

suspension at Jan. 31, 2014, to force the council to work more quickly to finish the ordinance. But others, including Councilor Chris Pryor, urged councilors to focus on the best possible outcome instead of the worst and to try to finish before the July expiration date that staff suggested. The City Council voted 5-1 to set the date in July 2014, with Clark in the minority and Councilors Greg Evans and Alan Zelenka absent. — *Shannon Finnell*

SPONSORS GETS NEW HOUSE FOR NEW START

Sponsors' women's program has not only hired a new director, but it is also about to get a third house specifically designed for women with children. Sponsors aims at reducing recidivism by providing services to help men and women transition back into the community from jail and prison.

Running since December 1993, Sponsors' women's program currently consists of two houses offering 21 beds and varied services to women with criminal histories. They are part of the 11 buildings on five sites that make up all Sponsors programs. This new program, "Reuniting in a Supportive Environment," is the first of its kind in Oregon.

"What we do is a small investment in their success," says Paul Solomon, Sponsors executive director. Among other things, Sponsors provides employment services, education services and mentoring.

Molly Buchanan spent three months in the women's program. She describes the experience as amazing. "I

have a huge gratitude towards the program," she says. "Without them, I'm not sure I would have made it."

After only three weeks in the women's program she found a job at a local café. Now she lives outside of the Sponsors house in her own apartment. "The staff there is extremely supportive and encouraging," she says.

Kelley Story, who joined as women's program director in May, is bringing more than 20 years of experience to Sponsors. She is responsible for the daily operations of the house, and part of her job is to go through applications, organize meetings every week and facilitate job interviews for the women in the house.

She explains that women have different needs than men and very specific ones: Some of them have children or are fighting for custody.

The new house will be specifically designed for parenting, with five additional rooms for women with one or two children. This will be the first program in Oregon designed especially for the needs of women with children with a focus on educational programs.

"When we're helping women, it's not only to transition back to the community, but also to be good parents to their kids," Solomon says. Studies from Cambridge University's Institute of Criminology have shown a link between having a convicted parent and criminal or antisocial behavior in teenagers.

With 90 percent of the money raised, the construction of the house will start shortly. The groundbreaking ceremony takes place on Aug. 1. Solomon expects the house to be ready before the end of the year, a nice present for Sponsors' 40th anniversary. — *Laetitia Béraud*

SLANT

- **Police Chief Pete Kerns** has likely sprouted a few new gray hairs from the recent sexual harassment and abuse conviction of officer Stefan Zeltvay and, not long ago, a scandal involving gross mismanagement of EPD's evidence lockers. Kerns has been proactive in damage control in both cases, much more so than any of his predecessors in the chief job. But we are left wondering what other bad behavior has been going on for years in the cop shop? We have not forgotten the infamous Roger Magaña and Juan Lara rape and abuse cases a decade ago. The two bad cops were sent to prison and about \$5 million was paid out to victims, but the department never got around to investigating other police officers up and down the ranks who had heard numerous complaints about these bad boys' criminal activities and did little or nothing about it. Magaña's sexual crime spree in uniform went on for six years, with an estimated 40 victims. Nobody who knew or suspected Magaña's behavior was fired, disciplined or even denied promotion. Kerns, a lieutenant at the time, was one of the officers who reportedly dismissed one victim's accusations as unfounded (see our July 15, 2004, story at wkly.ws/1it).

Cops are notorious for backing each other no matter what, but transparency and accountability must trump loyalty, particularly when justice is thwarted and taxpayers are picking up the bills. We think Kerns gets it now, but do the hundreds of rank-and-file officers at EPD get it, or are we going to see more scandals popping up every year to two to erode the public's confidence in those sworn to protect and serve?

- The **homeless in Eugene** lack more than a place to live; they lack medical care and sometimes even basic civil rights. The Civil Liberties Defense Center has long stepped up to fight for the rights of protesters and the dispossessed, and this week the small but strong nonprofit got some good news for a homeless man, Mark Kemp, who was allegedly mistreated and had his medical needs neglected by the Lane County Jail. The Lane County Commission voted to settle with Kemp, the CLDC and attorneys in the case Marianne Dugan and Lauren Regan for \$500,000. As a result of the settlement, the jail will also be modifying its procedures. Sounds like a lot of cash

from a cash-strapped county? It's a drop in the bucket for what the homeless and mentally ill go through in this county, and according to the judge in the case, a jury verdict might have been a million dollars or more.

- Oregonians deserve an explanation of **why Rudy Crew was hired** as our education "czar" under Gov. Kitzhaber's dubious new plan for total top-down control of education in this state. A continuing parade of stories in *The Oregonian* blast Crew, his salary of \$280,000 a year, \$30,000 for moving costs from California, seven major trips out of state in less than four months of his hire and bailing after a year in Oregon. So who hired him when Superintendent Nancy Golden of Springfield, now the interim chief, was right here? We hardly knew Rudy, but we did know her.

- **Raise the national minimum wage?** Businesses and industries that rely on paying the lowest possible wages and no benefits in order to maintain their profit margins are lobbying against raising the minimum wage, but they don't recognize that our economy is driven in large part by consumer spending. If low-wage workers can't afford to buy goods and services, all businesses suffer. Henry Ford was one of the first to grasp this concept. He raised the wages he paid to auto workers so they could afford to buy his cars. A social justice component is also evident. Our current tax structure favors the wealthy and poor people face fewer opportunities to plug into our economy and advance themselves. The real impact on business? *A Huffington Post* story this week cites a University of Kansas study that calculates that McDonald's could double its food service workers' salaries and a Big Mac would only cost consumers an extra 68 cents to maintain company profits. See wkly.ws/1iw.

- Good times at the **Lane County Fair** this past week and we appreciate all the enthusiasm for the bands and musicians who performed as part of our Next Big Thing music contest on the Community Stage. Judges were there and our semi-finalists, Sol Seed and The Crescendo Show, will play Aug. 24 at the Eugene Celebration EW/KRVM Broadway Stage. The winner will be announced after their performances.

FOOD for Lane County had its big food drive Sunday at the fair and we hear the effort brought in a much-needed 27,576 pounds of food, easily surpassing last year's 21,336 and the year before's 14,429 total pounds.



A tour of **Eugene bicycle industries** is being planned as part of this weekend's Blackberry bRamble celebration. The tour begins from 9 am to noon Friday, Aug. 2, at Rolf Prima, 150 Shelton McMurphy Blvd., followed by noon to 2 pm at Bike Friday, 3364 W. 11th Ave., followed by 2 to 4 pm at Co-Motion, 4765 Pacific Ave. Rides and celebration events continue all weekend. Email hughes97405@gmail.com or see eugenegears.org/bramble.

Big Wildlife, Spencer Lennard's enviro group known for its work on protecting endangered carnivores in the West, has joined Eugene-based Cascadia Wildlands, one of Oregon's most active enviro organizations. "Spencer will finally have the support system and infrastructure he needs and deserves to go forward with his current efforts," says Bob Ferris, executive director for Cascadia. "And Cascadia Wildlands will have someone on staff to look after those predators in Cascadia that are not getting the attention they deserve." See cascadawild.org.

Habitat for Humanity's ReStore at 12010 Oak Patch Road has a clever promotion that got our attention. One of our staffers donated some lumber and a week later found a flyer on his front door saying "Nice Door! Can We Have It?" The flyer notes that "Someone in your neighborhood recently made a donation to the ReStore" and goes on to list items that will be accepted, and offers a phone number for pick-up service, along with a discount coupon. ReStore used to handle mostly building supplies donated by contractors, but the volunteer-staffed nonprofit has been expanding its furniture and appliance inventory. Call 344-4809.

As a follow-up to last week's Biz Beat blurb on **biking to pubs**, we hear local pubs are ordering dozens of bike racks from CAT, the Eugene nonprofit Center for Appropriate Transport. Falling Sky and Hop Valley are adding racks but other pubs are seeing customers "getting creative" in finding places to lock up their bikes. "The Hop Valley partners scouted out the Portland pubs and based on what they saw ordered racks for 72 bikes," says Jan VanderTuin, executive director of CAT. See catoregon.org.

Claim 52 Brewing at 1030 Tjinn St. is hosting an event for Oregon League of Conservation Voters from 4 to 8 pm Friday, Aug. 2, and the following Friday, Aug. 9, with 50 percent of proceeds from beer sales and 25 percent of proceeds from merchandise sales going to OLCV. See olcv.org/lanebusinessspotlight for future fundraisers at other restaurants and pubs.

KNRO at 97.9 on the FM dial is moving its frequency to 103.7 FM as of July 28, according to Al Scott, Cumulus Eugene's market operations manager. The station has an alternative rock format and its DJs and programs will continue unchanged.

The city of Eugene is calling on local artists to design and fabricate an award for **The Mayor's Bold Steps Award**, given annually to Eugene-based businesses operating sustainably. The award will be passed from winner to winner each year. Deadline is 2 pm Friday, Aug. 2, for proposals submitted online through Dropbox. Call 682-5224 or email ethan.a.nelson@ci.eugene.or.us.

The **Clothes Horse** resale store located near campus for the past 21 years will relocate Thursday, Aug. 1, to 13th and Pearl, taking over the building formerly occupied by Boardsports. Owners Ann Hathaway and Julia Martin say the new space is larger, more updated and has free parking. The business buys, sells and trades clothing, jewelry, shoes and purses from noon to 6 pm Monday through Saturday and 1 to 5 pm Sunday. Call 345-5099.

St. Vincent de Paul had its grand opening of the **Stellar Apartments** July 30. The 54 affordable apartments at 1535 City View were designed by Bergsund DeLaney Architecture and planned and built by Meili Construction. The site is part of the city's Landbanking for Affordable Housing Program and the project has been designed to achieve Earth Advantage certification, which includes energy efficiency, nontoxic materials and finishes and sustainable landscaping. Four of the units are set aside for the Veterans Living Independently Following Treatment (VetLIFT) program.