

Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

March/April, 2016



Neighborhood General Meeting

Wednesday, March 23, at 7 pm
Sacred Heart Villa Hall

Corner of Milwaukie & Center
Updates on Neighborhood Issues

Guest Speakers:

Candidates for Mayor of Portland

Jules Bailey & Ted Wheeler

There will be time for questions.

Check out the Brooklyn Website

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

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 our Brooklyn businesses.

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



Brooklyn Neighborhood Deals with Air Pollution

Submitted by Matt McComas

U.S. Forest Service scientists discovered alarmingly high concentrations of arsenic and cadmium in two areas of Portland in May of last year. After alerting the DEQ to their findings, officials narrowed their focus to two glass manufacturers, one in Northeast Portland and Bullseye Glass in the Brooklyn neighborhood on SE 21st Ave.

Bullseye Glass, to their credit, has voluntarily ceased any operations that result in discharge of cadmium and arsenic, but many citizens are concerned about long-term exposure to hazardous materials since the company was founded in 1974. Neighbors are taking action to combat what seems as a lack of urgency in DEQ to solve this problem as well as a loophole in DEQ requirements that allows a company the size of Bullseye to be in compliance with state permits and still emit hazardous air toxins. There is also momentum to pressure Bullseye to cease any emissions until it is proven that there are no associated health risks with any discharge.



Bullseye Glass Company in Brooklyn

According to EPA's National Air Toxics Assessment, Oregon has the third largest population at risk of excess cancer due to air pollution behind only California & New York. Across Oregon, 117 schools fall in the worst 10% nationally for exposure to industrial pollution. Residents of southeast Portland hope that this latest issue can be a catalyst for moving toward clean air for Portlanders.

If you are interested in getting involved join the Facebook group Inner SE/NE Air Quality and please contact our Governor to express concern over the situation.

Possible contacts for Soil Testing: Apex 503/718-2323

Environmental Works 503/719-6715

Soil Solutions 503/234-2118

Calendar of Events

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

Neighborhood General Meeting
Wednesday, March 23, 7 pm
Sacred Heart Villa Hall

Meals on Wheels
Flapjack FUNdraiser
Sunday, March 6, 8 am - Noon
Sacred Heart Villa Hall

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, March 26
Brooklyn Park, 11 am

BAC Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 13
6:30 - 9 pm
Sacred Heart Villa Hall
Milwaukie & Center

Brooklyn Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 26, 2016 11am at Brooklyn Park

Last year, the Easter Egg Hunt was another great success with the children from the neighborhood. So once again, volunteers are planning year #3! Please mark your calendars.

For more information, or if you would like to volunteer, please email Matthew at matthew.mccomas@gmail.com.



Saturday, May 7 or 14, 2016



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

Look for more details in the May newsletter.
Sponsored by METRO, SE Uplift and the BAC

Meals on Wheels Annual Flapjack FUNdraiser

Sunday, March 6th
8 am - 12 Noon
Cost: \$8 per person



Thelma Skelton Center
3925 SE Milwaukie Ave.

Join them for a delicious, full breakfast for a great cause! All proceeds benefit Meals On Wheels People, "so that no senior shall go hungry or experience social isolation."

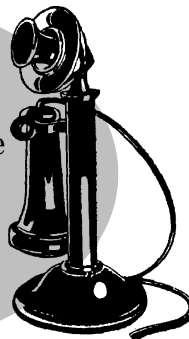
Adopt a Block Update

Be the 30th Block Adopter! It only requires a once a month commitment to pick up litter on your block, and keep an eye out for hazards. Come to the next BAC Meeting to find out more or pick up a yellow flyer at Bob's Handy Pantry.

WORK PARTY COMING: Mark your calendar for April 23; we will get a jump on the 9th & Powell Overpass Area, cleaning up weeds before they become a jungle! With many hands, we should be able to get it done from 9 am-12 noon. Questions? Call Kathy Orton 503-236-5037

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

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

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.

Generally, people liked the community events: Easter Egg Hunt, Movies in the Park and the Ice Cream Social. The neighbors suggested a push for more block parties and National Night Out and seemed receptive if more community social events could be added.

Service events were also appreciated, for example: clean up and adopt a block. Re-starting foot patrol was also brought up. Neighbors seemed appreciative of the clean up at the overpass on Powell that Adopt a Block group did last year. Other areas need a clean up as well, for example, cutting back overgrowth between 99E and our neighborhood to help dissuade campers and for better line of sight when turning onto 99E.

People speeding through our neighborhood and using the neighborhood for short cuts came up, as was the truck traffic cutting between Milwaukie and the neighborhood to 99E.

Livability issues were important, like the crosswalk at Milwaukie & Center, ADA ramps and safety issues.

Brooklyn Emergency Preparedness Sessions Coming

Brooklyn Action Corps is sponsoring a set of three one-hour emergency preparedness sessions to prepare the neighborhood block by block. Sessions will cover:

1. Understanding risks and making an emergency plan with your family
2. Gathering emergency supplies and planning for water and sanitation
3. Planning emergency response with your true first responders: your neighbors

How to participate:

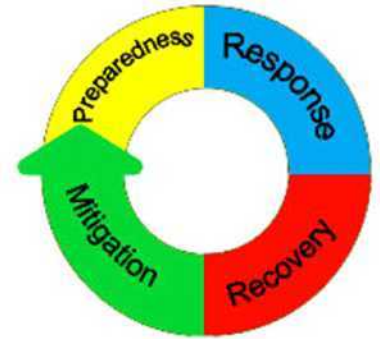
1. ORGANIZE/HOST your block! You gather your neighbors, we provide the presenter and resource materials. Choose a date and invite your neighbors, from both sides of the street on your block, to come for the first session. Don't have space? Strongarm a friendly neighbor into hosting and help them with organization. Block sessions will begin June 1st and continue through late fall.

Want to do more?

2. BECOME A PRESENTER! Presenters are local Brooklynites volunteering their time to help prepare their neighbors. And we need you! Attend a 2 hour special training. No other qualifications necessary. You choose how much to volunteer: just preparing your own block is fine. Presenter training sessions will be held in mid-May.

Contact ready@brooklynneighborhood.org to sign up and organize/host your block or for the presenter training, or just for more info.

Get to know your neighbors! Find out how your community can help you! Get ready for anything!



“Goodbye” from Long Time Brooklyn Resident

Dorothy Rupp, a Brooklyn neighbor since 1974, has moved to Canby in order to be closer to her family. She asked for a small note in the newsletter, to express her thanks and let everyone know she is alright.

“I want to thank the wonderful neighbors in Brooklyn, for all the happiness and fun I have enjoyed living on 9th and Rhone St. I have always felt a part of their families.”



Happy days ahead for you, Dorothy. Photo courtesy of neighbor Brad Messinger

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Officer Jason Graf is our Neighborhood Response Officer: 503/823-0076. However, for non-emergencies, please call the Central Precinct 503/823-0097. If you need immediate help, or to report a crime in process, call 911.

SE Crime Prevention Rep.

Teri Poppino, from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) is our neighborhood representative. Her contact information is 503/823-0540 or email:

teri.poppino@portlandoregon.gov

From the Editor

Dear Neighbors,

As many of you know, in December, Elen Goss, a resident at Sacred Heart Villa, and in a wheelchair, was struck by a car and seriously injured trying to cross Milwaukie Ave. at Center St. Her wheelchair was destroyed. "When I was hit, there was a lady and 3 dogs waiting to cross with me at the crosswalk. When the car barreled up on us, she was able to escape with the dogs. I was on a mobility scooter and unable to react fast enough to avoid being hit."



Carol Searls, SHV Resident crossing Milwaukie Ave.

The Brooklyn Action Corps has been trying for years to get a stop light for that intersection due to the bus stop opposite the Villa and the blind spot created by cars parking along the west side of the street. Also, many children use that intersection. A city engineer came out Jan 13, 2016 for 20 minutes and ascertained that the light was not needed. When could he have possibly come when there was not a long line of cars going both directions? Definitely not in the early morning or late afternoon when it's heavily used by commuters.

Besides the light urgently needed, there is no access for wheelchairs to ride the new Orange line due to the lack of ADA sidewalks on Center St from Milwaukie Ave. to 17th Ave. The sidewalk across the street from the Villa is also in such terrible disrepair that a wheelchair or push walker cannot access the northbound bus. Just this last year, the city (or TriMet) put in at least 10 ADA curbs west of Milwaukie Ave. for access to Bus #33 on McLoughlin. That bus stop has since been cancelled. When does this lunacy end? When are basic needs of children and elderly residents addressed? Where are the priorities of our city leaders?

The city engineer that decided that the light was unnecessary was:

Carlos Hernández P.E. City of Portland Bureau of Transportation
1120 S.W. 5th Ave, Suite 800 Portland, Oregon 97204 Phone: 503-823-3173

Questions: Does it take someone getting killed to get the recognition that this light will save lives and limb? The speed limit is 30 MPH but most cars travel much faster when possible. Why does Milwaukie Ave change from 30 MPH to 25 MPH just south of the overpass of McLoughlin?

UPDATE: Trimet has been notified of the problems. Will Brooklyn now get the attention it needs from TriMet and the city?



Dilapidated sidewalk eastside of Milwaukie Ave. at bus stop

Families for a Safer Powell

by Dan Kaufman

Families for a Safer Powell is a new coalition of PTAs, Neighborhood Associations, businesses and individuals that are located near Powell Boulevard. The goal of the group is to increase safety and accessibility on and around SE Powell Boulevard.

This group formed as a subcommittee of the Cleveland High School PTA through concerns about nearby motor vehicle traffic. The eleven-block campus area (from the Baseball Field on 22nd and Powell to the Football Field on 33rd) has seen several recent fatalities and has a regular and troubled safety history for the students and staff.

The subcommittee determined that the most significant contributor to the lack of safety on Powell is a road design that prioritizes vehicle speed and throughput at the cost of safety and livability. The group decided that the problem must be tackled holistically rather than focusing on just the area near Cleveland.

Safer Powell advocates for speed-limit reduction as well as increased accessibility to people of all ages, ability and mode of transport.

The organization recently weighed in on Portland's comprehensive plan along with the Brooklyn Action Corps board. Both groups asked the City to change Powell Boulevard's designation away from its current automobile-oriented design that divides and pollutes our neighborhoods. The group also hopes that the Powell-Division Bus Rapid Transit project can be an opportunity to re-vision the thoroughfare to better suit the needs of the community.

Safer Powell has active support from a variety of individuals and the tacit support of several different neighborhood committees, businesses, and civic leaders. A petition to get official support is being circulated currently. Brooklyn Action Corps will be considering support.

If you wish to learn more or get involved as an individual, business, or organization, please contact former Brooklyn resident and volunteer, Dan Kaufman at 503-267-2862 or dan@pdxk.com.

Brooklyn thanks **Lowell's Print-Inn**
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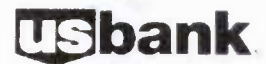
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