

Susan McLain

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 NEWS



METRO

PEOPLE PLACES
OPEN SPACES

**Susan McLain
represents
District 4, which
includes Northern
Washington
County, Cornelius,
Hillsboro, Forest
Grove, Northwest
Beaverton, Aloha,
Rock Creek, Bonny
Slope, Raleigh Hills,
West Slope, Cedar
Mill and Cedar Hills.**



A message from Susan McLain

Would you like to be more directly involved with Metro? If so, I invite you to apply to be a member of the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI). Three seats are currently vacant for citizens of Washington County. Two seats must be filled by residents of District 4 and one seat is open for residents in unincorporated Washington County outside the Metro boundary.

MCCI was established in 1992 to assist with the development, implementation and evaluation of Metro's citizen involvement program and to advise Metro on how best to involve residents in regional planning activities. MCCI members have given input to staff and Council on outreach plans for various Metro initiatives such as the Regional Transportation Plan update and the Waste Reduction Plan. As an MCCI member you will learn about many aspects of regional government including how jurisdictions work with each other, outside groups and citizens to make our region a better place to live.

MCCI meetings are open to the public, and you are welcome to attend a meeting before deciding whether you'd like to join. The next meeting is Wednesday, July 12, 6 - 8 p.m. at the Metro Regional Center. To learn more or to apply, please contact Cheryl Grant at (503) 797-1536 or grantc@metro.dst.or.us.

—Susan McLain

Citizen input helps shape region's waste reduction plan

Metro is currently revising the region's Waste Reduction Plan in order to help protect the environment and conserve resources.

This spring, Metro invited public comment on the draft plan by creating an on-line survey, which included background information describing proposed strategies and approaches to help reduce waste and conserve resources. More than 400 people gave input on the plan's overall vision and on key strategies to achieve the vision.

In addition to support for the plan's vision and values, we found strong support for several major themes, including a focus on waste prevention, not just recycling; improved access to recycling services, such as adding materials to curbside recycling;

more emphasis on education and outreach for all sectors of the population; and ensuring that responsibility for the recycling of hazardous and difficult-to-recycle products is shared by those who produce, distribute and use the products.

Metro will post results of the survey at www.metro-region.org/letstalktrash. The Metro Council will consider the plan for adoption in July or August 2006.

Music on Main Street concert series launches inaugural season

A new urban music series sponsored by ArtBar at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts is perfect for mid-week musings in Portland's cultural arts district. Music on Main Street takes place from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays from July 12 to

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Music on Main Street

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Aug. 30 at the Main Street Plaza at SW Broadway, next to the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, in downtown Portland.

This free summer series showcases local musicians and features an eclectic collection of music genres—from Afro-Caribbean reggae to indie pop singer/songwriters. The outdoor concert venue will include full service table seating, cool refreshments and tasty short-bites amicably served by the friendly and capable ArtBar service staff. Patron seating and food and beverage service will begin at 4:30 p.m.

This year's season features:

- July 12 – Instigators
- July 19 – Dirty Martini
- July 26 – Lions of Batucada
- August 2 – The Stolen Sweets
- August 9 – The Sort Ofs
- August 16 – Obo Addy
- August 23 – Amelia
- August 30 – 3 Leg Torso

Check www.pcpa.com/events for a full description of the music.

ZooTeens spur re-opening of interactive Insect Zoo

There's a big, bizarre and beautiful world of animals waiting to be discovered, and if Jamie Klein, a ZooTeen at the Oregon Zoo has her way, the zoo will build a new exhibit to showcase specimens from all over the globe.

But Klein isn't focusing on large critters, instead, she's got her eye on arthropods—the crustaceans, millipedes, centipedes, insects, and arachnids of the world.

Because of budget cuts, the Insect Zoo, established in the 1970s, has been open, but not staffed. But this summer, expert staff will be on hand to answer questions and explain why they believe the crawly creatures are cool, not creepy.

"The Insect Zoo had been an interactive exhibit," said Klein. "We talked with visitors, especially kids, explaining why insects are so important. But the structure is in pretty sad shape," said Klein. "It's only a matter of time before it will have to be demolished."

That means no more chances to rub noses with an Australian walkingstick, shake a leg with a Mexican red-kneed tarantula, hiss with a Madagascar hissing cockroach or tickle the senses with a giant African millipede. Such prospects are unthinkable to Klein, and that's what spurs her on.

Klein and other bug-loving ZooTeens are attempting to raise the estimated \$250,000 needed for a new insectarium.

"I'll be surprised if they don't succeed," said Zoo Director Tony Vecchio. "The teens are intelligent, enthusiastic and, most importantly, persistent."

Events of note in District 4

7 p.m. Friday, July 14, Family bat outing
Join naturalist Elaine Murphy to explore the fascinating world of bats. Meet at the Beaverton Backyard Bird Shop for a 45-minute class, then go to a local site to see live bats in action. Listen to bat echolocation calls using a bat detector. Children must be accompanied by an adult. To register, call (503) 626-0949.

10 a.m. Saturday, July 15, Watershed tour of Willow and Cedar Mill creeks
Explore Willow and Cedar Mill creeks from top to bottom. Starting in the headwaters overlooking Beaverton and Cedar Mill, you'll travel down to the valley, visiting sites along the way. Speakers will discuss natural history and stream health. A \$5 donation is suggested, but no one will be turned away. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953.

11 a.m. Saturday, July 22, Spineless Tales
Join bug expert Matthew Shepherd for a gentle walk through the parks flanking Bethany Creek to discover the rich insect life thriving in this suburban natural area. Meet at the park entrance at the northern end of Northwest 177th Avenue. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. Advance registration required; call (503) 629-6305 ext. 2953.

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About Metro

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy and good transportation choices for people and businesses in our region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges that cross those lines and affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to protecting open space, caring for parks, planning for the best use of land, managing garbage disposal and increasing recycling. Metro oversees world-class facilities such as the Oregon Zoo, which contributes to conservation and education, and the Oregon Convention Center, which benefits the region's economy.

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