

studies use for their data.

Pollet says that the natural background radiation level (without any human-caused additions) along the Columbia River at Hanford is less than 100 millirems a year. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation cites 240 millirems per year as the average natural background radiation level globally, which may vary by a factor of three in different locations. — *Shannon Finnell*

CHEFS' NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Sixty local restaurants and wineries will serve more than 900 people in the name of feeding the poor Tuesday April 5 at the annual Chefs' Night Out.

The benefit for FOOD for Lane County is from 6:30 to 9 pm at the Hult Center. Tickets are \$65 in advance (682-5000), \$75 Tuesday. The event has raised more than \$1 million for the hunger charity since its inception. This year's event is dedicated to the memory of local restaurateur Mike West, who spearheaded the creation of the fundraiser 21 years ago and died of a heart attack in January.

CALC HOSTS MLK READING

Local activist groups find Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s message in his April 4, 1967 speech, "A Time to Break Silence," just as pertinent today as it was almost 50 years ago. Linking opposition to the Vietnam War with the struggle for social justice, King outlined what he called the disastrous "triplets" that haunted American society: racism, militarism and materialism.

Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC) is hosting a reading of King's speech at 7 pm Monday, April 4, at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St. The local CALC chapter began in 1966 as a response to the Vietnam War and continues educating for peace, human dignity, and racial and economic justice.

“The issues that King spoke on in ’67 are still very real today. There is no money

for social and environmental programs because our nation continues to place money into military efforts,” said event organizer Michael Carrigan.

Twenty community members, including Mayor Kitty Piercy and City Councilor Andrea Ortiz, will read King's speech at the event. Soromundi Lesbian Chorus will perform before and after the reading. The free event is the first in a series celebrating CALC's 45 years of work in Lane County. For more information visit www.calclane.org — *Heather Cyrus*

ACTIVIST ALERT

• The Many Rivers Group of the Sierra Club is planning a presentation on **“Oregon’s Marine Reserves Process”** from 7 to 9 pm Thursday, March 31, at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High St. in Eugene. Speaker is Bob Rees of the Our Ocean coalition. Contact Sally Nunn at sally.nunn@oregon.sierraclub.org or visit www.ouroregonocean.org

- Buy books and watch the award-winning film *Inside Job* about **Wall Street's** role in the financial mess the U.S. is in at the Unitarian Church 6:30 pm Friday, April 1.

- The powerful Metropolitan Policy Committee will hold what could be the last **public hearing on the west Eugene EmX** on Tuesday, April 5 at 6 pm in the fairgrounds Wheeler Pavilion. Comments can also be emailed to mpo@lcoq.org

- Learn about local farms and products at **That's My Farmer** from 6 to 8:30 pm Wednesday, April 6, at First United Methodist Church, 13th and Olive. The program features a farmer presentation, a slide show of Robin Cushman's photography, Coconut Bliss ice cream, live music and a raffle of farm products. A suggested donation of \$5 a person or \$10 a family provides fresh produce to low-income families.

• The Oregon Conservation Network is planning its annual **Environmental Lobby Day** from 9 am to 4 pm Thursday, April 7, at the state Capitol in Salem. This free event will start with expert training on OCN's priority bills, including banning plastic checkout bags, protecting children from toxic BPA, and expanding the bottle bill, among others. That afternoon, participants will put their new skills to use, directly lobbying lawmakers. Register at <http://wkly.ws/11p>



SLANT

• **Need a job?** Here's one that will pay you more than \$50,000 a year to start plus about another \$20,000 a year in benefits, plus overtime at up to \$50 an hour, lots of vacations and sick leave, plus almost no accountability. Is this one of those socialistic school teacher jobs the right wingers are gnashing their teeth about? Of course not, those job openings that help children require college and masters degrees and are going extinct. These are cop jobs and all you need is a high-school equivalency degree to play with lots of deadly toys. The city of Eugene is hiring at <http://1.usa.gov/eUZmoR> online. It would be nice if the city hired some police officers for the city of Eugene that actually live in the city of Eugene this time.

- Federal funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and **National Public Radio** is under attack again by Republicans and conservative media who perceive NPR as taxpayer-subsidized liberal propaganda. We listen to NPR a lot and the content is actually quite mainstream and balanced. Somehow, the “liberal” label has been applied to any public affairs programming that is intelligent, well-reasoned, analytical and supportive of American art and culture. Cruise the AM and FM bands on your radio and you won’t find much useful, relevant information, until you find a public radio station. Rural areas in particular need public radio. An informed citizenry is essential to democracy. If anything, public broadcasting needs *more* public support, not less.

• This week is Feminist Campus's "**Don't Be Fooled by Fake Clinics**" National Week of Action. Women and girls deserve a sympathetic ear and accurate, clearly presented information about pregnancy, not shame and persuasion toward a particular decision, but that's precisely what so-called "Crisis Pregnancy Centers" give them. These federally funded info centers provide false or misleading information linking abortion to breast cancer, loss of future fertility and mental health problems. The reality is that giving birth has more of these risks than abortion does. Spread the word about their false advertising, and see what you can do for reproductive health and freedom with UO Students for Choice and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Southwest Oregon. See www.choiceadvocates.org for info.

• Wisconsin is causing a furor again and this time it's about **public records**. Historian William Cronon at the UW-Madison wrote on his blog, *Scholar as Citizen*, about the American Legislative Exchange Council, a group that proposes "model bills" for conservatives to adopt in state legislatures across the country. Cronon argued in his post that ALEC had played a major behind-the-scenes role in Wisconsin Gov. Walker's controversial attack on public employee unions. Now in apparent retaliation the Republicans in Wisconsin are demanding Cronon's university emails – employees of state schools are public employees – that include terms like Republicans and names like Scott Walker and those of labor leaders through a public records request. We're all for open public records, there are no sacred cows, but records requests should be used to inform the public, not intimidate those in public service.

Speaking of the ExxonMobil and Koch Bros. funded ALEC, Rep. Kim Thatcher R-Keizer has introduced House Joint Resolution 9 asking Oregon's Legislature to withdraw from the Western Climate Initiative. The wording is word for word from ALEC's model legislation. The resolution is currently lingering in the Committee on Energy, Environment and Water.

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

CORRECTIONS/ CLARIFICATIONS

Our March 17 story "Reaction to Invasives Questioned," misstates the name of a speaker in the second reference. His name is James Morris, not James Miller. We regret the M-vowel-double consonant-vowel-consonant substitution.

The image shows the Capella Market logo on the left, which features the word "Capella" in a large, elegant script font with two stars above it, and the word "MARKET" in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font below it. To the right of the logo is a black shopping bag filled with various items, including a pineapple, a bunch of leafy greens, and a bottle of wine. The bag has the Capella Market logo printed on it. On the far right, the words "LOCAL", "NATURAL", "ORGANIC", "GOURMET", "SPECIALTY", and "VARIETY" are stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font.



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