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INSIDE:

Hit and run driver charged with injuring bicyclist on Barbur Blvd, then fleeing the scene
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Volume No. 21, Issue No. 11

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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

September 2013

Volunteers support Multnomah's Spring Garden Park and its natural play area

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

Over 120 residents, children, and dogs attended last month's National Night Out held at Spring Garden Park (3332 SW Spring Garden St).

In fact, there were so many people they ran out of pie and ice cream! To the east, a majestic Mt. Hood was bathed in alpenglow; so close, you could almost touch it.

Acquired by Portland Parks and Recreation in 1999, Spring Garden Park claims four and a half acres and is unlike any other park in town.

There are no slides, swings, monkey bars, or even a restroom. It is considered a natural play area encouraging children to use their imagination in play.

Instead, there are logs, stripped of their bark for balancing on; stumps for standing and playing king of the hill; large boulders to climb on; and sand, lots of sand.

In fact, as several community Portland Police officers arrived, one child was witnessed pouring a large cup of sand on his playmate's head. The officers decided to eat some apple pie instead.

Welcome to a new (old) way of playing. It is part of a growing movement to help children get away from screens and to experience play the way their parents and grandparents once spent their youth.

Many of the *Post* readers can conjure up their days of creating forts and tree houses and mud pies. Everything goes here. Well not everything.

Smoking is not allowed within 25 feet of the play areas. Dogs are not really welcome, but if they are present, they are required to be leashed at all times. And, even though the park sign says for children aged 2-12, it is available for 2-102.

Multnomah resident Lori Howell, a mother of two, is the tireless leader of Friends of Spring Garden Park. In 2008, Lori formed the Friends group, recruited a board and parents to volunteer. They applied for and received a \$10,000 grant from the Multnomah Village Umpqua Bank.

Portland Parks & Recreation's first nature play area was completed in November 2011 as a result of collaboration between PP&R, Friends of Spring Garden Park, and Umpqua Bank's Multnomah Village branch.



City Commissioner and Multnomah resident, Steve Novick, enjoys a relaxing evening at National Night Out at Spring Garden Park. Next to Novick, Lori Howell with Amelia (10) and Benjamin (5), enjoy ice cream and pie while Katy Brumbelow, Multnomah NA vice-chair, tends to Novick's dog.
(Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

TriMet donated a tree from their property on Lincoln Street to supply wood and materials to the project. The tree had to be removed during construction of TriMet's Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail project.

"Money is needed to keep the park sustainable," pleaded Lori, who explained she was suffering from 'volunteer fatigue'. "We are

in need of new volunteers to help write grants and to provide parental supervision."

Parental supervision and participation is needed at Playdate in the Park on Saturday, September 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

And since city commissioners Amanda Fritz and Steve Novick
(Continued on Page 6)

Starbucks celebrates 20 years in Multnomah Village



Doug Van Ness, district manager; Moses Ross, chair of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association; Randy Bonella, executive director of the Multnomah Village Blocs Initiative; and Jennifer Gibson, store manager, helped show off new amenities of the remodeled Starbucks coffee house at the Grand Re-opening on August 24. New features include a chill case, snack insert, and brewed reserve coffee machine with vacuum and French press technology. Additional business news on Page 4.
(Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

Metro considers Barbur Boulevard demonstration project for federal funding

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

Metro recently held a public hearing on the proposed highway improvements on Oregon 99W (Barbur Boulevard) from Southwest 19th to 26th avenues. Some 40 people attended and 23 testified.

The City of Portland is considering nine different projects for submittal for Regional Flexible Funds

totaling \$94 million from three federal programs which are allocated every two to three years.

The public was invited to submit written comments and over fifty emails and letters were received. (The majority of the correspondence supported the Portland Central City Multimodal Project, specifically the completion of the Willamette Greenway Trail.)

(Continued on Page 3)

Don't forget to renew your subscription. Form on Page 2.

The Southwest Portland Post
4207 SE Woodstock Blvd #509
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COMMUNITY LIFE

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

6 Ceramics from the Snow Mountain Kiln: A show of wood-fired ceramics by Rob Lamb, Lew Allen, Lori Allen, Mark Prieto and Melanie Bjorge will be on display in the Multnomah Arts Center Gallery, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy, beginning September 6. During the last two years, the work was fired in a Japanese-style anagama kiln located in Nevada.

A flock of birds, a collection of porcelain bottles, tea bowls and stoneware vessels are among the objects being presented. An opening reception will be held in the gallery Friday, September 6, 7-9pm. The exhibit may be seen through October 2. For more information contact Jaye Campbell at 503-823-2787 or visit www.multnomahartscenter.org.

Multnomah Outdoor Cinema: Come join the fun on Friday, September 6, at the Multnomah Arts Center's outdoor covered basketball (Southwest Capitol Highway near 34th Avenue) court for live music with Amy Jo & Friends at 6:00 p.m., followed by the movie, "Wreck It Ralph," at dusk.

Bring your family and friends, a chair, a blanket, a picnic if you like, and prepare to have a great time! Bottomless bags of popcorn and best of all, it's free. Note: this is probably not a good place for pets. For more information call 503-823-4592.

7 What color do you bleed? II: The American Red Cross, the Stumptown Orange Alumni Club of Syracuse University and 20 other college alumni clubs are teaming up for their second annual blood drive on Saturday, September 7, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., at Macadam's Bar & Grill, 5833 SW Macadam Ave in Johns Landing.

Alumni and football fans of all stripes, as well as neighbors, are encouraged to donate, and then stay to cheer for their teams. For details contact Ken Kane from the Stumptown Orange at 503-246-6462 or ken@woodbloom.com.

9 Legislative Town Hall: Sen. Ginny Burdick (Democrat, NW/SW Portland/Tigard) and Rep. Jennifer Williamson (Democrat, NW/SW Portland), will hold a Town Hall meeting on Monday, September 9, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Portland Central Library, 801 SW 10th Ave.

Community members will have an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns with the legislators, and to discuss the recent Oregon legislative session. For more information, contact Tera Pierce at 503-986-1436 or tera.pierce@state.or.us.

10 Multnomah Neighborhood Association: Get an update on the myriad of construction projects underway in and around Multnomah Village, plus hear a report from Rep. Jennifer Williamson (D-36) on this year's state legislative session. Next meeting is Tuesday,

September 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Multnomah Center, Room 30, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. Contact Moses Ross mnachair@gmail.com or 503-309-7995 for more information.

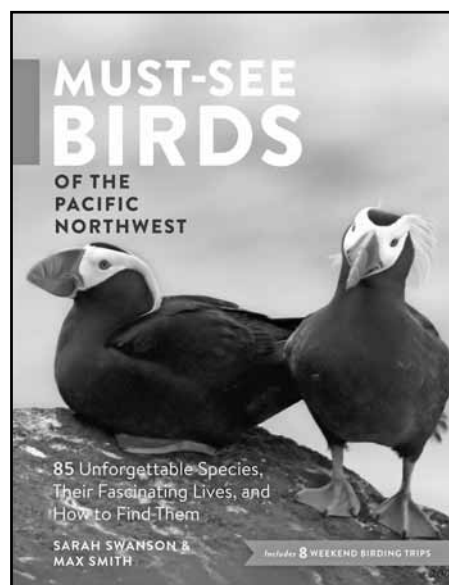
11 Maplewood Neighborhood Association: Next meeting is Wednesday, September 11, at 6:45 p.m. at Maplewood School (library), 7452 SW 52nd Ave. Listen to a report on the proposed boardwalk/trail project for April Hill Park along with an update on the Arf in the Park fundraising and "fun-raising" event planned for dogs and their humans on September 22. Contact Jill Gaddis Maplewood@swni.org or 503-823-4592 for more information.

talk about their new book "Must See Birds of the Pacific Northwest," on Tuesday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. at Garden Home Community Library, 7475 SW Oleson Rd, Portland, OR 97223. Contact 503-245-9932 or www.wccls.org for more information.

29 Southwest Portland Sunday Parkways: End the Sunday Parkways season with a trek in Southwest on Sunday, September 29, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Six miles round trip, 4.5 miles walking route. Enjoy the added walk-only route, rolling hills, beautiful views, and Hillsdale and Multnomah business districts.

Route starts in Little Gabriel (Southwest 40th Avenue and Canby Street) and ends in Hillsdale (SW Sunset Blvd and Capitol Highway). Or vice versa!

Activities, music, food, and vendors will be located in Gabriel Park, Multnomah Village, and Hillsdale Town Center. You've got options on how to get there: bike, walk or take TriMet bus lines #12, 44, 45, 54 and 56. For a map and more information visit www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/46103.



24 Author Meet and Greet: Newly published authors Sarah Swanson and Max Smith will

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general email: news@multnomahpost.com
web address: www.swportlandpost.com

Editor & Publisher: Don Snedecor
Reporters/Writers: Rebecca Hart, Erik Vidstrand
Advertising Sales: Don Snedecor, Harry Blythe
Graphic Design: Leslie Baird Design
Printing: Oregon Lithoprint



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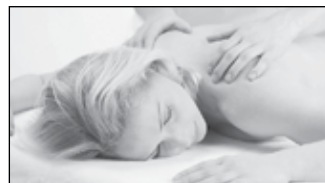
The Post has a circulation of 7,000 in Multnomah Village and the surrounding neighborhood business districts including Burlingame, Capitol Hill, Garden Home, Glen Cullen, Hillsdale, South Portland, Raleigh Hills, West Portland and Vermont Hills. The Post is published on or about the 1st of every month. Subscriptions are \$14 per year. Back issues are \$2.50 each when available. All major credit cards accepted.



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Hit-and-run driver surrenders after tip leads to identity in Barbur Boulevard auto/bike crash

POLICE BLOTTER

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

On August 16, at approximately 12:50 a.m., Central Precinct officers responded to Southwest Barbur Boulevard, just north of the Capitol Highway ramp on the report of a bicyclist that had been hit by a vehicle which left the scene.

After being discovered by a Tri-Met bus driver, Portland Police officers and medical personnel arrived and contacted the victim, 20-year-old Henry Schmidt, who was suffering from serious but not life-threatening injuries.

Schmidt did not know what happened and was unable to provide officers with any vehicle information.

An anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers of Oregon led investigators to the suspect vehicle, a black 2011 Subaru Legacy, at a body shop in Wilsonville. Additional investigation identified the driver.

On August 22, Traffic Division officers arrested the driver responsible for the hit and run. 29-year-old Miriam Ann Clinton of Lake Oswego turned herself in to officers at Central Precinct.

Clinton has been booked into jail on two counts of Felony Hit and Run. She was arraigned in Multnomah County Court on August 23.

The charges come as a result of the hit and run crash that left the victim



Miriam Ann Clinton

injured on the side of the road on Southwest Barbur Boulevard near the Capitol Highway ramp.

Schmidt was taken to Oregon Health Sciences University with two broken legs among his injuries. After a stay in the hospital he is currently recovering at home. Schmidt was on his way home from work at the Southeast Portland restaurant Pok Pok when the accident occurred.

Fatal traffic crash occurs southbound Interstate 5 near Barbur Boulevard

On August 9 at 4:20 pm, Central Precinct officers responded to a three vehicle crash on southbound I-5 near milepost 296, the Barbur Blvd exit.

On August 14, Ronald David Witt,

56, was arrested and charged with driving with a revoked driver's license and lodged at the Multnomah County Detention Center.

News reports said police named him a habitual offender.

A Ford F-150 pickup, driven by Witt, had rear-ended a small Chevrolet coupe. This vehicle then rear-ended an Audi that was in front of the second vehicle.

According to the Portland Tribune, Witt's pickup was traveling south on Interstate 5 when he crashed into a car stuck in traffic in front of him.

That car was reportedly driven by 52-year-old courier Thomas Swift, of Vancouver, Washington, who crashed into the car in front of him. Emergency crews were unable to revive Swift, who died at the scene.

According to Portland Police reports, for investigative reasons, southbound I-5 was shut down at the peak of the evening commute. The Major Crash Team was called out to conduct the investigation.

The investigation of this fatal crash is ongoing. No other updates or information were available at press time.

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Freelance Reporter

The Post is seeking a freelance writer/photographer to cover Southwest neighborhood meetings, happenings, etc. E-mail cover letter, up to three clips, and current resume to: Don Snedecor, Publisher, The Southwest Portland Post, don@multnomahpost.com. Snail mail or fax OK. No phone calls, please.



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Barbur Boulevard Project

(Continued from Page 1)

The purpose of the demonstration project is to increase safety and improve non-auto access to transit, schools, jobs, and essential services along Southwest Barbur Boulevard.

This section is an emerging area for growth from the City Council-approved Barbur Concept Plan along the Southwest Corridor.

It would also help complete the "last mile" for people walking, biking, and accessing transit.

The average daily traffic on Barbur Boulevard, which is a designated High Crash Corridor, ranges from 26,700 to 31,200 vehicles near the project area.

According to the Oregon Department of Transportation, within city limits alone there were 19 pedestrian crashes and 23 bike crashes on Barbur Boulevard from 2000-2009. Speed was a factor, but turning type and rear-end collisions were the most common.

Sidewalks exist in a piece-meal fashion. Approximately 50 percent of the Barbur Boulevard corridor lacks sidewalks on both sides of the street.

Poorly defined driveways, skewed intersection geometries, and continuous center left turn lane pose conflicts for both bicyclists and motorists.

This project will seek to fill missing gaps, build concrete sidewalk segments, establish curbs, define driveways, address Americans with Disabilities Act barriers, and possibly improve landscaped barriers where feasible.

Enhanced crossing rapid flashing beacons would be constructed at Southwest 22nd Avenue and connections to 26th Way.

Bus stop relocations, pull-outs, and stop improvements would help improve roadway operations.

This project report draft recommended both the Barbur Concept Plan and Southwest Corridor Plan. In July 2009, Metro Council selected the Barbur Corridor as a priority for investment in High Capacity Transit (rapid transit bus or light rail).

According to Metro, an additional 21,000 households are expected by 2035. The retail market is expected to double and 16,000 more jobs are expected over the same period.

The Barbur Boulevard Streetscape Plan identified the "demonstration project" as a first phase for implementation.

There is a lot more information to peruse by going to <http://library.oregonmetro.gov/editor/Southwest%20in%20Motion%20SWIM.pdf>.

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Elephants Deli and Henry's Vault team up at new Corbett location

THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

The old Sorenson Photography building, located at Southwest Corbett and Boundary, has been transformed into a joint venture: food, wine, and socializing.

Frank Phillips, a longtime local real estate developer is the founder and owner of Henry's Vault.

Phillips has made a career of spicing up neighborhoods. What started out as a simple wine storage facility, turned into a wine shop, then, of course, a place to dine.

Over the last six months, he partnered with Elephants Deli to create a Mediterranean/Tuscan feel.

Elephants Deli opened in early August but Henry's Vault was yet to be completed. Phillips said opening night would be on Thursday, September 5.

"I wanted to create a special experience that's not available anywhere else," Phillips explained. "I have fun doing what I do. But also I expect the best and want it done right."

Established in 1979, Elephants Delicatessen, a locally owned company, has remained a pioneer in the gourmet food business in the Pacific Northwest. This location becomes their seventh.

The menu is created from scratch by in-house chefs and bakers. The Corbett Room will be a new private venue for meetings and celebrations. Box lunches are also available.

Henry's will feature lockers and a social club where members will be able to store their collections and celebrate their wine in a beautiful relaxed atmosphere.

"I'm [excited] to join such a historic neighborhood," said Scott Weaver, co-owner and executive chef of Elephants on Corbett.

"It offers great opportunities to help our employees grow and [explore] new challenges."

The local community and South Portland Business Association have received the project enthusiastically.

Elephants Deli and Henry's Vault is located at 055 SW Boundary. For more information, please visit www.elephantsdeli.com or call 503-224-3955. For information about Henry's Wine Vault, please call 503-319-3813.

Multnomah Boulevard bicycle/pedestrian project delayed once again

Like the sunny, warm weather, some of the construction will stop for the time being in the Multnomah Village area.

Business owners and customers have been patient; tourists have been curious; and residents and commuters have taken longer vacations due to a variety of construction projects taking place the last few years in Multnomah Village.

Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will be adding amenities on Multnomah Boulevard between 25th and 31st, as promised, after a

lengthy sewer project prolonged business delays and commuter headaches. But not quite yet.

Sidewalks, bike lanes, and repaving is in the works, however, it does not coincide with the redevelopment of the Sears Armory.

According to PBOT, the construction market is saturated with work currently. Thus, they have decided to delay bidding until late September. This means construction will still start this year but not until late November or early December.

No changes to either the funding or design are expected. So enjoy the commute, especially since school is now in session. Perhaps the city can wait on construction until after the holiday shopping season?

For more information, please contact Rich Newlands, project manager, at 503-823-7780 or rich.newlands@portlandoregon.gov

New Multnomah Village trees and shrubs waiting for the rain

No need to report the missing trees and shrubs in the Village; they were just on loan from Portland Parks and Recreation to enhance the Multnomah Days festivities.

According to Linc Mann, spokesman for the Bureau of Environmental Services, they will be back permanently in late October or when the rains begin, whichever comes first.

"We were very pleased to work with the horticultural program at the city," Mann replied. We need to wait for the rains."

In the meantime, paving will take place after all, before it rains, despite earlier rumors the streetscape was complete. That, and distinct striping for parking.

Organizers were sweating bullets at the last moment because of sidewalk construction going under way at the Multnomah Arts Center lower parking lot. But, miraculously, the cement dried in plenty of time for villagers to walk freely without detours.

"We should be completed in time for First Friday," Mann acknowledged. "We may need to finish up the stairs, but the lot will be open for business."

First Friday (after Labor Day) will celebrate the completion of the streetscape.

Benches will be the final touch. Sidewalk tables are beginning to pop up as well.

Joe Sysavaph, Nectar's owner, even rolled out the red carpet on Multnomah Days after working into the wee hours of Saturday morning in preparation for the festivities.

Recycling was in full force and the



There will be plenty of clowning around at the Raleigh Hills Community Fair on September 15. (Photo courtesy of Diane Snedecor)

entire festival was free of secondhand smoke!

It came together and by the look of the crowd, fun was had by everyone.

For key updates, the best place to go is the new Multnomah Village website, www.multnomahvillage.com.

Third annual Raleigh Hills Community Fair slated for September 15

Raleigh Hills holds its third annual Community Fair on Sunday, September 15, from noon to 4pm. Please come explore what the eclectic community of Raleigh Hills has to offer: arts and crafts, food and beverage, automobile displays, and educational

non-profit booths.

If you haven't been to Raleigh Hills in a while, business and a sense of community are budding. The community is now part of Venture Portland which offers exciting opportunities to conduct business or simply conduct some important errands. The Raleigh Hills Business Association received a small grant to help develop and market the area.

(Continued on Page 6)



Marcela Larenas enjoys Nectar's new outside tables and foliage. Trees will be permanently planted once the rains come in October. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

Raleigh Hills Community Fair

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Lack of rainfall during summer months can cause heat stress in plants

GARDEN MIND

By Rebecca Hart

Ahhh... the summer draws to a close and we decide to slow down a bit, maybe go rest in the garden.

Right? Yes? Is the garden a paradise? Is it lush and green?

Or is it crispy around the edges, looking parched and a little brown? If you've been busy and the summer sun and dryness caught you off guard, it could look like your garden has seen better days.

Portland typically gets around 36 inches of rain annually, which seems like a lot. This is why residents can be forgiven if they mentally recycle that chestnut 'it rains all the time.'

What can happen, when that dusty recollection of non-stop precipitation translates into practice, is many Portlanders neglect to check in with the garden. And in late summer we notice that not all plants are faring so well.

Pseudo-Mediterranean Climate

Occasionally you hear someone refer to our summer weather pattern as a *pseudo Mediterranean climate*; in December you could laugh about that tag. But the sky actually delivers ample rainfall only in about nine months, not twelve.

For 90 days, come summertime, we see little or no measurable rain. This extended dryness, which lures people outdoors in droves, comes with longer

days and hotter sun, and *that* is what people mean when we get compared to Tuscany.

And it's *this* annual drubbing by drought that spells trouble for urban gardeners who haven't transitioned to the idea of patterns or cyclical garden dryness.

So yes: things can get parched if we don't pay attention. And the transition quickly goes from dicey to death in short order, if we don't take measures to evaluate and correct the problem. So, beware!

Solutions

The first course of action is to assess any damage. Learn to recognize the evidence of heat stress and act quickly to mediate the situation. Stressed plants will have a limp look, a bit ghostly, sometimes crispy.

Crispy is not a good thing in plant foliage. On woody material you can scrape into the bark (with a fingernail) to see if the underlying layer is green, which always gives the gardener hope.

In my yard, if things have gotten away from me, and it still happens if I get busy or travel, I like to weed -or trim- the area first, before watering.

Unless things are *really* in peril, in which case I water first and ask questions later. Competing plants -like weedy grasses- which are unwanted should be removed and recycled at first opportunity.

Sometimes if the soil around plants
(Continued on Page 6)



Garden "deep - root" watering spikes can help water dry spots during hot summer months. (Image © Lee Valley Tools Ltd.)

GARDEN TOOLS: I am fond of useful tools, and I can affirm that these devices, the Deep-Root watering spikes, have saved my plants a time or two. Can be used in either open garden or in pots.

The device works by delivering water from an inverted soda bottle via graduated spike, which then gets inserted into soil around a plant needing water; this gets water down into the root area using basic gravity. Uses plain water and an empty liter soda bottle.

Useful if you go on vacation or merely to provide water to target plants, perhaps those outside of a sprinkler range (parking strip), or for new plants that may need extra attention. Can also be used with a dilute fertilizer solution for targeted feeding, too.



Note: This product is marketed through the Canadian mail order company Lee Valley Ltd. For inquiries about this item, visit Lee Valley Tools Ltd. www.leevalley.com. - Rebecca Hart

How does your garden grow? Please send comments to us at The Southwest Portland Post (see Page 2). Your favorite gadget or method may end up in a future "Garden Mind" column.

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GARDEN MIND

(Continued from Page 5)

has a parched crust you may need to gently break this up with shallow and gentle cultivation.

This activity keeps water from running off, and is particularly important if you have a slope. This directs the water toward the plants you are trying to rejuvenate.

After the cultivation step apply organic mulch like compost, compost-soil mix, or even bark dust; this will help prevent soil moisture evaporation.

Try to get water down quickly. Give water a chance to saturate the soil, meaning you may need to put water down in several smaller amounts. Stressed plants plump up quickly when hydrated, and in an hour or so will take on a visibly healthier look.

Wait to do additional assessment, including light corrective pruning, until the plant has recovered. And under no circumstances should you ever fertilize stressed plants.

Why? Roots are often as compromised as plant canopies after drought. Sometimes adding a liquid root growth hormone is advised, but let the plain water work first.

Light pruning may be called for to encourage re-growth from healthy tissue, after the plant re-balances.

Later, continue to keep an eye on things until the fall rains start, usually in late September or mid-October.

Don't be too alarmed if evergreen trees and shrubs, including rhododendrons, develop some yellow leaves. Or if there is some leaf drop, especially on older leaves; this is typical shedding. Even conifers and broadleaved evergreens shed seasonally.

The Grass is Always ... Browner?

While some Portlanders have gone over to the Permaculture and Bio-Intensive look, and others even have urban livestock and orchards and berry patches, there are still pockets of gardens that reveal attempts at emerald lawns.

Please note: It is normal for grass to go dormant in either very cold or very hot conditions; this dormancy is a normal response to heat stress.

For many years urban gardeners (and golf courses) used high nitrogen fertilizers and ample water to maintain this unnatural look. Don't despair if your grass is brown; rejoice that you don't have to mow it! It will return to a normal green once the temperatures moderate and the rains return.

Editor's Note: Have questions or comments for Rebecca? Email her via news@multnomahpost.com or write to: Garden Mind, *The Southwest Portland Post*, 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd #509, Portland, OR 97206.

Rebecca Hart was born and raised in Portland. At her first retail garden center job, outside of Gearhart, along with selling primroses and narcissus bulbs, she also sold fresh local produce to James Beard. Hart has an MFA in Writing. She has written garden columns and features for regional papers, The Nation and was editor of the American Conifer Society Bulletin (1989-91). Hart gardens with two dogs, Teddy the collie and Lily the Australian shepherd, and an outdoor cat, Clarice. Additionally, Hart is a licensed massage therapist in Southwest Portland.

THE COUNTRY STORE

Raleigh Hills Community Fair

(Continued from Page 4)

Make your plans now. Plan on inviting everyone you know. The fair site will be the NE corner of the Ernesto's parking lot on Southwest Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway (at Apple Way) west of Jesuit High School.

Walk, bike, or take TriMet if possible and, of course, volunteers are always welcome.

There's still time to get a 10x10 booth. RHBA members cost \$70.00, and non-members, \$80.00. Vendor applications are currently on the website <http://www.msbiz.com/rhba/rhbafair2.html>.

Spring Garden Park

(Continued from Page 1)

(both Southwest Portland residents) were on hand for National Night Out, parents were overheard talking about park budgets and additional funding sources.

They are trying to add a bigger nature playground, plant trees, and make some hiking paths.

"Donations are welcome if volunteering isn't your thing," Howell said. "I invite you to come out on October 11-12 to help volunteer pulling invasive weeds and clean up some of the areas." Dress for the weather and don't forget your bucket, cup, shovel and gloves.

To volunteer or donate, visit *Friends of Spring Garden Park on Facebook, the Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. website www.swni.org or call 503-823-4592.*

Advertise in our "Halloween in the Village" special section in October. Wicked cheap!

Contact Don or Harry at 503-244-6933 for details. Deadline is September 20.



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City-wide freelance reporter Lee Perlman dead at the age of 64

OBITUARY

Editor's Note: Lee Perlman, who worked as a freelance reporter for The Post for the past 15 years, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound at his home in Northeast Portland on August 8, 2013. He was 64.

At the time of his death he was also contributing stories and photos to the Hollywood Star, Southeast Examiner, Mid-County Memo, and Portland Observer. Yes, somehow he managed to keep them all straight.

Three weeks before he died he had submitted several stories for the August 2013 edition of The Post, and copy-edited the paper two weeks before his death. Other than the usual stress of balancing deadlines for several newspapers, I had no inkling that he was suffering from any kind of depression.

A self-deprecating letter of resignation he sent out to all the newspapers the week he died may offer some insight.

"I can no longer stand to see the mistakes, pedestrian writing and shallow reporting on important topics in your publications, and know that I am responsible for it," wrote Perlman.

"...Too often I have treated people, including friends, shabbily in the holy cause of submitting a story and meeting a deadline."

Yet, like the character of George Bailey in Frank Capra's classic film, "It's A Wonderful Life," Lee Perlman never seemed to appreciate his own unique contributions and popularity.

He was a fine political reporter and copy editor, humble and generous to a fault. Not only was he always on time, he was often an hour early.

Hundreds of people knew Lee or had contact with him, and for many years he had readers in the tens of thousands. He seemed to know lots of people in nearly every neighborhood in the city.

I was lucky enough to count myself

among those who cared about him and will miss him very much, both personally and professionally.

RIP, Lee.—Don Snedecor

Lee Perlman was born in Brooklyn, New York, on January 27, 1949. His parents, Samuel and Lucille Perlman, were both involved in the Civil Rights movement and other social justice causes of the time.

He graduated from Erasmus Hall High School and attended Boston University, where he majored in journalism. After graduating in 1970, Lee returned to New York City where he worked for a left-wing newspaper called the *National Guardian*.

In 1972, Lee left New York; after driving slowly across the country, he landed in Portland, Oregon, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Lee loved Portland and, as a journalist, was very concerned with many issues that directly affected its citizens.

Whether attending a street fair or bringing to light stories of the homeless, the hungry and the marginally employed, Lee retained that sense of social justice that defined the environment he was raised in.

While he wrestled with the complexity of urban renewal, mayoral recalls and budget cuts, Lee delighted in bringing his readers stories of hope and beauty, such as his series on community gardens and the fine work of the Sisters of the Road.

Lee had a terrific memory and delighted in quoting verbatim from books he had read throughout his life. He could also sing the lyrics from any song he had ever heard, even the obscure vaudeville tunes that his father enjoyed.

Until sidelined by an injury, Lee ran many half-marathons. In typical Lee fashion, he ran them while wearing

jeans and work boots.

Although he stayed in regular touch with his family in New York, he only returned to New York at Christmas time.

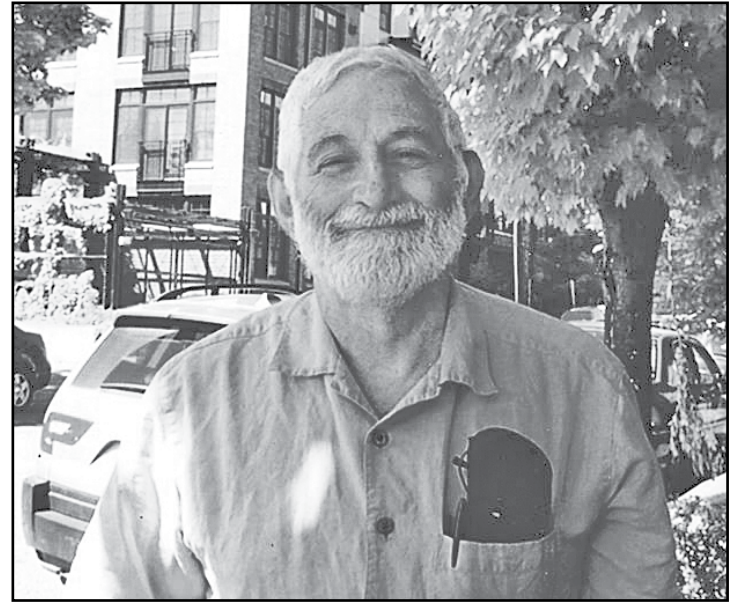
He would unpack his bag, pulling out silk-screened scarves, pottery and small sculptures made by Portland artists. He would also bring a number of his articles and columns that he thought would be of interest to the family. Lee would delight his elderly mother by reading to her for hours at a time.

Lee is survived by his mother, Lucille; brother, Bill; sister-in-law, Patricia; nieces Deirdre and Michelle; nephew, Philippe; many loving cousins; and his dear friend Anne McLaughlin.

Lee had always requested that in the event of his death, his friends and loved ones reread the last lines in his favorite novel, *The Mayor of Casterbridge*: "I ask that no one grieves on account of me, and that I not be buried in consecrated ground. And that no sexton be asked to toll the bell, and no mourners walk at my funeral."

Those who knew and loved Lee should not be surprised by his wishes. He was a quiet, private and thoughtful man who will be dearly missed.

The community is invited to attend a remembrance/memorial event for Lee Perlman on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 4pm, Lorenzen Conference Center at Legacy



Lee Perlman (photo courtesy of Bill and Patricia Perlman)

Emanuel Hospital. This was the site of many a meeting in Lee's neighborhood (Eliot).

Legacy Emanuel is on N Vancouver Ave. between Russell St. and the east end of the Fremont Bridge. The Lorenzen Center is off Graham St. between the hospital and the Medical Office Building. There is parking in the lot on N. Graham St. / Gantenbein Ave just across from the MOB.

This will be a very simple remembrance event -- others are encouraged to have more celebrations of Lee Perlman all across this town he was such a part of. Please go to www.facebook.com/LeePerlmanMemorial for updates or to post remembrances and reflections.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to The Sisters of the Road, 133 NW 6th Ave., Portland, Oregon.

Bill and Patricia Perlman provided information for this obituary. Christine Charneski corresponded with us about the memorial gathering and Facebook page.

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Dear EarthTalk: I understand that there are many internships available at environmental organizations, some involving working outdoors, some year-round with expenses paid. Where do I find these?

— Jason Baar, Los Angeles, CA

Internships can provide professional experience and on-the-job training for individuals looking to enter the environmental field. There are numerous opportunities and the key is to know where to look.

Many businesses, non-profits and governmental organizations offer internships that are environmentally focused and can range from office work in many different departments to working

outdoors, some year-round and some short term.

Compensation also varies significantly and can range from unpaid (but earning college credit) to salaried and/or all-expenses-paid.

A good place to start is the Student Conservation Association (SCA), which places over 2,000 interns a year and focuses on expense paid year round internships, many of which are outdoors.

They partner with public and private organizations along with federal agencies and prescreen applicants to create a national pool of candidates for organizations to select from to bring in for interviews.

Internships through SCA can offer anywhere from \$75-\$300 per week in living expenses, plus housing, travel and medical costs. In addition, an AmeriCorps education award may be available to interns at the completion of their internship.

The Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) is also a well-known resource for finding internships for bachelors, masters and doctoral students and recent graduates. This program partners with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and through paid internships has turned out profes-



Student Conservation Association interns on the job at Mt. Rainier National Park in Washington. (Photo courtesy of the National Park Service)

sionals in the environmental field for over 30 years.

ECO selects 500 associates each year for 12-week to two-year internships. Sponsoring organizations offer internships in research and training programs in addition to office, laboratory and field work assignments.

Associates earn between \$400 and \$800 per week and may also be compensated for relocation costs, housing, travel, and career development.

A few other places to look are Eco-Employ and InternMatch. EcoEmploy is a database of hundreds of non-profits, governmental agencies and companies whose work is in the environmental field.

This comprehensive list, organized by state, offers a way to find organizations that may offer jobs or internships.

InternMatch posts internships in

several categories throughout the country and has a section dedicated to environmental internships. They range from summer to year round and paid to non-paid.

In addition to these resources, environmental departments within universities often post internship opportunities for students as well as other tips for finding and researching potential internships.

Contacts: The Student Conservation Association, www.thesca.org; The Environmental Careers Organization, www.eco.org; EcoEmploy, www.ecoemploy.com; InternMatch, www.internmatch.com.

EarthTalk® is written and edited by Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss and is a registered trademark of E - The Environmental Magazine (www.emagazine.com). Send questions to: earthtalk@emagazine.com.

Multnomah Days 2013



PULL TAB LADY: Dorothy Arthur, who has lived in Multnomah Village since 1947, models the world's biggest pull tab dress as she prepared for the annual Multnomah Days Parade.

(Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)



Jim Tormey (Multnomah Antiques) drives his famous fire engine in the Multnomah Days Parade. (Photo courtesy of Marissa Turner)



MUSICIANS: The Quadrophones, a local saxophone quartet, perform on the Multnomah Days main stage. Left to right: Michele Medler, tenor; Mary Sue Tobin, alto; Chelsea Luker, soprano; and Mieke Bruggeman, baritone. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

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