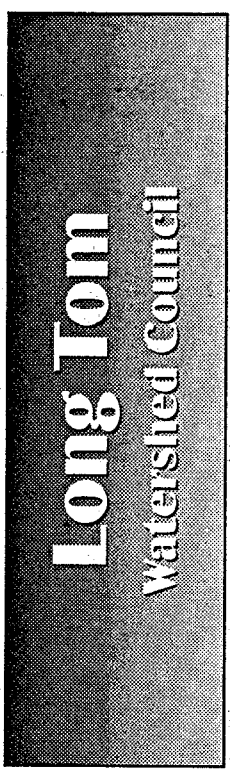


Upcoming special event trips include: Carriage Me Back to 1912 in Brownsville on Saturday; a shuttle to Seven Feathers on Friday, May 10; Behind the Scenes Tour at the Oregon Aquarium on May 18; Vancouver, British Columbia with Collette Vacations on May 22; Branson, Mo., with Collette vacations on Sept. 30; and a free shuttle bus from the center to Chinook Winds each Wednesday operated by Experience Oregon. For more information on trips call 998-1556.



By ALISSA MANSKE May 2, 2002

The following is adapted from the John Inskip Environmental Learning Center Newsletter. Behold the small town dweller, showing self-reliance and thriftiness. Saturday morning, a young couple changes the engine oil in their driveway. When finished, they get out a bucket and sponge and give the car a thorough washing with plenty of strong detergent. To finish, they hose the suds and oil down the driveway and into the gutter.

In a nearby yard, two gardeners take inventory of their plants. Realizing their plants have fungus, they spray everything in the yard with fungicide at twice its recommended strength. Is this really safe to use?

These are common scenarios in our urban and community neighborhoods. We don't give much thought to where the suds go, or what happens to the chemicals we use on our garden plants, lawns, and trees. They go away, don't they?

We've learned that discarded bottles, cans, plastics and paper products don't "go away." Unless properly recycled, they fill our landfills and litter our streets. In much the same way, the products we use around the house don't go away. They wash into storm drains and flow into our creeks, streams and rivers. Most of this stormwater runoff isn't treated at all before it enters our waterways.

Many people may be unaware of the path taken by stormwater as it travels through our neighborhoods. That grate at the end of the block, the ditch along the grocery store parking lot, the culvert under the highway all carry stormwater away from buildings and paved areas into rivers and streams. A surprising discovery is that most of this untreated stormwater goes directly into the rivers that supply drinking water to people and wildlife, and recreational opportunities for boating and swimming.

The way we conduct business in our own home, yard and work environment can make a difference. When applying chemicals in your home, garden, and yard, follow application instructions carefully and choose the least toxic product. Pesticides, herbicides and fungicides that meet the standards for use in organic gardens generally are less toxic to people and other creatures, and break down rapidly once applied.

Whether washing your car or hosing dirt off your driveway, be sure to direct the runoff into your yard instead of the storm drain. Remember, we all live downstream.

The next council meeting is set for May 28. More information is available by contacting Dana Erickson at 683-6578.

endorse Ballot Measure 13, which taps the state's Education Endowment Fund to provide a one-time \$220 million solution to Oregon's current school financing crisis. The proposal is favored by the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, but opposed by the Oregon School Board Association and the Oregon Education Association.

Board Chair Denise Pratt proposed that the district endorse the measure. Members Steve Shear, Glenn Collver and Mike Brotherton joined her in voting for the endorsement. Jim Bradshaw and Rob Harden abstained, with Bradshaw saying that he had not had the opportunity to digest information on the measure.

Nelson from page 1

Wendell, Nelson. Water-Sewer-Street Kellerman, Christensen, Nelson. A customer service representative at Eugene's U-Lane-O Credit Union, Nelson grew up in Junction City and graduated from high school in 1994. In 1998, he completed an Oregon State University degree in business administration, with a minor in economics.

After working for a year as a mortgage broker, he joined the U-Lane-O Credit Union, where he is currently an assistant manager in the organization's downtown Eugene office. Nelson was appointed to the planning commission in 1999 and to the city budget committee the following year. Though he was only 24 at the time, his fellow members elected him chairman, a post he has now held through three annual budget cycles.

Ethan Nelson's great-grandfather, Thomas Nelson, the editor and publisher of the old Junction City Times, served four years as mayor in the late 1940s. Even earlier, Ethan's grandfather, Vard Nelson, had served on the city's zoning board in the 1930s. In later years, Vard Nelson served at various times on the City Council, the planning commission and the budget committee; he was also the

larger Oaklea setting. And it's been opposed by other parents who believe that, at sixth-grade age, their children need the experience of the larger school. Meanwhile, Supt. Don Anderson has edged away from the change because the district experienced a mid-year enrollment decline that's led him to believe there won't be a crowding problem at Oaklea next fall. Considering the issue last week, board members touched on the possibility of a very small sixth-grade class — perhaps as small as 13 students — to accommodate those parents who want their children to stay at the school. But such a sixth-grade classroom, approximately half the size of others in the district, would

city's civil defense director. Later, Ethan's father, Rob Nelson, served on the City Council. Currently, both father and son are on the planning commission, although Ethan will be required to give up that position, because the city charter will not permit him to hold that post and a council seat at the same time.

Parade

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the BPW flier.

This year, Touch A Truck, sponsored by the Family Resource Network Connection of Junction City, will again join with the Pet Parade to allow children to see all kinds of trucks and tractors up close. The vehicles will be on display in the city parking lot at Fifth and Greenwood, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Categories for prizes include: oranges, dolls, small dogs, costumes, cats, tricycles, groups of four or more, large dogs, various wheels, bicycles, small animals, floats, feathered pets, characters, large animals and horses.

Participants are being encouraged to stick around after the parade for prizes and treats. More information is available from Cook at 998-1345.