

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

May 19, 2011



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AROUND THE CITY

City's Fleet Services Section Earns Eco-Biz Certification

The City's Fleet Services Section recently completed a two-year journey to become an Eco-Biz certified fleet operation. The Ecological Business Program (Eco-Biz) is sponsored by the Lane County Pollution Prevention Coalition and recognizes both public and private organizations that reach the highest standards in minimizing their impact on the environment. The goal of the program is to prevent and minimize pollution generated by small businesses in the Lane County area. This is one of the first multimedia (air, water, solid waste) certification programs in the nation.

The coalition includes City of Eugene, City of Springfield, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Lane Regional Air Protection Agency, Lane County Waste Management, Eugene Water and Electric Board, Springfield Utility Board and Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission.



Mayor Kitty Piercy visited the Fleet shop on Wednesday afternoon to recognize and thank the Fleet Services staff for their continued commitment to reducing the environmental impact in the community. "To qualify, Eugene Fleet adopted sustainable practices using non-hazardous materials, reducing waste and preventing spills from entering the sanitary and storm drains," said Mayor Piercy, who also recognized Denise Vilanova, a program coordinator in the Fleet Services section, for helping guide the process to achieve Eco-Biz certification. For more information, contact Tony Jobanek at 541-682-4808.

Celebrate Bethel and West Eugene on June 4

The City of Eugene Youth and Family program invites everyone to the 10th annual We Are Bethel Celebration on Saturday, June 4, 12 - 6 p.m. at Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Road. This year's theme is West Side Story...Jets and Sharks.



This event celebrating Bethel and West Eugene neighborhoods is free and includes music, featuring Medium Troy and youth performances, a rumble tumble carnival for the kids (25¢ tickets), community booths, and food for purchase.

The event line-up starts on the main stage with a welcome at noon, followed by performances by Willamette High School, the Shasta Jazz Band and Meadowview Jazz Band. At 1 p.m. there will be a “Milk Toast” honoring a person who has worked to build community in the Bethel/West Eugene area. The headline act, Medium Troy, will perform at 2:30 p.m., followed by Grrlz Rock and KEF.

Performances on the second stage begin at 1:30 p.m. with ACT-SO Youth, followed by contact improv, Sirens Dance Co., and Purple Glove. For more information call Peter Chavannes at 541-682-5521.

First Public Workshop Held for Proposed YMCA Community Center in Bethel Park

City of Eugene staff presented at a public workshop on the proposed YMCA Community Center in Bethel Community Park on Wednesday, May 11. The meeting at Meadowview School was attended by more than 40 community members and several staff members from the YMCA, Bethel School District, Bethel Branch Library, Parks and Open Space Division, and Recreation Division.

Staff presented information about the YMCA proposal, the park, the master plan and the process for updating the master plan. An online survey is being used as the primary means of receiving public input on the project. A link to the survey is on the project website at www.eugene-or.gov/bethelpark. The staff team will review input from the survey and prepare two or three alternatives to be presented and reviewed at the second public workshop in September. For more information, contact Project Manager Emily Proudfoot at 541-682-4915 or emily.a.proudfoot@ci.eugene.or.us.



Pat McGillivray, Bethel School District, talks about the proposed YMCA at Bethel Park

“Self-Compassion” Talk at Eugene Public Library

What would happen if people criticized themselves less? Would they behave badly and never accomplish anything? Or might they actually become more effective, healthier, and happier?

Based on empirical research, illustrated with everyday examples, psychologist Kristin Neff recommends a different idea: people should be kind to themselves. She will give a free talk about her book “Self-Compassion: Stop Beating Yourself Up and Leave Insecurity Behind” at the Downtown Eugene Public Library on Thursday, May 26, at 6 p.m.

Many people believe that intentionally raised self-esteem and its flip-side, self-criticism, are crucial to living a better life – but research by Neff and others strongly suggests that approach puts people on an emotional rollercoaster, rising and falling with each success and failure. In fact, people who are more self-compassionate lead healthier and more productive lives. They are less depressed and anxious, more satisfied with their lives, and more optimistic about the future.



According to Gloria Steinem, Neff’s book is “a portable friend to all readers — especially but not only women — who need to learn that the Golden Rule works only if it’s reversible: we must learn to treat ourselves as well as we wish to treat others.”

Based at the University of Texas at Austin, Neff is a pioneering researcher on self-compassion. Her focus on this subject was inspired by the Buddhist tradition of Insight Meditation. Neff published the first journal article that specifically defined self-compassion, and she created the Self-Compassion Scale currently in use by researchers worldwide.

To learn more about Dr. Neff’s work, visit www.self-compassion.org or see her recent columns for Psychology Today or The Huffington Post. At the Library talk, books will be available for purchase and signing courtesy of the University of Oregon Bookstore/Duck Store.

For more information, call the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450 or visit www.eugene-or.gov/library.

Oregon Global Warming Commission Roadmap to 2020 Community Workshop

The [Oregon Global Warming Commission](#) and the City of Eugene are partnering with the Eugene Water & Electric Board, City of Springfield, University of Oregon Office of Sustainability, Sustainability Commission and other local sponsors to host a free, interactive public workshop on Thursday May 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Eugene Hilton located at 66 East 6th Avenue in Eugene.



The workshop will focus on Oregon's statewide climate action plan, the [Roadmap to 2020](#), and [Eugene's Climate and Energy Action Plan](#). Participants will help shape the State's greenhouse gas reduction strategies, helping ensure that the strategies support related initiatives in the community. The invitation is extended to the public and policymakers alike. Please RSVP to roadmap2020@ci.eugene.or.us.

For more information, contact Climate and Energy Analyst [Matt McRae](#), City Manager's Office, at 541-682-5485 or visit www.eugene-or.gov/sustainability.