



South Tabor Crow

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

ISSUE NO. 4 | March 2025

Welcome!



Puffy clouds, blue water, cherry blossoms — Mt. Tabor at its best!

Neighborhood News

We're always on the lookout for contributions, be they articles, photos, or ideas that capture something unique.

We're especially eager to meet artists and/or folks who run local businesses, including anything online—it just needs to have a local tie-in. Contact: [Taran](#)

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 at 67th and Woodward where STNA maintains a street mural

Crow's Nest

Message from the chair of STNA

I love this time of year, when we are through the coldest, darkest days and every day is filled with a little more sun and a little more hope. Bark chip piles will start to show up on curbs, and we're only a few weeks away from that first early spring weekend full of nursery trips and yard work and freshly tuned-up bicycles. As you're outside digging out from winter, say hi to a neighbor, swap a plant start or two, help a stranded cyclist change a tire. And maybe this year consider whipping things into shape to show off your garden or garage treasures for neighbors during our annual Yard Sale. Mark your calendars: Saturday, June 7th, and be on the lookout for announcements in *The Crow*, on Facebook, and on our email list.

In community,
Juan Cummings

Upcoming Events

- STNA Board Meeting: March 20th, 7–8:30pm: @ All City Church
- Mt. Tabor Park Annual Meeting: March 31st – 6:30pm @ TaborSpace
- South Tabor Yard Sale and Garden Tour: June 7th – more details soon!
- "Inhuman Portraits" – Photography show by Taran Nadler: June 7th – 4–7pm @ The Porch

Mt. Tabor Talk

Come to the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park's annual meeting for the latest news and opportunities to support the park.

Monday, March 31, 6:30 p.m. at TaborSpace, 5441 SE Belmont.

Join the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park for as little as \$15/year:
<https://www.taborfriends.org/>



Nifty Neighbor Profile

Best in Show: South Tabor's Pooches and Humans Agree on a Clear Winner

By Margaret Burke

If you've walked SE 58th Avenue between Woodward and Division, you've likely experienced the magic of the Lucky Dog Library. It's hosted by Jim and Lisa Peters, who have lived in South Tabor for 26 years.

"Everyone is welcome," Lisa says. "Dogs are the greatest role models of how simple and pure and uncomplicated love is."

The library's initial iteration - a stick-and-ball library for neighborhood pups with a display box for rotating dog-related poetry and art - opened in January 2021. Jim constructed the display case as a gift for Lisa. They named it for their now-deceased dog, Lucky, a trained therapy dog, who served at Midland Library and Mount Tabor Memory Care.

The library has expanded to include a registered Little Free Library with Portland's smallest dog park on top for our younger two-legged neighbors to play with.



Lucky Dog Library

In the sunny months, Lisa conducts sidewalk chalk polls that include asking dogs to weigh in on their biscuit allowances and owners to share award superlatives their pups should be given. A dog check-in last summer gathered the names of more than 100 neighborhood dogs!

Jim and Lisa relish the joy and connection hosting the library brings, for them and their visitors. Whenever they're in their yard, someone stops by to show their appreciation. After it had been closed for a month so Jim could make repairs, he heard a happy yell from a young visitor - "IT'S BAAAAACK!"

If any teachers are reading, the Lucky Dog Library would love to partner with a class at Atkinson (or elsewhere!) to feature students' art or writing in the display case.

Follow the Lucky Dog Library's adventures on Instagram at [@luckydoglibrary](https://www.instagram.com/luckydoglibrary), or stop by in person at 2735 SE 58th Avenue. And of course bring Fido!



Meet the People Beneath the Steeple

The Crow caught up with Pastor Joe Gruber to learn about the unconventional venue at SE 67th and Clinton that provides free meeting space for our Neighborhood Association. Since taking over the space in 2019, All City has hosted free pancake breakfasts, barbecues, and skateboarding meetups when the weather turns nice. About 500-600 people, many local, consider it their church.

CROW: How would you describe All City to your South Tabor neighbors?

JG: I'd love to know how someone who wandered in from across the street experienced it, because unless this lines up, whatever I say doesn't mean much.

That said, we aim for being a welcoming and loving community, one where we show radical hospitality regardless of your background or what you believe. Obviously, it's a church, and our vision is helping people find and follow Jesus because he's made a significant difference in our lives. But I'd hope that whoever you are and whatever brokenness you're walking through in life - because we all do - you'd have a sense that you belong, no strings attached. It's not one of those "now that we got you here, we're going to sit you down and read the Bible" - we've all been to those! [laughter]

CROW: Why skateboarding?



Pastor Joe Gruber stands before his church and colorful skateboard ramp.

JG: I don't want to pigeonhole us into being "a skateboarding church," but as a professional skateboarder myself, I love skateboarders for their diversity - ethnic, age, backgrounds, beliefs. And for their grit and perseverance! This one scripture says: "the righteous will fall down seven times, but they'll keep getting back up." But we skateboarders fall down 700 times! [laughter] So why not open up the property for fun in a positive environment?

CROW: What do you notice and appreciate about South Tabor?

JG: Portland has a lot of significant challenges right now, and South Tabor feels like a refuge. All around it, it's kind of rough, wild in the streets like Powell and 82nd. But the neighbors really care about their neighborhood and about each other.

To learn more about All City, visit their [website](#) or [here for events](#).



The "Back" Page

Links:

- 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/>
- Lucky Dog Library: Instagram: [@luckydoglibrary](https://www.instagram.com/luckydoglibrary)
- All City Church: <https://allcity.church>
- All City Events: <https://allcity.church/events>

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
- Issue 3: <http://southtabor.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/South-Tabor-Crow-Issue-3.pdf>



Daffodils, an always welcome harbinger of spring

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