

New sign marks 100th anniversary of Terwilliger Parkway

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

With a new sign the Friends of Terwilliger and the Portland Bureau of Parks marked the 100th anniversary of the parkway and a weekend of activities to celebrate the occasion. The sign, at Southwest Sixth Avenue and Sheridan Street on the edge of Duniway Park, marks the beginning of the parkway.

It was the first event in a full weekend

of activities for Terwilliger. Saturday's schedule included two guided hikes, a community ivy pull near the Chart House restaurant, a performance by an actor playing suffragist Abigail Scott Duniway, and a free evening concert at Duniway Park by Trash Can Joe.

Sunday's plans called for eight and five-kilometer fun runs from Duniway Park to the Charthouse, and closure of the south end of the parkway as part of the first Sunday Parkways event.

Richard Stein of Friends of Terwilliger, who acted as Master of Ceremonies, said the Parkway embodies the vision of the Olmsted Park Plan, which "emphasized the importance of parkways to form an integrated system, rather than isolated islands" of greenery.

Commissioners Amanda Fritz and Dan Saltzman were among the dignitaries who spoke at the sign's unveiling. Fritz, a former nurse, said she com-



Friends, neighbors and public officials at the Terwilliger Parkway sign unveiling. (Post photo by Lee Perlman)

mented on the road daily for 22 years while employed at the Oregon Health and Sciences University, and would sometimes reflect on "how blessed I was to live in such a beautiful place."

Fritz praised a young crew from the Park Bureau's Youth Conservation Crew who showed up early to pull ivy, and Sandy Diedrich who started the No Ivy League. She thanked the "leadership and pride" of the Friends of Terwilliger and the Homestead Neighborhood Association and said, "Let's move on to the next hundred years."

Saltzman, who said he lives "on the mid-stretch" of the Parkway, noted that it is visible to the Oregon Health and Sciences University and said he hoped that for its patients the view is "an inspiration to fight to survive."

OHSU representative Norwood Richardson said the Parkway was already in existence when the hospital's first building above it opened in 1919. It "symbolizes the wisdom and foresight of the City," he said.

For OHSU, the Parkway is "more than just a road; it's a road of hope for men, women and children seeking treatment for illness" in a place of "healing, teaching and discovery." Richardson added, "I'm a Texan, I will always be a Texan, but I came here for a purpose, and I shall not leave."

The Terwilliger Plaza retirement community sponsored the concert. Speaking on their behalf, manager Dee Sellner noted that Terwilliger Plaza has "been part of the Parkway for 50 years. Our residents use it on a daily basis."



Friends of Terwilliger Robin Vesey, Doug Weir, and Susan Egnor celebrate the Parkway's centennial with a birthday cake. (Post photo by Lee Perlman)

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Sellwood Bridge

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of the County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee commended the County for not proceeding with the asymmetrical design.

Averbeck criticized "significantly altering the design without adequate public involvement." Holst urged the County to "pursue no rash decisions and give due consideration to changes."

Commissioner Deborah Kafoury, who serves on both the CAC and PSC, agreed with the decision to drop the asymmetrical design, but said, "I encourage staff to come up with cost-

saving ideas. Some may not fly, but we welcome ideas to save money."

In fact the decision to drop the proposal leaves the County with the job of coming up with another \$2.3 million by August, when they must present a complete funding plan to the federal government.

In a related project, Cannon described a proposal by Boston artist Mikyung Kim for an art installation on the east end of the bridge. Called "Stratum," it will consist of a series of 22-foot-tall colored steel columns. It will be paid for with money set aside in the project budget for public art.

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