



Old Town Chinatown Crier

Spring 2008

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

Old Town Chinatown Rings in Year of the Rat



Lion Dances kick off Chinese New Year

The Lunar New Year is one of the most festive and colorful holidays of the Chinese tradition. Having been celebrated for over 4,000 years, the festival ranges in some Asian countries from one day to two weeks. It is the time of year where families and friends come together to wish each other good health, happiness and fortune for the upcoming year. The house is deeply cleaned, feasts are prepared, and parades march through the streets. Friends and family give each other red envelopes of money, known as *hong bao*.

In Old Town Chinatown, Portland Classical Chinese Garden and the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association will honor the tradition by hosting a 3-day celebration which will include Lion Dances, paper-cutting crafts, calligraphy lessons, storytelling, and art exhibits. The Garden will also hold its annual plant sale, so neighbors can bring home some of the treasures they admire all year-round in the Garden, like orchids, hazel, quince, and Chinese paper-brush.

The festival kicks off on the evening of Thursday, February 7th, when the first hundred visitors to enter the Garden will receive *hong bao*, a replica Chinese coin inside a traditional red envelope.

On Sunday, February 10th, guests are invited to make lanterns and join the New Year's Parade at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association Hall at 315 NW Davis St. The Festival Lions will lead a neighborhood parade back to the Chinese Garden. Admission is free on Sunday from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

2008 is the Year of the Rat, the first in the 12-animal cycle of the Zodiac. As Rats are traditionally known to be great at starting things, the Year of the Rat is said to be a time of hard work and productivity, a great time to get married, make resolutions, or start new projects.

Portland Classical Chinese Garden is located at 239 NW Everett St. To find out more about upcoming events, go to www.portlandchinesegarden.org.



Hong bao lucky red envelopes

Chinese New Year Calendar of Events

Thursday, February 7th:

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Lunar New Year celebration begins. Red *Hong Bao* envelopes are presented to the first 100 visitors to the Garden.

Friday, February 8th:

10:00 am - 5:00 pm: Plant sale opens inside the Garden. Admission \$7.00 adults, \$6.00 seniors, \$5.50 students.

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm: Toast in the New Year with wine, poetry and live music at the **Tao of Tea** inside the Garden. Tickets, \$45.00 public, \$35.00 members. Call 503.224.8455 for more information and to register.

Saturday, February 9th:

11:00 am: The Lee Association's Lion Dance Team performs on the Plaza outside the Chinese Garden. **Free.**

11:00 am - 3:00 pm: Coloring the Chinese Zodiac, and calligraphy with Dr. Yang, inside the Garden. Admission required.

2:00 pm: Lion Dance. **Free** on Plaza of Garden, admission required inside the Garden.

Sunday, February 10th:

11:00 am - 3:00 pm: Storytelling and coloring activities. Admission required.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm: Lantern-making workshop at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association Hall. **Free.**

4:00 pm - The Lee Association's Lion Dance Team leads a parade of lanterns to the Garden. Free admission from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Board of Directors Elections To Be Held March 4th

Elections for positions on the Board of Directors of the **Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association (OTCTNA)** will take place on March 4th, 2008 at the **Port of Portland**, 121 NW Everett St. Although the General Meeting will start at 4:30 pm, voting will begin at 6:00 pm, to allow for maximum participation.

The Neighborhood Association Board has up to 20 Members, who serve for 2-year terms. Because 11 current members are completing their terms in March, a majority of the seats could change. Anyone who lives, works, or owns a business or property in the 53 block area of Old Town Chinatown may stand for election.

Nominations will remain open until 6:00 pm on election night. For more information, contact Judy Van Alstyne on jvanalstyne@billnaito.com or 503.517.4389.

OTCTNA Board Member Profiles

By Donald Tyer



Howard Davis - Howard has been on the OTCTNA Board for 2 years. A University of Oregon alumni, he has pursued a career in real estate investments. His commitment to our neighborhood is evidenced by his service on community boards and committees. When off duty, he can be found on a racquetball court.



Kim Faucher - Kim was elected to the Board in 2004. She is also the Director of Marketing at Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union. Kim sees history as the greatest asset of OTCT. "There are so many amazing stories that have brought us to where we are today."

Neighborhood Meetings Are Open To Everyone

The Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association (OTCTNA) invites participation. Everyone who lives, works, or owns a business or property in Old Town Chinatown is a member of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association. A diverse and inclusive organization, OTCTNA is one of the City of Portland's 95 recognized neighborhood associations. Additional information and a full list of Board Member contacts is available at www.oldtownchinatown.com.

Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association: First Tuesdays, 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Port of Portland, 121 NE Everett St. Contact Carol McCreary on 503.984.4081 or carolmccreary@comcast.com.

Arts, Culture and History Committee: Third Tuesdays, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave. Contact Reid Decker on 503.222.6072 or reid@saturdaymarket.org.

Communications Committee: Last Mondays, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Venue varies. Contact Nancy Stovall on nancy.stovall@gmail.com or 503.241.4796, or Kaebel Hashitani on sequentialart@gmail.com or 503.916.9293.

Public Safety Committee: First Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm at 232 NW 6th Ave. Contact Howard Weiner on 503.248.0495 or howardweiner@calsk8.com.

Joint OTCTNA-Visions Land Use Committee: First Tuesdays, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm at 232 NW 6th Ave. Contact Patrick Gortmaker on patrick@kalbererco.com or Paul Verhoeven at 503.222.6072 ex 12 or paul@saturdaymarket.org.

PHLUSH (Public Hygiene Lets Us Stay Human): This group is working with Mayor Tom Potter and Commissioner Randy Leonard to bring clean safe restrooms to Portland's central city. Contact Lan Nguyen on 503.226.9500 or nworchidsalon@yahoo.com.

Ad Hoc Elections Committee: This group is organizing the General Meeting on March 4th, and is recruiting OTCTNA members to stand for March 4th elections. Contact Judy Van Alstyne on jvanalstyne@billnaito.com or 503.517.4389.

Ad Hoc Finance Committee: This group supports the OTCTNA Treasurer to set up grant management systems. Contact Tyler Byrd on tbyrd@nrfcu.org or 503.220.2592 ex. 111.

Old Town Chinatown Visions Committee: Second Wednesdays, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at Central City Concern, 232 NW 6th Ave. Contact Howard Weiner on 503.248.0495 or howard@calsk8.com.

Old Town Chinatown Business Association: Third Thursdays, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, usually at Central City Concern, 232 NW 6th Ave. Contact Dorian Yee on 503.224.7066 or Dorian.Yee@bankofthewest.com.

PDC Projects Continue

Portland Development Commission (PDC) and the City of Portland Bureau of Planning have initiated a needed update to the 1987 Skidmore Old Town Historic Landmark District Guidelines. Final recommendations for public review on adding a portion of Old Town Chinatown to the River District Urban Renewal Area are expected to be made in winter 2008.

Several other projects are underway in Old Town Chinatown in 2008. Renovations to the **Estate Hotel** at NW 3rd and Couch are complete, and the **Musolf Manor** at NW 3rd Ave. and Davis St. is currently under renovation. Saturday Market will open in the Waterfront Park on March 2009. For the 2008 season, the market will re-configure it's current space under the Burnside Bridge. See www.pdc.us.

Old Town Chinatown Crier

Editing and layout: Merlin Bowers.

Contributing writers: Nancy Stovall, Carol McCreary, Kaebel Hashitani, Patricia Jay, Martha Richmond and Donald Tyer. Special thanks to Melissa Armstrong and Ryan Bowers. Photographs by Michael Zaugg, Merlin Bowers, Nancy Stovall, and Carol McCreary.

Thank you to our community sponsors and the City of Portland Neighborhood Grants Program for their support in 2008. Please Send submissions to otctcrier@gmail.com. Deadline for the Summer 2008 Issue is April 4th.

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Old Town Chinatown Crier
115 SW Ash St. #400D
Portland, OR 97204
www.oldtownchinatown.com.

Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association Passes Resolution on Block 25

By Carol McCreary

At the January 8th meeting of the **Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association (OTCTNA)**, the Board of Directors passed the following resolution: The Neighborhood Association recognizes the potential of Block 25 (also known as the "Dirty Duck Block") as an important development plot for North Old Town Chinatown renewal under the proposed **Portland Development Commission (PDC)** plan (**North Old Town Chinatown Redevelopment Strategy**).

The OTCTNA believes Block 25 represents a significant development opportunity. As such, further consideration of future development options and their potential impact on the neighborhood economy is needed.

Proposed considerations include but are not limited to: 1) Festival space, 2) Market space (farmers or other), 3) Work/live solutions, or 4) General mixed use business/residential.

At this time, the OTCTNA accordingly opposes the siting of a Resource Center/ Access Center with related low or very-low income housing on Block 25. The Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association requests that all work on that project siting with regards to Block 25 halt immediately, until additional proposals such as those outlined above can be evaluated or re-evaluated by the attendant parties and City Agencies in public forums.

At the previous OTCTNA monthly meeting on December 4th, more than 80 people packed the meeting room to express their dismay at the City's suddenly announced decision to build an Access Center and 200 units of public housing on Block 25.

Stakeholders who participated in the North Old Town Chinatown Redevelopment Strategy, which was abruptly halted last summer, had designated other locations for the facility.

In early November PDC, the **Bureau of Housing and Community Development** and the **Housing Authority of Portland** let the community know that negotiations to secure these other locations had failed. At a January 9th meeting of the **Old Town Chinatown Visions Committee**, Erik Sten conceded that there had been problems with the public process but urged the community to work together, lest other development opportunities be lost. For key documents and press reports, please go to the following web site:
<http://otctneighborhood-association.nexo.com/otctdevelopment>.



Local Foundation Supports Green Energy

By Nancy Stovall

Thanks to an Old Town neighbor, the Oscars, the Emmy's and the Boston Red Sox are all greener this year. Many national organizations have turned to the **Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF)** at SW 1st and Oak St. for their expertise in renewable energy. In just a few short years, BEF has gained national attention for their work. They have three major programs - renewable energy, watershed restoration and energy efficiency. To fund their efforts, BEF markets green power products. REI, Timberline Lodge, and Silk Soymilk are among the companies supporting the BEF's programs.

BEF sells renewable energy certificates, called Green Tags, which replace polluting sources of electricity with renewable energy sources. They also invest in solar and wind power projects throughout the United States. Solar panels have been installed at Lincoln High School, allowing them to produce their own energy. The solar power system also includes web-based, real-time data to help teachers instruct students on the benefits of renewable energy. Finally, BEF is dedicated to restoring watershed ecosystems throughout the Pacific Northwest. Since 1999, BEF has committed over \$1.6 million to support initiatives to improve water quality, restore habitat, and bolster native salmon and trout populations. Please see www.greentagsusa.org.

Old Town Chinatown Offers Spring Classes



Guests learned how to carve Narcissus Bulbs at the Chinese Garden

Portland Classical Chinese Garden offers classes throughout the year. They recently hosted a Narcissus Bulb carving class to prepare for the Chinese New Year. In February, they will present a 3-session course on playing traditional Mainland Chinese *Mahjong*, taught by Jian Min Li, the Director of Visitor Services. Classes will be held Wednesdays, February 13th, 20th and 27th from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at the Garden administrative office at 127 NW 3rd Ave. There will be separate classes for beginners and advanced players. The Garden will provide game guidelines and instructions; players must provide their own *Mahjong* sets. For details, go to www.portlandchinesegarden.org

The Museum of Contemporary Craft at 724 NW Davis St. will host a **Fiber Freak Jewelry** workshop on February 17th from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The fee is \$50.00 (preregistration required). On February 24th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm the museum will present **Ready, Set, Design: Family Discovery Sunday (Free)**. Go to www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org for event listings.

TriMet Max Light Rail Construction Continues



Ornamental street lights are being installed in the North Mall



New light rail tracks approach the Steel Bridge

Work on the Portland Mall Light Rail project continues at the Steel Bridge. Crews are preparing the new Green Line tracks for future connection with existing MAX tracks that cross the bridge. Special trackway installation in the North Terminus is nearing completion. The temporary street lights are being replaced this winter with new twin ornamental street lights.

The North Mall is open to vehicle traffic, and on-street parking is available on 5th Ave. and 6th Ave. To keep updated on the project, please go to www.portlandmall.org.

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Made In Oregon Sign Carries History, Future



The White Stag sign is a bold part of the Portland skyline

By Nancy Stovall

Every year, the neon White Stag on the sign next to the Burnside Bridge sprouts a red nose and morphs into North America's most famous reindeer. And to many, the phrase "Made in Oregon" is not so much associated with a retail store as with pride in the state itself. It's a Portland landmark, but just how many of us really know its history?

The "Made in Oregon" sign is one of few remaining neon signs in the city. The stag was only added to the sign in 1959, but the original sign was built by Ramsay Signs in 1940 - for **White Satin Sugar**. In a somewhat complicated business contract, Ramsay Signs actually owns and leases the sign, and rents the roof space from the building's owners.

There are many who remember when the sign read "White Stag Sportswear", which was a division of a local clothing company. The **Willamette Tent & Awning Company** was founded in Old Town in 1884, and was purchased in 1907 by partners **Hirsch and Weiss**. During the 30's, a sportswear line was added to the company, including a line of ski wear. It's the translation of their names from German that gave the new sportswear division its name, White Stag. The **White Stag Sportswear** company eventually moved to California, and in 1997 the sign was leased to the **Made in Oregon** company. The lettering was changed and the words "Old

Town" were added to the sign.

So, while the sign is not exactly historic, it does have a history. Much of this history has been formalized, and so the sign will retain much of its current and historical character, no matter who leases it. The shape of the state of Oregon, the font of the lettering, the color of the neon, and even the way the bulbs light up will remain the same, regardless of who leases the sign.

Change is in the air again. The **University of Oregon** has entered into an agreement to lease and purchase the White Stag Block, and the sign's lease between the Made in Oregon company and Ramsay Signs expired on December 31st, 2007.

Now what?

University of Oregon has done their homework, of course, researching the history of the building and that venerable, favorite neon sign. They've even found a wonderful old photo of the sign when it read "White Satin Sugar" - a black and white photo that also captures a parade featuring Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, astride their steeds Trigger and Buttermilk.

The Made in Oregon company is leasing the sign on a month-to-month basis, but there's every reason to believe that the University will eventually want the sign to register their Old Town presence. Historically, the sign has always indicated the major tenant of the building, so it stands to reason that we'll eventually see "University of Oregon" replacing "Made in Oregon". The words "Old Town" will remain, and Portland will see that University of Oregon is proud of being a part of the redevelopment of Old Town.

The real question is this. Will the stag's nose light up green when the Oregon Ducks win?

New Restrooms Coming To Old Town Chinatown



Restroom design proposed for Old Town Chinatown

By Carol McCreary

PHLUSH (Public Hygiene Lets Us Stay Human) is working with Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard to identify a site for a small, innovative public restroom. The preferred site is on NW Glisan St., near the Greyhound Station. Thanks to City Council's approval of \$240,000 in funding, Commissioner Leonard plans to issue a request for proposals soon.

The design for the fully-plumbed, ADA-accessible toilet is being done by architect Curtis Banger. After getting written agreement, Leonard, who oversees the Water Bureau, will build as many restrooms as funds permit.

Meanwhile, **Portland Parks and Recreation** and **Portland Development Commission (PDC)** have delayed plans for toilets in Phase I of the Waterfront Park-Ankeny Project. They may be constructed in a future phase. PDC still plans to design a new restroom complex to be built near Skidmore Fountain.

To stay updated, go to <http://otct-neighborhoodassociation.nexo.com/phlush>.



Old Town Chinatown First Thursday Openings



Spring First Thursdays:

February: 02/07/2008

March: 03/06/2008

April: 04/03/2008

1) ATTIC GALLERY

206 SW 1st Ave.

2) BACKSPACE

115 NW 5th Ave.

Open until Midnight on First Thursday.

3) BUTTERS GALLERY

520 NE Davis St., second floor.

February: Carolyn Cole.

March: "Particle Maps" by Elise

Wagner.

April: Melinda Stickney-Gibson.

4) CHAMBERS FINE ART GALLERY

207 SW Pine St. #102

5) EVERETT STATION LOFTS

625 NW Everett St.

#104: CRUDE THINGS

February: Closing Show - Art by

Lana Guerra & Jesse Reno.

#113: SEQUENTIAL ART

February: "Seppucake", paintings
& prints from Kirk Alexander's "El
Kiablo".

March: Roadside memorial Holga
photographs by Shell Frogge.

April: Sequential paintings by Kenney
Mencher.

231: SHOW AND TELL

February: "Sensation: A Touching
Show", multiple mediums by multiple
artists.

230: THE CORE

February: Paintings by Chris
Haberman.

March: UNDER THE SEA, paintings/
installation by Kathleen Simpson.

April: Installation by Alisha Wessler.

117: VORPAL SPACE

February: Illustrations by Alisha
Wessler.

#109: WANDERING GYPSY SOUL

March: Oil paintings by Michael Cano.

6) JUST BE/COMPOUND GALLERY

107 NW 5th Ave.

February: "Fates and Origins" by Jen
Lobo-Simpson & Elizabeth Haidle; and
"In Better Light" by Kendra Binney.

Continued on Page 7.

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NW Couch & 5th Ave.

First Thursdays, continued ...

7) NORTHWEST RESOURCE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

221 NW 2nd Ave.

Art opening starts at 6:00 pm.

February: World photography by Leanne Kong, Wing Leong's water-color brush painting and calligraphy, Cindy Weigandt's folk art, and Korean rice paper lamps.

8) SHAFFER FINE ART GALLERY

308 SW 1st Ave. #158

9) RAKE ART GALLERY

325 NW 5th Ave.

February: Group show of outsider artists.

10) UPPER PLAYGROUND/FIFTY24

23 NW 5th Ave.

February and March: Art by Basco.

The HeART of Portland: The Core Amazes Visitors

By Kaebel Hashitani

Mission Statement: The Core exists as a space for art to be seen and experienced in a unique context.

This is true of any art gallery. Except that when Curator Anna Todaro says "unique context", she's referring to the gallery's size. **The Core** is one of the biggest little galleries in Portland. Maybe even on the West Coast.

The Core is only 3.5 feet high.

Yet with these dimensions (3.5' x 7' x 7'), The Core boasts a history of amazing must-see installations in the just-over-a-year that it's been open. Examples include Amy Jorgensen's "Womb Room", and the **POV Dance Troupe's** "Contained" live performance. Both installations showcased the potential of what can be done in such an unusual space, rather than in a more traditional setting. As Todaro puts it, "Where else can one see professional dancers from 2 inches away from inside a 3.5 foot room?!"

In 2008, The Core will be host to five installation artists, six incredible "2-D" artists, and one very large open invite group show.

The Core is located at 625 NW Everett St., Unit #230. Open First Thursdays, and by appointment. To find out more, go to www.corepdx.com.

The HeART of Portland: Meet Anna Todaro



Anna Todaro is a guitar player and an artist

By Kaebel Hashitani

Anna Todaro is one of our neighborhood's prolific working artists. She moved into the **Everett Station Lofts** in August 2005, from a much smaller boarding house.

"My artwork and sewn creations had taken over not only my room, but the upstairs hallway, the living

room, the family room, and little other pieces here and there." Anna needed room to grow as an artist, both literally and figuratively. "I needed a bigger flower pot."

In her time at Everett Station Lofts, Anna has succeeded in opening her own gallery, **The Core**, and recently released a self-produced CD with special edition art cards at **Launchpad Gallery**.

This year looks to be as busy for Anna. She will be the featured artist at **100th Monkey Studio** in February, and will be teaching painting classes there. In June "The Moon Night" will be released, a children's book by Jennifer Keilty with images by Anna.

Get Portland Mall Construction Updates at portlandmall.org

Major light rail construction on 5th and 6th avenues in the North Mall is complete and crews are now working on NW 4th Avenue and on the Steel Bridge. Visit portlandmall.org for the latest construction updates, events and activities, commuting tips and more. While you're there, sign up to get free updates by email and learn how you can support local businesses.

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Port of Portland Building Sold

By Martha Richmond
Port of Portland

Seattle-based **Washington Real Estate Holdings** has purchased the current headquarters of the **Port of Portland** at 121 NW Everett St. The new owners plan to lease the building to other users as soon as the Port moves to its new headquarters at Portland International Airport in 2010. At that point, the Port will enter a new stage in its ever-evolving role as an economic driver for the state, as it consolidates its headquarters atop a new parking garage now being built at the airport. Currently the staff that manages the Port's four airports, four marine terminals and four industrial parks is spread across several locations. By consolidating the staff in one location Port of Portland hopes to achieve new efficiencies and cost savings.

Even with the pending move, Port of Portland will remain committed to serving as a very active partner in the issues that affect the city and the downtown core. Staff will stay actively involved with many of the organizations, committees, boards and task forces that they are currently involved in.

First established in 1891, the Port of Portland has had headquarters in a number of Portland locations, including the Lloyd District and its current building in Old Town Chinatown. See the Port's web site, www.flypdx.com.

Firms Locate National Headquarters in OTCT



Cesario Rubio, here with Jeanie Juarez and Lan Nguyen at **National Night Out**

By Carol McCreary

Several new businesses have opened in Old Town Chinatown, while others, sadly, have closed their doors. Welcome to the new businesses. To those saying goodbye, we will miss you!

The e-mail marketing firm **eROI** has chosen Old Town for its new national headquarters. The rapidly growing firm that counts Microsoft, Nike, HP, Sega, Ogilvy, and Travelocity among its clients has moved in at 505 NW Couch St, #300. For more details, see www.eroi.com.

Old Town is also the new headquarters of **Brightworks**, a sustainability consulting firm at 412 NW Couch St. that helps prestigious projects such as the Brewery Blocks bag gold and platinum LEED certifications. Brightworks' projects comprise over 10 million square feet of space with a completed value of over \$3 billion. Go to www.brightworks.net.

Bodies in Balance has moved to 208 SW 1st Ave., where licensed practitioners offer Pilates, Gyrotonics,

and therapeutic massage. In addition to private sessions, clients may join group sessions and even sign up on line. Go to www.bibpilates.net.

Northwest Burger opened on January 1st. This is the second neighborhood venture for Hung and Mai Troung, who also own **Maily's** in the New Market Theater. The new location at 101 NW 2nd Ave. offers classic fare, served in a crisp clean décor with a splendid wrap around view of the street.

Larry's Shoe Repair and Keys opened January 14th at 115 SW Ash St. in the location where **Rubio's** has closed. After many years building a business that was recognized as the leading shoe repair shop in Old Town, Cesario Rubio has retired.

The end of 2007 also marked the close two great art institutions at the corner of NW 5th Ave. and Couch St., Jenn Armbrust's **Motel** and the contemporary art space of the **Portland Arts Center (PAC)**. Best wishes to Jenn and PAC as they launch artistic innovations with new formats.

NRFCU Receives Social Responsibility Award

By Carol McCreary

Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union at 221 NW 2nd Ave. has been honored with the **Dora Maxwell Award for Social Responsibility** for work they do with **Central City Concern (CCC)**.

Each week, President/CEO Char Shinn or Director of Financial Services Erin Mulkins teaches a "Moneywise" class to CCC's clients. The idea behind "Moneywise" is to have each participant learn how to make a personal budget and handle money and credit wisely. Nearly 300 individuals complete the class annually.

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NWHF Awards Grant to Sisters of the Road Cafe

By Patricia Jay

Sisters of the Road Cafe has received a grant of \$225,000.00 from **Northwest Health Foundation (NWHF)**, an Old Town Chinatown philanthropic organization and neighbor at 221 NW 2nd Ave., #300. The grant was part of almost three million dollars awarded from Northwest Health Foundations's **Kaiser Permanente Community Fund** to 14 organizations, including **Central City Concern**. Sisters will use the grant over the next three years for their **Systemic Change Program**, to provide education about homelessness, partner with other organizations, and empower homeless men and women. For a complete list of the funded projects, please go to www.nwhf.org.

Sisters also celebrated **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** on January 21st with a rally and march. The march to celebrate the theme "Empowered by the Strength of Love" wound from the cafe to **First Unitarian Church**. On February 2nd, Sisters presented the **20th Anniversary Winterfolk Festival** at the **Aladdin Theater**, featuring Peter Yarrow and other musicians.

Sisters welcomes **Michael Buonocore**, their new Associate Director. Michael was formerly on staff at the **Housing Authority of Portland**.

To learn more about Sisters of the Road Cafe, go to their web site at www.sistersoftheroad.org.

Children's Cancer Association To Present Radiothon and Luncheon

By Patricia Jay

Children's Cancer Association will present their Radiothon on **105.1 The Buzz**, February 7th - 8th. Their **Get Inspired Luncheon** will be at the **Multnomah Athletic Club** on April 9th.

Children's Cancer Association (411 NW 4th Ave., #100) provides information, support, and advocacy for families with children who have cancer and other serious illnesses (Not all of the children they work with are terminally ill). Their programs include the **Caring Cabin**, an Oregon Coast retreat home refuge for families with a child fighting a serious illness, and **MusicRx**, a program that brings music directly to the bedside of children at **Doernbecher** and **Legacy Emmanuel Hospitals**. They also have a needs list through their **Dream Catcher Wish Program**, which provides family support and wishes for children and teens who may not be served by other wish organizations. Please go to www.childrenscancerassociation.org.

OTCT Organizations Announce Changes

Union Gospel Mission - When the evening temperature drops to 32 degrees and below, the Mission opens its doors to shelter up to 40 people, men or women. Also, neighbors are invited to tour the new building at NW 3rd Ave. and Burnside. Please see www.ugm.org.

Blanchet House - Blanchet House announces that they have temporarily suspended their Sunday Brunch meal. Blanchet House serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, Monday through Saturday at 340 NW Glisan St. Go to www.blanchethouse.org.

Street Roots - The Spring edition of the **Rose City Resource** is out now. The Rose City Resource is a comprehensive list of services for people experiencing homelessness or poverty. To obtain copies, call 503.228.5657. Street Roots is a bi-monthly newspaper which addresses homelessness and poverty in Portland. Vendors sell the paper at various locations throughout the city. To learn more, please see www.streetroots.org.



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Mercy Corps moves its global headquarters to Old Town Chinatown's Skidmore Fountain Building.

Summer 2009.

Learn more at www.mercycorps.org/centerforchange



Portland Walking Tours Reveals Past of OTCT



Portland Walking Tours crosses under the Chinatown Gate

Portland Walking Tours offers two regularly-featured tours that romp through Old Town Chinatown, a treat for neighborhood members. Founder David Schargel says: "Attendees often comment that they walk by something every day, and didn't realize the fascinating history behind it."

The "Underground Portland" Tour uncovers Portland's scandalous past. In 2008, the tour will delve more into more radical elements, including the I.W.W. (Wobblies) movement in Old Town Chinatown, and Tom Burns, who had a major activist library in his shop near 2nd Ave. and Burnside. Says Schargel: "Everyone is always amazed that this area is full of stories of working class people that fought against repression and injustice." The "Beyond Bizarre" Tour is a skeptical look at Portland hauntings.

Portland Walking Tours also offers "A Walk Through Time", a by-request tour featuring the art, architecture, and history of Old Town Chinatown. See www.portlandwalkingtours.com.

Neighborhood's Oldest Restaurant Begins Second Century



Aw, shucks! Old Town neighbors go bottoms-up at Dan and Louis Oyster Bar

Dan and Louis Oyster Bar at 208 SW Ankeny St. has been welcoming oyster lovers in Old Town for more than 100 years. They celebrated their 100th birthday in 2007.

The Oyster Bar is a core part of Old Town, and an active part of the community. Each summer they shut off the street adjacent to the restaurant and hold their **Annual Oyster Festival** to raise funds for a local non-profit. And who can forget the mountain of oysters on the half-shell they served up last summer at the neighborhood **National Night Out**?

The charming nautical decor, broad menu and Old Shucking Room Bar are all inviting, and make you feel as if you have been welcomed into someone's home. Great picks from the menu include the chowders and cioppino, and the "Captain's Platter".

For hours, menus, and oyster information, go to www.danandlouis.com.

Upcoming Events

"Passing The Fan, Traditional Japanese Dance in Oregon", a new exhibit at Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Ave. January 20th to April 27th. \$3.00, Free for Members. Go to www.oregonnikkei.org.

Portland Jazz Festival presents jazz in local venues, including Wilf's at Union Station, Embassy Suites, Someday Lounge and Voleur. See www.pdxjazz.com for times and prices.

Saturday Market reopens under the Burnside Bridge. March 1st, 10:00 am. Go to www.portland-saturdaymarket.com.

Alice B. Toeclips Awards and Auction for the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. March 4th, 5:00 pm at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Please go to www.bta4bikes.org/alice.

"Paint the Town Red" - The Annual Fund-raising Dinner and Art Auction for the Oregon Jewish Museum. May 4th at the Governor Hotel, 614 SW 11th Ave. Go to www.ojm.org.

Cinco De Mayo Festival at Tom McCall Waterfront Park on Naito Parkway. May 5th, 11:00 am to 10:00 pm. For event listings, see www.cincomayo.org.



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Old Town Chinatown Spring 2008 Crossword Puzzle

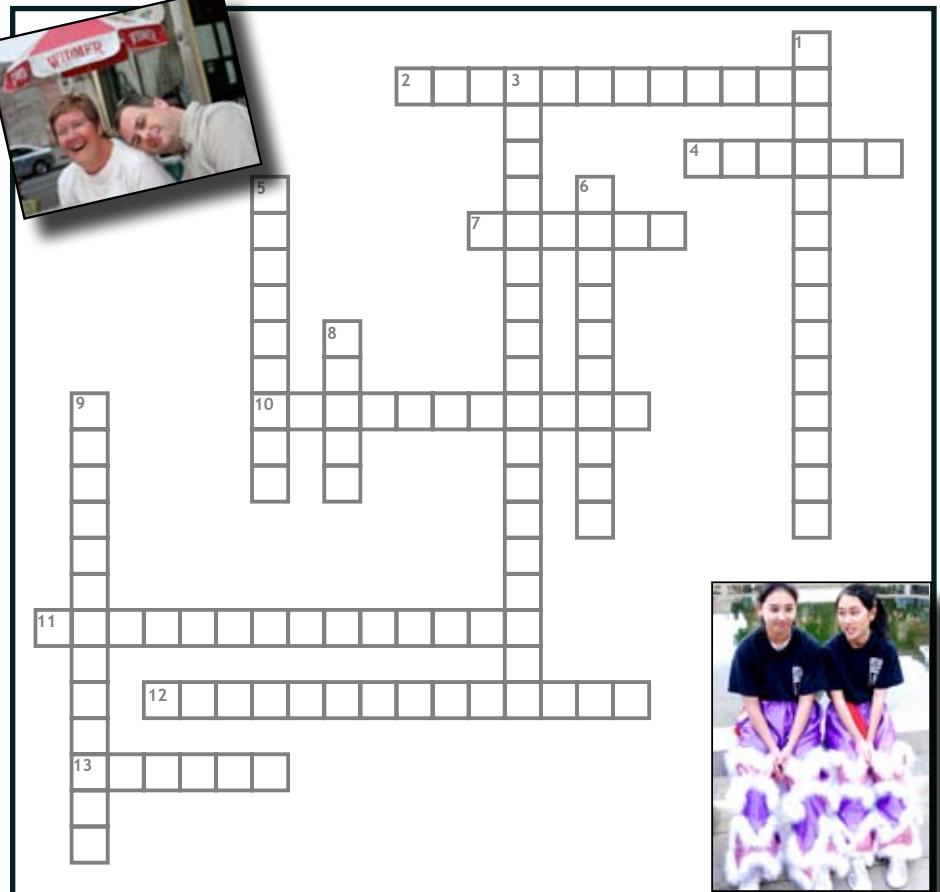
Think you know Old Town Chinatown? Here's your chance to try your hand at neighborhood trivia.

Across

2. Business that hosts a ghost called "Nina".
4. Neighborhood organization that understands that when you need to go, you need to go.
7. Restaurant in Old Town where magic may happen.
10. Local business recently recognized with a Mayor's Office "Spirit of Portland" award.
11. Festival celebrated in February in Old Town Chinatown.
12. Artist live-work resident lofts in Old Town Chinatown.
13. Delicious snacks found at Fong Chong, Wong Kee, and House of Louie.

Down

1. Portland's largest outdoor market.
3. A local import shop that regularly hosts live music concerts.
5. New night life spot where Elvis can sometimes be seen.
6. Global relief organization that will soon move their headquarters into the Skidmore Building.
8. An Italian game that is played in the North Park Blocks.
9. Monthly event Old Town Chinatown shares with the Pearl District.






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Old Town Chinatown Crier

Spring 2008

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

Experience Old Town Chinatown: Portland's Oldest and Most Diverse Neighborhood



Old Town Chinatown is a neighborhood rich in culture and history, and boasting a variety of attractions, art galleries, night life, museums, dining and retail. It is also home to dozens of non-profit organizations that aid and enrich the community. The neighborhood is constantly evolving, and we would like to invite you to be a part of creating that vision.

There are many ways to participate. Come to the **Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association** monthly meetings, join a committee, or enjoy one of the fun community activities that take place each season, like **National Night Out**, or the **Christmas Ship Viewing Party**. Or write an article sharing your views for the *Old Town Chinatown Crier*. See page 2 and 3 of this newsletter to find out more, or go to the neighborhood web site at www.oldtownchinatown.com.



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