North Tabor NEWS

Mar/Apr 2011 • Volume Three • Number Two

www.northtabor.org • c/o Southeast Uplift 3435 SE Main St. Portland, OR 97214 • (503) 928-4655 • editor@northtabor.org

Meetings and Events

NTNA Board meetings are now being scheduled to meet the availability of board members. Our new website, www.northtabor.org will carry information on scheduled meetings and agendas and you may also call 503-928-4655 for announcements of meeting dates and locations and notices of any rescheduling.

Portland Plan Fairs
March 6, 10, and 12 (see page 6)

Meeting to Explore Glisan Business Dist.
Fri,, Mar 18, 10 am Paitong, 8000 NE Glisan(see P 3)

NTNA Board Meeting
Tues, Mar 22nd, 6:30pm, 7 Virtues, 60th & Glisan

Providence Portland Medical Center Master Plan Presentation
Wed., Mar 30th, 7pm Social Room, Main Hospital, 47th & Glisan

Planning and Sustainability Commission Hearing on 60th Ave Station Community
April 12th (see page 1)

North Tabor/Mt. Tabor Annual Cleanup
Saturday, May 14th (see page 2)

NT News Science and Poultry Reporter Monique Mos muses on the latest versions and uses for our feathered friends. (See P 6)

Then and Now

These corners at 47th and Burnside have seen a lot of changes since this 1939 photo. The building on the NW corner has gone from Rudy's Service Station to Mt Hood Pizza, Dante's Pizza and Coffee Shop and is currently being updated to become the Laurelhurst Cafe. Hal Shaner's gas station on the NE corner and Ghent's Grocery to the north morphed into a Safeway in the 50's and a police precinct in the 70's. Time marches on!

Send us your photos and stories from North Tabor's past!

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Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program
NTNA North Tabor News
3534 SE Main St
Portland, OR 97214

60th Avenue Station Community Project Moves Forward

Matt Wickstrom, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Through the 60th Avenue Station Community Project, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability proposes to update the Comprehensive Plan Map and Zoning Map for the area around the NE 60th Avenue Eastside MAX light rail station. Zoning Map amendments in the residentially zoned areas will bring those properties into conformance with the current Comprehensive Plan Map designations. Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map amendments along NE Glisan Street will provide zoning consistency along the commercial street and correct nonconforming uses. Zoning Map amendments at the intersection of NE Halsey and NE 60th Avenue would apply the Storefront Commercial zone at this location. A Design Overlay Zone will be added to all areas where zoning is proposed to change. Transportation System Plan updates include streetscape and standards for NE 60th Avenue, additional bicycle lanes as well as crosswalk and other pedestrian safety and connectivity improvements. This project was part of the Eastside MAX Station Communities Project and was funded as part of a Transportation and Growth Management grant. Other Eastside MAX station areas are anticipated to receive further examination as part of the upcoming update to the Comprehensive Plan. (See P 5 for maps)

A hearing before the Planning and Sustainability Commission is scheduled for April 12th. The meeting starts at 12:30. The hearing will be sometime between 12:30 and 3:00.

Matt Wickstrom, Southeast District Liaison
City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
503-823-2834 matt.wickstrom@portlandoregon.gov

Is It Spring Yet?

By Bonnie Bruce

I know by the lyrical songs of birds spring is coming. It is hard to resist daydreaming of spring when you see the very first snowdrop (Galanthus nivalis) or daffodils nosing up from soggy ground. As shown at left, it is not too early to think about sprouting this year's vegetable seeds, especially if they need to be sprouted indoors. Geoff Dunn submitted this photo of his son in front of a cozy fire readying peas for their garden.

Most of us tackle the art of starting seeds indoors in a hit or miss fashion. I have had some impressive failures by holding on to this cavalier attitude. So, over time, I have discovered there are a few basic dos and don'ts that will make sprouting more successful.

First, there are vegetables which love cool weather and can be sown directly in the ground right now, like peas and spinach. The caveat here is, your soil must drain well or as we get more spring rain (and trust me we will) seeds will simply rot in the ground. Other vegetables, like tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, broccoli, cauliflower, etc., do better planted outdoors as small plants, referred to as "starts". These and others are candidates for sprouting indoors.

Then, if you want to try your hand at starting your own veggies from seed indoors, it is important to know when the last frost typically occurs in your area. You want to start your seeds 6-8 weeks before they can be planted in the ground and you don't want to plant before the last frost. Nothing kills a little tender sprout faster than a late frost.

The following link will help you determine when the last frost date is typically in your area: *http://cdo.ncdc.noaa.gov/climatenormals/clim20supp1/states/OR.pdf*

Portland's last frost ranges from March 31st to mid April. Of course there are always the exceptions, but, for the most part, this is a good rule of thumb. All of this means begin NOW.

Next, the Do's and Don'ts:

•Read your seed packages carefully. There is valuable information there. Take it to heart. For example, some seeds prefer to be covered with a thin layer of soil; others don't. Pay attention to the details as your rate of success depends upon it.

•The type of planting medium makes a huge difference. It needs to be light, finely textured and sterile. (Cont. P 7)

So What's Going on with the Montavilla Food Co-op?

Story by Renée Bogin Curtis, Photo by Moonrose Doherty

Montavilla/Mt. Tabor residents, together with residents from other local neighborhoods, have been working hard for well over a year on startup efforts to bring a co-op to the neighborhoods. What began as a simple idea has blossomed into a realistic vision with full inception looming on the horizon. While we have made many strides forward, we still need help from the community to keep the momentum going.

In late summer of 2009, an email thread on the Montavilla Neighborhood Association listserve about what to do with an abandoned building generated discussion about the prospects of a healthy food retail option. Shortly afterwards, friends at a backyard barbecue explored the idea of a neighborhood food co-op and quickly began to set things in motion. We decided to organize community meetings to assess neighborhood interest and then, with a few dedicated volunteers, recruited additional support.

The response we got from the local community was of overwhelming enthusiasm! We quickly formed a steering committee, recruited members, and attended a retreat to carve out a work-plan, timeline and mission. We became the Montavilla Food Co-op (MFC). Early on, mentoring from People's Co-op gave us guidance and confidence to propel us forward. Last spring, our proposal was among the few accepted as a Portland State University Community Development project and a fantastic group of students helped us launch our initial outreach efforts. The students conducted a preliminary neighborhood survey. The results will help inform us when we eventually conduct the upcoming feasibility study - an essential part of gaining financial support. Thus, a community-based project was set in motion with the sweat equity not just within our neighborhood community, but from beyond.

Now about 1 ½ years since MFC's inception, we are officially incorporated, have an 8-member steering committee and several dedicated sub-committees all working together to build the MFC from the ground up! Currently, we have support from over 450 Facebook fans, Twitter followers, local businesses and an excited neighborhood community eager to get involved! To date we've had three successful fundraising events, including two dine-out nights and a concert event (thank you to all our supporters!). Our food buying club now has almost 150 members and we're already looking into a start-up storage space for our bulk purchasing options, while staying focused on the ultimate goal of a storefront. Just recently, the Northwest Cooperative Development Center (NWCDC) agreed to become our fiscal sponsor, which allows donations made to the co-op through them to be tax deductible. We could not have gotten this far so quickly without the help and encouragement from individuals, volunteers, organizations and businesses in our neighborhood and beyond!

Feb. 26th we held a forum allowing neighbors to share updates about our progress (pictured above) . Over fifty attendees came from all around the local neighborhoods. We heard about why people are interested in a co-op, with reasons running the gamut from a desire for good, local food, to a community space, or a place to get (Cont. P 7)

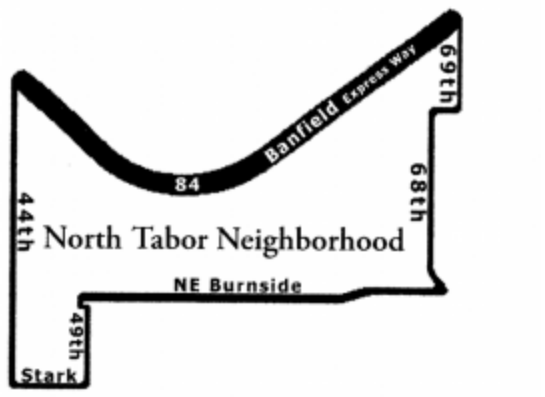
Jacksons Food Stores President Meets With North Tabor Neighbors

By Candice Jordan, North Tabor Neighbor

A group of about 15 North Tabor board members and neighbors; Matt Wickstrom, Southeast District Liaison, City of Portland, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and Katherine Anderson, Southeast Crime Prevention Coordinator met Tuesday evening, March 1st at 7 Virtues to discuss the plans underway for Jackson Food Stores to remodel and add a convenience store to the Shell station at 58th and NE Glisan. Jackson President Andrea Jackson, Regional Manager Deverle Tye and District Manager Gin Utterback gave a presentation (Cont. P 3)

Welcome To North Tabor

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



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 where the 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 April 15, 2011 for distribution in May. 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. Photos need to have a filename referring to the article title. Please submit as plain text, no formatting. Images should be min. 3.25" wide at 300dpi. Submit ads to advertising@northtabor.org by April 15th, 2011 to reserve space. Ad placement is based on payment and the earliest receipt of ad copy.

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The North Tabor News is published by the NorthTabor Neighborhood Association. Unless otherwise noted, opinions expressed are the opinion of the author and not those of the North Tabor Neighborhood Association or its board. Publication and distribution of the North Tabor News is the result of a combined volunteer effort. To help with the production of the North Tabor News contact volunteer@northtabor.org or submit your articles, stories, photos, announcements or suggestions via email to editor@northtabor.org, by post to North Tabor News, c/o Southeast Uplift, 3534 SE Main St., Portland, OR 97214 or leave a message at 503-928-4655. Printing and postage expenses for the North Tabor News are paid from advertisers fees with a supplement from the North Tabor Neighborhood Association and a small grant from Southeast Uplift.

North Tabor Neighborhood Association Board Members

Voicemail messages can be left for any board member or committee at (503) 928-4655. Email can be sent to the Board at board@northtabor.org. Board members manage the daily affairs of the NTNA, make decisions and represent the interests of North Tabor, appoint committees and work groups for projects or issues of concern to the neighborhood and maintain and encourage open communication and involvement between neighbors, NTNA and other organizations and governmental agencies.

For more information or to apply to serve on the NTNA Board or any committee, please leave a voicemail at (503) 928-4655 or email chair@northtabor.org.

David Ball
Nicholas Barbour, Land Use
Moonrose Doherty, Secretary
Alison Gavine, Land Use
Ajai Huja, Treasurer/SEUL Rep
Zach Michaud, Chair
Gail Morris
Shaun Sieren
Jessica Stevens, Communications
Jacob Wollner, Vice Chair

Work Group Contacts

Annual Cleanup, cleanup@northtabor.org
Friends of Trees, fot@northtabor.org
Land Use, landuse@northtabor.org
Newsletter, editor@northtabor.org
Night Out Events, nightout@northtabor.org
Schools Liaison, schools@northtabor.org
Volunteer Coordinator, volunteer@northtabor.org

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Board Update

By Zachary Michaud, Chair

Committee work is taking off in the North Tabor Neighborhood Association, but only so much can be done by the board without the help of friendly neighborhood volunteers. Take a look at what has been going on and contact us if you feel like you could help in any small way.

To help you contact the board more easily, the communication committee has put together a new website. You can visit the site at our old address www.northtabor.org to get the latest news on what is happening, learn a little about the neighborhood's history, and catch up on editions of the North Tabor News! We also have an extensive "Contacts" page to help you get in touch with exactly which group you want to get involved with.

Our land use committee has been working very hard to keep up with incoming land use notifications. Something our neighborhood has been lacking is an efficient means of responding to notices and engaging the applicants in a conversation about expectations from the neighborhood. This is a key area where extra support from neighbors could make a big difference. We need to hear from neighbors who have expectations of businesses (restaurants, bars, pubs, convenience stores, etc.) and contractors/developers. With this kind of input, we could draft plans for dealing with multiple land use issues. A small initial effort to create these plans could go a long way towards shaping the neighborhood we live in. Preparation is key when it comes to land use issues. Will you help us prepare?

The clean up committee is barreling ahead with plans for the spring clean up. The date has been set for May 14th. Plans are in the works to partner with Mt Tabor neighborhood once again. If you are interested in helping in even a small way, let us know and we will let you know where your assistance can most benefit the cleanup.

The Providence Good Neighbor committee met with Portland Providence Medical Center, our companions from Laurelhurst Neighborhood, and members of the general public on February 9th to discuss PPMC's guest house that will be built on Glisan between 44th and 45th. Attendees were encourage to ask questions of and make suggestions to the architects who were on hand to explain their design. Most in attendance approved of the design as presented, while a few voiced concerns about permanently lost retail space on that block of Glisan.

Affected retail space, among other topics, will likely be discussed at the committee's next meeting which was scheduled for February 23rd, but due to weather concerns is rescheduled for March 9th. This meeting will be a committee only meeting to discuss PPMC's new 10 year Master Plan, but there will be a community meeting on the same subject on March 30th.

North Tabor's committee is trying to develop work groups with Laurelhurst (and possibly Rose City Park) to become a stronger presence in the good neighbor meetings. It is our job as partners in the good neighbor agreement to protect the interests of our neighborhood, whether they be retained retail space, decreased traffic, maximum street parking for residents, etc. With so many changes to the committee on both neighborhood and medical center sides, it is important that we respect the reasons for which the agreement was established while updating the agreement where needed to ensure we continue to have a strong and equal voice in this partnership. If you are interested in sharing your ideas in a work group meeting, and would like notification of meetings, events, reports and actions, please contact chair@northtabor.org.

Do you still want to get involved, but do not have internet access? Give us a call at 503-928-4655 to leave a message and we will get back to you promptly.

Remember When?

By Gail Morris, NTNA Board Member

North Tabor Neighborhood is a great place to live. We know that and that's why we live here. There is a delightful mix of homeowners, apartment dwellers and businesses. We have some of the best access to public transportation in the city and there is a good balance overall. So it comes as no surprise that we have neighbors in North Tabor who have lived here a long time.

We would like to interview some of the longest-living residents in our neighborhood. This could be the "oldest" person or the person who has lived here the longest (but not necessarily the oldest). To that end, we would like to encourage nominations for these interviews. We will, of course, be careful and not publish any information that might put anyone at risk should they live alone, etc.

The interviews could also be expanded to include anyone with an interesting story to tell about the neighborhood. Photos are also encouraged. We would like to add a section to our newsletter and website with these interviews, stories and photos. One idea would be photos of "then" and "now" if we get pictures showing interesting changes to the neighborhood over the years.

You can email items to editor@northtabor.org or call 503-928-4655 to leave a message. We'll get back to you soon.

Annual Neighborhood Cleanup Planning Has Begun! Sat. 5/14

By Moonrose Doherty, NTNA Cleanup Chair

North Tabor and Mt. Tabor neighborhoods will work together again for a combined cleanup this year. The date is set for May 14th, 2011. Metro will provide waivers for the disposal tipping fees, the City of Portland through Southeast Uplift will provide reimbursement for many of the expenses, McFarlane's Bark, Inc. will donate containers for yard debris and wood again, a Master Recycler or two will be present, recycling and reuse opportunities will be available, and the planning committee will donate many hours of their time and energy to making this a great event for everyone. Oh and did I mention the volunteers? We hope to have many happy volunteers participate, making the event possible. Yes, this means you.

If you are interested in helping with the recycling and reuse options for this event please contact Moonrose Doherty. If you would like to volunteer the day of the event or if you have a good location for a yard sign for this event we would love to hear from you. Please contact us, cleanup@northtabor.org or 503-234-6592.

Did you know that almost 60% of the waste generated in the Metro region is recovered through recycling, waste prevention, and composting? However, twenty materials have experienced decreased recovery, with the leaders being wood (-69,103 tons), scrap metal (-17,104 tons), corrugated cardboard (-9,768 tons) and glass containers (-5,393 tons). (Annual figures for 2008 from Metro and DEQ).

Clean-ups are a way for us to recover materials for recycling that might otherwise be directed to the landfill and they are a way for us to help keep our neighborhoods free from unsightly debris and neglect, which will also help solidify the impression that we care about our neighborhood -- a known deterrence to crime.

Metro started the cleanups program in 1994 to support community and natural area cleanup events, enhancing the appearance and safety of neighborhoods and contributing to the livability of the region. Not only is it a great way to be a part of making our neighborhood more sustainable, it's also a great way to meet your neighbors.

Let's do our part to reduce the materials being sent to our landfills! Let's have a successful clean-up day where our community can recycle, reuse, or discard unwanted items, interact, and learn about sustainability. The event benefits the community at large because it provides an opportunity for multiple neighborhoods to meet, organize, get recycling, reuse, and waste reduction education, and reduce landfill-bound waste.

Your disposal costs at the cleanup are at rates below those charged by Metro in most cases. By combining loads with friends and neighbors, additional savings can be made, the travel distance is less to the clean-up than to a local disposal station for residents, and the travel distance for the haulers taking materials away is reduced since they are making a direct trip. Less travel means less carbon footprint and more sustainability!

We will again coordinate with various agencies and services to assure that maximum recycling and reuse opportunities are used and we will again provide a community resale area. Any proceeds from this event will benefit Mt. Tabor Middle School, Mt. Tabor Garage Sale, the Neighborhood Associations, and other community non-profits. You can look forward to our partnering with Rebuilding Center, ARC, S.C.R.A.P., Free Geek, Green Century Electronic Recycle and other organizations. The resale/reuse area will again be open to all, organized, and ready for you to come and find that item that you were so hoping to find. "Someone's gently used; no longer desired item, is another's treasure," Isn't that the saying?

We will be recycling metals, different plastics, electronics, certain appliances, cardboard & papers. Check your May issue of the North Tabor News for complete details on which items and the conditions of or limitations on any of the items that will be accepted, as well as the fee rates for this event.

Please refer to the May Issue of North Tabor News for listing items and fees before you come, as some changes in the program may restrict what we can accept or fees we must charge.

Please note that hazardous waste is not accepted at the clean-up. Hazardous waste materials such as batteries, wood stain, pool chemicals, pesticides, motor oil, antifreeze, solvents, thinners, household cleaning products, aerosol spray products, herbicides or other chemicals will not be accepted at the neighborhood clean-up, but Metro does have two permanent hazardous waste collection facilities, one at each of their waste transfer stations (Portland and Oregon City). There may also be a hazardous waste collection event in the area as they are generally held around the Portland metropolitan area from early March through June. To get more information go to Metro's website http://www.oregonmetro.gov.

If you have a pickup truck and would be available to provide assistance to elderly or disabled neighbors on the day of this event, consider offering them your (Cont. P 3)

(Cont. from P 3) assistance. We need pickup trucks to take reusable items to our partnering organizations at the end of the day. If you would like to contribute by taking a load to a designated partnering organization, please contact us to sign up.

We could also use donations of food and beverages for the volunteers. If you are a business in the neighborhood or you happen to have gloves, safety vests or cordless power tools in your possession we could use those items loaned out to us for the day. Other items that are needed are wheelbarrows, tables, pop-up tent covers, and orange road cones.

If you rent in North Tabor and your landlord does not reside in North Tabor you might also want to pass on the clean-up information to your landlord and encourage his or her participation. We look forward to another successful event and we hope you will join us. For volunteering at the Clean-up, to donate an item or service, offer use of your pickup, to post a yard sign, or to help out in another way, please call 503-928-4655 or email cleanup@northtabor.org.

Please remember to check the May North Tabor News issue for the updated clean-up info. We will be posting clean-up info on www.northtabor.org as well.

Sense of Place in North Tabor

Moonrose Doherty, NTNA Board Member

Connection to place is something that is absent in many communities across the U.S. and it represents a disconnect between place, people, community, nature, heritage, and generations. Portland has been known for combining the historic with the new. Making a connection between today and our heritage is important to our sense of place—our connection. Making that same connection with our neighborhoods is valuable because this is where we live.

What in North Tabor stands out to you? There are many pieces of the neighborhood, tangible and intangible that signify North Tabor. Maybe it's the large rock at 63rd & Glisan that looks like it was brought to us on an ice raft from the glacial lake of the Missoula floods, maybe it's the strip of wildflowers along Glisan between 63rd and 65th, maybe it's the woodland setting at our Rosemont Bluff Natural Area, or maybe it's the community spirit at the annual clean-up or the Friends of Trees plantings. Perhaps it's the pizza, coffee, pastries, and pub places that offer a chance to imbibe or visit with friends and neighbors, or maybe it's the tattoo, vintage clothing, and flower shops that offer a chance to adorn. Our many surrounding elementary, middle, and high schools are where our children learn and where we as parents get engaged and offer support. Mt. Tabor Park is a little mountain oasis that feels like our own as the mountain top watches over us; and it holds intrinsic value for North Tabor residents. And although we don't have a community center or community gardens, we have Portland Parks and Recreation community classes and events in Montavilla and in Mt. Tabor. Additionally, we have a very strong interest among North Taborans to envision, plan, and get a community garden in North Tabor along with other projects to benefit the community.

We can rejoice in the pieces of community presently here today and we can look to the future to build onto those pieces. I believe that the original intent of North Tabor was to encourage this freedom to take action and "build" or "blossom," if you will. And as we build onto our place, we build our sense of place, our connection.

North Tabor neighborhood was originally referred to as "north Mount Tabor" and was serviced by the Mount Tabor Villa streetcar line, which ran along Glisan from about NE 28th to east of NE 82nd and was constructed in 1892. The streetcar line also served the neighborhood that was later to be named "Montavilla" around 1906 and had seen subdivisions of its farmlands as early as 1889. The "north Mount Tabor" neighborhood didn't have a name until the early 1970's when residents formed a Neighborhood Association and named it C.E.N.T.E.R., which stood for "Citizens Engaged Now Toward Ecological Review" and this was the name until 2009.

As I consider our neighborhood's two names, I realize that they both fit. In North Tabor, we embrace our ecology, our environment, our little mountain, and we have been working towards a neighborhood and community that is healthy in our homes and outside. What I realize is that the heart and structure of our community will prevail under any name because we have a sense of and connection to this place.

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Jackson Food Stores (Cont. from P 1)

on the changes planned for this facility and discussed concerns with those in attendance.

The major concerns neighbors voiced were related to issues of safety surrounding the ingress and egress from the Shell station. The traffic situation is already problematic with traffic coming in off of I-84 and the tendency of drivers to make illegal left turns either entering or leaving the Shell station. Residents are concerned that the upgrade of facilities may draw even more traffic to this location, exacerbating what is already an obstacle course for pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicles. After considerable discussion it was determined that this issue goes well beyond any changes that would come as a result of the facility upgrade and that we need to seek assistance from the City of Portland to do something about this traffic issue.

Other concerns were raised regarding the application for an off premises license for the sale of beer and wine, especially if the items were to be sold in large, single containers and result in an increase in street drinking, drunken driving, disorderly conduct and littering, as well as other associated nuisances and potential crime.

Overall Andrea Jackson made a favorable impression among those in attendance and indicated a willingness to work closely with the North Tabor Neighborhood Association and nearby residents to assure that their presence will be of benefit to the community. NTNA will hold another meeting at 7 Virtues on the corner of 60th and Glisan, Tuesday, March 29th at 6:30pm to draft a Good Neighbor Agreement to submit to Jacksons. If you have concerns about the impact of this facility upgrade on the neighborhood please attend this meeting or email your concerns to landuse@northtabor.org or call and leave a message at 503-928-4655. We will be adding information on this issue to www.northtabor.org soon. You may want to check any of the previous contact options prior to the meeting in case of any changes.

Thanks go out to Mike Blair of Seven Virtues for providing space for this meeting and future NTNA meetings!

Schools Reports

Alison Gavine, Schools Liaison

The following items have been submitted for schools which are attended by children in North Tabor:

All schools in Oregon will be closed for Spring Break from 3/21/11 - 3/25/11 Portland Public schools will be closed for teacher planning day on 4/8/11.

GRANT HIGH SCHOOL

Grant High School Spring Musical Production presents "Sweeney Todd," about a barber who turns customers into meat pies. Performances scheduled from April 29-May 1 and May 6-8. All shows are at 7:30p.m in Grant's School auditorium, 2245 N.E. 36th Ave.

Grant High School Community Forum asks "How can Grant use its limited resources to best serve our students?" Please join Principal Vivian Orlen in a discussion about Grant's programs for next year. Tuesday, March 8, 6:00-8:00pm in Grant High School Library Saturday, March 12, 10:00-12:00 in Grant High School Library.

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

Franklin High School Auction "Stand By Me" will take place on Saturday April 2nd 2011 from 7-11pm at Mount Scott Community Center, 5530 SE 72nd Avenue. The school is currently looking for donations of art, vacation homes, airline miles or restaurant certificates -- but no donation is too small. All donations are tax deductible. Anyone having donations is asked to call Jessica Butyrin at 971.222.4776.

MT. TABOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Local composer, producer and contemporary recording artist Michael Allen Harrison will present a concert to benefit Mt. Tabor Middle School. The public concert will be held at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont Street, Thursday, March 10, 7 – 8:30 pm and will also feature a special appearance by the Mt. Tabor Jazz Band. Tickets: $15/adults and $10/students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance by calling: (503) 916-5646, (503) 234-6493 or (503) 231-6356. Dessert reception will be served following the concert at Taborspace.

Submissions may be sent to editor@northtabor.org if your school is having an event or project you would like included in the North Tabor News.

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Meeting to Explore Glisan Business Opportunities

By Candice Jordan, North Tabor Neighbor

I recently attended a workshop hosted by Montavilla Neighborhood Association. Several representatives from the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association and Business Association gave a presentation on their progress in developing a Main Street project in Hillsdale followed by a discussion regarding businesses along Glisan and whether or not the area and surrounding communities could benefit from some type of organization with a mission of developing a healthier and more vibrant business community along Glisan to the ultimate benefit of both the business community and the surrounding neighborhoods. In Hillsdale it took the combined efforts of many different organizations joining together on projects that have had a synergistic effect and have helped create a wider sense of community and sense of place.

After the meeting a few of us decided we would like to continue this discussion and would like to invite other interested parties to join in an exploration centered around what the benefits could be to the overall community to have a healthy local business environment and what can be done to improve the business climate along Glisan. We will have our first meeting on Friday, March 18th, 10am at the Paithong Thai Cuisine, 8000 NE Glisan. If you cannot attend but would like to be notified of progress or future meetings, you can leave a voicemail message at 503-928-4655 with your contact details.

Greenspace/Community Garden Proposal for Wilcox Grade School

Submitted by Lynne

A meeting at Wilcox Grade School, 833 NE 74th, was held on Tuesday February 22 and we had quite a turnout of neighbors, maybe 30 to 35 families. Our plan is to have the Portland Public School system grant the play area to the neighborhood. Then we will try to get a grant for creating a greenspace for this area. Currently the area is just asphalt and weeds, with an existing play set for children and basketball court. We would like to tear up the asphalt and replace it with pathways, low growing grass, trees, benches for the parents to watch their kids, and a community garden. We are all very excited and are waiting on approval. The building is used by PPS for special education instructors and they are concerned about losing their parkings spaces! Hopefully we can reach a compromise.

If you would like more information or to participate on this project, send your inquiries to editor@northtabor.org or leave a message on our voicemail, 503-928-4655.

Where Do You Fit in the North Tabor Puzzle?

Email chair@northtabor.org or call 503-928-4655.

Who Knew? Northern Ireland, Right Here in North Tabor

story and photos by Alison Gavine

You'd never guess from passing by Biddy McGraw's on the corner of Glisan and 60th Avenue that behind the doors of this neighborhood pub there's an intricate tale of recent Northern Irish history. Biddy McGraw's is an Irish neighborhood pub that brings to life the fighting spirit of the Irish Republican communities in Derry and Belfast during those troubled years from the civil rights movement to the occupation by the British troops that soon followed. Original posters, paintings and photos of life before and during the British occupation of Northern Ireland especially during the 1970's and 1980's, adorn the walls. A copy of An Phoblacht, the Irish Republican newspaper published by Sinn Fein is on display. There are several original posters on display, some in Gaelic Irish language, advocating peace and unity. There's an original election poster of a much younger looking Gerry Adams MP, who went on to lead the country towards peace and a complete cessation of armed conflict. There are even Irish hurling sticks on display behind the bar. The traditional sport of hurling has always been Ireland's passion and a symbol of nationalist unity.

Biddy McGraw's first opened on Hawthorne in 1995 and later relocated to its current home on Glisan in 1999. As one of the oldest Irish pubs on Portland's eastside, what makes it unique is its authenticity. This is not the usual type of Irish theme pub. Biddy's is a little different. Owner Shaun Sieren explained, "The original owners of Biddy's were a mother-daughter team from Belfast, who obviously brought over many of the Irish memorabilia that you can see around the walls and the bar of our pub today. We've tried to honor their original dream of creating their home away from home from Belfast to Portland."

Biddy's menu is an authentic blend of British and Irish dishes like Colcannon, Irish Stew on Sourdough, Fish And Chips, Bangers and Beans and Cottage Pie. Their famous weekend brunch is served 9am til 3pm on Saturdays and Sundays for just $6. If you are going for the music and late night sessions, you won't go hungry. Their late night menu is served from midnight til 2am. Biddy's also hosts a Pub Quiz every Tuesday at 7pm.

There are 22 beers on tap, both imports and domestic.Th e Irish beers on tap include Guinness and Murphy's stout, Harp lager and Kilkenny ale. All beers are served in classic 20 oz. imperial glasses. Happy Hour is Monday to Friday from 3-6pm where you can get small plates of hearty Irish food for under five dollars and $1 off selected tap beers.

Biddy's is rightly proud of their live music scene. They have live music seven nights a week, everything from traditional Irish music to roots, bluegrass, funk and electric blues. The legendary Portland band, Twisted Whistle, plays every Saturday from 5-7pm. This is a fun for all ages show and families are especially welcome. The whole family is also welcome on Sundays from 6-8pm where everyone can enjoy an all ages live music show with different bands playing every week.

Above the bar at Biddy's is a digital "Countdown to St Patrick's Day". This year Biddy's will showcase Irish dancers, as well as a specially selected menu for the day. Music will be available all day long featuring many live bands. All ages until 9pm. Promises to be a great day of music and celebration! Slainte!

See all Biddy's live music listings as well as their line-up for St Patrick's Day on their website www.biddymcgraws.com
Biddy McGraw's, 6000 NE Glisan
Open every day from noon – 2am (9am – 2am on weekends)

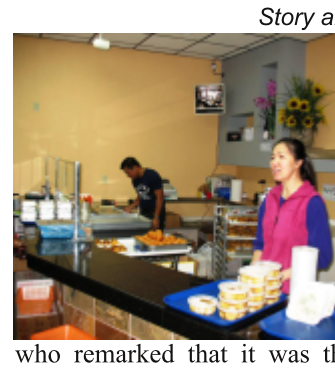
A GOOD LOCKSMITH
"Your Security is Our Profession"
Mark Pederson CRL

All Work Guaranteed
Keys-Locks

5711 E. Burnside St.
503-232-3711

Bui Natural Tofu, "Fresh from the bean, every day."

Story and photos by Maria Sworske



The Bui family operated a tofu business in Vietnam since 1975. When the family came to the US in 1994 they did not think that Americans would eat tofu. They were making a little bit of tofu for family and then gave some to friends, who remarked that it was the best tofu they had ever tasted since leaving Vietnam. The family started making tofu in their garage in 1998 and delivering to homes, even in small amounts. A neighbor next to the garage helped them to get a business license. Since July of 2005 the business has been in its present location, an attractively designed building with production space as well as a deli-style counter and food display shelves.

Bui's tofu starts with soybeans, which are grown in Minnesota. They are soaked overnight and very early the next morning the process begins. Workers grind the softened beans with water. The mixture is then boiled, which causes it to become solid. The mass is pressed with cloth to remove any remaining water. From there, some is flavored and fried, such as with onion, pork and clear noodles, lemon grass, etc.

The Buis comment that the neighborhood is friendly and the customers like the tofu that they make.

Besides tofu, they make other food to sell fresh daily in the deli. For example, they sell salad rolls with shrimp or tofu and homemade peanut sauce, spring rolls, sticky rice of many flavors such as black bean and peanut, tofu pudding, banana and tapioca pudding with coconut cream or mixed bean, and more.

Bui Natural Tofu supplies tofu to many local area restaurants and Asian markets.

What I like about being a customer here is that the people are so friendly and efficient, always answering my questions. It's a great place to go when shopping for people of varying dietary needs or preferences, such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten free. There's a good selection of non-tofu items, too. I didn't really care one way or the other about tofu before, until I tasted Bui's tofu and now I'm sold. It's so fresh and good tasting and comes in a variety of flavors. It's great to have a business like this in the neighborhood.

The hours of operation are Monday through Saturday 9-6 and Sunday 11-4. 520 NE 76th Ave (N side of Glisan) 503-254-6132

Paitong Thai Cuisine

Story and photos by Maria Sworske

One thing Kham & Nancy Somvong like about the North Tabor/Montavilla neighborhood is the nice people around. "Neighbors have become regular customers and friends, helping out with ideas, internet advertising and word of mouth." The location was selected when Nancy used to work in the area and would look for an opportunity for a restaurant location because she loves to cook. The corner of 80th & Glisan wasn't as nice as it is today, 4+ years ago when the restaurant opened. There were dilapidated buildings around and an empty lot right across the street attracting litter and vandalism. Now it's a vibrant corner with new and remodeled buildings and operating businesses. It's pleasing to Kham to see the neighborhood improvements continuing on after putting all their effort into classing up their corner of the intersection.

Kham has been invited to block parties by his customers from the neighborhood, where he brought rice and shook hands. Customers comment on the great food and great service and they want to see a lot more people eating there. They say that they are going to tell their friends and will come back to eat there as they can afford to go out.

The dining room atmosphere is pleasant and cheerful, with good lighting and energetic colors. Traditional wood carvings are displayed on the wall and shelf, as well as handmade framed fabric lion and countryside scenes. The dining room doesn't get overly loud even when nearly filled with customers.

Many of the recipes used in the kitchen are from family. Nancy's mother used to cook for high class people in Thailand and Laos, including colonels and generals in the military. She has studied a lot of cookbooks and experimented first, altering the process and ingredients to get just the perfect combinations. More than just the ingredients, the process of cooking and order of ingredients added makes a big difference in how a dish turns out.

Kham said that in Laos, it's traditional to serve a dish called Larb at weddings and other special occasions, such as if you were to be a guest in his house. The name of the dish sounds like the word for "lucky", which you will be when you eat it. Some refer to it as the national dish of Laos, though it is also common in Thailand. It's a spicy chopped meat dish with strong surprising flavors and textures. On the menu it's listed as a salad. It does have a lot of fresh ingredients, but it's also hearty enough to be a meal. Or just right to start with an appetizer or to save room for dessert, such as sweet sticky rice with mango, or fried bananas with coconut sauce.

Another popular dish in both countries, served here, is Papaya salad. It features shredded green papaya mixed with chili peppers, tomatoes, fish sauce, lime juice and ground peanuts.

The menu has a wide variety of dishes, spicy to mild, so that anyone in a group will find something to please them. Kham would like you to come by and try the food. He's sure that you will like it and come back. Paitong caters weddings and other events. More than 60% of their business is carry-out.

This is my favorite Thai restaurant and I feel so lucky to have it close by. The service is quick, attentive, and never overbearing. They are always able to answer all my questions about ingredients, or to make something with a special request. They are very accommodating for celebrations and for large groups, especially if you let them know in advance. Did I mention the food? Very good! You will want to go back.

Paitong Thai Cuisine 8000 NE Glisan St., 503-256-6766
Lunch 11-3 M-F Dinner 4-9:30 M-F • Sat. 12-9:30 Sun. 4-9:30

The People's Grill: "We Serve The Best People In Town!"

Story by Monique Mos: Photos by The People's Grill

In 2009, when Charlie and Lynne Kamerman bought the establishment at 7901 N.E. Glisan and decided to name it "The People's Grill".

Says Charlie: "We wanted it to reflect our catering to the people". They liked the feel of the area. Lynne went house to house to distribute flyers in an eight block radius. She found the people to be talkative, open and friendly. They met with an enthusiastic response to their new business approach.

The Kamermans enjoy hosting neighborhood people of all types, much as is seen in the English pub. They have gone out of their way to offer a homey, warm environment. They are creating a place that is both welcoming and relaxing, with a variety of activities to enjoy. There are a pool table, pinball machine, three large flat screen televisions and free WiFi with computer provided. A variety of slot machines have been discretely placed out of sight, behind the obligatory wall to allow for a family friendly environment. Charlie has started to collect fun neon signs, which decorate the walls. Outside, under the large overhang, are tables and benches, for those who prefer to sit in the open, while also staying dry! The Kamermans have been complimented repeatedly

(Cont. from P4) with the cleanliness of their pub, something that makes this business stand out. The facilities are spotless and Lynne grins: she is the one who pays special attention to that!

Charlie points out that he offers a menu that reaches beyond the usual "bar food". He strives to serve a variety of good items. Some examples include hotdogs from Chicago, hot pastrami sandwiches, philly cheese steaks, and club sandwiches. You will also find antipasta salad, catfish, sole, fresh chicken and ribeye steak. The vegetables are fresh and hand picked. And of course you can also order a hamburger and fries. You will be happy to notice the real lettuce and Roma tomatoes! The food is lovingly prepared and very affordable.

One satisfied Providence Hospital employee has been picking up his chicken-philly sandwich for about two years now. They set the clock on him. Another customer delights in being asked how he would like his green peppers: raw or sauteed…..

I decide to get a basic hamburger and fries; it is surprising how often this simple dish is ruined. At The People's Grill, I know that Charlie will not disappoint me. A little while later, there it is: a great hamburger, served precisely according to my requests and suited even for the fussiest of hamburger lovers. And oh, the fries! Lots and lots of wonderfully wide ones: crispy without being over-fried and with a soft inside!

The People's Grill has a take-out menu and is a good location for birthday and anniversary parties, as well as other celebrations or gatherings. The Kamermans will decorate the place for you, with balloons and festive table coverings. There is a full bar, including cocktails, and there are 6 beers on tap, plus a variety of domestic, micro and imported beers available.

My final words: "Affordable, lovingly prepared food, with friendly, honest owners."

People's Grill 7901 NE Glisan Sunday-Thursday: 4-12 Midnight Friday-Saturday: 4-2 AM Happy Hour 4-6 PM Groups, Celebrations welcome! (503) 254-4285

Another Successful Tree Planting in North Tabor!

Story by Moonrose Doherty, FOT Coordinator

Thank you to everyone who helped with planting trees in our neighborhood on January 22nd. We planted about 50 trees in North Tabor alone and over 180 for the four neighborhoods combined. In addition, several trees have been planted along the bike route subsequent to our neighborhood planting. It makes such a beautiful difference in all the neighborhoods! It was so nice to meet new people and enjoy a day of community involvement, so thank you all for participating.

Planting the trees, unloading the trees, bringing soup and goodies, and driving the vehicles or planting by bike were some of the ways that we volunteered and our volunteer efforts really made an immense difference.

Congratulations on your new tree(s) to all who participated and thank you again for planting trees through our neighborhood Friends of Trees planting. Below is information on your trees and how to keep them healthy:

To help make sure your new tree thrives, try to remember these tree care tips:

•Weekly watering of 10-15 gallons is the best way to ensure survival

•Remove weeds and grass from around the trunk to avoid competition for water and lawnmower damage.

60th Ave Max Station Area Maps

See Page 1 for more info and Public Hearing details.

Hazards of E-Cycling

By Candice Jordan, Cleanup Cmte Member

When recycling electronics and other products with hazardous elements it is important to check out who you are recycling with. Will the items be properly handled or merely shipped overseas to become someone else's problem? Out of sight should not be out of mind. Do you really want to be responsible for some child in Pakistan or China being exposed to toxic materials because he or she is scavenging a pile of trash that includes toxic materials you mistakenly assumed were being processed in an approved manner? Precious and rare elements are components of many of our electronic products and we are finally developing an appreciation for things we have been throwing away.

May 2010 North Tabor/Mt. Tabor Resale Area. Let's hope for better weather this year!

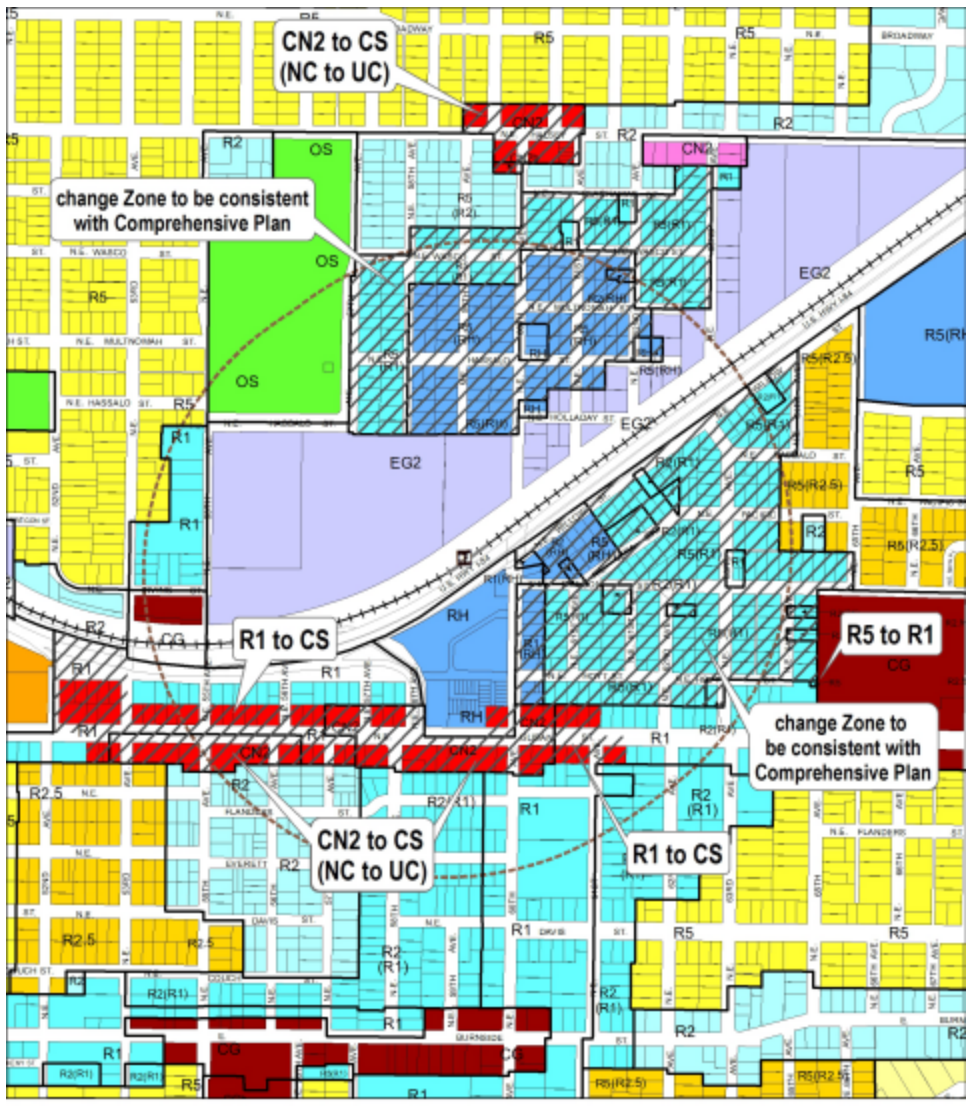
This year the North Tabor/Mt. Tabor Cleanup is partnering with SBK | Green Century Electronic Recycle. The following information is from their website:

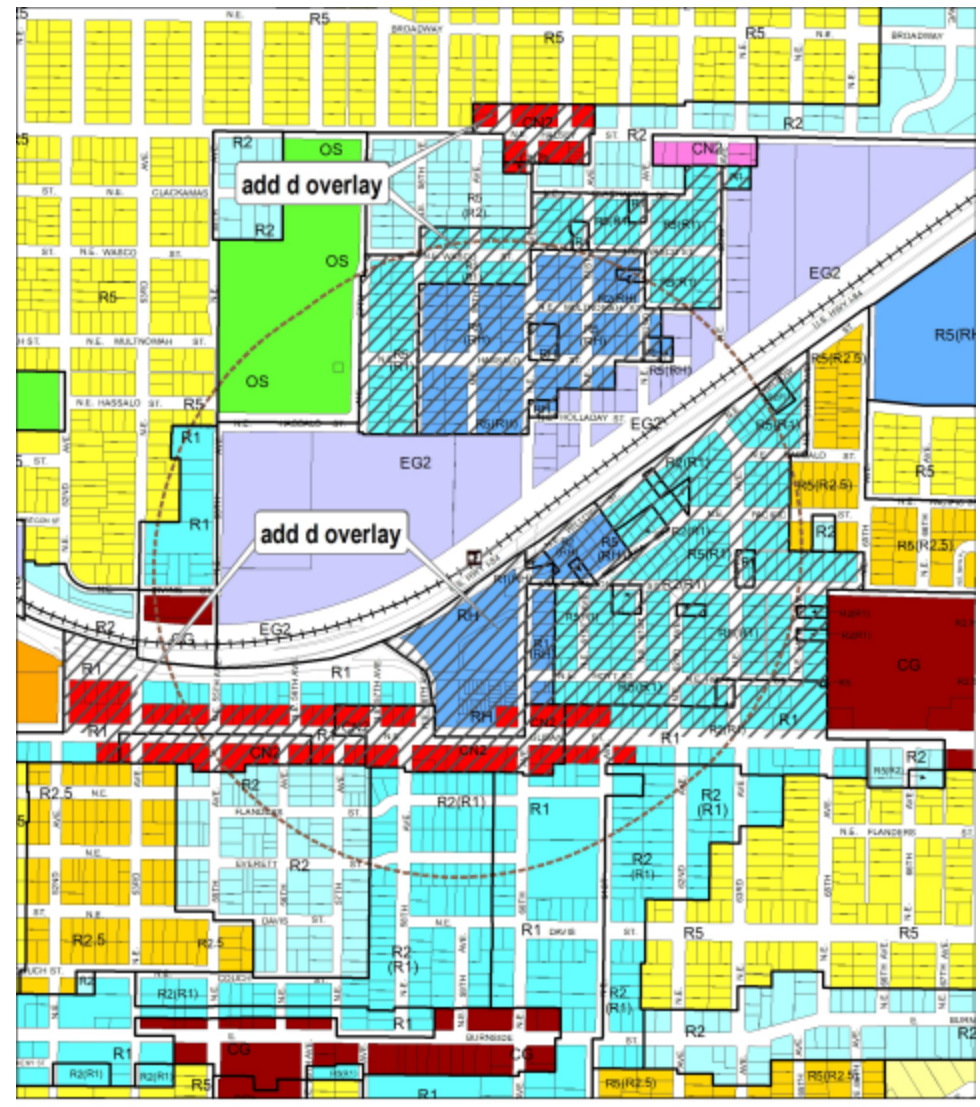
"SBK | Green Century Electronic Recycle understands the needs of technology in today's world. That is why we have developed a way to recycle and re-use all products we handle. Most computers and computer related items are still working and may meet the needs of many people.

We believe computer recycling should be about keeping the item alive as long as possible. This is why we re-use and refurbish most of the computer related items we get; unlike other recyclers who destroy all items working or not. We make sure to refurbish and save.

Items We Accept: (and which will be accepted at the Cleanup)

Computers, Laptops, Monitors (CRT, LCD), Printers / Scanners, Fax / Copy, Ink Cartridges, Keyboards / Mice, Servers /Routers /Hubs, Networking Devices, Communications Equipment (Cont. P 6)





(Cont. P 6)

Tree Planting (Cont. from P 5)

•Mulch around the base of each new tree to retain moisture and reduce weed growth; leave a 2-inch buffer between the trunk and mulch to avoid fungal growth.

•Twine and stakes provide stability and support; they can be removed after a year.

All of the above information can also be found in the tree care guide door-hanger that was left with each tree.

Also, in an effort to be sustainable, Friends of Trees reuses their yard signs from year to year, so if you have a yard sign that you would like to be reused, it can be dropped off at Friends of Trees (3117 NE MLK, Jr. Blvd.) or call 503-928-4655 and we will give you a neighborhood dropoff location.

If you are interested in becoming involved in our next neighborhood planting, or with the Friends of Trees, there are excellent volunteer opportunities, such as becoming part of the Neighborhood Coordinator team (help organize our neighborhood tree planting event), a Crew Leader (guide small groups of neighbors in planting trees), or a Summer Inspector (learn to assess the health of newly planted trees and give watering and mulching tips). To learn more about these, and other volunteer opportunities, visit http://www.friendsoftrees.org/volunteer or call 503-928-4655.

Trees help add natural beauty to the neighborhood, enhance the livability and walkability of our community, capture and absorb rainwater, and provide food for people and wildlife. So, the over 180 new trees that were planted during our Kerns, Laurelhurst, North Tabor and Sunnyside neighborhood group planting will make a positive impact on many people and the environment.

We plant every year in our neighborhood in mid-January, so if you or your neighbors are interested in adding more trees to the neighborhood next year, pass the word on, mark your calendar and be sure to sign-up or help others sign up with Friends of Trees!

Hazards of E-Cycling (Cont. from P 5)

Televisions, VCRs, DVD players, Stereos & Audio Components, Returned/Unwanted Products, Cell phones / Telephones. PDAs, Handheld Games, Cameras, Batteries, Misc. Electronics, Misc. Office Machines, Washers / Dryers

We practice safe and efficient recycling. All items are handled in a safe manor with no impact to the environment. We only deal with certified processors in the Northwest. Our goal is to reuse all items and extend the life as long as possible to provide a viable alternative to e-waste in our landfills.

How we recycle your items:

All items are tested for functionality. Computer related items found to be working are refurbished or parted out to be sold or donated. We know that data security is a serious issue. All hard drives are wiped with DOD standards. If the drives are not in working condition we destroy them."

Please be sure to look for this year's Cleanup details in the May issue of the North Tabor News. There are changes from prior years, There will be an insert in the May issue with all details for the May 14th Cleanup. Be sure to email cleanup@northtabor.org or call 503-928-4655 if you want to help plan and participate in this year's Cleanup.

D-E-F… More North Tabor Street Names

By Robert Jordan, North Tabor Neighbor

In the last few issues of the North Tabor News we've been reviewing the names of some of our streets – you might recall that Burnside is named for an early businessman, David Burnside (not for the Civil War general), and that Couch is named for Captain John Couch, one of the true founders of the city. You might remember that during the "Great Renaming" of 1891, when East Portland and Albina were merged with old Portland west of the river, many of the street-name duplications had to be eliminated. Both East Portland and Portland itself had many simple letter-designated streets (A St, B St. etc). In the renaming, the alphabetical order was kept for those in Couch's Addition in old Portland, but the streets were given the names of prominent individuals to replace the letters. So we move on to Davis Street. Anthony L. Davis was the city's first Justice of the Peace (a much more important job than it is now). In 1851 he was instrumental in the opening of the first public school in the city (located where Pioneer Courthouse Square is today)…and his daughter, Jane, married David Burnside (it was a small town!). After D, of course, comes E. Apparently there weren't many good candidates for the E Street name – Edward Everett, though no doubt a worthy gentleman, was only the district agent for the NW Fire and Marine Insurance Company in the 1880s and 1890s … maybe someone on the City Council owed him a favor! We'll close with Flanders Street. Captain George H. Flanders arrived in Portland in 1849 as the First Mate of the bark Madonna, serving under… Captain John Couch! Not only that, but Captain Couch was married to Flander's sister Carolyn, so the two were brothers-in-law. Together they established the first main wharf and warehouse district for the city, on the river frontage of Couch's claim–- it was situated just north of the present-day Burnside Bridge, where the row of Japanese Cherry trees is now located. When he arrived in town, Flanders was single, waiting until 1864 to marry a Miss Foster, who came to Oregon from Augusta, Maine, as a teacher. Flanders did very well in Portland, dying in 1892 as one of the city's most prominent citizens (I wonder what he would think of Ned Flanders of the Simpsons being named after the street that was named after him!).

Of course, during the time of the renaming our neighborhood was rural farmland and not part of the city. If you look at a map of Portland, you will note that the "alphabet" streets of Couch's Addition, the part of Portland west of the Willamette and north of Ankeny, all line up with the grid of streets east of the river, but the downtown streets south of Ankeny are all set at an angle. When Captain Couch set out the grid of streets for his development, he set them aligned on true north – the slightly older grid of streets to the south was apparently set using a compass, which points to magnetic north, a 23 degree difference in the 1840s*. As land was developed east of the river, Captain Couch's example was followed and all the streets were aligned on true north. As our area was incorporated into the city, the names applied to some of our streets by the early developers were all changed to match those west of the river.

** Another consequence of the angle at which the oldest downtown streets are set is that the streets to the east across the river can't line up perfectly with them, even though the names are now the same. It was necessary to insert two new streets, Hawthorne and Belmont, in the eastside grid to keep the alignment as close as possible.*

Ride Connection Seeking Volunteers in North Tabor

Submitted by Katrinka Easterday, Community Outreach Specialist

Ride Connection, a private non-profit organization, and its network of service partners work in collaboration to provide vital services that strengthen our region's current transportation services. For over 25 years, the Ride Connection network has provided customer-focused, safe, reliable transportation options for individuals in Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties. Our services are aimed at maintaining an individual's independence. Whether it's door-to-door transportation, travel training using public transit, helping low income job seekers get to an interview or providing general public services in rural communities, Ride Connection delivers transportation options for those in need: older adults, people with disabilities, rural residents, and low income job seekers. This past year Ride Connection and its service partners provided over 393,000 rides.

Ride Connection • www.rideconnection.org
Direct: 503.528.1738 • Fax: 503.528-1755
keasterday@rideconnection.org

FOR THE CHICKEN HEARTED Dronettes: The New Chickens

By Monique Mos

In the January 30 issue of the Oregonian, I have found the pet of the future. It is exactly what we need, to continue our urban back-to-nature dream.

I don't know about you, but my yard is a mess. The hens, in charge of yard work during the cold season, are scratching the earth, so that it looks like the site of a recent mud slide. Also, to mark their liberty, they deposit chicken dung indiscriminately, amongst others on each rung of the kitchen stairs. They love to watch us inside our coop. Last winter, they counted the deck as one of their favorite elimination sites. It was a lot of extra work but I understood: we like the deck too…. Nevertheless, I placed a barrier between the yard and the deck: Chickens Verboten! I bring them their food and their water; redistribute the kitchen stair manure, perform the coop cleaning and straw refreshing and engage in flock herding during severe weather or the forecast thereof. In summer all this is fun; when it is cold and wet, less so.

But there, on page A2, I located the perfect pet. Peter Finn, quoting an article from the Washington Post, reports that by 2013, the FAA will probably allow routine use of some disarming creatures (or was it "unarmed"creatures?) The drones - let's call them dronettes (not be be confused with drumettes), that sounds so much cuter - have wings and are no bigger than a large bumblebee. Right now they are being used in five states, for border control. Now that is what I call useful! These dronettes could be of real assistance in the yard…. There is little I find more time consuming than the ever returning weeds. So, starting in 2013, dronettes can take over my borders and manage the weed control completely. Think of all the extra time I'll have! I can't wait to welcome the little guys to our house.

Furthermore, the dronettes can perform an "aerial sweep" of your property. What could be more practical? No more broomsticks detaching from the broom. Just launch your drone and the place is swept. From the air! Who could have imagined it? Also, remember that old beehive you've been storing in the shed, since all our honeybees went to another world? What a great feeling to know that it can be used again!

Oh, and that's not all; I can hardly contain my excitement! There is also a bird-sized device, called WASP. (I know, it is getting confusing. Are they birds or are they bees?) Well, here comes the best part: the WASP doubles as a video recorder…. It is hard to detect and able to fly around noiselessly, in - or outside structures. You could launch your WASP and let it roam around the neighborhood, without disturbing anyone and you will get REAL reality T.V. from all over the "Hood". It will be infinitely helpful in getting to truly know everybody. The WASP drones allow the recording of activities with high resolution, infrared and thermal imaging cameras and are ideal for urban monitoring! What a great way to keep our little neighborhood safe. Car prowlers beware! Some models may lay eggs and they definitively do not poop, although maybe they could be trained to poop or lay eggs on aforementioned car prowlers.

Now if that won't kick our urban farming endeavor right into the 21st Century….

I don't know about you, but I have been thinking about this. No more herding in the evening. Dronettes, as I call them, are able to get into any building on their own. What's more, they can enter unnoticed. Additionally, they are built (I like to think of it as "trained"), to pick up and transmit dangerous conversations. Suppose two hawks are planning an attack on my little winged friends, the dronettes can hear and record, not to mention transmit such dangerous conversations to the authorities (that's me). I imagine that I will then be informed about the impending blood bath and can take appropriate pre-emptive action.

The article does not mention whether these improved birds lay eggs. If so, I will request an order form. Think about it! Dronettes, especially the smaller sized type, require only a minimum of space. A birdhouse would suffice to keep them from getting rusty. No more enormous chicken coops and an additional benefit of extra space for the Brussels sprouts in the garden. Naturally clean and tidy, the dronette will be the darling of every real estate agent, turning back yards into pictures of pastural delight. Since the dronette is soundless, one will be able to also have roosters, without having to worry about wake-up calls. And they could come in colors to complement the existing flora.

I have made up my mind. Give me the remote!

It appears they may render any alarm system, dog, or poultry obsolete. If they also sing, then they can replace the songbirds too. I think the size is handy. I am sure they are tidier than chickens. I could probably get away with more than three and raccoons do not eat them. That sounds like a deal to me.

The cost? Right now they may be a bit pricey for the average resident.... A bit on the high side for you and me. But like all new technology I am confident it will come down.

Eventually.

Is It Spring Yet? (Cont. from P 1)

Do not head for the backyard and dig up soil from your garden for this purpose. Buy it. Even the best amended garden soil is too heavy for sprouting. In addition, garden soil can contain viruses and bacteria not conducive to nurturing sprouts. So buy it. You will find it sold in nurseries and garden centers as "planting mix".

•I like to use peat containers for my starts because there is little or no transplanting required. Transplanting tender plants risks damage to the root and possibly to the overall plant. Whether you choose to begin with peat trays or individual pots, be certain when it comes time to plant your "babies" in the ground, you cut the rims off the peat containers and plant at the soil level so none of the peat container is exposed or it will wick away moisture from the seedling. Also slash through the bottoms to allow the roots of the young plants to break through into the soil.

•WHERE you grow your plants is arguably the most critical issue. Light is important. Even the sunniest kitchen may not provide enough light for sprouting. Plants can become leggy and phototropic. A remedy is to use a florescent light fixture equipped with a full spectrum lamp. Place the trays or pots within 4" to 5" of the light source. The other important factor is consistent warmth. Keep starts away from drafts and avoid big temperature swings to ensure plants grow steadily.

•When the time comes and the starts are almost ready, be sure to "harden off" your plants for 7 to 10 ten days (some say for as long as 14 days) before you plant them outside. This is IMPORTANT…if you skip this step there is a good chance your tender tots will die or at best be stunted. Hardening off is an artful (not scientific) process which toughens up the plants and allows them to best acclimate to the great outdoors. Do this by introducing the plants to the outdoors for a few hours each day, gradually increasing the time. Begin by setting plants out of direct sun and wind and daily move them into more sun for a longer time periods while you reduce the water. The goal is to "train" them to spend all day and night outdoors over the course of 10 days or so.

•If you have remaining seeds (and you should) store seed packs in a cool dark spot for future plantings. I typically keep my seeds no more than one calendar year because over time, successful germination will diminish.

Finally, a brief word about protecting young plants once they are in the ground…I have had good luck encouraging plants to grow, even when temperatures take a momentary dip, by covering them with insulating cones filled with water. There are several brand names on the market (Kozy Coat, Walls O Water, Water Teepee) which can be purchased at garden centers in Portland or online. These cones give the plants a head start over others without insulation. But NOTE: Be certain to remove the cones of water as temperatures warm or you will cook the plants inside in the course of just one afternoon.

Enjoy the promise of spring!

Bonnie Bruce is owner of Celilo Gardens, a Portland landscape design studio. For more information: www.celilogardens.com

Montavilla Food Co-op (Cont. from P 1)

nutritive herbs and tea tinctures. Michael Brassell, the Co-op's Business Committee Chair, led us through a balance sheet exercise to realize how much aggregate money we spend on food--money to potentially divert towards an establishment which represents our values, rather than to some distant and impersonal profit-driven corporation. We also surveyed participants to assess preferences for a short-term storage space versus a long-term goal of a retail storefront and found support for both goals with substantial interest in an eventual storefront. By the forum's end, attendees had signed up for various committees and already got plugged in to upcoming activities. We are excited to engage the new energetic participants in our efforts, but we also need your help!

We have a lot to do this year and must continue to build on our momentum! Next steps include continuing to chart our course with the goals of finding a space, developing a business plan, launching a membership equity drive and gathering financial support to conduct a feasibility study. We also want to increase efforts to better engage diverse members of our communities by developing stronger alliances with more representative individuals, organizations and businesses in the neighborhoods.

Check our website for updates about committee meetings, upcoming events and learn how to get plugged in. There are many ways to get involved--from a one-time volunteer effort, to a leadership role on one of our committees--whether you've got a couple hours or a couple hundred, we'd love to have you involved! We have a growing list of desired skills, materials or professional connections which will get us closer to our goals. We look forward to hearing from you! Come join our efforts and help make the MFC vision a reality!

Montavilla Food Co-op mission: The goal of the MFC is to enhance the quality of life for both residents and visitors by providing access to affordable, healthy food in an environment shaped by the community's values.

Montavilla Food Co-op (971) 208-5743
PO BOX 13382, Portland, OR 97213
www.montavilla.coop outreach@montavilla.coop

www.oregonmetro.gov

At this time there are no plans for a Hazardous Waste community event in North Tabor. To help make one happen, please call 503-928-4655 or email cleanup@northtabor.org.

Household toxic trash

Proper disposal, safer alternatives

Typical household hazardous products accepted by Metro for safe disposal

Batteries
Paints and stains
Pool and spa chemicals
Pesticides and poisons
Automotive products (motor oil, antifreeze)
Thinners, solvents
Household cleaners and disinfectants
Art and hobby chemicals
Aerosol spray products
Sharps (medical syringes, lancets, etc.)
Mercury-containing products (fluorescent light bulbs and tubes, thermometers, thermostats)

No electronics
(cell phones, computers, etc.)

Household waste only

Questions?

Call Metro Recycling Information

503-234-3000

Hablamos español

Metro

Many everyday products used for housework, home improvement, car maintenance and gardening may contain chemicals that can harm your health or pollute the environment. For proper disposal, it's important never to discard these products in the sink, on the ground, down a storm drain or in your garbage can. Instead, Metro can help you safely dispose of hazardous household waste and discover the benefits of using less-toxic products.

Identifying toxic trash

Being able to recognize which products around the home are hazardous is an important part of ensuring proper disposal. Some products may include words such as "warning," "caution," "flammable," "poison," "danger" or "combustible" on the label. The following descriptions characterize household hazardous products:

Ignitable – capable of burning or causing a fire.

Corrosive – capable of eating away materials and destroying living tissue.

Explosive or reactive – able to cause an explosion or release poisonous fumes when exposed to air, water or other chemicals.

Toxic – poisonous, either immediately or over a long period.

Radioactive – able to damage and destroy cells and known to cause cancer, mutations or fetal harm.

Disposing of toxics safely

Metro accepts various types of household hazardous waste for free recycling or disposal. Bring it to one of Metro's two transfer stations year-round, or participate in a Metro household hazardous waste collection event from March to November.

Here's how to prepare, transport and deliver hazardous products for recycling or disposal by Metro:

- Keep products in original containers. Make sure products are properly sealed and leaking containers are secured in secondary leakproof containers.
- Label unmarked containers if certain of contents. If contents are unknown, alert technician upon arrival at Metro.
- Avoid mixing products together, to help prevent dangerous chemical reactions.
- Use containers 5 gallons or smaller only. No drums or plastic bags.
- For safe transport, pack products in sturdy, leakproof boxes and place them in vehicle trunk.
- Keep load to 35 gallons or less.
- Bring sharps in approved sharps container.
- Remain in vehicle upon arrival at facility; a technician will unload your materials. And, please, no smoking.

Aerosol cans
If they aren't empty, they should be disposed of as hazardous waste. Use up the contents if possible, and recycle the empty container in your curbside bin.

Antifreeze
You can buy antifreeze-recovery systems with recycling containers at many auto supply stores. Used antifreeze can be recycled at Metro's transfer stations and through some private recyclers. Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 for locations.

Cans of dried paint, empty paint cans
Metal paint cans with little to no dry residue in them can be recycled at the curb – remove and recycle lids. Metal or plastic cans with a small amount of paint left inside can be disposed of in the garbage after removing the lid and letting the paint dry. Bring full or partially full paint cans to Metro.

Motor oil
Used motor oil can be recycled at the curb in clear, unbreakable containers with screw-top lids. Used oil filters can be recycled at some locations – call 503-234-3000 for details.

Medical sharps
Metro conducts a container exchange program for Portland metropolitan area residents, accepting sharps for disposal if they are in approved containers. The program requires a one-time enrollment fee, which includes a new, approved sharps container. Thereafter, participants can obtain one free container per day – additional containers are $5 each – at Metro's hazardous waste facilities.

Reducing use of toxic products

Save a trip to the hazardous waste facility and protect the health and safety of your family at the same time. It's easy to get started today.

Choose safer alternatives.
Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 or visit www.oregonmetro.gov/saferhome for free publications and educational programs on effective, less-toxic alternatives for cleaning, gardening, controlling pests and maintaining a beautiful yard.

Here's a brief list of helpful Metro publications:

- **Green Cleaners: Simple Cleaning Recipes for a Safer Home** offers cleaning recipes using safe, common household ingredients.
- **Grow Smart, Grow Safe** provides ratings on fertilizers, pesticides and soil amendments to help readers find lawn and garden products least hazardous to people, pets, wildlife and waterways.
- **The Hazardless Home Handbook** is a guide to hazardous household products and effective, inexpensive alternatives.

Buy only what you need.
Check your inventory before buying new products. If you must buy a hazardous product, get no more than what's needed.

Share leftovers with someone who can use them.
Exception: old pesticides, which lose effectiveness after two years and may contain banned chemicals (e.g., DDT, Kelthane).

Metro offers toxics disposal

at its two household hazardous waste facilities and periodic collection events

Metro Central Station
6161 NW 61st Ave., Portland
From Northwest St. Helens Road (Highway 30), turn east onto Kittridge Avenue and left (north) onto Front Avenue. Go one mile, turning left onto Northwest 61st Avenue. Facility is on the right.

Metro South Station
2001 Washington St., Oregon City
Just off Interstate Highway 205 at the Park Place/Molalla exit (exit 10). Follow the exit to the first traffic light. Turn right onto Washington Street. Facility is first building on the right.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Saturday. Closed major holidays. Schedule an appointment for loads larger than 35 gallons or drums larger than 5 gallons. Call Metro Recycling Information at 503-234-3000 for details.

Collection events
Metro conducts free household hazardous waste collection events at various neighborhood sites from March to November. For details, visit www.oregonmetro.gov/roundups or call 503-234-3000.

Household hazardous waste only

Business-generated waste:
Call 503-234-3000 or visit www.oregonmetro.gov/ceg to learn about Metro's conditionally exempt generator program for eligible businesses that produce small amounts of hazardous waste.

Metro representatives

Metro Council President – David Bragdon

Metro Councilors – Rex Burkholder, Carlotta Collette, Kathryn Harrington, Carl Hosticka, Robert Liberty, Rod Park

Auditor – Suzanne Flynn

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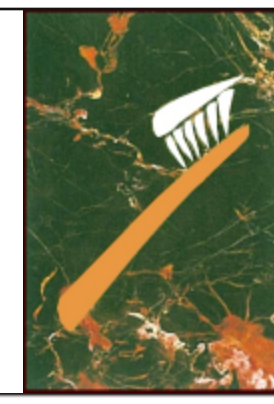

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