

Cornucopia's Maize Lounge at 13th and Oak closed down without notice this past weekend and all future music gigs were canceled. Moving trucks were seen outside Monday morning, hauling off furniture and equipment for storage in a rented warehouse. Maize offered food, a full bar and a stage for live music. We hear a big hike coming in lease payments was behind the decision; Cornucopia's other two restaurants are doing fine. Alison Albrecht and Nils Stark are owners of the business, but not the old building, which used to be a Cadillac dealership. The District was a previous night spot. The thriving barcade on that corner and all the student housing being built nearby is likely to make it an even hotter location.

The restaurant delivery services of **Pony Express** just got a major upgrade. The delivery drivers will now be capable of bringing beer and wine right to your home. The maximum amount of beer and spirits Pony Express can deliver by law is two six-packs of beer, two bottles of wine, or one six-pack of beer and one bottle of wine per residence, per day. Pony Express can take orders for beer and wine delivery daily, until 7 pm, although drivers are permitted to deliver as late as 9 pm. Those ordering beer or wine must present an acceptable photo ID at the door and sign documentation stating that they are of legal age to consume alcohol in the state of Oregon. Contact is 485-2090, or go to ponyexpressdelivery.com

New start-up business in town is called **Action Sports High Performance Stunt Shows**, offering affordable live entertainment including choreographed bicycle stunts with an upbeat, family-friendly music soundtrack. Currently booking private parties, company picnics, sales events and more. Contact is Cash Reynolds, 246-5471. Facebook page and website are under construction.

Ox & Fin, a reinvention of Osteria Sfizio, opened July 27 and will be serving lunch and dinner Monday through Sunday in the space previously occupied by Sfizio at Oakway Center. Owners are Chef Andrew Stone, Rick Montoya and Curtis Large.

The **Solarize Eugene project** has helped 50 EWEB households install or prepare to install solar electric systems over the past three months. The new systems are expected to generate more than 125 kilowatts of electricity. The project is a collaboration involving the nonprofit The Resource Innovation Group, an EWEB Greenpower grant, local solar contractors and others. For more information, email sarah@trig-cli.org or call 654-4052.

NOTI SCHOOL GETS A CHANCE

The "little blue school" has been empty for 10 years. The community of Noti, 16 miles west of Eugene in the foothills of the Coast Range, saw the historic building close down in June 2002 due to budget shortfalls. But this year, it's opening back up, according to Leontine Winters Krohn, president of the Noti Community Center. The school's inaugural fundraiser is a production of *Cinderella* by Ballet Fantastique accompanied by live '60s music from singing duo Shelley and Cal and their band at 2:30 pm Saturday, Aug. 4.

"Our community has been given an incredible opportunity to use the Noti school property, or lose it," Winters Krohn says.

In an effort to get the historic school building up and running, the group is in the process of obtaining nonprofit status to convert it into the Noti Community Center.

"The school board has given us the month of August to make a sweat-equity down payment on the property," Winters Krohn says. She says sweat equity means that any effort they put into anything they do in the next month counts toward the down payment. This is a unique arrangement that took many school board meetings to set up, and draws from a community that might be low in money but rich in talent.

The community center involves the small communities of Noti, Walton and parts of Veneta and Elmira, but "we don't have a tax district," Winters Krohn says, and with no tax base, the Noti Community Center will rely on individual community supporters, unlike other cities, such as Eugene, which have municipally funded community centers.

In addition to this weekend's fundraiser, there are other August events to help with the sweat equity; Aug. 6 kicks off a three-week-long mashup of free workshops offered to youths between the ages of 11 and 17. Classes include dance taught by Alana Fisher of Ballet Fantastique, forestry, music, theater, writing and art, all taught by talented volunteers from around the community.

At the end of the month, the center will throw what organizers hope is the first annual Noti Summer Jam, Aug. 24-25 — a weekend showcasing community talent.

Tickets for the Ballet Fantastique performance are \$15, \$10 for youth and are available at the schoolhouse and at the door, 22713 Noti Loop Road. For more info go to the Facebook page at wkly.ws/1bz — *Stacey M. Hollis and Camilla Mortensen*

O&C LAND USE VS. LAND ABUSE

Clearcuts, thinning, retention, regeneration ... forestry jargon aplenty was flying on July 29 when nearly 30 people gathered to tour the Long Tom forest 20 miles west of Eugene, and to see some of these forest management terms actually applied within the same landscape.

The forest is primarily managed by the BLM and private industry. Much like a checkerboard, square plots of land alternate between BLM and industry, with the former still covered by treetops and the latter looking instead a bit like a scorched earth war-zone. Below the forestland is the Long Tom River, a tributary of the Willamette River.

"Industrial logging out here is completely unsustainable," said Roy Keene, who describes himself as a public interest forester who has studied forest landscapes for decades. As leader of the tour, he mentioned among many problems with industry "management" (he said he hesitated to call it forestry since there were hardly any trees left) is a total disregard of the soil by spraying pesticides and contributing to erosion of the hillsides.

The event grew out of a discussion series called Conversations on the Forest put on by Keene, Lane County Commissioner Rob Handy and Kevin Matthews of Friends of Eugene, held at Cozmic every month at the beginning of this year. Handy was also on hand as a host during the tour.

"Change comes from the bottom up," Handy said. "I just really appreciate everyone being here."

During the tour there was talk of revising Oregon's Forest Practices Act, amending the O&C Lands Act of 1937 and disapproval of Rep. Peter DeFazio's proposed O&C trust plan.

At later stops on the tour, Keene pointed out good and bad examples of thinning on public land and cautioned against brushing off the thinning technique as benign. There was also anger expressed over the use of BLM roads by private logging operations, an expensive part of the equation that taxpayers often unknowingly pay for, tour leaders said.

The Conversations on the Forest group plans to start meeting again this fall at Cozmic to continue discussing the need for changes in forest management. For more information go to wkly.ws/196 — *Ted Shorack*

SLANT

- **Who will replace Andrea Ortiz** on the ballot for the Eugene City Council in November? She announced this week that she will not seek re-election, citing a timing conflict with her new evening job. Ward 7 includes the Whiteaker neighborhood, northern downtown and a patchwork of city land north out River Road. The ward is nearly 12 percent Latino, about the same as Chris Pryor's Ward 8 to the west. It's important to have someone who understands the critical environmental, land use and social issues of the ward. Michael Carrigan's name has been mentioned. Candidates have until Aug. 20 to file for the November ballot.

- If there was ever a lesson in "get it in writing," this **Capstone** housing project tax exemption is the CliffsNotes. From lot ownership issues to appeals about questionable paperwork to the company's refusal to release its environmental assessment to the public, problems could have been prevented by requiring best practices in writing. On July 25, the Downtown Neighborhood Association "overwhelmingly approved" motions supporting Olive Plaza residents and Community Advisory Team's four demands (see eugenecat.org). Now we hear that Capstone's talk about using local contractors will be null and void after demolition, and that Nashville-based Construction Enterprises, Inc., will be the project's general contractor.

- In the best tradition of the rivalry, **President Ed Ray of OSU** put in a few gentle jabs at the UO when he spoke to the City Club of Eugene July 27. He said OSU is building an academic learning center for all students, not just athletes. He added that he thinks athletes should be more, rather than less, integrated into the student body. That reminds us, of course, of the UO glass "jock-box," surrounded by a moat and almost entirely limited to tutoring for athletes. Ray, chairman of the NCAA executive committee that hammered Penn State recently, was quoted by *USA Today*, "Do we have the balance right? Is the athletics culture too big relative to the rest of our institution's culture and values goal?" Good question for City Club and for new UO President Michael Gottfredson.

- With both pride and sadness we note that **Svitlana Kravchenko** will be posthumously honored this month by the American Bar Association with the 2012 Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy. A professor in the UO School of Law, she and her husband, John Bonine, also a UO law school professor, worked fiercely for human rights through international environmental law. She died suddenly last spring in Eugene.

- When the economy crashes, among the **first groups to suffer are the animals**. The same thing happens, apparently, when politics go awry — and in Lane County, we've got both. We hear county departments and the airport have engaged the controversial federal agency Wildlife Services to trap and kill wild animals that could otherwise be hazed away. Pets aren't faring any better. The county and city budget cuts to animal services are leaving people confused, and animal rescues are reporting increased numbers of dumped animals because people don't know who to call, and if they do call Greenhill or the 1st Avenue Shelter, we hear, there are not enough employees and volunteers to take care of the animals they already have. Care about animals, the homeless and others affected by all this? Get involved in politics — there's an election coming up — and volunteer. Whether you like the Greenhill transition or not, the beasties need love and care.

- Looks like **U.S. Women's Soccer goalkeeper** (and Seattle Sounders player) Hope Solo agrees with us that NBC's coverage of soccer at the Olympic games amounts to little more than a pizzling pile of ethnocentrism. Following the U.S. team's 3-0 win over Colombia — in which lead scorer Abby Wambach was sucker punched, receiving a rather photogenic black eye — Solo made headlines with tweets criticizing former U.S. player Brandi Chastain's commentating abilities. Despite a barrage of media coverage, much of which has been negative, Solo has stuck behind her words against the ex-player-turned-commentator in a display of true badassery. She'll stand strong, as will the U.S. team, as they head to the quarterfinal. For further biased coverage of the games, or if you simply feel like forgetting that other countries birth successful athletes, tune your TV set to NBC daily.

- Our annual **Next Big Thing** local music single contest is wrapping up and online voting will end Thursday, Aug. 2. The contest has grown from last year with 39 artists participating with 71 original songs in numerous genres. Check out the local talent and vote at nextbigthingeugene.com

- *EW* film critic **Molly Templeton** is getting some love on *Jezebel* for her response to the *New York Times Book Review's* How-To Issue, where the only stories from women were about cooking and raising kids. See more at wkly.ws/1c2

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com