

# SUNNYSIDE

## Neighborhood News

### April 2015

#### Neighborhood News

Tony Jordan, SNA President

In 2010, according to the U.S. Census, 63.1 percent of Sunnyside residents were renters, but traditionally Portland's neighborhood association meetings are attended and run by homeowners. As the Portland rental market tightens, it's critical for renters to become involved in neighborhood politics and informed of their rights. At our May 14 meeting, we will host the Community Alliance of Tenants who will discuss their organization and present their new comic book Know Your Rights: Don't Get Evicted. If you are a Sunnyside renter who has hesitated to get involved, consider this a direct invitation! If you're in an

apartment building and would like to help us get the word out, please get in touch with us at [board@sunnysideneighborhood.com](mailto:board@sunnysideneighborhood.com).

Our May meeting will also feature elections for four board positions and it's always great to have a bounty of good choices and a variety of opinions represented. If you're interested in serving on the SNA board, consider attending the April 9 meeting to see what it's like and ask any questions you might have. You can also send nominations (for yourself or others) to [board@sunnysideneighborhood.com](mailto:board@sunnysideneighborhood.com).

#### UPCOMING EVENTS | APRIL

- 9<sup>th</sup> - TED Talks, We Talk @ Belmont Library \*
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Speaking of Music: Modern Composers from the Russian Diaspora @ Belmont Library \*
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Social Media and Networking @ Belmont Library \*
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Resume Help @ Belmont Library \*
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Spring Flowering Tree Tour @ Belmont Library \*
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Bring Disconnected in a Connected Internet World @ Belmont Library \*
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Engineering Simple Machines @ Belmont Library \*

#### MAY

- 9<sup>th</sup> - Neighborhood Clean-Up \*

\* See articles for details.

#### Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Annual Clean-Up!

**When?** Saturday, May 9th 9-noon

**Where?** St Stephen's Parking Lot (SE 41st and Taylor)

\$10/car, \$15 SUV/van/small truck, \$20 large truckload

Bike/walk-in loads are FREE!

Mixed solid waste and recyclable materials including furniture beyond repair, broken up concrete, wood, metal (including appliances), cardboard e-cycling (non broken TVs, computer monitors and towers), drywall, hard plastics. No hazardous materials at the neighborhood cleanup.

In the past we've taken yard debris, but the city no longer subsidizes yard debris collection because of the increased frequency of curbside yard debris pickup. We will take yard debris, but will charge an additional \$3 if your load includes yard debris.



Metro



#### MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings at Southeast Uplift unless noted

##### General Meeting & Board Meeting

Thursday, April 9, 7-9 p.m.

##### Crime Prevention and Livability Committee

Thursday, April 9, 6:45 p.m.

##### Land Use & Transportation Committee

Monday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

##### Emergency Preparedness Committee

@ Hawthorne Fred Meyer Deli Area  
Tuesday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.

##### Sunnyside Street Tree Team (S2T2)

@ Hawthorne Fred Meyer Deli Area  
Thursday, April 23, 7:00 p.m.

##### Graffiti Clean-up

2nd & 4th Saturdays, weather permitting.  
Call 503-235-5047

#### SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

[www.SunnysideNeighborhood.com](http://www.SunnysideNeighborhood.com)



or at the Sunnyside Listserv: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SunnysideNeighborhood/>





"Coyote 2008" by Macmanes. Own work. Licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

## **Wild Neighbors: Coyote in Sunnyside**

*By Katie Bretsch, Sunnyside Neighbor*

Coyotes have become common across Portland proper over the last several decades and they have even been photographed riding MAX. Just recently coyotes have been reported in Sunnyside, too. Coyotes are Northwest natives that look like tall, skinny dogs with narrow snouts, bushy tails, and light tan to grey fur. They will carefully avoid humans if given the chance and can live right among us with little chance of being seen.

Coyotes are carnivores that mostly eat rodents, but they are opportunistic. They will steal pet food or garbage if they can get at it, and will also take small cats and dogs. This is one of the reasons that the Audubon Society and the Backyard Habitat program both recommend keeping pet food inside and not letting pets outside unsupervised. It is better for us, for them, and for our pets if coyotes keep after rats and mice.

Find out more about urban coyotes at <http://audubonportland.org/wcc/urban/coyotes>.

Be part of a citizen science project by reporting urban coyote sightings at <http://urbancoyoteproject.weebly.com>.

Learn how to make your yard or landscape a better home for urban wildlife through the Backyard Habitat program at <http://backyardhabitats.org>.

## **Rock 'n' Roll Portland Half Marathon Coming Through Sunnyside.**

*By Don Mack, Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association*

Set the date for Sunday, May 17, for this year's Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon. A major change this year is the direction of the course, which will be run in the opposite direction from last year's race. The route through Sunnyside will be east on Pine, south on 37th, and last but not least, west on Hawthorne back into the city center. For more information visit <http://runrocknroll.competitor.com>.

## **Fish Has a New Name**

*By Don Mack, Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association*

The agency formerly called Fish Emergency Services is now Mainspring Portland. Mainspring is a social service located at 1335 SE Hawthorne Boulevard, near our own Sunnyside neighborhood. This agency provides food, clothing, information, and referral services to more than 1,500 individuals and families in crisis each month. All donations are tax deductible. For information call Mainspring at 503-233-5533.

## **Belmont Library Events in April**

*By Cyndi Rosene, Belmont Library Assistant*

Have an idea for a future library program? Talk to us. Some of our best recent programming ideas have come from our Sunnyside neighbors! Here are some featured events at Belmont Library in April:

### **Thursday, April 9, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., "TED Talks, We Talk: Dee Williams, Minimalist"**

Popular local author of *The Big Tiny*, Dee sold her home and got rid of most of her belongings. She then built a tiny house on wheels, parked it in a friend's backyard, and commenced refining her understanding of the basics. Watch the video and stay for a discussion.

### **Saturday, April 11, 4 to 5 p.m., "Speaking of Music: Modern Composers from the Russian Diaspora"**

Dr. Elena Dubinets will give a brief overview of the history of the Russian diaspora and its different "waves" demonstrated by Russian émigré composers.

### **Wednesday, April 15, 6 to 8 p.m., "Resume Help"**

Meet with an experienced volunteer for one-on-one help. Register for a 30-minute session online ([www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events)), in the library, or by phone (503-988-5234).

### **Saturday, April 25, 1 to 3 p.m., "Spring Flowering Tree Tour"**

Join the Sunnyside Street Tree Team for a walking tour of spring-flowering trees in our area. Meet at Belmont Library at 1 p.m. for refreshments and introductions; tour begins at 1:30 p.m. This is an Arbor Month presentation in cooperation with Portland Parks and Recreation Urban Forestry.

### **Saturday, April 25, 3 to 4 p.m., "Being Disconnected in a Connected Internet World"**

Enjoy a lively and engaging discussion on modern-day interpersonal communication challenges.

### **Thursday, April 30, 3:30 to 5 p.m., "Engineering Simple Machines"**

Gain hands-on engineering experience as you design and build quirky contraptions out of everyday materials. For kids in grades 2 and up.

For more programs and information, drop in and see us (Belmont Regional Library, 1038 SE Cesar Chavez Blvd.), give us a call (503-988-5382), or visit us online ([www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org)). Multnomah County Library programs are always free of charge.



## Street Trees: Avoid Eye Poking and Truck Pruning

By Lee Greer, Sunnyside Street Tree Team

A Sunnyside neighbor recently complained about getting poked in the eye by a street tree branch while walking on the sidewalk. Is your tree an offender? The City Tree Code requires tree branches to be at least 7.5 feet above sidewalks, 11 feet above residential streets and 14 feet above main arterials. Pruning your tree up over the street will prevent "pruning by truck," which will probably damage your tree more than the truck. If you start pruning your tree when it's about three years old, it will be easy for you to keep your tree in good shape and up to code. You can also do lower branch pruning yourself on some bigger trees.

Portland Urban Forestry's excellent brochure, "Pruning and Care of Young and Mature Trees," is available online at <http://www.portlandoregon.gov/trees/65396> (select Pruning Brochure). This site also connects you to the online free pruning permit application.

You can find hand pruners and short-handled pruning saws for under \$20. If you need a long-handled pole pruner or pole saw, check the Southeast Portland Tool Library ([www.septl.org](http://www.septl.org)) listing for availability of the "extension pruner lopper."

## Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness

By Alice Spitzer, Sunnyside Neighbor

Earthquake? Fire? Windstorm? Snow and ice storm? Power outage? So many possibilities, so little time to respond. Whatever we can do ahead of a disaster will serve us well.

A group on SE Taylor (roughly between Cesar Chavez and 42nd) has started thinking about both our individual household preparedness and how we can reach out to neighbors in case of an emergency. At a block party last summer, information was voluntarily provided to start a neighborhood contact list.

We are working to continue filling in the blanks. The list will be used for future neighborhood social events, but will also be a useful tool in an emergency. The group has also started gathering information to distribute to the neighborhood, such as recommendations for reducing earthquake hazards in the home, making a plan to meet after a disaster, creating an emergency preparedness kit, etc.


We are still in the early stages of our work, and we would like to exchange information and suggestions with other emergency preparedness groups in Sunnyside who are doing similar activities. For more information or to share information, contact Jan Molinaro at [jansmolinaro@gmail.com](mailto:jansmolinaro@gmail.com).

## Recycling Tip of the Month: Bicycle Recycling

By Bonita Davis, Master Recycler

Spare bike or bike parts taking up space? Make your bike a vehicle for change by donating it to the Community Cycling Center, a local nonprofit. Learn more about their programs and positive community impact at [www.communitycycling.com](http://www.communitycycling.com), visiting them at 1700 NE Alberta Street, or calling 503-287-8786. All usable bike parts are salvaged and unusable parts are recycled.

Local thrift stores that accept donated bikes include the Arc, Deseret Industries, Assistance League Thrift Shop, and Vietnam Veterans of America. Another option is local swaps. RB Recycling (8501 N Borthwick; 503-283-2261) accepts bike inner tubes and tires for a very small fee. The materials are recycled into athletic flooring, playground surfacing, and commercial flooring. Helmets are not as easily resold or reused, but the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute has creative reuse ideas at [www.bhsi.org](http://www.bhsi.org). No creative reuses for the bike part? Consider metal recycling at Far West Recycling (4930 SE 26th Avenue; [www.farwestrecycling.com](http://www.farwestrecycling.com); 503-238-1640).



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The Sunnyside Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association.

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www.SunnysideNeighborhood.com  
c/o SEUL, 3534 SE Main, Portland, OR 97214

Any opinions expressed, unless specified, are not necessarily those of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association or its board. Sunnyside residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues, by emailing newsletter@sunnysideneighborhood.com. Many wonderful volunteer Sunnyside residents distribute the Neighborhood News.

## New City Requirements for Demolition

By Jeff Cole, SNA Board Member  
and Representative to SEUL Board

In response to a citywide uptrend in demolitions and increasing concern about their impact, Portland City Council has passed new neighborhood notification requirements under Title 24 of the city code. A property owner or developer who files for a demolition permit must mail notice to properties within 150 feet within five business days of applying for a demo permit, and place door hangers five days before the actual demolition occurs. All residential structures are subject to an automatic 35-day delay in issuing permits. An appeal to further extend the delay by 120 days may be filed by neighborhood associations at no cost; however, there are several burdens to be met such as owner contact,

plans to save the structure, proving the structure is "significant" to the community, and fundraising capability.

In addition, new Title 24 notification requirements will also go into effect for residential properties undergoing "major alterations" in response to complaints that a tiny portion of existing structures were being retained to avoid the demolition code.

On another track, the Demolition Subcommittee of the Development Review Advisory Committee is focusing on hazardous materials and residential demolitions. Advocates have claimed that environmental safeguards against the possible release of asbestos, lead, and other hazardous materials during demolitions are not being followed.

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