

lot unless successfully challenged in court by interested parties:

Question: Shall Charter be amended to require Council to hire Independent Police Auditor, appoint Review Board, and grant authority and duties?

Summary: Charter section 15-A currently allows, but does not require, the City Council to hire an Independent Police Auditor and appoint a Civilian Review Board. If voters approve this measure, the Charter will provide that the Council shall hire a Police Auditor and appoint a Review Board.

Charter section 15-A also currently allows the Council to grant the Police Auditor and Review Board authority and duties related to complaints involving police employees. If the voters approve this measure, the Charter will provide that the Council shall grant the authority and duties to the Police Auditor and Review Board.

The Charter's current language in section 15-A(1) and (2) provides for hiring a Police Auditor, appointing a Review Board, and granting authority and duties. The current Charter language allows Council to eliminate the Police Auditor position or reduce and/or remove the authority and duties granted the Police Auditor and Review Board. If this measure is approved, those changes may not be made by Council, but shall be approved by the voters.

GRASSROOTS VS. GRASS SEED BURNING

While farmers in Idaho have been given permission to resume field burning, the battle over the burn continues here in Oregon. There hasn't been a peep from Gov. Ted Kulongoski in response to the latest letter, sent July 21, from the Western Environmental Law Center demanding that he stop the fires. Local opponents to field burning have now formed a group to ban the burn.

There have been several burns set around the Willamette Valley with "significant smoke incursions" into communities like Sweet Home, says Dan Galpern of WELC.

Field burning ended in Idaho after a grassroots group of physicians called Safe Air for Everyone (SAFE) and the American Lung Association of Idaho filed a petition challenging the EPA's exemption of field burning from Idaho's clean air plan. The ban has been chal-

lenged in the courts repeatedly.

SAFE was formed by doctors in Idaho to protect their respiratory patients from field burning smoke. Physicians in Idaho have attributed three deaths in that state directly to smoke from field burning. People with asthma and lung disease, as well as the elderly and the very young, are the most vulnerable to the small particulate matter that enter the lungs from field burning smoke, making it difficult or even impossible for them to breathe.

Last week SAFE, the Idaho DEQ and grass seed growers reached an agreement that will allow field burning. According to SAFE, "from this point forward, no Idaho citizen should have to be hospitalized, sickened, or lose their life due to agricultural burning any more."

Oregonians now have their own grassroots group — the Campaign to End Field Burning, made up of doctors, nurses, health professionals and other individuals and organizations. The group is spearheaded by WELC attorneys Charlie Tebbutt and Dan Galpern and coordinated by Samantha Chirillo.

The group is focusing their efforts on not only protecting the Eugene-Springfield area from the health affects of field burning, but they also seek to protect smaller nearby communities overwhelmed by field burning smoke. According to the Campaign, "the prevalence of asthma in Oregon is considerably higher than the U.S. average and continues to rise."

In addition to the letters that WELC has sent demanding that Gov. Kulongoski and the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (composed of members appointed by the governor) use their statutory authority to ban the burn, the Campaign has begun a petition drive to aid their grassroots efforts.

To access the petition, go to www.endfieldburning.org and to find out if today is a field-burning day, go to www.oda.state.or.us/nrd/fb/new_today.html for an update. — Camilla Mortensen

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

• The image of the Ken Kesey sculptural work *The Storyteller* used on page 15 last week should have been credited to Russell Fegles.

• In last week's news brief on Neil Van Steenberg, injured in a bicycle accident in Germany, his correct place of recovery is the Oregon Rehabilitation Center at Sacred Heart Medical Center.



Are capitalism and sustainability compatible? What kind of modern business owner takes the long view over short-term profits? Can the ecological and social costs of doing business be taken into consideration on the profit/loss sheet along with paper and pens? What does our marketplace look like in a world where the real responsibilities of doing business are shouldered by the owners and visionary entrepreneurs? Well, I hope to show a glimpse here in Greener Ventures.

Greener ventures abound in Eugene; take sisters Cheryl and Catherine Reinhart for instance. The Reinharts started Sweet Life many years ago, carefully building up a bakery from scratch, enticing their customers with amazing sweet treats made from organic and local ingredients when possible, and composting and recycling to reduce their footprint while nurturing the business. A couple of years ago, facing needed roof repairs for their retail shop, they saw an opportunity to take their dedication to sustainability to another level. Teaming up with Advanced Energy Systems and EWEB, the Reinharts had two solar electric and two solar water heating systems installed on both the bakery and the retail Sweet Life locations. Such a project is not taken lightly for small businesses, but with low interest loans, tax incentives and long-term reduced energy bills, more and more business owners are able to marry capitalism with sustainability. Visit Sweet Life at 755 Monroe in Eugene. For more information on Sweet Life's roof-integrated solar electric system as well as to discover other local businesses going solar, check out the AES website, www.aesrenew.com

Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

- **Near Lorane:** Weyerhaeuser (744-4600) will aerially spray 313 acres with Garlon 4 and seven other herbicides starting Aug. 18 (#50660).
- **Near Fall Creek Reservoir:** Strata Forestry (726-0845) started ground spraying 39 acres with Arsenal and Accord herbicides for Giustina Resources (485-1500) at the end of July (#55601).
- **Near Bear Ridge above Lake Creek:** Oregon Department of Forestry (935-2283) will roadside spray Garlon 4 herbicide starting Aug. 15 (#50654). Garlon 4 and Tahoe 4E herbicides are restricted near Coastal Coho salmon streams. See Oregon Department of Agriculture's buffer requirements at www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/buffers.shtml

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, www.forestlanddwellers.org



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