

sponse was really good."

Ryan's neighbor, Nancy Wallace, reported that her peace sign, too, was defaced with two swastikas and the word "Bush." "I decided to bring the sign inside to use it as a meditation on healing the spirit of whoever was acting in that way, and I wrote to President Bush about how this was an example of how his name was being put in the same context as swastikas," Wallace said. "I wanted to convey to him that I wanted him to unite, rather than divide us."

The vandalism comes in the wake of other hateful acts in Eugene. West Eugene neighborhood residents have complained about hate literature in their mailboxes, and racist fliers have been posted around town. Eugene police are asking residents to report any instances of hate crimes by calling the EPD at 982-5111 and the Eugene Human Rights Commission at 682-5177. — Kera Abraham

OPENING UP THE HOUSE

The House has been a well-kept secret since it opened on Oct. 1, but maybe that's because the underground (literally) entrance on the corner of Broadway and Oak is a little hard to find. Once you find your way downstairs, you'll be in a whole new kind of venue. "A lot of places seem to be booking bands repetitively," says the manager of wait staff, Courtney Pine, "so we're trying to be different and more flexible."

If different is the goal, The House (located below The House of Teriyaki) has succeeded.

The bands that play there cover almost any genre you can think of; metal bands play on Mondays, local groups/DJs usually book the weekends, and Thursday's open mic hosts everything from bluegrass to tap dancing. The folks who run things are open to all genres, which gives newer artists a chance.

Owner Ty Yammamoto has big plans for both the club and the restaurant with formal dining, live music and a VIP room complete with go-go dancers. Right now, the traditional Japanese cuisine is set up for catering, but keep your taste buds alert because rumor has it that Yammamoto's traditional handmade won tons are going to be worth the wait for the dining room to open.

— Christine Mathias

JUDGE RULES ON ARRESTS

In what is seen as an important victory for civil rights, Curry County Circuit Court Judge Hugh C. Downer ruled Oct. 27 that an Oregon law "Interfering with Agricultural Operations" was unconstitutional as a violation of the Equal Protection Clause, according to Eugene attorney Lauren Regan of the The Civil Liberties Defense Center.

Regan says the ruling came as a surprise to defendant Sarah Sabol, a young woman who was arrested for interfering with agricultural operations while protesting the Biscuit Timber Sale in the Siskiyou National Forest in Curry County. The disputed law has been on the books since it passed the Legislature in 1999.

"We are pleased with the court's order

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

JOY MARSHALL

As the daughter of a Unitarian minister in Birmingham, Mich., Joy Marshall grew up walking picket lines. "By age 6 or 7, I was aware of social issues," she recalls. "Civil rights, women's rights, farm worker issues." After college at the University of Michigan, Marshall spent three years teaching middle school in



Chicago — "the hardest job in the world!" Only later, when she was waiting tables, did she find her calling. "God sent me a labor organizer, Barbara Lewis," she says. "I found what I was meant to do — fight for economic justice." Marshall's first paid political work was on Mayor Harold Washington's reelection campaign. Following three years with Citizen Action in Chicago, she moved to Eugene in 1990 and worked three years with Oregon Fair Share before taking a break to care for daughters Maggie and Claire. "I still worked part-time on various campaigns," she notes. "Raising the minimum wage in '96 was the proudest moment of my life." Marshall returned to full-time work three years ago. She currently serves as director of Oregon Stand for Children (www.stand.org), credited with successful school-funding campaigns in Eugene and Portland this year.

and hope that this illegal and unconstitutional statute will never be used to silence protestors again" says Regan, "Our constitutional rights will continue to thrive as a result of decisions like that of Judge Downer."

The court ruled that "the motion is decided on the issue of Equal Protection. Defendant raised the issue based on the ex-

ception in the statute which makes it inapplicable to an individual involved in a labor dispute. What that exception has done is make the determination of what is illegal conduct based on the content of what the individual has to say when disrupting an agricultural operation. This violates the Equal Protection clause of the United States Constitution."

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