

WHAT'S happening



The Bijou dishes up documentaries about truly eccentric, American-to-the-bone characters this weekend. The John Waters-narrated ***Plagues & Pleasures on the Salton Sea*** examines the assorted dilly-dalliers, sun-seekers, nudists and failed land speculators this man-made natural disaster zone attracts. There's Hunky Daddy, Naked Don, The Landman and Leonard Knight, the creator of Salvation Mountain, a Congressionally certified national treasure tribute to Jesus made of paint and adobe. Directors Chris Metzler and Jeff Springer will be on hand for a discussion after each screening. Similarly focusing on the brazenly bizarre among our populace, ***Air Guitar Nation*** tracks two contestants, C-Diddy and Bjorn Turoque, all the way to the World Championship in northern Finland. They run into all sorts of guitar-less mime-rockers (like the dude pictured left) along the way. The film's tagline is "To Err is Human. To Air Guitar, Divine." 'Nuff said. See Friday and Saturday Calendar.

Egypt can bring a lot of images to mind. The slowly eroding Sphinx. The ancient culture nurtured by the Nile River. The narrow, traffic-clogged Cairo streets. Authors **Nicki Scully** and **Linda Star Wolf** say Egypt has some "power places" for those who believe in shamanism. They explore connections between modern humanity and the ancient gods of Egypt in the book they co-authored, ***Shamanic***



Mysteries of Egypt: Awakening the Healing Power of the Heart. Based out of Eugene, Scully leads spiritually based sojourns to "power places" in Egypt, Peru and elsewhere (see her healing and travel website, www.shamanicjourneys.com) and organizes a *Shamanic Mysteries of Egypt* retreat each August. Scully and Star Wolf throw a release party with refreshments and book-signing at Tsunami Books on Saturday. See Calendar.

And so begins the first of many summer festivals pairing fine wine with other foods or activities. Garlic, barbecues, blues, art, cheese and faeries have their own events this year, but for now, we're all about the **Fern Ridge Wings and Wine Festival**, celebrating the seasonal migration of thousands upon thousands of bird species who choose the reservoir as a nice rest area en route to Canada or beyond. The action takes place from dawn to well past dusk at Secret House Winery and nearby Fern Ridge Reservoir. Good food (and superb drink) can be had at Secret House's festival grounds while frequent bird walks, canoe trip excursions on Fern Ridge and educational talks flesh out the day. A special gourmet "Dinner in the Cellar" at Secret House, followed by an owl calling walk, caps off the evening. See www.wingsandwinefestival.com and Saturday Calendar.

