North Tabor Elects Four New Board Members: Election Kept Open for November 20th General Meeting

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association held a General Membership Meeting October 16th to elect new members to the board. Unfortunately, the regular meeting date fell on the night of the 2nd Presidential Debate and this may have affected turnout. The board decided to keep elections to the board open calling for a General Meeting on November 20th, so there is still time for those who wish to take an active role in the neighborhood to volunteer as a board member. If you would like more information on what is expected of a board member, please call 503-928-4655 to leave your contact information or email chair@northtabor.org.

Melissa Bockwinkel, Nicole Davenport, Cathy Riddell, and Frank Spillers along with past board members Gail Morris, Monrose Doherty, and Zach Michaud were elected to one-year terms. Board members Christian Huja and Jacob Walther were not present during the election, but hopefully we will see them at the November 20th meeting and convince them to run again for the board. The board will elect its officers after the roster is filled. Does your section of the neighborhood have representation?

Introducing our new board members:

Melissa Bockwinkel recently moved to Portland from Chicago and is excited to be involved in such a community-focused city. She works as an accountant with mostly small and start-up clients along with mentoring high school seniors with the NEOLA Center for Student Success and is one of the North Tabor Neighborhood Coordinators for Friends of Trees. She is always looking to support various bicycling advocacy endeavors and local businesses. “I am passionate about people and places and strengthening our neighborhood identity both internally and throughout SEUL and Portland.”

Nicole Davenport is a recent California transplant to Portland. She got involved with the North Tabor Neighborhood Association in September after moving to the neighborhood. She is interested in city planning and will be applying to PSU’s Master’s in Urban and Regional Planning Program this January. She currently works in food service and recently began an internship with the Bicycle Transportation Alliance of Oregon. As a board member she is interested in participating in community building projects as well as increasing bicycling safety, specifically along the Davis-Everett bike route through our neighborhood. In her free time, Nicole enjoys riding her bike, cooking, playing soccer, and drinking yummy Portland craft beer.

Cathy Riddell was a member of the Center Neighborhood Association board in 2004 and one of the initiators of the name change to North Tabor. Most recently, she has been active behind the scenes with the North Tabor News. Cathy is interested in the communication functions of the association and working to establish and maintain open lines of communication in the neighborhood.

Born in Africa and of Greek-German heritage, Frank Spillers brings five years’ experience of helping neighborhood associations across Portland, Tabor, Eastmoreland, Woodstock, and Alameda with efforts to protect health, safety and livability in our community. He was instrumental in the effort to organize against cell tower encroachment on local schools and neighborhood property including working with City Hall and State representatives to voice neighbor concerns. Frank is also a successful business owner, father, husband, and entrepreneur and has been living in North Tabor for 8 years.

Plant a Tree in your North Tabor Yard or Parking Strip: Trees Matter

Got Leaves?!?! If you live in North Tabor and are not in one of the leaf districts above, you need to clean up your own leaves, compost them or otherwise dispose of them. Most of North Tabor doesn’t have enough concentration of trees to warrant City leaf pickups. Don’t let your leaves be a safety hazard to others or contribute to clogged drains.

Free North Tabor Naturescaping and Rain Garden Workshops

By Monrose Doherty

In September, Katie Meeks of East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (EMSWCD) came to the North Tabor Neighborhood Association meeting to give a presentation on the workshops and the work that EMSWCD does in our neighborhoods. North Tabor decided to host two of their Naturescapes and rain garden workshops in the spring: Rain Gardens 101 and Naturescapes Basics. These free workshops will help us learn how low-impact and chemical-free gardening techniques are good for water quality, wildlife, and everyone. Features of the workshops include landscaping with native plants, minimizing watering needs, identifying continued on page 2

Annual Cleanup and Resale Event Will Be Here Before You Know It!

Monrose Doherty, Cleanup Committee

The Annual Neighborhood Clean Up and Resale event is not merely for recycling and disposing, it is an event to visit even if you have nothing to get rid of. This community event is fun, features a race area for items that can be rescued from the landfill, and evolves into a better event every year! North Tabor Neighborhood is joining forces again with Mt. Tabor Neighborhood for a combined Clean Up and Resale event in April and be

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North Tabor News
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Equinox Party a Success (See Page 4)

Thanksgiving Bounty (See Page 4)

Artist for this mural selected for North Tabor Mural Project (See Page 2)

Bookmedia Paper Arts on Gilman (See Page 4)

Melissa Bockwinkel

Nicole Davenport

Frank Spillers

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Welcome To North Tabor

Neighborhood associations are a recognized voice in the City of Portland. We encourage you to become an active member of our voice and part of the process.

Participation is voluntary and open to all residents who live, work, rent or own property, or have a business, nonprofit or political interest in the area.

Meeting Time and Location

Board meetings are generally the 3rd Tuesday of the month, at Emile House, 5520 NE Gilman. Community meetings are open to the public but, unless otherwise designated only board members can vote at board meetings.

Please call or check the Emile House parking lot.

Check the calendar at www.northtabor.org or call 503-928-4655 to confirm time, date, and location.

Committee meetings, at the convenience of members, please notify committee if you would like to attend their meetings.

Notes from the Board

Board Elections Tues. Nov. 20

Gail Morris, Board Chair

How long have you lived in North Tabor?

Something that I find fascinating is the number of people who have lived here all their lives. I have neighboring – and so do you – people who live in the same house they were born in or in a house just a few blocks from where they were born. I myself was born in North Tabor and moved a few blocks away when I was in grade school, but when John and I got married, we settled in our current house and have been here ever since.

What is it that keeps people here? It may not be that unusual for people to want to stay in the place where they feel comfortable, the home close to where their family lives. One of the things that keep people here is neighborhood association.

I know for me that the location of our neighborhood is extremely important in terms of goods and services, in communication and education. We also share an overall low crime rate as compared to some neighborhoods and the feeling of safety and accessibility to good services.

One thing that Portland has that I love is the number of small neighborhood “villages” where you can live basically without a car and access all your needs by foot or bike. North Tabor is that for me.

I have a doctor, dentist, specialty and grocery stores, hospital, restaurants, and theaters all within walking or bicycling distance.

When the North Tabor Neighborhood Association put out a call for members two years ago with the message that if people were not interested in keeping the association going, then they should fold, several of us who had never had a meeting, let alone on the Board, showed up at the meeting and agreed to be on the Board. I have been a great experience overall, keeping up with the goings-on in the neighborhood and helping with the various committees. I was able to help with the Pole Banner project, helped get the lawn signs to remind people of our monthly meetings, served as Treasurer for the last year, and now am helping to get the North Tabor Municipal project going forward. It is all fun.

I would like to invite anyone who has been thinking of constructing membership structure and possibly getting involved in our neighborhood to come to the November 20 meeting. And if you have something that you would like to discuss, please notify me at chair@northtabor.org or get it on the agenda. Most of all, we need Board members to be able to vote on issues that come up and keep the business end of the meetings running.

See you around the neighborhood!

Can’t We All Just Get Along?

SE Uplift Workshop Wed. Nov. 14

A Good Neighbor Agreement Workshop is happening on Web-based zoom from 5:30PM-6:30PM at SE Uplift, 3534 SE Main St. In urban neighborhoods, sometimes we can’t just get along. But, there are tools that can help residents, businesses, and neighbors to better understand and possibly coexist. One such tool is a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA).

A SE Uplift is pleased to invite you to attend a workshop designed to empower neighbors, businesses, and institutions to effectively address community issues related to crime, parking, and noise. The workshop will take you through the basic steps of how to develop a Good Neighbor Agreement.

With guidance from an Office of Neighborhood Involvement representative, you will learn what neighborhoods should and should not enter into a GNA, how neighborhoods should approach businesses and institutions to talk about a GNA, what legal standing a GNA has, what can and cannot be included in a GNA, and what resources are available to neighbors.

Come learn tools and tips about GNAs and share your experiences with others. This workshop is free and light refreshments will be served.

Naturescaping (Continued from Page 1)

Invasive weeds, finding creative stormwater solutions, and providing backyard habitat for birds and butterflies. Rain Gardens 101 specifically looks at creating a rain garden in your neighborhood in order to assess your property for the best location, size, and choice in plants. Naturescaping Basics specifically looks at designing your garden for the best season, so that it reduces water use, stormwater runoff, and pollution, while saving time and money, and creating a beautiful space.

The two day Naturescaping workshops will be in March, so be on the lookout for these exciting upcoming nature-based and water-focused workshops in a convenient location.

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association's goals are to create the opportunity for folks in the community to learn about landscaping for clean water and healthy habitats, and to increase neighborhood interest and involvement in North Tabor. The other workshops that North Tabor would like to host in the coming months are: the Rain Garden workshops, email sustainability@northtabor.org or leave a message at (503) 928-4655.

EMSWUD is a unit of local government serving Multnomah County, Oregon which serves the Willamette River that works on a voluntary, non-mandatory basis. Their work consists of keeping our water and soil clean and building water conservation knowledge and techniques for East Multnomah County. EMSWUD is always looking for new groups to partner with so that they can offer more workshops in the future. If you know of a group or another neighborhood association that EMSWUD could coordinate with, send them to http://www.emswud.org or call 503-522-5216.

EMSWUD is also interested in providing a free workshop in the community, they manage the scheduling, regulations, collection of information, and they also provide professional presenters, workshop facilitators, and workbooks. You just reserve a workshop location, help get the word out by distributing workshop flyers to local businesses and community listings. You also need to make sure your group has the basic workshop needs information on all their programs and grants available can be found on the EMSWUD website.

Mural Project Moves Forward

Gail Morris & Christine Huja, North Tabor Municipal Project

North Tabor Neighborhood Association is moving forward with plans to paint a community mural on the Police Department’s SE Precinct Station retaining wall on the corner of NE 47th Avenue and ER Bramble Street. At the heart of the idea for the new mural, the Call for Murals was published with a deadline of Oct. 19. Our Mural Committee received seven applications; four applicants to be considered will be selected to be voted on by the Board at a special meeting held Nov. 7.

The selected team of three artists: Jakub Jezk Kucharczyk, Matthew Allen Woodbridge and Maxwell Humphrys of the non-profit art project SparcArts, Mission to Arts. The three artists have most recently collaborated on The mural located at 3150 North Mississippi Ave.

Jakub, Matthew, and Maxwell will play a huge role in the project, in creating the design and in supervising the whole community as we paint together next summer. They will be joining us at our next Neighborhood Association meeting on Tues. Nov. 20, at 6:30 pm. Stop by for a chance to meet them and hear ideas for our mural.

The intent of the mural is to build community and a sense of place; to create a public space that is representative of the community on input. Longtime neighbors are encouraged to bring their stories and historical photos from the neighborhood and share their memories with us. Parents can ask their children what they think is special about our neighborhood. Neighbors are needed to help us define what living in North Tabor means today. All neighbors are encouraged to be involved.

Moving forward, we would also really like to hear from neighbors with access to scaffolding and or pressure washer, graphics software, or other resources. We will be adding promotional materials, local businesses that want to collaborate with us, neighbors that want to help organize fundraising events and or help write grants, teachers with classroom groups of students wanting to participate, and anyone else that wants to help paint or support this project.

To get involved come to the NTNA meeting Nov. 20, email the Mural Committee at NorthTaborMuralProject@gmail.com or visit our webpage, www.northtabor.org/mural.
Trees Matter (Continued From Page 1)

use another tree, this is your chance to beautify that space and the air! There are small stature trees, fast-growing, slow-growing, and the list goes on and on. Your selection can best be for the most part from one of the featured staff-favorite trees. Here is how it all works:

1. Sign up by Dec. 10th and indicate whether you are renting in yard trees, street trees, or both.
2. Earlier is always better to have a wider selection of trees.
3. The city sends an inspector to mark the curb for street trees and determines which size trees are best suited for your location. This information is available in the Friends of Trees account. (If it is a yard tree, you are responsible for deciding on the location and checking for burial utilities, etc.)
4. Log in to www.friendlytrees.org or call 503-959-0212 to select your trees from your approved list and pay for them by Jan. 9th. Please also consider volunteering and select a role when selecting your role in helping plant the trees, driving a truck, providing food, or as a summer inspector.
5. How often for your tree(s) are dug shortly before the planting day. For yard trees, Friends of Trees provides flags 2 weeks prior to designate your planting spot.
6. No more than one tree to order? We can help! Check out the “Stuft Favorites” designated for your approved list of trees in your account at www.friendlytrees.org. There are several tree planting sessions coming up that you can attend. These presentations are free and light refreshments will be provided.

<Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church, 2828 SE Stephens

Thursday, November 8th from 7-9 p.m.

<Northwest Community Center, 2000 SW Barnes

Thursday, November 29th from 7-9 p.m.

<Kennedy School Community Room, 5736 NE 33rd

Thursday, December 6th from 7-9 p.m.

Is your planting tool too narrow for a street tree or you already have street trees? Consider purchasing a yard tree this year. These are also discounted to 50% per tree for planting 12 to select your trees from your approved list available such as the fast-growing native Douglas Fir and the beautiful fall-colored native Bigleaf Maple. No permits required for trees within your property lines. Also, if your sidewalk strip is less than 30 inches wide and your sidewalk is more than 5 feet wide, you can connect Friends of Trees to see if there are any options for you. And if you are renting your property, make sure your landlord knows of this opportunity.

Even if you are not ordering a tree this year you can always volunteer. Volunteer opportunities on planting day include help with breakfast or lunch for the crew of Friends of Trees, help prepare planting holes and helping to deliver trees to the staging area from the nurseries. If you have a pick-up truck, we especially need your help! Helping with planting activities is a great way to meet your neighbors and is a real community-building event. Many people continue to volunteer for years after planting their own trees. If you are interested in what a planting day looks like, check out this video: http://tinyurl.com/FOTplanting.

If you have any questions, want to know more about a certain tree, or need a little help with the website, your dedicated North Tabor Friends of Trees Neighborhood Coordinators: Melissa Bond, 503-959-0212, and Robert Jordan are here to assist you. Email us at northtabor@plantportland.org or leave a message at 503-959-0212.

Sign up now and help make our neighborhood an even better place to live!

Coffee with Alissa Keny-Guyer

Join Rep. Keny-Guyer to discuss the elections, politics, and upcoming legislation! Sun., Nov. 18th, 2-3 p.m. at Pieper Cafe, 650 SE Foster Rd. For more information call 971-250-1367.

Stormwater Gardens, Swales, Oh My!

Portland By Cycle Autumn Rides: Sat., Nov. 17

Ride lengths: 8 miles

A tour of various low-maintenance street design that help protect our watershed—rain! Take a tour of street features that increase safety for travelers and decrease water in our sewer system, plus see a beautiful storm water garden. We’ve done these tours in the summer for several years. Now, with any luck, we’ll get to see the swales in action!

Meet at the Hawthorne Hotel, 3131 SE Hawthorne Ave at 10am, Saturday, Nov. 17th.

Thinking of Trees

Moosehorn Doherty

On a recent walk through our lovely North Tabor neighborhood I noticed that the streets that were lined with trees conveyed a very majestic feeling. The houses looked regal, the yards looked vibrant, and the glinting green leaves of the tall oaks and elms were like little decorations for a fantasy party. There was something in the air...a little more quiet maybe, or a little more fresh smelling perhaps, or possibly it was just that the structures of the trees themselves defined the space.

Some of our streets are lined with tall, old, wide trees, where the canopy hangs high like a green ceiling, providing shade and making my walk in the sweltering hot weather extremely enjoyable. Some of our streets are lined with a variety of different trees; different in age, species, size, and growth pattern.

As I walked along, some of the trees were young with fully leaved out and sin-shaped tops, some with medium-size with maroon leaves and smooth gray bark, others were bearing apples, others were old with gnarly bark and knurling out from the noks, and some were evergreen, offering up a pine scent as I walked past. Each yard was unique too, as some yards featured gnomes hiding among the rocks and moss; and others had drogule tolerant spiky yuccas, blooming lavender, and hedged roses.

North Tabor is a changing neighborhood and I am happy to say that many of the changes that I have witnessed since moving here have been for the better. One example of this are the trees. Almost 40 trees were planted in North Tabor last year with the help of Friends of Trees and probably many more were planted by North Tabor neighbors.

Planting trees in a neighborhood is inexpensive. Sometimes we lose trees or the places to plant them. Two very large Deodar Cedars were cut down in our neighborhood. The trees were planted on a street in an neighborhood where trees can’t be planted in the parking strip because the strips are too narrow. Trees have come down on the sidewalk of a neighborhood and when parking lots go in, space for trees is lost.

Planting trees in a neighborhood is important, but it is especially important for North Tabor since we live so close to the major highway of the I-84 freeway. Trees offer us the valuable commodity of better air quality. Did you know that the average tree removes 10 pounds of pollutants from the air each year? After reading a recent study on trees, I learned that trees contribute to neighborhood livability by reducing city noise and glare and also can calm and slow down traffic. I also learned that homes on tree-lined streets command property prices that are up to 20 percent higher than homes in neighborhoods without trees. Whether you plant a gingko that turns all year in fall, a spruce that brings a sense of holiday spirit in winter, or a lovely maple with purple-maroon leaves that look cooler and more refreshing, you are doing a favor to everyone. The favor is also for our water quality and local rivers because the leaves of a mature tree intercept an average of 760 gallons of rainfall a year, diverting that water from entering the stormwater system and preventing it from contributing to sewer overflows.

To view trees near your house, visit us at http://tinyurl.com/FOTtree.

Stormwater Drainage

When it rains, water washes over roofs, streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and land surfaces. No matter where you live, there’s a drainage system in place to help rainwater find its way to the river.

Managing Stormwater in Portland

The Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) is responsible for distributing the city’s resources to responding to street flooding and other safety concerns. The infrastructure includes 456 miles of stormwater sewers, 87,000 fire hydrants, and 50,000 sewer pipe (carrying both stormwater and sewage), 58,000 catch basins, and 4,700 miles of streets.

Given the City’s limited budget and staff and the size of the infrastructure network, citizen involvement is key to helping keep streets safe and catch basins clean and to notify the City if a higher level of maintenance is needed at a particular location.

To lessen street flooding, the City asks residents and property owners to clear leaves and debris from catch basins (grated storm drains) in front of your properties. Use a rake or pitch fork to clear leaves, limbs, and debris from the storm drain/catch basin. Do not put your feet and hands into the storm drain because all kinds of debris collect there that could be dangerous. Do not try to remove the grate, only the debris on top of the grate.

The best time to inspect the catch basin in front of your house or business is prior to a rain event and right after a rain, snow, or ice storm. If you cannot clean the entire channel right after the rain, the City that helps is needed. Call 503-823-1700 and report the particular location.

Do not rake or blow the leaves from your yard into the street. Bag them at the curb in the parking strip and prepare them for curbside pickup by your garbage service. Garbage service is intended solely for leaves that impede stormwater drainage and cause traffic hazards. For leaves that have fallen into the street, please keep them from the infrastructure right after the rain, where they will block the rain path. Rake them at least one foot from the curb.

Preventing Neighborhood Drainage Problems

Water is the most common cause of unstable slopes, landslides, and erosion. Check your home’s drainage system. Maintaining the drainage system on private property is the owner’s responsibility. Make sure your drainage system directs water away from your foundation and not on to your neighbor’s property.

Never discharge water over the side of a steep hill. Clean your gutters and downspouts. Check your gutters once a week during the fall and winter. Just one wind or rainstorm can clog a well-functioning drainage system.

Never block any part of the City’s drainage system. Do not plant flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, or materials into ditches, culverts, or drains. Do so can cause flooding.

It is against the law to dump any material into the drainage system. To report illegal dumping, call 503-823-1-700.

Getting Help with Neighborhood Traffic Safety Issues

Daryl Summers

I live near the corner of NE 56th and Everett, and there is a stop sign there that many people choose to slide or barrel through, or just plain ignore. Because Everett is a designated bike route, there are all sorts of traffic issues, some inside the bike lane and some outside. All those cyclists (and pedestrians) traveling along on those two wheels (or two legs), assuming they have the right of way, are at risk. It is important to slow down, be courteous, and flipped fingers, I decided it was time not only to trim back my tree which did impede the sign a bit, but also get FDX Traffic Division involved. It was actually quite easy through a slow process.

Portland has created a Transportation Safety and Neighborhood Living Solutions program to help with repeat traffic issues: Their motto is “We Keep Portland Moving.” Requests made to the phone number 503-823-5515 will get a response within 3 days. Or you can email (portlandoregon.gov/transplantation) and get a response within 10 days. I phoned in a request to have a posthole with a sign of a bike tucked near Flanders. Two days later I received a nice phone call explaining that a team would come out within a week or two to see if my request merited action. I received a phone call several weeks later that yes, indeed, they agreed, but that it would take

Continued on Page 6
North Tabor Fall Equinox Party Fun for All Ages: Food, Entertainment, Crafts and Ideas
Gail Morris with photos by Moona Sherry Doherty

You know, it’s always a gamble as far as the weather goes, when you’re planning an outdoor family fair in Portland any time of year. And of course, it seems that you never have enough volunteers to help out. But this year everything fell into place like magic. Saturday, September 22, dawned into a gorgeous, warm, fall day, one that those of us doing the planning could only dream of.

And then, just as the games were set up and the food set out, people started arriving, lots of them; families, new neighbors, members of the Community of Christ Church (where we held this event), and people just passing by the park who noticed our balloon. There was lots of food, lots of new faces and familiar ones, badminton and croquet, music, art activities, and the opportunity for neighbors to provide feedback to the North Tabor Neighborhood Association (NTNA) regarding their issues or concerns and ideas for our Mural Project, as well as get information about the Friends of Trees Planting and other projects.

Members of the church brought salads, baked beans, hot dogs and sausages to grill. Laurelhurst Café donated tea for iced tea. NTNA provided veggies, dips, lots of other food and beverage items.

Zimba Marimba kept us all entertained

After an hour or so, the members of Zimba Marimba band began setting up. Their music filled the park and had everyone dancing in their chairs and on their feet.

Kids enjoyed the hula hooping with Erika from Hooperville and with balloon animals made by Kelsi from Pacific Balloon Company. Kids and their parents (or grandparents) made use of the materials provided for painting faces and other body parts and adults and older kids had the opportunity to make wind spinner art for their yard or front porches.

The End of Summer: Harvest Time in North Tabor
Gabriel Frayne

The Oregon fig tree in my backyard appeared to be going through all the normal stages of an Oregon growing season during the interminable rains of last April, May, and June. First, the tree sprouted the usual 15 to 20 new, hard figs during the cool days of spring. A few weeks later, as the days lengthened, the fruit ripened almost to the moment of harvest, at which time the blue jay nesting in a nearby tree devoured almost every last one, leaving us about five acculent samples, as if to say, “thanks for breakfast.” And as in years past, I pondered buying a dog to control the terribly unfair balance of nature in my backyard urban forest.

Nina Frayne shows off her bounty of figs

About a month later the cycle started anew: the fig tree put out another profusion of young, hard fruit, which I assumed would simply fall to the ground in the usual manner, lacking enough sun and warmth to reach a second harvest. But then a strange thing happened, a first since I planted the tree at the edge of the property six years ago. Neither rain nor frost visited Portland during the entire month of September and into October, resulting in dozens, if not hundreds, of ripe, sweet figs filling our fruit bowls even as I write this account. Of course, I wasn’t just about the figs; dozens of tomatoes, eggplant, zucchini, and chili peppers are piled in bowls on the table in our nook, a cornucopia of surpassed expectations.

During my frequent walks around North Tabor, I can’t help noticing that other neighbors have had a similar experience. There are sidewalk gardens bursting with chard, squash, brightly colored zinnias, and apple tree hanging low. Evidently, the late, lingering summer had the desired effect. According to a report in the Seattle Times, only one quarter of an inch of rain fell at Portland International Airport between July 1st and September 30th, this being less than one half the total of the previous record. The report merely notes that the three-month period was “abnormally dry.”

Adam Kohl of NE Everett describes the 2012 growing season: “I wouldn’t say remarkable, but really solid, the fruit in particular.” Adam works for Outgrowing Hanger, a non-profit that works with local residents in East Portland to grow community gardens, and to “get fresh healthy food to the hungry.” His family’s impressive raised beds along the sidewalks give more evidence of a bumper season. “They did pretty good. The tomatoes went crazy,” he says. “I’ve been inviting the neighbors to come and help themselves to the cherry tomatoes because I can’t keep them all picked.” The tomatoes he has harvested have morphed into “boatloads of salsa,” he says.

Not surprisingly, the solid growing season has affected growers well beyond North Tabor. At the Hollywood Farmer’s Market on one of the first rainy Saturdays of Autumn, Arne Babbringer of Gales Farms was doing brisk business at her tables laden with apples, squash, garlic, and a dozen varieties of peppers. “It started slow because it rained and rained and rained, but from July on it’s been great,” she says of the 2012 summer and fall.

Or, as Adam put it, “We got to enjoy the very last bit of summer right up to the end.” I can certainly relate to that.

Happy Thanksgiving, North Tabor!

Interested in Setting up a Tool Library in North Tabor?

If anyone is interested in helping start a garden tool library in North Tabor please contact Melissa at melissa@northtabor.org with North Tabor Tool Library in the subject and let’s get planning!

Christmas Cowboy Carriage and Other Activities at Laurelhurst Café
Ken Barbéllies, Laurelhurst Café

The Laurelhurst Café is pleased to announce it is teaming up with Cowboy Carriage to offer horse-drawn and tractor-pulled wagon rides from the Laurelhurst Café to Peacock Lane through the Christmas Season. For details, contact Ken at the Laurelhurst Café, 503-548-6520.

In other news at the Café, the children’s program has expanded with the addition of drop in art for kids. The program is on Tuesday 9 to 11 AM.

Storytime Singalong with Olive Rootbeer and Dingo Dzmalz has added a second weekly offering. It is now every Monday at 10.00 AM and every Friday at 9:30 AM.

The Café has recently added breakfast plates and hamburgers to the menu, and a copy of the Winter Menu is inserted in this paper.
Spookooy houses
Gail Morris

Clinton Rockey's front yard at NE 52nd and Davis on a regular day is beautiful. His family keeps a wonderful display of plants, a water feature, and a poetry station on the fence. But come Halloween, look out! He goes all out, and this year was the best ever.

You could see the smoke coming out of the display all the way down the block. On the sidewalk, various skeletal and “dead” things greeted visitors. Even Clinton himself dresses up and plants himself among the other stuffed figures to surprise people as they pass by. People have been heard to say, “Oh he’s not real” to which he will groan, “What do you mean I’m not real?” and he watches as they jump about three feet.

North Tabor Halloween: Spooktakular Display for One and All!
Gillian and Penn Brimberry

Using everything from homemade tissue-paper ghosts to animated ghouls and goblins, North Tabor neighbors get into the Halloween spirit this season, decorating their walkways, porches, and doorways. Driving through our streets in the month of October, it was exciting to watch the progression: spotting the first jack-o’-lantern just as the creepy school busses started perfecting their routes, to the skeletons replacing crops in front-yard garden boxes.

Watching the decorations slowly appearing this past month got us thinking, what inspires us to cover our lawns with spiderwebs and coffins? A new documentary, The American Scream, directed by Michael Paul Stephenson, searches to answer that question by following the buildup towards Halloween of three hard-core decorators in Massachusetts. But we’ve got some pretty wicked displays right here in our own little hamlet, so we ventured out to some of the more impressively decorated houses in our “hood to ask the same question: “Why do you decorate for Halloween?”

One of the most elaborate displays we could find in North Tabor is on NE 60th and Everett. Come October, this seemingly innocuous home becomes known as the Everett Street Cemetery. Its creator, Tracy has been building up his ghostly display for the last fifteen years. Starting with one coffin and a 8-foot stretch of fence, his display has now become a neighborhood attraction, welcoming the not-too-faint of heart, who are willing to endure a little scare in exchange for some candy. Why does he do it year after year? “I do it for all the smiles on all the faces,” says Tracy with a kind and welcoming smile as he adjusts the ax-wielding goblin on his porch.

Over on NE Royal, Judy puts out a display for the younger candy collectors with a less spooky display of smiling ghosts and black cats, but the motivation is similar. “I started decorating for the grandparents,” she explains. She continues to decorate because, in her words, “We need to celebrate whenever we can!”

Michael and Alexis of NE Oregon choose to decorate with pumpkins, supporting the local pumpkin patches and creating displays as wild as a giant squash-spider or last year’s all-pumpkin centipede on their front lawn. It’s an activity that the whole family participates in.

So whether you balance a single pumpkin on your windowsill or go all out like these festive neighbors, consider adding something new to your decorations next year. And be sure to take a walk around your street and enjoy the spooktacular displays our neighbors go to such lengths to create.

Wouldn't it be fun to organize a North Tabor Halloween Tour next year!?
The Spirit of Giving: Some Ideas
Daryl Summers

The holidays are here again, having come (as usual) rather quickly. I’d like to make a few suggestions of ways to help the community—whether it is here in Portland or farther afield, at the local or national level.

An exceptional opportunity for giving is The Oregonian’s Season of Sharing. Last year more than 2,500 people received $314,000, which was distributed to many organizations, such as Lift Urban Portland, Feed the Hungry, and the Tooth Taxi. You can mail a donation to orngevol.com/sharing, or using mail your The Oregonian Season of Sharing, PO Box 1928, Portland OR 97207. If you wish, your name will be listed in the paper as a donor, or in honor of or in memory of someone.

Additional organizations recently recommended in The Oregonian are:

Toys for Tots: 6735 N. Basin Ave, Portland OR 97217, 503-286-3962, ext 6029

Salvation Army: www.salvationarmy.org or call the local office of one of their locations, 503-796-1246. The Salvation Army also sponsors the Angel Tree where Christmas trees are decorated with children’s wish tags. These trees are found at most shopping centers, including Lloyd Center, Washington Square, Cedar Hills Crossing, and Eastport Plaza. There will be many tags hanging this year. And remember: the red kettle should be showing up soon.

Meals on Wheels/Loaves and Fishes: This organization is close to my heart as I volunteer at the Beaverton location every Friday. You can deliver meals to shut-ins (easy job—you usually only deliver 8 dinners or so in the local neighborhoods and are very welcome at the center. Donations are greatly appreciated. I am a “greeter” at meals for the center from 10-1:00. These are seniors (age 60+) from many countries and backgrounds. For me, it is a chance to get away from it all and, hopefully, to enjoy the generous meal and conversation.

Eat, Drink, be Merry! Thanking Meals on Wheels volunteers greet patrons at local markets in 2 hours shifts to distribute Donate Dinner Cards. It will be on 2th December at the Hawthorne Whole Foods. It’s fun, easy, and rewarding. Call or visit the website at: mealsonwheelpeople.org, or call the Belmont center at 4010 SE Belmont, 503-953-8202.

Several of our local organizations can use donations of money and/or time: The Portland Rescue Mission and Union Gospel Mission serve hungry people. They are so appreciative, and you can make a difference, except for even more people. They also greatly appreciate donations of warm clothing, eg. jackets/raincoats, hats, gloves, socks, and new underwear. The women’s children’s shelter (Shepherd’s Door) is located at 13207 NE Halsey, 503-906-7650. They welcome clothing for women and children. The Portland Rescue Mission, for example, accepts clothing, luggage, and, of course, toys and activities for kids of all ages.

Contact Portland Rescue Mission online: portlandrescues.org, by phone 503-906-7690, or by mail, PO Box 3713, Portland 97208.

Contact Union Gospel Mission online, ugporthland.org, by phone, 503-274-4483, or by mail, 3 NW 7th St.

This list could go on indefinitely, but I have another favorite I use every year for holiday gift giving. Heifer International is a well respected global organization which helps people much anywhere there is a need, including in the US. You can “buy” an animal which will be used to help a family get started on a new venture. Each recipient must share off-fitting with fellow villagers. I often buy either a flock of chicks or ducks, which give families eggs, and a sense of success. Heifer International is a highly rated charity. You can also support a child going to school or buy mosquito nets. Go to the website at www.heifer.org. It’s quite an exciting adventure!

Have a wonderful holiday! Thank you for sharing!

Avoid Being Taken by Fake Charities
From the Oregon Department of Justice

The Oregon Department of Justice website (http://www.doj.state.or.us/charitygroup/) provides information on charities operating in Oregon that are registered with the state. The website contains information on 16,532 charitable organizations in a searchable database. The DOJ offers the following tips:

1. Only give to registered charities. In order to solicit for donations in Oregon, most charitable organizations must be registered with the Oregon Department of Justice. Before you give, check our database to ensure that the organization is properly registered.

2. Make sure your gift is tax-deductible. The government recognizes the value of charitable organizations and most contributions to recognized charities are tax-deductible. However, your donation must be given to a qualified charitable organization. To determine, visit the website of the IRS. You must also keep adequate records, so make sure the charity provides written acknowledgment of your donation.

3. Watch out for imposters. Bogus charities often use names or logos that resemble those of well-established, reputable organizations. Before you respond to requests for donations from such organizations, call them to confirm that it exists and is aware of any fundraising efforts on its behalf.

4. Resist impulse decisions to donate. Telephone and door-to-door solicitations may be made with empty requests for your support, but be wary of scam artists who want your money fast. No legitimate organization will demand that you deposit immediately. Request written materials about the charity and read up to learn more before making a decision.

5. Be careful with cash donations. Legitimate charities will be happy to receive a contribution by check. Never send contributions with a “runner,” by wire, or with an overnight parcel pick-up service. Always make sure the organization is well-informed. Request written materials about the charity and never to the individual collecting the donation.

6. If you don’t remember a pledges, you probably didn’t make one. Watch for solicitations that resemble an invoice or come from an unfamiliar organization thanking you for your previous support. Regardless of your giving history, charities have no obligation to donate.

7. Reduce the number of solicitations you receive. Under Oregon law, if your number is on the national Do-Not-Call List, charities may not solicit donations over the phone unless you are a past donor or expressed a previous interest in giving. If you want to be removed from a national mailing list as possible, sign up for free at www.donatchoice.org and opt out of receiving most junk mail for a period of five years.

8. If you have concerns about a solicitation, please file a complaint online at http://www.doj.state.or.us/charitygroup or call the Charitable Activities Section at 971-763-1800.

Liquor License Renewals: Nov 16 Deadline for Comments

All liquor licenses located north of Barstow within the Portland City limits will expire on Dec. 6. As a part of the renewal process, the City of Portland reviews current licensees to make a recommendation to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC). The role of neighbors, Neighborhood Associations, and Business Associations is very important in this process. The annual renewal provides an opportunity for neighborhoods and community members to identify problem locations before the City makes its recommendation to the OLCC. Interested parties are encouraged to provide information regarding liquor establishments with ongoing problems as soon as possible. Neighbors and community organizations wishing to oppose a license renewal should identify problem locations north of Barstow and advise the Office of Neighborhood Involvement by Nov. 16. If there are concerns regarding any liquor location, but neighbors do not wish to formally oppose the outlet’s renewal, this is an excellent time to bring these issues to the City’s attention so that we can work with the licensees to resolve specific problems informally. For more information, contact Kathy Coach at kathy.coach@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-3992.

Traffic Safety (Continued from page 3)

8-12 weeks to install the sign. So be careful, someone showed up at 7AM one morning and the new signs went up.

If you would like to help keep our street safer, too, here are some helpful phone numbers:

- 24-hour maintenance and repair of traffic signs, signals, equipment, pavement markings and condition, or sidewalk repair: 503-823-1700
- Police: 503-823-BLUMP (2876)
- Speed light outages or malfunctions: 503-LAMP (5267)

The 503-823-SAFE number can deal with pretty much everything, such as speeding enforcement, speed bumps, visibility issues, parking concerns, bike safety and concerns, intersection improvement, etc.

Give them a call. I found them to be very responsive and helpful!
Annual Cleanup and Resale Event (Continued from Page 1)

location will likely be the Mt. Tabor Middle School parking lot.

Metro started the community cleanup program in 1994 to support community and natural area cleanup events that enhance the appearance and safety of neighborhoods and contribute to the livability of the region. Our Neighborhood Clean Up and Resale event is made possible because Metro provides funds for the landfill disposal tipping fees that are associated with the landfill-bound waste and the City of Portland through Southeast Uplift provides event expense reimbursements to each neighborhood.

This event provides for disposal of large bulky items that cannot be disposed of through home pickup. These are also removed at a much lower fee than what is charged at a transfer station in most cases. And, by combining loads, additional savings can be made.

The distance is less for both the neighborhoods dropping items off and the hard hat making trips away, since they are making a direct trip. Less travel means less carbon footprint and more sustainability.

A focus at the collection is recycling and reuse. This event provides an opportunity to recycle items that are not accepted in curbside to carts, such as plastic bags, plastic lids, and other rigid plastics like toys and packaging. We will also be recycling metals, plastics, fiberglass, electronics, and certain appliances. Wood without paint, varnish, hardware, or pressure treatment and large yard debris will also be collected. Thanks.

McArlin’s Bark, Inc., who has donated containers for clean wood and large yard debris.

McArlin’s has been generous in making this donation for multiple years, without which we would not be able to direct yard debris and clean wood to be composted. The Rebuilding Center will collect reusable building items and Green Caddy will collect electronics.

You can also recycle items through the resale area, by putting them to reuse. When someone purchases an item and takes it home to put to new use, the life of the item is extended and it stays out of the landfill longer. The resale area is always filled with items. It has everything from furniture to pottery to pottery and all items are at great low prices. One year I got a wooden table, tomato stakes, a ceramic pot, and downspout traps, last year I took home a pitchfork, some lumber, a birdhouse, and lovely woven chairs, all for a dollar or two a piece. Who knows what will be there this year? Come and check it out, maybe you will find something neat.

The proceeds from the resale area will benefit Mt. Tabor Middle School, SE Tool Library, and Mt. Tabor and North Tabor Neighborhood Association’s and their community projects.

Without volunteers we couldn’t make the event happen. Elks volunteers help out in any way you can. If you are interested in helping organize and plan or you want to volunteer at the event, please contact sustainability@mtabor.org. We would love to have your energy, input, and expertise. Not only is this event a great way to help the North Tabor Neighborhood be more sustainable, it is a great way to meet your neighbors. We hope to have the destruction of an illegal dump; with the help of neighborhood volunteers, many items can be deconstructed and their metal, plastic, wood, and other components can be

(Continued on Page 8)
Blockheads Paper Arts Opens on NE Glisan Just in Time for the Holidays
Dianna of Blockheads Paper Arts

We opened up the retail shop on August 1st this year and have been seeing more and more local neighborhood people come on by. We think the Montavilla, North Tabor, and Mt. Tabor neighborhoods really have awesome growth potential and we are hoping we can participate in that growth as time goes on. We have our own line of art rubber stamps (no, we don’t make custom stamps, sorry!), plus we carry a select group of other manufacturers, both local and international. Additionally, we have loads of ink and stamp supplies and have really crammed a lot in a small space.

We offer $3 Make N Take Tues-Sat from 1:30pm-5:30pm. A Make N Take usually takes between 20 min – 30 min. The Make N Takes with Molly are free for same day purchases of $10 or more in the store – limit one per customer per day. We change it up every week and offer a variety of quick techniques for people both new and experienced in paper crafting. Our schedule is posted on our site www.blockheadsstamps.com and we take orders online too! Come on in and make some nice things for the Holidays!

Blockheads Paper Arts, 7201 NE Glisan St. 503-255-0304 www.blockheadsstamps.com

North Tabor News

November / December 2012

Karen Rubin, left, Penny Bell-Beck, center, and Tere Rosantos right in front of Bella Hair Studio on Stark. Owner Penny welcomes Tere as the newest member of the local group of stylists.

Annual Cleanup (Continued from Page 7) recycled. Event volunteers also conducted quality control at the containers, provide reinforcements, direct traffic, take photos, unload vehicles, stuff the rocakale, drop home garbage at a charity at the end of the event, and haul recyclables to Far West Fibers. If you don’t have time to volunteer, the event also needs donations and items on loan. If you are an individual or business, and are able to donate food and beverages for the volunteers or donate or loan study gloves, safety vests, hard hats, and orange street cones, please contact us. We are looking forward to another successful event in collaboration with Mt. Tabor neighborhood association for 2013. To volunteer, to donate an item or service, to post a yard sign, or to help out in another way, please contact Moonesse Doherty or Candice Jordan at kleanup@northtabor.org. For the most current information, check out wwwnorthtabor.org.

Am I Your Neighbor? Anonymous

I grew up under the warm Australian sun and then moved to Germany when I was 17. After going to college there and working for several years, I met a young man from a place I’d never heard of, Portland, Oregon. He didn’t take long to convince me to move out there and marry him. After living in other parts of town for five years, we bought a house here in the North Tabor neighborhood six summers ago—and we absolutely love living here. We now have a 21-month-old sun and are expecting a little girl in December. When I’m not spending time with my little boy, I make my living as an independent contractor in publishing, mainly translating from German and proofreading. Even though I dismiss the tropical fruits, the warm ocean, and the odd kangaroo sighting, the Pacific Northwest has definitely won my heart with its natural beauty and easy going people.

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