



Mississippi
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St. Johns Parade to Turn 50

Saturday festivities to mark five decades of memories

The 50th annual St. John's Parade will take off at noon on Saturday, May 12, in conjunction with the 6th annual St. Johns Bizarre, a street fair with dozens of local artists and craft makers, and locally brewed beer.

The St. John's Parade is always the second Saturday of May. This year's Grand Marshal is Jake Benshoof, 89, the founder of the parade.

The St. Johns Parade has been a tradition in the north Portland area since 1962. People from near and far look forward to this event every year. Many families have their favorite viewing spot, and many who have moved away come home for this special week-end to watch the floats, bands, drill teams, and horses. Parade participants from the early years are now watching their children and grandchildren as they march or ride the parade route.

The parade is a free event! Anyone can enter – young and old! The parade will wrap around the west end of North Lombard Street from Burr to New York avenues.

The street fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Over 70 local arts and crafts vendors will highlight a market of handmade goods. A Plaza Stage at the foot of the St. Johns Bridge will accommodate a line up of musical entertainment.



PHOTO BY JASON E. KAPLAN/PHOTOGRAPHY
The St. Johns Parade has been a tradition in north Portland since 1962. The annual event will kick off at noon on Saturday, May 12.

Students Empowered by Planting



Sixth grade students from Vancouver's Pleasant Valley Middle School plant native plants to improve fish habitat along Salmon Creek.

Science-based learning improves habitat for fish

Determined to help restore fish habitat in the Vancouver area, a large group of science students planted hundreds of native plants at a local park.

Fifty-five students from Pleasant Valley Middle School in Vancouver recently planted over 500 native plants at Pleasant Valley Community Park along Salmon Creek with help from educators with the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership.

After learning about local ecology in the classroom, the students had the op-

portunity to apply their knowledge with their work around the shore as they planted cedar, Douglas fir, willows, nine bark and red osier dogwood.

"By taking classroom lessons outside and working with the students to plant trees at the park next to their school, they can see how closely we all are connected to nature and they become part of the solution to improve habitat for fish," said Debrah Marriott, executive director of the Estuary Partnership.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Salmon Recovery Funding Board are funding the project, with a goal to create off-channel spawning and rearing habitat for salmon on an existing spring-fed tributary of Salmon Creek within the park.