

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### Fire danger over; parks to re-open

The sudden arrival of fall rains has resulted in the reopening of Eugene's Spencer Butte, Skinner Butte and Ridgeline Trail, effective at 8 a.m. today. The three recreational areas were ordered closed to the public by the Eugene fire marshal Oct. 5 because of dry conditions and extreme fire danger.

### Gift in store for skiers

Hoodoo Ski Bowl will offer free skiing this year, from 9 to 10 a.m. daily to let skiers sample skiing conditions before purchasing lift tickets.

This "Guaranteed Skiing" program will begin opening day of the 1991-92 season. Additionally, Hoodoo is changing its operating schedule, and will be open Thursdays through Sundays.

### Hill announces resignation

Oregon state Senator Larry Hill, D-Springfield, announced Monday that he is resigning from his legislative seat next month to take a job with the Oregon Public Employees Union.

Hill, who has served in the Oregon Senate for the last nine years, will leave his position Nov. 1 to become the political director for the employees union.

Thus far, two contenders, Springfield Mayor Bill Morrisette and state Rep. Bill Dwyer, D-Springfield, have expressed interest in the position. State law requires that the Lane County Board of Commissioners appoint another Democrat to the district 21 seat by Dec. 1.

### Hearing planned for LTD rezoning

The secretary of state's office has scheduled a public hearing on the rezoning of the Lane Transit District Board for Friday, Oct. 25.

Secretary of State Phil Keisling will speak at 10 a.m. in the public meeting room at the LTD headquarters, 3500 E. 17th, Eugene.

Lane Transit District Board members are appointed to four year terms by the governor and must reside in the district for which they serve. District lines are redrawn every ten years after the census is taken to divide the population into equal segments for the board members to represent.

### Officials approve toll system

The city of Portland recently adopted a plan that city officials say will reduce traffic congestion and pollution by charging motorists a fee.

The plan, titled "Portland Future Focus Strategic Plan," was approved by the city council Oct. 17, but must first be approved by the Oregon Legislature before it can be carried out.

Under the plan, regional tolls would be taken from motorists on Portland's main traffic arterials to encourage drivers to car pool during rush hour.

Also, the city plans to institute a vehicle miles traveled fee, which would require that motorists pay for actual miles driven. Officials said that the fee would, in effect, pay for the water and air pollution that each driver causes.

The revenues from the fees would go toward road maintenance and other transit projects.

## AUTHOR

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"I cannot prove that my mother, Diane Dixon Tempest, or my grandmothers, Lettie Romney Dixon and Kathryn Blackett Tempest, along with my aunts, contracted cancer from nuclear fallout in Utah. But I can't prove they didn't," she writes in "The Clan of One-Breasted Women," an essay that serves as the epilogue to *Refuge*.

Williams herself has had two biopsies for breast cancer, and had a tumor removed from between her ribs that was diagnosed as "a borderline malignancy."

Williams did not become fully aware of her family's exposure to radiation until two years after her mother's death, when her father told her that her recurring dreams about flashes of light in the desert sky weren't dreams — they were mushroom clouds.

Before this realization, however, she felt that something might be wrong. It did not seem logical to her, she said, that three women in her family, not related by blood, would all be stricken with cancer within a 20-month period.

Even more unusual, she said was that her family was Mormon, and Mormons traditionally have a low rate of cancer.

Since 1988, Williams has participated in nuclear weapons protests in Nevada. "I have been arrested twice, and I will continue to do so until nuclear testing is stopped," she said.

"It's about standing our ground in the places that we love. I have a broken heart, and this is one small gesture for the Clan of One-Breasted Women."

Williams said that protesting nuclear testing brings her a sense of power over what she could not control — the deaths of the women in her family.

The attempt to gain a sense of power is seen in the beginning of *Refuge* when, on the way to visit an owl nest, she remarks to a friend that she is not sure she has ever felt rage. Then she finds that where the nest has been leveled, somewhat to the amusement of nearby workers.

Williams walked over to the truck the men sat in, raised her middle finger and said, "this is from me and the owls."

"In that situation, my only sense of power was to flip off those men," she said. "Now it's civil disobedience."

As part of her work to end nuclear testing, Williams will visit the Soviet Union this spring to meet with victims of radiation exposure from the Chernobyl nuclear site in that country.

Williams said she has been writing for as long as she can remember, and began keeping a regular journal in her teen-age years.

"It was a way of keeping a dialogue with myself," she said.

Williams' previous works include two children's books, *The Secret Language of Snow*

and *Magic Lights and Streets of Shining Jet*; her master's thesis, *Pieces of White Shell: A Journey Through Navajo Land*, which won the 1984 Southwest Book Award; and *Coyote's Canyon*, a book of stories and photographs.

Williams said she has no current plans for another book, that when she writes a book it is in response to a question she has.

"For now, I just want to live my life," she said. "My writing comes out of my life, and now I just want to heal."

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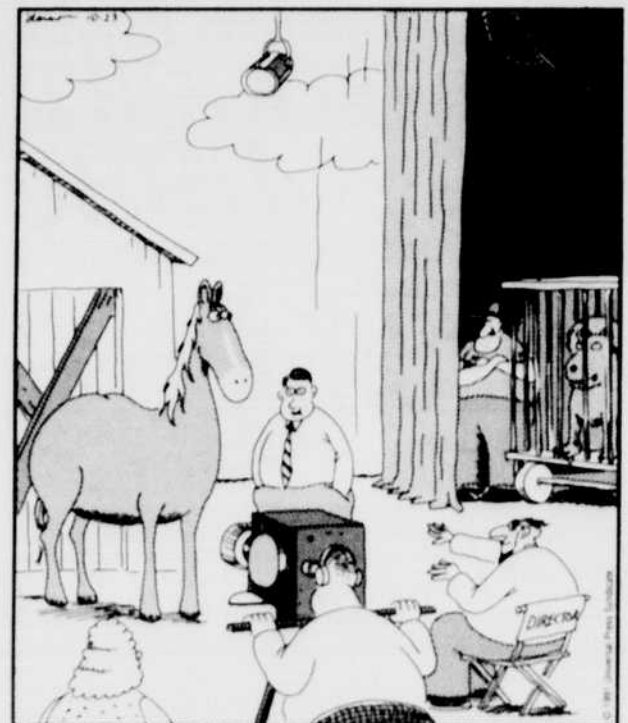
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By GARY LARSON



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