

## Alien invasion vividly invasive

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By Karl Klooster  
Of the News-Register

Like clockwork — not to be confused with A Clockwork Orange — creatures from distant worlds were inexplicably drawn to McMinnville once again last Saturday. For the lucky 13th consecutive year, these unearthly beings set foot, claw, pad and tentacle on our downtown streets

McMinnville Downtown Association operative Ginger Williams, on assignment to observe, monitor and even interact organizationally with all manner of sentient life forms, was debriefed in the aftermath.

“They came from everywhere,” Williams gasped, barely able to maintain her composure after such a taxing ordeal. “Word has apparently gotten out over the intergalactic communications network, and they’re determined to make a show of force.”

According to her calculations, the 2012 parade established a new record for entries at 55 and individual participants at 619. By comparison, the 2009 parade logged 37 entries and 349 individuals.

Williams expressed both elation and consternation at the prospect of continued increases. “Being able to have positive encounters with even more humanoids and other intelligent beings is exciting, but the logistics may become challenging.”

Pointing out that the growth of such an event is necessarily restricted by the size limitations of McMinnville’s central district, she mentioned that this year, the parade route was expanded to Fourth Street to accommodate more attendees.

“Not only were there more exotic aliens this year,” Williams said, “but more curious humans came to welcome them.”

The homo sapiens gawking in awe and wonder at the extraterrestrials and their bizarre vehicles passing by lined Third Street five deep. Observers who elected to view the scene from Fourth Street sidewalks enjoyed less crowded conditions.

Still, people stood curbside as far up Fourth as Evans.

If this continues, both streets could very well be packed with onlookers in years to come. There may be no stopping the momentum of McMinnville’s UFO Festival phenomenon.



Joel Ray / News-Register

Parade-goers roam Third Street before the parade.



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