



Volume 4, Issue 1

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Once again, it's difficult to imagine how much time has passed since our last newsletter -- winter has gone, spring is trying its hardest to hang on with cool temps and cloudy skies, and summer has been trying to inch its way back to the seacoast. Maybe by the time this reaches neighborhood mailboxes, summer will be in full swing.

The Atlantic Heights Neighborhood Association (AHNA) would like to take a moment to welcome new residents to "the hood." It's great to see that they're finding the list serve and jumping right into our virtual neighborhood. Hopefully we'll start to see them at some of our live, upcoming neighborhood events.

It's interesting to note that our pride in our neighborhood has caught the attention of the media. Last spring, "Accent" magazine published a profile written by neighbor Dennis Robinson, and we were featured in the Globe North section of the Boston Globe (in which the city credits us for being one of the most active associations around!).

Good weather has also brought the usual spate of outdoor improvement projects. Lots of gardening is starting to happen, as usual, and some renovations are appearing, there's even a dumpster or two, filling up as neighbors live the mantra of "Out with the old and in with the new."

Best wishes to everyone for a great summer. May you soak up lots of fresh air and sun (with an appropriate amount of sunscreen applied), and join us all for some neighborly get togethers (see page 3's list of events).

Robin McIntosh AHNA Chair '04

### AHNA Officers Elected

Officers of AHNA were elected for the new year at the May meeting. Stephanie Krenn took over the post of Chairperson from, Robin McIntosh who will be continuing her work as the Chair of the City Wide Neighborhood Committee. Cristy Cardoso took on the responsibilities of Cochair from Maryellen Burke who will no doubt continue to be a valuable member of the association. Jenn Will continues as Secretary as well as serving as our representative at the City Wide Neighborhood Committee. Kevin Healey has agreed to serve yet another year as Treasurer. Thank you to all of the outgoing board members for their contributions to the association and welcome to all of the people who have offered to join the various committees.

We look forward to seeing old and new neighbors at our Sunday meetings. Opportunities to get involved are always available.

### Neighborhood Association Helps Keep the Home Fires Burning

Neighbor Ken Scarpetti organized a great home heating oil purchase plan last year which saved neighbors a considerable amount of money. He's willing to research it again, but needs to know who would like to participate and how much oil you use in a year (remember, this is a purchase plan, not a budget plan, so oil is actually purchased, pre-season, at an agreed upon cost). To discuss it further with Ken, send him an email at [sierradev@msn.com](mailto:sierradev@msn.com), or stop by if you see him in the yard at 164 Crescent Way.

**Deadline for pre-purchase oil quantities, June 15th.**

### Schiller Station Update

Lots going on with our industrial neighbor up the river. They have passed all permitting hurdles with the exception of the DES to install a wood/coal burner at the Schiller plant. Generally considered to be much cleaner than coal, the plant should be putting fewer pollutants into the air upon the completion of the burner (not to mention less coal off-loading-- the source of much of our "black rain"). Not all neighborhoods are thrilled with the project, however, because it will add considerable traffic to Gosling Road and requires additional storage areas.

P.S.N.H. will also be conducting emissions testing during the summer. This effort will help them to understand the type and quantity of particular matter that the plant is putting into the air. Results should be available by fall, so stay tuned.

# Know Your Neighbors - Know Your Community!!

This year's winner of the Robert J. Weston award is a truly deserving recipient. While he doesn't live among us on a full time basis, his presence is certainly felt on a very visible level every day we drive into our neighborhood.

Ken Scarpetti has purchased some of the most undesirable properties in our neighborhood over the past few years. He has cleaned them up, eliminating some of the worst eyesores in Atlantic Heights.

But more importantly, Ken and his family have truly become friends and neighbors in the truest sense of the word.

- \* Ken has become an expert on Atlantic Heights and its history.
- \* He has studied the architectural features of the neighborhood and made sure that they are retained or incorporated into his buildings.
- \* He has become a ready and willing resource for many of us "do-it-yourselfers" in the neighborhood. When many of us have a question on how to do something "right," we just call Ken to see what he'd do.
- \* Ken was the guy who got us all to band together to use our numbers for purchasing power with neighborhood oil purchasing deals, helping many residents keep fuel costs down during some especially challenging winters.
- \* Ken has become active in pursuing formal historic designation for our neighborhood, and he has helped us work with developers who want to come into the neighborhood to keep projects reasonable and in keeping with the flavor our historic Atlantic Heights.

Ken, we're all so happy that you and Jackie and Isabella have joined our neighborhood. Even though you've only been here a short time, your presence is missed when you're away, and we hope that you'll continue to enjoy your little house on the river for many years to come.

## Atlantic Heights Renovation Supplies

Ken Scarpetti has set up an account to help neighbors buy historically appropriate building materials at a discounted rate.

The Harvey Industries account is set up as a cash account so homeowners from the neighborhood will be able to buy windows and roofing materials at wholesale pricing. The only catch is; you must buy windows with grills in the glass in order to maintain the original look of the house, but the savings are huge! Home owners will also be able to buy roofing materials at great prices, yup you guessed it you must use the original color roofing, green like the roof on Ken's 590-600 building. Ken's hope is that the discounts will be an incentive to restore the neighborhood to its original charm. Ken will be happy to show people how to measure for replacement windows and has offered to borrow a sample window to display at a AHNA meeting. Anyone interested in this program can contact Ken via the list serve.

Many Atlantic Heights residents have renovated their homes in surprisingly creative ways. Our newsletter is the perfect forum to share insight about fixing up these great little homes. If you are interested in sharing the story of your home in our next newsletter, contact Cristy through AH list serve or directly at [clk7311@yahoo.com](mailto:clk7311@yahoo.com).

## Sharing Space With Our Animal Neighbors

As warm weather returns problems with unwanted critters arise. Skunks, squirrels and other wild animals are attracted to our neighborhood by the food and habitat we provide for them. Whether it is plants in our gardens, treats intentionally left for the critters or the trash that we leave within their reach the result is the same, unwanted wild life in our yards and in some cases in our homes. Please make an effort to keep your trash covered and avoid leaving pet food outdoors where wild animals can get to it. If you need advice on removing bothersome critters Portsmouth's Animal Control Officer can be reached at (603) 610-7441 and the NHSPCA can be reached at 772-2921.

## REWARD OFFERED (Vandalism at Hislop Park)

Over the last few months cases of vandalism in our neighborhood have been on the rise. Recently vandals destroyed the stone overlook seating area in Hislop Park by rolling the large pieces of granite into the river. The neighborhood association as well as some individual donors from the neighborhood have put together a reward for information leading to the arrest of the vandals. To report information to the police please contact Crime Stoppers at 431-1199.

## Recent Events

The Garden Club hosted two wonderful events recently. The Neighborhood Clean Up on April 16th was a great success, thanks to all of you who showed up to clean up the hood!

The Plant swap on May 21st was a great time despite the cool temperatures. Plants and seeds were distributed to all who attended and the Adopt-a-Spot benefitted from the remaining plants. A special thank you to Stephanie Krenn for hosting these events and for continuing to make the Atlantic Heights a more pleasant place to be.

## Neighborhood Yard Sale

Saturday, June 18th, 8:00 AM-1:00PM

It's time to haul out all of your unwanted stuff and turn it into CASH! This year we will be developing a communal spot for those of you who want to sell a few items but don't have enough items to have a yard sale of your own. We hope that this will be an opportunity to meet some neighbors, sell a few unwanted items and attract a crowd of shoppers. As always the neighborhood association will provide Balloons, Maps and Advertising. The Garden Club will be sponsoring a bake sale.

Volunteers and Yard sale hosts are needed. For more information attend the AHNA meeting on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the senior housing center. If you are interested in having your yard sale included on the maps, please contact Cristy at clk7311@yahoo.com or call 603-433-5059.

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Atlantic Heights Garden Tour and Neighborhood Barbecue

Saturday, July 16th, (7/17-rain date)

Join your neighbors. Bring your friends and family. See what's blooming in Atlantic Heights' pocket gardens. Get ideas for planting and projects in your own yard or just enjoy the sights. The tour starts at 9:30AM and goes on until 12:30. There'll be maps in Big Rock Park or you can wander through the neighborhood and stop where ever you see balloons. At 12:30, a pot luck picnic begins in Big Rock Park. Beverages, burgers and hot dogs will be available. Please bring your own lawn chairs and food to share. This is a great chance to see old friends and make new ones in the neighborhood where you live.

Unlike most garden tours, there is no admission charge although donations are appreciated to cover the cost of the event and to allow the Atlantic Heights Garden Club to maintain the community plantings. Contact Stephanie Krenn at 433-2246 if you are interested in opening your garden on the tour or if you want to nominate a neighbor's garden for the tour.

## Night Out Against Crime

Tuesday, August 2nd, at the tennis courts, 5:30PM-8:30PM.

A long time Portsmouth tradition, neighbors of all ages are invited to come to the tennis courts to see fire trucks and public works equipment, meet firemen, police officers, and city officials -- and hopefully we'll even have some police dogs visit the neighborhood this year. There'll be music, a cook-out, games and more. Ray Will has been getting ideas for activities from the kids on the streets and guarantees some surprises. He'll need help to make it all happen so please contact him if you are able to volunteer to work on the event or to donate supplies. Ray can be reached at 431-8102 or via the list serve.

## PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC WORKS

### RECYCLING INFORMATION

Portsmouth residents may now bring items to the Recycling Center, located behind the Public Works facility at 680 Peverly Hill Road. This service is for residents of Portsmouth exclusively. The hours of operation are listed below.

Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

Wednesday 8:00 a.m. -3:30 p.m.

Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m. - noon

### CURBSIDE COLLECTION OF BULKY WASTE

To schedule curbside bulky waste collection, a resident may call Public Works and outline the materials they have for collection. Materials must be separated for collection. Public Works will schedule date(s) for collection of specified materials. Residents are to place the specified material(s) curbside no earlier than 5 p.m. the evening before the scheduled pick-up date. The Public Works Department will collect the material on the specified date(s). **Specified waste material will be collected on the following designated weeks of the month:**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> week:

Furniture & miscellaneous items

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> week:

Appliances and other scrap metal

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> week:

Tires, TV's Computers & electronics

#### 4<sup>th</sup> week:

Wood scraps (clean, painted or treated)

Residents are not to place the waste curbside without scheduling a collection date with Public Works.

**For questions, or to schedule a pick up call 427-1530.**

## Mark Your Calendars!

**June 5<sup>th</sup>** AHNA Meeting. 6:00 PM Senior Housing Center. (Participants needed for summer events.)

**June 11<sup>th</sup>** Garden Club Community Planting Day. 10:00 AM Contact Stephanie at stkrnh@aol.com

**June 15<sup>th</sup>** Oil Pre-buy sign up deadline.

(See Pg 1) Contact Ken at sierradev@msn.com.

**June 18<sup>th</sup>** Neighborhood Wide Yard Sale 8AM-1PM email Cristy clk7311@yahoo.com

**July 16<sup>th</sup>** Atlantic Heights Garden Tour 9:30 AM Contact Stephanie at stkrnh@aol.com

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>** National Night Out Against Crime 5:30 PM at the Tennis Courts. Contact Ray at willofports@gwi.net

**August 7<sup>th</sup>** AHNA Meeting. 6:00 PM Senior Housing Center.

**October 2<sup>nd</sup>** AHNA Meeting. 6:00 PM Senior Housing Center.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>** AHNA Meeting. 6:00 PM Senior Housing Center.

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** AHNA Meeting. 6:00 PM Senior Housing Center.

## Atlantic Heights Streetscape Projects to Continue

With the help of CBDG funding, the City has been redoing streets in Atlantic Heights over the last few years. Kearsarge Way was the first street to be completed (2001), and Saratoga Way underwent major renovations last summer. Recently work has begun on portions of Crescent Way and Preble Way.

Plans are to renovate all of the streets in our neighborhood as funding allows. The work to be completed at present is only half the length of Preble/Crescent (beginning at the Ranger Way end) as this is what is funded at this point. Two firms submitted bids to the city and the project was ultimately given to

Northeast Earth Mechanics. The difficult work of improving drainage is underway and as summer progresses the visible street improvements should start to be seen.

Once the Crescent/Preble project is completed, work will begin on the interior streets – which everyone generally agrees will pose a greater challenge because of their narrow width and high demand for on-street parking. In the past, 1-way streets were rejected by AH residents, but the general opinion heard at neighborhood meetings over the past couple of years is that this concept would be received with more interest if raised again.

The City plans to revisit this concept as they continue with the master plan for our street.

The City values our input and we have been very lucky to have had such success with the street improvements so far. We look forward to hearing from residents at Neighborhood association meetings so that we can continue the collaboration with the city on the improvement of our street scapes.

Many thanks to Irving Oil for continuing to sponsor The Heights News by providing copying services and postage costs.

**The Heights News**  
c/o 199 Concord Way  
Portsmouth, NH 03801

**Atlantic Heights Neighborhood**

**Association:**

**Chair:** Stephanie Krenn

**Co-Chair:** Cristy Cardoso

**Secretary:** Jenn Will

**Treasurer:** Kevin Healy

**City Wide Neighborhood Committee**

**Representative:** Jenn Will

For emailed updates on upcoming events and community information visit us at [www.atlanticheights.org](http://www.atlanticheights.org) and follow the links to the list serve.