

COUNCIL SEEKS DILUTED NEW CODE OF ETHICS

The Eugene City Council plans to adopt a new code of ethics for public officials Sept. 8 with some questionable ethics.

- The proposed code restricts city executives from engaging in graft and corruption but apparently does not apply to the powerful city attorney. Critics have questioned whether the city attorney firm has conflicts of interest in working for both the city and for businesses with interests adverse to the city.

- The City Council may vote to remove an elected official from his or her position if they find they intentionally engaged in graft, but they have no power to remove corrupt city executives. The proposed code gives the city manager sole authority over such matters.

- The new code is much weaker than the old Eugene City Charter. The old charter forbids councilors with money interests in city contracts from serving on the council and forbids councilors from voting on matters where they had a money interest. The new city rules are modeled on weak state ethics rules. The new city code would apply only to "actual" conflicts of interest where councilors knowingly and directly profit from their votes. A charter vote last year allowed the City Council to make up its own ethics rules.

—AP

TROUBLE AT MOTHER'S

Amidst its own inner conflicts, the future of Mother Kali's Bookstore is in jeopardy. But this time, the issue is money.

Board members called a public meeting Aug. 20 to alert the community to Mother Kali's precipitous financial situation, and to get an idea of how important the store's perpetuation is to Eugene.

After detailing the store's budget challenges, Joyce Thomas, the board's treasurer, told the two dozen women in attendance that the store's future can play out in one of three ways: Mother Kali's could be closed immediately and plans could be made to break the store's lease and liquidate its materials; or staff can try and make it through the heavy fall booksale period, which could cover the losses incurred over the summer and keep it in the black until November or December; or "Mother Kali's just keeps on," said Thomas, although the marketplace and the community make that seem unlikely.

"It seems the only chance at paying off our debts is to have the fall book sale," said Thomas.

The onslaught of web-based book sales and chain stores has already claimed several independent bookstores in Eugene, and Mother Kali's has also suffered. "It's a socialist institution, and it's at odds with the culture it's in ... I don't know if it can go forward unless someone's got a lot of money and a lot of time," said Teri Ciacchi, Mother Kali's acting manager.

"In the '70s, Mother Kali's was more than a bookstore. It was a gathering place ... we do have other needs besides the books," said one woman in the audience.

A decision about the store's future has yet to be made, but Thomas urges that Mother Kali's could use more board members, particularly with financial and legal backgrounds. "Support your local bookstore by buying books, if you want it to be around," she said after the meeting. — *Celene Carrillo*

MLK MARCH THURSDAY

Forty years ago on Aug. 28, more than 250,000 people joined the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and Martin Luther King Jr. gave his "I Have a Dream" speech. In commemoration, a march is planned in Eugene Thursday, Aug. 28

The march's theme is, "Fulfill the Dream! Work for Peace, Justice and Reconciliation." Marchers will gather at 5 pm at the Autzen Stadium east parking lot. At 5:30 pm, community elders and human rights activists will lead the march along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, celebrating the renaming of the street.

The march will proceed to Cuthbert

Amphitheater for a 6:30 pm program with speeches, singing and a reading of Dr. King's words. For more information, call 682-5177.

SEXUAL ASSAULT BILL PASSES IN SALEM

Advocates who work to assure that victims of sexual assault have access to emergency health care including emergency contraception celebrated a major victory Aug. 25 as the Senate voted to pass SB 752.

"This is a major victory for the women of Oregon," says Kitty Piercy, public affairs director of Planned Parenthood. "This bill will

provide help for women who have experienced sexual assault and do not have insurance coverage."

Piercy says the bill was stuck in the Senate facing opposition from Sen. Minnis because of the emergency contraception coverage, which is a standard of care in Oregon for assault victims.

EARLY DEADLINES

EW's offices will be closed Labor Day, Sept. 1, and will re-open Tuesday, Sept. 2. Please note an **EARLY ADVERTISING DEADLINE** of 5 pm Thursday, Aug. 28 for our Sept. 4 issue. For more information, call 484-0519.

Summer Sale

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Contemporary leather sofa in spice, cream, camel, or black. 89" x 39" x 35" h. was starting at \$1199 **Sale from \$999**



Entertainment unit with swivel top, in cherry or teak. was \$469 **Sale \$369**



Comfortable leather sofa in tomato, spice, cream, or blue. 84" x 39" x 37" h. was starting at \$1399 **Sale from \$1199**

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