



Busted shop gets new owner

Midtown Pipe and Tobacco says it sells only tobacco products after a federal drug bust closed the former shop, Higher Source

Brook Reinhard
News Editor

Hugh Salkind is an artist. He spends his day showing glass water pipes and other smoking utensils to customers. But if anyone in the Midtown Pipe and Tobacco store he manages even mentions the word

"bong," business is abruptly cut short. "Your purchase affirms that you are acquiring our products for your own personal tobacco pleasure," explains a sign just inside the store.

Just a few months ago, Midtown Pipe and Tobacco was known as Higher Source, one of three Eugene businesses shut down in a federal anti-drug raid, Operation Headhunter, on Feb. 24.

Higher Source owners Saeed Mohtadi and Jason Robert Harris, who also co-owned glass-blowing business Jerome Bak-

er Designs Inc., distributing company Universal Glass Inc. and four Web sites, had to sell off all their businesses when the two pled guilty May 15 to one count of conspiracy to distribute drug paraphernalia.

The federal drug bust, which indicted 55 people nationwide, put dozens of local glass artisans out of work, including Salkind.

"Most of them are unemployed," he said. "Some of them have found other places. It's hard to find jobs in Oregon."

Ironically, Midtown Pipe and Tobacco

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Adam Amato Emerald

Jerome Baker Designs, Inc. was one of three Eugene businesses and four online businesses shut down in federal anti-drug raids Feb 24.

Books for children



Students and teachers at Patterson Elementary School read the books given to students by the University chapter of Mortar Board. Jessica Waters Emerald

Giving to the future

University Mortar Board members read and gave out children's books to Patterson Elementary students Friday

Roman Gokhman
Campus/City Culture Reporter

"Young cat! If you keep your eyes open enough, oh the stuff you will learn! The most wonderful stuff!"

Amos Nadler, a member of the University

chapter of Mortar Board, read these words, out of Dr. Seuss' "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!" to several hundred Patterson Elementary School children in West Eugene on Friday.

Besides reading to the children, Nadler and several other Mortar Board members gave each of the children two books to take home with them. Members collected the books last fall by setting paper grocery bags in front of homes with notes attached to them. Nadler said this particular school was picked because he was told it had

one of the highest numbers of low-income families of any school in Oregon.

"It had the greater need," he said. "I was hoping this event would be truly inspiring to the kids. My hope is that the children are given special treatment and that these books have value."

There were more than 500 books in all, including "Sesame Street," "The Magic School Bus," "Bambi," "Care Bears," "Berenstain Bears" and different Disney "singing" books.

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Amtrak may lose Portland connection

State budget shortfalls could result in cuts to transportation services and the end of Eugene to Portland Amtrak service

Jan Montry
News Editor

Amtrak's commuter bus and rail service from Eugene to Portland, an important connection for students and community members, may be in danger of losing its state funding in the next biennium.

The loss of funding and elimination of service could result from state budget shortfalls and subsequent cuts to transportation services from the budget, which funds two trains and a network of buses in the Pacific Northwest Rail corridor, according to the Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates.

The Amtrak Cascades trains and several buses would be halted from serving Eugene residents along the corridor, leaving only the Coast Starlight rail service, which runs from Portland to Seattle.

Oregon Rep. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, said the state Ways and Means Committee co-chairmen's proposed budget — spearheaded by Sen. Kurt Schrader, D-Canby, and Rep. Randy Miller, R-West Linn — does cut the "important links" between Eugene and Portland as a result of state shortfalls.

Prozanski said that since the proposal was released, a "train caucus" composed of state legislators and other state workers has formed to confront the

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Finalists announced for best professor, GTF of the year

Five professors and GTFs were selected out of dozens of nominations for the Emerald's end-of-year teaching award

Brook Reinhard
News Editor

Do you have a favorite professor or graduate teacher? Last week the Emerald asked students to submit

nominations for the best University professor and GTF. After receiving dozens of nominations, we've emerged with a short list of five professors and five GTFs.

All currently enrolled University students are eligible to vote for one of the five professors and five GTF finalists. E-mail the Emerald at professor@daillyemerald.com to make a choice. Voters may optionally include

a sentence or two explaining why they are voting for a particular candidate, but everyone must include their own name and major. Votes must be received by Thursday at 5 p.m.

Professor finalists

Business Senior Instructor of Management David T. Dusseau makes "learning the basics of business fun."

"Even though he teaches a huge lec-

ture class, he deals with each student who approaches him and does his best to help," one student explained.

English Associate Professor Lisa Freinkel "challenges her students without overwhelming them."

"She is extremely intelligent without being condescending," one voter said. "Her style of teaching is the reason I came to college."

Anthropology Assistant Professor

Joanna E. Lambert is said to be an "exuberant lecturer."

"She loves what she does and teaches, and she absolutely loves to answer questions and discuss what we're interested in," another student said.

Assistant Professor Adjunct Karen A. McLaughlin, who specializes in communication disorders and sciences, is "very helpful to students."

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