

Website: www.taborfriends.org Email: taborfriends@gmail.com

The Tabor Times Newsletter

February 2014

Mark Your Calendar for March 20

City Commissioner to Speak at Winter Program– Gayle Marechal

Commissioner Amanda Fritz, the seventh woman to serve on the Portland City Council in 160 years, is the featured speaker at the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Annual Meeting and Winter Program on March 20, 2014. In charge of Building and Development Services and Portland Parks & Recreation, Commissioner Fritz will speak on “The Future of Mt. Tabor Park.”

A retired registered nurse and the mother of three graduates of Portland Public Schools, Commissioner Fritz is a champion of social equity issues. Under her leadership the equity office, housing the Commission on Disability, was established, the ADA transition plan was passed through city council, and the Model Employer Policy for the city was established. To further social equity, she led Portland in establishing minimum standards for employers to provide sick leave and to ensure that all persons working in the city have the right to earn and use paid sick time. Previously, Commissioner Fritz was responsible for the City of Portland’s Office of Neighborhood Involvement, and she continues to support public participation through political transparency and community outreach.

Commissioner Fritz’s presentation follows the FMTP Annual Meeting at SE 55th and SE Hawthorne in the Western Seminary chapel. Doors open to the public at 6:30 p.m. with the opportunity to meet board members and learn more about the Friends, as well as how to get involved in volunteer activities such as the FMTP Foot Patrol, the FMTP Visitor Center and Weed Warriors. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and includes the election of new board members and presentation of the Friend of the Year Award. Refreshments will be served at this free event.

From the Vice Chair – Beau Russell

On behalf of the FMTP Board, I would like to express our appreciation for the continued support of our members. A special thanks for the giving of members whose donations were above basic membership dues. Because of member generosity, the board is able to consider funding a number of park improvement projects. We thank our members for trusting us to manage and spend these funds wisely.

A few notable highlights from 2013:

- The Award winning Friends of Mt. Tabor Park Weed Warriors, working in collaboration with PP&R and BES to remove invasive plant species and restore natural habitat, logged an impressive 2,001 volunteer hours.
- Since opening in October 2011, the visitor center continues to exceed all expectations by having over 11,000 visitors during 2013. Volunteers logged a formidable 1,051 hours.
- The foot patrol continued to keep the park a safe and clean place while racking up an impressive 1,036 volunteer hours.
- The second running of the Tar 'n' Trails Fun Run fund raiser was hugely successful, more than doubling attendance from 2012 and generating over \$2000 for FMTP.
- The first annual Songbird Cafe benefit for FMTP, celebrating the first anniversary of the café, which resulted in a contribution of over \$2000.
- With the completion of the Trees of Mt. Tabor Park Trail project, 57 numbered trail marker posts identifying various trees were installed. Tree Guide Brochures, available in the visitor center, provide corresponding tree information. Volunteers from the foot patrol, Weed Warriors, visitor center and other FMTP members working with PP&R made this possible.
- FMTP enhanced the dog park by funding construction of a raised wooden walkway to traverse a wet muddy area.

A final note: As you are aware, Portland Parks & Recreation has experienced yet another year of budget cuts. Consequently, FMTP volunteers are serving an increasingly critical role in supporting the park's well-being. We are always looking for new members, so if you are interested in joining us please contact one of our coordinators: Mary Kinnick (Weed Warriors), Dave Hillman (visitor center), or Beau Russell (foot patrol) at 503-512-0816 or taborfriends@gmail.com.

Brochures—We Got 'Em – Gavin Macpherson

At first look, what may appear to be a hoarder's collection of brochures, maps, pamphlets, and posters available at the Mt. Tabor Visitor Center have in fact been meticulously organized by Dave Hillman. Over 60 pieces contain, well, a little of everything. The majority are maps of Portland, each highlighting a different feature of the metro area, and informational, historical and sightseeing brochures. Six pertain specifically to Mt. Tabor Park, including:

- Map of Mt. Tabor Park
- Map and information on native plants and shrubs
- Tree-walk map
- Mt. Tabor Park timeline
- Reservoir brochure
- Colorful park overview brochure

You'll find just the brochure you're looking for at the visitor center located next to the parking lot near the amphitheater. Polite, patient, and good-natured volunteers staff the visitor center most weekends and some weekday mornings.

Mt. Tabor Park—It's for the Birds - Tom McNamara

Portland Audubon sponsored Birdsong Walks will again take place in Mt. Tabor Park in Spring 2014, beginning the first Wednesday in April and continuing each Wednesday through May. The walks begin at 7:00 a.m. and all are welcome. Groups meet at the locked gate on Mt Tabor Drive 150 yards west of the cinder cone on the north side of the park. The walks are led by long-time birders and Mt. Tabor neighborhood residents Gerard Lillie and Tom McNamara.

The focus of the walks is bird song, and walks are timed to coincide with a vital period in nature's cycle. Every year during spring many thousands of songbirds migrate through Mt Tabor Park from their wintering grounds in the tropics. Relatively few will join year-round resident birds in the park as breeders; most will continue their migration to their breeding grounds farther north or in higher elevations. As many readers know, on spring mornings the park is often alive with the beautiful sounds of birds singing. The bird song walk leaders will identify the various bird species and their songs and offer tips on how walk participants can learn to connect individual species with the particular songs they sing.

Both migrants passing through and resident birds have benefited greatly from efforts in the last several years to improve habitat in Mt. Tabor Park. The FMTP Weed Warriors, the City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services, and Portland Parks & Recreation's City Nature have worked to rid the park of invasive vegetation and restore essential habitat through plantings of native species. Insects such as butterflies and moths are adapted to use these native species and provide a critical food supply for birds when their larvae emerge; over time greater species diversity is restored, the watershed is enhanced, and ecosystem stability is promoted. Next time you are in the park look for the connections: pay attention to animals of every kind, note the new plants and all the other good work that has been done, and consider that, indeed, it's for the birds!

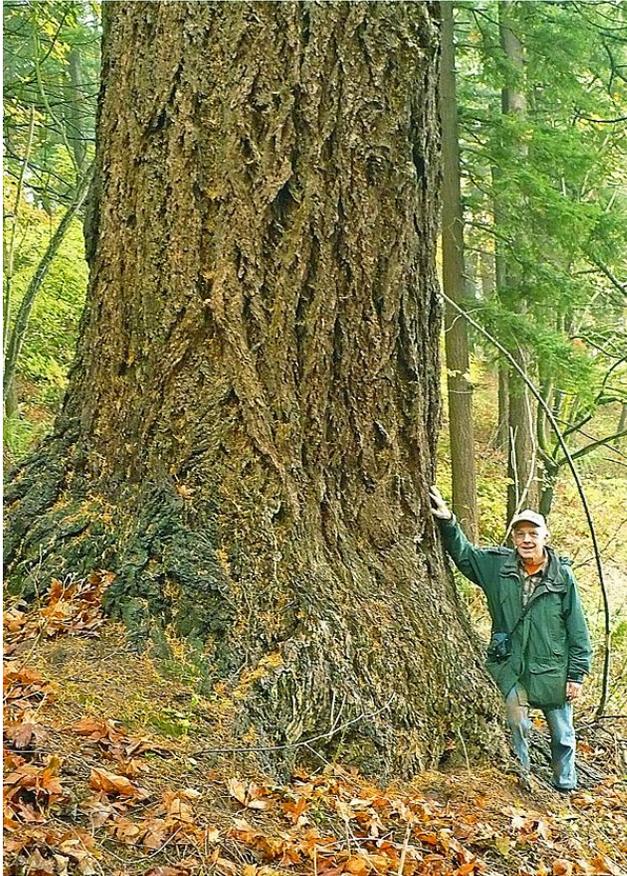
Party in the Park – Gavin Macpherson

If you're looking to get married in the park, or just want to reserve a section for a luau, birthday or miscellaneous holiday, then you're in luck. It's possible to reserve specific areas of the park for special occasions. Unfortunately your luck might end here because Mt. Tabor is an extremely popular place to get married or host a party, and spots for the summer book up quickly.

Still game? Then swing by the Mt. Tabor Park Visitor Center to pick up a brochure outlining how to book any place within the Portland Parks & Recreation system. Reservations for the year open on the first business day of the year. The best way to ensure you get the time slot you desire is to visit the PP&R office downtown as soon as you can or call [503-823-2525](tel:503-823-2525) to make a reservation. The places available for reservations in Mt Tabor Park include the top of the park, the amphitheater, picnic shelter A, and picnic area B. Both picnic areas have the added amenity of running water, while the amphitheater and shelter A have electricity. If you still have questions, come by the visitor center and ask the volunteer on duty.

Mt. Tabor Fir May Be Portland's Big One – Darvel Lloyd

At least six years ago, fellow Weed Warrior Tony Cole pointed out a large Douglas fir on the southwest slope of Mt. Tabor, not far below the summit. Last November, another big tree



Park's—and possibly Portland's—largest Douglas fir in girth. Photo by Michael Ewer

I've considered this stately and healthy Douglas fir as a candidate for the city's Heritage Tree register. But the fir is already well protected and not the city's tallest or largest in volume. That title is held by the Balch Creek Fir, a Heritage Tree in McClay Park at 242 feet tall and 18.6 feet in circumference. The only other Heritage Trees in Mt. Tabor Park are the giant sequoia east of Reservoir 6, the park's largest tree at 200 feet tall and 8 feet in diameter, and the old 130-foot-tall big-leaf linden off the SE corner of Reservoir 6. Check out these landmark trees and more at

<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/40280>.

On the ground with a tape and clinometer, together with Google Earth software, Ewers has found that the tallest Douglas firs in Mt. Tabor Park reach at least 184 feet and are located in the west-side ravine, which offers some protection from prevailing winds. You can find the exact location of the Mt. Tabor Fir and other tall firs in Portland at Ewers' blog site: <http://rephaim23.wordpress.com/2013/11/08/douglas-fir-trees-of-mt-tabor-park-portland/>

enthusiast from SE Portland, Micah Ewers, and I measured its circumference at 19.0 ft. (6.0 feet in diameter) and its height at about 165 feet. If our figures are correct, the Mt. Tabor Fir would rank as the park's—and quite possibly Portland's—largest Douglas fir in girth. As with many of the tall firs in the park, the tree's top was broken by an unusually severe winter storm, most likely in 1989. We'll need an increment borer to determine its exact age, but we are fairly certain the stately fir is between 170 and 200 years old.

To get up close and personal with the Mt. Tabor Fir, bushwhack a short, steep slope from the popular trail leading to Tabor's summit above Reservoir #1. But be careful not to step on the park's youngest and smallest Douglas fir, a rare naturally regenerated seedling less than 20 feet downslope from the big one.



Don't step on the little guy. Photo by Darvel Lloyd

Meet Your Foot Patrol

When the Park is Your Front Yard – John McLaren

Mt. Tabor Park is “like a second home” to Martrese White, just one of the reasons she is so active on behalf of the park and the FMTP. A serious runner, she finds that “chugging up the slopes of the park is a wonderful way to stay in shape.” Away from the park she is a practicing horsewoman.

“What I love most about the park is its altitude and it being so close to my home that I can take advantage of it,” she says. With the park nearby, Martrese has no need to belong to a gym. She wants to get the word out about the park and its attractions and finds the Facebook page she manages for the Friends a “super tool” to connect with like-minded people.

“It's very easy to get the message out about events or simply by posting a photo of a gorgeous sunrise or fog-covered hill--so many people enjoy hearing about the goings-on, and many of the fans don't even live in Portland,” she says.

Following are Martrese White's edited emailed answers to questions posed by the Tabor Times Newsletter:

How are you connected to the foot patrol?

I'll do spur-of-the-moment foot patrol walks with my dog (a whippet named Maggie—she always tugs in the direction of the park when we go for walks). I attend foot patrol meetings if my schedule allows.

Are you active in any of the other FMTP spheres?

I'm a graphic designer, so I volunteer my time to do brochures and signs for the FMTP. I recently updated the "Mt. Tabor Park Timeline" brochure and designed a full-color glossy park brochure. I also donated design and printing of the Mt. Tabor Park post cards that are sold in the visitor center. I do calendar-of-events signs every spring and hang them in area businesses so locals know what's going on in the park each summer. And I really enjoy volunteering at the free summer concerts.

How long have you lived in the Mt. Tabor area?

My husband and I moved from NYC to South Tabor in February 2008.

You have also been a “packaging production artist,” according to your curriculum vitae--what is that?

I worked for 17 years in the corporate headquarters for Estee Lauder, Inc.—working in their public relations department was my first job out of college. They have a wonderful tuition reimbursement program, so they paid for my design school in New York City. My first design job at Estee Lauder was laying out all types of printed packaging materials.

How long have you been running marathons?

I'm a bit late to the running party. I didn't start running until my early 30's, and I ran my first of 13 marathons—so far—in Philadelphia in 2003. I ran three this year: Bermuda in January, Kona in June and New York City in November.

What about races in or through Mt. Tabor Park?

I'm a huge fan of the Mt. Tabor Doggie Challenge, organized by Terrapin Events and usually held mid-August. Any race that's on Mt. Tabor AND lets you bring your dog is A-OK in my book!

Tell us a bit about your interest in horsemanship and what sort of work you do for Toklat Originals, a Lake Oswego company specializing in items for horses and their owners.

I've never owned a horse of my own, but "a pony" was always at the top of my Christmas list. After relocating to South Tabor, I was lucky to land a job (in exactly the month the economy tanked: September 2008) at Toklat Originals. At work I wear many hats. I organize photo shoots, retouch photos, help choose the colors and designs of the riding clothes, approve the fabrics, go to a trade show twice a year to present our new products to tack shops, design t-shirts and graphics. Despite not having a horse of my own, I take riding lessons once a week. I ride school horses and can jump fences pretty well.

Anything else you would like to add?

I didn't specifically pick the neighborhood where I now live because of its proximity to Mt. Tabor—that was serendipitous. But I am constantly grateful that “my” front yard is Mt. Tabor Park. I'm looking at it from my kitchen table as I type this, and that magical place never fails to make me happy.

FMTF Foot Patrol

Members Give Generously of Their Time – Beau Russell

FMTF Foot Patrol volunteers have ended another outstanding year working to keep the park clean and safe. I want to thank members who shared tasks to make the foot patrol a success. Among them, Mary and Bob McWilliams and Pat Morgan provided meeting space in their homes. Ellen Simmons coordinated new member orientation and training while maintaining the hut. Laurie Reese managed the scheduling calendar, and Dave Hillman continued his work as the patrol's organizational contact person. And once again, Dave coordinated our efforts for Summer Concerts in the Park. John McLaren continues to write the bi-annual articles for the FMTF newsletter (“Meet Your Foot Patrol”). And finally, thanks to all our members who showed up for patrols, assisted at events and supported the effort to keep Mt. Tabor Park a jewel in Portland's park system.

FMTF Foot Patrol 2013 facts and highlights Jan. – Dec.

- 55 members completed 180 patrols, logging 533 hours
- Total hours volunteered for all member efforts: 1,036
- Total hours for meetings and administration: 248
- Members volunteered 133 hours to support Summer Concerts in the park
- Members volunteered 122 hours to the Trees of Mt. Tabor Park Project
- **Total volunteer hours: 1,036**

Looking Ahead

The foot patrol is still looking for a coordinator. In the interim, as the FMTF Board contact for the foot patrol, I will continue performing this function. We will continue working with the Office of Neighborhood Involvement and Portland Police Bureau to reduce car prowl incidents and vandalism in the park. We'd like to think our efforts over the past year have contributed to the decline in these incidents.

Challenges for 2014

The cuts to PP&R's 2014 budget and the elimination of on-site Water Bureau Security pose some real challenges. As we are able, the foot patrol will be ready to respond to the reduction in park services and security by continuing to work in partnership with Portland Parks to help keep Mt. Tabor Park a pristine and safe destination.

The foot patrol is always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Beau Russell at 503-512-0816 or taborfriends@gmail.com.

Improvements to Park Off-Leash Area – Mary Kinnick



Dogs and their humans will notice several significant improvements to the dog park thanks to efforts of Portland Parks & Recreation staff and funding by the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. A new walkway has been constructed near the gate at the southeast end of the park where footing is often muddy and slippery. And berms have been laid across the steep slope leading down from the staircase in an effort to divert the rain runoff. Contributions for dog park improvements are always welcome. Go to www.taborfriends.org and click on "How to Donate" and/or "How to Join." FMTP will thank you and so will your dog(s)!

Dog Park Steward Needed

Mt. Tabor Park's off-leash area is in need of a new steward. Chad Kula, the former steward, is unable to continue in this position. For more information on the dog park steward's duties or to volunteer, please contact Nancy Norby at norbynancy@yahoo.com.

Bio-Diversity Study

PCC Students Apply Science to Mt. Tabor – Alexie McNerthney

Do native plants support more insects than invasive plants? Environmental science students at Portland Community College are hoping to answer this question by comparing insect abundance and diversity on several sites around Mt. Tabor. It's an important question because forest insects provide food for birds, amphibians, and small mammals on the mountain. Different species of insects have different life cycles and so are abundant at different times throughout the year. Having many species in a forest means food is available throughout the year as well.

So far, it looks like the answer to this question is “Yes.” This fall, PCC students collected crawling insects by gathering leaf litter from the forest floor, and they collected flying insects by leaving “sticky traps” (like fly paper) out in their plots over several days. More species were found in native vegetation than in areas covered by English ivy or grass. Environmental science instructor Alexie McNerthney plans to have future students repeat this experiment in order to gather more data.

This student work is part of PCC science instructors' broader goal of connecting students from PCC's SE Center on 82nd and Division with the geology, ecology, and biology of Mt. Tabor. Students also engage in volunteer work. After collecting insect data, McNerthney's students spent a morning weeding and mulching newly planted sword ferns with Susan Hawes. Susan shared the importance of native plant communities and why parks with natural forest habitat need to be managed just as much as landscaped parks do. Several students returned on Saturday mornings for more weed warrior work.

Fostering this kind of stewardship, and conducting local scientific investigations, provides valuable experience for students. It's also more interesting than traditional laboratory textbook science experiments where everyone already knows what the outcome will be. On Mt. Tabor, students are asking real questions. Stay tuned for their answers.



PCC Environmental Science students weeding around planted sword ferns on the North side of Mt. Tabor.

Project Update

Invasive Plant Control and Revegetation – Naomi Tsurumi

The Mt. Tabor Park Revegetation project began in fall 2010. It is part of Portland's Tabor to the River Program to reduce basement backups, manage storm water naturally, and restore watershed health in close partnership with the community. Establishing native in place of invasive plants in Mt. Tabor Park enhances watershed health by improving storm water management and habitat, just as green streets and street trees do in neighborhoods. Detailed information about the project can be found at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/mttabor. Do take a look!

To date, invasive plants have been controlled on over 66 acres of natural area by Bureau of Environmental Services Watershed Revegetation Program staff and volunteers with both FMTP Weed Warriors and Portland Parks & Recreation. Targeted invasive plants include trees (e.g., English hawthorn, English holly, and sweet cherry), shrubs (e.g., Himalayan blackberry), woody vines (English ivy), and herbaceous plants (e.g., wall hawkweed, lesser celandine, and garlic mustard).

Since January 2013, BES has planted over 17,000 native trees and shrubs, continued to treat invasive plants, and planted native grass and wildflower seed to prevent erosion. In February 2014, BES will plant another 9,000 native trees and shrubs. BES will continue invasive plant removal and native planting through June 2017, at which point PP&R will be responsible for long-term maintenance. The Weed Warriors will play a vital role in keeping invasive plants at bay and ensuring that a healthy native forest community thrives at Mt. Tabor Park.

Volunteers continue to be an essential part of this project. FMTP Weed Warriors volunteered 2001 hours between January and December 2013, removing invasives and planting native plants. Volunteers with the Audubon Society of Portland conducted the fifth year of ongoing breeding bird surveys in May and June 2013, and the fourth year of winter bird surveys in December 2013, January and February 2014.

For more information on the Mt. Tabor Park Invasive Plant Control and Revegetation Project, including a photo log, self-guided tour brochure and breeding bird survey results, visit the project website at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/mttabor. Or contact Naomi Tsurumi, Environmental Services, at (503) 823-4886 or mttaborreveg@portlandoregon.gov.

Warriors Looking for Crew Leaders – Mary Kinnick

The FMTP Weed Warriors are looking to add crew leaders in 2014. Two training sessions for new and continuing crew leaders will be offered—Wednesday, March 19 and Saturday March 22, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at a location in the park.

The crew leaders work with small groups of volunteers helping them restore native habitat, work safely and efficiently, and learn more about the invasive and native vegetation in the park and the larger restoration effort underway. The more crew leaders recruited, the more acreage we can help restore. And Warriors making a visible difference to the park's terrain is more than rewarding—it's fun.

Crew leaders are expected to be available for a minimum of two of the last Saturdays of the month (8:30 a.m. to 12:30 pm.) beginning in March and ending in October. For more information about the program and the role of crew leader, to sign up, and to find out the exact training location, contact Mary Kinnick at m.kinnick@comcast.net or 503-287-5959. Also check out www.taborfriends.org re: the work of the Weed Warriors and our Facebook page.

Weed Warriors at Work

Mulching Around in Mt. Tabor Park – Mary Kinnick

FMTTP Weed Warrior volunteers made great headway in 2013 clearing invasive plants from an area on the northeast side of the park below Harvey Scott Circle and then mulching, mulching, mulching to protect previous plantings and prepare ground for more. As a result, on Jan. 25, 2014, a the third special planting event took place with the first occurring in October 2012 and the second in January 2013. This area of the park is truly being transformed by our volunteers!



Students from the Reed College SEEDs join crew leaders Darvel Lloyd and Chris Olinger for a volunteer event.

Join us for service projects, 9 a.m. to 12 noon the last Saturday of each month March through October. Go to www.taborfriends.org and click on Weed Warriors for more information about the organization and how to volunteer.

Additional 2013 Highlights

- Receipt by Alexa Todd, Weed Warrior volunteer service coordinator, of the Intertwine Alliance's 2013 Force of Nature Award for Outstanding Young Professional. Alexa has served as our coordinator extraordinaire over these past three years. Her efforts have resulted in a Weed Warrior Facebook page, the use of a geographic information system to help plan and assess our efforts, attention to supporting our wonderful volunteers and crew leaders, and much more.
- Continued funding by FMTP of the volunteer service coordinator position and for needed supplies and tools.
- In addition to the March through October monthly work parties, special Weed Warrior volunteer events took place at other times with the support of both the crew leaders and Portland Parks & Recreation City Nature East Steward Susan Hawes. Organizations participating in regular last-Saturday or special events included Warner Pacific College, Lewis and Clark College, Reed College, Portland Community College-Southeast Campus, Key Clubs at several local high schools, Chirpify, ADP, Wells Fargo, Levi Strauss, and Timbers Stand Together. Hands on Portland and SOLVE each continue to play a significant role in Weed Warrior outreach and volunteer recruitment.
- The availability to volunteers of delicious KIND Healthy Snacks thanks to donations by the company and free pizza donated by Flying Pie Pizza at an event to thank our crew leaders and key partners.
- A research project, along with volunteer service, by Alexie McNerthney's environmental biology students at PCC-Southeast Campus (see her article in this newsletter).



Alexa Todd holds her Intertwine Alliance award while Weed Warriors Mary Kinnick (far left), and Darvel Lloyd (far right), and Susan Hawes (PP&R-City Nature) celebrate her success.

The Weed Warriors are working closely with both PP&R and the Bureau of Environmental Services (see article in newsletter) to identify the level of volunteer service capacity needed to sustain the restoration work already accomplished and ongoing until June 2017 as part of the Tabor to the River project. Grant opportunities are being explored that would enable, as needed, the expansion of our current capacity.

Treasurer's Report

Strong Year Benefits Park and Community – Jason Doerflein

In 2013, the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park had another strong financial year. As membership contributions remained solid, we saw larger contributions coming from the annual Tar 'n' Trail 5k/10k event. In addition, the first benefit sponsored by our neighbor, the Songbird Café, as well as donations and purchases made at the park's visitor center, also boosted FMTP funds.

FMTP made two donations this year to neighborhood organizations. The first went to SE Uplift's mural project and the second to the Friends of Gateway Green's cycling path. FMTP helped support the printing of brochures available in the visitor center including the Native Plant Guide. We also worked with Portland Parks & Recreation to install a bike rack near the community garden space and finished off the pedestrian path in the dog park. FMTP funded the numbered posts that identify the different types of trees throughout the park. And as in previous years, FMTP sponsored the Movies in the Park series, and a volunteer coordinator who manages the Weed Warriors, our volunteers who are working to remove invasive plant species from the park. FMTP has also approved money to complete the handrail on the grand staircase all the way up to Harvey Scott Circle on the park's east side.

Third Annual Tar 'n' Trail Run

Benefit Event Running Strong – Anne Crispino-Taylor

The third annual Mt. Tabor Tar 'n' Trail to benefit the Friends of Mt. Tabor Park will be held on Sunday, Sept. 21, 2014. We offer a 5K walk/run and a 10K run. The cost for the 5K is \$15, and for the 10K \$25. Kids under 12 can participate in the 5K for only \$5. You can register both online and with a mail-in form, and can view details of the race at www.runannie.net.

A little history

I'm an avid trail runner and after moving to Portland from Ashland in 2011, quickly found Mt. Tabor Park. I enjoyed having such a great place to run trails in the middle of the city—and only a block from my house. After reading about financial cuts in the Portland Parks system, I heard my calling as I always wanted to create a benefit event. I contacted the FMTP Board and gained their support for my idea—in 2012, we held the inaugural race. With 80 participants, we raised just over \$800. Last year's event brought over 130 participants and we raised over \$2,000. We hope this year's event will be even more successful.

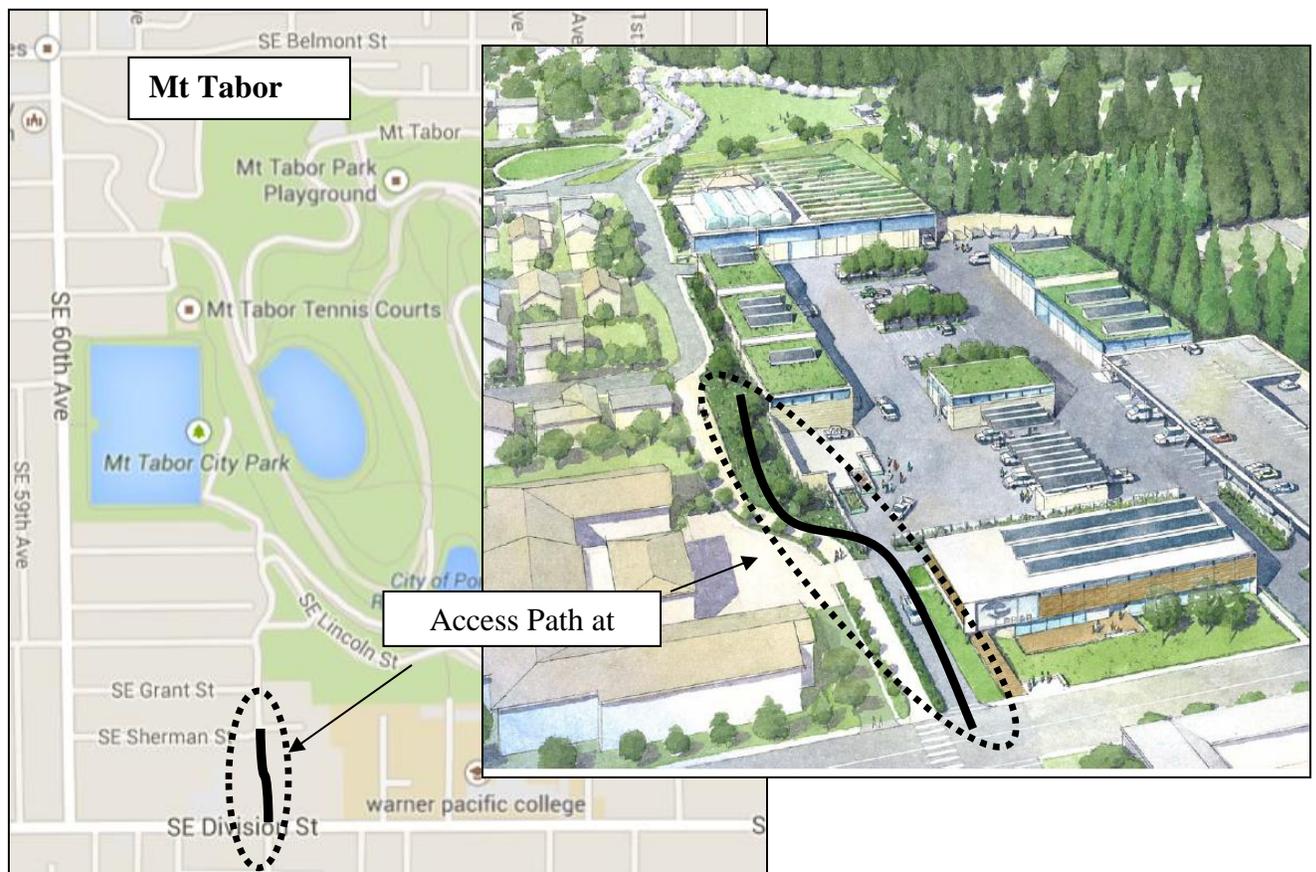
Local businesses have also shown their support by donating over \$5,000 in prizes. Last year's donors included: Stark Street Station, Pizza Roma, Bipartisan Cafe, Fit Right, Foot Traffic, New Seasons, Next Adventure, Trail Butter, and Athleta. Timing for the race was performed by NSPIRE and artwork for our beautiful poster was created and donated by Taylor Cort Design.

Please "like" us on Facebook and check out our website. If you have questions I can be contacted at MTPTnT10k@yahoo.com

Access Path at 64th Regains Momentum – Allen Vogt

Although the Mt. Tabor, North Tabor, and Montavilla neighborhoods have multiple safe and accessible entrances to Mt. Tabor Park on the west, north, and east, there is no good pedestrian or bike access to the park from the south. A group of neighborhood residents with representatives from the South Tabor and Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Associations and Friends of Mt. Tabor Park have formed the Mt. Tabor Park Access at 64th Committee to reinvigorate previously developed plans to improve pedestrian and bicycle access from South Tabor to the park. The Portland Bureau of Transportation has budgeted money for lights and a crosswalk at SE 64th and Powell in 2015. This crosswalk is integral to the park access plan. PBOT had wanted to create two crosswalks on Division but decided that only one would be built contingent on a bike and pedestrian path being added to the park at SE 64th.

The original 1911 plan for the park included a major entrance at 64th, and neighborhood residents have been calling for improved access for years. In 2008, with significant community involvement, Portland Parks & Recreation created a detailed plan to build an access path from SE Division Street to Mt. Tabor Park at 64th Avenue. Although the completed plan was approved by the City of Portland in 2009 and included in last year's Capital Improvement Plan, financial constraints caused the project to be dropped from the current year's budget. With the planning phases for next year's PP&R budget currently underway, now is the opportunity to voice public opinion and get this project funded.



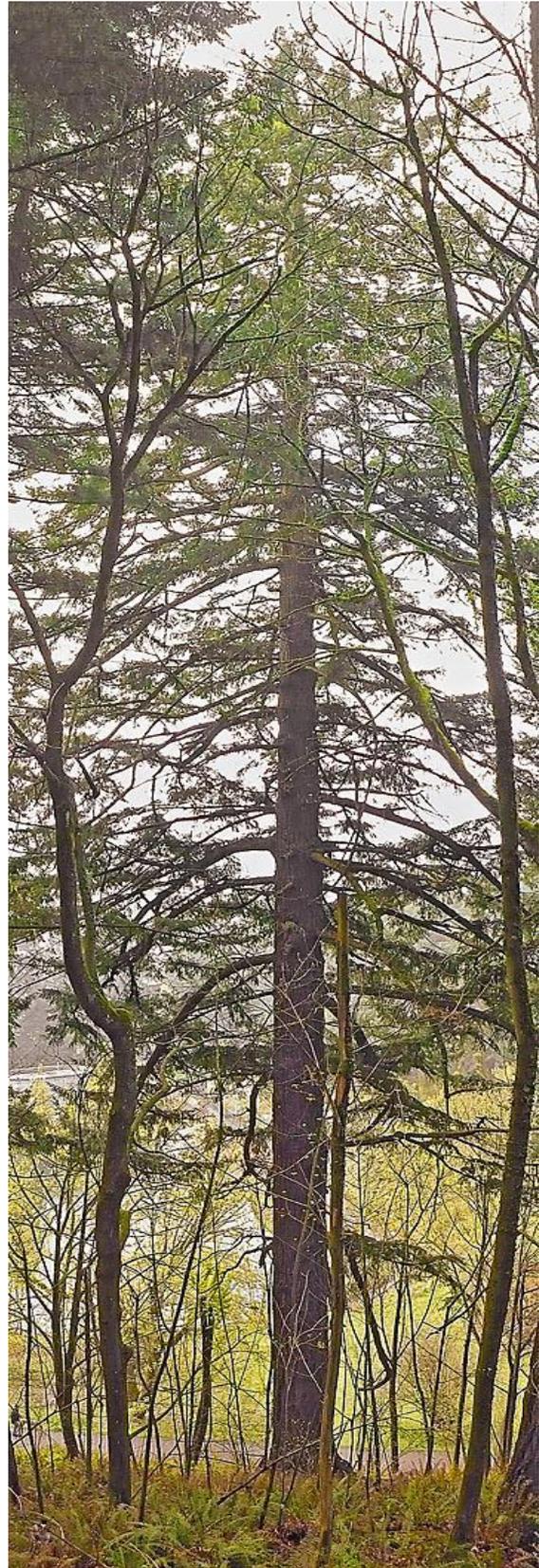
For further information please contact one of the following individuals:

- Allen Vogt, committee chair, at allen.vogt@gmail.com
- Mary Kinnick, Friends of Mount Tabor Park, at mary.kinnick@gmail.com
- Sandy Hay Magdaleno, South Tabor Neighborhood Association, at sandra@cascadiawm.com.

Mt. Tabor Park Visitor Center

Short Takes – Dave Hillman

- See our latest treasure, a 24" x 36" lithograph by Kuchel & Dressel depicting Portland in 1858, donated to FMTP by Joanna Stuart. Thank you Joanna!
- Show FMTP's colors! Purchase T-shirts, sweatshirts and/or mock turtlenecks with the FMTP logo. We have a great selection of colors and sizes in the visitor center and at Mt. Tabor Realty Office.
- More than 6,000 people came into the visitor center during 2013. Since opening in November 2011, our grand total exceeds 12,000 visitors.
- We need volunteers! We provide orientation/training, and the number of hours you contribute is totally up to you. What better way to meet people from all over Portland, the United States and the world!
- Have you seen our maps on the bulletin board hanging outside the visitor center? Visitors from around the globe insert a pin to show where they live. The number of pins is impressive!



Darvel Lloyd and Michael Ewers calculate the majestic Mt. Tabor Fir's age as between 170 and 200 years old. See p. 4 for article. *Photo by Darvel Lloyd*

Membership Report – Patty Turner

This is the first membership report since the board changed the membership term to Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. As of Jan. 4, 2014, records reflect that membership is at 47. We encourage anyone who uses the park to support it by becoming a member of Friends of Mt. Tabor Park. We welcome volunteers and want to know about your special skills. Annual dues are \$15.00 per family. Please visit our website at www.taborfriends.org for a membership application.

Membership renewals are now mailed out at the end of November.

Donors and Tree Designations

We gratefully acknowledge the following members who have made donations to Friends of Mt. Tabor Park as of January 1, 2014. These much-needed donations greatly help to finance the projects FMTP undertakes to maintain and improve the park's many amenities, all to the benefit of the thousands of people who visit annually.

Linden \$25–\$49.99

Sarah Baker
Tony Cole
Kathleen Cornett
Stephen Grove
Nora Hanna

Nancy Lapaglia
Jennifer and Justin Leonard
Lori Makinen and Jeffrey
Carlson
Ralph Myers

Dennis Puetz
Barbara Ryan-Baxter
Douglas Souvignier
Rouke VanderVeen
Fred VanKrieken

Red Leaf Maple \$50–\$99.99

Dennis and Phyllis Corrigan
Abigail Fowle and Brian
Maxwell
Hawthorne Vision Center

Terry and Barbara Lawson
Mt. Tabor Realty
Michael and Alice Powell

Ellen Rubinstein and Joshua
Baudhuin
Robyn Steely and A. Varner
Seaman

Red Alder \$100–\$249.99

Richard Anderson
Evona Brim
Gloria Carmody
Joan Childs and Jerry Zaret
Frank Gorshe

Guin and Dave Hillman
Horse Brass Pub
Mary Kinnick and MaryBeth
VanCleave
Bruce and Cathy Kuehnl

Peggy McNichol and Sue Sell
Paulette Meyer
Mt. Tabor Veterinary Care
Bradford Rence
Bing Wong

Madrone \$250 - \$499.99

Sequoia \$500 +

2014 FMTP Calendar of Events

January 2014

Monday, January 13: **FMTP BOARD** meets from 6:30–8:30 p.m. at a member's home*

Saturday, January 25: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

February 2014

Tuesday, February 25: **FMTP FOOT PATROL**, 7 p.m.**

Wednesday, February 26: **FMTP BOARD** meets, 6:30-8:30 p.m.*

March 2014

Wednesday, March 19: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR crew leader training**, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Thursday, March 20: **FMTP ANNUAL MEETING and WINTER PROGRAM** at 7 p.m., Western Seminary Chapel (SE 55th and SE Hawthorne) with speaker Amanda Fritz – “Future of Mt Tabor Park,” presentation of Friend of the Year Award, and more. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and refreshments provided. The event is free.

Saturday, March 22: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR crew leader training**, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Saturday, March 29: **FMTP WEED WARRIORS Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

April 2014

Tuesday, April 22: **FMTP FOOT PATROL**, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 26: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

May 2014

Monday, May 5: **FMTP BOARD** meets, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 31: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

June 2014

Tuesday, June 24: **FMTP FOOT PATROL**, 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 28: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

July 2014

Tuesdays, July 8, 15, 22, 29: **MT. TABOR PARK CONCERTS; FMTP PIE TABLE; FOOT PATROL** provides parking and safety detail (~5–9 p.m.)

Monday, July 14: **FMTP BOARD** meets, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 26: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

August 2014

TBN: **MOVIE IN THE PARK** (at Warner Pacific College)—at dusk; free

Tuesday, August 5: **FMTP ANNUAL PICNIC**, 5 p.m., Picnic Area A

Tuesday, August 26: **FMTP FOOT PATROL**, 7 p.m.

Saturday, August 30: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

September 2014

Monday, September 15: **FMTP BOARD** meets, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 21: **2ND ANNUAL TAR 'N TRAIL BENEFIT–5k Walk & 5k/10k Run**; for information contact taborfriends@gmail.com, call 503-512-0816 and/or check www.taborfriends.org and www.runannie.net this spring

Saturday, September 27: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

October 2014

Saturday, October 25: **FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Project**, 9 a.m.–12 noon

Tuesday, October 28: **FMTP FOOT PATROL**, 7 p.m.

November 2014

Monday, November 3: **FMTP BOARD** meets, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

***FMTP BOARD MEETINGS** If you are interested in attending a board meeting, call FMTP at 503-512-0816 to learn the location of the next meeting.

****FMTP FOOT PATROL MEETINGS** For information on the location, call FMTP at 503-512-0816.

*****FMTP WEED WARRIOR Service Projects Last Saturday of the Month, March–Oct.** Contact FMTP at 503-512-0816 or taborfriends@gmail.com. Meet in the main park parking lot at 9 a.m. Bring gloves and handheld clippers if available. Wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and ankle supporting shoes. Projects focus on removing invasive vegetation—English ivy, clematis, etc. **If you're interested in becoming a crew leader**, contact Mary Kinnick at m.kinnick@comcast.net or 503-287-6959.

2014 FMTP Board Members, Committee Chairs and Other Support

Board Members

Beau Russell	Co-Chair; Trails Committee Chair; Foot Patrol Coordinator
Mary Kinnick	Co-Chair, Weed Warriors Program Coordinator
Frank Gorshe	Webmaster; Trails Committee
Jason Doerflein	Treasurer
Gayle Marechal	Secretary
Patty Turner	Membership
Anne Crispino-Taylor	
Bing Wong	
Suzanne McCarthy	<i>Interim</i>

Also Supporting FMTP

Dave Hillman	Visitor Center Volunteer Coordinator
Nancy Norby	Off-Leash Dog Park Steward <i>Interim</i>
	Trails Committee; Former Chair
Bertha Guptill	Trails Committee; Former Chair
Sharie Andrews	Advisory; Former Chair
Isabelle Zifcak	Provides venue for FMTP products at Mt. Tabor Realty (SE 69 th Avenue and SE Belmont)
Carol Baumann	FMTP Products
Alexa Todd	Weed Warrior Volunteer Service Coordinator
Sue Sell	Newsletter Editor

You can reach the current FMTP chairperson by calling 503-512-0816, or sending an email to taborfriends@gmail.com. Visit our website at www.taborfriends.org. If you are interested in attending a board meeting, call FMTP at 503-512-0816 for details.