Annual Neighborhood Tree-Planting a Huge Success! By Joe Keeler

About 100 volunteers showed up for the neighborhood tree planting event. The morning started early, with two Penske rental trucks arriving at the corner of SE Yamhill and SE 35th at about 6:45 am. Inside were over 100 trees to be planted in the North Tabor, Sunnyside, Laurelhurst and Kerns neighborhoods (not most desired for our neighborhood - North Tabor). Friends of Trees staff had picked up the trees from a nursery outside of Oregon, OR the day before.

Over the next hour, dedicated volunteers gathered on SE 35th Avenue – blocked off to traffic for the morning – to organize the trees for ten different planting crews, composed of neighborhood residents like you and me. Inside the basement of the Sunnyside Methodist Church, several neighborhood residents and volunteers from the church set up breakfast treats, including pastries and juices donated by Whole Foods, donuts donated by Mio Gelato, bagels donated by Newbag's bagels and delicious coffee donated by Pears Coffee. As volunteers arrived, Grant High School students helped them register for duty, receive a nametag with a letter on it, and instructions on where to find the coffee (it was still before 8am on a Saturday) and treats. (Continued on Page 4)

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Passive House Under Construction in North Tabor
By Robert Hawthorne, AIA, LEED AP, CoreHaus

Rendering by Cathy Hawthorne, artist

design with the construction of a Passive House at 616 NE 61st Place. Passive House is a building energy standard from Germany that results in a 80-90% reduction in energy required for heating and cooling. An insulated, air-tight building envelope, along with minimized thermal bridging and proper orientation, eliminates the need for a furnace. While thousands of these homes exist in Europe, there are only a handful in the US. This project, called CoreHaus, aims to be the first speculative Passive House in the Northwest when it is completed this summer. For more information about this home and for further information on Passive House, visit www.corehauspl.com.

Solarize Portland: Round 2
By Tim O'Neal, Sustainability Coordinator, SEUL
Solarize Portland is a community solar installation project initiated by a volunteer from the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association and SE Uplift. The project aims to simplify the process of installing residential solar electricity by offering educational workshops to homeowners and providing guidance throughout the process. The project also provides up to a 20% discount on the installations by negotiating a group rate with the installer. In the first round, the price of a typical solar installation was reduced to around $3,500, after the tax credits, Energy Trust of Oregon cash incentive, and the bulk discount. Solar electricity has never been this affordable.

The first round of Solarize Portland is coming to a close, and has been a great success! In the past six months, hundreds of homeowners have attended community workshops and received free site assessments to determine whether solar is right for their home. Over 180 homes throughout Portland are now outfitted with affordable, renewable energy through the collaboration of community members.

There are now multiple Solarize projects happening throughout Portland. The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods has initiated a project for residents of North and Northeast Portland. And SE Uplift is happy to announce another Solarize project for residents in Southeast Portland. (continued on Page 5)

The Table below shows what sections of North Tabor have representation on the board. If you are not being represented, please consider a position on the Board or committees.
Welcome To North Tabor

We encourage you to get involved! Neighborhood associations are a recognized voice in the City of Portland. Let your voice be part of the process. Participation is voluntary and open to all residents who live, work, own property, or own a business within our boundaries.

North Tabor Neighborhood

The North Tabor Neighborhood (NTN) is bounded on the west by 44th Avenue and on the east by 68th and 69th Avenues. The southern edge of NTN is Burnside Street, except in the area between 44th and 49th Avenues and 68th to 71st Avenues where neighborhood extends south to Stark Street. The Banfield Expressway (I-84) creates the northern boundary of the neighborhood.

Next Issue

The deadline for submissions is March 15, 2010 for distribution in mid-April. Submit articles and photos to: editor@northtabor.org or call (503) 928-4655. Articles need to include the title and author plus photo captions and credits. Photo(s) need to have a filename referring to the article’s title.

Submit ads to advertising@northtabor.org by March 15th, 2010. Ad placement is based on payment and the earliest receipt of ad copy. Call 503-234-6592 to reserve space.

Publication

The North Tabor News is published by the North Tabor Neighborhood Association. Unless otherwise noted, opinions expressed are the opinion of the author and not necessarily those of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association or its board. The newsletter is in part mailed and hand-delivered by wonderful volunteers. To help in your area contact volunteer@northtabor.org.

Advertising: Candice Jordan
Distribution: Lori Kennedy

North Tabor Neighborhood Association Board Members

Voice mail messages can be left for any board member at Extension at (503) 928-4655. Email can be sent to the Board at board@northtabor.org.

April Burris, Co-Chair/SEIU Delegate, chair@northtabor.org
Joe Recker, Co-Chair, chair@northtabor.org
Kairy Tammen, Secretary, secretary@northtabor.org
Sam Faqua, Treasurer, treasurer@northtabor.org
Sean Basso, Land Use, landuse@northtabor.org
Shirley Nacoste, Outreach, outreach@northtabor.org
Candice Jordan, Communications, communications@northtabor.org
Lori Kennedy, Volunteer Coordinator volunteer@northtabor.org

Work Group Contacts

Annual Cleanup, cleanup@northtabor.org
Friends of Trees, fotoac@northtabor.org
Land Use, landuse@northtabor.org
Newsletter, newsletter@northtabor.org
Night Out Events, nightout@northtabor.org
Outreach, outreach@northtabor.org
Rosemont Bluff, rosemontbluff@northtabor.org
Volunteer Coordinator, volunteer@northtabor.org
Webmaster, webmaster@northtabor.org
Yard Sale, yardsale@northtabor.org

Plan Underway for Annual Cleanup

North Tabor Neighborhood is joining forces with Mt. Tabor Neighborhood for a combined cleanup in May this year. As of this week it is not yet determined, but information on the date, the location, fees and items accepted will follow in the next issue of the North Tabor News. For more information please visit on www.northtabor.org or may be obtained by leaving a voicemail request at 503-928-4655.

North Tabor will be taking care of the applications and permitting process and will coordinate outreach to Southeast Uplift and Metro while Mt. Tabor will be primarily responsible for the logistics on the day of the event. We are looking forward to a joint effort with Mt. Tabor and hope it will open the door to more shared events and projects in the future.

If you are interested in helping to determine the recycling and reuse options for this event please contact Lori Kennedy (contact information at the end of this article). If you would like to volunteer the day of the event or if you have good looking or usable yard debris, please let us know (no later than 2 weeks prior to event) Lori would love to hear from you.

There will be several changes to the event this year as the result of new requirements by Metro. These changes are expected to allow for more types of materials and due to reduced funding by Metro for these events. We will not be reimbursed the tipping fees for yard debris—however a portion of the fees normally charged by METRO in most cases. By combining loads additional savings can be made and the distance required to travel is less.

We will again make every effort to coordinate with various agencies and services to assure that maximum recycling and reuse opportunities are used and will also provide more information and advice on your efforts.

If you have a pickup and would be available to provide assistance to elderly or disabled neighbors on the day of the event, please contact Lori Kennedy (contact information at the end of this article).

Free Listings Available on NTN’s New Online Business Directory

NTNA is pleased to announce the addition of a local businesses directory on our website, www.northtabor.org. All businesses within North Tabor Neighborhood (see boundaries map on page 2) are eligible for a free standard listing and businesses in adjacent neighborhood associations may be listed for a small annual fee. The listing is a public area on the website, viewing is not restricted to members, a standard listing will include the business name, location, and phone number; a category selection and the option to add a photo and offers inclusion in an alphabetical list; and can be added by users. Users will be able to select from a list of categories or view the entire listing in alphabetical order.

We are also offering premium listing options, free to all our North Tabor News advertisers and for an annual fee to others. Premium listing options include a rotating logo that will appear on various pages of the website, viewed in random order, a short message to viewers on the main directory page, and optional additions to the business details such as a direct link to the business website, a larger graphic ad image, expanded text area for information to viewers, and ownership/management details.

Revenues received from paid listings will be used to offset the cost of maintaining a further developing our website and to defray some of the cost of publishing and distributing the North Tabor News. If you wish to have your business added to the directory, please email advertising@northtabor.org or call and leave a message at 503-928-4655.

Rossenblum Bluff – Hibiscus Update

Lynn Barlow, City Culture, Portland Parks & Recreation
This past January, Portland Parks & Recreation City staff (PWR) assessed the effectiveness of volunteer effort to date against the invasive Hibiscus vegetation. Rossenblum Bluff Natural Area. For the past two years PWR and the Friends of Rossenblum Bluff have attempted to control the site’s native vegetation by manually removing invading, non-native vegetation without using herbicides. Despite well-meaning efforts by the Friends and other volunteers, our recent monitoring shows we are not making progress using only manual removal efforts.

After a discussion with the Friends leader, April Burris, and other interested people, we all agreed that PWR should begin judicious use of herbicides for volunteer efforts. PWR uses herbicides in accordance with our federally reviewed and approved Integrated Pest Management Plan. For more information on the PWR website, email rosemontbluff@northtabor.org or see www.northtabor.org.

NTNA Bylaws Currently Under Review

A copy of the current bylaws can be found on page 6. If you have changes to them, please forward to northtabor@northtabor.org or leave a voicemail at 503-928-4655.
Providence Good Neighbor Agreement and Steering Committee

The GNA was created in May 2003. The goal statement reads:

The primary purpose of the terms of this Agreement is to develop an on-going communication plan between PPMPC, Center (now North Tabor) and LNA (Laurelton North Association) to improve the quality of life of PPMPC's Conditional Use Masterplan and to establish the foundation for on-going communication and collaboration among the participating parties.

The standing committee is comprised of members of the three groups and is directed to meet periodically to: 1) develop operating procedures and work collaboratively to improve the livability of the neighborhoods adjoining PPMPC, provide a forum to discuss and resolve issues arising from matters identified by PPMPC, LNA, or NTA, and achieve consensus on decision and make recommendation that all groups can take back to their respective organization sponsoring their efforts.

North Tabor members of the standing committee include Martha Westgate and Judy Kennedy with standing representatives, Committee Chair and Chair of the NTNA Board of Directors.

Providence hosted its annual Good Neighbor Agreement presentation on Wednesday, Jan 25, 2010. Providence was represented by President Arp and Renée King, and several neighborhood representatives from North Tabor were in attendance, as well as from other neighboring associations.

This annual GNA CAC meeting went well and made introductions. As there were new attendees, James Arp reviewed the intent of the Good Neighbor Agreement and its importance to the community. Comments from representatives commented that through this framework the hospital and neighbors have a good relationship, with a foundation of trust and respect.

The current conditional use master plan (CUMP) was adopted in 2003 and is a 10 year plan. James reviewed a selective photo of the campus. It was clarified during the meeting that this plan and any future photo is the "growth boundary" for Providence Portland Medical Center as recognized by the City of Portland. There was discussion about hospital services and services provided by the community. Providence will research this and discuss at the next standing committee meeting.

The committee discussed the long term plans for Providence and it's impact on the adjacent neighborhoods, including plans for the properties west of NE 47th Ave., north of Gilsan that have been acquired by and will be fenced in. Discussion also centered on the work of the GNA, and how to be involved in the process between Providence and it's neighbors, please leave a voicemail request at 903-928-4655.

Progress on the North Tabor Website

Our small but dedicated crew continued to work toward making northtabor.org a resource for the neighborhood. The Business Directory feature and will be adding local businesses as they request a listing and provide the information. As mentioned on page two there are both paid and unpaid options and advertisers in the North Tabor News receive the premium level as part of their package.

The website already has the ability for folks to sign up for recurring accounts for entering events and working groups. We hope to soon offer a classifieds function for neighborhood level listing of items you need to find new homes for or that you need for your life. It is hoped that individuals will be logging on, connecting with others to work on projects or sharing interests and skills at a neighborhood level. Our NTNA Secretary has accepted the task of maintaining the calendar features, so if you have an event of interest to North Tabor, send your information to contact@northtabor.org, 903-928-4655 and it will be posted.

If you would like to become involved in the further development of the website or want to contribute your time, please contact volunteer@northtabor.org or call 903-928-4655.

By now some of you are probably wondering who is the person behind the website. This year, we have no name posted for every activity of the NTNA. Last year NTNA obtained a voicemail account so that no one participating with the NTNA would have to give out private information. This voicemail system, together with northtabor.org email addresses assures that you can participate at whatever level you want without concerns of having calls to your home at inconvenient times or having your email inbox fill up with mail. It also allows for easy transitions when responsibilities move from one person to another.

North Tabor Neighborhood Association Board Member Application 2010-2012

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association Board of Directors elected members of the Board of Directors for the 2010-2012 terms. The Election of Board Members from May to April. This decision was made as May is generally quite full with the Annual Cleanup. At present it is estimated that there will be at least 10 people on the board for the year.

If you would like to be considered for one of these vacancies or for participation in any of our committees or working groups please submit the following information by April 12, 2010 either by email to chair@northtabor.org or call 903-928-4655 to leave your contact information and someone will be in touch with you.

Please provide the following items of information:
Name, Street Address, Zipcode, Phone Number and email address if you have one. If you will be representing an organization or business in North Tabor, please identify. Please also briefly share your concerns, ideas, interests and skills you would bring to the organization and identify any specific committees or workgroups on which you would like to participate.
If you will be up for a position on the Board of Directors, please sign and date your submission and include the following statements:
1. I have received and reviewed the current North Tabor Neighborhood Association Bylaws. (See page 6)
2. I understand the commitment to the term of the Board of Directors position and its responsibilities.
3. I apply for this Position and am willing to be elected, to serve on the Board of Directors of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association.

Statements will be accepted until the meeting April 20th General Meeting of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association for review by voting members of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association (see Bylaws, Page 6 for membership requirements)

Purple Ribbon Project
Matt Mitchell, Transition Services Manager for Bradley Angle, an agency with the mission of offering survivors of domestic and sexual violence options for safety, self empowerment, healing and hope and collaborating with communities to create social change requested support at the January 19th Board Meeting for a special project.
Purple ribbons will be tied around trees in the area, including Rosemont Blvd, to raise awareness of the issue of domestic violence in our communities. If you notice purple ribbons around North Tabor they are in support of the project.

Regardless of race, age, gender identity, background, sexual orientation, or religion, individuals deserve to live in a world where physical, verbal, or emotional abuse is not tolerated. Bradley Angle offers a safe, nonjudgmental environment for all domestic violence survivors, offering individualized services to meet a wide range of cultural and personal needs.

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5711 NE Bumstead St.
503.222.3771
Bike crew setting up

Overall, about 100 neighbors showed up to help plant the trees, mostly homeowners who purchased trees, but also others who just wanted to help. Dozens of neighborhood residents volunteered to participate in blue planting events, using trailers and bikes (Dutch-style utility bikes), to deliver and plant dozens of trees. The bike crews were also being filmed by FOT staff to be part of a film for the upcoming film by Bike Film Festival next summer.

Bugs indicate that the soup was good.

As I mingled, many neighbors explained what a terrific deal this was for them with street trees costing less than $40 a piece. One neighbor was surprised to find that the tree planted in front of her home that morning was the same size as the one next to it that she spent $300 to have planted on her own two years ago! Some owners of corner lots purchased five, or even six, trees to fill all the available spots along the street! For them, the event alleviated the potentially heartbreaking task of hauling, digging, and planting so many trees at once all on their own - not to mention how much money they saved! There were also landlords present, who understood that street trees are a wise investment for their income property and just the right thing to do.

As you walk through the neighborhood this summer and enjoy the shade and natural habitat of our North Tabor trees, just remember that each one started with someone thoughtfully planting a young tree with this end in sight.

Planting trees will be the most important task this summer. Please consider participating in the winter 2011 Friends of Trees Tree Planting. Registration will begin later in the summer. If you can't help, please become a summer tree inspector, where you will be trained in tree care and assigned a couple dozen newly planted trees in the neighborhood to visit once or twice this summer. It's easy, educational, and a great way to experience a sunny-summer afternoon. Please visit www.friendsoftees.org or call (503) 282-8846 for more information.

July Concerts at Mt Tabor Park

NTBA board voted to once again provide a sponsorship donation in support of the July Concerts at Mt Tabor Park. Summer fun includes four Tuesday-in-July Concerts at Mt Tabor Park. It is easy to walk to the concert bowl, picnic with the band, and return home before dark. This year, North Tabor residents who would enjoy choosing the bands may attend the Mt Tabor Band Committee meeting, Wednesday evening at 7pm. Meeting directions at 503-238-2594, ask for Marin. See you there?

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these concerts in July, please contact volunteer@northtabor.org or leave a message at 503-928-4655.

Celtic music that touches the heart, mind, and soul.

CRAICMORE plays contemporary traditional Celtic music. With deep roots in the music of Scotland and Ireland, CRAICMORE features the critically acclaimed vocalist Nancy Johnston. Her deep, rich, contralto voice is rare in the genre. Driving rhythms from guitar, bass, bodhran drums, corga and other percussion, along with high-pitched whistles, flutes and bagpipes, powerfully render jigs & reels. Four part harmony, rhythmic hand-clapping dancing, an East Indian Snare Drum and rumbling Didgeridoo add to the excitement.

CRAICMORE's fiery performances have toured for over eight years throughout the Western States and recently performed a 14 concert engagement in Shangai, China. Don't miss the chance to experience the excitement, the humor and the sheer joy of this music from CRAICMORE. What better place for a fiery performance than the top of our own volcano, Mt. Tabor.

Step by step meet your neighbors at our NTNA table.
A Taste of Africa and the Middle East
Right Down the Street
by Robert Jordan

What a difference half a century makes — when I was growing up in the 50’s, pizza and tacos were considered exotic “ethnic” food! Now even the chain grocery stores have aisle dedicate to Hispanic and East Asian ingredients, and there might even be a shelf with a few East Indian spices on it.

Still, in many parts of the country, those looking for African or Middle Eastern ingredients might have to go to the internet — but not here in our neighborhood. We are very fortunate to have just one, but several nearby shops specializing in otherwise hard-to-find African, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern items. Check them out for yourself!

International Food Supply
8015 SE Stark

Located in the very trendy Stark St business district in Montavilla, International Food Supply is owned by John Attar, who also owns and operates the popular Ya Hala Lebanese Restaurant next door. Originally from Lebanon, John has been in business in Portland for over 25 years, and about ten in this location. The store offers a wide variety of both imported and domestic prepared foods and spices and a wide variety of halal (Islamic certified) products, drawing customers (particularly those with heritage from Near East, North Africa, or East Europe) from all over SE Portland.

Looking for ayvar (Turkish pinenut paste), Bulgarian cheese, or bulk quantities of fenugreek, Syrian saffron, or fidalp spice? This would be the place for you. Most of the items in the store are those one would use in the preparation of African, Middle Eastern, or Eastern European dishes — but there is also a shelf of Fine German and English chocolate. And don’t forget to bring home a box of Turkish Delight!

Amir Halal Food Grocery Market
7100 NE Glisan

“We only sell healthy, halal food,” says clerk Said Lahishan. “No candy, cigarettes, or alcohol!” Fresh and frozen meats (some from a halal slaughterhouse in Salem) are available, as are bulk quantities of many varieties of rice, kefir and pomegranates, spicy like kajgoli and ajwain seeds, even yerba mate (the tea drunk by Argentine gauchoes!).

“And we’re cheaper than Whole or Costo,” says Said. “Just compare the 20 lb bags of rice!”

Much like the other two shops, Amir Halal does a lot of its customers from the Muslim immigrant community and from Americans who have discovered the wonderful cuisines of the Mediterranean, the Middle East, and Africa.

Telephone cards are popular with customers calling family back home. “And we have many Russian and Ukrainian customers as well,” Said told me. “Though I am from Afghanistan, I have also lived in Russia, and can speak Russian with them.”

As might be expected, all three of these shops sell many of the same staple items such as rice, olives, and a variety of cooking oils. Their prices, especially for spices, are much lower than you will find in the standard American supermarket — and of course, many of the items simply can’t be found elsewhere. And perhaps most importantly, each of these shops (and the people who operate them) gives you a window into another culture, and another set of experiences. So visit all three, Google those strange spice names, and try some exciting new recipes!

“Those times thought of as the Islamic equivalent of kosher, halal food is prepared according to rules held out in the Koran. Those rules are in some ways similar to the Jewish dietary laws (as is the case for many Jewish rituals), but in other cases they differ. There is blood wine, for example, but there is no halal wine since alcohol is forbidden in Islam.”

International Food Supply

East African Market
7380 NE Glisan

This shop sells not only halal food products geared toward East African cuisine, but housewares and fabric as well. Owners Abuya Khalil and Ahmad Mohamed (originally from Somalia) opened the store in the spring of 2008, and serve customers both from the immediate neighborhood and from the wider East Portland area.

The cuisine from lands around the northwestern part of the Indian Ocean — Arabia, India, and East Africa — utilize many of the same ingredients, a wide variety of which are offered here. You can find gee (clarified butter used in Indian cookery), red lentils, licorice powder, jamun (sorghum) flour, dry boning... the list goes on... as well as spices in bulk at very reasonable prices. Though many of these items are unfamiliar to most Americans, Afghina will be glad to explain their use to you!

Chris Musser of Last Art Kitchen has provided us with a couple of recipes you might like to try.

Tsatsiki
Makes about 1 pint

Variations on tsatsiki can be found all around the Mediterraneam, but most Americans associate this blank of yogurt, garlic, cucumbers, and olive oil with Greek cuisine. The sauce goes especially well with meats, such as souvlaki or souvlai, but also dressed over falafel mixed with fava beans. During my recovery after having my wisdom teeth removed last summer, one of my favorite foods was tsatiki smoothies.

1 medium cucumber, peeled, seed and diced
1 clove garlic, peeled
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar or lemon juice
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 pint Greek-style yogurt, or regular yogurt, drained in several layers of cheesecloth or a fine-lined towel for several hours to thicken.

Squeeze the diced cucumber in your hand, or if you prefer, in a clean, lint-free towel, to remove excess moisture. Mix the cucumber with the remaining ingredients, cover and refrigerate, for a day if possible, to let the flavors meld.

Harissa
Makes about 1 cup

For some, this spicy North African condiment has replaced ketchup, salsa, and hot sauce. Put it on chicken, lamb, eggs, and legumes, in soups and stews, on potatoes... anywhere you want some mild heat and intense flavor. Consider getting a pepper grinder dedicated to grinding small amount of spices for recipes such as these, as buying whole spices and grinding yourself cuts less and makes a tremendous difference in terms of flavor.

4 cloves chilled chiles (equal amounts of New Mexican, guajillo and chipotle chiles)
5 cloves garlic, peeled
1 1/2 teaspoons kashmir salt
2 teaspoons caraway seeds, freshly ground
1 1/2 teaspoons coriander seeds, freshly ground
2 tablespoons best-quality olive oil, plus extra for storage

Place the chiles in a large bowl and cover with boiling water. Let rest until softened, about 30 minutes. Drain, then remove the seeds and stems from the chiles. Wear latex or rubber gloves when you do this to avoid irritating your skin. Place the seeded and stemmed chiles into the bowl of a food processor with the garlic and pulse a couple of times. Add the salt, caraway, and coriander. Process until smooth, pouring the olive oil into the feeding tube on top as you blend. Add a little water if necessary to achieve the right consistency. The harissa should be a thick paste. To store, top off with a thin layer of olive oil and refrigerate. Keeps for a month (top off with more oil as needed).

Hummus
Makes 2 quarts

Kids love it, grown ups love it. This healthy spread is perfect with pita, of course, but also as a dip for vegetables. Pulverize one large garbanzo bean in a pinch, but the flavor from dried, soaked bean is much cleaner... and you can avoid the pesky BPA’s that lines most commercial cans. Make a big batch and freeze it in pint-sized containers.

1 lb dried garbanzo beans or chickpeas soaked overnight
1 cup talinii
3/4 cup lemon juice
2 cup olive oil
6-8 garlic cloves, peeled
1-2 teaspoon salt, to taste

Bring chickpeas to a boil then simmer until 45-60 minutes or until tender. Drain chickpeas, reserving liquid. Let stand until just cool enough to handle. (Using warm to hot chickpeas makes it possible to process a softer texture that will then stiffer to a nice, spreadable paste). Process in blender or food processor in 2-3 batches according to the capacity of your equipment. Use enough of the cooking liquid to get a texture like soft peanut butter. Mix the batches together in a large bowl. Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary.

Send your articles or photos of interest to North Tabor to editor@northtabor.org or call and leave a voicemail at 503-928-4685. We’d love to have you on our team!

We partner with locally owned businesses & organizations to offer new stories, as well as new perspectives on old problems. We provide voice for change and teach you how to implement them, providing you the tools you need to deliver on your mission.

North Tabor News
Bylaws of North Tabor Neighborhood Association

Article I NAME OF ORGANIZATION:
The name of the organization shall be North Tabor Neighborhood Association (NTNA).

Article II PURPOSE:
The purposes for which NTNA is organized are:

a) To promote the welfare of the neighborhood and of Portland by establishing and maintaining an open line of communication and liaison among the neighborhood, government agencies and other neighborhoods.
b) To promote the general welfare of the members of the neighborhood may involve themselves in the affairs of the neighborhood.
c) To do all or some of the activities related to said purposes, to have and enjoy all of the powers granted, and engage in any lawful activity for which nonprofit corporations may be organized under ORS Chapter 65.
d) For all other purposes that may be approved by the Board of Directors (Board) or membership.

Article III BOUNDARIES:
Boundaries of the neighborhood shall be defined as North, the Banfield Freeway and Halsey from 44th to 69th, West, 44th Avenue, South, Stark from 44th to 49th, then north on 49th to Burnside, then west on Burnside to 60th, East, 68th from Burnside to Hassalo, then east on Hassalo to 69th, then north on 69th to Halsey.

Article IV MEMBERSHIP:
Section 1 Qualifications: Membership in NTNA shall be open to all residents, property owners, business owners or licensees, governmental agencies, and nonprofit organizations located within the boundaries of the neighborhood as defined in Article III of these bylaws who request to be a member.

Section 2 Voting: All members as defined above, eighteen (18) years of age or older, shall have one vote each to be cast during attendance at any general or special meetings. Other members of the household, government agency or nonprofit organization located within the boundaries of the neighborhood shall have the same privilege as the residents listed above.

Article V DUTIES OF THE BOARD:
Charging of dues or membership fees shall not be made; however, voluntary contributions will be accepted and fundraising events may be authorized by the Board.

Article VI MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:
Section 1 General Membership Meetings: There shall be at least two regular membership meetings each year. Each meeting shall be convened in the fall and spring and upon any day decided upon by the majority vote of the Board. Notification shall be by mail, posted notices, telephone conferences, or private messages or communication up to 7 days advance notice to all active members. Notification shall require seven (7) days advance notice to all members.

Section 2 Special Membership Meetings: Special meetings of the membership may be called by the Chairperson or by majority vote of the Board as deemed necessary.

Notification shall be by mail, posted notices, telephone calls, or any other appropriate means of communication agreed upon by the Board. Notification shall require seven (7) days advance notice to all active members.

Section 3 Agenda: Subject to the approval of the Board, the Chairperson shall prepare the agenda for general and special meetings of the membership. Any person may add an item to the agenda by submitting the item in writing to the Board at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting, or by making a motion to the Board to add an item to the agenda. Notice of all special meetings shall be made by a majority of those members present at any meeting.

Section 4 Participation: Any general, special, or committee meeting is open to any person and all who may wish to attend the meeting. The Chairperson may prepare and distribute the agenda. All actions or recommendations of the general or special meetings shall be communicated to all affected parties, including the Board.

Section 6 Procedures: Robert’s Rules of Order-Revized shall be followed in all cases not covered by the bylaws.

Article VII DIRECTOR:

Section 1 Number of Board Members: The Board shall determine the exact number of Board positions annually. There shall be at least eleven (11) and no more than fifteen (15) members.

Section 2 Eligibility of Board Service: Only persons eligible for NTNA Membership shall be qualified to hold an elected or appointed position in the Board.

Section 3 Terms of Office: Terms of office are for two years and staggered, from the initial designation of terms of office. New officers were designated as one-year terms for that election only.

Section 4 Board Vacancies: The Board may fill any vacancy on the Board or on a committee by majority vote of the Board. A member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve out the remainder of the un-expired term and until his or her successor is elected or appointed.

Section 5 Election of Board Members: Board members shall be elected annually by a vote of the membership at the annual meeting on the second Tuesday of May. The names of all candidates for the Board shall be placed in nomination by a nominating committee or by any member of the neighborhood. Each member shall vote by the majority vote of the membership present.

Section 6 Election of Officers: Board members shall be elected for the term of the Board meeting (thus, normally the third Tuesday of June) and, by majority vote of the Board members present, elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The remaining Board members shall be members-at-large.

Section 7A Duties of Board Members: The Board shall have the following responsibilities and powers:

a) To carry on the daily affairs of North Tabor Neighborhood Association.

b) To make decisions and represent the interests of North Tabor Neighborhood Association on all matters for which it is impractical to present to the membership in advance. All such actions shall be reported to the membership at the next regular meeting.

c) To ensure that the Board performs necessary functions and represent North Tabor Neighborhood Association on specified topics.

1) To establish a plan for maintaining and encouraging involvement in North Tabor Neighborhood Association.

2) To establish boards and committees as needed.

3) To perform such duties as the Chairperson shall assign.

4) To provide a forum for the discussion of the position of the Board and the interests of NTNA.

b) Vice Chairperson: The Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in his or her absence and as authorized by the bylaws or regulations of the Board.

The Immediate Past Chairperson: The Immediate Past Chairperson shall serve as a guide and assist the current Chairperson in transition and would act in the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson.

Section 8 Secretary:

a) To record and maintain minutes of membership and Board meetings, assist the Chairperson with correspondence and maintain the necessary files. The Secretary shall maintain a list of Board members and their terms.

b) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds belonging to the Association, including the deposit, and disburse funds for NTNA in a bank(s) financial institution(s) in such manner as designated by the Board.

The Treasurer shall keep financial reports as designated by the Board.

Section 14 Conflict of Interest:

a) A Board member may not participate in a transaction, act, or contract with the Association or its agents.

b) Board members shall not engage in a transaction with the Association or its agents if the Board member is a party to the transaction.

c) Any transaction with the Association or its agents shall be disclosed to the Board.

3) Chairperson: The Chairperson shall act to maintain the order of the meeting and determine the time for and manner of conducting business.

Section 10 Termination for Noncompliance: Board members failing to attend three consecutive Board meetings may be terminated from the Board upon written notice.

Article VIII COMMITTEES:

The Chairperson or a majority of the Board may establish such committees as they deem necessary. The Board shall determine the composition and responsibilities of such committees.

Article IX CONFLICT OF INTEREST PROCEDURES:

A transaction in which a Director may have a direct or indirect interest of conflict may be approved by a vote of the Board. If a conflict of interest is not disclosed by the Board, the material facts of the transaction and the Director’s interest are disclosed to the Board. A conflict of interest transaction is considered ratified if it receives the affirmative vote of the majority of the Directors who have no direct or indirect interest in the transaction. A transaction may not be authorized by a single Director. If a majority of the Directors who have no direct or indirect interest in the transaction ratify the transaction, the Director may not ratify a transaction, a quorum is present for the purpose of taking action. The presence of, or vote cast by, a Director with a direct or indirect interest in the transaction, does not affect the validity of the action taken by the Board. The Director with the direct or indirect interest of conflict may not vote on the action.

Article X GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:

Section 1 Grievance: Any person or group may file a complaint based upon an alleged violation of the Neighborhood Association’s Regulations, NTNA Standards. The complaint must be made in writing to the Board within forty-five (45) days of action.

Section 2 Grievance Hearing: The Chairperson shall include the name and address of the petitioner, the nature of the grievance and suggested remedy.

Section 3 Grievance Committee: Within seven (7) days after the receipt of the petition, the Chairperson will establish a grievance committee of three to include: one representative appointed by the Board of Directors, one representative appointed by the petitioner, and one representative from the neighborhood district coalition. The committee shall investigate the matter and report to a general or special meeting of the members within sixty (60) calendar days from receipt of the grievance.

Section 4 Grievance Hearing: The grievance hearing shall be open to all interested parties. The hearing may be held at a general meeting. The general membership by a majority vote of those present, can take action on the grievance. Such actions include, but are not limited to: sustaining the original action, amending the original action, reversing the original action or deferring further action pending further investigation. A tally of votes and the minutes from the grievance hearing meeting are distribut and forwarded to the affected individuals and groups.

Section 5 Appeals Process: Only upon dissatisfaction resolution of a grievance by the Grievance Committee shall the grievance appeal to the District Coalition and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement as indicated in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Standards.

Article XI PROCEDURE FOR CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS:

Section 1 Submission of Proposals: Any person or group inside or outside of the boundaries of NTNA and any City agency may submit proposals in writing for consideration and/or recommendation to the Board. The Board shall decide whether proposed items will appear on the agenda of the Board, standing or special committees, or general or special meetings.

Section 2 Notification: The proponent and members directly affected by such proposal shall be notified in writing of the place and time of the meeting at which the proposal shall be reviewed not less than seven (7) days in advance.

Section 3 Attendance: The proponent may attend this meeting to make an explanation and answer questions concerning the proposal.

Section 4 Dissemination: NTNA shall submit recommendations and disseminating views as requested from the meeting to the appropriate city or state parties.

Article XII PUBLIC MEETINGS AND RECORDS REQUIREMENT:

All meetings of all Oregon statutes relative to public meetings and public records as outlined in the ONS Standards adopted July 2005. Official action is taken by NTNA must be held at a duly called and advertised meeting. The minutes shall include a record of attendance and the results of any vote taken. A summary of dissemination records shall be prepared and submitted to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for approval to the City. Official records will be kept on file at the Southeast Uplift office.

Article XIII NONDISCRIMINATION:

NTNA will not discriminate against individuals or groups on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, family status, disability, marital status, age, veteran status, or any other status prohibited by law or by the NTNA Standards. The Board of Directors shall ensure that its policies and procedures, including those adopted by any committee or subcommittee, do not discriminate against individuals or groups in the operations of the organization.

Article XIV ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS:

All amendments to these bylaws must be proposed in writing and submitted to members at least seven (7) days before voting on their adoption may proceed. Notice of proposal to amend the bylaws, specifying the date, time, and place for consideration shall be distributed to all members at least seven (7) days before voting. Adoption of amendments to these bylaws shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a general meeting.

Initial adoption of these bylaws: 7 Oct 1992.

As amended, 24 October 2008.

Please email chair@ntnainfo.org or call 503-928-4655 with any comments or suggested changes to prior to April 1st, 2010.
Utilities Savings

Energy

Community Energy Project

Empowers Portland metro area residents to maintain healthier homes, control utility costs, and conserve natural resources through hands-on workshops and in-home services for qualified households.

Home Weatherization Workshops and in-home services for income-qualified households.

Lead Poisoning Prevention: Workshops on how to protect your family from lead hazards.

503-284-6827 www.communityenergyproject.org

Energy Trust of Oregon

Residential projects include home energy reviews, tax credits, and cash incentives for home energy efficiency.

1-866-ENERTST www.energystark.org

Multnomah County Low Income Energy Assistance

Energy cost assistance to income-eligible households.

503-898-5165 www.co.multnomah.or.us/deep/energyassistance.html

Multnomah County Weatherization

Energy savings through insulation and related services to income-eligible households.

303-988-6295, ext. 26596 www.co.multnomah.or.us/deep/weatherization.html

Oregon Department of Energy

Oregon Residential Tax Credit: Tax credits for purchasing energy efficient appliances, heating and cooling equipment, and solar photovoltaic and water heating systems.

Snag Home Oil Weatherization Program: Cash rebates for residents who install weatherization and heating measures in their oil, wood, propane or butane heated homes.

800-221-8035 www.oregon.gov/ENERGY

Oregon HEAT

Resources for household heating needs, including bill payment assistance and information on energy conservation.

503-612-3790 www.oregonheat.org

Pacific Power Blue Sky

Purchase up to 100 percent renewable energy through Blue Sky. 800-709-3717 www.pacificpower.net

Portland General Electric

Information on energy efficiency, rebates, bill assistance, weatherization and renewable energy options.

503-328-6322 www.portlandgeneral.com

Solar Oregon

Homeowners, educational workshp and incentive information for residential and commercial solar energy systems.

503-231-5662 www.solaroregon.org

Water

City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

Stormwater management, downspout disconnect, pollution prevention and natural resources for clean rivers.

503-823-7740 www.portlandonline.com/bs

City of Portland Water Bureau


Metro Recycling and Waste Reduction

Find out how to recycle non-curbside items and how to dispose of non-recyclables properly.

503-234-3000 www.oregonmetro.gov

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503-234-3000 www.oregonmetro.gov

Yard and Garden

City of Portland Parks and Recreation Community Gardens: Community garden locations and summer classes for kids 503-823-1612

Garbage and Recycling

City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability - Garbage and Recycling and waste recycling questions answered. 503-823-7202 www.portlandonline.com/bps

Urban Forestry

Street tree planting, pruning and removal services, general tree care classes and tree regulations.

503-823-4449 503-823-7529 www.portlandonline.com/parks

Friends of Trees

Neighborhood tree planting projects by volunteer tree planting teams. 503-282-8846 www.friendsoftrees.org

Growing Gardens

Installation of backyard food gardens, after-school garden clubs, gardening classes and workshops for Portland residents.

503-284-8420 www.growing-gardens.org

Metro Natural Gardening

Information and workshops on composting, chemical-free pest control and lawncare, and plant selection for the local climate. Purchase compost bins year-round at Metro's retail sale locations.

503-234-3000 www.oregonmetro.gov/garden

Your Home, Your Money

City of Portland Bureau of Development Services Permits, inspections, land use and zoning for residential and commercial properties.

503-823-7300 www.portlandonline.com/bds

Community Alliance of Tenants

Educates tenants on their rights and advises tenants to how to request improvements in their buildings.

503-388-0130 www.oregoncat.org

Oregon Safe Net (Housing Connections and 211 Info)

Resources and listings for all forms of housing. Connects people with a place to live, housing services, and housing information. Locate health and human services in the Oregon and SW Washington region. Dial 211 or 1-800-723-3638 www.housingconnections.org www.211info.org

Oregon Construction Contractors Board (OCCB)

Anyone paid to work on property in Oregon must be licensed. Contact OCCB to check a contractor's license. 503-378-4621 www.oregon.gov/CCB

Portland Development Commission

Loans for home repairs, purchase and renovation. Lead-based paint grants.

503-823-3400 www.pdc.us

Portland Housing Center

Quality education, counseling and financial assistance for first-time homebuyers.

503-282-7744 ext. 101 www.portlandhousingcenter.org

REACH Community Development

Community Builders Program

Free home repairs for Portland's senior and disabled low income homeowners.

503-231-0682, ext.142 www.reachdcl.org

7 Ways to save money on your utility bills

You have the power to reduce your energy bills! Every day we make choices that affect our electricity, gas, water, sewer or garbage costs. It's the right thing to do: Small changes at home can help reduce expenses and create a healthier home for your family.

Contact the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) to schedule a FREE home energy review. ETO will recommend energy-saving measures specific to your house and install free compact fluorescent light bulbs, faucet aerators and showerheads. Call 1-800-866-ENERTST or go to www.energystar.org

Order a free water conservation kit (water audit kit, leak detectors and more) from the City of Portland Water Bureau. Call 503-823-7439 or order online at www.portlandonline.com/water/conservationskis.

Buy home appliances and windows that feature the Energy Star® label. Visit www.energystar.gov for information about cash incentives for these purchases.

Make your home energy-tight: Set home heating thermostat to 68°F during day, 55°F nighttime and water heater thermostat to 120°F. Add insulation to walls, under floors, ducts and attics.

Replace incandescent light bulbs with CFL light bulbs. Use a smaller garage can: garbage rates are based on the size of your can, so reduce and recycle to move to a lower rate. For more information contact the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability's Garbage and Recycling Hotline at 503-823-7223 or www.portlandonline.com/hrs

“Phantom Power” is wasteful and can increase your energy bills. Miswired appliances, stereo equipment, televisions, chargers for cell phones or iPods, and computer equipment all draw power when plugged in. Shutoff the main switch on a power strip stops these devices from drawing power.

Interested in Gardensharing in North Tabor? Join the Gardenshare Group on Contact North Tabor News
Slip Creative Design Studio & Boutique Opens
6010 NE Glisan St. Ph: 503-232-0264

Interview with Blair Edmiston
by Gabriel Fong Jr.

Blair Edmiston's road not taken began in Fairbanks, AK, his hometown, and passed through Lewis and Clark College, where his academic interests were perhaps somewhat more esoteric than most students. Today, the 31-year-old North Tabor resident runs a successful contracting business with five employees and a growing reputation. His niche is creating more sustainable, energy-efficient homes while preserving Portland's vernacular architecture. “I think Portland could do a lot better with preserving its history, he says.

Did you grow up with this business? Did your dad do remodeling?
Yeah, he did a lot of remodeling, but construction. He worked for a custom home—I want to say company, but it was small. It was like him and another person who was very skilled. And then the person my dad worked with, his wife was the architect, so she would do the plans for the clients and then my dad’s partner would do the take-offs and my dad would supervise the job.

How did you get to Portland?
I came to Portland in ’97 to go to school at Lewis and Clark College.

Did you study architecture or something related?
Close. German studies and music. (laughs) I was more interested in a liberal arts education, not so much in technical education.

But you had done some [contracting work] growing up? Yeah, I grew up around it. I helped where I could and grew up around it. I don’t know if my passion was ever for contracting, you know, even when I started doing it here. I enjoyed the craft side of it. I enjoyed the projects I had going on at my house that were kind of the craft part of it, and the architectural side of it, the design part of it.

You’re obviously familiar with a lot of the architectural styles associated with Portland—the bungalows, cottages, craftsman style and so on. What piqued your interest in these styles?
After living abroad, in Prague, I came back to Portland and realized Portland is actually an excellent city. And a part of that is that the housing, the neighborhoods in Portland, are outstanding. … What I’d say I like about Portland is the "craftiness" of Portland. There’s a lot of craft. And you see that in homes, but you also see that in our beers, you see that in our coffee, you see that in our food, so it’s not limited to architecture.

What are the main architectural styles that you’ve seen in North Tabor? I don’t do a ton of work in North Tabor. I live in North Tabor, but I don’t do a ton of my work in North Tabor. But it seems to me that the majority of the homes are early 1900s homes, and they’re primarily bungalows. And variations on that—the "bungalowidos", as they’re called, something that’s pretty close to a bungalow but it’s not quite a bungalow. Describe a typical job in your business The typical job, well, right now I’m working on a ranch-era home in the Sellwood area, and that’s an addition to a master bedroom with a master bathroom—and they’re also remodeling their kitchen and adding on a deck. Another job is further out in Beaver Creek, where it’s a very, very custom deck that’s kind of a three-decker, three platforms all different stairs leading to one patio, and that patio having different varieties of different shelves kind of come off it at different levels for plants. It’s really nice.

Do you do a lot of retrofitting for solar and other energy-saving technologies? I’m interested in that. That’s what my main motivator is. There are two things that I think are really important: historic homes and sustainable building—and merging those