



OLD TOWN CHINATOWN CRIER

FALL EDITION 2006

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

New streetscape opens with *Under the Autumn Moon*

On September 30 and October 1, 2006, Old Town Chinatown celebrates Under the Autumn Moon to mark the completion of the streetscape improvements on NW 3rd and 4th Avenues.

The weekend festival features an exuberant parade, big name performers on the World Stage, a lively Global Bazaar, food stalls and cooking demonstrations featuring the ethnic cuisines of the district, an outdoor movie and fireworks.

Under the Autumn Moon also offers the public a wealth of community-based offerings that celebrate the neighborhood's history of diversity, creativity and tolerance. Nearly two dozen Old Town Chinatown non-profit organizations have organized visits and walking tours with people who live and work here. In NW Davis street, festival goers can learn mahjong from experts and enjoy a lineup of great local groups on the Community Stage. Events are free and include Sunday visits to the Portland Classical Chinese Garden.



Shaolin Monks join Portland Taiko, Dragon Art, and Darcelle XV on World Stage

The World Stage on NW Flanders Street will host the legendary Shaolin Monks from China along with three renowned acts with strong links to Old Town Chinatown.

The **Shaolin Monks** come to Portland from the Songshan Shaolin Monastery near Zhengzhou, the capital of Henan Province. The Chinese characters for kung fu literally translate to "skill through hard work". The Shaolin style builds moral character, promotes circulation, strengthens the body, enhances coordination, and increases agility of mind and body.

Legend has it that in the sixth century, a high monk arrived from India to teach Zen Buddhism at the Shaolin Temple. To energize monks who fell asleep while meditating he taught them breathing and the animal exercises that became the basis for Shaolin Kung Fu. The monks also began the systematic practice of martial arts.



In addition to farming, meditating, and studying Buddhist writings, the troupe's twenty monks aged 13 to 58 train eight hours a day to accomplish their awe inspiring feats of beauty and strength. Bodies filled with the life force of chi and toned with years of discipline resist spear tips, blades and steel plates.

Portland Taiko, which was founded in 1994 and was based several years in Old Town, has emerged as the strong vibrant voice for Asian America. Acknowledged as the leading group in the North American taiko community, Portland Taiko performs throughout the U.S. Portland Taiko Ensemble represented the state of Oregon in the Continental Harmony program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Composers Forum. In addition to performing new works each season, Portland



Taiko conducts workshops for professional and aspiring drummers, including week-long camps for children.

The only professional Chinese Puppet Theater in the U.S., Portland's **Dragon Art Studio** combines artistic expression, traditional Chinese Opera, meticulous handcraft, and the technology of contemporary engineering. Puppeteers Yuqin Wang and Zhengli Xu are recipients of the 2004 National Heritage Fellowship Award, the highest honor awarded to folk and traditional artists. Dragon Arts has performed at the Kennedy Center and at the 1996 Olympic Games. Brenda Xu, the daughter and apprentice of the artists manages the Dragon Art Gift Shop. Located at NW 3rd and Everett, it carries items of clothing, furniture and craft that are hand selected by the artists during their travels.



For over 35 years, Darcelle XV, the star of **Darcelle XV & Company** has brought glamour, glitz, and peppy, hot stand up comedy to Old Town, Portland and a nation of fans and admirers. An entertainer extraordinaire, Darcelle gets better with age. A recipient of the Spirit of Portland Award and our neighborhood's best known cheerleader, Darcelle headlines the Saturday evening lineup on the World Stage

Other Main Stage performers represent the diverse cultures of Old Town: African American, Roma/ Gypsy, Jewish, Greek, and 160 years of ground-breaking counterculture.

Festival is free to the public

Thanks to dozens of community and business sponsors, festival events are free. Presenting sponsor for the *Under the Autumn Moon* festival is Bank of America. Supporting sponsors are Bill Naito Company, Central City Concern, Comcast, Lufthansa, MulvannyG2 Architecture, NW Natural, Port of Portland, Portland Development Commission, Portland Office of Transportation, Taipei Economic Cultural Office in Seattle, The Standard, Tri-Met and the University of Oregon. Dozens of neighborhood businesses and organizations have also supported the festival.

World Stage Performances

Saturday, September 30

- 11:30 am Dragon Art Puppet Theatre
- 12:45 pm Klezmocracy
- 2:00 pm Portland Taiko
- 3:15 pm Shaolin Monks
- 4:30 pm Gypsy Caravan Dance Company
- 5:45 pm Portland Jazz All-Star Jam
- 6:45 pm Darcelle

Sunday, October 1

- Noon Shoehorn's VonTap Quintet featuring Toshi Onizuka
- 1:15 pm Vagabond Opera
- 2:30 pm Cantonese Opera Troupe of the Hong Kong Baptist University Alumni Association of Southern California
- 3:45 pm Okaidja Afroso with Anai Music and Dance

Lion dancers from Viet Hung, Northwest Lion Dance and the Lee Association perform throughout the festival.

UNDER THE AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

KICK-OFF PARADE 10 A.M. SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

Grand Marshall: Mayor Tom Potter

Parade Highlights: Darcelle • The Royal Roserians

- Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Assoc. Language School
- Lions of Batucada • Shaolin Monks • Lion Dance
- Seattle Girls Drill Team • Wasabi Dragon Boat Team
- Evergreen Fan Dancers •

COME EARLY STAY LATE!

Neighborhood organizations invite the public for an inside look at Old Town

Under the Autumn Moon festival goers will have the opportunity to look deeper into the heart of the city, the place where Portland began.

Old Town Chinatown's vibrant organizations plan an array of visits and free walking tours that celebrate the sense of community and highlight the neighborhood's rich diversity. Volunteers will lead small groups to hospitality centers, art studios, and cultural spaces that are not usually open to the public. It is here that the experienced, authentic voices of Old Town Chinatown can be heard.

Discover Old Town on a history walk with a knowledgeable guide from one of the neighborhood's cultural organizations.

Historian Jacqueline Peterson of the Old Town History Project will highlight the historic ethnic presence in Old Town's streets and buildings. June Schumann and volunteers of the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center will introduce Japantown through guided tours of the center and Japanese American Historical Plaza. Former residents and individuals with long ties to the neighborhood will share stories of life and work in Old Town.

The Old Town Arts, Culture and History Group, a standing committee of the Neighborhood Association, is coordinating the history tours. At their booth on NW Davis at Third, visitors may get the schedule, sign up for the free tours, and pick up a map for self guided tours.

Follow the bronze sidewalk plaques to learn the history of the neighborhood.

Twenty bronze plaques are being embedded in the sidewalks as a part of the streetscape improvements. Each features a botanical element and a quote related to the cultures that have left their mark on the neighborhood.

Suenn Ho designed the plaques, which were at the foundry in China which created the sculpture of bronze elephants in North Park Blocks. Quotes are from oral history collected by Dr. Jacqueline Peterson.

Information about the plaques is available at the MulvannyG2 Architecture booth on NW Davis at Third. Children may pick up large

sheets of paper and chalk to do rubbings of the plaques. Look for announcements of special tours.

Meet artists in their studios and curators in their galleries.

Visitors can get an inside introduction to the Old Town Chinatown art scene by touring galleries with guides from the Portland Art Center. Free tours are scheduled for 1 and 3 pm Saturday and 2 pm on Sunday.

Participants meet at the Portland Art Center, the city's largest contemporary art space and resource center. It is located at 32 NW 5th.

Take a street-wise tour with a volunteer from a community services organization.

Old Town is the heart of Portland in all senses of the term. Home to venerable non-profit organizations, the neighborhood has welcomed workers, the unemployed and people in transition throughout its history.

Today nearly three thousand people receive services each day in Old Town Chinatown. Organizations have a combined operating budget of over \$40 million. Together they employ 667 people and have 6,000 volunteers. All share a common belief in human dignity, compassion and justice.

Fourteen community services organizations are offering visitors the opportunity to see the neighborhood from the perspective of people who receive community services.

At the Community Pavilion on NW Flanders at 3rd, visitors can chat with representatives of the following organizations Blanchet House, Cascadia Behavioral Health Care, Central City Concern, Outreach in Burnside, Portland Rescue Mission, Salvation Army Harbor Light, Sisters of the Road, St. Vincent de Paul Downtown Chapel, Street Roots, The Macdonald Center, Transition Projects Inc, Union Gospel Mission, Wallace Medical Concern and Zimmerman Community Center.

Tours led by clients, staff and volunteers of organizations leave from the Community Pavilion every 90 minutes on Saturday and on the hour on Sunday.

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Public art tells the story of the community



Photo used with permission of Strode Photographic LLC

The story of the people who lived in Portland's oldest neighborhood is documented in the art of the 3rd and 4th Streetscape project. Old Town Chinatown has been home to diverse communities, among them Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Jewish, African-American, Roma and Scandinavian.

Oregon-trained sculptor Brian Goldbloom has created eight large sculptural street lanterns in stainless steel and granite to define the new festival blocks.

The artist, who is based in Amboy, Washington, has interpreted Old Town history in the granite base blocks. Artefacts which distinguish cultural groups and cultural periods appear to emerge from the stone, which will be lit at night from within the structure.

Goldbloom's works for Old Town Chinatown were chosen through a competitive process coordinated by the Regional Arts and Cultural Council.

A second public art project consists of cast bronze plaques that give a glimpse into the lives those who walked our streets in the past. Plaques are embedded in the granite-paved strip between the sidewalk and the curb.

Portland-based designer Suenn Ho has brilliantly integrated decorative plant motifs with text and calligraphy to produce twenty unique squares, each a harmonious whole. The Old Town History Project, led by Dr. Jacqueline Peterson, provided the oral history quotes.

On the plaque in front of the Merchant Hotel, for example, cherry blossoms are framed by stylized rivulets of water. The plaque carries the reminiscences of Yell Matsushima whose words, in an oral history interview, echo the past with a chillingly contemporary ring. "The Merchant Hotel was a miniature Japantown, brimming with children, a doctor, a dentist and the Teikoku Mercantile Company, run since 1905 by the Matsushima family. After Pearl Harbor in 1941 the Matsushima family had only one week to sell out before being sent to internment camps as 'enemy aliens'. Many lost everything."

Brian Goldbloom and Suenn Ho will be on hand at the festival to answer questions about the public art and their work.

Streetscape designed to foster neighborhood identity and economic growth

The newly completed 3rd and 4th Avenue streetscape is designed to strengthen the identity of our historic neighborhood, foster cultural and economic diversity, and promote a vibrant pedestrian environment. The \$5.35 million project was undertaken by the Portland Office of Transportation in partnership with the Portland Development Commission in accordance with the goals of the Old Town Chinatown Development Plan.

Improvements include new streets, two festival blocks on NW Davis and Flanders, sidewalks with granite accents, streetlights and large granite planters with eight large public art sculptures, and 20 commemorative bronze plaques. More than new 120 trees, mostly Asian varieties, have replaced 43 aging trees.

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Recuperation Care Program combines housing with medical support

By Nikki Jardin, Sisters of the Road Café

Carla* sat on the edge of her hospital bed listening intently to the nurse. The information about her after care and medication were complex. With graying hair gently framing her face and hands folded, she nodded after each instruction. Her clothes were clearly too big for her frail body and her shoes, just barely touching the linoleum, had obviously seen a lot of street time.

"I've packed some toiletries along with your clothes, which are clean. Good luck to you, Carla." Carla smiled her thanks and turned towards the man in the doorway. "I've got a van waiting downstairs for you," he smiled, "let's go!"

The man is Cory Padrone, the Program Case Manager for the Recuperation Care Program (RCP), a collaborative effort of Central City Concern (CCC) and several area hospitals. In the RCP, CCC's housing resources are paired with the medical and financial resources of three main care providers: OHSU, Providence Health Care and Care Oregon. The purpose is to provide temporary medical attention and shelter for patients who would otherwise be released to the streets after a serious illness or surgery.

The program currently occupies 12 beds in the Henry Building, a CCC managed single-room occupancy hotel located on SW 4th Avenue. Patients stay for up to 45 days. Sisters of the Road Café provides meals during the week; other meals are through the Oregon Food Bank.

The program used a system of referrals and criteria. With only 12 beds currently in use, Cory and the hospital's referral managers, have gotten good at matching the most eligible patients with RCP. Patients are referred through a discharge manager at OHSU or Providence. Cory then reviews the case chart with the Old Town Clinic (OTC) doctors who provide follow-up care. He meets with the patients and doctors involved to give a yes or no answer within 3 days.

OTC provides care for their new patients immediately. Carla was picked up at Providence hospital at 3 pm and will have seen her primary care physician by the next morning. It is this kind of efficient and collaborative care that Cory feels makes this program successful.

Adjusting to this type of care, however, can become a stumbling block to the patients themselves. Patients who usually seek medical care in the emergency room often are not familiar or comfortable with other

types of medical services. Cory is hopeful that his team can motivate their patients to use their doctors rather than emergency services.

"We need to retrain them on how to use the medical resources available to them. You are given a primary care physician - you don't need to use the ER for care.", Cory explains. "They can call me 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. My cell phone is always on and I am always available. I am a licensed EMT and can usually help our patients decide whether they absolutely need to go to the ER or whether they can wait and see one of our docs."

There are many reasons that RCP patients need assistive care and housing after leaving the hospital. Many patients come with wounds from surgery that need daily cleaning and dressing. Most are recovering from serious infections, which require stringent courses of medication, cleanliness and care to avoid further infection. Some hospital stays are also a result of prolonged alcohol and drug use. RCP helps get patients into treatment or after-care programs that help them to deal with their addiction issues. Patients who have hit the point of serious bodily trauma are sometimes ready to address these larger issues.

"In many ways, this is one last chance, hospitals will routinely street [put outside on the street] homeless patients. For some [patients], people have given up completely," says Cory.

For Carla this seems to be the case. "I didn't know there was anything like this. I've been out there a long time and I'm tired."

Sitting with Carla in her small, but clean room at the Henry, Cory discusses the criteria of the program with her. Again she listens with intent and nods agreeably to Cory as he runs down the list of what will keep her in the program through the following weeks. As he leaves, Cory asks her if she needs anything else and reminds her that his cell phone is always on. "Even in the middle of the night, you need to call me if you have any health concerns."

She smiles and says she has everything she needs for the moment and that she looks forward to getting a good night's sleep.

*Carla is not the patient's real name. Recuperation Care Program is part Old Town Clinic.



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Fire Station #1 to stay put and Saturday Market to expand into Waterfront Park

Following consultation with the Portland Development Commission and Portland Fire and Rescue, Mayor Tom Potter and Commissioner Erik Sten announced their decision not to build a new central fire station on July 17, 2006. It was believed that the savings could be better used in support of the University of Oregon's move into the White Stag blocks and Mercy Corp's interest in the area.

In August, the Saturday Market Permanent Home Study Stakeholder Advisory Group and the Saturday Market Board selected a location for the Market's new permanent home. It will be in Ankeny Plaza as well as in Waterfront Park, including in the area under the Burnside Bridge.

In September PDC announced that the historic Smith Block on the south side of the Ankeny Plaza will be redeveloped. More on Ankeny Plaza development is at www.pdc.us/ura/dtwf/dtwf.asp



End of an era: The faded green and white Coca-Cola sign on the former California Lodging House disappeared under black paint on the afternoon of August 14, 2006. Now a plastic billboard promoting the Make a Wish Foundation has taken its place on the north wall of the building at 207 NW Third Avenue.



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New Someday Lounge hosts TBA:06 events

Old Town's brand new Someday Lounge has gotten off to a high-profile start by hosting key performances in the ground-breaking Time Based Art festival, or TBA:06. Among them are New York's Jollyship the Whiz-bang and the Northwest's Blinglab whose irreverent puppets performed "The Untold Misadventures of Lewis and Clark".

Someday is the brainchild of Eric and Kris Robinson, founders of the incomparable Backspace two doors south. Coffee patrons can top off the lengthening autumn evenings with a fresh dose of cutting-edge performance. On selected nights, the lounge stays open into the wee hours as performers take their places at the open mike.

Someday's new website features an online stage where virtual participants can stream live performances, subscribe to news, or participate in a forum on avant-garde arts. Someday is located at 125 NW 5th Avenue, 503.248.1030, www.somedaylounge.com

PHLUSH T-shirts available to the public

Old Town's advocates for clean safe comfortable public restrooms are using t-shirts to get people talking about the issue. The new PHLUSH t-shirts bear the group's distinctive blue and white logo on the front and "I can't wait" and www.americanrestroom.org/phlush/ on the back. Produced by Saturday Market's Pyro, the shirts are available for \$16 from Lan Nguyen Orchid Salon at 203 NW 2nd Avenue.

The Garden invites you to join us as we celebrate *Under the Autumn Moon*, a festival of renewal & diversity in historic Old Town/ Chinatown.



Sponsor:



Parade

Saturday, Sept. 30, 2006
10 am
View from Broadway
or NW 4th



Portland Classical
CHINESE GARDEN

festival information/ parade route can be found at:
oldtownchinatown.biz

Public history initiative seeks information on Old Town

The recently-announced Old Town Heritage Initiative invites the public to contribute Old Town stories, experiences or photos. This collaborative public history project led by the Portland Bureau of Planning and their citizen advisory group is documenting Old Town history from approximately 1845 to 1945. The purpose of the project is to create interpretive essays, a walking tour, an image archive, and a school lesson plan.

If you have stories, experiences, family history, photos or artifacts to share please contact the Old Town Heritage Initiative at the Bureau of Planning. www.portlandonline.com/planning (503) 823-5837, or othi@ci.portland.or.us

Naito family presents keys to the University of Oregon

In a September 8 ceremony attended by Mayor Tom Potter, community leaders and hundreds of former employees of Naito family businesses, University of Oregon President Dave Frohmyer accepted the keys to the historic White Stag building from members of the Bill Naito family.

"Every building tells a story, and this building tells a long, rich story of Portland and the Naito family," said Art de Muro of the Venerable Group, Inc. Venerable has purchased the building and leased it to the university. Remodeling has begun in anticipation of a January 2008 opening of academic programs and a bookstore and Duck Shop with café.

Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

Membership in OTCTNA is open to all who reside, own businesses or property, or work in Portland's Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood. Meetings are open and committees welcome volunteers. If you cannot attend meetings but have ideas to share or would like to get involved please get in touch.

Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

First Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30pm; Port of Portland, 121 NW Everett.

Contact: Tom Carrollo (tom@beardsleybldgs.com)

OTCTNA Arts, Culture and History Group

Third Tuesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW Second Ave. Contact: June Schumann (onlc@oregonnikkei.org)

OTCTNA Communications Committee

Last Mondays, 4:00-5:00pm; Northwest Resource Credit Union, 221 NW Second Avenue. Contact: Carol McCreary (carolmccreary@comcast.net)

Joint Land Use & Design Review Committee of OTCTNA and Visions

First Tuesdays as required, 3:00-4:00pm; Central City Concern, 232 NW 6th Ave Everett. Contact: Paul Verhoeven (paul@saturdaymarket.org)

OTCTNA Public Safety Committee

Meets in conjunction with the Public Safety Action Committee (PSAC) for Old Town and Downtown. Second Tuesdays, 10:00 - 11:30 am, City Hall Rose Room. Contact: Howard (howard@calsk8.com)

Old Town Chinatown Visions Committee

Second Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:00pm; Central City Concern, 232 NW Sixth Ave. Contact: Susan Snyder (ssnyder@centralcityconcern.org)

PHLUSH (Public Toilets Research Group)

Second Thursdays, 5:00 - 6:00 pm The Monkey and the Rat, 131 NW Second Avenue. Contact: Nikki Jardin (nikki@sistersoftheroad.org)

For more information, visit our web site at www.oldtownchinatown.net.



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Mall Construction Open House

Join us to learn more about the bus relocation plan and TriMet's efforts to minimize construction impacts on businesses, residents, traffic and pedestrians.

Wednesday, November 15, 3-5:30 p.m.
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Sign up for email updates at portlandmall.org for more information or call 503-962-2150.

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Old Town Chinatown Crier

This quarterly publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association appears in December, March, June and September. Past issues are posted at www.oldtownchinatown.net. Please send news, articles and letters to Carol McCreary at carolmccreary@comcast.net

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OLD TOWN CHINATOWN **CRIER**

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

National Night Out supper attracts 100 neighbors



What many hope will become an annual tradition was launched on August 1 with the National Night Out neighborhood gathering. Organized by the neighborhood association to coincide with its monthly meeting and with the annual continent-wide crime prevention event, the supper attracted 100 people.

OTCTNA board member Randy Capron welcomed neighbors and various city officials to Voleur Restaurant at the corner of SW Ash and First. Saturday Market set up additional tables in the street and local restaurants and individ-

ual cooks provided the culinary treats. Downtown Crime Prevention Specialist Walter Garcia arranged for the visit of a mounted police officer and his horse. Clean and Safe staff showed up in their intriguing electric car.

In front of the majestic façade of New Market Theater the afternoon sun set on folks enjoying live guitar melodies, famous treats from Voodoo Donut and Old Town Pizza, and frisbees from Northwest Resource Federal Credit Union. Best of all, we all met neighbors who were new to us.



UNDER THE AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

Presented by:

Bank of America 

Saturday, September 30, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 1, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On the new festival streets at NW Davis and
Flanders between NW 3rd and 4th avenues

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE FESTIVAL

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