

# McLoughlin

Memoranda

Volume XII, No. 5

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

May-June 2008

## MAY GENERAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

**THURSDAY, May 1, 7-9 pm**  
**Fire Station Conference Room, 2nd Floor**  
*(Enter on the parking lot side of the building.)*

### Demolition Denial – Will it Affect You?

The program for the May Meeting will consist of a review of the Demolition Denial legislation under consideration by the City of Oregon City. Christine Robertson-Gardner, Associate Planner, will review the code proposal and its relationship to the McLoughlin Conservation District and Canemah National Register District. Come with your questions.

*From the Chairs...*

**S**ustainability is a word you hear more and more from developers, city officials, recyclers and yes, even the citizens of our City. Everyone is concerned about the rate of the loss of our air, water, soils etc. It seems such a huge problem. What can we do as neighbors to improve the quality of our life not just for now but for future generations? A group of neighbors are taking up that cause; they are looking at the air, water and noise that affect us in our neighborhood and the larger city. Stay tuned as they research the problems and challenges and report back to us. In the meantime, here are a few thoughts that might help us gain a little momentum.

Check your refrigerator to make sure the seals are intact. Don't run your dishwasher until it's full. Look at your cleaners and detergents; if they are corrosives or poisons, they are bad for the water and environment. Vinegar can be substituted for most cleaning chores and is a natural by-product. Get rid of the junk mail. Americans discard 4 million tons of paper per year, enough to build a 12-foot-high wall of paper from California to New York. Register with the Mail Preference Service of the Direct Marketing Association; they can't stop all of the flow, but they can help eliminate a lot of unwanted mail. Check your lights - turn them off when you are not in the room and use energy-efficient light bulbs. Plant draught resistant plants and use mulch; it will reduce the evaporation of the water as well as the runoff by 70 - 95%. Take a walk, use your car less, shop locally and use the many medical and business providers in our community.

It takes more commitment than money to invest in green sustainable living. Start at home and see how many ways you can help our environment.

*Tim Powell & William Gifford, Co-Chairs*

Facts from [greenlivingideas.com](http://greenlivingideas.com)

## MNA Meeting Dates

**MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JULY.**

**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETS EVERY OTHER MONTH. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND STEERING MEETINGS.**

### GENERAL MEETINGS

- July 9, 2008 (tentative)
- September 4, 2008
- November 6, 2008
- January 8, 2009

**TIME: 7 PM**

**LOCATION: FIRE STATION CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR**

### STEERING COMMITTEE

- June 5, 2008
- August 7, 2008
- October 2, 2008
- December 4, 2008

**TIME: 7 PM**

**LOCATION: NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION OFFICE, FIRE STATION, LOWER LEVEL. ENTRANCE ON 7TH STREET.**

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[www.mnaoc.org](http://www.mnaoc.org)

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## Carnegie Center Update



At least one recent newspaper article and an announcement at the State of the City led many to believe that the City was planning on re-locating some city employees and possibly the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce office into the Carnegie Center building.

A phone call to City Manager Larry Patterson indicated that those plans have changed and any future change of use of the center has not yet been determined.

## Why Buy Local

Buying from local merchants does more than just keep them in business—it has a powerful and lasting effect on our community, our economy and our culture.

WHEN YOU BUY LOCAL, you are...

- Keeping dollars in the local Oregon City economy
- Preserving the character and well-being of Oregon City
- Discouraging sprawl, pollution, and waste
- Getting personal customer service and
- Maintaining our small town charm

### CONTEST: Do you know your local businesses?

If you can name five (5) local Oregon City businesses in the McLoughlin Neighborhood, e-mail your submission to [guttmcg@msn.com](mailto:guttmcg@msn.com) by 5 pm on April 30<sup>th</sup>. You could win a McLoughlin Neighborhood t-shirt. *Contest not open to officers or steering committee members of the MNA.* The winner will be announced at the May 1, 2008 General Meeting. GOOD LUCK!

## McLoughlin Neighborhood to Host First City Repair Project Outside of Portland

Gabrielle and Thomas Chavez have announced the creation of a cob project (Natural Earth Mortar) to be built by City Repair 2008 and the Village Building Convergence during May 23-June 1 on the corner of Division and Morton Streets. The project will be called the “Trail’s Crossing Community Bench Project” and will consist of a rebar, mortar, recycled gravel foundation finished with stone and a cob structure with tree rounds as a bench and wagon wheels as supports with a roof water collection system and pond in the couples’ back yard. This bench will be covered and will be used by TriMet riders and other neighbors. This is an important step in natural sustainable community designs and the first one for Oregon City.

Gabrielle and Tom invite you to stop by to learn how to build with cob and other sustainable building techniques from experts in the field. You can reach them at 503-650-4447 or by e-mail at [gabrielle@cthathering.org](mailto:gabrielle@cthathering.org).

## Help the Farmers Market

Our Oregon City Farmers Market is seriously in need of a few volunteers.

Many opportunities are available to help this great effort on Saturday mornings. Even a little time would be a great help.

Please call Jackie Hammond-Williams at 503.734.0192 for more information.



## Tree Removal in Oregon City

Do you have a concern regarding a tree in the parking strip in front of your house? Don't know what to do?

When do I need permission from the City of Oregon City to remove a tree?

The City discourages the removal of trees because of their benefit to our community; however there are some circumstances where removal is warranted.

### TREES LOCATED ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

Trees located on City property (planter strips, land that is not privately owned) required approval by the city to be cut down. Please contact the Planning Division at [503-657-0891](tel:503-657-0891) for more information.

### TREES LOCATED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

If the tree is located on private property, you may remove the tree without approval by the City *unless* one of the following applies:

1. On private property in the Canemah National Register Historic District.
2. On private property with an individually designated historic structure.
3. On private property where the land is sloped over 35 percent.
4. On private property within 200 feet of a stream or wetland.
5. On private which does not contain a single-family home.
6. On property which a development application is being reviewed by the City.

If the tree is located in any of the above situations, further consideration is necessary. Please contact the Planning Division at [503-657-0891](tel:503-657-0891) to verify if permission by the City is required for tree removal.

For more information look at the website: [www.ci.oregon-city.or.us/community-develop/planning/douments/treelistbyplantingstripwidth.pdf](http://www.ci.oregon-city.or.us/community-develop/planning/douments/treelistbyplantingstripwidth.pdf) for information on the approved street tree planting list. This list is arranged by planting strip width.

## It's SnoCone Season ... Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help with SnoCone booth sales at the July / August Concerts in the Park. Please come to the May General Meeting and volunteer. It is our major fundraiser for the year. (And it's fun, too!)

## How do you like to party?

The State of Oregon is celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday next year and the oldest neighborhood in Oregon's oldest town is invited to participate.

We're seeking ways to strut our stuff. Writing and performing songs and vignettes, planting trees, passports stamped at historic locales – these are few ideas. What are yours? How would you like to see Oregon celebrate its sesquicentennial?

Contact Councilperson Daphne Wuest [dwest@ci.oregon-city.or.us](mailto:dwest@ci.oregon-city.or.us) or Mayor Alice Norris [anorris@ci.oregon-city.or.us](mailto:anorris@ci.oregon-city.or.us) with your ideas or questions.



## Land Use Report

**HRB07-13:** 520 Monroe Street. Exterior alterations to a designated landmark. Application denied.

**SP05-20:** Code Violation. Municipal Court hearing date continued to April 24, 2008 at 3 pm.

**7<sup>th</sup> Street Plaza-** We are working with the city staff to develop a plant list.