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www.SabinPdx.org

Our Community in Action

Meet Earl Bennett and Discover *Street Roots*

If you're a Sabin resident, you've probably noticed Earl Bennett selling *Street Roots* newspapers most weekdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. outside Starbucks at the corner of Northeast Fremont and 15th Avenue.

Bennett considers many of his customers friends, and a number of his regulars also regard him as a friend, exchanging warm greetings and sharing weekend plans with him. "I love chatting with my customers," says Bennett, a native New Yorker who enjoys the milder winters and more laid-back lifestyle of Portland, where he works, and Vancouver, where he shares an apartment with a friend.



A customer purchases a copy of *Street Roots* from Earl Bennett outside Starbucks in Sabin.

"It's cheaper to live in Vancouver and commute here." Bennett commutes via the MAX, sometimes stopping in downtown Portland to replenish his newspapers before heading to the Whole Foods shopping center. Bennett sells about 200 papers a week and sometimes up to 900 a month, which pays for his rent, food, and monthly TriMet pass plus a few extras.

He's looking forward to December, when *Street Roots* plans to publish weekly rather than every-other week. So why read *Street Roots*? "It's a good social issues newspaper," he answers. "It talks about the economy, your mayor, your city council, the state of Oregon. It talks about issues like homelessness, police brutality, and education."

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Join Sabin Neighborhood Tree Planting Project



Friends of Trees

create a healthier community!

In partnership with Friends of Trees, Sabin neighborhood is planning a tree planting project for Saturday, Feb. 28. Join us to help plant trees and

In celebration of its 25th anniversary, Friends of Trees is offering planting strip trees to homeowners for \$25 and yard trees for \$75. The cost includes a City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services site inspection to help choose the right tree for the site, hole digging, tree planting help and supplies, stakes, ties, labels, follow-up monitoring, and information on proper tree care techniques. For more information, please visit www.friendsoftrees.org.

Trees provide long-lasting health, environmental, and economic benefits. A typical tree absorbs 10 pounds of pollutants, cleans 330 pounds of carbon dioxide, and creates 260 pounds of oxygen each year. Trees intercept and retain 760 gallons of rainwater a year, and shade created by their canopies also keeps our homes and city cool all summer. In addition, planting strip and yard trees appreciate in value and can raise property values by up to 20 percent.

Planning has begun for the Sabin Tree Planting Event, so contact Malka, your Sabin Neighborhood Coordinator, at sabin@plantit-portland.org to order trees and get involved with this great event. Upcoming deadlines include: Jan. 26 (last day to create Friends of Trees account), and Feb. 9 (last day to order trees for the 2015 planting).

2014-2015 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:

Nov. 3
General Meeting: Family-friendly potluck dinner.

Jan. 10

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

Work & Learn Party

Nov. 16, 2-4 p.m.
Sabin Community Orchard,
N.E. Mason between 18th and 19th

American Indian Storytelling & Drumming

Nov. 15, 10:30-12 p.m.
Albina Library

Sabin Community Association



NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS

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

Dog Waste at Sabin School is a Health Issue

Dear Sabin Community,



My name is Julie Cushing. I am the Physical Education Specialist at Sabin School. This is my first year here full time. Sabin is an amazing community. I have the pleasure of working with 500 students a week as well as many of their parents.

We have a huge issue that I need to address: dog feces. Every day a student reports dog feces on our playground. Many of those times the student has actually stepped in it.

Every day our custodian is called away from his duties two to three times to pick up dog feces. It is not only found in the field but actually in our play structure area where a majority of our children play before school, during recess, and after school.

Dog feces contain bacteria and viruses that can be particularly harmful to children: whipworms, hookworms, roundworms, tapeworms, parvovirus, coronavirus, giardia, salmonella, cryptosporidium, and campylobacter.

I hope that as a community we can work together to resolve this problem. Please remind those people you see in our playground to pick up after their dogs. It's all about the health and safety of our children.

Kind regards,

Julie Cushing
Physical Education Specialist
Sabin School

County Ordinances and Park Rules for Dog Owners

Dogs are not allowed on the Sabin School campus on school days during the hours of 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Outside of those hours, Multnomah County laws and Portland Park rules require that:

- **Dogs be on a leash at all times** while on public property and in parks, except in designated off-leash areas during designated off-leash hours*; and
- Dog waste must be collected and disposed of **every time**.

Multnomah County Animal Control has the authority to enforce ordinances and fine those violating leash and scoop laws.

Sabin School is a great community asset. Let's work together to keep it safe and healthy for all our neighbors.

*Visit <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/39523> for a complete list of off-leash areas. Nearby parks with off-leash areas include: Alberta, Grant, Irving, and Wilshire Parks.

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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Sabin Has New Crime Prevention Coordinator



Mary Tompkins recently was named the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Crime Prevention Coordinator for all 12 neighborhoods —

including Sabin — in the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN).

Over the past eight years, Tompkins has partnered with neighbors to improve safety and livability in the Grant Park and Sullivan's Gulch neighborhoods as a Crime Prevention Coordinator with the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement's Crime Prevention Program.

In her new, expanded position, Tompkins serves as the main contact for all NECN residents who are concerned with problem locations, crime trends or livability concerns. She can be reached directly by email at mary.tompkins@portlandoregon.gov or by calling 503-823-4764.

"I enjoy working with communities and utilizing my conflict resolution skills of facilitation, mediation, forgiveness and reconciliation," says Tompkins, who lives in Northeast Portland herself. She adds, "Portland is just a nice, very livable city."

Tompkins also plans to be a regular participant in NECN's Safety and Livability Team (SALT) meetings, which are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the NECN office, 4815 N.E. 7th Ave. next to King School. Meetings are an opportunity for neighbors to weigh in on public safety and livability issues and to assist with the development of public

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Sabin Briefs

Work and Learn Party at Sabin Orchard

The harvest is in! It's time to put the orchard to bed for the winter. Learn how to help our trees survive the winter and emerge productive in the spring. All ages welcome. No experience necessary!

When: Sunday, Nov. 16, 2–4 p.m.

Where: Sabin Community Orchard, N.E. Mason between 18th & 19th

RSVP: gareth@portlandfruit.org

Sabin School Field Restoration Begins

Thanks to a generous \$16,000 grant from the Nike Employee Grant Fund, the Sabin PTA is working to make the south field safer for students. The first of three renovation phases will take place on Nov. 10 and 11, which includes filling holes across the field and aerating, seeding, and leveling the center third of the field. Limiting the area of work allows the tickle bee population to be monitored. The second and third phases on the west and east sides of the field will take place in 2015 and 2016. The PTA requests all community members, including dogs, stay off the field during the renovation. The Sabin PTA looks forward to providing a robust natural turf at the school. For more information email Deborah Pleva at deb@plevaconsulting.com.

Sabin Business Directory Available to Sabin Residents and Businesses Alike

The directory, available on the SCA website, lists businesses located in Sabin and businesses owned by Sabin residents located elsewhere in Portland. Listing your business in the directory is free and easy. Just go to the SCA Business Directory (<http://www.sabinpdx.org/business-directory.html>), click on the "form" link, and complete and submit the online form. We hope this directory makes it easier than ever to support local businesses!

FUNdraising for Sabin Playground

A generous Sabin community member offered to donate \$15,000 to our north campus playground renovation if the community can match 50 percent of the donation (\$7,500) by the end of the year. The SCA has pledged \$500, which amounts to \$2,000 with matching funds from two Sabin families. Sabin School needs to raise \$5,500 by Dec. 31, and we need your help! Here's how:

DONATE: Contributions of all sizes are welcome. Every dollar counts! Tell friends, family, neighbors, and employers. Checks can be made out to Sabin PTA. Please write Campus Renovation on the check.

SOLICIT AND PUBLICIZE: We need help soliciting local businesses as well as spreading the word. Help design a flyer, update the website, or send a mailer.

ORGANIZE A FUNDRAISER: We have ideas for fundraising events. Can you help evaluate the ideas or organize an event?

GRANT APPLICATIONS: We qualify for several grants and need help and expertise in drafting applications.

Please contact Deborah Pleva (deb@plevaconsulting.com) or visit SabinPTA.com.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Clay Veka

Dear Sabin Residents:

On September 20, SCA board members met for our annual retreat to discuss the coming year and reaffirm our Guiding Principles:

- Be accepting, inclusive, and fair
- Engage the community
- Seek to understand and meet community needs
- Support diversity
- Encourage local businesses
- Prepare for the future and promote sustainable living
- Care for our natural environment and wildlife
- Partner with community organizations

We decided to focus on supporting diversity this year and developed an Outreach Committee to identify ways involve new community members and encourage a range of actions and activities. (If you are interested in SCA's outreach activities, please get in touch with Randy at rward70@yahoo.com.)

This year we also allocated \$700 to two community programs: \$500 to support Sabin School playground renovation and ADA retrofit (leveraging a 300 percent anonymous match), and \$200 to the Fresh Exchange program of the Portland Farmers Market Fund.

The SCA board would love to connect with new community members and we are dedicated to making Sabin a wonderful place to live and play.

— Clay

Street Roots: "a Good Social Issues Newspaper"

Continued from page 1

Reading newspapers is one of Bennett's passions. He regularly reads the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, usually at the downtown Vancouver library. "I like to keep informed. I'm in that library at least three times a week. I also read biographies," he adds. "I've read biographies of Ronald Reagan and Nelson Mandela, but my favorite was the biography of Malcolm X. My dad met him three times. My dad told me, 'He's the real deal.'"

When not at the library, Bennett likes to work out or swim at the Marshall Community Center near his home. He also considers himself a pretty good cook. A high school graduate, Bennett hopes to enroll at Clark Community College next fall to pursue a more formal education.

On the job, Bennett wears clean, neat clothes and usually a hat, because he likes them and owns about a dozen. His grandmother's advice still resonates with him, 20 years after she passed away at age 85: "If you look like a bum, society will treat you like a bum. That's what she told me, and I still believe it today."

Bennett also has a knack for remembering exact dates and can tell you when he started selling newspapers at this location. "It was Oct. 5, 2012 — two years ago." Prior to that, Bennett sold *Street Roots* at various spots in the area. "I was searching. One day I came by here and I saw no one. So I started selling here. I like it because it's more residential, and it's got a roof to keep me dry when it rains. I've gotten to know the people here, and they've gotten to know me. This is a good spot!"

— Susan Goracke

Mary Tompkins is NECN's New Crime Prevention Coordinator

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forums on these topics. One recent meeting featured representatives from youth and gang outreach programs to discuss how to reduce youth and gang violence. Another reviewed Last Thursday's effects on the four neighborhoods along North-east Alberta Street.

At the Oct. 20 SALT meeting, participants discussed a few thefts and robberies that had occurred in local neighborhoods, including recently stolen packages. Tompkins suggests residents either plan to be home to pick up their packages or to have them delivered to a workplace or to friends or neighbors who will be home. If you are interested in becoming involved as Sabin's representative at NECN's SALT meetings, please contact Clay Veka (clayveka@gmail.com).

Tompkins also encourages residents to organize a Neighborhood Watch program or to volunteer to work a foot patrol on a regular basis to document any suspicious activity. Neighborhood Watch programs help support crime deterrence, she adds. To start or revitalize a Neighborhood Watch or a Community Foot Patrol, contact Brad Taylor at brad.a.taylor@portlandoregon.gov or call 503-823-2781.

The Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement also has an Enhanced Safety Properties program, which encourages and supports landlords and property managers to take measures to keep their properties safe and livable. For more information, contact Mike Boyer at [michael.boyer@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:boyer@portlandoregon.gov) or call him at 503-823-4763.

— Susan Goracke

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