

Carlotta Collette

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 NEWS | June 2009

Carlotta Collette represents District 2, which includes the cities of Gladstone, Johnson City, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oregon City, Rivergrove and West Linn and a portion of Southwest Portland.



Metro Pioneer Cemetery Unveils Restored Memorial

A personal message from Councilor Collette

This Memorial Day I had the honor of participating in a ceremony honoring Civil War Veterans at the only Metro-owned Pioneer Cemetery in District 2, the Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery in Southwest Portland.

The event was convened to celebrate the restoration of a six foot bronze statue of a Civil War soldier. The original statue had been installed in 1901, and was stolen in 1967. The cemetery itself had fallen into disuse and was long overgrown.

When Metro took over stewardship of the fourteen Pioneer Cemeteries in Multnomah County in 1994, our parks crews and community volunteers took on the overdue maintenance. Then, in 2005, when the Oregon legislature created a grant program to install veterans memorials on public lands, Metro and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War applied for and received the first grant under the new state program to replace the missing statue.

This was a very special event for me because my great-grandfather, Dosithe Gauthier, fought in the Civil War. Records show him as “Augustus Gokey” because he could neither read nor write English (he was a French Canadian who had moved to Michigan). He signed his enlistment form with an X, and the Justice of the Peace who accepted his enlistment did the best he could with the name. Since Dosithe was enlisting in August, he was renamed Augustus. Gauthier became Gokey. It took several months for him to actually receive pay with this new name, and years before the paperwork was cleared and he was able to receive benefits. My grandmother, his daughter, was a member of the Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic. The invitation to this ceremony was the first I’d heard about the Grand Army in decades.

As I said in my remarks, this celebration was the first opportunity I’ve had to publicly honor my great-grandfather’s service to this country.

About a hundred people gathered to watch the unveiling, listen to Civil War era music, including the 3rd Brigade Band and the King Elementary School Choir, and hear stories about veterans buried at the Grand Army Cemetery.

In addition to the bronze statue of the infantry man, volunteers have placed thirty-six new headstones on previously unmarked Civil War veterans’ graves.

For more information about Metro’s Pioneer Cemeteries, including the Grand Army of the Republic Civil War memorial cemetery, visit Historic Pioneer Cemeteries at our website. You can also use the site to search historic records of the people buried there.

– Carlotta Collette



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continued

Oregon Zoo Concerts a-go!

What do baby Samudra, summer weather and the B-52s have in common? They're all part of the Oregon Zoo's 31st annual summer concert series presented by NW Natural.

This year's zoo concert series promises to be an exhilarating experience with 18 shows from June through August. It is the longest-running outdoor concert series in the Pacific Northwest and one of the most anticipated events of the summer.

New this year is a showcase of local bands to take place Wednesday, July 8. Concert fans are asked to weigh in on which local bands they'd like to see perform that night. Voting for the showcase takes place through May 31 on the zoo's Web site.

The zoo concert series is presented by NW Natural with support from KINK.fm and KOIN Local 6. Tickets may be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com and at the zoo.

Funds raised during the concert series support several conservation projects, including the protection of threatened and endangered Northwest species.

General admission is \$9.75 (12-64), seniors \$8.25 (65+), children \$6.75 (3-11), and infants 2 and under are free; 25 cents of the admission price helps fund regional conservation projects through the zoo's Future for Wildlife program. A parking fee of \$2 per car is also required. Additional information is available at www.oregonzoo.org or by calling 503-226-1561.

Oregon Zoo summer concerts lineup

June 17	Femi Kuti & the Positive Force	\$10.50
June 19	B-52s	\$27
June 24	Sly & Robbie and the Taxi Gang	\$10.50
July 1	234th Army Band	FREE with zoo admission
July 8	Local band showcase	\$10.50
July 11	Tears for Fears with Wainwright	\$22
July 15	Vieux Farka Touré	\$10.50
July 17	Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Los Lobos	\$22
July 2	Riders in the Sky	\$10.50
July 24	Indigo Girls	\$19
July 29	Orchestra Baobab	\$10.50
July 31	Jewel	\$22.50
Aug. 5	The Wailers	\$10.50
Aug. 12	Jonatha Brooke	\$10.50
Aug. 14	Joan Baez	\$22

Aug. 19	Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca	\$10.50
Aug. 21	Susan Tedeschi with JJ Grey & Mofro	\$22
Aug. 28	Amos Lee	\$19

Cooper Mountain Nature Park Opens to visitors June 27th!

Overlooking the Tualatin River Valley, the new Cooper Mountain Nature Park sits on the edge of Beaverton. The 230-acre park offers visitors 3 1/2 miles of gravel trails (with varying levels of difficulty) traversing the park's rare habitats and natural features. Cooper Mountain Nature Park is operated through a partnership between Metro and the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District.

Summer programs help visitors discover the wonders of Cooper Mountain

Summer camps, bird walks, wildlife photography workshops, twilight explorations, stargazing and much more will all be part of the inaugural summer season at Cooper Mountain Nature Park. To register for events or programs call: 503-629-6350 or visit <http://www.thprd.org/parks/coopermountain.cfm>.

Cooper Mountain's stewardship a joint venture

The Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District will provide day to day management of Cooper Mountain Nature Park, including park ranger operations, security service, educational programming, park maintenance and natural resource management. Voter-approved funds allowed Metro to purchase land at Cooper Mountain beginning in 1997. More land acquisition followed until 230 acres were protected. Park development is supported by voter funding and a grant from Oregon State Parks. Volunteers have participated in nearly every aspect of Cooper Mountain's transformation.

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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