



NEWS RELEASE

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(West Linn Garden Club Honors their Firefighters by Planting Commemorative Roses)

On February 13th at 2p.m., the **West Linn Garden Club** will plant five [Firefighter](#)[®] rose bushes in front of Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue's Bolton fire station in West Linn, 6050 Failing Street. The dark red rose was named for firefighters who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. According to Elaine Mahoney, one of the garden club's long-time members, the plan to place the roses at their local fire station has been in the works for some time. "West Linn Garden Club's intent with this planting is to honor all emergency responders, especially our own West Linn firefighters. We decided to time our planting to coincide with Oregon's sesquicentennial celebration."

The garden club's project reflects the spirit of a national effort underway. ["Remember Me" Rose Gardens](#) are being created on or near each of the three 9-11 sites to honor the spirit of the men and women whose lives were lost in New York, at the Pentagon, and at a field in Stonycreek Township, Pennsylvania. The gardens, which will contain more than 3000 roses, "are meant to uplift and renew the spirit of our nation". According to their web site, organizers also want to provide a beautiful sanctuary where the families and friends of all who lost their lives in the national tragedies can go to seek comfort and peace. Local Portland resident Sue Casey is the Board President of the "Remember Me" Rose Garden group who has been introducing roses every year named for different victim groups. Other roses include Soaring Spirits (Twin Tower victims), Forty Heroes (Flight 93), We Salute You (The Pentagon), and The Finest (NYC Police).

The West Linn Garden Club is one of the oldest non-profit clubs in West Linn dating back to at least 1916. In the 1920's the club was known as the West Linn Rose Society with members noted for their roses in the Holly Gardens area. The club's mission is to stimulate knowledge and love of amateur gardening, to aid in the protection of trees, plants, birds, air, soil, and water, and to promote civic beauty and sustainability of our lands. The club, which meets monthly from September through June at the West Linn Lutheran Church, welcomes new members.

According to Cassandra Ulven of Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue, "Once the new fire station is built, the roses will be transplanted near the station's entrance so that every West Linn resident who visits their fire station or uses their community room will see the lovely legacy of the garden club."

Roses for this project were donated by the West Linn Garden Club and Al's Garden Center in Sherwood.

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