

timber lands, as reported each week in *EW* during the spraying season, courtesy of Forestland Dwellers.

"In this era when people are so aware of how harmful these chemicals are, why not use the safer alternatives?" says Lisa Arkin of Oregon Toxics Alliance (OTA). She is calling for concerned citizens to attend the upcoming commissioners' meetings, or express their issues with herbicide use in writing.

The county uses Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) which, according the Public Works' website, "incorporates various methods such as mechanical, manual, biological, and to a lesser degree chemical methods to control roadside vegetation."

Herbicides are a "last resort" under the current plans. The section on herbicide use in the Lane County code cites concerns over endangered Willamette River steelhead and Chinook salmon as a reason for using herbicides only when other methods "have been proven ineffective."

However the 2008 proposed plan includes language that Arkin worries could lead to the county using herbicides in conjunction with "other agencies, private sector groups and other cooperatives."

The plan doesn't establish upper limits for amounts of spray used, according to Arkin, and she is calling for Lane County to leave the current plan alone: "Don't fix something that is not broken,"



WAR DEAD

Since the U.S. invasion of Iraq began on March 20, 2003

(last week's numbers in parentheses):

- **3,876 U.S. troops killed*** (3,871)
- **28,757 U.S. troops injured*** (28,451)
- **130 U.S. military suicides*** (130)
- **306 coalition troops killed**** (304)
- **933 contractors killed** (accurate updates NA)
- **84,250 to one million Iraqi civilians killed***** (84,199)
- **\$471.9 billion cost of war** (\$469.9 billion)
- **\$134.2 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$133.6 million)

* through Nov. 12, 2007; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** estimate; source: icasualties.org

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate

she says.

Herbicides include chemicals like glyphosate, a Monsanto product called Roundup, which is also listed under the name "Aquamaster" and is on Lane County's "permitted products list." The Aquamaster label states it is a hazard to "humans and domestic animals," and according the EPA, long-term exposure to glyphosate at over 0.7 parts per million (ppm) in water can cause kidney damage and reproductive effects. — Camilla Mortensen

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL

MARTIN STARR

"Most of the kids we work with have broken hearts," says Martin Starr, mental health specialist for Lane County's Department of Youth Services. "I hear the saddest stories, every horrible thing that can happen to a kid." A graduate of Sacred Heart University in Connecticut, Starr began work in drug rehab straight out of school, and met his wife, Sandra, while working in Maine. After the wedding, they came west to study social work in Berkeley and then moved to Eugene. Sandra is a social worker at the Child Center, and Martin has been at Youth Services for nine years. "I do assessments," he says, noting that substance abuse and mental illness assessments send kids to different programs with separate budgets. "Everybody I see has co-occurring disorders. It's my job to figure it out." Starr also spends time with kids at risk of suicide. "I talk about love every day," he says. "I have a personal mission to increase love in the world. Not just feeling, but right action." In October 2007, Starr received a Mental Health Award for Excellence from the state's Addictions & Mental Health Division.



Easy Being Green



**EUGENE'S ENVIRONMENTAL EMPORIUM
NOW OPEN!**

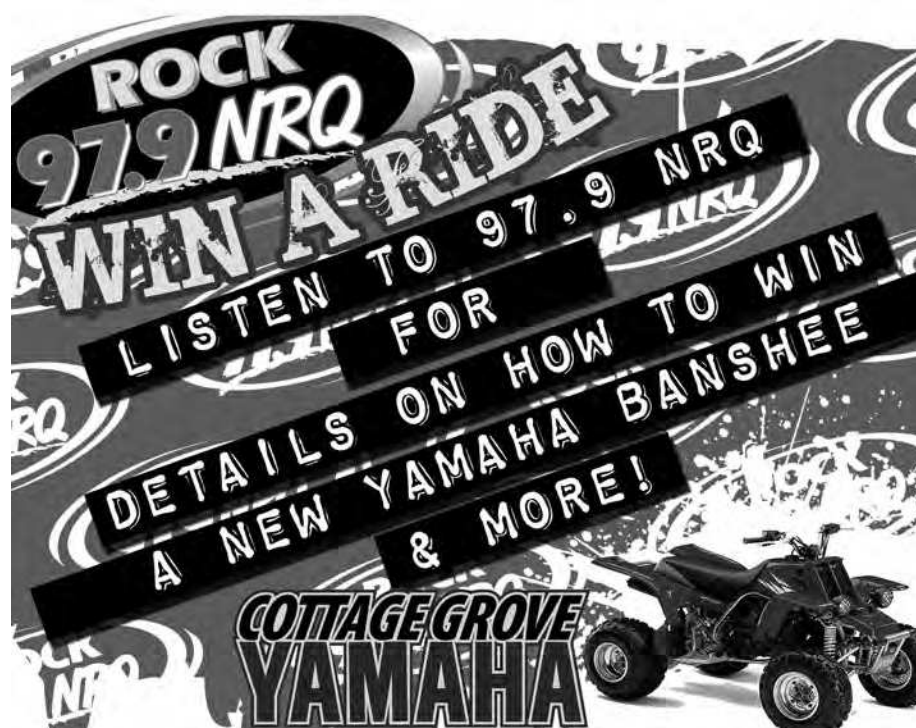
500 Olive St., at the historic Farmer's Union
MON - SAT 10-6 / SUN 11-6 • 344-1530



**Now Open!
GRAND
OPENING!!**
Sat., December 1st
2pm-6pm

Please come and enjoy complementary appetizers, desserts, music and Stumptown Coffee, winner of many "Best in the Northwest" awards.

Mon-Fri: 6:30am-7pm • Sat: 7am-6pm • Sun: 7:30am-4pm
525 High Street - Across from 5th Street Public Market



www.nrql.com

**Tuesday,
NOVEMBER 27TH**
@ Pappy's Pizzeria
6pm - 8pm

Your chances to WIN
lift tickets, riding gear,
snowboards & more!

