



# TOWER TALK

Volume 29, Issue 4

July 2013



## TRIMET WINDS DOWN ON LINCOLN STREET

By Dee Ann Sandberg, TriMet Rep

### Part One

From the beginning of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Project construction along Lincoln St. in the fall of 2011 through today, a lot of change has occurred. From relocation and installation of utilities to rebuilding of roadways, sidewalks and driveways, the contractor has been very busy. At this point, landscaping is being planted, light rail tracks installed, and work on the light rail station area and platform is underway...so what's next?

Summer – Light Rail Station Installation: Lincoln Station will be the first light rail station on the alignment to receive a shelter and other amenities for installation. Shelter delivery and installation should occur in August. The eco-track foundation has been installed, and the platform station area work continues.

September 16-30 – Track Crossing on Moody Ave: Moody Ave. might seem a long way away from Lincoln St., but for those of you who have doctor appointments at OHSU or friends or relatives living in South Waterfront, we want to make sure you know that Moody Ave. will be closed just south of the Collaborative Life Sciences Building and just north of 3030 SW Moody Ave building and the Ross Island Bridge from September 16-30. Bikes and pedestrians will be able to travel through the construction zone on one sidewalk or the other, but vehicles will need to detour. Portland Streetcar will continue service, using shuttle buses during this work.

Tree Planting on Lincoln St: Our contractor has finished tree planting along 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> on Lincoln, between 1<sup>st</sup> and Naito, and in some private property areas, but more trees will be planted in the storm-water planters by the City of Portland later.

*If you have questions about the project, please contact DeeAnn Sandberg at [sandberg@trimet.org](mailto:sandberg@trimet.org) (Part Two will be printed in the August TT).*

## PLAZA CALENDAR

July 15—August 15, 2013

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### APTCA Meetings

<b>Board</b>	July 18 & Aug 15	Board Room	7:00
<b>Budget</b>	July 15	Lincoln Lobby	6:30
<b>Comms</b>	July 22	Lincoln Lounge	7:00
<b>Design</b>	July 25	Lincoln Lounge	4:00
<b>Exercise</b>	Aug 07	Lincoln Lobby	7:00
<b>Landscape</b>	Aug 06	Lincoln Lounge	5:00
<b>Operations</b>	July 24	Lincoln Lobby	7:00

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### Social Activities

**Closet Crafters:** August 10, Lincoln Lounge, 1-3 pm

**Happy Hour:** Fridays / 5 to 7 pm / Lincoln Lounge  
Bring an appetizer. **July 26: Celebrations Potluck**

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### Fitness Activities

**Zumba (Fees)—New Class Starting July 25th**

Thursdays: 10 to 11 am / Board Room

**Tai Chi**—Mondays, 6:30 pm, Board Room

**Yoga (Fees)**—Tues & Thurs, 8:40 am, Board Room

**Water Aerobics (Fees)**—Sivers Pool

Tues & Thurs: 6:15 to 7:30 pm / Sun: 8:15 to 9:30 am

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### Move-Ins

**Grant:** Annice Frederick & Tony Smith.

**Lincoln:** Cornelius Edison, Joshua Hanson, David Jones, Charlie & Linda Williams, Ron & Marty Yoder.

**Madison:** Alison Herson & Heather Hallett, Edith Rusch, Randy Stoller, Megan Maygra & David Himchak.

### Move-Outs

**Grant:** Ben & Claudia Brown, Charles & Kara Wright.

**Lincoln:** Ryan Ruarke, Emerald Ressler, Scott Makison, Marty Paitel, Xiao Shang & Yahan Zhang.

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**Tower Talk** is a publication of the American Plaza Towers Condominium Association, Portland, OR.

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## TRANSITIONS

**Susan and Adrian Roberts** have now moved out of Madison and settled in CA, but we owe Susan a special tribute for her years of contributing to the activities of AP and the art community of Portland. Her cheerful artwork brightened the walls of Sivers Center for a number of years, and her art was very popular at the Portland Art Museum Rental Gallery. She was an active member of the Board of Directors, Chair of the Design Committee, member of a Nominating Committee for board positions, and was frequently pictured in Tower Talk helping out with a variety of activities. If anyone is in contact with Susan, please convey our sincere thanks for her outstanding participation in AP affairs.

## BOARD BRIEFS

**Annual Pressure Washing:** The board approved \$4200 for this very noisy but necessary summer project. It will be completed as quickly as possible.

**New Decs & Bylaws:** Work continues on final corrections, and a special meeting will be set up to plan the AP owner approval process.

**Fire Alarm System:** The fire alarm systems in all 3 towers have been successfully tested. Approval by the Fire Marshall is assured once the installer provides certain items.

**Lincoln Piano Location:** The Board agreed to locate the piano in the Lincoln lobby temporarily until a final location is determined.

**Repair Project:** A \$24,000 bid was approved for an engineer to oversee work, starting July 8<sup>th</sup>, to repair balcony railings and other upgrades needed as a result of the envelope inspection of all three towers. It will be another noisy, disruptive project but necessary for upkeep of our buildings.

\* The Board often takes a break from regular monthly meetings in August (and December), but extra meetings on a special topic might be set up. Please watch bulletin boards to stay informed.

## ERRATA

Tower Talk apologizes to **John & Clare McNeur** for listing them incorrectly in the June TT. They have *moved into* Lincoln (not out!). Please also note the correct spelling of their last name: **McNeur**. We welcome them to American Plaza.

## BIG SPLASH FOR AP

**Kenny Bratz** brought glory to Lincoln Tower as the Captain of the Paddle Me Hard dragon boat in the recent Rose Festival races. But that's not all. 9 of the 16 paddlers were from Madison Tower! The Madison paddlers were **Paddo Ansbro, Dan Kvitka, Connie Miller, Will Miller, Christine Peggott, Miriam Urenda, Cecelia Valle, Victor Valle, and Stacy Webb.**

"The Paddle Me Hard crew had a blast at the races on June 8 - 9th," proud Captain Kenny reports. "We didn't win any medals, but we gave the other teams a run for their money!"

And here's the team cheer that helped spur them on:

**You paddle me, I'll paddle you.  
We won't stop 'til the paddlin's through.  
We paddle near, we paddle far.  
Then we'll see you at the bar!**

There's a turnover of paddlers from year to year and Kenny is always looking for new recruits. So far, Grant Tower residents (in the biggest tower!) haven't participated. So, how about it Grant residents?

### "NEWCOMERS NIGHT"

**Monday, August 5, 2013  
Lincoln Lounge / 7 pm**

Are you new to American Plaza?  
New to Portland? New to condo living?

Share your new-comer experiences at a special evening just for you. Ask questions. Learn the ropes from long-time residents. Help the Social and Communications Committees improve how they welcome new neighbors.

Whether new to the Plaza or an "old-timer," you're invited to join us for what should be a fun and informative gathering.

Tasty treats and cool drinks provided.

Questions? Call Linda Crum (503-228-8481).

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR John Cover: teacher and volunteer

Once in a blue moon, one meets an actual Portland Native: **John Cover** is one! A 3 year resident of APTCA, he moved to Grant Tower following the passing of his wife.

John is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Portlander, thanks to his grandfather who fled Alsace-Lorraine after the Franco-Prussian War, landed in Portland, became a music teacher, and opened a piano studio. John actually grew up in Arlington OR., where his father worked in the 30s surveying the Columbia River to prepare it for barge navigation.



Retiring from his administrative job at Lincoln High School 25 years ago, John looked back at a long career teaching history and social studies and counseling in the US and Canada. His favorite activity was adult education, teaching in his spare time, evenings and in summertime. When he arrived at AP, he found an old friend, **Ron Till**, already here. The two of them have served together on the Advisory Board of Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

In retirement John has been a volunteer for 18 years for the Urban Tour Group, started 36 years ago by the Jr. League, which was concerned about the city tearing down so many important historical buildings. They decided to offer free tours to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to show them the interesting history of their city. Adults can arrange for tours, too, though they need to pay a fee that helps support the services to children.

John is also a longtime volunteer for CASA, the court-appointed special advocate program. Though he spends a lot of his time volunteering, he's also an avid reader and recently joined the Uncommon Readers book club at AP. He generally prefers non-fiction and has been surprised to find some enjoyable novels via the book club.

John also spends time with his children and grandchildren in Portland and Seattle. When you come from the Northwest, why move anywhere else?

# FAULTY TOWERS

*Editor's note: Capital letters indicate tower.*

## **Incident Reports:**

**Deliveries:** 2 reports of unscheduled deliveries (G); Resident wanted instant delivery of small package. Asked to call MSI to schedule the deliveries (G).

**Handicapped Issues:** New resident not aware that AP is not subject to ADA was upset that car is parked too far from elevators. Advised to watch for better slots: Due to misunderstanding of meeting place, resident upset over late arrival of community wheel chair.

**Keys:** Key stuck in main door (L) on a Sunday was taped & fixed Monday; Resident on vacation missed getting new garage remote, demanded immediate action; Keys with Lexus logo found and returned to owner.

**Lost & Found:** Common area key found, turned in, not claimed: Lost pink iPhone reported but not found; Missing piece of gold watch reported but not found.

**Misc:** Process server unable to reach owner several times (G); Garbage chute jammed 2 times (G), once with packing paper & umbrella and once with contractor renovation debris (G).

**Noise:** Remodeling noise from project started a day too soon (M); Unusual noise from garbage chute reported (G) but source not found; Noise from remodeling reported but project had finished; Annoyed residents (L) heard loud & bizarre noises at odd hours and pounded ceiling in retaliation. Upstairs neighbor puzzled. A case of noises not coming from imagined source; Friends helped car owner turn off alarm in parking lot; 5 AM noises bothered ill neighbor below. Visiting young child (above) left soon after; Fire alarms beeping in all towers due to temporary problem with internet; Notices posted that fire alarms would be tested but resident was upset. (M)

**Odd incidents:** Confused drunk man smoking in elevator (G) reported but not found; Man lurking behind garden wall (L) found talking on cell phone. Left on bicycle when requested; Son of resident riding a motor scooter too fast in parking lot (G); Woman reported for using up paper towels in Sivers dressing room to dry herself; Air freshener dispenser ripped off wall in Sivers men's rest room; Paint poured on ivy in park area; Drug paraphernalia and toy car found near driveway ramp to plaza parking.

**Water:** Resident complaining that tower water pressure (M) was too high for water heater to work. Electric panel

room indicated pressure was normal; Water leak in kitchen sink (G) due to plumber not replacing rubber seal; Sink in laundry room (G) flooded from suds back up in pipes. Pipes snaked; Water dripping from kitchen ceiling (G). Condo 2 stories above, unoccupied, was the problem. Cement crack in ceiling with broken water pipe was sealed until problem solved; No water from water heater (G). Pushing reset button helped only temporarily. Expert to be contacted; Sporadic leak in kitchen (G). Dishwasher leaking.

## **Resident Concerns:**

### ***Balcony light cover cracked***

Action: Extra light cover found for replacement.

### ***Plastic ceiling in padded freight elevator fell on resident's head***

Action: In the future, the ceiling will be removed whenever an elevator is padded.

### ***Garage remotes not working***

Action: MSI knows some remotes do not work after the new garage entry system was installed. Metro will resolve the problem.

### ***Automatic door opener at 1B Grant defunct***

Action: Adjustment made; door is now working.

### ***Why no automatic opener for Sivers door?***

Action: AP Board has ruled that security issues override the convenience of an automatic opener.

### ***Rust in water when water has been turned off awhile.***

Action: Solved by running all faucets & showers for a few minutes after water had been turned on again.

### ***Delivered flowers at doorway were dead***

Action: No record of this delivery. Protocol is that notices for a later delivery are left if resident is gone.

### ***Car ramp up to plaza parking not well lit***

Action: Entire wiring needs costly replacement. Second opinion pending.

### ***Comments from Lincoln residents re: piano removed from renovated Lounge***

Action: AP Board has decided to keep the piano in the lobby until future plans are made.

### ***Several concerns re: problems caused by dogs***

Action: Warning signage will be placed in planted areas re: keeping out dogs with possible damage costs & fines when necessary. Dog owners are required to pick up dog feces.

### ***Elevator cable unusually noisy***

Action: Otis checked out the elevator involved and could find no issue but advised monitoring.

## BASSOONS, OBOES, WITH CLARINET

Thanks to the efforts of **Boyd Osgood**, AP residents were treated to another unique concert on June 17<sup>th</sup> in Sivers Lounge, under the auspices of Music at the Plaza. Boyd reminded us that the official name of the music group, THE BASSOON CONSPIRACY, evokes a definition of “conspire,” meaning “to breathe together.” They breathed deeply for an hour and a half of unusual music from very early compositions to the modern idiom. In the photo (from left to right) musicians are **Boyd Osgood**, **Cliff Reynolds**, **Harvey Freer**, and **Dagny Regan**. They are all holding bassoons, but later on, Harvey and Dagny switched to oboes, while Boyd switched to a huge contra bassoon that wound around twice and hit deep notes you didn’t think existed! Sitting on the sidelines was **Jules Elias** who later joined Boyd in a jazzy modern duet of clarinet and bass bassoon. Some of us were pleasantly surprised to learn that **Cliff Reynolds** is a resident of Madison and a neighbor of Boyd’s! We hope THE BASSOON CONSPIRACY will do a return engagement in the near future. If so, don’t miss it! It will be a very special experience.



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## ACTIVIST QUIZ

Virtually everyone who lives in our wonderful community contributes time and money to non-profit organizations that keep Portland such a vibrant, creative place to live.

Here is a “meet your neighbor” quiz. Can you match the resident with the organization she or he volunteers for?

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Anne Berg (Madison)      | A. Albertina Kerr Center                  |
| 2. Judy Buffo (Madison)     | B. Chinese American Citizens Alliance     |
| 3. Harold Englet (Grant)    | C. Occupy Movement                        |
| 4. Alan Hoffer (Lincoln)    | D. OMSI                                   |
| 5. Joan Kvitka (Madison)    | E. Multnomah County Library               |
| 6. Charles Landis (Lincoln) | F. Portland Art Museum Docent             |
| 7. Betty Jean Lee (Madison) | G. Portland Chamber Orchestra             |
| 8. Judy Lyons (Madison)     | H. Portland Opera                         |
| 9. Merry Meek (Lincoln)     | I. Providence Hospice                     |
| 10. Elsa Porter (Madison)   | J. Urban Tour Group (for school children) |

To win a great prize, submit your winning answers to: Linda Crum  
lindacr@easystreet.net; or on paper to my Information Center mail slot: Grant G-22.

## BEST POTLUCK PARTY IN TOWN!

The July 4<sup>th</sup> potluck supper in Sivers Lounge and on the patio set a new attendance record of 147 partygoers. It started at 4 pm and people were still pouring through the door at 6 pm! **Gary Hartshorn** was kept busy grilling hot dogs and hamburgers on the patio, and all of the serving tables in the board room were overflowing with succulent salads, sides, and desserts.



We thank the Social Committee for its efforts: **Lynne Hartshorn (Party Chair)**, **Ruth Tyler (Committee Chair)**, **Merry Meek**, **Francia White**, **Becky Branson**, **Gladys Creevey**, **Joyce Lockwood**, **Candy King**, and **Barb Fagerstrom**. Many volunteers helped out and we thank them too!

Our local jazz band never sounded better. They are **Ann Olsen** (piano), **Larry Burnett** (bass guitar), **Kenny Bratz** (drums), and the fabulous guest singer (from Newport!) **Patty George**, who joins the band from time to time.

People didn't want to leave but gradually and reluctantly departed for other venues, well fed and still humming songs after the band closed shop.

## Mail News

For those of us who still love "snail mail," we thank **Alan Hoffer**, with the help of **DeeAnn Sandberg**, TriMet Rep, for the return of our mailbox at the corner of SW 1<sup>st</sup> Ave and Lincoln.

We mourn the loss of the former University Branch post office on SW 6<sup>th</sup> near PSU, but some of us have discovered that the UPS store at the corner of SW 5<sup>th</sup> and Harrison also sells stamps and will send packages via the US Postal Service.

The University Branch still exists but was moved to the new high rise building at the base of the Hawthorne Bridge at SW 1<sup>st</sup> and Main St. It's not as convenient as the old location but could serve us well at Christmas time



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