

On the Prom

Spring Edition

Promenade Towers Quarterly

April 2013

Community Room Project Completed



Community Room Kitchen Area

If you haven't seen the Community Room since the completion of the renovation project, stop by and check out the transformation.

The Community Room where monthly Board meetings and annual Association meetings are held is also available for residents' use for private functions. An information sheet explaining how to reserve the room and guidelines for use is available in the office.

Eastern Prom and Munjoy Hill in the News



Tugboat Race in the Harbor

The above photo of tugboat races, Fort Gorges and islands in the background was taken from our building. Last spring the Maine Sunday Telegram referred to our East End neighborhood with water

views on the Eastern Prom as one of Portland's hot spots.

A recent article in the Portland Press Herald described Munjoy Hill as the city's most desirable neighborhood—a walkable neighborhood with restaurants, coffee shops and bakeries. That and a sense of community are some of the reasons that realtors called the Hill the “hip place to be.”

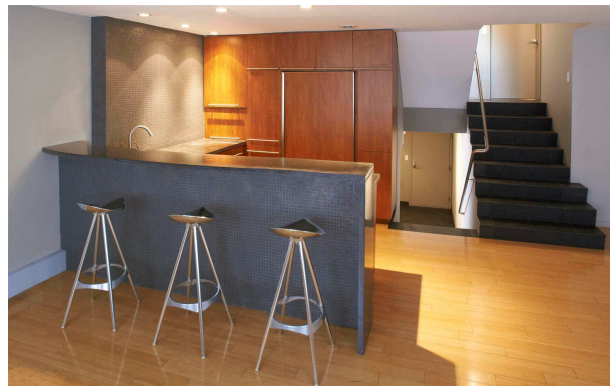
That's no surprise to those of us who live at Promenade Towers. We enjoy walking to local shops and restaurants, as well as to the Old Port. On summer evenings we can walk to concerts sponsored by Friends of the Eastern Promenade at the Bandstand in Fort Allen Park.

Every year on the 4th of July thousands of people come to the Eastern Prom for the annual fireworks display over Casco Bay along with a patriotic concert by the Portland Symphony Orchestra. We can watch the fireworks from our property or take a short walk and join the crowd on the Prom.

Last August the Eastern Prom was the first location of a concert tour by the award-winning English folk rock band Mumford & Sons. Is it any wonder that people moving to Portland look for a place to live in our East End neighborhood?

More Renovation Photos Added to Website

New photos of unit renovations, including the one shown below, have been added to our website.



Go to www.promenade-towers.org to see the collection of pictures shot by commercial photographer Mark Rockwood. You'll find the link to the photos on the *Property* page.

Quarterly Profile



Janet and Rich Smith #257

Have you ever been on a blind date? If your answer is yes, how did it work out? Some would describe the experience as okay. Some say not so good, or even a disaster. Then there are the few lucky people who meet their soul mates on a blind date. Janet and Rich Smith are in that last category. Though they were born in the same hospital in Boston and grew up knowing some of the same people, it was on a blind date that they first met. “I was smitten,” said Rich. “I knew right away.”

When they were married about a year later, Rich and Janet lived in Gloucester, Massachusetts and commuted to Boston where Janet worked as a registered nurse and Rich was involved in graphic design for “The Big Dig.” The traffic and the rushed lifestyle in Boston and the long commute, not only to work but on weekends to their cottage in the Damariscotta Lake area, made them wish for a simpler lifestyle. “There was no time to smell the roses,” said Janet, so in 2000, they quit their jobs and moved to Portland.

Fast forward to today: Now Janet is the Director for the Center for Quality and Safety for MaineHealth, a system of many hospitals in Maine. She works at the corporate center here in Portland. Rich is a customer consultant at FedEx in Monument Square. They like living and working in Portland. Janet says, “It’s a small city that’s fun and convenient. Compared to Boston, there is virtually no traffic.”

The shorter drive to their cottage, the location and the views are just some of the reasons they like

living at Promenade Towers. “It’s like a close-knit village,” said Rich and adds, “It’s gone through a wonderful transition in the twelve years we’ve lived here.” Besides their condo here and their cottage on the lake, they also have a house in Sarasota, Florida. They go there at least four times a year, but every weekend from April until the fall they go to their cottage in Maine.

While Janet grew up near the ocean and enjoyed scuba diving for a number of years, Rich says, “I lean more toward sailing.” At their cottage they have a sailboat, a paddle boat, kayaks and Janet’s small fishing boat, a boat she painted pink. Why pink? “To keep the fishermen and their stuff out of it,” she answers. “It works.” Along with their boats, a flower garden and other amenities, Rich has a telescope at the cottage. He’s interested in astronomy and says, “On a clear night I love being out stargazing.”

Music is another of their interests; Janet plays piano, violin and cello and has been teaching Rich to play the violin and cello. Their love of music, being near the ocean and time together at their cottage are some of the simpler things in life that they share. “We still feel like we’re dating,” said Rich. Their move to Maine gave them time to stop and smell the roses.

Impromptu Social Gatherings

Snowy evenings this past winter often prompted residents to get on the phone and say, “Hey, we’re going down to the lobby for wine by the fireplace.” Friends would bring their own wine glasses and wine, and the party would grow as residents who came in the front door would be invited to join in. From our big windows in the lobby, we could watch the snow coming down while visiting with neighbors by the fire.

As the snow disappears, we’ll likely spend less time on the treadmills in the fitness room and more walking along the Prom or on the trails. Soon the pool will be open and residents can gather there or for a game of croquet on the lawn.

New Arrival

Congratulations to Jim and Christina Zafirson, and welcome to Peter, their new baby!

