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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER February 21, 2013

IN THIS EDITION

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AROUND THE CITY

Resident Companies of Hult Center Delight Youth

School buses ferrying students to the Hult Center for youth education performances of the Eugene Ballet Company and the Eugene Symphony Association lined 5th, 6th and 7th avenues last week. The buses were filled by elementary through high school students from Eugene, Springfield, Junction City, Creswell, Cottage Grove and Roseburg. As resident companies of the Hult Center, these two organizations annually offer low-cost, educational performances to youth throughout the region and bring students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to attend to the Silva Concert Hall.



The Eugene Ballet Company's performance of Tchaikovsky's classical ballet *Swan Lake* was attended by 1,700 youth, and the Eugene Symphony's two performances of Gustav Holst's *The Planets* by almost 5,000 students. This year, the Hult Center proudly provided the Eugene Ballet Company's youth event with \$2,500 for 500 scholarships from the Britta Putjenter Memorial Education Fund established by Ms. Putjenter's husband, Klaus Putjenter.

Had a decibel reader been in the Hult Center lobby after the Tuesday, Feb. 12, performance of *The Planets* by the Eugene Symphony, it would have gauged the same as a sold-out football game! Middle and high school students beamed with joy as they left the concert. "What a sight to see and hear these students coming out of the Silva Concert Hall," said a smiling Marcia James, Hult Center ticket office manager.

Cameron Sizemore, son of Hult Center Events Manager Theresa Sizemore, and his entire school, enjoyed *Swan Lake*. Cameron was spotted posting on the Hult Center's Post-it Wall (photo above).

For more information, contact Community Events Manager Billie Moser at billie.c.moser@ci.eugene.or.us or 541-682-6347.

Will You Read this Book to Me?

After her Beginning Dance class at Petersen Barn Community Center, Sofia and her mom, Sarah, stopped by a local restaurant where Officer Dan Long was eating his lunch. With book in hand, Sofia asked, "Officer Dan, will you read this book to me?"

Officer Long read the whole book to her on his lunch break and then discussed the moral of the story with Sofia. Sofia's mom, Sarah, says, "We love Officer Dan!"

For more information, contact Kathy Madison at 541-682-6342.



South Willamette Street Alternatives Topic of February 27 Meeting

A community forum to evaluate a series of options for redesigning Willamette Street from 24th to 32nd streets will be held Wednesday, Feb. 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the South Eugene High School cafeteria, 400 East 19th Avenue. Participants are encouraged to RSVP by calling 541-682-8472 or e-mailing chris.c.henry@ci.eugene.or.us.

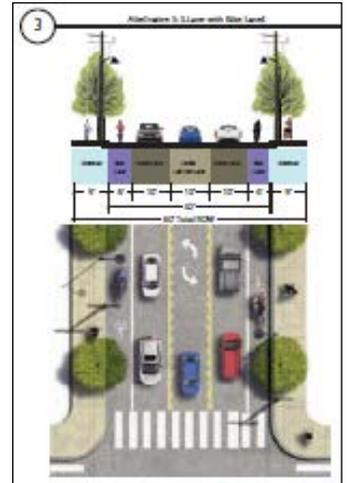
At the meeting, a project team of City of Eugene staff and consultants will show graphic designs of various alternatives and gather input on specific design alternatives. The presentation will include evaluations of how each alternative affects motor vehicle mobility, business access, sidewalks, bicycle facilities and transit service. The results from this meeting will be used to help the project team narrow the alternatives for future analysis.

The public engagement phase of the South Willamette Street improvement plan began last November with two well-attended community forums held to discuss project goals, share the results of traffic studies and begin to explore alternatives for future improvements to the design and condition of Willamette Street between 24th and 32nd avenues.

The goal of the study is to help South Willamette Street become a vibrant urban corridor accessible by bicycle, foot, car, and bus. Today, Willamette Street is heavily used to reach many popular destinations, yet it is uninviting to pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders and motorists alike. For years, many residents and business owners have shared complaints about the poor conditions on Willamette Street for walking and biking and the need to do something about it.

The plan aims to support existing businesses and the commercial district's vitality by creating a balanced multi-modal transportation system. It also is intended to further City planning efforts to identify compact growth and redevelopment opportunities and foster a well-informed and involved community supportive of the final outcomes.

For more information, contact Transportation Planning Engineer Chris Henry at 541-682-8472 or chris.c.henry@ci.eugene.or.us, or visit the project web site at www.eugene-or.gov/SWillametteStreet. The web site includes links to summaries of last November's public outreach.



Graphic designs will show various design alternatives.

Black History Month Play Performed by and for Children at Public Library

The Downtown Eugene Public Library will host a free Black History Month play performed by and for children on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The students of Drinking Gourd Elementary School, ages five through nine, will perform and bring young children in the audience onstage to participate in the play.

This year's play will tell the story of American athlete and Olympian Wilma Rudolph. Considered the fastest woman in the world at the time, she was the first American woman to win three gold medals in track and field during a single Olympic Games.

For more information, contact the Eugene Public Library at 541-682-8316 or www.eugene-or.gov/library.



American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Offered

The Aquatics Program is offering training sessions this spring for individuals age 15 and older who are interested in working as a lifeguard. The 40-hour course teaches students to recognize and rescue a person in distress or a drowning situation, and other professional lifeguard responsibilities. The course includes practice and review of lifeguard skills. The City Aquatics Program hires many graduates of this course as lifeguards over the summer months.

The training is at Echo Hollow Pool & Fitness Center, 1655 Echo Hollow Road, March 25 - 29, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; April 29 - May 10, 4 - 8 p.m., and May 13 - 24, 4 - 8 p.m. For more information, call Gayle Hein at 541-682-5525.