

Pasko decided to be one of the program's guinea pigs and had 18 solar panels installed on his family's home in early June. He says the process took about three weeks from the evaluation to solar power. "It will literally save me, over about 20 years, about \$12,000 in energy bills," Pasko says. "They look great on my house, and things went up really smoothly."

Pasko hopes that the Sierra Club's deal for its members helps kick off a sustainable energy trend. He says, "We're really excited to offer our members the opportunity to save a lot of money and be part of Oregon's energy future."

Sally Nunn, chair of the local Sierra Club, says members of the Many Rivers Group, which includes Lane, Douglas and Coos counties, are also responding favorably to "this incredible opportunity to reduce their carbon footprint." — *Shannon Finnell*

## CITY PLANS CAR SHARE PROGRAM

The city of Eugene, working with Lane Transit District and point2point Solutions, is developing a citywide car sharing program, tentatively set to begin next fall.

"Basically we're in the process of developing a RFP (request for proposal) for car sharing in the city," said Theresa Brand, program manager of point2point Solutions, a government alternative-transportation program run out of LTD. "The ideal would be that the program would have representation in Eugene and Springfield and then eventually expand."

The goal of the program is to reduce pollution and congestion on the road through carpooling and ride sharing, as well as improve parking conditions in the downtown area.

The proposal would bolster the city's existing transportation infrastructure, providing car share services to residents in

Eugene and Springfield, allowing them to reserve cars online and then go to centrally located depots to pick them up.

"National studies have shown that having a car share car can take up to 15 cars off the road" per shared car, said Brand. "For people who don't drive as much, it can be a very cost-effective means of transit."

The city is taking its lead from UO, which has been contracting with WeCar for the past two years to provide car sharing services to students. The university has been trying to lower motor vehicle use on campus, hoping to eventually institute a no-car policy for incoming students.

"The idea is that the university needs to reduce the number of cars coming to campus," said former UO Student Government Environmental Advocate Nathan Howard. "The idea is to have multiple options for alternative transportation."

Because UO has had limited success with the WeCar program, it has signed a three-year contract with Zipcar, another car sharing company.

"WeCar has some perks, and provides services to many regions, but Zipcar is the superior carshare program," said Howard. "We've been pretty impressed with Zipcar's results."

In addition to Zipcar the university has signed a contract for next year with a ride sharing service called Zimride, which will provide a networking service for students looking for carpools. According to Howard, 10 to 20 percent of the student body will use Zimride within the first year, resulting in a savings of over 190,000 pounds of carbon.

Although the programs are limited to the university campus, Howard believes they are a good example of how alternative transportation can be implemented in the Eugene area. "I think people are realizing that there is no one silver bullet for solutions after cars," he said. "Transportation is a large part of sustainability." — *Nils Holst*



## MUSICIANS JAM AT CITY CLUB

Lane County has a vibrant and growing live music scene, and thousands of musicians make their homes here, performing, teaching, composing, producing and doing whatever else is needed to make a living. City Club of Eugene invited four professional musicians to talk about their art and their lives June 17, ending with a jam session of George Gershwin's "Summertime."

Musicians Paul Biondi, Laura Kemp, Jessie Marquez and David Burham (from left in photo above) talked about how they became musicians, their daily routines, their challenges and sacrifices, and the importance of music in their lives.

One theme that ran through all their stories is the significance of early childhood education in music and concern that arts are being cut from public school budgets.

"Every person has a gift, and if they are not able to find out what that gift is and nurture it, that gift could be lost," said Burham, a violist with the Eugene Symphony for 27 years. "My life would be barren, soulless without music."

Biondi, a jazz and blues saxophonist who has toured with many nationally known musicians, said he was introduced to music in the fourth grade and it changed his life. "I was able to take band, get an instrument and get lessons from the band director. ... Programs are being slashed today, programs that keep kids out of trouble. It's a big mistake if we don't get back to supporting music in our schools."

Marquez, a singer and composer who combines Cuban, Brazilian, jazz and pop, said she also discovered music as a young girl. She laments that not all children get to explore music. "So many children do not have opportunities for private music lessons today due to money issues."

Kemp has been a fixture on the local music scene since 1990, performing and composing everything from bluegrass to jazz to Indian kirtan music. "I love to pass along my passion to students, teaching young people how to make music, and then running into them years later and finding they are still making music."

Making a living as an artist in Eugene has never been easy, and these musicians talked about the drop in pay for gigs, the limited performance venues, the lack of health insurance, the need to do other work to pay the bills (Burham builds electric violins), and the sometimes tedious business and entrepreneurial side of being a musician in the age of the internet.

But all were upbeat about living in the Eugene area and the future of our local music scene. "The support of the community makes it possible for us to do what we are doing," said Biondi. "Please keep it up — and maybe crank it up some more."

"Why can't we have Eugene Celebration every week?" asked Biondi, noting that our area has some of the most talented musicians in the country. He noted that about 13 percent of the economy of the city of Austin, Texas, is based on music and the arts. In Eugene, he says, it's only 1 percent. — *Ted Taylor*

## OUR ENVIRONMENT AND THE HUMAN HEART

Please join us for a devotional gathering followed by a discussion on the interconnectedness of humanity and the earth.

Sunday, June 26, 10:00 a.m. • Eugene Bahá'í Center • 1458 Alder Street



INVESTIGATE THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH

Religion Renewed for a Changing World

WWW.EUGENEBAHAI.ORG • 541-344-3173



*traveling soon?*

medical advice for global travelers

THE TRAVEL CLINIC

John D. Wilson, M.D.  
1200 Hilyard St., Suite S-560  
541/343-6028

[www.TravelClinicOregon.com](http://www.TravelClinicOregon.com)

Questions? Email us at [travelclinicoregon.343-6028@gmail.com](mailto:travelclinicoregon.343-6028@gmail.com)

**Bicycling Magazine— "Breezer Infinity is..."**

## Bicycle of the year!

"...the Infinity offered a nimble, quick ride that let us roll comfortably through traffic, zip down hills, and spin up climbs in style..." Commuter bike of 2011.

Try out Breezer, Surly, Civia & Xtracycle bikes!  
2705 Willamette St • 541.484.5410  
Mon-Fri 11-7, Sat 10-6, Now Sundays 12-5!  
[arrivingbybike.com](http://arrivingbybike.com) on facebook/web

**arriving by bike**

**Urban Cycling Outfitters**



FARMERS  
DICK MARTIN

For All Your Insurance Needs  
• Auto • Life • Home • Business  
637 W 7th Ave, Suite 2 | Eugene, OR  
[dmartin4@farmersagent.com](mailto:dmartin4@farmersagent.com)

**541-868-2442**