



HAPPY NEXT YEAR

EW's predictions for 2006

We've spent bleary hours gazing into crystal balls, broken a thousand fortune cookies, dealt and re-dealt the Tarot cards, thrown the bones, consulted the entrails, re-read the tea leaves, grilled psychics in line at the Employment Division, interviewed Professor Trelawney, read the palms of local developers and shaved the heads and read the bumps on local politicians to bring you, our readers, a major investigative **EXCLUSIVE**. Some papers are satisfied with year-end retrospectives, but not *Eugene Weekly*. Here we bring you the first ever year-end **PROSPECTIVE** of what definitely, mark our words, will happen in 2006!

JANUARY

January is now officially Nude Calendar Month. To help close a \$10 million budget gap in the new federal courthouse building, U.S. Judge Michael Hogan announces that he will organize and participate in a nude calendar of local judges entitled: "Habeas Corpus." The Latin judicial term translates: "You should have the body." A disrobed Hogan will be Mr. February. Other organizations struggling with funding publish nude calendars for 2006. They include the League of Women Voters (hiding behind voter's guides), Eugene Police Department (wearing union suits around their ankles), Hardy Plant Society (wearing strategically placed rhody leaves), local Libertarians (there aren't many of them, so Tonie Nathan is on every other page and Jay

Bozievich makes a guest appearance), Cascade Mycological Society (shivering in the rain behind truffles), the Willamattans (fully clothed for a change), *The Register-Guard* editorial board (posing with bulldozers and dump trucks), and the *EW* staff (sporting pink body paint).

In other nude news, the entire crew at Morning Glory Café is arrested on federal eco-sabotage charges following an FBI investiga-



tion into hidden subversive messages in the restaurant's annual "Get Naked in the Kitchen" calendar. The case is eventually thrown out of court due to illegal wiretaps, but not before the restaurant's secret recipes are disclosed on a deposition transcript website, leading to a global shortage of mushrooms, tofu and other ingredients in the café's addictive Tantric Mushroom Gravy, aka "spicy brown glop."

FEBRUARY

The Eugene police union files suit to throw out the independent police auditor/review board passed by voters. The city manager, who opposed the independent auditor/board to begin with, quickly agrees with the union and settles the lawsuit by throwing out the accountability measure and signing a new union contract forbidding it.

Angered over opposition to the West Eugene Parkway, Lane County Commissioners vote to expel Eugene from the county.

After successfully nabbing "ecoterrorists," the Oregon Joint Terrorism Taskforce expands to pursue other politically motivated crimes. Mass indictments of timbo-thefto-terrorists, polluteo-terrorists, tax-evade-o-terrorists, campaign-dono-terrorists, anti-aborto-terrorists and lawn-sign-o-terrorists are announced. A judge refuses bail for the indicted "enemy combatants," noting that they face life sentences, military tribunals, rendition, torture and Guantánamo Bay and have every reason to flee the country.

Facing mounting domestic and international pressure to pull troops out of Iraq, President Bush finally offers a timetable for withdrawal, but the terms are vague: "After Peak Oil, but before the Rapture."

The Eugene Police Department gives up on reform and begins equipping officers with special prophylactics. Each officer will be issued blue, latex-free condoms in wrappers embossed with a police badge and the "Protect and Serve" motto. The condoms will be carried in a special leather pouch on officer utility belts next to their handcuffs. Earlier plans for Kevlar, ribbed and ultra-thin options were withdrawn after objections by the Eugene Police Commission. Kevlar was too expensive, ribbing was deemed excessive and the thin blue walls of the ultra sheer inadequate to provide protection. Each officer will be given a week's training in using the new body armor.

MARCH

Lane County Commissioners beg the Eugene City Council to rejoin Lane County after finding that expelling the city cut county revenues in half. The city, having found that things run much more smoothly and efficiently without the county, respectfully declines. Commissioners are forced to reduce their salaries to match those of the Springfield city councilors.

Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald sends Vice President Dick Cheney to an Iraqi prison for torture to get the truth out of him concerning the long-running scandal about the leaking of a CIA agent's identity. Fitzgerald's move takes advantage of Bush administration policies allowing rendition for torture and broad definitions of "terrorism" to include any politically motivated crime. Boarding a CIA flight to Iraq, Cheney said his predicament hasn't changed his views on torture. "I needed to lose

some weight and get a good long dunking and, anyway, I'm tired of cutting my finger nails," Cheney told reporters off the record.

Anna Morrison is forced to resign from the Lane County Board of Commissioners and abandon her re-election bid when it is discovered that she actually lives in Boise and hasn't been seen in her western Lane County district for years.

Recognizing the hypocrisy of espousing environmental virtues while consuming small forests of trees each year to print its paper, *Eugene Weekly* announces an initiative to make its product 100 percent reusable. *EW* will

now be printed and distributed entirely on toilet paper rolls with soy-based ink. Officials at the paper explained that the newsroll will make for easier bathroom reading and will likely result in circulation increases and wipe out the competition. "We're really on a roll!" says Editor T. P. Taylor.



APRIL

The Eugene City Council votes to sell Eugene City Hall to a non-profit that will transform the building into the Museum of the American Hippie. The Far Out Foundation, founded by Silicon Valley billionaires who are Oregon Country Fair regulars, will repaint the lattice on the outside of the structure and a bridge to the county building in rainbow stripes and install the world's largest lava lamp on top of the old council chamber pavillion. The beacon will be large enough to be seen at night for miles and the Far Out Foundation predicts that the museum will attract millions of dollars in tourist spending. Meanwhile, offices for city staff will relocate to under the I-105 bridge. The city spent all of the \$30 million it had saved to build a new City Hall on consultants to study studies for a new building.

ODOT announces that in a public-private partnership, the Papé company will collect tolls on the future West Eugene Parkway for the next 100 years in exchange for donating another \$60,000 to Gov. Ted Kulongoski's re-election campaign.

Royal Caribbean Cruises, just five months after moving into its new call center in Springfield, announces it will now compete on both price and service with assisted living centers and nursing homes in offering long-term housing for the elderly and infirm. The new "Cruising into the Sunset" package will include daily massage, room service, 24/7 buffet and a low-cost burial at sea option.

MAY

The Springfield City Council makes national news by banning the sale and use of all household pesticides and herbicides within the city limits. Eugene city councilors complain that the Springfield action is "not fair" since Eugene is supposed to be the leader in sustainability.