

SUNNYSIDE

Neighborhood News

May 2018

Neighborhood News

By Hannah Day-Kapell, Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Chair

Our April SNA meeting was a busy one. We're preparing for elections on May 10th (7 p.m. at 3534 SE Main). We have five positions open this year for two-year terms. You can learn more about the elections on our website: <https://sunnysideneighborhood.wordpress.com/board/elections/>

We also welcomed a new board member! Pat Schwiebert from the Sunnyside Community House will be completing the remainder of Courtney McHill's term. A converted Methodist church, the Community House is an important meeting space and resource for houseless people in the neighborhood. At our meeting, the Board voted to support the space by purchasing toilets to reduce plumbing issues and costs for the space. See Pat's article about the upcoming National Night Out event in this issue. We look forward to her contributions to the Sunnyside board!

Finally, we're excited to be along the route for the first Sunday Parkways of 2018! On May 20th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join hundreds of neighbors and folks from across the city to walk, bike, skate, or stroll along the carfree route. The route will take you on a tour of Laurelhurst, Sewallcrest, Colonel Summers and Ivon Parks where you can grab a bite to eat, listen to tunes, and join fun activities. More information is available here: www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/67621

Sunnyside Night Out Fundraiser

By Pat Schwiebert, Sunnyside Community House

Located at the corner of SE 35th and Yamhill Streets, in the former Sunnyside Methodist Episcopal Church, is the Sunnyside Community House. Our mission is to help serve our neighbors living on the street and those marginalized by fixed and/or low incomes.

On May 7th from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. @ Lagunitas Community Room (237 NE Broadway) we are having a fundraiser. There will be food & beverages, live music, and a silent auction. Please come to support a great cause. All proceeds go to support the work of Sunnyside Community House. To learn more about what we do, contact Pat by email or phone pat@tearsoup.com or (503) 706-6583

UPCOMING EVENTS | MAY

3rd – Tech Help, 5:30-7:30 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

5th – Tech Help, noon-2 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

6th – Canava for cards, posters and more, 1-3 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

7th – Sunnyside Night Out, 6-9 p.m. @ Lagunitas Community Room*

8th – Sunnyside Piazza Fundraiser, 5-10 p.m., @ Straight from New York Pizza*

10th – Tech Help, 5:30-7:30 p.m. @ Belmont Lib*

11th – Bike Storytime, 11:15-11:45 a.m. @ Belmont Library*

12th – Tech Help, noon-2 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

17th – Easy Portland Outdoors, 7-8 p.m. @ Belmont Library* and Sunnyside Prepared, 7-8:30 p.m. @ SE Uplift*

20th – Resume Help, 1-3 p.m. @ Belmont Lib*

* See articles for details

MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings at Southeast Uplift unless noted

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 10th & June 14th, 7-9 p.m.

Land Use & Transportation Committee

Tuesday, May 1st & June 5th, 7-8 p.m.

Graffiti Clean-Up

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

Sunnyside Foot Patrol

Every Monday, 7 p.m., Meet at Sunnyside School basketball courts

Open Instrumental

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Sunnyside Community House

Become a Foster Parent?

By Kathryn Carnell, Outreach Coordinator, Boys & Girls Aid

When a child enters foster care, their life is flipped upside down. They are taken from their home, separated from their family, and pulled from their school. Oftentimes, kids in foster care move from foster family to foster family and begin to feel like outcasts. However, a good foster parent can create a positive impact by providing support, stability and growth. With a caring foster parent, children can go from feeling like outcasts to feeling empowered.

We are currently in a foster crisis in Oregon. On any given night, there are about 7,500 youth in foster care. As of right now, the state is short 500 foster homes. This means children may be forced to sleep in hotel rooms or in their caseworkers' office. While this may sound like an abstract and

overwhelming problem, there is a local need right here in Southeast Portland. Our community is in need of supportive foster parents who can give kids stable and safe homes to thrive on their road to finding a forever family.

Now more than ever we need foster families in Southeast Portland who can foster for Boys & Girls Aid. We are looking for families to serve our emergency placement program, which serves young kids ages 4-9 who would otherwise be staying in hotels. We also need families to foster teenagers who need positive influences and role models in their life. Both programs conveniently function out of Southeast and are in need of high-quality foster providers.

Boys and Girls Aid was founded in 1885, and is committed to providing high-quality services to children in foster care. All of our foster programs offer specialized training, 24/7 access to support staff and breaks when you need them. Because of these supports, we find that our foster parents love what they do, and tend to stay for a long time.

If you're interested in becoming a foster parent, volunteering or donating items, please email info@boysandgirlsaid.org or visit <http://www.boysandgirlsaid.org/fostercare> to learn more. Behind every thriving child is an amazing foster parent.

Sunnyside Foot Patrol

By Lee Lancaster

Last summer in Sunnyside we saw a marked increase in aggressive panhandling, camping, litter, and graffiti. In addition, visible signs of drug use and mental illness became common in our neighborhood. Some people reported being harassed or assaulted, and many neighbors reported feeling uncomfortable or unsafe on our streets.

It is not OK if people don't feel safe walking home from the bus at night, that children are in danger from finding used needles, or that neighbors express fear and dismay from petty thefts and a feeling of neighborhood decay.

The Sunnyside Foot Patrol was started in response. Like an organized Neighborhood Watch, the focus is for neighbors to watch out for each other (which is a good thing). However, the focus of a Neighborhood Watch is immediate neighbors, typically living within sight of each other on the same block. There was the feeling that current issues required a larger scale response and that we had to get out of our houses to be on the streets and sidewalks of the whole Sunnyside neighborhood. A group of neighborhood residents agreed to gather weekly and just walk the streets of our neighborhood in order to talk and learn more about what can be done. We sought advice from the City Crime Prevention Program and others. In August

the SNA voted to provide reflective safety vests, whistles and flashlights for our use. We continued meeting and walking throughout the fall and winter of 2017-2018 and plan to continue our walks indefinitely.

The motive is to be visible, walk the streets, and help compile accurate information that can lead to action. This has had a positive impact on specific hotspots that we have identified. Perhaps more importantly, just having a repeated presence on the streets helps deter bad actors and reassure well-meaning residents. We have met members of the Portland Police Neighborhood Response Team and they walked with us. That helped us gain a better understanding of the bigger picture and set priorities for action.

To be clear, as a neighborhood we can not solve the social problems of homelessness, drugs, lack of services and inadequate criminal justice. But we can try to understand the impact of these issues on us. We can come to grips with the realization that the safety and quality of life in our neighborhood is, in fact, largely up to us. We can work to strengthen community policing, but community is an essential part of that. We need "eyes on the streets" and we need to feel a conscious commitment to make our streets safe and comfortable for all.

As the weather gets warmer we may need more people to cover more areas and various times. We want to engage in discussions to review the lessons we have learned and to articulate better how we want to work together.

So far, the approach we have developed includes these guidelines:

- Be safe, walk in a group, and watch out for each other.
- Avoid confrontations and do not start or respond to harassment or attempted intimidation.
- Observe, document, and report issues of crime or quality of life.
- Talk to neighbors, and be seen.

Please consider joining us on any Monday evening at 7 p.m. We gather at Sunnyside School by the basketball court to check in about expectations and safety as well as to plan a route. Then we walk for an hour through the neighborhood. It's a good idea to bring a flashlight, but we have extra flashlights and you will also be given a reflective safety vest. Everyone is very welcome, and if enough people join, we can consider walking more nights. If you would like to become involved or have any questions you can reach us at SunnysideFootPatrol@gmail.com.

Sunnyside Prepared! - Who We Are, And What We Do

By Jan Molinaro, co-chair Sunnyside NET Assistant Team Leader (ATL), Sunnyside Prepared! (a committee of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association)

Who we are: We are an active emergency preparedness committee, supported financially by the SNA board. The two co-chairs, Glenn Devitt and Jan Molinaro, are also Sunnyside Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) Assistant Team Leaders.

What we do: We work actively with Sunnyside neighbors to help them become prepared for all kinds of emergencies and thus, more resilient.

We are trained to do neighborhood outreach through Map Your Neighborhood, working directly with neighbors and giving them specific materials and tools to become more prepared, step-by-step.

And, we do much, much more.

When we meet: Thursday, May 17th, Tuesday, August 14th and Monday November 5th from 7 - 8:30 p.m. @ Southeast Uplift.

What we need from our neighbors: We need each and every one of you to step up and support our work. Come to one of our three meetings in the next several months and learn about all the ways you can help us now, so we are prepared, not scared.

Steps that you can take:

- Visit our website www.sunnysideprepared.com and go through the listed resources.
- Request outreach visits and materials from us.
- Check out the Get Involved section of our website.
- Sign up for our emails.
- Contact us using the contact info listed on our site.

Thoughts to leave you with...aka Guiding Questions:

- What does it look like to be personally prepared?
- What does it look like to be prepared as a neighbor? As a neighborhood?

Michelle McCabe Sunnyside Realtor
1122 SE 37th Ave



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REAL ESTATE

What's Happening At The Belmont Library?

By Cyndi Rosene

Do you want to help kids get excited about reading this summer? Volunteer with the Summer Reading program! As a volunteer, you will help people sign up for the game, award prizes, talk about books, and more. Teens 6th grade and up and adults are invited to apply to join our team of volunteers as Summer Reading assistants. Volunteer shifts run from June 15th to August 31st. For more info see <https://multcolib.org/volunteer/volunteer-summer-reading-team>.

Thursday May 3 5:30-7:30 p.m., Saturday May 5 12-2 p.m., Thursday May 10 5:30-7:30 p.m., Saturday May 12 12-2 p.m., Tech Help

Meet one-on-one with a friendly, knowledgeable Tech Helper who will assist you with mobile devices, websites, downloading, e-readers and more. If you need help with a smartphone, iPad or tablet, please bring it with you, along with usernames and passwords. First-come, First-served.

Sunday May 6, 1-3 p.m., Canva for cards, posters and more

Are you looking for a fun and easy way to design beautiful cards, invitations and flyers? Do you want an alternative to PowerPoint? Learn about Canva, a free online design studio. Please sign up for a Canva account before coming to class.

Friday May 11 11:15-11:45 a.m., Bike Storytime

Join us for a special preschool storytime to celebrate National Bike Month. Ride your bike to the library and get a free bike light. First-come, First-served.

Thursday May 17, 7-8 p.m., Easy Portland Outdoors

Long-time fitness professional and Sunnyside resident Teresa Bergen will address what it takes to get outdoors: basic gear, skill levels necessary for different types of activities, how to find adventure buddies, when you should go

with a professional, and safety issues. She'll guide the group through a simple series of stretches for hiking and other outdoor activities, lead a Portland outdoor trivia game, and leave a little time for questions. Copies of her newly released book *Easy Portland Outdoors* will be available for purchase. First-come, First-served.

Sunday May 20, 1-3 p.m., Resume Help

Meet with an experienced volunteer for one-on-one help. Bring a paper copy of your resume if you have one. First-come, first-served.


Registration required; register online, in the library or by calling 503-988-5123.

For more programs and information please drop in and see us, Belmont Regional Library, 1038 SE Cesar Chavez Blvd, give us a call (503)988-5123, or find us online www.multcolib.org. Multnomah County Library programs are always free of charge.



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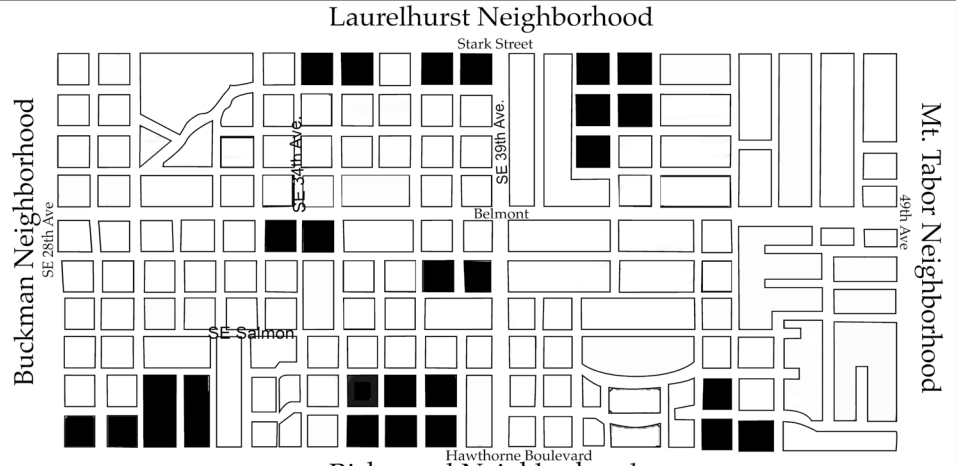
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Any opinions expressed, unless specified, are not necessarily those of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association or its board. Sunnyside residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues, by emailing newsletter@sunnysideneighborhood.com.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

Sunnyside Neighborhood Map

■ Delivery help needed here



Map showing Sunnyside Neighborhood streets and delivery areas. Streets include Stark Street, SE 39th Ave, Belmont, SE Salmon, Hawthorne Boulevard, and 49th Ave. Surrounding neighborhoods are Laurelhurst, Buckman, Richmond, and Mt. Tabor.

SNA Meetings @ SEUL