

\$5.8 million levy on ballot for local law enforcement

By Meg Dedolph
Emerald Reporter

The Eugene Public Safety Advisory Committee voted Thursday to support a \$5.8 million serial levy for law enforcement, following a presentation by Lane County Commissioner Jack Roberts and Captain Eric Langford of the Lane County Sheriff's Department.

The levy, which will be on the March 23 ballot, is the third in a series of levies for law enforcement and corrections, the first of which was passed in 1987.

Roberts said he believed the levy represented a reasonable cost to taxpayers.

Roberts said the levy would cost 53 cents per \$1,000, meaning a home worth \$72,000 would generate \$32 each year for law enforcement.

"I think that's a reasonable cost for the services provided," Roberts said.

If passed, the money raised from the levy would be distributed between the Lane County Sheriff's Department and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The sheriff's department, which operates two work-oriented correctional facilities, would use the money to fund these facilities and 13 patrol officers.

One of the correctional facilities, a forest work camp, began in 1987 with the passage of a similar levy. Though it has space for 120 inmates, Langford said "the facility is operating below capacity, with around 50 people in custody."

During the past year, the inmates at this camp performed more than 200,000 hours of community service, which included carpentry, painting, clearing brush and repairing baseball fields used by Kidsports.

The other facility, a 76-bed community correctional

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— Jack Roberts,
Lane County commissioner

center, would only be partially funded by the levy.

The Department of Health and Human Services would use levy funds to operate an eight-bed psychiatric hospital under contract from Sacred Heart General Hospital where inmates are kept who may not be suitable for incarceration elsewhere.

The levy would also fund a 14-bed juvenile facility and a 50-bed facility for alcohol and drug detoxification.

AMAZON

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residents have moved from the area within the past two years because of noise problems and safety concerns for children.

Packets will not automatically be given to people who move into the area or already live there, but those interested in obtaining a packet or more information can call either 344-9530 or 345-3591. Leave a message including an address, and the packet will be mailed.

Prof pushes earth homes

A former University professor presented his vision of tomorrow's energy-efficient home Thursday night in Lawrence Hall.

Richard Britz, who has helped pioneer construction of earth shelters, gave a slide show detailing his latest work in northern Arizona.

Earth shelters are bubble-shaped buildings half-buried in sloping hillsides. They take advantage of the earth's insulating properties, while at the same time drawing sunlight through massive windows to heat the interior.

"Light is critical in earth shelter buildings, ours have about 200 percent more ambient light than most buildings," Britz said. "And they are 30 percent more efficient than building codes require."

Britz said his buildings are cheap to build, now at a cost of \$28 a square foot.

University architecture graduate student David Reynolds said that cost is about half the price for most American homes.

"A normal home costs \$50 to \$75 dollars a square foot, a square foot being all the living space inside the house," Reynolds said.

PHONES

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Labor for the rewiring of the EMU is also expensive. Barta said the hourly rate for labor is between \$30 and \$50 an hour. He said telecommunications does not have the manpower to rewire, so it has to hire outside workers.

Though the bills are expensive, Barta said his department isn't making a profit at the expense of student groups.

EMU Director Dusty Miller, whose office was charged for rewiring, said he was satisfied with charges once he met with telecommunication services and had the charges explained to him.

"They found some things that were absolutely mandatory to correct to meet code," Miller said.

However, some of the other student groups were unable and unwilling to pay their bills.

Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship Director Matt Tallman said it was absurd for his group to pay \$500 for updating a phone system when all it wanted was have a phone installed. Tallman said he met with the dean of students and got his bill reduced to \$100.

Students for Choice and KWVA said they also had their

bills reduced because they thought they were too high.

"Why put the the responsibility to subsidize the system on the student groups?" asked Joe Grube of KWVA.

In the special cases where student groups got reduced rates, telecommunications services ended up losing money, Barta said.

"If we were a private business, we would be pulling our hair out," Barta said. "But we're doing this to benefit the University."

Barta said he hopes the worst of the rewiring of the EMU is over. The building is almost completely rewired.

However, if a student group moves into a room that has not been rewired, it will have to pay to get the room up to code, Barta said.

When the Voice recently moved into a new office, that's what happened. Kolen said the Voice office does not have a phone because he refuses to pay the \$500 rewiring-installation fee.

"I don't see why we have to pay if they are the ones who want to upgrade," Kolen said. "Why send the bill to student groups?"

ET ALS

MEETINGS

ASUO student health insurance committee will meet today at 2 p.m. in the Student Health Center medical library. For more information, call 346-3702.

Golden Key Honor Society will meet today at 2:30 p.m. in Room 164 Oregon Hall. For more information, call 344-2037.

Chronic Fatigue Syndrome support group will meet Sunday at 3:30 p.m. at the Emerald People's Utility District building. For more information, call 686-0310.

RELIGION

Eckankar of Eugene will have a worship service and discussion tonight at 6:45 at 315-D W. 13th Ave. For more information, call 343-2657.

MISCELLANEOUS

First Christian Church will host a handbell festival Sunday night at 7:30 at 1166 Oak St. For more information, call 344-1425.

UO Circle K will host a fund-raising project Saturday night from 5 to 10 at the Gateway Emporium. Interested parties should meet at the crosswalk at 4:30 p.m. For more information, call 345-7154.

Ecology Colloquium sponsors Dr. Bill Rice's presentation, "The Evolution of Dimorphic Sex Chromosomes," today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 112 Willamette.

Japanese Student Organization will have a Japanese language table today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Room 225 Friendly. For more information, call 344-6784.

The Mayan Connection and Friends

will host a commemorative evening in honor of the Spanish Embassy Massacre Sunday night from 5:30 to 8:30 at the Friends Meeting House, 2274 Onyx.

Education Opportunities Program will have a workshop on structuring larger papers today at 2:30 p.m. in Room 134 Gilbert. For more information, call 346-3232.

Hillel will host a Shabbat veggie potluck tonight at 7 at 327 Mary Lane. For more information, call 343-8920.

UO United Jewish Appeal Campaign sponsors Anna Poleschuck's presentation about her immigration from the former Soviet Union Saturday at 2 p.m. in the EMU Ben Linder Room. For more information, call 485-2297.

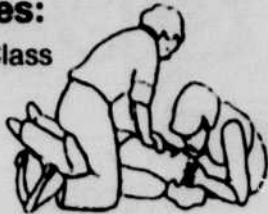
Deadline for submitting Et Als to the Emerald front desk, EMU Suite 300, is noon the day before publication.

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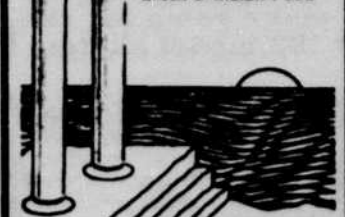
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