

land inhabited by the Aleuts for more than 10,000 years. They believe that the Earth is weary with fever and world leaders are only looking to treat the symptoms. “The root cause is separation. Separation from self, separation from others, separation from nature, separation from Earth,” says Mercurieff.

Until we reconcile the individual with the environment, the elders say, conditions will continue to worsen, and Alaska will have a front row seat. Mercurieff points out coastal erosion, changes in migratory patterns (beavers found north of the arctic circle), and a major decline in species (caribou, sea lions, sea otters). He predicts that salmon — due to the *Ichthyophonus hoferi* parasite, decreasing water levels, and water temperatures too warm for fish eggs to survive — will have completely disappeared from Alaska in 15 years.

Mercurieff and Wildcat spoke May 23 at the UO’s Many Nations Longhouse and the conference continues on Thursday, May 24, with an additional keynote address at 9 am in the UO Fir Room, followed by student presentations and panels. The conference is free. For more information, visit uoclimatconference.wordpress.com

— Alexandra Notman

WAG FOR A CAUSE

There will be no animals at this Saturday’s Bingo Beach Dance Party, the second-annual celebration of the Willamette Animal Guild (WAG), “just party animals!” says Vanessa Wells-Horner, outreach coordinator at WAG. She is hoping to get lots of tails wagging out on the dance floor as the nonprofit celebrates the more than 20,000 spay and neuter surgeries it has performed on pets and feral animals since January 2008.

“We want to raise awareness of the importance of spay and neuter and also just the availability of it,” Wells-Horner says. The nonprofit offers financial assistance options to help those in need afford the cost of surgery. “Money is not a reason not to fix your pets,” she says. WAG’s currently offering a cat deal — pay to spay your momma cat, and WAG will fix her whole litter for free. Kitties as young as eight to 10 weeks can be altered, Wells-Horner says.

The fundraiser’s highlights will include DJ Kaatskratch playing beach-themed music “to get people dancing,” Wells-Horner says. There will be carnival games, a raffle and for the \$10 admission, you get snacks and two bingo cards for a game hosted by local comedian Leigh Anne Jasheway. There will also be alcohol and snacks available to buy, including some Ninkasi and Cornucopia-made delights.

The 6 to 9 pm May 26 event will be held at the Friends of Norway Lodge, 710 McKinley St. in Eugene. If you’re not a party animal, but a creature of art instead, check out WAG’s silent art auction at Pacific Rim Gallery at 405 Hwy. 99 North through May 26. More info at www.wagwag.org

— Stacey M. Hollis

ACTIVIST ALERT

• Noted New York author and **journalist Thai Jones**, who has strong family ties to Eugene, will be reading from his new book, *More Powerful Than Dynamite*, at 7 pm Thursday, May 31, at Tsunami Books, 25th and Willamette. Jones is the son of former members of the Weather Underground and his family went into hiding for 10 years following an accidental bomb explosion in 1970 in Greenwich Village. His book is about anarchy, corporate greed and the violent protests of 1914, which have close parallels to the Occupy Wall Street movement of today.

• Public comments on draft annual operations **plans for state-owned forests** has been extended through Friday, June 1. The public comment period opened April 9 for plans in the Astoria, Tillamook, Forest Grove, Western Lane, Coos, Southwest Oregon and Klamath Lake districts. Draft plans are posted at the ODF website at <http://wkly.ws/lad> and comments can be emailed to sfaoplans@odf.state.or.us or mailed to Rod Nichols/Public Affairs, ODF, 2600 State St., Salem 97310.

• The **Pacific Green Party** nominating convention for the November elections will be from 10 am to 4 pm June 2-3 at Willamette University Eaton Hall, Room 308, in Salem. See pacificgreens.org for details and registration.

LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

• ODOT District 5 plans to spray Hwy. 99 between Eugene and Junction City, I-5, Beltline and I-105 shoulders and ramps and connecting highways such as Hwy. 99 South, Cloverdale and the lower end of Hwy. 58. Call (888) 996-8080 for more detailed information.

• ODF, 935-2283, is hiring Nick’s Timber Service, (503) 910-1120) to ground spray **state forestry roadsides** on their land throughout Lane County. Chemicals include Element 4, Element 3A, Oust XP and Forester’s with Agri-Dex surfactant. See notice 2012-781-00363.

• Giustina, 345-2301, is hiring Northwest Reforestation Services, 554-0489, to cut and spray false brome and scotch broom and other invasives on 194 acres near **Hawley Creek and Coyote Creek** and on 159 acres near Hall Road and 80 acres near High Pass Road. Notice 2012-781-00356.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, www.forestlanddwellers.org

WE’RE CLOSED MONDAY

EW offices will be closed Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day. Please reserve your display ad space as early as possible for our May 31 issue. Questions? Call 484-0519.

LIGHTEN UP

The Kansas Legislature must have been under the spell of the Saint of Farfetched Perils when it banned Islamic Sharia law from the state’s courts. What’s next? A law denying extraterrestrials the right to land at its airports?

BY RAFAEL ALDAVE

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