



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS Richmond

FALL ISSUE 2017 | THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
RNA MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT WAVERLY HEIGHTS CHURCH | 3300 SE WOODWARD ST | 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

## Annual Friends of Trees Planting December 2, 2017

by Allen Field

Saturday, December 2, 2017, is the annual Richmond Friends of Trees planting. The Richmond neighborhood has partnered with Friends of Trees for over 15 years to plant trees throughout Richmond. The Brooklyn, Buckman and HAND (Hosford-Abernethy) neighborhoods also join in with the annual tree planting.

Trees provide important shade canopy, reduce energy needed to cool homes, clean the air and water, increase property values, add beauty to the neighborhood, and have been shown to increase sales at businesses where trees have been planted.

This year, street and yard trees are only \$35 – an amazing deal. Friends of Trees subsidizes the remaining costs of the tree, obtains the necessary permits and handles the utility locates for street trees, provides mulch and staking, and organizes and trains a team to help you plant your tree on Planting Day. Breakfast snacks and delicious potluck lunch are provided.

By October 30, property owners who want a tree

*Continued on Page 4.*

### CALENDAR

#### Next RNA Meeting

November 13, 2017, 7:00–9:00 PM  
Waverly Heights Church (basement)  
3300 SE Woodward Street

#### RNA LUTC Meeting

November 27, 2017, 7:00–9:00 PM *(to be confirmed)*  
Waverly Heights Church (basement)  
3300 SE Woodward Street

## Richmond Neighborhood Graffiti Removal Task Force

Creating a cleaner neighborhood together.

by Nina Silberstein

For many of us who live in inner Southeast Portland's Richmond neighborhood, we've seen some changes that have affected our livability in both positive and negative ways. One of the concerns has been with the increase in the amount of graffiti/tags in our neighborhood. We're seeing everything from simple lettering, detailed designs and stickers (slap tags) on street signs to tags splashed across utility poles, electrical boxes and commercial buildings (both vacant and occupied).

Graffiti/tags are not only an eyesore but they

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*Graffiti Removal Task Force at work.*

# How long until they demolish my house?

by Matt Otis, RNA Land Use Chair

A major concern we hear frequently in our neighborhood forums is “When will we stop demolishing Portland?” That got me wondering, when will we run out of things to demolish? Or even more pertinently, when will my house get demolished?

To figure out the answer to this question I need two key *pieces* of information:

1. How many homes are demolished per year in the neighborhood?
2. How many homes are there in the neighborhood?

## PIECE 1: How many homes are demolished per year in the neighborhood?

Fortunately we live in a city that does a great job of making information readily available online. You can search the city’s main website for property-related info at [www.portlandmaps.com](http://www.portlandmaps.com), then select Advanced » Permits, to find the number of demolitions that have occurred in our—or any—neighborhood since about the year 2000. For the purposes of this exercise I used the data since the latest census in 2010. From the results for this search we can see that since 2010 there have been 54 demolitions of single-family residences, and 2 demolitions of triplexes; meaning that a total of 60 housing units have been demolished in the past 7.75 years.

We now have the first key piece of information we need:

*On average there are 7.7 housing units demolished per year in the Richmond neighborhood.*

Wow, that’s less than I expected. The poison is in the dose though, so to know how bad anything is you need to know it’s concentration.

## PIECE 2: How many homes are there in the neighborhood?

Now we know there are 7.7 housing units demolished every year, but in order to understand the impact of that number on our neighborhood, we need to know how many total units there are in the Richmond neighborhood. This one should be easy to answer; all I have to do was find census records that

break things down by neighborhood and I should have my answer.

The Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) is the bureau that most likely would keep such records on hand. Doing a search online for ‘portland census oni’ quickly finds the exact data I need ([portlandoregon.gov/oni/article/376015](http://portlandoregon.gov/oni/article/376015)).

We now have the second key piece of information:

*As of 2010 there are 5290 Housing Units in Richmond.*

Great! Now I have both pieces of information I need to answer my main question...

## “How long until they demolish my house?”

To determine this I divide the total number of housing units demolished by the total number of housing units. That shows me that each year only about 0.15% of the homes in our neighborhood are demolished. Not bad. But that doesn’t tell me how long until MY house is demolished. To get this answer all I need to do is invert the odds to find out how long the typical home will last. And how long is that? 683 years.

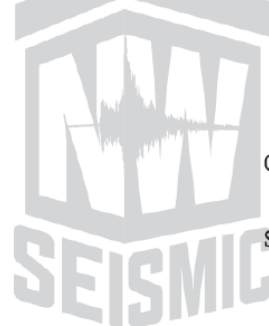
That means—odds are—my house won’t be demolished until the year 2700... I think I have a bit of time.



**Help volunteer on this newsletter!**

Contact Jonathan King at [King.jonathan.b@gmail.com](mailto:King.jonathan.b@gmail.com)

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*Graffiti Abatement, continued from page 1*

give the impression that our neighborhood is unsafe—and to the taggers that we don't care. Fortunately, that sentiment is far from the truth. From conversations with our crime prevention coordinators, they tell us that if the graffiti/tags are cleaned up quickly, the less likely a tagger will be to strike the same spot again. With that in mind, a group of us who are motivated to keep our streets safe and clean have formed the Richmond Neighborhood Graffiti Removal Task Force (aka Richmond Tag Busters). Organized by Richmond resident Adam Meltzer, our crew of volunteers has been hitting the streets, once a month since March of this year, for two-hour cleanups to remove graffiti/tags in predetermined areas. Adam moved to the Richmond neighborhood two and a half years ago and is also actively involved as a Richmond Neighborhood Association (RNA) board member.

*“Tagging is a blight on our neighborhood and it is not welcome here or anywhere, this is why I decided to get active and form Tag Busters,” Adam says.*

We are an official sub-committee of the RNA and our supplies are provided free of charge from the city's Graffiti Abatement Program. With all this support, we still need your help in our cleaning efforts.



*Graffiti Removal Task Force bicycle and equipment.*

## Meetup and Join

The monthly Richmond Tag Busters meetings are on the fourth Tuesday of the month in the second-floor conference room of the D Street Building, 3050 SE Division St., from 7:00-8:30 pm to discuss tactics, our strategy and to plan the next month's outing. Everyone is invited to attend to share his or her ideas, as prevention is our ultimate goal.

## How to contact and get involved

To join our team, contact our Graffiti Removal Task Force Organizer

**Adam Meltzer, richmondgrtf@gmail.com**  
or Volunteer Outreach Coordinator  
**Nina Silberstein, nswriter@hotmail.com**

The city of Portland's Graffiti Abatement Program supports our neighborhood livability. There are several ways to report graffiti to the city of Portland:

1. **Call 503-823-4824**, noting location and contact information.
2. **Sign up** for an account and log onto PDXReporter App on your smartphone or home computer to report graffiti. See website for details—**pdxreporter.org**
3. **Email** pictures and locations to **graffiti@portlandoregon.gov**
4. **Report online** by visiting the Graffiti Abatement Program's website **portlandoregon.gov/oni/32420**
5. **Email graffiti@portlandoregon.gov** or call **503-823-4824** to receive a **free graffiti removal kit** if you'd like to remove small tags yourself.

Look for postings about our upcoming cleanups on Richmond Nextdoor, as well as in the Community News section of The Southeast Examiner.

## Editor's Notes

*The City keeps a hate graffiti database, so reporting it with a photo makes it easier for them to track and stop the vandalizers. Citizens are also encouraged to cover any hateful or obscene graffiti after reporting it, if they can.*

# RNA Board

## RNA Board Members

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**Co-Chair:** Jessica Gillard  
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 Adam Meltzer  
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 Land Use Chair:** Matt Otis  
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 Jan Carlisle, Brendon Haggerty,  
 Brian Hochhalter, Lauren Sher

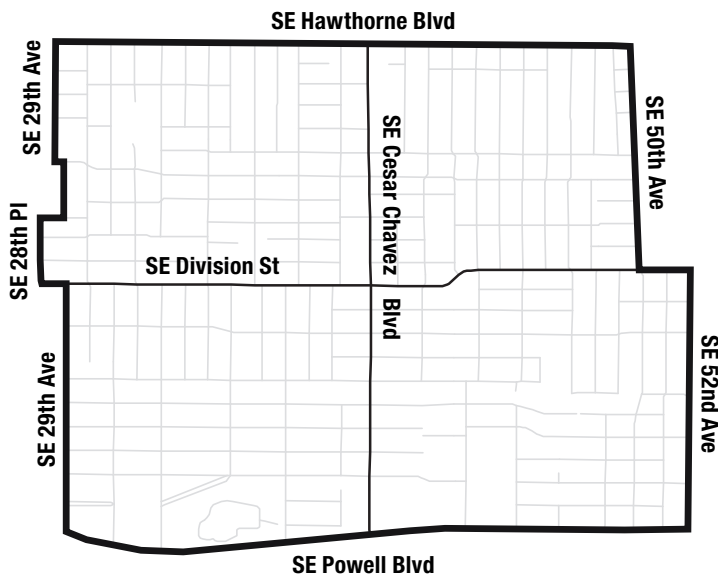
## RNA Newsletter

**Design:** Rob Mumford  
**Editor:** Susan Beal  
**Production:** Rob Mumford  
**Distribution:** Jonathan King  
**Advertising:** Allen Field

## SOUTHEAST UPLIFT NEIGHBORHOOD (SEUL)

3534 SE Main,  
 Portland, OR 97214  
 503/232-0010  
 southeastuplift.org

# Richmond Neighborhood Boundaries



## OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT CONTACT INFO

### ONI Crime Prevention Program

Marianna Lomanto, *Crime Prevention Coordinator*  
 503-823-3432, marianna.lomanto@portlandoregon.gov

Teri Poppino, 503-823-0540  
 teri.poppino@portlandoregon.gov

Neighbors may read about crime prevention techniques + advice and/or contact us directly at:  
[portlandoregon.gov/oni/28395](http://portlandoregon.gov/oni/28395)

*Friends of Trees, continued from page 1*

needed to have created an account on the Friends of Trees website ([friendsoftrees.org](http://friendsoftrees.org)) and then select their tree by November 3. (We are aware that one or both of these deadlines might have already passed by the time you received this newsletter, but we only recently got a new newsletter editor and resumed publishing the quarterly newsletter). Property owners who order a tree are expected to help plant their tree on planting day, or otherwise volunteer on Planting Day.

Since 1989, Friends of Trees has been bringing people together to plant, care for, and learn about city trees. A hallmark of the non-profit's work is its community-based model, which brings neighbors together and often inspires them to organize other projects to improve their neighborhood.

Any questions?

Contact the Richmond Lead Coordinator:  
 Jim Lodwick, 503-351-2722,  
[richmond@plantitportland.org](mailto:richmond@plantitportland.org)

## POLICE/CRIME PREVENTION CONTACT INFO

**East Precinct, East of SE Cesar Chavez**  
 Neighborhood Response Team Officer  
 Ryan Mele, 503-823-4800 (East Precinct Desk)

Neighborhood Response Team Officer  
 Andrew Hearst, 503-823-4800 (East Precinct Desk),  
[andrew.hearst@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:andrew.hearst@portlandoregon.gov)

**Central Precinct, West of SE Cesar Chavez**  
 Officer Shaun Sahli, 503-823-0076 (Desk phone)

**Transient Camp Outreach Car**  
 Officer Ryan Engweiler, 503-823-0097  
 (Central Precinct Desk)

Officer Tim Engstrom, 503-823-0097  
 (Central Precinct Desk)

## Portland Public Safety Resource Numbers

[portlandoregon.gov/oni/article/320566](http://portlandoregon.gov/oni/article/320566)

## ADDITIONAL INFO

**Board Chair** Erik Matthews, [erikmatthews@me.com](mailto:erikmatthews@me.com)  
 Please contact me if you have any neighborhood questions/comments to share.

Any opinions expressed in the Richmond Neighborhood News are not necessarily those of the Richmond Neighborhood Association or its board. Richmond residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues. E-mail Jonathan King, editor, at [King.jonathan.b@gmail.com](mailto:King.jonathan.b@gmail.com).