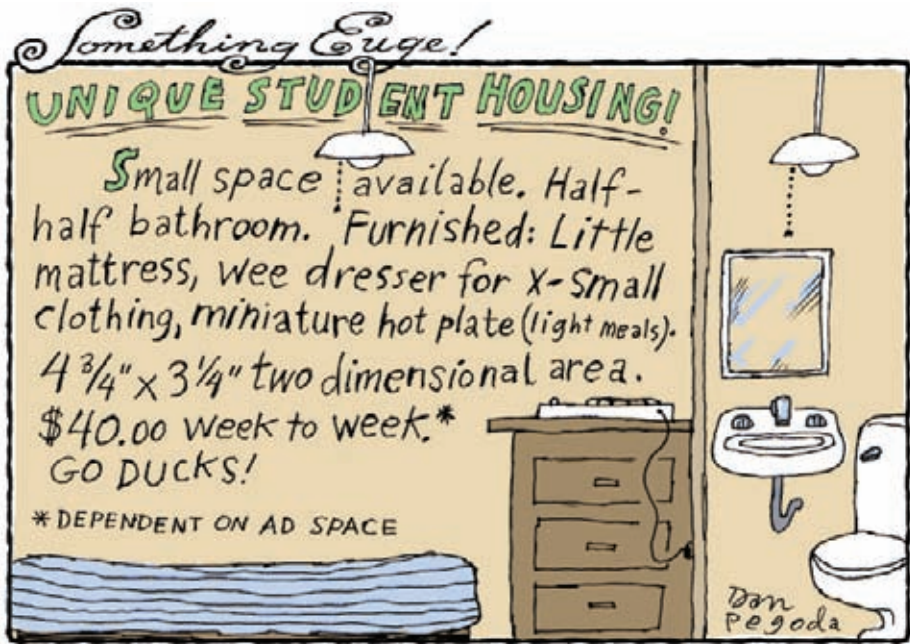




CONTINUED FROM P.8

Guard with emails at no charge in regard to the open meetings story that led to the subsequent timber-industry funded lawsuit. Richardson says the county did charge the *R-G*. She says, “(Reporter) Matt Cooper and I went back and forth as to the cost of various versions of his request until

we landed on a version that he was able to afford.” She says, “I’ve asked staff to look for the receipt. If it’s not easily accessible, there would be a cost to locate it.”

Cooper did not respond to a request for comment before press time.

Fleenor also alleges that one of the emails Richardson forwarded to Cooper

violated attorney-client privilege as it contained legal advice from her to the commissioners. Richardson was Lane County’s legal counsel at the time.

EW made a request to the county for records on public records requests and whether the *R-G* was charged or not. Program specialist for budget and planning Judy Williams says the county did not start tracking public records requests until April 2011 and does not have records of whether charges were made or paid.

According to city of Springfield spokesperson Niel Laudati, public records requests in that city rarely incur charges. “Unless there is significant staff time involved, or some records take extra work to extract and print, we try to get them quickly and usually free,” he says. One April 2010 public records request from the *R-G* resulted in a reporter being given access to more than 5,000 emails within 48 hours at no charge, he says. He says the city simply set the reporter up with a computer in the city attorney’s office and let her review the emails on her own, then pass the emails related to her story to the attorney.

Stewart says “setting up a computer at the county that could be used to review all commissioner emails provided they weren’t privileged and protected under law” will be discussed by Richardson at the next Board of Commissioners meeting.

— Camilla Mortensen

TIME TO SELL YOUR GOLD?

Got any gold jewelry — or any gold items at all, really — that you don’t use anymore? With gold priced at such a high value right now, it seems like a pretty good time to cash it in.

Eugene Coin and Jewelry on 24th and Willamette has been buying and selling gold for 32 years. Owner David Nelkin says the store has seen an increase in the amount of gold people are hoping to sell (and the amount the store is buying) since 2008 as gold crossed into the \$700 to \$800 per ounce range. Nelkin says this is because of “opportunity cost” as people are seizing the opportunity to cash in their scrap gold while it is valued at such a high price.

“We are buying a lot right now,” Nelkin says, careful not to reveal the exact amounts for security purposes. “We are probably doing 150 transactions a day. The numbers are inflated because the price of gold is so high.

The price his shop pays for gold varies by the type, karat amount and the day, according to Nelkin. He adds that for 14-karat gold (like old jewelry) Eugene Coin has paid as high as \$27 to \$28 per gram — however, it is currently paying \$23 to \$24 per gram. To put this in perspective, Nelkin explains that 25 years ago, Eugene Coin was paying prices three times less for the gold they are getting now.

LANE COUNTY SPRAY SCHEDULE

- Nicholas Sumich (541) 927-6177 is doing hack and squirt with Garlon 4 on 24 acres adjacent to the wetland at Triangle Lake, T16S R07W, Sections 16 and 17. Triangle Lake is on Coho salmon-bearing stream Lake Creek. Notice 2011-781-00704.
- Seneca Jones (541) 689-1011 is doing hack and squirt on 204 acres with Polaris AC near Hamm Rd on T19S R04W, Sections 15, 23 and 24. Notice 2011-781-00607.



The Second Night Is Free

Come back to the family fun, romantic getaways and uncomplicated times of days gone by. Come to the central Oregon coast, its stunning beauty and all the diversity it offers. Stroll the long, sandy beaches, explore tidepools and lighthouses or watch for whales. Hike, shop, visit galleries and museums or enjoy local festivals. At day’s end, relax in one of the central Oregon coast’s fine hotels, each with spectacular views. Now until December 15, 2011, the second night is free. Some restrictions apply.

STAY IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL



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