



News from the PARK BENCH

Friends of Hendricks Park Eugene's First Park **Fall 2025**



Native Plant Garden Update

Over the past two years the Native Plant Garden has been under the direction of Kelsey Irvine. She loves natives, and the Garden shows it! Work has been undertaken by volunteers every Thursday -- over 400 hours contributed; and these last two years have seen the initiation of a half-year full-time seasonals program (currently ably fulfilled by Payson Rizzo). Justin Foley has just been hired for Hendricks Park and will spend two days per week in the Native Plant Garden.

Many hundreds of shrubs and perennials have been planted. A major donation from the Xerxes Society for Invertebrate Conservation enabled pollinator habitat to be established in one corner of the garden, with 16 native species represented. All across the garden are newly ensconced native species that read like a list of friends: from rhizomes like bleeding heart and the two local False Solomon seals to dogwoods to currants to columbines, penstemons, yarrows.....we could go on, but you get the idea. With watering, weeding, mulching -- nurture the forest can only dream about -- these introductions have not only survived but thrived.

All has not gone without hitch. Earlier this year someone vandalized and stole Oregon Grape from



the Garden; and stole not one but two of the benches secreted about for repose and appreciation. These have been remedied. Life in the real world.

Upcoming this fall are -- surprise! -- more plantings in the central zone of the garden. The northern areas are slated for some release from the overabundance of native blackberry, or dewberry. *Rubus ursinus* (literally bear brambles) is indeed native, but in recovering areas it can take over and suppress other natives from coming back. After all, native plant gardening is about super charging our local nature into its best of forms and varieties.

Think -- a smorgasbord of Oregon's finest offerings! ❖

Justin Foley is the New Park Specialist for Hendricks Park!



Hendricks Park returns to a full complement of full-time staff with the arrival of Justin Foley this October. He will be plenty busy, as his portfolio includes work in the Native Plant Garden, the Rhododendron Garden, and the forest. Most attention will go to the two developed gardens, but he will attend to issues in the forest as they pop up throughout the year and work with the forest seasonals.

Justin already knows Hendricks well. He has lived locally and recreated in the park for years. He also worked as a Rhododendron Garden Seasonal since March this year.

His background includes degrees in Anthropology and Botany with a specialty in Ethnobotany. He has worked in nurseries, landscaping, and irrigation. A notable ethnobotanical project was establishing an interpretative trail for the Lower Nehalem Community Trust up on the North Coast.

The Friends of Hendricks Park support Justin's new park specialist role by contributing half of the salary and benefits. The goal of our support has been to attract a well-qualified professional. And now that such has been accomplished, the hope is to combine Justin's expertise with up-coming hands-on experience at Hendricks for the kind of stewardship only long-term continuity can bring.

Welcome, Justin! ❖

Comings and Goings, FoHP Board Fall 2025

This summer three dedicated Board members completed their terms and departed. Ben Widdison and Lou Vijayaker moved for family reasons to other states. Val Close moved on to other volunteer horizons and remains a strong supporter. Thank you!

Two new members have joined. Welcome!

Photo Left: Julian Savala. Julian is a senior at the UO majoring in Business. He enjoys the outdoors and hiking near to home at Hendricks or far away, at places like Yellowstone last summer. He loves Hendricks so much he approached the Board to join! His budding business acumen and high technical skills promise a welcome addition to the Friends.

Photo Right: Tomek Kalamaya. Tomek has been an active member of the Eugene community since 1982. He has worked primarily as a marketing and food science consultant.



A decade-long habit of walking in Hendricks Park each morning has fueled his deep appreciation for its natural beauty. His love of Hendricks has led him to work as a volunteer and now to join the Board. He plans to focus on community outreach and membership efforts, in order to expand our ability to enhance the park. ❖



Rhododendron Garden Matters



Emily Aune, Hendricks Park's City of Eugene steward extraordinaire, shared her thoughts recently about how the Rhododendron Garden has been faring this year. She is pleased. The Garden has been well-staffed with two half-time seasonals, funded by the Friends, a program now in its fourth year -- and the extra attention is really showing off. Volunteer turnout has been consistently around 15 or so, every Tuesday, rain or shine (the total tally for fiscal year 2025 was 1437 hours contributed). Folks come as much for the esprit de corps and socializing as the gardening itself. A major push has been made on invasive plants -- shining geranium, celandine, *Itanium arum*.

Azalea lace bug was much worse this year than last, with a strong early infestation. It is here to stay. The soap spray -- five applications a growing season, the cost split between the City and the Friends -- does suppress them overall, although it varies a lot per individual plants. When a rhododendron or azalea weakens too much, the gardeners have been removing it and replacing with a more resistant variety. They have been doing this for 6 years -- and the new arrivals are beginning to come into their own. This will be a long-term project with many plants ultimately replaced.

There was a round of new labels last spring, and another is coming this fall. Contracted pruning of rhododendrons and azaleas has been so successful the last few years that the Garden now has pruning done on a biweekly basis.

Beginning this October is the long-awaited new park specialist, a position funded half & half between the Friends and the City. The Rhododendron Garden will get two days/week of Justin Foley's attention. Look forward to more ideas and improvements, coming soon to a Rhododendron Garden near you! ❖

NEW & RENEWING FRIENDS OF HENDRICK'S PARK

DONATIONS 10/1/24-10/7/25

LESS THAN 50

Aldrich, Beverly
Beatty, Tom
Bressen, Tree
Briggs, Lexie
Brouwer, Inge
Dougher, Jim & Dottie
Fizsman, Gayle
Giffra, Joanne
Greensite, Rose
Hallmark, Dianna
Hardwick, Claudia
Hougardy, Janet
Iredale, Gwyneth
Jones, RJ
Jordan, Tom
Kennedy, Michael
Kennett, Stephen
Klest, Jon
Krakauer, Deborah
Leahy, Helen
Longtin, Stephen
McKenna, Amber
Maasch, Jeanne
Mercer, Jeannine
Moyer, Brad
Munkenbeck, Frances
Nussbaum, Steve
Obst, Rick
Parsons, Kari
Robert, Michael
Scheib, Michele
Siskron, Catherine
Soussan, Patricia
Speer, Rene
Steeb, Walter
Toepel, Kathryn & Minor, Rich
Toner, Kim & John
Trachtenberg, Laurence
Van Buren, Elizabeth
Van Ness, Dralyn
Zucker, Lee

\$50 TO 99 DONATIONS

Arendt, Dennis & Mary
Black, Edward
Burkland, Doris
Caredio, Annie & Cedar
Caughlin, Jim
Coons, James
DAF Giving 360
Evans-Rowlands, T
Edgecomb, Mary & Paul
Friend, Ronna & Adey, Steve
Frohnmayr, Lynn
Gab, Steve
Hall, Elizabeth
Hazen, Chris
Hearn, Ted & Gisele
Heid, Andrea
Heritage, Jonathan
Hill, James
Hodges, Sara
Hoernig, Deborah & Glenn
Hoffman, Richard & JoAnn
Jackson, Helen & James
Jahnke, James & Janice
Jones, Richard

Jost, Jonathan
King, Steven
Kirchner, Tracy & Jeff
Lawson, Elaine
Lipshitz, Robert & Eischen, Ellen
Laughlin, Jim
McDonald, Duncan & Jane
McKenzie, Lallie & Stephen
Malsch, Margaret
Manley, Carolyn & Mike
Meacham, James
Medaille, Paul
Mills, Tom & Martha
Moon, David & Kelley, Joan
Morgan, Charles & Cheryl
Naishtat, Sandy & Nancy
Nelson, Kate
Nordenson, Christine
O'Connor, John & Nancy
Ostler, Rosemarie
Paine, Shelley
Reaves, Michael & Bynum, Cherie
Reckord, Joshua
Rubenstein, Lou & Denise
Rubin, Jared & Salus, Penny Joy
Saydack, Roger
Slade, Rodney & Becky
Swanson, Laurie & Gribskov, Pete
Tag, Peter
Tepfer, Esther & Gary
Thompson, Sheryl
Timmins, Paul & Susan
Toner, Kim & John
Trant, Susan and Feuer, Lenny
West, Barbara & Ross
Young, Michal & Wenks, Cynthia

\$100 TO 249 DONATIONS

Abell, Ellen
Andrews, Pauline
Aoki, Mieko
Austin, Karen
Austin, Sandra
Basil, Jim
Beyer, Jim & Fitzgerald, Cynthia
Bonnert, Howard & Horstman, Judith
Brooks, June
Bumstead, Robert & Matsushita, Carrie
Burke, Lori
Caughey, Brian
Cleland, Trena & MacConnell, Robert
Coen, Riccardo & Paula
Cox, Regina & Joseph
Cummings, Nancy
DAF Giving
Deemer, Toby
Dickman, Alan
Edberg, Peter
Eisen, Judith
Evans, Christopher
Gates, Barbara
Grier, Melinda & Lidz, Jerry
Goldrich, Dan & Hannah
Gonyea, Joseph & Jomae
Gordon, Geoffrey & Marcia
Gurumukh CPA
Hall, Elizabeth
Hammer, David

Heil, Rick & Gidley, Kay
Hewitt, Ted
Hoffman, Susan
Hushbeck, Harold
Jaqua, Mary
Jewett, Susan & Wayne
Johnson, Lana
Jones, Christopher
Jones, Martin & Landt, Gayle
Kelly, Sue
Kevan, Stephen
King, Jerry
Mikesell, Rebecca
Mooser, Jo Ann
Morgan, Charles & Cheryl
Niemiec, Ann & Kolb, David
O'Brien, Eileen
Palmer, Theodore & Laramie
Petty, Walter
Plummer, Andrea
Posner, Sharon & Michael
Reed, Helen
Reeder, Alan
Renaissance Charitable
Robinson, Marilyn
Ross, Michele & Don
Skoglund, Roy & Norma
Soltesz, Steven
Stebbins, Chris
Storr, Hank & Denise
Swanson, Charlie & Vickie
Tabor, Keith & Sharon
Teich, Nathaniel
Vijayakar, Lorraine
Vishanoff, Tom & Chikako, Sato
Weill, Paul
Weston, James
Widdison, Benjamin
Williams, Patricia & David
Zeman, William & Ann

\$250 TO 499 DONATIONS

Anonymous
Alltucker, Kevin & Irene
Close, Val and Daniel
Cooper, G Robb
Craig, Mathias
Douglas, James & Susan
Fidanque, David & Ann
Gent, Jim & Mary
Giustina, AJ & Adriana
Giustina, Dan
Hazel, Rich
Hilton, David & Marcia
Jaqua, Mary
Johnson, David & Catherine
Klute, Daniel & Alpern, Sandy
Larson, Richard & Cowan, Barbara
Markowitz, Nathan & Hendrickson, Jill
Monfort, Keith & Peg
Newlove, Natalie & Robin
Ogburn, Jeffrey & Deborah
Postlewait, John & Nita
Ramey, Chris & Laura
Sohlberg, McKay
Thallon, Robert & Etwiler, Dee

\$500 TO 999 DONATIONS

Baynham, Morgan & Laura
Bettman, Ann
Brooks, Svevo
Buckley, Jay & Dame, Peggy
Epstein, Maram
Eugene Garden Club
Give Lively Foundation
Jeanty, Roger & Tracy
Lebow, Sandra
Macomson Family Charitable Fund
McCully, Diane & George
McIvor, Andrew
Michels, Lee & Mary Jean
Swan, Sharon
Vollmert, John
Woo, Melissa
Zelenka, Alan & Smith, Susan
Zeller, Charlotte

\$1000 AND UP

Anderson, Jon & Teri
Copeland, Beth
Diamond, Jean & Karasek, Michael
Farley, Art
Harriot Jackson Fund
Fish, Nonie & Mats
Fisher, Erik
Foster, Rachel
Give Lively Foundation
Goldberg, Christine
Jones, Robert & Gay
Koch, Elizabeth & Franklyn
Maltz, Larry & Wendy
Northrop, James
Reed Family Foundation
Ross, Michele & Don
Vaona, Sarah

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Agate Alley 100
Euro-Asian Automotive 100
Lane Forest Products 100
Market of Choice 500

COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS

Gent, Jim & Mary in Memory of Grace and Gordon Gent
In Memory of Phyllis Hamel:
Abell, Ellen
Austin, Sandra
Baynham, Morgan & Laura
Brooks, Svevo
Copeland, Beth
Deemer, Toby
Evans, Chris
Evans-Rowland Toni & Rowlands, Barry
Fisher, Erik
Iredale, Gwyneth
Johnson, Lana
Jost, Jonathan
Koch, Elizabeth & Franklyn
Northrop, James
Reed, Helen
Robinson, Marilyn
Thompson, Sheryl
Townsend, Sandra
Zeller, Charlotte



Invasive Weed Spotlight

Italian Arum -- also known as Italian lords-and-ladies -- is a highly aggressive lily that has spread across America from -- you guessed it, Europe. It is tuberous and deeply rooted, so that it is extremely difficult to remove. It is notorious for spreading easily by seed. It blocks out other plants by its monocultures. Not only that, it is highly toxic if ingested and causes contact dermatitis. Beware touching these Garden of Eden ruby fruits!

The Italian lords-and-ladies snuck into the Rhododendron Garden 20 years ago and have established 7 places for their reign (several more in the forest, alas!). There was a 100 square foot domain by the McReady Arbor. It has taken two years of monthly monitoring and digging to remove each plant and tuber one by one, with gradual progress. These lords- and-ladies can be deposited. There is at last the prospect of a lovely new Rhodie to be planted soon! ❖

Yes! I WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER OF FRIENDS OF HENDRICK'S PARK

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- Senior/student/limited income \$20
- Individual \$30
- Family/household \$50
- Sponsor/business \$100
- Sustaining \$250
- Guarantor \$500
- Benefactor \$_____

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- Forest restoration
- Native Plant Garden
- Rhododendron Garden
- Unrestricted Gift
- Memorial/commemorative gifts \$_____

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Tax ID #93-1330075

ENDOWMENT FUND

- Rhododendron Garden
- Native Plant Garden
- Forest Endowment
- General Endowment \$_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE/EMAIL _____



FRIENDS OF Hendricks Park

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Eugene, OR 97403-0784



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Beth Copeland
Art Farley
Erik Fisher
Leanne Ellis
Rachel Foster

DESIGN BY

Sarah Decker

AUTUMN TOURS

OCTOBER 5th at 1 PM

KALAPUYA WAYS

For thousands of years the Kalapuya People visited the land we call Hendricks Park. Karen Rainsong, Director of Singing Creek Educational Center, has a passion for learning from and sharing the knowledge of the indigenous people of the Willamette Valley. Food, medicine, clothing, land stewardship, story-telling.

OCTOBER 26th at 8 AM

BIRDING

Join birders and avian educators Donna Albino and Mieko Aoki for this early morning park stroll. Learn bird identification through observation of field markings, behavior, listening to songs and calls. Stories and lore.

November 2nd at 1 PM

MUSHROOMS

Explore the diverse world of mushrooms with mycologist Joe Spivack. Mushroom enthusiasts will enjoy Joe's wealth of knowledge while hiking along the park's beautiful trails.

COMMUNITY WORK PARTIES IN THE HENDRICKS FOREST THIS FALL!

**Saturday November 29 and
Saturday December 6 from 9-12**

Please let Joseph.X.Waksmundski@ci.eugene.or.us know you are coming, if you can.