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Our Community in Action

Fremont Has its Bioswale, but So Far No Crosswalk

It's been more than six years since Sabin resident Trent Thelen first approached the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) about installing a crosswalk and bioswale curb extension across Fremont Street so pedestrians would have a safer and drier crossing to Irving Park.



Thelen, who lives on 10th Avenue to the north of the park, noticed that during winter months, Fremont often became flooded due to inadequate storm drainage. All year long, pedestrians would wait a long time for a large enough break in traffic to cross the busy street.

He and other members of the Sabin Community Association's Land Use and Trans-

Sabin resident Trent Thelen spearheaded the project to build this bioswale curb extension on Fremont Street. It took six years to complete, but the change is noteworthy.

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SABIN'S 2015 BETTY WALKER
SPRING CLEAN-UP



SATURDAY, MAY 30 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Maranatha Church Parking Lot | 4222 NE 12th Ave. (at Skidmore)

Donation: \$20 per carload, up to \$50 for truckload

Donations support neighborhood projects

WHAT TO BRING?

Household Junk
 Furniture, Mattresses
 Scrap Metal, Appliances
 TVs, computers, and anything with a cord
 Wood (no treated wood, but paint and nails okay)
 Large Branches

FOR DONATION

Not sure if an item is reusable? Bring it! We'll sort.
 Tools (yard and home), furniture, kitchenware, lamps, clean linens, irons, fans, alarm clocks, canes, crutches, and medical gear
 Lumber in 5 foot lengths or longer
 Bikes

NOT ACCEPTED

Curbside recycling or yard debris
 Cement
 Ceiling tiles (asbestos hazard)
 Motor oil, paint, hazardous or chemical wastes
 Tires, commercial by-products, batteries



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Thanks to Metro, our regional government, who provides free waste disposal for neighborhood clean ups.

2015 SCA Meeting Schedule

Board meetings are open to all and are held from 7–9 p.m. on the second Monday of the month (except in July, August, and December) at Whole Foods' upstairs conference room, Northeast 15th and Fremont. Upcoming meetings:

May 11

General Meeting, board elections, and emergency preparedness presentation

June 8

No meetings in July and August

EVENTS CALENDAR

www.facebook.com/sabinpdx
FOR SELECT INFORMATION
ON SABIN EVENTS

**Whole Foods Bag Donation: Sabin
Bee Friendly Gardens**
April 18–July 12

Sabin Community Association



NORTHEAST COALITION
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This newsletter is produced with the support from Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

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Sabin Briefs

Sabin School North Playground Renovation Needs Volunteers

The Sabin School North Playground Renovation received a Partners in Conservation grant for \$10,000 from the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District to fund the rain garden, depaving, stormwater management, and native plantings.

The Sabin Campus Committee in partnership with PPS facilities and Learning Landscapes plans to break ground after the school year ends. They are currently recruiting people to help coordinate volunteer work sessions this summer and fall. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Deborah Pleva at deb@plevaconsulting.com.

PUP: Pick Up the Poop in Sabin Field is a New Student Project

A group of Sabin students is working on an awareness campaign through Sabin SUN School to remind dog owners to PUP: Pick Up Poop in the Sabin field.

The students are designing signs that hang on the fence surrounding the field. The students hope that through the campaign community members will remember:

- To obey scoop laws and PUP: Pick up the poop
- To keep their dogs on-leash while on campus
- To keep their dogs off campus completely during school hours.

The group even helped draft this message for the SCA newsletter.

May 14 is Sabin Night at the Oregon Food Bank

On May 14 from 6–8:30 p.m., join Sabin neighbors for a volunteer night at the Oregon Food Bank, led by volunteer team leader and Sabin resident Jane Zwinger ("Oregon Food Bank Recognizes Sabin Resident for Volunteerism," March SCAN). If you're interested, please email Michelle-GanowJones@yahoo.com. Children over age six are welcome to come along.



Sabin Orchard Work Party

This month's focus is on fruit thinning and spring pest and disease management.

When: Sunday, May 17, 2–4:30 p.m.

Where: Sabin Community Orchard, NE Mason between 18th & 19th

RSVP: gareth@portlandfruit.org

ACCESS SABIN NEWS ONLINE

Readers can catch up on breaking local news that affects Sabin by "liking" SCA on Facebook or checking Nextdoor Sabin (www.sabin.nextdoor.com). To view Sabin Community Association newsletters starting with the January 2014 issue, go to SCA's website (www.sabinpdx.org). Click on "More" at the top of the page and select "Newsletter Archives."

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REAL ESTATE

Sabin Art Teacher Invites Students to 'Come Play!'

Suki Allen injects such a hearty dose of fun into her popular arts and crafts classes that her students keep coming back for more. Her enthusiasm is so infectious, even beginners often go home with projects they are truly proud of.

Yet producing a "pretty" piece isn't necessarily the goal of classes she offers at her Birds Eye View Studio, located behind her Sabin Neighborhood home. Often, it's the process of exploring one's own creativity that brings students the most satisfaction. Allen calls it "play."

Take a look at her blog www.birdseyeviewstudio.blogspot.com to get a sense of why her classes — including needle felting, resin-based jewelry, linoleum-block printmaking, soft-block printmaking, collage, mixed media, and book-printing — are so popular.

"I call myself a creative cheerleader," says Allen, a professional artist who began teaching classes on a regular basis about seven years ago. "Half of my job is teaching skills, and the other half is being in someone's corner and teaching them that it's OK to make mistakes. I try and embrace mistake-making for people."

Each class is limited to eight people, the number who can comfortably fit around a large worktable in the middle of the studio. "It's really hard for people to eke out time for their creative life unless they take a class, she explains. "I keep my classes pretty low cost, so I'm usually full three weeks out."

Most classes cost between \$30 and \$40 and are offered on a one-time, three- or four-hour basis. Materials are included and students take home their completed



In her home studio, Suki Allen teaches students how to make prints from carved linoleum blocks.

projects. "It's a great way to see if you like something before you invest in materials," she points out.

On the other hand, her "Sketchbook Play: The Art of Keeping a Creative Journal" class is offered one day a week for six weeks. Classes last two and a half or three hours. In this class, students create their own long-stitch bound sketchbook using vintage book covers, hot-press watercolor paper, and waxed-linen thread. The total cost is \$175 plus materials.

For now, Allen mostly teaches adults, but plans to add children's classes in the fall. She also teaches classes at the Oregon College of Art & Craft on Barnes Road in Southwest Portland. She formerly taught classes at and managed Collage, a retail art-supply store on Alberta Street. Her own work can be found at the Museum of Contemporary Craft in the Pearl Dis-

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Mark Your Calendars! Third Annual Sabin Yard Sale is July 18

The third annual Sabin Yard Sale will be Saturday, July 18. As in previous years, Sabin residents hold as many yard sales on the same day to attract more shoppers.

To participate, just set up your tables in your yard or garage, and place signs (with your address) at a major cross-street, such as Northeast 15th or Fremont. The Sabin Community Association will advertise on craigslist and other media, to try to generate interest.

Register Early for Kindergarten at Sabin School

The deadline for registering incoming kindergarten students at Portland Public Schools is June 1. The Sabin PTA, however, is encouraging families to register as soon as possible.

For two of the last three years, Sabin has had so many late Kindergarten registrations that the school has had to add a fourth teacher after the start of the school year. For more information on kindergarten registration please visit: <http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/kindergarten/>

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Fremont Green Street Project

Continued from page 1

portation subcommittee believed that a bioswale curb extension would manage rainwater runoff, slow down traffic, and shorten the time pedestrians were in the street.

Thelen and other subcommittee members researched the possibility of creating a Green Street Project using funding available through the city of Portland's 1 Percent for Green grant program. The city's Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) runs the grant program, which is funded by system development charges that developers pay to the city as part of their permit fees.

Thelen, a landscape architect and urban designer at ZGF Architects in Portland, heard about the grant program from a work colleague. In addition to SCA members and members of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, Thelen enlisted the help of Irvington resident Jeff Jones, who lives on the south edge of Irving Park. Civil engineering firm WB Wells & Associates created engineering drawings. In all about 20 people worked on the project, Thelen says.

"Really, this project is in the King Neighborhood, though it's also on the dividing line between Sabin, Irvington, and King," he points out.

After many delays, SCA was notified in December 2013 that the project would be funded, but it took another 14 months for work to actually begin. In February of this year, the curb extension was built just east of 9th Avenue. On April 20, BES employees planted the bioswale. The Mahonia Nursery donated some plants, and Mandi Hoyt-McBeth, a landscape

designer and Sabin resident, helped procure other plants approved by the city of Portland.

"We're crossing our fingers that the crosswalk will get done soon," he says. "What we need now are painted stripes so drivers are more encouraged to stop for pedestrians."

On a recent rainy Sunday morning from 10:30 to 11:30, Thelen counted 109 people crossing Fremont on their way to and from the park. "This park gets even busier when the weather gets better," he adds.

The approved Green Street Project actually calls for three bioswale curb extensions to be built — at 8th, 9th, and 10th avenues. "We haven't pursued the others yet because we have been waiting for the first one to be built," Thelen explains. "And right now, I'm pretty burned out."

— Susan Goracke

Suki Allen's Art Studio

Continued from page 3

trict and at Crafty Wonderland in downtown Portland. Her greeting cards can be found at Collage and at Powell's Books.

Allen has been creating art for most of her life, but she got serious about becoming an artist during high school in Palo Alto, Calif., where she grew up. She studied both women's studies and fine art at Linfield College in McMinnville. After graduating, she moved to Southeast Portland, where she was both a working artist and a teacher.

For more information or to sign up for a class, go to the website mentioned earlier or call 971-271-4207.

— Susan Goracke



This year's Sabin School Auction, held on April 18 at Montgomery Park, grossed over \$200,000 to support the Sabin School Foundation and PTA-funded activities. Getting into the spirit of the theme ("Lights, Camera, Auction"), co-chairs Loralee Stapleton and Susan Williams dressed as Amy Poehler and Tina Fey.

Donate Your Whole Foods Bag Credit and Help Sabin Bee-Friendly Garden Project

Our local Whole Foods has selected the Sabin Bee-Friendly Garden Project to receive bag credit funds from April 18 to July 12. When you shop at Whole Foods on NE 15th and Fremont and bring your own shopping bags, the store will donate 50 percent of donated bag credits.

The Sabin garden project hopes to raise about \$500 through this campaign, and reaching that goal depends on shoppers remembering to make the request.

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