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to help the court decide the matter.

In the brief Hansen warns of threats to our climate and a need for action. "Failure to act with all deliberate speed in the face of the clear scientific evidence of the danger functionally becomes a decision to eliminate the option of preserving a habitable climate system," he writes.

This type of lawsuit has never been filed in the U.S., according to professor Mary Wood, faculty director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program at the UO.

"This is a case of planetary significance," she said. "It's almost a case of indescribable importance."

If the plaintiffs win the lawsuit, the court will order the federal government to come forth with an enforceable plan for carbon reduction.

Wood emphasizes that Hansen's role is crucial for the lawsuit because he and other climate scientists have done research to find out what is necessary for curbing the effects of global warming.

There is no set date as of now for the court case to begin in the nation's capital.

— Ted Shorack

BIRD COUNT COMING UP

The Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) will be Sunday, Jan. 1, and this year will be the 70th year for Eugene and the 112th National Audubon Society (NAS) Christmas Bird Count.

The count this year will not conflict with college football bowl games that are typically on New Year's Day. The Rose Bowl will be on Monday, Jan. 2.

The 15-mile-diameter count circle is centered in the Danebo part of town and is divided into 27 areas, each with a team leader who organizes the team, leads the group through the area during the count day and then submits the results to the ECBC Committee.

Dick Lamster is the count compiler this year, and he will be working with NAS on the administrative tasks of the count. He will also be coordinating with the team leaders as well as handling publicity, assembling the packets for the team leaders and writing part of the post-count narrative. Lamster can be reached at 343-8664.

Barbara Gleason is the volunteer coordinator and can be reached at 345-3974. Dan Gleason will be gathering checklists from team leaders and can be reached at 345-0450. He will

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also review rare and unusual bird sightings and submit all results to NAS.

Those who cannot participate on a count team but would like to count birds that visit backyards can call Herb Wisner at 344-3634. Wisner has forms for feeder watchers, though it may be getting late to ask for them.

After the count, participants will gather at the Eugene Garden Club at 1645 High St. for the traditional chili feed. Doors will open around 3:30 pm and the chili feed will start around 5 pm.

BAD DUCK JOKES

We polled our readers for jokes going around about the UO Ducks, University of Wisconsin Badgers and the upcoming Rose Bowl game Jan. 2. We found a few that may or may not be worth passing along.

- What do Ducks and pot have in common? Both get smoked in bowls.

- What does the average Wisconsin player get on his SAT? Drool.

- What's the difference between Duck football players and Rice Krispies? The cereal knows what to do in a bowl.

- An unknown white powdery substance was found on the Ducks' practice field and an FBI forensics team determined it was — the goal line. Practice resumed after agents decided the team was unlikely to encounter the substance again this season.

- Two Badger fans were walking through the woods near Madison when they came upon a set of tracks. The first Badger fan said, "Those are deer tracks." The second Badger fan said, "No. They're too big to be deer tracks. They must be elk tracks." As they were arguing back and forth they got hit by the train.

- Why should the Wisconsin Badgers change their name to the Wisconsin Opossums? Because they play dead at home and get killed on the road.

- How do you get to own a small business? Take a large business and put a Duck grad in charge of it.

- How do you get a Duck grad off your front porch? Pay for the pizza!

- What are the longest three years of a Wisconsin football player's life? His freshman year.

- Did you hear about the Wisconsin Badgers fan who was injured in a pie-eating contest? A cow stepped on his head.

— Ted Taylor

ACTIVIST ALERT

- **"Occupying the Heart and Mind,"** a silent meditation/ prayer circle, will continue despite the camp's shut-down at 11:30 am Friday, Dec. 30. The location will be announced later this week at <http://occupyeugenemedia.org> and on Facebook. A basic introduction to the universal practices of prayer and meditation will be offered at 11:30 and the meditation will be from noon to 1 pm. Bring a chair, cushion or floor mat and warm clothing.

- **Parvin Butte owners** (see news story this week) have appealed the fines the county has assessed for their illegal mining and a hearing is scheduled for 2 pm

Thursday, Jan. 5, in Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th Ave.

- Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy will give the annual **State of the City Address** at 5:30 pm Thursday, Jan. 5, in the lobby of the Hult Center downtown. Council Vice President George Brown will be emcee for the event.

- Lane County Board Chair Faye Stewart will deliver the **State of the County Address** at 6 pm Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the County Fairgrounds Gleason Atrium.

- Springfield Mayor Christine Lundberg will give her **State of the City Address** at 5:30 pm Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Wildish Theater, 630 Main St. in Springfield.

biz beat

SeQuential Biofuels has a sign up at one of the two closed 76 service stations at the busy intersection of 18th and Chambers in Eugene. SeQuential will take over both stations, selling both regular gas and biofuels, opening just after Christmas, but will not occupy the 7-Eleven convenience store that shares a parking lot with Bi-Mart. SeQuential is expected to offer its popular natural food selections later in January at the station across the street that shares a parking lot with Albertsons.

Blanton Turner is a Seattle-based property management firm expanding in the Eugene market. The

firm opened its Eugene office in July and now manages Broadway Place and Boulders on the River in Eugene. Owner Blanton Turner says he's taking a creative approach in management of mixed-use properties, student housing and multi-family housing. See blantonturner.com

Street Ministry, a local nonprofit that has been feeding and caring for the homeless for years, now has a concession cart at the corner of 6th and Lincoln selling biscuits and gravy, nutritious bran muffins, local Equator coffee, Jenny's Street Cookies and other breakfast and lunch food. Proceeds will go to assisting offenders coming out of prison. Contact Robert Swan at robjswan@gmail.com

New CEO at **United Way** will be Noreen J. Dunnells, who is currently president and CEO of United Way of Central Minnesota, an organization similar in size to Lane County's.

She will succeed Pricilla Gould, who has served as executive director for 22 years.

Oregon's **Pride Foundation** has awarded more than \$50,000 in grants to Oregon's LGBTQ equality movement. Along with the Portland and statewide groups, HIV Alliance in Lane County got \$5,000, Community Alliance of Lane County got \$4,500, and Valley Aids Network of Corvallis got \$1,500.

A date of Aug. 26, 2012 has been set for the third annual **Eugene Women's Half Marathon**, lauded as "one of the best women's events in the Northwest." More info on commercial participation and registration at eugenewomenshalf.com

Send suggestions for Biz Beat items to editor@eugeneweekly.com with "Biz Beat" in the subject line.