



# Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Fall 2009

## Our Community Investment Club

It is no secret that pending city-wide budget cuts will have a major impact on our neighborhoods and community programs and services. With a proposed 18% cut in city funding, the Neighborhoods Small Grants Program is one that will be discontinued. This program has offered direct funding for volunteer-driven community projects such as: gardens, helping seniors, tutoring, tree planting, community dialogues, etc.

In response, the Northeast Coalition is launching a new Community-Building Fund dedicated to continuing the Neighborhoods Small Grants Program and funding additional community impact programs. Your support will provide the on going funds needed to continue this program which has infused over \$25,000 annually into the community.

By donating \$29.00 to the Community Building Fund, you will become a member. Members receive a "Community Savings Card" yielding discounts at many local, regional and national participating businesses. Enjoy the card as often as you would like for an entire year. Check the site often since new merchants are constantly being added and discounts do change periodically. You will find discounts of 10% to 50%, free items, 2 for 1 offers and more!

### What types of projects will be funded?

Each year, a Small Grants Committee is formed by representatives from the inner North and Northeast Portland community to evaluate applications.

Funded projects include:

- **Blue Door Project**, a monthly service project to assist elderly, disabled, and single parents in single family households in the King Neighborhood.
- **The Portland Fruit Tree project** reaches out to residents in NE Portland to form neighborhood-based networks.
- **The Northeast Portland Tool Library** has a series of free workshops on home repair and improvement and gardening
- **Straightway Services Youth Program**. 120 kids learn to give back to their community through community service in a 12 week program.
- **Saturday with the Arts**. A multicultural outreach program that targets the under served youth living within the boundaries of NECN.

### Who is NECN?

The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, a 501c3 non-profit corporation, is dedicated to the livability of our inner North and Northeast neighborhoods serving as a district coalition representing twelve neighborhoods with over 60,000 households. Building livable communities since 1974.

### How can you become a member of the club?

Go to <http://www.fundaz.net/buyneecn.html> to sign up.

[www.grantpark-na.org](http://www.grantpark-na.org)

### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

**October 6, 2009**  
**Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Grant Park Church**  
**2728 N.E. 34th Ave.**  
**(at Knott)**

*Grant Park Neighborhood Association is open to ALL persons living within its boundaries. We invite all our neighbors to involve themselves in neighborhood affairs. If something prevents you from participating, please contact one of the Board members.*

### AGENDA

**Speakers will include the principals from Grant High School, Beverley Cleary, Fernwood and Hollyrood campuses; the US Census and RideConnection.**

### FUTURE MEETINGS

(tentative)

October 6, 2008 (General)  
November 3, 2009 (Board)  
December 1, 2008 (General)  
January 5, 2009 (Board)  
February 23, 2009 (General)  
March 30, 2009 (Board)  
May 4, 2009 (General)

### GPNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### President/Land Use:

Geoff Hyde 503-281-4097

#### Vice President:

Ron Laster 503-287-9566

#### Treasurer:

Merryl Mix 503-282-5446

#### Secretary:

Mary Cal Hanson 503-288-2878

#### Communications:

KC Davenport 503-288-3340

#### At Large:

Liz Alexander 503-331-1381

Cori Jacobs 503-281-6514

## Neighborhood Street Fair



Free lunch, free light bulbs, free prizes and more, opportunities galore to learn were available to everyone. "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" was the theme of a recent event hosted by Grant Park Church, Central Northeast Neighbors, Hollywood and the Grant Park Neighborhood Associations. Organizations from around Portland participated.

Generous neighbors, also brought bags of food throughout the day. In the end, 480 pounds of food were given to Northeast Emergency Food Bank. This will provide 30 families in need with a food box.

QFC, Trader Joe's, Whole Foods Market, and GPNA made generous contributions. Thanks to the 250 plus people who shared in the festivities.



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## The Neighborhood Clean-Up

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Grant Park Neighborhood Clean-Up on May 9th. There were over 90 households who participated in the event and we collected 9 tons of waste and 1.5 tons of yard debris! Thanks also to all of our fabulous volunteers including several students from Grant High School. And a special thanks to Northeast Conciliation of Neighborhoods for supporting the event through a reimbursement program.

## Grant Park Land Use Update

A Type I (no public hearing) land use application was filed last spring with the City of Portland requesting a partition of the property located at 2208 NE 28th Avenue into three lots at 8,500 sq ft; 7,540 sq ft and 8,227 sq ft. Many neighbors objected to the application based on its impact to the neighborhood.

The GPNA entered a letter into the record requesting that the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) consider the concerns of the neighbors in making their decision. On July 6, a decision in the favor of the petitioner allowed the partition. Since then a group of neighbors has filed an intent to appeal, now pending.

## Budget cuts at BDS

The Neighborhood Inspections Team (NIT) is losing funding for nuisance abatement, landlord trainings, and two Nuisance Inspectors. Nuisance abatement money has been used to clean up vacant, derelict and occupied properties. Lesser cases will probably simply be fined and liened, and the neighbors will have to put up with the eyesore. Response times on inspections will also be increased. Bad news for neighborhood livability.

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## TriMet Ends Program

TriMet, is facing \$30.5 million in budget cuts, and say they have no choice but to trim the \$472,770 Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods "Rider Advocates" program contract for the upcoming fiscal year. However City Commissioner Dan Saltzman and NECN Executive Director Paige Coleman are looking for funding to keep these community-based mediation squads on the transit lines. The Rider Advocates have had an immeasurable impact on the lines because they help to interrupt or diffuse potential disruptions.

David Miller, lead Rider Advocate for the program, said he expects that TriMet's gains in elderly riders over the past couple of years will be erased and that some of the drivers will have problems with kids because school starts on Sept. 8 and after the 30th, advocates won't be there to mediate situations.

"We're not blaming TriMet for ending the program, they have to make the decisions that their finances allow," Coleman said.

In an open letter to TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen dated Aug. 14, Saltzman, North Precinct Commander Jim Ferraris and City Office of Youth Violence Prevention Director Rob Ingram joined to underscore what the city's Gang Violence Task Force believes to be a compelling need for the Rider Advocates' continued service.

Community members are encouraged to email their support to NECN at [info@necoalition.org](mailto:info@necoalition.org) as well as TriMet directly at [customerservice@trimet.org](mailto:customerservice@trimet.org) or email Peggy Hanson directly at [hansonp@trimet.org](mailto:hansonp@trimet.org). Letters may be mailed to Support Letter, Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods- Rider Advocates, 4815 NE 7th Avenue, Portland, OR 97211.



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## 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 and some help with counting/bagging, dropping packets at homes or newsletter delivery. Delivery only takes about 20 minutes. If you are able to help, please call Merryl Mix at 503-282-5446.

### Sharing Ideas: Grassroots Projects Started by Neighbors

**When:** Thursday, October 1st from 6pm-9pm

**Where:** Grant Park Church 2728 NE 34th Avenue

Come learn about inspiring grass-roots community building projects from a panel of local organizers. Learn from their experiences. See possibilities for replicating similar projects in your own neighborhood.

Hosted by Community Outreach of Our United Villages. Free and open to all. Light meal provided. Let us know if you plan to attend by Monday, September 21st 503.546.7499 or [info@ourunitedvillages.org](mailto:info@ourunitedvillages.org) Child care, transportation, and interpretation provided upon request.

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## Grant Park Neighborhood

Ever wonder just where the boundaries of the Grant Park Neighborhood are? As you can see, we extend from NE 26th to NE 47th, west to east, and Broadway to Stanton, south to north, with a few jogs and an overlap with Hollywood. We have three schools at four campuses, a large park, a church, a number of businesses, an a diversity of residential areas. So come on out and discover your great neighborhood!



## School Events Fall 2009

Remember that our neighborhood schools are now in session, so be careful and watch out for kids travelling to and from.

### In our area:

Grant High School | 2245 NE 36th  
8am - 3pm

Lunch 11:37am - 12:19pm (open campus)

Beverly Cleary Schools:

Fernwood Site | 1915 NE 33rd

8:30am - 3pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Hollywood Site | 3560 NE Hollywood Ct.

8:30am - 2:45pm | Lunch (closed campus)

Portland International Community School  
(PICS) | 2728 NE 34th

9am - 3:30pm | Evenings 5-9pm

Lunch (closed campus)

## Hollywood Has a New Principal

Teri Geist has been appointed as the new principal of the Hollywood Campus for next year. She follows Mrs. Kapranos, who is retiring at the end of June 2009 after a distinguished career of serving in the PPS district for 30 years.

Mrs. Geist is a lifelong resident of the Grant neighborhood; she and her three siblings all attended Fernwood in its former K-8 days.

She is now completing a one-year special assignment as the interim director for the Talented and Gifted Education Office, and previously served Alameda and Laurelhurst schools as principal, as well as Gray Middle School as assistant principal. She started her career with PPS as a speech language pathologist.

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