



OLD TOWN CHINATOWN CRIER

SPRING 2003

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

COME ONE COME ALL Help Us Celebrate and Participate

IT IS TIME TO CELEBRATE!

The Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association [OTCTNA] Annual Meeting is coming up. Come out, meet your neighbors, fellow workers, and volunteers, and get current on events and programs that continually enhance the neighborhood. Our Annual Meeting is a great opportunity for you to get involved or help us identify issues that help us continue our progress of a healthy and dynamic neighborhood. In addition, there will be an election of new board members and a brief update on neighborhood news.

The celebration will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2003, beginning at 4:30 PM at the Port of Portland Building located at 121 NW Everett. Board elections will be held at 5:30 PM.

We look forward to seeing you there! For more information, contact OTCTNA Chair Howard Weiner at 503.248.0495.

Second Annual Lantern Parade Closes Lunar Year Celebrations



Celebrations welcoming the arrival of the lunar year 4701 came to a close on Saturday February 15, 2003 in Old Town Chinatown. The Year of the

Ram was ushered in by hundreds of children parading through the rainy streets of Chinatown with hand made glowing lanterns. This marked the second time the New Year was celebrated with the Lantern Parade. Other parade attractions included a lion dance, martial arts performers, Chinese musicians, ribbon dancers, marching band, dignitaries, and a dramatic dragon dance finale.

The Portland Classical Chinese Garden organized the parade as well as several events and exhibits celebrating the New Year.

Medford Building Open House March 19

All are welcome at the Medford Building Open House! On Wednesday, March 19, 2003, from 2-4 PM, Central City Concern and Multnomah County are hosting an informal open house at the Medford Building, 506 NW 5th, to celebrate the newly remodeled building and the program partnership with Multnomah County. The Medford Building is an Alcohol and Drug Free Community, with low-income tenants living in a supervised, case-managed clean and sober environment. At the open house, tours of the building will be given and refreshments will be served. For more information about the open house, please contact Christine Fry at Central City Concern, 503.294.1681.





COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND EVENTS

State Agency Can Help Resolve Problems Before They Escalate

By Janice Kindrick

Most businesses that sell alcohol obey liquor laws and want to be good neighbors. However, sometimes problems do occur. For most situations, the best first step is to contact the business owner or manager and attempt to resolve the problem. If the alcohol-related problem continues, Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) can help.

OLCC can enforce liquor laws most effectively when people with a complaint identify themselves. Your name, address, and phone number are necessary because you could be subpoenaed if there is an administrative hearing. You would be asked to verify that a specific incident occurred. This type of information is necessary if the OLCC takes enforcement action against a business owner.

The majority of complaints do not immediately result in enforcement action. Complaints such as noisy patrons, loud music, disturbances, and visibly intoxicated patrons are common. OLCC inspectors contact the business owner to inform them of the complaint. Often, the situation is resolved once the business owner has specific information upon which they can act. For these types of situations, you do not need to identify yourself.

Specific information is always preferable. The more specific the information you give us, the more assistance we can provide the business owner with resolving the problem. OLCC employees will ask you the following questions:

- ◆ Which business is involved?
- ◆ What happened exactly?
- ◆ When did the incident occur? Day? Time? Place?
- ◆ Who was involved?
- ◆ What did he or she look like? How tall? Long or short hair? Age?
- ◆ Do you know the names of anyone involved?
- ◆ Has this ever happened before? When?
- ◆ Were there any witnesses? Who?
- ◆ If the incident happened outside the building (i.e. on the sidewalk), how do you know the incident is connected to the business?

You may call the OLCC dispatcher at 503.872.5070 until 3:00AM on Friday and Saturday nights to report serious incidents that are in progress. The same phone number can be used at any time to report an incident that has already happened.

If problems continue, it is important to keep a written diary of specific who, what, where, when, and how information. Accurate information is necessary to document specific incidents if enforcement action is taken against a business.

OLCC Inspectors investigate complaints. If problems continue, or if a specific violation is verified, enforcement action could include a fine, license suspension, or a plan to impose more strict business operating standards. Eventually, if the problems are not adequately addressed, the Commission may revoke or cancel the liquor license.

Most licensees are responsible business people who comply with the law. OLCC Inspectors work with business owners to educate them about liquor laws and help owners and operators run their businesses responsibly and lawfully. It is easier to resolve problems before they get out of hand.

Janice Kindrick is the Oregon Liquor Control Commission Inspector in the Old Town Chinatown neighborhood and works with nightlife and entertainment establishments. Janice is a member of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association and the Public Safety Committee.



Entertainment venues are an essential part of our neighborhood, but safety in the nightlife district is everyone's responsibility

OLD TOWN CHINATOWN CRIER

As I See It - SRO Living in Old Town Chinatown - A Resident Perspective

By Karen Goen

As some of you may know, SRO stands for Single Room Occupancy. In Old Town Chinatown, most SRO housing is restricted to those earning less than 30% of Median Family Income (\$13,800 annually). The average SRO unit is outfitted with a small single basin sink, a dorm size refrigerator, and a twin size bed, all of which are contained in a space that averages only 250 to 300 square feet.

I recently met with ten of my fellow residents to discuss the pros and cons of SRO life. From that discussion came the common thread that while there are some obvious advantages, there are also some equally obvious disadvantages to living in an SRO building. Most fit under the basic categories of housing assurance, sanitation, security, and community.

While a SRO unit does provide a person with a warm dry place in which to live, there are certain restrictions imposed. Along with the aforementioned income restrictions, there are restrictions concerning both being allowed visitors and being a full-time student. While some SRO buildings allow for a limited number of visitors during certain hours, others allow none at all. Most of us agreed that this adds to more isolation and depression, as well as creating a hindrance for those who need to develop more acceptable people skills. The restriction on being enrolled in school full-time has not always been fully explained before a resident moves in, so those who are trying to better their lives through education can suddenly find themselves facing eviction. Additionally, the simple acts of not filling out a form correctly, not being able to come up with the rent on time, or not understanding the lease when moving in can cost a person his or her housing.

In order to fit more SRO units into a building, kitchen, restroom, and bathing facilities are consolidated into what are called community kitchens and common use restrooms and showers. Community kitchens may not always have all the equipment needed and in other cases, the equipment is there, but not functioning properly, if at all. It was felt that the community kitchens and common use restrooms and showers were not cleaned frequently enough to ensure proper sanitation. Moreover, like the kitchens and laundry rooms, each person must supply his or her own toiletries, including soap in the common use restrooms. Since some residents cannot afford even basic items like paper towels and various soaps, they expose themselves and possibly others to harmful bacteria, viruses, and potentially food poisoning.

Even though these buildings are under staffed, there is still a sense of security and privacy. Unfortunately, in alcohol and drug free SRO buildings, if a tenant relapses into a problem with drug and/or alcohol abuse, it is harder to evict that tenant than it is to evict someone who is late with the rent. Due to the legal delays encountered in evicting a problem tenant, an unsafe environment, for the other tenants, can be created.

The community that develops among tenants, many of whom are dealing with the same issues, is one of the biggest advantages to SRO living. For those who are attempting to maintain sobriety from alcohol and drugs, there is a built in support system available 24 hours a day. One can always find another tenant to talk with in times of depression, discouragement, or other problems.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that SRO residents are grateful for a "place to call home." However, they suffer from a lack of security and respect that is given to others in a more traditional living situation. After all, SRO residents are living, breathing, slightly down on their luck, individuals that should be treated no differently than anyone else. All that most are asking for is decent living conditions and the right to hold one's heads up high and be proud of what is being accomplished. This is a right that should be allowed to all, regardless of economic worth. No one should be treated as just a number. We are, as Thomas Jefferson wrote almost 227 years ago, "all created equal."



Sally McCracken is one of many SRO residential properties in Old Town Chinatown

Starting with this issue The Town Crier will feature a guest editorial column entitled As I See It, which we hope will appear in each future issue. All submissions must be about topics directly related to the neighborhood and are subject to editing. Publication is not guaranteed and all submissions become the property of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association's Communications Committee. For submission information, please contact Howard Weiner at howard@calsk8.com.



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Community Partner Profile: Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union

Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union, located at NW Second and Everett, is a full-service, not-for-profit, financial institution serving anyone who lives, works, worships, or attends school in the Old Town Chinatown neighborhood, as well as Portland's Central City neighborhoods.

Northwest Resource returns all of its earnings to its members in the form of lower loan rates, higher savings rates, and minimal fees. They offer everything from free checking and free online banking to Visa credit cards and home equity loans. In addition, they have a surcharge-free ATM and offer free check cashing to members! The friendly staff at Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union are dedicated to providing personal service to all of their neighbors in the Old Town Chinatown neighborhood.

To learn more about the benefits of membership or to join, stop by their office at 221 NW Second, call 503.220.2592, or visit their web site at www.nrfcu.org.

You see us.... But do we see YOU?

By not participating in OTCTNA, you allow the neighborhood association to assume we are doing a good job. While we like the personal satisfaction of "thinking" that we are wonderful, we know that YOU are out there with more excellent ideas and heartfelt concern for this neighborhood. GET INVOLVED. SHARE. IT'S FUN AND FREE.

Check out meeting times or join online today at www.portlandalliance.com/otct or call OTCTNA Chair, Howard Weiner at (503) 248-0495.

Gavin Shettler Closes; PCAC Opens!

Gavin Shettler, former curator of the Gavin Shettler Gallery located in the Everett Station Lofts, officially closed his doors earlier this month in order to focus his efforts on a newly created nonprofit arts organization called the Portland Center for the Advancement of Culture (PCAC).

Shettler cofounded the organization with Bryan Suereth who operates the Disjecta Gallery in NE Portland. Both believe that Portland's burgeoning arts community lacks a fundamental cultivating entity that will solidify and promote regional art beyond the city's boundaries. Thus, PCAC was formed.

PCAC will provide artists with a much-needed arts center that will initially include: a gallery space for the display of visual art; an event space to host a variety of performance arts including film, theater, music and installation projects; and a resource center to educate and facilitate the research and creation of art.

For its first year of operation, PCAC is seeking temporary office and gallery space while it searches for a permanent home. And to kickoff its first season of fundraising, PCAC created the "Know Portland" series – an evening of dinner, visual and performance works, and the chance to win art by one of Portland's emerging artists. Each event takes place in a different quadrant of Portland and May's event is tentatively scheduled for the Northwest sector.

For information about tickets or to be included on PCAC's monthly e-newsletter, please contact us at 503-335-6979 or send email to pcac@attbi.com.

A Moment in Time...

Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.

Robert F. Kennedy

The charm of history and its enigmatic lesson consist in the fact that, from age to age, nothing changes and yet everything is completely different.

Aldous Huxley



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WEB VERSION EXCLUSIVES!

Community Partner Profile:

Portland Farmer's Market

The Portland Farmers Market will begin the 2003 Season in May. Portland Farmers Market-Saturday will be open from 8:30AM until 2PM weekly starting Saturday, May 3, 2003 until November 22, 2003, in the South Park Blocks at Portland State University. Portland Farmers Market-Wednesday will be open from 10AM to 2PM weekly starting Wednesday, May 14, 2003 until October 29, 2003, in the South Park Blocks at SW Main Street.

Dates and locations for Portland Farmers Market-Thursday, which has been open in the North Park Blocks late on Thursday afternoons the last two seasons, have yet to be announced. The Portland Farmers Market website is www.portlandfarmersmarket.org.



Portland Farmer's Market is just one of several programmed uses of the North Park Blocks

Association Committees and Meeting Information

Board of Directors Meeting
(Open to All)
First Tuesday of the Month
Port of Portland Building
121 NW Everett
4:30 – 6:30 PM.
OTCTNA Contact:
Howard Weiner (howard@calsk8.com)

Joint Land Use & Design
Review Committee Meeting
First Tuesday of the Month
Port of Portland Building
121 NW. Everett
3:30 PM. – 4:30 PM.
OTCTNA Contact:
Paul Verhoeven (paul@saturdaymarket.org)
Visions Contact:
Patrick Gortmaker
(patrick@kalbererco.com)

Medford Advisory Committee Meeting
First Thursday of the Month
Central City Concern
232 NW Sixth Avenue
11:00 – 11:30 AM.
Medford Contact:
E. V. Armitage
(ev@centralcityconcern.org)

Public Safety Committee Meeting
First Thursday of the Month
Central City Concern
232 NW Sixth Avenue
11:30 AM. – 1:00 PM.
OTCTNA Contact:
Howard Weiner (howard@calsk8.com)

Communications Committee Meeting
Last Monday of the Month
Central City Concern
232 NW Sixth Avenue
4:00 – 5:00 PM.
OTCTNA Contact:
Jan Anderson (otctna@quik.com)

Visions Committee Meeting
Second Wednesday of the Month
Central City Concern
232 NW Sixth Avenue
11:30 AM. – 1:00 PM.
Visions Contact:
Mark Riesmeyer
(mark@centralcityconcern.org)

Schedule subject to change, see
Calendar on:
www.portlandalliance.com/OTCT
for the most current information.



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WEB VERSION EXCLUSIVES!

Garden Events This Spring!

Portland Classical Chinese Garden
Events and Classes March 16 to May 31, 2003

The next three months of engaging events and classes at the Portland Classical Chinese Garden are designed to enhance understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture. The Garden's offering includes:

March 22 - May 22, 2003

Chinese Apothecary Chest Exhibit

An early 20th Century Chinese Apothecary Chest on loan from the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) will be on exhibit for two months. The family of Leah Hing, a prominent Oregon aviation personality, donated it to OHS.

April 4 - May 22, 2003

Traditional Chinese Kite Exhibit

Thirty traditional Chinese kites, each connected to a historic folk tale, including the tale of the Monkey King and Pig General and Dragon Centipede, are showcased in this six-week exhibit. In cooperation with the World Kite Museum of Long Beach, Washington, the Garden's display of traditional kites will offer visitors the chance to see firsthand these amazing specimens.

April 5, 2003, Saturday, 11 AM to 3 PM

Qingming Jie & Kite Festival Children's Kite Making

The Kite Festival offers children the opportunity to construct a kite in the Chinese Opera mask motif, free with Garden admission. Saturday April 5, 2003.

April 6, 2003, Sunday, 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Chinese Bird Kite Making Class

Where: The new Garden office, 127 NW 3rd Avenue
Cost: \$55 general public, \$45 Garden Members
Cost includes: All materials, free admission to kite exhibit inside the Garden, and refreshments. Space is limited. Register by March 24, 2003 to assure your space. Call 503.228.8131, ext. 2001.

April 26, 2003, Saturday 1 PM - 3 PM

Penjing for Kids

Children, ages 10-14, can explore a traditional Chinese garden art that is thousands of years old by potting and pruning their very own trees to create miniaturized landscapes.

Where: the new Garden office, 127 NW 3rd Avenue

Cost: \$42 general public, \$35 Garden Member with Family Membership

Registration and prepayment are required to assure a seat. Registration is needed by April 18, 2003. Call 503.228.8131, ext. 2001.

April 29, 2003, Tuesday, 7 PM to 9 PM

Growing Bamboo Workshop

Where: PCCG Greenhouse, 6801 SE 60th Ave.

Cost: \$15 general public, \$12 Garden members

Registration and prepayments are required to assure a seat. Registration is needed by April 22, 2003. Call 503.228.8131, ext. 2001.

May 3, 2003

Honoree Day

Individuals 80 years and older are offered free admission to the Garden.

Activities include a celebration of

Asian diversity through dance. Dancers from diverse Asian cultural traditions will be on hand to entertain, educate, and honor our seniors. The Asian Service Center Evergreen Senior Club returns to Honoree Day to share calligraphy, exercise, and dance skills with visitors. Honoree Day is funded by the H.W. Irwin and D.C.H. Irwin Foundation.

May 17 - 18, 2003, Saturday and Sunday, 1 PM to 4 PM

Penjing Exhibit

View fine examples of this traditional and ancient Chinese garden art. Penjing is the forerunner to bonsai and is often mistaken for bonsai.





Zimmerman Community Center
915 NW Lovejoy Street, Portland, Oregon 97209
503-224-4636-Phone, 503-224-1885 Fax
Info@zcommunitycenter.org,
www.zcommunitycenter.org

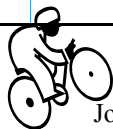
Spring 2003

All activities are held at Zimmerman Community Center unless otherwise noted.

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	1	2 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group	3 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	4 7-9 PM First Friday Flicks @ PNCA "Waiting For Guffman"	5
6	7 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	8 7-8:30 PM Container Gar- dening	9 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 PM Yoga 7:30 PM Artist Mass	10 10-12 Art & Spirit 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	11	12 10-11:30 AM ZCC Open House
13	14 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	15	16 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga	17 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	18	19 10:30-Noon ZCC Volunteer Training & Open
20	21 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	22 7-8:30 PM River District Book Club	23 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga	24 10-12 Art & Spirit 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	25	26
27	28 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	29	30 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga			

Hola, Ciao, Bonjour!
 Want to join a foreign
 language conversation
 group: Call ZCC to get
 involved!



Join ZCC's bike team for
 the May 17 "**Reach the
 Beach**" bicycling benefit
 for American Lung As-
 sociation. Call us to join!

For more information or to register
 for classes log on to the ZCC web
 site at www.zcommunitycenter.org
 for a copy of our registration form
 or call us at 503-224-4636.

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	2 7-9 PM First Friday Flicks @ PNCA "Silent Running"	3
4	5 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	6 7-8:30 PM ZCC Volunteer Train- ing & Open House	7 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 PM Yoga 7:30 PM Artist Mass	8 10-12 Art & Spirit 6-7:15 PM Tai Ch 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	9	10 10-11:30 AM ZCC Open House
11	12 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	13 7-8:30 PM Decorating for Small Spaces	14 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga	15 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	16	17 " Reach the Beach " with ZCC Bike Team
18	19 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	20 6:30-8 PM " Knitting by Design " A ZCC Knitting Club Open House	21 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga	22 10-12 Art & Spirit 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	23	24
25	26 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	27 7-8:30 PM River District Book Club	28 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 Yoga	29 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	30	31

Spring Program Schedule

Zimmerman Community Center is a nonprofit whose mission is to provide community activities for residents, students and workers in the River District. Therefore, participation in some classes is offered at a discounted rate for River District participants.

Adventures in Watercolors – Experimentation in techniques and textures. Some materials required, some materials supplied. Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 PM at ZCC. Fee: \$25 for 11-week session. Advance registration required.

First Friday Flicks – A must for all movie buffs! See calendar for monthly feature. 1st Friday each month, 7-9PM at Pacific Northwest College of Art, Room 201, 1241 NW Johnson. Free. Donations appreciated!

“Hints for Homebodies”: ZCC’s Second Tuesday Series

Don’t miss out on these handy helpful hints from the experts for your home and garden. 2nd Tuesday each month, 7:00-8:30 PM at ZCC. Fee: \$10 each or \$22 for 3-class series April 8: Container Gardening, May 13: Decorating for Small Spaces, June 10: Culinary Creations

Institute for Art & Spirit – Spiritual discussion, faith-sharing, yoga movement and meditation. 2nd & 4th Thursdays each month, 10-Noon at ZCC. By donation

“Knitting by Design”—A ZCC Knitting Club open house with special guests, knitting demonstrations and a chance to join ZCC’s very own Knitting Club! Tuesday, May 20, 6:30-8:00 PM at ZCC. Free!

River District Book Group – Engaging self-facilitated book discussion. 4th Tuesday each month, 7:00– 8:30PM at ZCC. Free – Participants provide own book

T’ai Chi –Continuing instruction of Yang style T’ai Chi by NW China Council. Thursdays 6-7:15 PM at ZCC. Advance registration required. River District Rate: \$50. Non River District Rate: \$75 for 11-week session

ZCC Yoga – Your community yoga connection: Community rates in our friendly community environment. All experience levels are welcome. River District Community Fee: \$8 drop-in/\$50 10-class card. Non River District Fee: \$10 drop-in/\$75 10-class card
Mondays Noon-1PM at ODOT, 123 NW Flanders (main floor fitness room)
Wednesdays Noon-1PM at ZCC
Wednesdays 6-7:15PM at ZCC

Zimmerman Open House – Begin your weekend in our friendly community space with coffee, conversation, crafts and games. Watch for exciting special guests! 2nd Saturday each month 10-11:30 AM at ZCC - Free. Donations appreciated!

Get involved in your community and have fun doing it! Join ZCC’s community of volunteers at our volunteer training and open house.

April 19, 10:30-Noon
or
May 6, 7:00-8:30 PM

Volunteers are the heart of Zimmernam Community Center. We are seeking volunteers to help in these areas:

Newsletter contribution
Office assistance
Program planning
Flyer distribution
Grant writers

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	3	4 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 PM Yoga	5 6-7:15 PM Tai Chi 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	6 7-9 PM First Friday Flicks @ PNCA “M*A*S*H”	7
8	9 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	10 7-8:30 PM Culinary Creations	11 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 6-7:15 PM Yoga 7:30 PM Artist Mass	12 10-12 Art & Spirit 6-7:15 PM Tai Ch 7:30-9:30 PM Adventures in Watercolors	13	14 10-11:30 AM ZCC Open House
15	16 5:30-7 PM TOPS	17	18	19	20	21
Summer Break Week For ZCC Programs (unless otherwise noted on calendar)						
22	23 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS	24 7-8:30 PM River District Book Club	25 10-11:45 AM Kids Play Group 12-1 Yoga 6-7:15 PM Yoga	26 10-12 Art & Spirit	27	28
29	30 12-1 Yoga/ODOT 5:30-7 PM TOPS					