

IN BRIEF

Lane County Transit salutes Rosa Parks today

Fifty years ago today, Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Ala., bus, sending a message against discrimination that still evokes strong emotion from many.

With Parks' passing in October, the anniversary has gained even more recognition.

Lane Transit District, as well as many other transit organizations across the country, will celebrate Parks' statement today by proclaiming Dec. 1, 2005 as "A National Transit Tribute to Rosa Parks."

LTD will reserve a seat on each bus for Parks, right before the rear exit on the left. Each seat will have a laminated sheet of paper with a picture of Parks and the statement "On this date in 1955 she changed the course of history and inspired us all."

LTD worked with the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People office and the Eugene Human Rights Commission to develop the event. Elizabeth Aydelott, the Human Rights Commission's representative to LTD for the event, said the overcrowding on some LTD buses was a concern for those planning the event. Still, she believes that may add to the power of the statement.

"If one extra person has to stand up, that's significant in itself," Aydelott said. "For other people to give up a seat for her is a sign of respect."

LTD will also give a free day pass to anyone who donates a canned food item to FOOD for Lane County.

"It's so we can contribute something back to the community in Rosa Parks' name," LTD Marketing Representative Angie Sifuentz said.

Canned food donations can be brought to the LTD Customer Service Center at 11th Avenue and Willamette Street, or the Springfield Station at Fourth Avenue and South A Street. Donators can receive the day pass or a \$1-off coupon for either Bean Buzz at the Customer Service Center or the Springfield Station Burrito Boy.

LTD Graphic Artist Hannah Bradford has given presentations at local elementary and middle schools on Parks' life and achievements, and then encouraged the children to draw pictures. LTD has taken the pictures and made a Rosa Parks quilt, which will be displayed at the Customer Service Center.

—Chris Hagan

West University Neighbors discuss upcoming year

With its officer elections complete and a month without students approaching, the West University Neighbors will start preparations for the new year at its meeting this evening.

"We're going to get to know everybody and line up our agenda for the coming year," WUN board member Drix Rixmann said.

At its last meeting, the WUN elected a new board, as well as a new chairman: ASUO President Adam Walsh.

"We're not expecting a huge turnout with it being Dead Week and with finals coming up," Walsh said.

Walsh hopes to discuss what speakers the group would like to invite to visit, such as Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy and Police Chief Robert Lehner. He would also like to spend time delegating responsibilities, such as production of a newsletter.

"This will be a planning meeting of the year," Walsh said. "It's the last chance for people to throw in their two cents for what they want to see happen in the upcoming year."

The WUN will also hear a presentation by students from a University business class on a neighborhood watch program they designed.

"We'll see if we can take their ideas and suggestions and put them into effect for the neighborhood," Rixmann said.

The group hopes to decide on a new meeting place, Rixmann said. Recent meetings have taken place at the Atrium Building downtown, which is outside the WUN's borders and has been a problem for some members.

The meeting will be at 7 p.m. in the Sloat Room of the Atrium Building at West 10th Avenue and Olive Street.

—Chris Hagan

UO student accused of stabbing brother released

A University student arrested on charges of stabbing his older brother to death with a kitchen knife has been released from jail after \$35,000 in bail was posted on his behalf.

John Andrew Grillo, 19, an Asian studies major, was released from Lane County jail on Nov. 23, more than two weeks after he was arrested and lodged at the jail on a charge of manslaughter in the second degree. Since his release, the man has been seen in Hillsboro, where he grew up.

Eugene police arrested Grillo after

he stabbed Paul Michael Grillo, 22, in the heart once during dispute at their home, at 1463 E. 21st Ave. in Eugene, police said.

After stabbing his brother, John Grillo called 911 and administered first aid to his brother, who died before emergency officials could arrive, Eugene Police Sgt. Scott McKee said.

In the 911 call, Grillo told police the stabbing was accidental, but police believe he engaged in reckless conduct with the knife and killed his brother, McKee said.

No court appearances have yet been scheduled.

— Jared Paben



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