you can partner with us to source materials and talent to create a Beverly Cleary Learning Garden! Please contact Lynn Raube at lynnraube@integra.net



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Neighborhood Tree Planting!

Join the GPNA, in partnership with Friends of Trees, to plant street trees in Grant Park neighborhood.

Why Plant a Tree?

- Trees contribute to neighborhood livability, reducing noise and glare, and calming traffic.
- Houses on tree-lined streets are valued up to 20% higher than houses in other neighborhoods.
- Trees reduce the energy needed to heat and cool our homes by 15-35%.
- Trees help remove CO² from the atmosphere.
- Trees reducing stormwater runoff.

What will you get?

You'll get a city-approved tree 1.25" - 2" in diameter (6'-14' tall) for your parking strip for as little as \$70 per tree. You will also be get stakes, ties, and labels, as well as follow-up monitoring of your tree.

Participants are asked to help plant trees on planting day, or to participate in some other way. Trained volunteers will assist with digging and planting.

If you are interested, a form to get more information can be found at www.FriendsofTrees.org. Filling out the form does not obligate you to purchase a tree.

“Neighborhood Diaries” Project

An artist in Portland is beginning a new project titled “Neighborhood Diaries” that has to do with our neighborhoods, specifically the Buckman, Boise, Downtown, Northwest, and King/Vernon neighborhoods. He is recording the location-based memories of residents like you and me, and then making free “walking-tour” podcasts that guide listeners through these neighborhoods and communicate the rich, emotional history that make up our surroundings.

In order to do this, he needs people to (anonymously) volunteer their memories. He can meet people anywhere they would like to record their memories with his mobile recording rig as long as it is after 6 on weekdays, or anytime on the weekend. No memory is too small or too large, too short or too long.

Please take a moment to think about and share your experiences in and around your neighborhoods.

You can e-mail Abe at hoodturkey@gmail.com if you'd like to participate. To view this project go to <http://www.hoodturkey.com>

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