

news Briefs

golden infrastructure of public safety, energy, defense and transportation.”

As for political strategies, Stutzman adds, “We are nonpartisan, do not espouse a particular religion, and do not want representation that only hopes to maintain a career in government by buying favors with tax dollars.”

Stutzman pointed out the group’s name came from “the cohesive nature of the day after 9/11, where gender, race, avocation or party did not matter; we were all Americans.”

Past Chair Randy Barklow of Elmira, a 45-year-old bodybuilder and maintenance technician, says that anyone is welcome to attend the monthly meetings, though they recently started collecting annual dues among those sharing their long term interests.

Monty Luke, their PR person, suggests those interests include “wanting to see our leaders in Washington start acting like adults, rather than splurging trillions of dollars borrowed from our children and grandchildren.” — *Joseph Lieberman*

POSSIBLE HARM AXES CLEARCUTS

When it comes to stopping a U.S. Forest Service clearcut or massive federal pipeline project the Supreme Court ruled in 2008 that the *possibility* of “irreparable harm” isn’t enough. There has to be a *likelihood* of harm.

“If you look those two words up in the dictionary,” says attorney Susan Jane Brown of the Western Environmental Law Center, “they mean the exact same thing.”

Brown says a recent ruling by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals clarifies the Supreme Court’s ruling in *NRDC v. Winter* and defines at what point groups can temporarily stop federal projects while the case is being heard.

Groups will often seek a preliminary injunction to stop something like a clearcut, because if the action isn’t stopped while the case is dragging on, the trees might already all be cut down by the time the court issues a ruling.

Happening people BY PAUL NEEVEL



MEGAN KEMPLE

Though her parents grew up in Oregon and met at the UO, Megan Kemple was raised in Wisconsin and California until age 5, when they moved to Portland. “We did lots of camping in central Oregon,” says Kemple, who developed a passion for the outdoors, majored in environmental studies at Macalaster College in Saint Paul and taught at seasonal outdoor schools in California, Colorado, Washington and Oregon. She moved to Eugene in 1996, worked four years as middle-school program coordinator for Sexual Assault Support Services, then seven years as education coordinator for the Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides. “And I was volunteering my life away,” says Kemple, a co-founder of the School Garden Project, who also donated her time to the League of Conservation Voters, Sierra Club, Cascadia Wildlands and Growers Market. “In 2007, I quit volunteering.” She was hired by the Willamette Farm and Food Coalition to coordinate its new Farm to School Program, offering educational field trips to farms and harvest meals in schools. In addition, Farm to School acts as a “benevolent broker,” arranging transactions between school districts and local farmers at no cost. Learn more at www.lanefood.org and see Activist Alert this week for details about a Feb. 10 community forum and garden tour.

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