



Community Alliance of Lane County has announced the departure of Kori Rodley as executive director. Rodley is taking a new position in marketing with Mountain Rose Herbs in Eugene. She has served as CALC director since March 2010 and will continue with fundraising and donor cultivation, according to a CALC statement Jan. 12. CALC started in 1966 as Clergy and Laity Concerned but changed its name when its mission expanded beyond opposition to the Vietnam War. For information on the staffing changes and the search for a new co-director to help fill Rodley's duties, see calclane.org or call Stephanie Talbott at 485-1755.

Impact Grantmaking, LLC, is a new Eugene-based nonprofit advocating for the needs of nonprofit organizations and their funding challenges. The group is currently focusing on Lane County but plans to expand to assist nonprofits throughout Oregon. Jennifer Durand is the founder. Call 214-0605 or visit impactgrantmaking.com to get the free newsletter.

Local wedding and portrait **photographer Stevi Sayler** is having a contest to give away her wedding photography services to a couple who are getting married in 2013. Deadline for applying for the contest is Jan. 23 and details can be found at her website at <http://wkly.ws/1ey> or email her at stevi@stevisayler.com

Nonprofit board members and their advisers are invited to a special day of training from 9 am to 4 pm Saturday, Jan. 19, at the OSU LaSells Stewart Center in Corvallis. Talks and workshops will cover legal risks, grant writing, IRS audits, leadership skills, avoiding bank fraud, working with the media, etc. Find program and registration at www.financialsteward.org or call 929-9320.

Farmers Carol and Anthony Boutard will speak on "Local at the 45th Parallel: The Farmers' Perspective" at 6:30 pm Monday, Jan. 21, at the Garden Club, 1645 High St. in Eugene. The Boutards own Ayers Creek Farm in Gaston, Ore., and he is the author of *Beautiful Corn*, documenting the culinary value of much-maligned heritage corn varieties. Sponsored by Avid Gardeners and the Willamette Farm & Food Coalition.

The Eugene-based nonprofit **Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide** has welcomed a new ELAW fellow, Bazarsad Nanjindorj from Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. He is an attorney working to protect communities, traditional economies and wild spaces in Mongolia from large-scale mining. Bazarsad recently founded a new nongovernmental organization, the Public Interest Lawyers' Initiative, and he collaborates with the Centre for Human Rights and Development. See elaw.org

The Willamette Chapter of SCORE is offering a "**Small Business Success Seminar**" from 8 am to 4 pm Wednesday, Jan. 23, at the Papé Building Conference Room in Eugene. For information and registration, call 465-6600 or visit Willamette.score.org SCORE also offers free one-on-one counseling sessions to entrepreneurs.

The Eugene Area Chamber is planning its annual "**Celebrate Business**" social hour and awards dinner at 5:30 pm Wednesday, Jan. 30, at the Hilton. Individual tickets are \$75. See eugenechamber.com for registration or stop by the Chamber at 1401 Willamette in Eugene.

Friends of Family Farmers is raising money in its fight against canola crops in the Willamette Valley. "Big Ag and the Oregon Department of Agriculture are trying to expand GMO canola into the Willamette Valley, which would threaten many of Oregon's small farmers, especially seed companies, organic vegetable farms and more," according to the group. Canola, also known as rapeseed, is known for genetically modifying other crops nearby. See friendsoffamilyfarmers.org or call (971) 409-6806.

HIV Alliance, a nonprofit based in Eugene, has two positions opening. One is a social network strategy specialist (.75 FTE, \$12/hour), the other is a men's liaison and prevention assistant manager (FT, \$12-\$13/hour). Contact Program Director Renée Yandel at 342-1150 or see hivalliance.org for job descriptions.

The date for the 25th annual **Eugene Record Convention** has been set for 10 am to 5 pm Sunday, Feb. 10, at the Eugene Hilton. Admission is \$4. About 100 independent vendors will be offering new and used music in all formats. For information, call 485-7920 or email maxpowwer@webtv.net

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

ACTIVIST ! LERT

- Volunteers are still needed at most of the **Egan Warming Center** sites in Eugene and Springfield that shelter the homeless on these cold winter nights. See eganwarmingcenter.com for information on volunteering and to donate. The next volunteer orientations are from 6 to 8 pm Thursday, Jan. 17, and from 10 am to noon Saturday, Jan. 19, at the First Christian Church basement, 1166 Oak St. in Eugene.

- A community meeting on **public safety in Lane County** is being planned for 6 to 8 pm Thursday, Jan. 17, at the Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St. in Eugene.

- **Friends of Trees** is organizing tree planting in the Cal Young and Harlow neighborhoods starting at 9 am Saturday, Jan. 19. Meet at Sheldon Community Center at 2445 Willakenzie, followed by a potluck. Additional planting dates will be Jan. 21, Feb. 9 and March 2. See friendsoftrees.org for details or to donate.

- A panel on "The **Economic War on Women: Taxes, Austerity and Debt**" will be at noon Tuesday, Feb. 22, at the Erb Memorial Union Fir Room on campus, sponsored by the Wayne Morse Center. Speakers include Roberta Mann, Sandra Morgan and Kaja Tretjak. Moderated by Carol Stabile. Free.

- A "**Gun Violence Prevention Forum**" will be held from 6:30 to 8 pm Thursday, Jan. 24, at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St. in Eugene. Sen. Floyd Prozanski will preside over a panel of experts, followed by discussion. Free, but donations accepted. Sponsored by CALC and the Democratic Party of Lane County. Call 486-0960 for more information.

- Health Care for All-Oregon's Eugene chapter will be joining others from 62 statewide organizations Monday, Feb. 4, for a kick-off **rally for universal health care** in Salem on the first day of the 2013 Legislative session. A chartered bus from Eugene is being planned for the rally. See hcao.org or email ruthduemler@comcast.net or patbitner@gmail.com or call 484-6145. The rally is in support of Rep. Michael Dembrow's proposed Affordable Health Care for All Oregon Act.

- Registration is now open for the **Social Justice, Real Justice Conference** Feb. 14-16 at the UO, featuring Cornell West, Dolores Huerta, Winona LaDuke and others. See <http://wkly.ws/1ez> for free registration.

HAPPENING PEOPLE

BY PAUL NEEVEL

HARPER KEELER

When his father, an Air Force pilot, died in Vietnam, and his mother remarried, Harper Keeler went from grade school at the Air Force Academy to middle and high school in Pleasantville, N.Y. After two years of college at SUNY Potsdam, he worked for five years at a plant nursery in Bedford, N.Y. "That got me interested in plants and designing with plants," says Keeler, who spent two years living the "hippie life" off the grid in Vermont before he moved west in 1990 to study landscape architecture at the UO. "I was admitted into the OWL program, for Older, Wiser Learners." He specialized in sustainable agriculture and became a team leader in the school's innovative Urban Farm Program, directed by its co-founder Ann Bettman. "When you fix stuff long enough, eventually they need you," says Keeler, who continued to volunteer at the Urban Farm after graduation in 1994, then was hired as an adjunct instructor in 1996. "In 2007, Ann asked me to take over from her as director." He also joined the board of the Willamette Farm & Food Coalition, promoting locally grown foods and wines, and he now serves as its president. "The university pays me to teach students how to grow their own food," says Keeler, standing in front of the Urban Farm's newest off-campus garden plot, along Columbia Street. "It's an honor."

Know anyone whose good work deserves attention in this space? Call the editor at 484-0519 or email suggestions to editor@eugeneweekly.com

