



Venture Portland grants fund spring and summer district activities, including 2016 Montavilla Street Fair

Thirteen business districts across the city will be receiving grant funds to help launch or grow projects during the spring and summer event seasons. The Montavilla District will get a boost to put on its annual street fair, which attracted 10,000 people last summer.

Other projects that Venture Portland chose for grant funds include the creation of business district banners, maps, websites and a kiosk; summer events such as “A Taste of Parkrose” and “Pints in the Pearl”; a business award event; and a membership campaign.

Venture Portland has provided over \$1.2 million in grant funds for over 480 business district projects since 1995. These projects have a direct tie to and impact on the local economy. With the organization’s assistance, the Montavilla-

East Tabor Business Association can continue to develop the street fair and make it a worthwhile, and sustainable, community event for participating business owners, METBA members, vendors, and neighbors.

2016 Montavilla Street Fair Update Planning meetings for the 2016 Street Fair are already underway. Katie Meyer, who managed event details for last year’s fair and will again be working with the board and a group of volunteers to plan and execute this year’s event, gave a progress report on aspects of the fair at April’s METBA board meeting: the Farmer’s Market tie-in, road closure signage on 82nd Avenue, the street set up for music, sponsorship opportunities, strategies for marketing and advertising, and the need for more food vendors/food carts. (The fee

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, May 2
Quarterly East Glisan Meet and Greet
Time: 5:30-700 p.m.
Location: East Glisan Pizza Lounge
8001 NE Glisan Street

Wednesday, May 4
Montavilla Street Fair Planning Committee Meeting
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Montavilla Brew Works, 7805 SE Stark Street

Friday, May 6
Montavilla First Friday
Time: Businesses will be open late hosting live music, art openings, shopping opportunities, more.
Location: Businesses along the downtown Stark Street corridor

Tuesday, May 24
First Quarterly “Stark East” Happy Hour
Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Location: MBank, 9415 SE Stark Street

Sunday, July 31
Annual Montavilla Street Fair
Time: 11a.m. – 5 p.m.
Location: SE Stark Street between 82nd Avenue and SE 76th Street

Sat.-Sun., August 20-21
Montavilla Jazz Festival
Location: Portland Metro Arts, 9003 SE Stark Street

for food vendors is a very reasonable \$100.00). Area businesses can register for booth space along the Stark Street corridor, with new and renewing METBA members automatically getting a space with their 2016 membership.

For those interested in getting in on the Street Fair planning action, come to the next committee meeting, being held on **Wednesday, May 4, 6:30 p.m., Montavilla Brew Works, 7805 SE Stark Street.** For general information regarding the Montavilla Street Fair, to register for vendor space or to become a sponsor, contact Katie Meyer at 503.360.7814. or Montavillastreetfair@gmail.com.

BUSINESS NEWS Local banking is back! **MBank**, located at 9415 SE Stark Street, has served the east county region since 1995, and in celebration of its 20th year, the Montavilla branch is offering a 20-month CD at a 1% annual yield. Farhad Dadko, Vice President and Business Development Officer at MBank (and board liaison to businesses along the Stark East corridor), cites

personal service and attention as the difference between MBank and bigger banks. The bank is under local management, and lending decisions carefully weigh the impact on the neighborhood and local businesses.

For the small business owner, the staff at MBank will take the time to learn about the nature of a business in order to match someone with the products and services to help that business thrive. For more information about the CD offer or other products and services for personal or business financing, call Mr. Dadkho at 503.674.3106, or drop by the MBank Montavilla Branch. Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender.

Ruth Miles, the Small Business Advocate for Oregon's Secretary of State, travels throughout the state to meet with business leaders, associations and community groups to talk about her office's role in aiding small businesses and non-profits. These ventures can run into issues related to taxes, licensing, procurement and government policy at the state and local levels, which is where the

Office of Small Business Assistance can provide help and guidance.

Ms. Miles presented several cases involving capital purchases that business owners had made, unaware of tax liens that existed on the machinery that had been purchased. Her office worked to find solutions for the owners who were facing tax penalties.

Ms. Miles also made a pitch to METBA members about becoming a certified business for government procurements. Government agencies rely on local businesses through-out the state to acquire goods and services for government-related events and meetings. (An example would be coffee and food items for a breakfast meeting.) Small businesses can increase their revenue streams by becoming certified with the Secretary of State.

Resources, information, and online help is available here: [**sos.oregon.gov/BusinessSOS**](http://sos.oregon.gov/BusinessSOS). Or call the Office of Small Business Assistance toll-free at 844.469.5512 or 503.986.2193. Ms. Miles can be reached at 503.871.3168 or via email at ruth.p.miles@state.or.us.

CLARIFICATION:

It was reported in last month's newsletter that the Montavilla East Tabor Business Association held an event for property owners on February 23. The article raised concern

about the nature of the event and whether this involved homeowners in the Montavilla neighborhood. The article should have indicated that invitees were *commercial* not *residential* property owners.

The newsletter coordinator regrets the oversight. If you have questions about information presented in the newsletter, please contact board member Julie Koroch at juliekoro@comcast.net.

District web site featuring METBA members under construction

Not a member yet? April 30 is deadline for submitting application and annual fee

Sue Surdan of Artisan Digital previewed the new business district web site at the April METBA board meeting. The framework for the web site has been built, which will feature businesses by services, a neighborhood map, an events calendar, and a news section that pulls in announcements from the district's Facebook page.

Kathryn Elsesser has visited METBA members in their brick-and-mortar businesses, photographing members for individual member web pages. These pages will rotate continuously on the district site, so that different

businesses appear on the district's home page when viewers visit the site. No one business or quadrant of the business district will be the focus – every member business will be showcased.

Ms. Elsesser is also working with METBA members that have home-based businesses to capture the nature of the work they do and the products and services they offer.

Once a business becomes a member, the owner will be contacted regarding an appointment for a photo shoot. After a photo is chosen, it will then be uploaded to the new district web site. Ms. Surdan

will send an invite to all members to log on to the district page and fill in a form that will populate each member's business page. It will be the responsibility of each METBA member to upload information about their business to the new district site.

The proposed date for the launch of the new district web site is June 1. While work continues on this project, applications for METBA membership are still being accepted. **Information here:** <http://metba.org/members.html>.

The Montavilla East Tabor Business Association monthly newsletter will be distributed electronically to Association members and made available on the Association's web site (www.metba.org).

It is intended to provide members, neighborhood groups/organizations, and the general public with information regarding the district. Comments, questions, news items, and event announcements are welcome. Send information via email to the newsletter coordinator: juliekoro@comcast.net, with "METBA newsletter" in the subject line.