



GRESHAM JAPANESE GARDEN



Tsuru Island

A Poem for the Garden

Tomiko and Jim invited Kazumi Heshiki to visit the garden and discuss ways to introduce some Kanji carvings to the posts or other structures of the Azumaya. The decision was made to add Kanji engraved into the stones in the front of the structure. They decided on a stone to the right side of the entrance to the Azumaya. Kazumi provided a poem to be engraved in that stone. Jim took the stone to an engraver to add the poem. It will be available the first of June. This poem is celebrating the REBIRTH of the Garden. The placement may be a bit of a surprise for visitors as it is unusual and a great find.

Reborn

Passing time—

all its light and shadows

on this isle of Tsuru

歲月や

光も影も

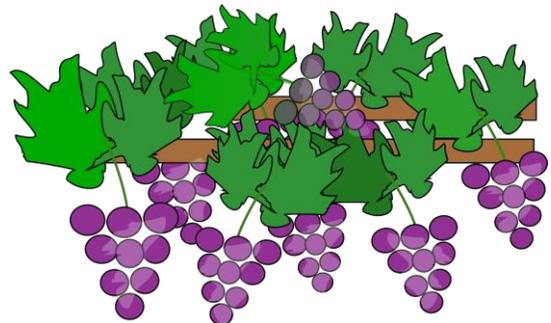
つるの島

Activity Map & Special Deals
A key to navigating Third Thursday
May 18th - 5:30 - 8:00 pm and beyond.....

Use this key to find where the free wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres are being offered, discover which restaurants have food and drink specials offered this evening, check out the live music around town and much more.

- Food and Drink Specials
- Wine Tasting and Hors d'oeuvres
- Live Music
- Public Art

1. Rexall Drug Store
2. Vintage Bike Rack
3. Family Ties
4. Driscoll (dog statue)
5. Crash



Kaz Kids

Oh! those Kaz Kids; never a dull moment when they are around. On Friday the 19th of May, we had the pleasure of the GHS work force at the park. Photos taken by Bill Peterson captured some of the day's highlights.

5 of these students will graduate this year. There is an obvious level of excitement for these students. Another 5 students will join the Kaz Kids as freshman in the fall.

The garden sponsored the Kaz Kids for 4 work days in the park this past year. Also a craft day to make bird houses in the Resource Center. The students will continue this project with a good paint fest to take place in June before school ends this year.

Congratulations to the seniors.



Azumaya Upgrade

We are in the process of replacing the back lattice that was vandalized last fall. The moon window will stay as it is. This undertaking is being done by Kent Thompson and John Fosheim who have taken the pre-cut Douglas fir from the old bridge wood. They are lap jointing all of the intersections to complete the two sides.

Getting a Better Lawn...

Are you wondering why your lawn is not in better condition. It has to do with consistency. Doing the right thing at the right time and every time is the key.

Starting with types of seed. Just like computer technology, seed changes with new advancements and industry needs. Seed in the immediate area is highly influenced by Oregon State University and the growers in the Willamette Valley. In the northwest, the primary type of seed is perennial rye and some fescue with most of the premium products are a blend of seeds of the same variety. This is because certain seeds may be effected in a negative way and if one grass does not survive the rest will.

BEFORE planting grass seed let the weeds grow. After a week to ten days spray the weeds with a non-selective herbicide that will kill off the weed (before they produce new seeds). Do this at least two times. Now that most of the weed seed has germinated and are gone, the new grass seed can go down without the invasion of all of those weeds.

The soil preparation is important. Tilling, raking, rolling, amendments, fertilizer and dressing are the components. Compost, lime, gypsum, sand and so on are the first elements. If the type of soil in the area has a top soil blend then the compost may not be necessary. If the area is clay, less compost may be in order because it will retain moisture.

Seed approach is pretty basic; good seed, good prep, rake some grooves, apply the seed, and add

a cover product to hold the surface/seed. Rolling and raking several times before applying the seed will level the areas. The seed needs moisture and proper temperature to germinate. Water 2-4 times a day to keep the surface moist. As the grass plants mature and roots get set deeper and deeper into the soil, the less water the plants will need.

Hydro-seed is less labor intensive and forgiving. The tank contains the seed, water, lime, fertilizer and cover product with a green/blue tint. The solution is pumped through a hose to apply the mix. The same water application applies here

Sod is the easiest of all lawn preparations. Once the sod is down the weed seed will not germinate.

Sod may have a netting in it that helps with the harvesting and handling of the cut product. An added benefit is that the netting may block the path of moles that wish to surface in your lawn. A netting may be added under the seed bed or the sod as an ounce of prevention, no moles, no worries. Sod already has the root system and the soil for the grass plants to survive, however you will still need to add water because the sod cut acts like a sponge soaking up the water.

When do I do all of this...

Seed and Hydro-seed need to be planted after the last frost, late April/May to the middle of October in the Pacific Northwest. Sod can be laid anytime the sod grower will cut it.

This article is a repeat from Issue 4 March





An observation by James Card

Composting has been around for a hundreds of years. My grandparents used to bury the household debris somewhere on the property and the compostable debris was tossed into the garden. My grandmother said that the coffee grounds fed the snakes so I sat on the porch waiting to see the snakes come around for those grounds. I'm glad I didn't hold my breath.

Lots of things have changed since then. Life is busy and instead of using disposal such as Metro and the City suggests, many people do not separate disposable items so they can be composted, recycled or reused reducing the amount that goes into the landfill.

One thing that I have noticed over the years is that our home compost and recycling habits have affected the amount of debris that is picked up by our garbage services. If you look at information for a home composting program, you will see several items that cannot be composted.

A few years ago I was very interested in the composting of yard debris material and studied those processes at Washington State University. Many types of waste items can go through the composting process, such as the fish parts, coffee grounds, yard debris. I have been on the top of an 8 foot pile of fish parts that have been going through the composting process for at least a day and never smelled a thing. The key to the process is heat and air flow. One of the main tools needed is a thermometer that will test over 100 degrees. The air flow is produced by turning the material at certain points in the

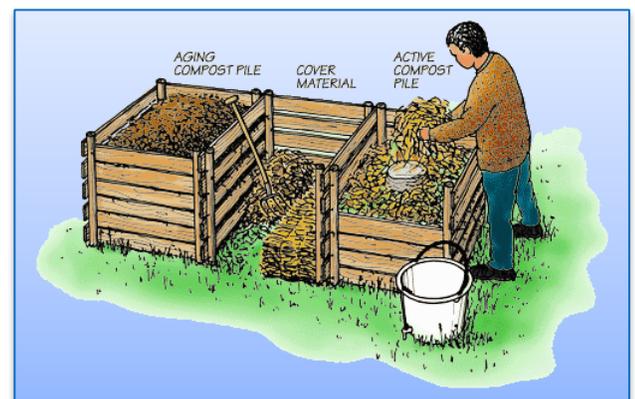
process. If a pile is tended to properly, all weed seeds and noxious weed material will become sterile as the result of the heat, 131 degrees Fahrenheit for 3 days or 72 hours minimum, with turning the material during this time.

Not all bulk compost that one can buy at a lawn and garden supply is the same. There may be chemicals that come from fertilizers, pesticides, or sprays for diseases, pest control and road oils. Buying a compost product in a bag will give some evidence that the product has been cured and is certified, allowing the consumer to know that the process was correct.

One of the worst chemicals, Clopyralid, has been banned for a couple of decades now. It was used on lawns in the 1990's. This chemical would not go away. It was in the commercial compost and brought to customers for lawns and gardens. It was put on crops and vegetable gardens and plants started dying.

One can test the compost produced at home or test the commercial product you wish to purchase. Place the compost in a plastic bag for 24 hours. Open the bag. If the compost smells, it is probably not finished. You can even go further if you are curious to find out what the carbon/nitrogen balance is and the pH of the product as well as the soil you are amending. You can purchase a test kit or have a sample evaluated at a laboratory.

This article is the opinion of the writer. The reader may do the research for themselves about the products they wish to use.



PROGRESS

Replacing the Giboshi



A 240lb piece of Purple Heart lumber 12x 8x 20ft. beam, stored at Moxon Hardwood for over 10yrs

5 sections that weighed about 48lbs. were cut



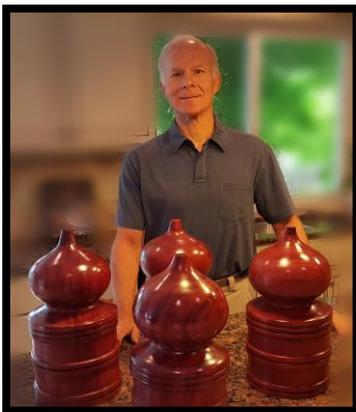
Mike Ash turned the pieces on his sizeable lathe



Jim Buck finished the wood by hand sanding with 100 grit sandpaper up to 1000 grit.



The finished product was treated with several coats of a clear coating of "Man of War" varnish.



MAIN CITY SATURDAYS

By now most readers know about the "Main City Saturday" program that brings larger groups to the park on any given Saturday during the year. Each month since the program started there have been groups coming to the park to help with the maintenance.

Until recently the concentration has been along the "spur trail" between the Springwater Trail and Powell Blvd. Because of the success of the program and the continued support of the KAZ KIDS, detailed work on that area is being completed and expanding to other sections of the park.

Recently one of the longtime volunteer groups, Portland Adventist School, wanted to volunteer on a Wednesday rather than Saturday. 30 students and staff concentrated on an overall cleanup; including the Garden, the storage yard, the trail area, the Resource Center and the parking lot area north of the baseball field. A truck load of debris later we have quite the improvements.

The MCS program is booked up through September of 2017. if you have a group in mind that might like to participate in the program contact:

greshamjapanesegarden@gmail.com



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For More Information
Shelley Wright: (503) 665-1131

GRESHAM SUNDAY PARKWAY EVENT, FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 18TH

June 18th from 10 to 2 is the first ever Gresham Sunday Parkway, sponsored by the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce. Celebrate Father's Day at this free regional event.

If you are a cyclist, Parkways need no explanation. If you are a dad, Father's Day needs not be explained. If you like to be outdoors, enjoy food, musical performances, games, giveaways, then the Gresham Sunday Parkway is a perfect fit.

Walk, bike, jog, skateboard, stroll with the baby, roller skate. You choose. We will provide a safe trail experience, food choices, perhaps a backyard garage sale or two, maybe even lawn mower races. Four hours of fun for the entire family.

Do all or part of the six miles of traffic free, paved trails connecting 3 pit stops full of everything from bike rodeo, musical performances, and bike helmet fittings to food, mascots and more. Walk, run, bike the entire 6 miles or 6 blocks. Three pit stops. Three different experiences at each. Safe outdoor trails and family friendly routes connecting each.

Event is free. Travel through bike friendly Historic Downtown Gresham, pit stops at City Hall, Gresham Main City Park and Gresham Grocery Outlet, stop, shop, ride, talk. Spend time outdoors rain or shine.

The Sunday Parkway is not a carnival, but it will have food

It's not a fair but rides are a feature.

It's not a circus (no elephants) but there will be mascots.

Active transportation plus the extras.

For more information go to: greshamchamber.org/sundayparkway or on our FaceBook page: [facebook.com/greshamsundayparkway/](https://www.facebook.com/greshamsundayparkway/). Or call the Chamber office at 503-665-1131.