

*Next Meeting of the Homestead Neighborhood Association*

**Tuesday, September 6, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

OHSU CDRC, 707 SW Gaines St, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

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[www.HomesteadNA.org](http://www.HomesteadNA.org)

**Annual Picnic and National Night Out Success!** It was a “happening” thing: hula hoops, fire engine, kids and dogs running around, important information and just plain enjoyable fun with neighbors. We had Murphy Terrell from the Multnomah Neighborhood Emergency Team explaining the NET program and Jen Seamans from the Southwest Water Resources Center looking for Backyard Habitat participants; again we had a fire engine, always a hit; and were glad to see Officers Doug Dickinson, our neighborhood liaison officer, and Mike Villanti. Both handed out junior police officer stickers and other “prizes” to the youngsters. We are most grateful to OHSU which again provided us with tables and chairs; it really gets us going. Thanks to the businesses who helped us put on the picnic: again, Sushi Takahashi 2, Papa John’s Pizza, Raleigh Hills Fred Meyer. Special Thanks to University Shell for providing parking as well as door prizes (oil changes and discounts) and to neighbor Dan Yates and Portland Spirit for door prizes SIX pairs of tickets to Portland Spirit cruises. Thanks also to Alexander who did the drawing of the tickets. Thanks as well to our great chefs:: Bob Anderson and Jeff Schuh with Rich Davidson coaching. Harl and Mary Lou Haas and Ross and Melanie Calvin loaned us grills. The Schnells, Susan Jaeger and David Miller provided coolers; Bob Anderson helped with lugging and hauling. And finally, the wonderful people who came early to help set up (many of the above and Terry Egnor) and stayed late to close out a wonderful evening.

**Sam Jackson Park Road Closure:** We are now more than halfway through the project, and while there have been some delays on Terwilliger at commute times, we haven’t gotten many reports of dramatic changes in traffic patterns that coincided with the start of the project. That said, we continue to be aware for the possibility- good and bad- of long lasting changes in traffic flows as a result of the temporary closure. If anyone has any observations that they can share about changes in traffic flows (positive or negative), please send them to me ([eric8schnell@gmail.com](mailto:eric8schnell@gmail.com)). Particularly, we would like to keep an eye out for any residual changes in volumes after the project is completed (still scheduled for Labor day weekend, the new retaining wall is already under construction). If you make any observations, particularly in the form of car counts, etc., that would be very helpful in assessing these changes.

**Backyard Habitat Certification Program (BHCP):** This partnership between Columbia Land Trust and Audubon Society of Portland is designed to meet homeowners in their yards to help identify invasive plants, locate opportunities for native plants, improve wildlife habitat and manage stormwater. BHCP participants get access to discounts for native plants, soil amendments, and contractors. As discussed at our June meeting, BHCP will be coming to Homestead for a Community Site Visit Day in late September or October (exact date TBD). A celebration for neighbors will follow the site visits. For more information and to see the benefits of joining BHCP, or to sign up online, visit: <http://www.columbialandtrust.org/press-room/news-items/backyard-habitats-certification-program>. You can also call Jen Seamans, SW Watershed Resource Center Coordinator, at 503-

823-2862 with any questions.

**Next neighborhood association meeting:** September 6 at 7PM (location noted above). We first will have a presentation from city planners about the **Barbur Concept Plan**, and a chance to engage with the planning process for a rail line across SW Portland that is likely to be built within the next several years. In the meantime, if you want to keep up with the process, you can visit the city's website on the plan (<http://www.portlandonline.com/bps/barbur>) or contact the Homestead NA (via [eric8schnell@gmail.com](mailto:eric8schnell@gmail.com)) so we can keep you in the loop with any new developments. Wes Risher, from the Terwilliger Centennial Committee, will ask our support for a Sunday Parkways event in Southwest, on Terwilliger next year. In 4 years and 14 Sunday Parkway events, not one has yet been in Southwest. Our NA meeting agenda will also include regular reports from committee members, and update on the neighborhood sign cap project, and a discussion of our 2011-2012 action plan. All welcome... we hope to see you there!