

Why some neighbors may be sporting binoculars this summer

HILLSDALE NOTEBOOK

By Jillian Daley
The Southwest Portland Post

Locals are taking a closer look at the wildlife flourishing in their backyards. In a presentation before the Hillsdale Neighborhood Association on June 6, Portland State University assistant professor Marion Dresner detailed an effort to assess back yard and front yard habitats. Dresner said, starting in mid-June, a group including local volunteers would be exploring the Laurelhurst and Hillsdale neighborhoods armed with binoculars, spying on birds, plants and insects.

Part of a larger study, the aim is to determine the impact on wildlife that

some neighbors had when they removed non-native species and planted native varieties through the Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

"We really don't know what the impact is of all of these backyard habitats," Dresner said. "People who put them in think they are doing a good thing. We're trying to find out by actually collecting data."

On Aug. 5, ecologists with the Ecological Society of America will lead a Bioblitz, an intense survey of the little habitats spread throughout Hillsdale and Laurelhurst neighborhoods.

For more information, email Dresner at dresnem@pdx.edu.

How to protect yourself from identity theft

Also at the Hillsdale meeting: Portland Police Neighborhood Response

Team Officer and Acting Sgt. Brian Hughes and Hillsdale resident Robert Hamilton gave a presentation on how to protect oneself from identity theft.

Hamilton inspired the discussion after catching a Caucasian woman with facial scars rifling through papers in his recycling bin.

The woman told Hamilton at the time that garbage is public property. Hughes said at the presentation that it is not.

Hughes said neighbors should be on the alert and report suspicious activity, adding that the woman, who has hazel eyes and brown hair, may be in the company of a 6-foot-tall Caucasian male with brown hair and brown eyes.

The two may be seen driving a Subaru with bins in the back, but Hughes asked that neighbors only report sightings (503-823-3333 non-emergency) of the pair if seen rummaging through someone's recycling bin.

Budget Pitch to City Council

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struggling with the down economy." Bonella thanked Mayor Sam Adams, commissioners Amanda Fritz, Randy Leonard and Dan Saltzman, the Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. office, Stephen Sykes of the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Portland Development Commission and the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

Bonella then asked for continued funding for the Small Business Development Center, storefront improvement grants, neighborhood coalition offices, and the business association umbrella Venture Portland.

He also asked for "marketing money for business districts that are impacted by major capital improvement projects. Make it standard practice by your bureaus. It helps improve our success."

- Lee Perlman

Southwest Sunday Parkways

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five kilometer and eight kilometer races and a walk.

For the Friends of Terwilliger, the Sunday events are the conclusion of an entire weekend of activity. At 10 a.m. Friday, July 20, there will be a new Gateway sign unveiled at Duniway Park. The morning of Saturday, July 21, there will be an ivy pull near the Charthouse.

During the day there will be a guided walk to Marquam Nature Park. In the evening there will be a free concert by Trashcan Joe, and a re-enactor will imitate suffragist Abigail Scott Duniway.

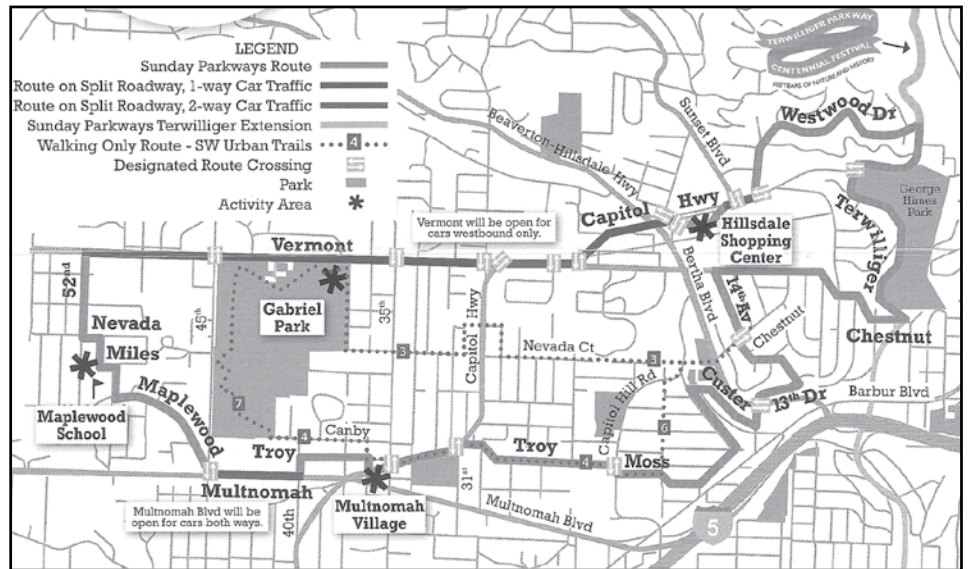
There is much anticipation of the

event, and not all of it is joyous. "This is a new route, and people are nervous," Ginenthal said.

In some cases, residents are afraid they will be locked into or out of their homes for five hours. "There isn't a standard grid here, and the detour routes aren't obvious," Ginenthal said.

However, an army of volunteers, called Intersection Superheroes, will be standing by to move barriers to accommodate local residents. If you have an hour or two to spare, they could use you.

For more information about Sunday Parkways, visit www.portlandsundayparkways.com. To find out about the Terwilliger Centennial, visit www.terwilligerfriends.org.



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