

NOBELS SAY NO TO TAR SANDS

Winona LaDuke was one of the first to raise awareness in Oregon about the toxic Canadian tar sands and the megaloads of equipment that use the Columbia River as a route for the machinery. LaDuke is now joined by nine Nobel Laureates in saying no to the Keystone XL tar sands pipeline that would carry the oil from Canada through the U.S. to Texas.

According to NASA climate scientist James Hansen, who was one of the more than one thousand celebrities and ordinary citizens arrested at the recent Tar Sands Action protests in front of the White House, “producing oil from tar sands emits two-to-three times the global warming pollution of conventional oil.” Tar sands oil is also said to be dirtier and more toxic than conventionally produced oil, which may have been a factor in this summer’s Silvertip Pipeline leak into the Yellowstone River.

After the U.S. State Department gave the go ahead to the Keystone XL pipeline, leaving the decision in the hands of President Obama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, His Holiness the Dalai Lama and seven other Nobel Peace Laureates wrote a

letter to the president urging him to reject the pipeline.

The letter says, “In asking you to make this decision, we recognize the thousands of Americans who risked arrest to protest in front of the White House between August 20th and September 3rd.” It continues, “They represent millions of people whose lives and livelihoods will be affected by construction and operation of the pipeline in Alberta, Montana, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.”

Eugene resident and freelance writer Monica Christoffels was one of the more than 1,200 people arrested at the White House protest. She says, “I felt very disappointed to see my government ignore the entirely possible threat of a pipeline spill or break, which would poison the water table of eight different states — not to mention all of the detrimental impacts on human and all other biological communities from Alberta to the Gulf of Mexico.”

Meanwhile in the Northwest, Wild Idaho Rising Tide and other protesters have been blocking megaloads and organizing actions against the continued use of the Columbia River and the wild and scenic highway route through Idaho and Montana by the megaloads of tar sands extraction equipment. — *Camilla Mortensen*

CELEBRATE HISPANIC HERITAGE

Anyone who can trace roots back to a Spanish-speaking country in the Western Hemisphere has something to celebrate in Kesey Square on Sept. 15 when Eugene Arte Latino kicks off Hispanic Heritage month with a day of art, poetry, talks, dance and song.

Local artists and performers from different Latin countries will gather to commemorate the independence of Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Chile from Spain. The independence day of each country falls within three days of the others, with Mexico and Chile achieving independence on Sept. 16 and 18, respectively.

Scheduled appearances include Eugene mayor Kitty Piercy, poet Jesús Sepúlveda, Mariachi Oro y Plata, Ballet Folklórico and many others. Art from the Latin art exhibit *Nuestras Tradiciones* will be displayed. The free event runs from 6 to 8:45 pm at Kesey Square. More information at eugeneartelatinowordpress.com — *Brit McGinnis*

HOMESTEAD WORKSHOP

A unique, three-hour workshop on urban homesteading for families is planned for 12:30 to 3:30 pm Sunday, Sept. 18, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 40th and Donald. The event was originally set for Sept. 25.

The workshop will introduce families to “a new and exciting way of life called urban homesteading,” according to an email circulating locally.

UO law professor Mary Wood and her three children (Sage, 13; Cam, 11; and Nick, 5) will conduct the hands-on workshop using homestead equipment to demonstrate skills. Kids (with their parents) will engage in various activities and receive token gifts and handouts to take home.

The workshop will cover 1) establishing a year-round garden, 2) raising chickens and other micro-livestock, 3) storing a food supply in root silos, 4) canning fruits and tomatoes, 5) drying and freezing fruits and vegetables, 6) cooking from scratch (featuring bread and soup), 7) eliminating waste and packaging and more.

Contact stevenjgoldman@gmail.com

LIGHTEN UP

BY RAFAEL ALDAVE

Glenn Beck is coming out against football. After hearing the phrase “time of possession” used in a game, he concluded that for part of the contest the teams were under the influence of evil spirits.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our cover story on BRING’s 40 anniversary last week we wrote about the new BRING plaza design by Ethan Rainwater but failed to mention that the “Sousaflowers” centerpiece sculpture was by metal artist Jud Turner. A photo of this piece and Turner’s other art in progress at BRING can be found at <http://wkly.ws/13x>

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