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news Briefs

ful grassroots movement in Irkutsk to defend Lake Baikal against the placement of the massive Siberia-Pacific Pipeline within one kilometer of the shore. Bereznuik was also an important player in rerouting the terminal site of the Siberia Pacific oil pipeline away from a sensitive Amur leopard habitat. Rikhvanova won the Conde Nast Traveler's Environmental Award for her work, and Bereznuik won a 2006 Whitley Award for his efforts. The Phoenix Fund is based in Vladivostok and is dedicated to conserving the biological diversity of the Russian Far East.

"Lake Baikal is a world treasure, containing approximately 20 percent of the planet's surface fresh water, and is the world's deepest lake — home to the world's only fresh water seal and many species of fish and mammals," says Piercy. "The Amur leopards are in danger of being lost to the world."

Piercy says the two visitors were both very interested in learning more about the mayor's Sustainable Business Initiative and how to engage the mayor of Irkutsk in such discussions. In addition they were interested in eco-tourism. The Russians presented a photograph of Lake Baikal to the mayor, and plans were made to continue the conversation.

"From health care to education, culture to the environment, these sister city relationships remain an important piece of building world friendships and peace," says Piercy.



KUCINICH HERE APRIL 2

Presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich and his wife, Elizabeth, are planning to be in Eugene for a full day of educational and fundraising events Monday, April 2. He also plans to speak in Corvallis. Kucinich, an Ohio congressman and author of legislation to establish a cabinet level U.S. Department of Peace, was invited to Lane County by local peace activist Betsy Steffensen, and the events are co-sponsored by the Democratic Party of Lane County.

All events will be at the First United Methodist Church at 13th and Olive. They begin with a 7:30 am breakfast fundraiser. Kucinich plans to travel to Corvallis for a noon event at a location to be announced (call 753-7431 or email l.simpson@comcast.net). He plans to return to Eugene for a free student forum at 4 pm (register at nfp@efn.org). A VIP event begins at 5:45 pm, followed by the main event at 6:30. A \$50 ticket covers breakfast and all the events. The VIP gathering alone is \$20, and the evening talk alone is \$10.

A number of organizations and businesses, including Greater Goods, are selling tickets. For information, call 344-9343 or email Betsy at nfp@efn.org

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SAVAGE LOVES UP EUGENE

Seattle advice columnist Dan Savage (see interview last week) got a sexy response from a packed house at WOW Hall March 15. He talked about the need for "real" sex education in America, blasted the Republican agenda on sex-related issues, and said mainstream newspapers are losing credibility by not writing about sex in the language people use to talk about sex.

Savage usually gets paid for public appearances, but spoke for free and even paid his own air fare to come to Eugene to defend his column from critics. More than 300 people attended the event. Donations at the door raised more than \$1,400 that will be shared among Planned Parenthood, HIV Alliance and Sexual Assault Support Services.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Regarding our March 15 news brief about the Persian New Year celebration, the name of the owner of the Bistro at Oakway Wine & Deli is properly spelled Fariborz "Borzi" Marashi.