



The Roseway Reporter

roseway.org

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SUMMER 2010



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Join Us!

Roseway General Meetings are held three times a year on the second Tuesday of April, July, and October.

The meetings are held at Grace Lutheran Church, 7610 NE Fremont, 7 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

FREE ICE CREAM AGAIN! by Peggy Sullivan

On **Tuesday, July 13**, when it might be hot enough again to really enjoy cold sweet things, the Roseway Neighborhood Association's **summer quarterly meeting will be held in the 72nd Avenue Park blocks**. The ice cream man's always a big draw, and will be there at 6:30 p.m., with the meeting starting at 7:00, per usual. How terrific will that be, a hot evening hard to imagine on this wet May evening), and you won't need to make dessert that night! Come join us, sit on the grass to hear about National Night Out RNA celebrating it on August 3rd at Wellington Park) and from the folks at the Oregon Energy Trust, which

group is conducting FREE energy audits for your homes and who want to give you back money for doing the right thing (as someone who's received rebates from them after insulating my attic, I can tell you how much fun it is getting a check. The rebate comes from money we pay on our heating bills, so go get it!) The quarterly meeting is also FREE, of course, as is the air and the company of your neighbors; in these crusty days, FREE is something to take advantage of, so come on down. Bring a blanket/chair/good spirits. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., July 13, and we're usually done by 8 p.m. See you there!

The Iconic Raised Garden Beds by Paul Mooring

Have you seen them? You must have! On a walk, or a bike ride, or even driving around town? There they are, plain as daylight. You see them in front yards and backyards, anywhere they can fit! I'm talking, of course, about the iconic raised garden beds that have been and are becoming even more popular. With their iconic status, at least for the moment, well solidified in everyday Portland life my wife and I decided to see what all the hubbub was all about. A few weeks back (when the weather was actually nicer) we embarked on the journey to build our own.

The first thing you have to do is decide where they are going to go. Out front so you can proudly display your rhubarb for all to see? Maybe the

backyard where you can quietly grow every type of tomato known to man? We settled on our side yard since we are on a corner lot and don't get a lot of sun in the back of the house. This, apparently, is important...SUNLIGHT! Where ever you decide to build your garden, make sure it gets plenty of sunlight. Step 2 is to actually build the garden. We've seen everything from the simple to the extravagant. You can literally spend hundreds or next to nothing. Being somewhat industrious, I wanted top of the line everything, but my wife's commonsense helped us to ground (no pun intended) our garden in something a bit more simplistic and we met in the middle.

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But even simple it turns out is not so, well, simple. There are tons of choices from building materials, dirt and what a novice grower should plant first! After some thought, research and reading up online, we did what my Dad always said to do, "Start at the beginning." Wood! We needed wood. A quick trip to a wonderful and local cedar store on Sandy Blvd hooked us up with all the pieces to start construction. Tools! We needed tools. A visit to the Northeast Tool Library took care of that need, and it was free of course. Dirt! We needed dirt. Who knew there were so many choices in dirt? A local mulch company supplied us with a pickup truck of beautiful 5 way mixed dirt. What am I missing? Oh, yeah...PLANTS! We needed something to plant. My wife's love of tomatoes and my love of cooking herbs solved that quandary.

Several hours of measuring, drilling and moving of earth and we had ourselves two wonderful garden beds standing proudly in our yard. Fresh tomatoes, herbs, peppers and some marigolds around the perimeter of

the garden would help keep all sorts of bugs and pests away as we had learned. So, how did it turn out you may ask? Well, though the last few weeks have been somewhat void of sunshine, the garden is doing well I'm proud to report. So well that we're considering branching out into some other forms of gardening like bucket gardening with cucumbers and pumpkins. We might even try a homemade version of the upside down planter made for TV. My point is that home gardening and Portland are quickly becoming as synonymous as biking, bridges and beer. It's not only a very rewarding experience, but it is something you can make as simple or intricate as you want. Some lessons we learned are: (1) Follow nature. You don't need sprays when simply planting a natural enemy (like marigolds) will work fine. (2) Start slow and see how it goes. (3) The best piece of advice we got was, "If it grows in the garden it stays in the garden." In other words, compost! It's free nutrients for your garden once the growing is over. And above all, have fun and enjoy the fruits – or vegetables – of your labor.

Northeast 72nd Park Blocks by Denise Gorrell

Many of you may have noticed that the Northeast 72nd Park Blocks between Northeast Sandy and Northeast Prescott ("Park Blocks") remained unmowed and untended for several weeks this Spring. What was the reason? The Portland Department of Transportation ("PDOT") is in charge of mowing the Park Blocks and are only able to work the Park Blocks into their maintenance schedule a total of 4 to 5 times during the growing season. The first mowing appears to have occurred on or about May 20, 2010, it is unclear when the next mowing will be because it depends on the availability of PDOT personnel.

You may be wondering why PDOT has only mowed once so far this year, when the Park Blocks used to be mowed more regularly. The Park Blocks have been part of the Bureau of Transportation for many years. Until approximately 2 years ago, an interagency agreement was in place between PDOT and the Portland Parks Department for the Parks Department to maintain the Park Blocks. Due to the budget crisis, this interagency agreement was terminated and now PDOT must maintain the Park Blocks, and it is very low on their

priority list, given that only 15% of Portland city streets are actively maintained.

I spoke several weeks ago with Ginny Peckinpaugh, Public Advocate - **Bureau of Transportation in the mayor's office, (503) 823-1384** about the Park Blocks. Several neighbors had phoned her to complain/inquire about the condition of the Park Blocks. Ms. Peckinpaugh told me the above information about the regularity of the mowing. Ms. Peckinpaugh does not believe that it is feasible to have PDOT increase maintenance of the Park Blocks. She does recommend, however, community based solutions to maintain the Park Blocks. I understand that at least one of the neighbors who spoke with Ms. Peckinpaugh was interested in being involved in maintaining the Park Blocks. If more neighbors are interested in participating, I encourage you to come to our General Meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2010. Additionally, you can **e-mail 72ndParkBlocks@gmail.com** if you are interested in being involved in the community effort to preserve and maintain the Park Blocks. Thank you.

Radon Risk in Roseway by Nathan Farney

When I heard that it is common for Radon gas to seep from the ground into Northeast Portland homes, I decided to pick up a do-it-yourself Radon test kit from the local hardware store, and I'm glad I did.

Radon is radioactive. It is an odorless, colorless gas that is heavier than air. It is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the United States behind smoking. (If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, it is even more serious).

According to the literature that came with our test, the average level of radon in the US is 1.3 Pico curies per liter of air (pCi/L). The Environmental Protection Agency recommends action at 4.0 pCi/L. Our first test result came back at over five times that recommended action level. Needless to say we took this seriously and are presently doing a follow-up test with plans to install a (relatively) inexpensive mitigation system.

You can fix a Radon problem. Radon reduction systems work and they are not too costly. Some radon reduction systems can reduce radon levels in your home by up to 99%. Even very high levels can be reduced to acceptable levels.

The first step is to test. Our first test cost \$12 and that included the laboratory fee. I just exposed the test to air for two days, and mailed it in the included pre-addressed envelope to the lab. Our second test cost \$10 but it is a "double test" so we can verify the results, and I'll have to send \$30 for the lab test. These tests are very simple to perform and send in, and are very inexpensive considering the benefit.

Radon is prevalent in NE Portland, and you should test your home for it. You'll breathe easier.

For more information, go to www.epa.gov/radon.

Summer Spanish Intensive Courses in NE Portland

An intensive Spanish study program will be offered summer mornings, twice weekly in five week sessions for both Beginner and Intermediate Spanish students at NE Portland's Spanish Language and Latin American Cultural Center, Tierra Educational Center.

Now entering its second year, the local language school strives to create the intensive and cultural study experience found abroad, right here in Portland. In addition to providing language foundations, all courses integrate cultural lessons into the curriculum to offer a more holistic and complete education. Weekly evening classes are also available for all levels

of Spanish language learners. Classes are small group, only 3-8 students, offering a more personalized and community-based atmosphere.

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Annual Roseway Spring Cleanup by David Drouin

On May 15th, 2010, the Roseway Neighborhood Association held its annual spring cleanup at the Rose City Nazarene Church on 7016 NE Sandy Blvd., from 9am-3pm. The generous sponsorship and support of the City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, Metro Regional Government and the Central Northeast Neighbors Coalition (CNN) was paramount to the success of the event. The event would not have been possible without the hard work of 47 dedicated volunteers, the Rose City Nazarene Church and the coordinated efforts of AGG Enterprises, the hauler for the event.

The event served 138 neighbors. Their loads filled 3 containers of recyclable yard debris and wood waste, 4 containers of bulky waste, 1 container of cardboard and paper, 1 40-yard container of recyclable metal and appliances. Back by popular demand for 2010 was the recycling of plastics. One 30-yard container overflowed with all sorts of recyclable plastics. Because of the plastics recycling, the cleanup crew was able to use one less bulky waste container than last year, keeping almost an entire ton of waste from our landfills.



A reusable building materials area was created and the Rebuilding Center accepted a truckload of materials. In addition, neighbors took most of the remaining materials for reuse in their own home improvement projects. Reusable furniture and household items were accepted thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Community Warehouse, who filled a large box truck full of needed items for families in our community.

One of the highlights of the event was the You-Price-It area. Two large tents overflowed with reusable household goods. Neighbors and volunteers happily browsed the treasures in that area. The small amount of funds raised through that area was then used to provide food for the hard-working volunteers. The remaining items filled two pickup trucks and were donated to Goodwill.

The coordinators and organizers of the Cleanup would like to offer a huge round of applause to all of the volunteers of the event. The cleanup was intended to be a community-building event with neighborhood improvement and recycling as its theme.

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Volunteers enjoyed the beautiful day while they unloaded yard debris and household items. They offered expertise and on-the-fly ideas on how to improve the process and keep the event running smoothly. Most importantly, they reached out to their fellow volunteers and neighbors wherever help was

needed and had some fun along the way. The Roseway Neighborhood Association would like to reinforce its appreciation to the Rose City Nazarene Church for their generosity in allowing the event to be held in their parking lot. Their flexibility and support for the event was key to its success.

How do you know where to start saving energy?

You could be wasting as much as 60 percent of the energy used to heat and cool your home. Leaky ducts, inefficient equipment, poor insulation and air leaks may be inflating your energy costs. To find out what is causing the energy loss, use an online Home Energy Analyzer or schedule a Home Energy Review with Energy Trust of Oregon. An energy advisor will come to your home when it's convenient, spend an hour walking with you through your home and visually assessing typical areas of energy loss. After the review, you'll get customized recommendations on where to start, plus information on cash incentives available when you improve the energy efficiency of your home.



Sign-up online at www.energytrust.org/her for your Home Energy Review.

Top 5: Low-cost tips to save energy at home

There are plenty of simple, affordable—and often, free—ways to make your home more energy efficient. Complete Energy Trust of Oregon's top five and you can start saving energy immediately.

1. Unplug battery chargers for power tools, mobile phones, laptops and other devices when not in use.
2. Caulk small holes and cracks around plumbing pipes, exhaust fans, dryer vents, sink and bathtub drains, and fireplaces and under countertops.
3. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs, which last up to 10 times longer and can save \$30 over the life of each bulb.
4. Recycle that old fridge or freezer in your basement or garage—get free pickup and \$30 cash from Energy Trust, plus save up to \$200 per year on energy costs.
5. Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat so it adjusts automatically.

Find more no-cost, low-costs tips on Energy Trust's website: www.energytrust.org



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Save the Date! by Denise Gorrell

Come one, come all to the Roseway Neighborhood Association Night Out Party! The Party will be held from **6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, August 3, 2010** at Wellington Park between Northeast 68th and Northeast 66th on Skidmore. There will be food available and fun activities for the whole family. Please check out the www.roseway.org website or come by the **General Meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2010** for more information.

Roseway Community Calendar

Roseway General Meeting

FREE ICE CREAM!

Tuesday, July 13th, 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church
7610 NE Fremont

International Day Festival

Saturday, July 10th, 11am-5pm
Roseway Park Blocks
NE 72nd Avenue & Sandy Blvd.

Summer Concert in Rose City Park

Saturday, July 17th, 6:30pm

Neighborhood Garage Sale

Saturday, July 31st, 9am-4pm

Roseway National Night Out

Tuesday, August 3rd, 6pm - 9pm
Wellington Park, on Skidmore
between NE 68th & NE 66th

PDXIBD Meeting

4th Monday of each month at 7pm
Nazarene Church (across from
Safeway on Sandy Blvd.)

CNN LUTOP Meeting

Monday, August 2nd, 7 pm
CNN Community Room
4415 NE 87th Avenue

Roseway General Meeting

Tuesday, October 12th, 7 pm
Grace Lutheran Church
7610 NE Fremont

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Report a crime or fire	9-1-1	Street maintenance	(503) 823-1700
Police (non-emergency)	(503) 823-3333	Animal control	(503) 988-7387
Police Info & referral	(503) 823-4636	Abandoned Auto Hot line	(503) 823-7309
Drug house complaints	(503) 823-DRUG	Disabled autos on private property	(503) 823-7306
Noise control	(503) 823-7350	Poison Control hotline	(800) 222-1222
Graffiti hot line	(503) 823-5860	Crime Prevention Coordinator,	(503) 823-2779
Nuisance hot line	(503) 823-7306	Mike Boyer	

Roseway Neighborhood Garage Sale

This year's sale is scheduled for Saturday July 31st, from 9am to 4 pm.

As in the past, those neighbors wishing to participate need to fill out the coupon below, and submit to CNN, with a check made payable to RNA. Please use the coupon below to describe the type(s) of things you will be selling. **To be included on the map, these entry forms must be received no later than Monday July 26.**

Advertising will be submitted to the Oregonian, and to craigslist.

Online maps will be made available to the participants, along with signage, on the day before the event. All other maps will be available on Saturday morning at the Safeway, CNN, and Gregory Hts. Library.

The Roseway Reporter

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contact Nathan Farney at natefarney@yahoo.com

For submissions or comments about this newsletter:
contact Nathan Farney at natefarney@yahoo.com

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Contact CNN at: www.cnncoalition.org
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ROSEWAY GARAGE SALE ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Types of items for sale (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Kid's Items	<input type="checkbox"/> Household Items
<input type="checkbox"/> Furniture	<input type="checkbox"/> Tools
<input type="checkbox"/> Clothes	<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous

I'd like to donate _____% of my earnings to the Roseway Neighborhood Association (Optional and non-tax deductible).

Please enclose your payment of \$5 (check or money order payable to Roseway Neighborhood Association). Mail or deliver your \$5 check and form to Central Northeast Neighbors at 4415 NE 87th Avenue no later than noon on July 26th.

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International Day Festival

Saturday July 10, 2010
11am to 5pm

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