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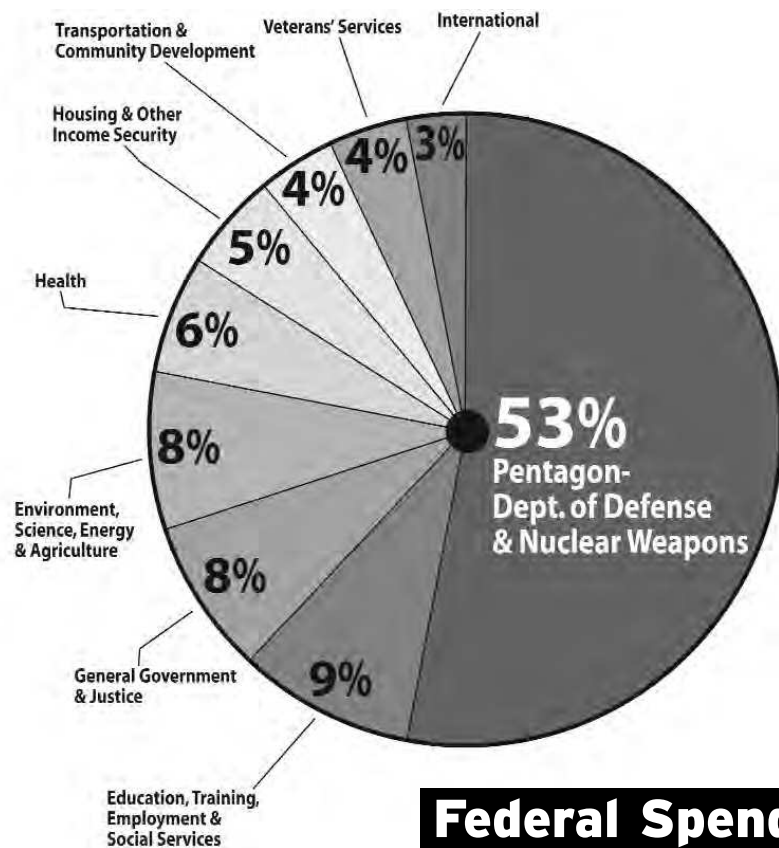
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news Briefs



Source: WAND of Oregon

Citizens can learn about EWEB's relocation plans

6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Wed., April 18
Petersen Barn Community Center
870 Berntzen Road, Eugene

Residents of the Bethel-Danebo area, as well as any other members of the public, are invited to a public briefing on April 18 to learn more about the Eugene Water & Electric Board's plans for relocating its electric and water field operations to west Eugene.

EWEB plans to build a new operations center, warehouse, vehicle shop and other facilities on 52 acres of land at the southeast corner of Roosevelt Boulevard and Beltline Road. The utility's administrative headquarters would remain at the current site along the Willamette River near downtown Eugene.

At the April 18 meeting, utility staff will give neighbors and the public an update on the project's progress, provide an overview of the facilities that would be constructed, and outline any road or traffic signal improvements that would be a part of the project.

There will be ample time at the meeting for the public to ask questions and to provide comments.

For more information about EWEB's relocation plans, visit the utility's web site at www.eweb.org/news/projects/riverfront/index.htm



Eugene Water & Electric Board
500 East 4th Avenue
PO Box 10148
Eugene OR 97440-2148
(541) 484-2411
www.eweb.org

FILL IN THE BLANK

WAND will sponsor a march on Saturday, April 14 declaring "I'd rather pay for (you fill in the blank) than war!"

For several years, WAND (Women's Action for New Directions), has been educating citizens on the "Federal Budget Pie," a graphic presentation of how U.S. tax dollars are spent. The military budget has been at 53 percent, a huge "slice of the pie," and when seen as a pie chart, really drives home the point that our military is getting the majority of our money, according to WAND.

Some groups have now counted the Iraq War (which was off-budget and in the billions of dollars) into the mix, and now the percentage stands at 59 percent.

WAND's educational campaign has recently gone more mainstream with Ben and Jerry's "American Pie" ice cream showing the federal budget pie on the ice cream container and offering educational literature along with it.

WAND and Taxes for Peace Not War are organizing a march, which will begin at 10:30 a.m. The march starts at the IRS building at 300 Country Club Road and goes to the Free Speech Plaza at 8th and Oak in Eugene. The 1.25-mile walk will all be on sidewalks. Signs will be available for participants to fill in saying what they would rather pay for than war.

The now traditional tax day "Penny Poll" outside the downtown Eugene post office has been moved up from Tuesday to Monday,

April 16, from 11 am to 5 pm. The event is organized by Taxes for Peace Not War.

NATIVES VS. NON-NATIVES

Registration is in progress for "Native Plants and Permaculture: A Gathering of Plant Enthusiasts," to be held May 11-13 at Lost Valley Educational Center in Dexter.

Permaculturists, landscape designers, naturalists and conservationists will come together to share perspectives on indigenous and exotic plants, including human uses and ecological relationships. Presentations and panels will address such topics as "Sustainable Approaches to Ecological Restoration," "Wildcrafting Weeds in the Pacific Northwest," "Finding Common Ground," "Substituting Natives for Non-natives in Home Landscapes," "Indigenous Land Management," "Restoring Native Food Crops," and more.

The conference was the idea of Sharon Blick, executive director of the School Garden Project. The project encourages school gardens to use "permaculture." Permaculture is a design system that emphasizes producing food locally with minimal outside inputs while maintaining healthy ecosystems. The system also avoids planting invasive, non-native plants. Blick noticed that some permaculture books advocate "non-native plants that the Native Plant Society says to avoid."

While most permaculturists value native



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