

On the Prom

Fall Edition

Promenade East Quarterly

October 2007

Building Project Almost Complete



Did you know that our building was once voted the second ugliest in Portland? Some of our residents took offense at this so-called honor, saying, "Hey, we should have been voted first ugliest." That was then! Now, our building project is almost complete, and we're hearing compliments. Ross Harpestad says, "I get comments at work all the time. People like the new look." Many of our residents are excited about the results of the construction project. Bonnie Adams said, "I'm very happy. It was a long process, but it was well worth it." And Carolyn Cilley said, "I'm amazed by the improvement in the view out the new windows." As the project nears completion, many echo the opinion of Gunnel Hansen who says, "I think our building looks elegant!"

Colorful flowers and inviting patio furniture on the poolside decks enhance the look of our building. Because of dust and debris, the decks didn't get much use during the project. Next spring we'll likely see more like those belonging to John and Cynthia Widdows and Steve Crouchley and Chris Brooks. Their beautiful decks can be seen from the ground and from many windows.

Keeping our home attractive and watertight is our goal. New windows that are left open won't keep the rain out. If rain is forecast, even if you haven't opened a hall window, please check your hallway and close any you find open. The Board appreciates your cooperation during the long project and your help in maintaining the beauty of our home.

Annual Meeting

Margie Thomsen was elected to the Board of Directors at the Annual Association Meeting on September 12. Bruce Hopkins and Stewart Peller, whose terms had expired, were re-elected to the Board. Following the Annual Meeting, the Board met to elect officers: President Jim Zafirson; Treasurer John Rastl; and Secretary Margie Thomsen. Other Board members include Jinnie Delano and Cynthia Widdows.

Library News

Books, Movies and Magazines! Our library keeps growing thanks to your donations. You'll find that three bookcases are now filled with novels, which seem to be the most popular with residents. Because of limited space, we no longer include non-fiction, and to make room for new arrivals, the committee removes older books and donates them to charity.

Thank you to Manjula VK for volunteering to serve on the Library Committee. Also, thank you to Elle Harrington for donating several DVD's. We have a large selection of VHS movies, but not many DVD's. If you have any you can spare, they will be greatly appreciated.

Check out the magazine rack where you'll find publications on cooking, cars, computers, fashion and more. Think of it as a "magazine swap." Bring in current magazines and take and keep any that interest you. The committee removes non-current magazines.

Know Your Neighbors Contest

This is one of your neighbors in a photo from the past. Guess who and email or call your answer to Judith (jrastl@earthlink.net or 775-1190) or leave a note in Box 155. All who guess correctly will be entered in a drawing for a jar of Wild Maine Blueberry Jam. The winner will be announced in the next edition of *On the Prom*.



Quarterly Profile



Nan Dewing – Unit 256

Nurse Nan! That's what friends sometimes call Nan Dewing. She didn't start training to become a nurse until her kids were in high school, but Nan said, "I can't ever remember not wanting to be a nurse. I love what I do!" Prior to moving to Portland, she was a nurse practitioner for seventeen years in a private practice outside of Boston.

Nan grew up and had lived most of her life in the Boston area. For years she had been coming to Portland where she and Bill Fulton love to sail on their boat. She liked the feel of Portland and said it reminded her of what Boston was like years ago. In 2000 she decided it was time to move here. She chose our building because of the East End location and the ocean view. She enjoys seeing and hearing the ballgames across the street and when her grandchildren come to visit, taking them to the playground on the Promenade. "I like being able to walk down to the Old Port," said Nan, "and I love the restaurants."

Nan works as a nurse with adolescents here in Portland, but finds time to volunteer for our condo association. As a member of the Social Committee, she helps organize parties. She also works with the Interior Decorating Committee each year to dress up our Front Lobby for the holidays. Throughout the year she's the one who waters all the plants in the lobby. If you have seen her in the elevator and wonder what's up with the bucket of water, now you know.

Nan enjoys living at Promenade East and says, "I like the people here. They're friendly, and they care about improving our building. It's a good place to live."

Elevator Emergencies

Elevator emergencies are rare and often avoidable. One time, doors failed to open when movers had a large load of furniture pressed against the doors. In another case, someone had to step up into the elevator since the floor of the elevator was almost a foot higher than the hall floor. The doors closed and remained that way until help arrived. If the car is not at the normal level, don't get in. Though emergencies are rare, it's important to know what to do if the door won't open. Board member John Rastl told us: **First**, don't panic. **Second**, find the EMERGENCY PHONE on the side of the elevator and push the button that says "Push to talk." You will hear a dial tone, then ringing followed by a recorded announcement saying "***Elevator emergency at the Eastern Promenade.***" This loud message is repeated four times. After that, speak toward the phone. During normal working hours someone from Pine State Elevator will answer; after hours it will be an answering service that relays the message to Pine State's 24-hour emergency service. Tell your name and that the door won't open. If you know which floor you are on, that will help them get to you sooner when they arrive. **Third**, press the "Emergency Call" button which is located above the floor buttons. A bell will ring in the halls of our building, which may alert Rick, Pauli or another resident. If you hear someone calling, answer so they can determine which floor you are on. In most cases they will not be able to open the door, but will confirm that you have talked to Pine State Elevator Company and wait with you until help arrives.

Travel Notes

Summer is over, and a few of our residents are heading south to their winter homes. Others have gone away just for a week or two: Karen and Rich Winslow to Ireland; Jim Zafirson to Greece; Tom Erskine, Edna Quinn and Audrey Libby on a cruise from Montreal to Boston with stops in Quebec, Nova Scotia and Bar Harbor. Tell us about your travels for the next edition of *On the Prom*

Hello to New Neighbors

Welcome to new residents: Arden Manning & Elizabeth Rozeboom (112); and Barry Glew & Bernie Mancini (211).