

project will create. "We're targeting entry-level jobs."

But Councilor Taylor questioned whether displacing local businesses with corporate chain stores would create any jobs. "Are you subtracting the jobs that are going to be destroyed?"

Councilor Alan Zelenka, now a potential key swing vote, said the city may pay for "some or all" of the businesses and nonprofits to be relocated. Zelenka said council actions over the next two months are needed to make financial tools available should the council make a final decision by Sept. 25 to proceed with the project.

"This just sets us up to be able to say 'yes' and pay for it," Zelenka said. He said the council was being "very prudent" and compared the financing motions to "wedding planning."

But Bettman said it was "egregious" to rush the council actions past the public. "What we're doing is offering an astronomical dowry of over \$50 million to a private developer." — Alan Pittman

ENDANGERED ETHICS

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) will reconsider eight decisions involving endangered species. The decisions were "inappropriately influenced" by a political appointee — former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks Julie A. MacDonald.

USFW Director H. Dale Hall said he hopes the "blemish on the scientific integrity" of the agency will be rectified by the reviews.

The list includes the white-tailed prairie dog, Preble's meadow jumping mouse, arroyo toad, southwestern willow flycatcher, California red-legged frog, Canada lynx and 12 species of Hawaiian picture-wing flies.

At the last minute USFW pulled the marbled murrelet seabird that is found along Oregon's coast from the list.

According to Hall, the regional listing of the murrelet as well as a decision on bull trout habitat were removed from review because MacDonald's impact on those decisions had been within her "legitimate purview," minimal, or related to law or policy.

MacDonald resigned from her position in May after the department's inspector general found that she had broken federal rules. She is accused of browbeating federal scientists and improperly leaking information about endangered species to private groups.

"Despite no scientific training, MacDonald interfered in dozens of scientific decisions concerning endangered species," said Noah Greenwald, a conservation biologist in Portland.

The review "falls far short of what is needed to redress MacDonald's role in weakening protection of

the nation's endangered species," according to Greenwald's group, the Center for Biological Diversity.

"Although we are glad these species will receive consideration for additional protection, the list of decisions to be reconsidered is outrageously incomplete," the center said, and called for more species to be reconsidered.

One of the officials charged with reviewing the ethics issues raised in the report on MacDonald, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Mark Limbaugh, has since resigned to take a job with the Ferguson Group. He will work as a lobbyist representing local and state water agencies with interests before the Interior Department, the Army Corps of Engineers and Congress.

In a July 20 letter, Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., asked Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne to clarify how his department will ensure its accountability and ethics in the after MacDonald's "scandal" and Limbaugh's new position as a lobbyist.

— Camilla Mortensen

TATTOOS TOO SEXY FOR THE FAIR?

Tattooing is a violation of "community standards of decency," according to a letter from Rachel Bivens, event and commercial exhibits coordinator for the Lane Events Center to Dr. Julien's Black Lotus Tattoo of Eugene.

Amy Shuttleworth of Black Lotus said the tattoo shop had applied for a booth at the 2007 Lane County Fair, but "they told us their board voted against us." This decision was later reversed by the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

Tattooing, she said, "was lumped into pornography." She was told they were not welcome because the fair was "family-oriented."

Shuttleworth didn't see how tattoos were anti-family. "More than half our staff has a family," she said.

Piercing is allowed at the fair, and tattooing must pass the same stringent health licensing requirements.

Shuttleworth checked and discovered that the Fair Board does not currently exist — it dissolved back in January when the Lane County commissioners voted not to fill two of the position on the five-person board. The three remaining members quit. The commissioners currently serve as the acting board.

So Black Lotus took the problem to the commissioners during a June 27 public comment session.

"Tattoos do not violate our community standards, mores or morals," said commissioner Bill Dwyer, "I've known judges, doctors and lawyers that have

tattoos. I actually have several of them myself."

The commissioners heard from fairgrounds manager Warren Wong on July 11. Wong said the comparison to pornography was "misunderstood."

He surveyed the policies of other county fairs in Oregon, including the State Fair, he said. The Oregon State Fair does allow tattooing.

"It doesn't appear tattooing would work" at the Lane County Fair, he said, because of the need for hot and cold running water, non-porous surfaces and a separate area for the actual tattooing process.

The issue of whether tattooing violates "community values or not depends on your perspective," he said.

The commissioners decided tattooing does not violate Lane County Fair policies. They decided that if Black Lotus can get the proper permits, then the business should be allowed at the fair.

Black Lotus will not have a booth this year, but, Shuttleworth said, Black Lotus plans to apply for a tattoo booth for the 2008 fair. — Camilla Mortensen

TORAH REPAIRED

A community-wide celebration is planned from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm Sunday, July 29 at Ahavas Torah Synagogue, 3800 Ferry St. The free event marks the return of a Sifrei Torah that had survived World War II but was damaged by vandals Feb. 22. The sacred scroll was repaired by experts in New York.

"This Torah was rescued from the Holocaust, only to be desecrated in the hate crime here in Eugene where vandals also threw another Torah out in the rain, hacked viciously at a volume of the Talmud and damaged many more religious objects," reads a statement from the synagogue. "The rest of the synagogue was undamaged."

At the celebration, Mayor Kitty Piercy is

expected to talk about the city of Eugene's proposed new anti-hate crime legislation. "The city will be attempting to get legislation passed on a state level, but at least a city ordinance that will take a stand for acceptance and diversity here in Eugene," says the group.

Live music and refreshments will be provided and all are welcome. For more information, call 334-6772.



Norman Solomon

SOLOMON IN TOWN

Media critic Norman Solomon will come to Eugene July 27 for a free screening of his new documentary *War Made Easy*.

The DVD is based on Solomon's 2005 book, *War Made Easy: How Presidents and Pundits Keep Spinning Us to Death*. Solomon is the director of the Institute for Public Accuracy, author of other books of media criticism and a frequent national talk show guest. After the screening at 7 pm Friday, July 27 in Columbia 150 on the UO campus, Solomon will answer questions.

The movie "reaches into the Orwellian

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

KEN GOYER

On the front porch of the house he built in west Eugene, Ken Goyer shows an example of the SixBricks Rocket Stove he developed at Aprovecho, in col-

laboration with rocket stove pioneer Larry Winiarski. Rocket stoves produce more heat from less fuel with less pollution than the three-stone open fires commonly used for cooking in the Third World. A native of Burbank, Goyer has worked at car repair (Ken's Ten-Buck Tune-Ups) and carpentry since he arrived in Eugene in 1979. He first saw open cooking fires when he went to El Salvador 10 years ago to help Sylvia Gregory with her women's empowerment project. "I made a few stoves," he says. "They were a great hit." Over the past two years, with funding from the Rotary Club, Goyer has traveled to Africa to oversee the construction of brickmaking facilities for refugee camps surrounding Lira in Uganda and Gulu in Darfur. "We've made 30,000 stoves at Lira," he reports. "We have nine employees at Gulu." For an photo-essay showing how the stoves are built and used, visit Goyer's website, aiduganda.org

