

# Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

March/April, 2015



## Neighborhood General Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, at 7 pm  
Sacred Heart Villa Hall

Corner of Milwaukie & Center

Updates on Neighborhood Issues  
"Adopt A Block" Project in Brooklyn

Check your email and the Brooklyn webpage for the agenda. We encourage everyone to attend.

Check out the Brooklyn Website  
[www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org](http://www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org)  
for an updated calendar of events and if you are not on the "Brooklyn Happenings" email list, contact  
[bac@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:bac@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

## Brooklyn's New Community Garden

Gideon's Orchard is bearing fruit! The community orchard land at SE 16th & Pershing is scheduled to transfer from TriMet into neighborhood hands in May, with the first tree planting scheduled for late fall. On Tuesday March 3rd from 7-9 pm a community meeting was held at Meals and Wheels, offering all community members the chance to participate in a Tree Selection Workshop. Volunteers are needed for planning and fundraising, and you'll soon get the chance to get your hands dirty too! For questions and to get involved email [gideonsorchar@gmail.com](mailto:gideonsorchar@gmail.com).



## New Business Ads

A big thanks to all the Brooklyn Businesses that support this newsletter. The BAC appreciates them and urges our neighbors to support your Brooklyn businesses.

Please take the time to check out the new and revised business ads attached to this newsletter and if possible, show your support.



## A Crime Spree Going on in Brooklyn

For those of you who do not subscribe to "NextDoor Brooklyn," several instances of car break-ins and stolen vehicles have occurred in the last couple of months.

BE SAFE and keep NOTHING within sight of someone just walking by. Some of these crimes have been crimes of opportunity. Just don't give them a reason.

Bike theft appears to be on the rise also, even to the extent that bikes are being removed from backyards and garages.

So, be a good neighbor and if you see anything that is out of the ordinary, please call the police non emergency number 503/823-3333 or SE Precinct 503/823-0097 to report it.

If you are debating if it is an emergency or not, err on the side of caution and call 911.

And most importantly, report any crime, because it brings attention to the fact that there is a problem in our neighborhood.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Neighborhood Clean Up Day is May 9th, 2015

## Calendar of Events

BAC Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 11  
6:30 - 9 pm  
Sacred Heart Villa Hall  
Milwaukie & Center

Neighborhood General Meeting  
Wednesday, March 25, 7 pm  
Sacred Heart Villa Hall

Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 4  
Brooklyn Park, 11 am

BAC Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 8  
6:30 - 9 pm  
Sacred Heart Villa Hall  
Milwaukie & Center

Adopt a Block Day  
Saturday, April 18, 10 am  
Brooklyn Park Shelter

## 'Adopt a Block' Project in Brooklyn How Can I Become a Partner?

**PRIDE OF PLACE:** Recognizing the uniqueness of our neighborhood, being glad to be part of this community!

**ADOPT A BLOCK:** Becoming a steward of ONE block, doing monthly litter pickup, being the eye on your block for potholes, street lights out, etc.

**RESULT:** Sense of community and safer, more attractive place for all.

**WELCOME:** AM/PM Arco, Vincent's Tailor, Rainbow Painting, are businesses that have already signed up.

**GET ON BOARD:** Sign up at BAC Meeting, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Sacred Heart Villa Hall or Contact Kathy Orton: 503-236-5037, [kt\\_orton@hotmail.com](mailto:kt_orton@hotmail.com)

**GOOD NEWS:** This project has been approved for \$600 in grant money!

### Group Gathering for "ADOPT A BLOCK" Day

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, all block adopters and interested volunteers, will be out and visible, cleaning and sprucing up the public areas up and down Milwaukie Avenue. Meet at Brooklyn Park Shelter, 10 am. to get equipment and sign in. All are welcome to come!

Questions? Call Kathy Orton 503-236-5037

## Brooklyn Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 4, 2015 11am sharp at Brooklyn Park

Last year, the Easter Egg Hunt was such a success with the children from the neighborhood, volunteers are planning year #2! Please mark your calendars.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, please email Matthew at [matthew.mccomas@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.mccomas@gmail.com).



## Saturday, May 9, 2015

9 am - 3 pm



Trash or Treasure?  
It's time to clean house!

### Brooklyn School Park at 16th and Center

Volunteers are needed! Usually 2 hour shifts.

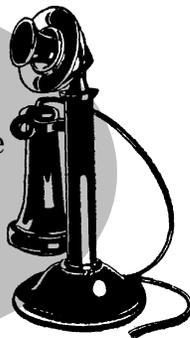
Contact the Helpline 503/241-4540  
or email [brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

Look for more details in the May newsletter.

Sponsored by METRO, SE Uplift and the BAC

## BROOKLYN HELP LINE 503/241-4540

The Helpline is always available for the Brooklyn neighborhood to voice their concerns or pass on information to the Brooklyn Action Corps.



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Check out the Brooklyn Neighborhood Website  
[www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org](http://www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

Brooklyn Neighborhood News is published bi-monthly by the BAC. To contact the Brooklyn News, call the helpline or email the newsletter at [brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org](mailto:brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org)

Community announcements, local events and press releases are accepted on a space available basis. Closing date for the newsletter is on the 15th of even-numbered months. This newsletter is edited and designed by Marie Phillippi.

The following are some of the topics brought up during our  
NEIGHBORHOOD VISIONING SESSION at the January General Meeting.

Thanks to all who came and participated.

#### CONCERNS/ISSUES

Parking, Graffiti Abatement, Access to River  
National Historic Register  
Improved Bike Route in and out of Brooklyn  
Landscaping at Powell and 9th Ave.  
Orchard Garden, Leaf Cleanup  
Add a Winter Social, Managed Development

#### FUND RAISING AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Clean up Day, Ice Cream Social,  
Easter Egg Hunt, Movie in the Park

#### COMMUNICATION

Nextdoor Brooklyn, Brooklyn Newsletter  
Brooklyn Happenings Email, Facebook

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## Springing into Baseball & Softball Season!

Together, Powell LL & Portland LL make up SE Portland Little League. They have combined leagues to provide all kids the best team experience they can offer. Parent volunteers from both communities are working hard to prepare for the upcoming season.

Registration is OPEN and it is all online at [www.sepll.org](http://www.sepll.org). Team Announcements are March 10th & 11th. Practices and games will begin mid-March and go through June so come down to Brooklyn Park and enjoy the fun!

Visit their new website at [www.sepll.org](http://www.sepll.org)  
Southeast Portland Little League



## Brooklyn/Community Foot Patrol

Neighbors are getting together to form a Community Safety Foot Patrol. Training will be provided by a Crime Prevention Coordinator from the City of Portland.

Contact info: Katie Light at 503-841-0315 or [Katie@katielighthomes.com](mailto:Katie@katielighthomes.com)

A Community Foot Patrol is a great opportunity to:

Get to know one another, build community,

Create a positive presence in our neighborhood,

Get exercise and work together to make our community safer. You can pick your schedule!

Minimal time requirements! Fun!



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## Too Little, Too Late for Brooklyn Neighborhood

Last August, the BAC and several neighbors testified at a hearing to appeal the decision for a corner lot to be subdivided into four narrow lots at 16th and Pershing. Forcing four lots necessitated all to be substandard narrow lots, which was the primary argument on which the neighbors based their appeal to the city.

In September, the hearings officer signed off on the development, rejecting all of the neighbors concerns, just 5 days before a turning point in the city's policy on compatibility.

(The following excerpts taken from the Oregonian, Feb. 18)

"I don't support the philosophy of cramming in density at all costs." – Amanda Fritz

"Portland regulators have been told they need to tell developers "no" more often.

City Commissioner Amanda Fritz, who oversees the Bureau of Development Services, told the department's staff in a memo this month that it needs to "raise the bar" in certain land-use reviews. In particular, she said, staff members should put more emphasis on considerations like neighborhood compatibility, the preservation of trees and availability of on-street parking."

"All are issues that have attracted residents to testify at City Hall by the dozens in the past several years as a post-recession building boom has ruffled some feathers in long-established neighborhoods. I don't support the philosophy of cramming in density at all costs," Fritz wrote in the memo, obtained by The Oregonian. "We need a more balanced approach."

"I want them to give due consideration to the neighborhood as well as the applicants," she said. "It's not one or the other. It's both." "The decision doesn't mean skinny houses can't be built in a given neighborhood," said Rebecca Esau, who oversees the land-use division at the Bureau of Development Services. "But, they might be limited in height or other ways to ensure they fit in." So far, the shift is most evident in an area where Fritz and developers have tangled before: skinny houses. (For the entire article, check out February 18, Oregonian/Oregon Live)

# Bikram Yoga SE Portland

7070 SE 16th Ave. 503/232-9642

Brooklyn resident Julie Yates and Leah Shirley have revamped a Sellwood hot yoga studio in just several weeks after the previous owner suddenly closed the doors. The remodeled studio features state-of-the-art radiant heating panels. In addition to the new heating system, the flooring is new, the bathrooms have been updated and new cedar paneling has been added throughout. The duo could not have achieved their swift opening date without the help of generous students who volunteered their time and skills to rebuild the studio.

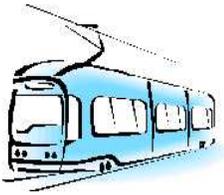


Julie Yates & Leah Shirley

Come take advantage of the new student introductory offer: a month of unlimited yoga classes for \$39.00.

"We are so excited to share our passion and commitment to Bikram yoga with the Portland community," says Julie. Leah and Julie have been teaching Bikram yoga for more than 18 years. Bikram yoga, the original hot yoga class, consists of 26 postures and 2 breathing exercises. Beginners are encouraged and welcome to any class. "Come sweat with us!" Check out their website: [www.bikramseportland.com](http://www.bikramseportland.com)"

## Stay safe around the tracks!



Trains on the MAX Orange Line began testing in February and will continue through opening day, Sept. 12. Remember to stay safe when driving, walking and biking around MAX Or-

ange Line crossings, station areas and trains. It takes MAX trains two blocks to stop, and trains can't swerve to miss you. Stay safe:

- ◆ No trespassing—Do not trespass on tracks or at closed stations. Trespassing is illegal and can result in a fine or jail time.
- ◆ Stay off the tracks—stay alive
- ◆ Obey all signals, and look both ways and only cross tracks at designated signals
- ◆ Always expect a train—MAX trains run any time of day or night

The light rail project has made safety improvements to crossings at SE 8th, 11th and 12th avenues that will allow these crossings to be designated Quiet Zones for both freight and light rail trains, effective March 1.

A Quiet Zone is a section of a rail line that contains one or more consecutive public crossings at which locomotive horns are not routinely sounded.

In a Quiet Zone, freight and light rail operators are not required to blow their horns as they approach a crossing (although they may use the horn at their discretion, like in cases of emergency, such as trespassing on the tracks by a vehicle or a pedestrian.) All crossings on the MAX Orange Line do include bells and flashing lights.

For more information: [trimet.org/pm/safety](http://trimet.org/pm/safety)

## Important Notice Regarding Winterhaven School

Please note that Portland Public School board recently voted to change the lottery and transfer request process for Portland schools. Winterhaven, the focus-option school within the Brooklyn neighborhood, is affected by this new policy. For more information, contact the Enrollment & Transfer Center 503-916-3205, [enrollment-office@pps.net](mailto:enrollment-office@pps.net)

## Brooklyn Historic Plaques

Have you admired the Brooklyn historical plaques on homes and businesses throughout the neighborhood? Have you thought of adding one to your OWN home or business? Now you can!

The Brooklyn Historical Society will provide the plaques for \$35 each. The plaques are identical in design and color to those already in existence, except for the date and a custom script, if desired. If interested, please call 503-235-2174 and leave a message for Don Stephens.

## Wear Your Neighborhood

Brooklyn T-Shirts Still Available!

Cost is \$12 each with limited quantities of LG, XLG and 2XLG

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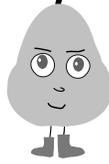
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11th and 12th avenues in SE Portland  
will become part of a designated quiet  
zone. Train horns will no longer be  
required to sound routinely.

Learn more: [trimet.org/pm/safety/](http://trimet.org/pm/safety/)

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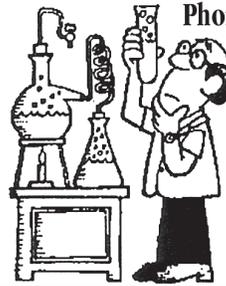
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