

urban planner Ken Pirie.

The train noise issue also applied to building next to the new federal courthouse, the consultants said.

Most councilors dismissed building near the courthouse as too removed from downtown and hard to access. Getting to the new courthouse area, Councilor Andrea Ortiz said, "is hairy in a car and hairy walking."

— Alan Pittman

## WHERE PESTICIDES GO TO DIE

Used to be that farmers all over the Willamette Valley bought and used copious amounts of DDT, 2,4-T and Lindate pesticides. Then, in the 1970s and '80s, the EPA banned domestic use of those chemicals, deeming them too darned dangerous. But what were farmers to do with their stocks of the banned 'cides? Use 'em up quick? Dump 'em illegally in the river? Stuff 'em in a shed and hope they'll disappear?

Now, EWEB and other state and local agencies are helping growers in the McKenzie and Middle Fork Willamette watersheds get rid of the illegal stuff. The first-of-its-kind program, funded primarily by a grant from the Oregon Governor's Fund for the Environment, will be cost- and risk-free to growers. Farmers are to fill out a survey from EWEB, then deliver the banned pesticides to Lane County Waste Management's Glenwood facility on Oct. 18-20, Oct. 25 or Nov. 1.

Just how much of the forsaken pesticides are in the Willamette Valley? Hard to say. OSU did a survey but is tight-lipped about the numbers, so EWEB is now doing its own scope and should have the results by mid-September, said EWEB's Karl Morgenstern.

"We know that some people had large quantities — one grower had 1,500 pounds of DDT," Morgenstern said. "When they got banned, people just shoved them in their barns. Our goal is to help them get rid of it. We're protecting two watersheds that we get drinking water from, and growers are protecting their own families and wells."

— Kera Abraham



## CHABAREK PLEADS NO CONTEST

On Aug. 24, local peace activist Peter Chabarek pled no contest to a criminal trespass charge for an act of civil disobedience on Feb. 21. Chabarek handed out anti-war leaflets during a presentation by Sen. Gordon Smith to the Eugene Rotary Club, and he refused to leave after being asked to do so by the hotel's manager. The leaflets called Sen. Smith "an accomplice to mass murder" for supporting the Iraq War.

Chabarek and his counsel, civil rights attorney Brian Michaels, made the decision to plead no contest on their own, and Chabarek read a statement in municipal court affirming his constitutional right to oppose the war. But city prosecutor C. Michael Arnold treated the plea like a deal, dropping the city's charge of criminal trespass against Chabarek for another act of civil disobedience on March 20. "I would have offered him a one-for-one, so I won't penalize Chabarek for doing it on his own," Arnold said.

Surprisingly, Chabarek balked at the offer, telling *EW* that he didn't want that charge dropped. Chabarek and other activists had been cited with criminal trespass for sitting outside of Sen. Ron Wyden's Eugene office, demanding that the senator hear them out about his support for war funding, even after the building manager asked them to leave. Michaels said that the supervisor at Wyden's office had received special permission from the Senate to testify as a witness for the defense.

"We want to go to trial on the Wyden charge, because we want to put the war on trial," Chabarek said. — Kera Abraham

## UNDERBRIDGE INITIATIVE

The common response to crime is to target the areas perceived as concentrations of criminality and increase law enforcement, but one local organization is hoping to try something new.

Ground Works Organization began as a promotion company in Eugene, designing

and distributing promotional materials throughout the city for upcoming events and local businesses. Recently, the group has begun using the income from the business to host their own community events. Initially Ground Works focused on putting on hip hop shows, but then they began to receive support from the United Way, HIV Alliance and *EW* to expand the scope of their work: hosting food drives for Lane County and a local Hurricane Katrina relief benefit, among other endeavors.

The group, run by brothers Aaron Martin and Gabriel Sechrist, and designer Mike Moreno, has now set its sites on the Washington-Jefferson Bridge area.

"I don't think it's the center of crime in this town, but if everybody thinks that there's nothing but criminals there, then nothing but criminals will gravitate to it. If a park isn't used for what it's there for, then it encourages the homeless to camp there and it encourages drug activity there," says Sechrist who calls the area "the heart of the city."

Their approach is to sponsor community-based events in the area to revitalize the park

and the surrounding community. Every Friday in September from 5 to 10 pm will be events under the bridge including live music, food vendors, self-defense workshops, skateboard demonstrations, four-on-four basketball and more. The first "Underbridge Initiative" as they have called it will be taking place Friday evening, Sept. 1.

— Martha Calhoon

## SUSTAINABLE WORKPLACES

The people have spoken! And they say that Eugene's definition of sustainability should include fairness, health care and other considerations of employee welfare.

This was the conclusion of a study released this month by the UO Labor Education and Research Center (LERC) and the Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network (ESSN). ESSN and LERC designed the study to find out what the community thinks about "social equity," one of the three legs of

## Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

### SALLY NUNN

"I come from a long line of Republicans," says Sally Nunn, who studied art and minored in war protests at the UO. "But I was a beatnik. I was a



member of SDS until I heard the president say, 'The women will bring cookies to the next meeting.'" Originally a country girl from Indiana, Nunn remained in Oregon to enjoy the outdoor life. She served on the Sierra Club's High Desert Committee during the campaign to save Steens Mountain, but otherwise stayed out of politics for 20 years while she ran her plant maintenance business, Dr Greenthumb. She sold the business in 2000 and soon found work as project manager for the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza. "It was a totally different experience," says Nunn, who also worked for state Rep. Phil Barnhart on two successful election campaigns. "I got to know the forces at work in the Legislature," she says. Nunn is currently political chair for the local Sierra Club and endorsements chair for the local Oregon League of Conservation Voters. She will host a "Red, White, and Blues Jam" to benefit OLCV in her west Eugene yard on Sept. 16.

