

CHEMICAL TRESPASS RALLIES

Chemical trespass is what the rural residents of Triangle Lake say they experience when a timber company sprays toxic pesticides that drift onto their properties, often affecting the health of those living there, their gardens and drinking water.

There will be two rallies against chemical trespass on Feb. 11. In Lane County, the rally will start at noon on the shores of Triangle Lake on Highway 36. The other rally starts at 10 am in another heavily sprayed and clearcut area, Lake Selmac, along Highway 199 near Selma in Josephine County.

According to Eugene-based Beyond Toxics, both rallies will begin with opening remarks from elders of Oregon Native American tribes that have joined with Beyond Toxics, the Pesticide Action Workgroup and other groups to call attention to the toxic trespass and its negative effects on clean water and human health that the organizers say are caused by chemical sprays on private forestlands.

Lisa Arkin of Beyond Toxics says these rallies reflect the “utter frustration of people trying to find a way to address problems in a legal manner.” Triangle Lake residents have been trying for years to put an end to the drifting aerial sprays. They have “filed complaints, attended PARC (Pesticide Analytical Response Center) meetings, begged for help and they get nothing,” Arkin says.

One of the speakers who will “witness” to her chemical trespass at the rally is Eron King, a Triangle Lake mother who “is furious about the test results showing that her two children have 2,4-D in their young bodies.”

Triangle Lake residents have had their urine tested and discovered herbicides commonly used in forestry, but Arkin says the residents are even running into problems with the current testing by the Oregon Health Authority. “Timber

companies are determining where this investigation will take place,” she says, alleging that the companies are changing their spray patterns to avoid being linked to possible toxic findings. “It’s unheard of to take a scientific experiment and change the parameters midstream,” Arkin says.

According to the OHA webpage on the Triangle Lake exposure investigation, “Dating back to the 1960s, citizens have raised concerns about the health effects of aerial and manual applications of herbicides on coastal mountain forest lands.”

For directions and more information: BeyondToxics.org
— Camilla Mortensen

ILLNESS STIGMATIZES KITTIES

Feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) doesn’t spread to dogs or humans, yet Sheriff, a stout, short-haired orange tabby with the disease, is waiting at West Coast Dog and Cat Rescue (WCDC) for a home, most likely because people fear he is contagious. This Valentine’s Day weekend WCDC hopes that will change.

Sheriff and 11 other cats at WCDC and Lane County Animal Services have FIV but are expected to live long and healthy lives. Although the ailment weakens the immune system of infected felines, they are not at risk unless they are exposed to diseases their body can’t handle. The simple solution is to keep cats like Sheriff indoors.

“If they’re outside they’re more susceptible,” says Julie McDonnell, executive director at WCDC. “It’s preventative maintenance more than anything else,” she adds, regarding keeping FIV cats healthy.

The common misunderstanding about FIV is how it can be transferred. It is unusual for the disease to spread

biz beat

Bike Friday is celebrating its 20th anniversary April 1 by manufacturing 20 dream touring bikes that honor the classic Bike Friday design and showcase the talents of top Oregon and U.S. bike craftspeople. The hand-crafted New World Tourist USA bike will retail for \$5,999 and will feature tubing by Magic Metal, paint by Prismatic Powders, components by White Industries, headset by Chris King, brakes by Paul’s Components, seat post by L.H. Thompson, saddle by Selle Anatomica Titanico, panniers by Ironweed and wooden fenders by Tom Anderson. See bikefriday.com for more information.

Red Wagon Creamery is expanding and now scooping their handcrafted ice cream at June at Midtown, the restaurant and juice bar at 16th and Willamette, from noon to 8 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Thursdays they scoop at the Party Cart at 28th and Friendly. “We’re glad to have an indoor space with seats and everything,” says Stuart Phillips, who owns and runs the business with his wife, Emily.

Reconnecting America CEO John Robert Smith will give a public talk about the benefits of developing real estate around public transportation and pedestrian traffic at 6:30 pm Wednesday, Feb. 15, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette St. Smith has also served as chairman of the Amtrak Board of Directors. Email gifford2@uoregon.edu for more information.

Springfield-based **Selectemp Employment Services** is expanding into the Portland area after 25 years in business. The company, started by Steve Gaughan and Roger Cox, currently has six offices in Oregon and employs 27 full-time people serving 800 clients. Three more people will be hired to staff the Portland offices. See selec-temp.com for more information.

Deadline is Feb. 27 to apply for the \$100,000 **Greenpower Grant** available from EWEB for renewable energy projects. EWEB employees will evaluate the applicants and EWEB customers will be able to vote on a handful of eligible projects. Email harwood@eweb.org or call 685-7471 for more information.

J. Michaels Books on East Broadway downtown still has some copies of *Winner-Take-All Politics*, the book about the middle class that Bill Moyers has been praising, written by Jacob Hacker and Paul Pierson, both academicians who grew up in Eugene. The Morse Center for Law and Politics is bringing Hacker and Pierson here for a public lecture at 4 pm Thursday, March 1, in 175 Knight Law School.

February Cyclist Lovefest

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