

Red Cross to Portland's Humboldt neighborhood: Get prepared

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

PORTLAND, Ore. — When it comes to real estate, there are three things to keep in mind: location, location, location. But what if that location also came with an increased risk of a devastating house fire? Residents in North Portland's Humboldt neighborhood face just that reality, with the American Red Cross responding about four times more often there than elsewhere in the metro area. Why? A combination of reasons — everything from older housing stock with dated wiring to higher rates of uninsured homeowners. That's why on April 4 and 5, Oregon Trail Chapter staff and volunteers will fan out into the neighborhood, knocking on doors and providing assistance with home safety and emergency preparedness needs. "The goal of Together We Prepare Humboldt is to help prevent house fires and educate residents about all sorts of emergencies," said Thomas Bruner, CEO of the Oregon Trail Chapter. "We'll be handing out solo first aid and starter emergency kits in hopes that the Humboldt neighborhood will be safer than ever before." The "Knock and Talk" will run from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 4 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 5. Together We Prepare Humboldt will also include a neighborhood safety fair featuring hands-on first aid, CPR and disaster kit demonstrations as well as activities for kids. The fair will take place at Humboldt Elementary, 4915 N. Gantenbein, on Saturday, April 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Together We Prepare Our Neighborhood project, which will visit a new neighborhood each quarter, represents a new focus for the American Red Cross — strategic disaster prevention. For more information or to volunteer for this project, call 503-528-5619.

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