Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

OLD TOWN CHINATOWN CRIER

SPECIAL SPRING EDITION 2003

A Publication of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

Be a Part of the Second Annual Downtown Open House Featuring Old Town Chinatown Homes

"Living downtown is different," says Kevin Montgomery-Smith, Housing Development Manager of the Portland Business Alliance. "Talk to any downtown resident. There's a sense of freedom and convenience that everyone shares and makes the experience special." At press time, four properties in Old Town Chinatown will be featured during the Open House.

The Second Annual Downtown Open House will be on June 1, 2003, from noon to 5pm. The self-guided walking tour will showcase apartments and for-sale residential properties in the Central City. This marks the second time multiple properties throughout downtown have come together to highlight available living space and new development. "We are very excited to be featuring the recently opened Pacific Tower (Page 4), as well as the Yards at Union Station, Fifth Avenue Place, and the condominium renovation of McCormick Pier," said Montgomery-Smith. The event is sponsored by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Flexcar, the Oregonian, and OregonLive and will feature thirty-two different properties. The tour is free and open to everyone.

Event maps and property listings will be featured in the June 1st edition of the Oregonian Home and Rental Section and from the Downtown Sidewalk Ambassadors (Portland I's) on the day of the event. The Portland I's will be located at the Old Town Chinatown MAX station on June 1st. A copy of the map will also be available on the Alliance Downtown Housing web site located at www.portlandalliance.com/business-housing.shtml.

"There is wonderful mix of available residential properties in the Central City," said Montgomery-Smith. "With more than thirty properties featured, folks can see every type of housing style offered in downtown," Montgomery-Smith added. "There's something for everyone's taste and pocketbook."

For more information contact the Alliance at: housing@portlandalliance.com.

GET INVOLVED
Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association

Do you live or work in the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood? Then you owe it to yourself to become a member of the neighborhood association. Membership is free and open to all that are concerned about our neighborhood. Join on-line at www.portlandalliance.com/otct or call OTCTNA Chair, Howard Weiner at (503) 248-0495.

Board of Directors Meeting
Open to All
First Tuesday of the Month
Port of Portland Building
121 N.W. Everett
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
OTCTNA Contact:
Howard Weiner, Chair
(howard@calsk8.com)

"As I See It" A Resident Perspective

By Carol McCreary
Old Town Chinatown Resident

What's so great about living in Portland's Old Town Chinatown? This is a neighborhood that has it all. It's a neighborhood that rises with the sun, puts in a hard day and stays up late. As the folks who work in the offices head home, others come for supper or to relax at the end of the day. But those of us who live here are still a small community and we know one another. In Old Town Chinatown that big city feel combines with something very comfortable.

My husband recently retired from the Foreign Service and so we'd spent most of our adult lives overseas. Eager to settle down in a community as participating citizens, we spent a week each year trying on various American cities for size. We had a vision of living in town above the shops, with lively streets leading to parks, arts, culture and public transport - sort of a blend of Paris and New York. After fifteen years of looking, we spent three days in Portland and soon found ourselves living happily ever after in Old Town Chinatown.

Old Town Chinatown is home to a diverse population of more than 2,700 residents and a wealth of community assets. There are museums, such as the Oregon Jewish Museum, Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, Old Town History Project, and some of the most successful social service nonprofits in the country. Step into Portland's Chinese Classical Garden and you are transported into a tranquil Ming Dynasty landscape. Built by craftsmen from Portland's sister city of Suzhou, it is the most important, not to mention largest, urban garden of its kind outside China.

Our neighborhood is bounded by the Willamette waterfront from the Broadway Bridge and to the Burnside Bridge. The people-friendly walkway leads to the Eastbank Esplanade over the extraordinary Steel Bridge. In operation since 1912, this National Historic Monument is the nation's only two- level, independently telescoping, vertical lift bridge. When a river barge passes, there's only need to raise the lower span, which carries passenger trains and a path for walkers and cyclists. When a huge Columbia River paddlers passes, however, the upper span lifts as well, momentarily interrupting the flow of vehicular traffic, Max trains, and pedestrians.

Anchoring Old Town Chinatown's attractive and well-conceived transportation hub is Union Station, lovingly preserved in all its 1890s splendor. From here Portland's majestic tree-lined brick paved, transport corridor offers bus service to the rest of the metropolitan area. The neighborhood lies in the middle of Portland's "Fareless Square", a large area that offers free travel by bus, Max and streetcar. On weekends historic wooden trolleys replace some of the modern Max light rails trains that run though the neighborhood every few minutes, headed to the Airport and Gresham or the west hills and Hillsboro.

Today Old Town Chinatown offers a variety of residential options. New buildings of owner-occupied and rental units are surrounded by stately historic buildings, now converted into lofts, studio apartments, and spaces for Portland's artists, architects, and designers. More and more people are calling Old Town Chinatown home, a neighborhood that thrives on diversity and respects the past while moving forward.

All submissions to "As I See It" must be about topics directly related to the neighborhood and are subject to editing. Publication is not guaranteed and all submissions become the property of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association's Communications Committee. For submission information, please contact Howard Weiner at howard@calsk8.com.

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welcome to the neighborhood

sit down

image courtesy of Marshall-Wells Lofts

stay awhile

image courtesy of McCormick Pier Condominiums

live downtown

Downtown Open House

June 1, 2003 from noon to 5 p.m.

Tour over 30 residential properties throughout the Central City. An event map will be featured in the June 1 edition of The Oregonian, online at www.portlandalliance.com and from the Portland *i*'s downtown or contact 503-224-8684.

OWNERSHIP UNITS

Bridgeport Condominiums
1130 NW 12th Avenue
503-227-2000

Legends Condominiums
1132 SW 19th Avenue
503-223-7941

Marshall-Wells Lofts
1001 NW 14th Avenue
503-223-2255

McCormick Pier
600 NW Naito Parkway
503-228-7437

Streetcar Lofts
1030 NW 12th Avenue
503-227-2000

RENTAL UNITS

735 St. Clair
735 SW St. Clair Street
503-478-9926

Bel Aire
2139 W Burnside
503-226-3799

Collins Circle Apartments
1704 SW Jefferson Street
503-525-2324

Fifth Avenue Place
314 NW 5th Avenue
503-243-3311

Gallery Park Apartments
1436 SW Park Avenue
503-222-0274

Hamilton West
1511 SW 12th Avenue
503-525-0500

Kafoury Commons
1240 SW Columbia Street
503-226-0600

Kearney Plaza
930 NW 12th Avenue
503-227-5624

King Tower
901 SW King Avenue
503-223-1458

Lovejoy Station
1040 NW 10th Avenue
503-220-2500

Museum Place Lofts & Townhouses
1030 SW Jefferson Street
503-295-0303

Oakwood At The Essex House
1330 SW 3rd Avenue
503-226-2443

Ongford Apartments
1417 SW 10th Avenue
503-223-6603

Pacific Tower
333 NW 4th Avenue
503-224-9393

Park Plaza
1969 SW Park Avenue
503-227-7485

Pearl Court
920 NW Kearney Street
503-222-1999

Portland Center Apartments
200 SW Harrison
503-224-3050

Portland Towers
950 SW 21st Avenue
503-228-9651

Regency Apartments
1410 SW Broadway
503-224-2308

RiverPlace Square
0308 SW Montgomery Street
503-228-1800

Rose Plaza
2199 NW Everett
503-222-6080

Royal Arms
1829 NW Lovejoy
503-222-2430

Sovereign Hotel
710 SW Madison Street
503-248-0021

University Park Apartments
1500 SW Park Avenue
503-222-9300

Village At Lovejoy Fountain
245 SW Lincoln Street
503-223-5314

Westover Tower
930 NW 25th Place
503-227-2181

Yards at Union Station
945 NW Naito Parkway
503-478-1695

I'd rather be Downtown. *Portland.*

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Pacific Tower - A New Chinatown Home is Ready for Residents

After several years of hard work and support from Old Town Chinatown neighbors, the sixteen-floor Pacific Tower or "Peng Yun", located at 333 NW Flanders, one block west of the Chinese Classical Garden, is now open to residents. Developed by Brian McCarl & Co. on behalf of Pacific Tower Associates Limited Partnership and built by Walsh Construction Co, the new building features attractive studio, one-and two-bedroom apartments. Units are available to all income-qualified seniors 55 years of age and better.

"Pre-leasing interest has been very high," said Susan West of Bowen Property Management. "I think the quality of construction, the convenience of downtown living, and the spectacular views of Mt. Hood, the river and the Chinese Garden make this a very popular address. Qualified seniors are encouraged to apply as quickly as possible."

Designed by BML Architects and Herman and Coliver, Pacific Tower features a contemporary mixture of concrete, brick, architectural metal and a European-designed window system. "We've paid particular attention to the look and feel of the building," said McCarl. "We wanted something that, much like this neighborhood, respects history and looks to the future. We think we've achieved a place that offers comfortable living and blends with its surroundings."

Special features include a spacious ground floor lobby, two small street level retail shops, a second floor commons and a roof top terrace with garden. Common area amenities include a lounge with a big screen high definition TV, a community kitchen, library and computer access, an exercise room, and laundry facilities. Ceiling heights of 9 feet and oversized Euroline windows bring abundant natural light and air into all rooms. The building has a state of the art security system and on-site management.

A brochure, unit floor plans, and leasing details are available in English and Chinese. Call Bowen Property Management at (503) 224-9393 for this information or for a Pacific Tower tour. Pacific Tower is also a featured property during the Downtown Open House on June 1st from noon to 5PM.