

Those wishing to participate in the read-a-thon can pick up sponsorship packets at the infoshop, or email badeggbooks@gmail.com for more information. — Shannon Finnell

ACTIVIST ALERT

• **Robert Whitaker**, author of *Mad in America 2002* and *Anatomy of an Epidemic: Magic Bullets, Psychiatric Drugs, and the Astonishing Rise of Mental Illness in America*, will speak at 7 pm Friday, Aug. 20, in the Eugene Hilton Ballroom. Sponsored by MindFreedom International with assistance from LaneCare. Free.

• Eugene's annual Summer Garden Party to **benefit Basic Rights Oregon** will be from 2 to 5 pm Saturday, Aug. 21 in Eugene. Suggested donation \$25. For details, email ellen@basicrights.org or call (503) 222-6151 x 118 or visit <http://bit.ly/eugeneparty>

WAR DEAD

In Iraq

- **4,418 U.S. troops killed*** (4,417)
- **31,907 U.S. troops injured**** (31,902)
- **185 U.S. military suicides*** (updates NA)
- **1,123 U.S. contractors killed** (updates NA)
- **106,067 to 1.2 million civilians killed***** (106,047)
- **\$741.3 billion cost of war** (\$740.0 billion)
- **\$210.8 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$210.4 million)

In Afghanistan

- **1,214 U.S. troops killed*** (1,204)
- **7,416 U.S. troops injured**** (7,285)
- **\$323.7 billion cost of war** (\$321.6 billion)
- **\$92.1 million cost to Eugene taxpayers** (\$91.5 million)

* through Aug. 13, 2010; source: icasualties.org; some figures only updated monthly

** sources: icasualties.org, defenselink.mil

*** highest estimate; source: iraqbodycount.org; based on confirmed media reports; other groups calculate civilian deaths as high as 655,000 (Lancet survey, 2006) to 1.2 million (Opinion Research Business survey, 2008)



lighten up

If global warming is a conspiracy, why do so few Tea Party folks believe it?

— Rafael Aldave, Eugene

SLANT

• It was plain to see that Phil Knight's exclusive **Jock in the Box** was lavish, but \$42 million! Holy shit! Kudos to the *Oregonian* for exposing the incredible price per square foot beyond the moat around the "study" center for athletes. In Just-do-it-land, a small 1,200 square foot house for a jock would cost \$1.3 million. Only a rich idiot would donate so much to such a narrow cause while other charity needs are so great. Then again, maybe we're all idiots. How much of a tax write off did we give the billionaire for this?

• The big plan for saving **Civic Stadium** appears to have stalled. How about a simpler version? The school district could make money by selling the land for the parking lots and behind the outfield wall eyesore for commercial development. The schools and city could pool their money to keep the big field for much needed playing space, similar to what happened with the high school fields. All or most of the historic stands could be sold for a low price to a non-profit that would fundraise to preserve and maintain them. The nonprofit could explore using the field for professional soccer or other exhibition events. Phil Knight, where are you on this one? Doesn't the UO need a new soccer field? Maybe the Emeralds, struggling to get fans to their sterile new stadium, could even be lured back to play a few games.

• Gazpacho, anyone? That's the offer from Lorri Nelson, Eugene architect and UO adjunct instructor who is directing the **courthouse garden** at 8th and Ferry this summer and fall. She's looking for volunteers to harvest, plant, weed and mulch, water, make compost and maybe stir up cold soup for fun before landscape architecture students return after fall term begins Sept. 28. Precise times: Thurs, Aug. 19, 4-6 p.m.; Sat. Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Thurs., Sept 2, 9 and 16, 4-6 p.m. Volunteers can email Nelson at courthousegarden@gmail.com or just show up. The garden on city land east of the federal courthouse already has produced boxes of kale, broccoli, kohlrabi,

cabbage, lettuce, parsley, onions, potatoes, peppers, tomatoes, beans, beets and carrots for the Eugene Mission, Relief Nursery, HIV Alliance and Catholic Community Services. Go see the garden. It's Willamette Valley summer at its best.

• Ahoy Eugeneans, want to **join the Pirate Party**? International Talk Like a Pirate Day started in Oregon (Sept. 19, you have some time to practice your arrrrs and avasts), so it's really no surprise that the Beaver State has embraced the Pirate Party. The Pirate Party isn't "the naughty kind of pirate," or so says the Oregon website (www.arregon.org/home), and it's not an official party yet – it needs 21,000 signatures to become one in Oregon. But it does have an all-important Facebook page and a platform: It's against the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 and against the concept of online piracy and digital rights management, and it's pro-reform of copyright, trademark and patent laws. It's also pro-peaceful assembly, the right to privacy and EW's personal favorite: a right to a free press. Arrrrrr!

• **Judge Edward Leavy**, a federal jurist from Oregon who started his legal career in Eugene, was on the panel that decided earlier this week to stay same-sex marriages in California until the next levels of review. The three-judge ruling was unanimous. The *Oregonian* reported that a new panel on a quick calendar will consider Judge Walker's ruling that the Prop 8 ban of same-sex marriages is unconstitutional. All signs point to an eventual decision by the U.S. Supreme Court, probably not a good route if you believe in marriage equality, as we do. Judge Leavy was appointed to the U.S., Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit in 1987 by President Reagan. He started practice in Eugene in 1953, moving up the legal ladder after appointment to the Lane County district court in 1957. On senior judge status, he lives in Charboneau, Oregon.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com

"FEED YOUR CRAVINGS!"

BATES

STEAK HOUSE & SALOON INC.

433 EAST BROADWAY

VOTED BEST STEAK

best of eugene

2009-2010

OPEN FOR DINNER 7 DAYS A WEEK • 683-3108

FEATURING BIG AL'S PRIME GRADE BONE-IN RIB EYE STEAK A CARNIVORE'S FAVORITE!

50% OFF

A DINNER ENTREE OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE WITH THE PURCHASE OF ONE ENTREE & TWO BEVERAGES AT REGULAR PRICE.

One Coupon Per Table | Expires Sept. 2, 2010
Not Valid With Any Other Offer

ENJOY OUR NEWLY REMODELED PATIO!

BURGER & BREW

MONDAY-THURSDAY

\$8.50

DIFFERENT BURGER DAILY | BAR & PATIO ONLY

DONALD DEXTER JR DMD LLC

DENTISTRY

Our vision is simple – we believe in integrity above all else, and we serve those who are seeking a trusted source for their dental care

Browse our website or call if you have any questions!
We look forward to providing your care.

2233 WILLAMETTE ST, BLDG B • 541-485-6644
www.drDEXTER.com