



South Tabor Crow

A neighborhood newsletter brought to you by your
South Tabor Neighborhood Association (STNA)

ISSUE NO. 3 | December 2024

Welcome!

Happy winter solstice and welcome to 2025!



If not a snowy holiday, we can at least enjoy occasional frost.

Neighborhood News

Learn about how South Tabor neighbors helped remove more than 1,200 pounds of trash during [SOLVE's Great Powell Cleanup on November 9](#). And be on the alert for future opportunities

Connect with STNA

Question, comment, or interested in helping with the newsletter?
Drop us a line @
communications@southtabor.org.

Join the STNA mailing list [here](#).

For general information, visit our [website](#).





Juan in front of artistic skateboards before the latest board meeting.

Crow's Nest

Message from the chair of STNA

Whether you are dismayed or delighted by the recent national election results, I encourage you to look at our local political revolution as a sign that an engaged electorate can have a profound impact. Going into next year, Portland will be seating an entirely new government. Not just the politicians, but the structure and format of the government has a new shape. All the city commissioners who ran for mayor lost, and the new council is a mix of first-time office holders and long-time Portland activists. I see this as a sign that the people of Portland are hungry for change. There is only so much we can influence in Washington, D.C. from South Tabor, but we can absolutely have a say in our community and local government. Be on the lookout for upcoming opportunities to meet with our new City Council District 3 reps and fellow engaged neighbors.

In community,
Juan Cummings

Upcoming Events

- January 16th, 7-8:30pm:
STNA Board Meeting @ All City Church
- February 20th, 7-8:30pm:
STNA Board Meeting @ All City Church

Mt. Tabor Talk

STNA has joined with other local community groups to support "Tabor for All," a grassroots initiative to make Mt. Tabor Park more accessible for people with disabilities. Stay tuned for more details in the next *Crow*.

To get involved now, email:
info@taborforall.org.

Support the park by joining [The Friends of Mt Tabor Park](#) for as little as \$15 a year.



Volunteer Opportunity: Help South Tabor Prepare for Emergencies

By Christine Wilson

Are you ready for a severe winter storm, flood, or major earthquake? The Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) advises households to be prepared to be on their own for 1-2 weeks.



Christine prepares to welcome volunteers for a training at Clinton Park.

As a resident of South Tabor, I invite you to volunteer with me and 1,200 fellow Portlanders to be part of Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). There are no physical requirements because there are important roles for everyone!

Here's the thing: A well-planned neighborhood response will be invaluable. When we're cut off from surrounding areas by power or impassable roads, information and resource sharing depends on people right here, especially when firefighters and police are stretched thin. And as recent disasters across the U.S. have shown, community engagement has lasting mental health benefits too.

Through the NET program, volunteer Portland residents receive free training from the City's Bureau of Emergency Management and Portland Fire & Rescue in the core skills needed for responding safely and effectively to multiple types of hazards. You'll learn how to help plan and assist our neighborhood until professional responders can arrive, all without putting yourself in harm's way. And you'll be introduced to a network of neighbors, emergency response professionals, and other community leaders.

Once you've completed your 28 hours of basic training (held on Saturdays), you'll have access to classes such as CPR/AED certification, Mental Health First Aid, De-escalation Training, Wilderness First Aid certification, HAZMAT awareness, radio communications training, and many more. Visit [this link](#) for information on joining NET.

And check out [this recent podcast episode](#) about NET.



Nifty Neighbor Profile

Meet Ute Munger, A Figure Who Loves Figures

Born in Berlin and raised in divided post-war Germany, Ute Munger, 81, has lived in South Tabor for over four decades. She worked as a trained pastry chef in a number of European cities before coming to the Portland area in 1970, an area much more welcoming to her and her Volkswagen Beetle than the San Francisco hills. She lives with her cat, Frieda, on SE 63rd, between Clinton and Woodward. Her husband, who died 30 years ago, introduced her to "serious bicycling" and to her beloved 70-year-old, 3-speed Schwinn.



Ute proudly displays her Schwinn, 10 years her junior, which she still rides.

"I'm terribly independent," she says laughing. She regularly attends STNA's monthly meetings. *The Crow* caught up with her in her beautiful garden on a sunny day in late fall.

CROW: What brought you to America and to South Tabor?

UM: I felt it was possible in this state, and America, to do anything you wanted to do. I got a job with an accounting firm for \$360 a month. My rent was \$80! I bought my first house in 1974 for \$21,000.

For a while, I worked at the accounting job. I had a very nice boss who let me go to college to become a massage therapist at a health club. I used to say "I love to work with figures"! But massage took over, and I was self-employed for about 30 years.

CROW: What changes have you noticed in the neighborhood?

UM: I'm disenchanted with the City of Portland when it comes to the houseless people. They're just dragging it along, having one more meeting, just like for the bridge over the Columbia, which would have been much cheaper to fix than now that they've waited! Our infrastructure is crumbling. Nine neighbors [and I] are paying our own money to pave our street.

As the old lady who has lived here the longest, I'm watching an influx of young families [she pauses to count seven kids in the area who are four and under].

In winter, whenever the snow reaches 4"-6" on the ground for 24 hours, we have "whiskey tasting." Neighbors set up a fire pit in front of my house. Everyone shares their whiskey and talks while the kids slide around in the snow, and when the fire goes out, we all go home.

The "Back" Page

Links:

- Solve Clean Up:
<https://www.solveoregon.org/post/great-powell-cleanup>
- South Tabor Communications Email:
communications@southtabor.org
- Join the STNA Mailing List:
<https://groups.io/g/southtabor/join>
- South Tabor Neighborhood Association:
<http://southtabor.org/>
- Tabor for All Email: info@taborforall.org
- Friends of Mount Tabor Park:
<https://www.taborfriends.org/>
- Joining NET: <https://pbem.link/joinnet>
- Citycast NET podcast:
<https://portland.citycast.fm/podcasts/how-your-neighbors-can-save-you-in-a-major-disaster>

Past Issues:

- Issue 1:
<http://southtabor.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/South-Tabor-Crow-Issue-1-June-2024.pdf>
- Issue 2 :
http://southtabor.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/South-Tabor-Crow-Issue-2_September_2024.pdf



Will snow stay in the mountains or come join us in the city? Tune in to 2025 to find out!

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