

# ACTIVIST LERT

- The Humane Society of the United States is offering a reward of up to \$5,000 for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person or persons who **shot six wild horses** in the Big Prairie Summit region of the Ochoco National Forest this month. This reward is in addition to \$2,000 being offered by the Central Oregon Wild Horse Coalition. The shooting deaths of six other wild horses in the spring of 2011 remain unsolved, despite an outstanding \$4,000 reward offer. Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Capt. Dan Smith, U.S. Forest Service, (541) 383-5798 or the Crook County Sheriff's Office, (541)447-6398.

- **Community Supported Shelters**, builders of Conestoga Huts, want to raise \$15,000 in the month of October to build 13 new huts this winter. So far they have raised \$10,000 in donations from the community. A silent auction and dessert sale is happening from 4 to 9 pm Thursday, Oct. 24, at the Unitarian Church, 13th and Chambers. See [www.GiveAHut.org](http://www.GiveAHut.org) or call 683-0836.

- Vietnam veteran Marc C. Waszkiewicz will present his **"Viet Nam: An Inner View"** program with live reading, original music and photography, at 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 24, at Tsunami Books, 2585 Willamette. He will be joined on stage by other musicians, including Lea Jones and Keenan Dorn. Waszkiewicz plans to move to Eugene soon to complete his lifework. All ages, \$5-\$20 suggested donation.

- A series of **Eugene city budget** interactive community workshops will continue from 6 to 8 pm Thursday, Oct. 24, at North Eugene High School, Tuesday, Oct. 29, at Willamette High School and Wednesday, Oct. 30, at Churchill High School. Contact the budget staff at 682-5670. Budget Committee and City Council members will be available to talk about the budget situation and seek public input. Contact the budget staff at 682-5670 for childcare, sign language or other issues.

- Key organizers of state and local efforts to require **GMO food labeling** will be guests at the next Blackberry Pie Speaker Series at 6:30 pm Thursday, Oct. 24, at the Cottage Grove Hotel, 811 E. Main St., Cottage Grove. Speakers will include Ivan Maluski of Friends of Family Farmers, attorney Ann Kneeland of Support Local Food Rights and Lynn Bowers, chief petitioner of the Local Food System Ordinance of Lane County initiative. Free and open to the public. Email [alice@loghouseplants.com](mailto:alice@loghouseplants.com) or call 942-2248.

- "The Science of **Forest Management & Conservation**" will be the topic at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, Oct. 25, at the LCC Downtown Center. Speakers will include professors Jerry Franklin of the University of Washington and K. Norman Johnson of OSU. \$5 for nonmembers. See [cityclubofeugene.org](http://cityclubofeugene.org)

- A memorial service for **Jim Estes**, co-founder of the Alpha Farm, will be at 2 pm Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Deadwood Community Center. Arrangements are by Alpha Farm. Estes, born in 1922, died Oct. 5 from complications from a stroke.

- **Mayor Kitty Piercy's** one-on-one public session for October will be from 5 to 6 pm Tuesday, Oct. 29, at Albertsons on 18th Avenue in west Eugene. Ward 8 Councilor Chris Pryor will also be on hand to meet with interested citizens. Contact the city manager's office at 682-5010.

## LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

ODOT is doing fall roadside spraying in Lane County. Highways 36, 99, 126 and others have been sprayed recently. You may reach District 5 offices at (541) 744-8080 or call their automated information line at (888) 996-8080 for more information.

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## NEWS

***'We have staff focused on the achievement gap, and we're hoping to hone in on that and make it a focus for the agency.'***

— APRIL CAMPBELL  
INDIAN EDUCATION SPECIALIST

>>> CONTINUED FROM P. 7

Campbell says one of the reasons her position was funded is that it's not clear what is causing these discrepancies. "If we can identify the 'why,' we may be able to model best practices in districts to improve student outcomes," she said in an email.

"We've gone through reorganization, centering our work more intentionally around student learning," says Crystal Greene, communications director with ODE. "We have staff focused on the achievement gap, and we're hoping to hone in on that and make it a focus for the agency."

Campbell says she's also revising the Oregon Indian Education State Plan to align with Gov. John Kitzhaber's 40-40-20 goal, which seeks to achieve a high school graduation rate of 100 percent by 2025.

"This is such a wonderful opportunity," Campbell says. "I loved working for my tribe, but to have a larger impact — I can't even put into words what it means to me."  
— Amy Schneider

## FUNDRAISER SHOWCASES LOCAL TAILS

Pets, tails and tales will be the subject of the Dog Tales fundraiser for the 1st Avenue Shelter and Eugene Animal Services on Oct. 24.

The event was organized by Constance Van Flandern, also known as former SLUG Queen Marie Slugtoinette, in order to raise money and awareness for the 1st Avenue Shelter.

Dog Tales will feature local personalities who will share stories about their pets. Anyone who buys presale tickets will also be entered into a drawing for a custom pet portrait by Van Flandern.

Van Flandern was concerned about the "shoe-string"

## LIGHTING PLAN AIMS TO ENLIVEN DARK DOWNTOWN

The past few years have seen downtown Eugene grow livelier, and it's about to get brighter, too. A plan is under way to light the streets to make them prettier during the dark winter months. It is expected to be in full effect for the upcoming holiday season. Behind this plan is Downtown Eugene, Inc., a private nonprofit association of business and property owners in the area.

LED lighting tubes manufactured by Springfield-based Light Beam Industries will eventually hang down from all 44 light poles in the downtown area as a replacement for lights that weren't nearly as bright or energy efficient. "We learned that they could construct those lights," says Dave Hauser, president of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce. "We hired them to build a prototype, which is the lights that you see in the downtown now, and we are in the process of raising enough money to build enough lights to install them along Broadway and Willamette, between Pearl and Charnelton and 11th and 7th."

The prototype currently hangs from the light poles on the corner of Willamette and Broadway. Hauser estimates that more than \$100,000 in donations from local businesses is necessary to finance the entire project, which would also include LED lights in the trees on north Willamette and East Broadway. "All of that is a pretty ambitious plan," Hauser says. "We're not quite there yet, but we're close."

The function of the lights is to have a fixture that is reminiscent of the flower baskets that reside throughout downtown. "If you've seen the baskets, you know they kind of transform downtown in the summer," Hauser says. "They make it feel and look a lot different when they are in bloom. And so the concept comes that when winter comes, when it's dark and dreary, is there a way downtown Eugene could recreate the effect of the flowers?"

Not only will these lights be energy efficient, Hauser says they can also be programmed to display different colors to represent holidays, Ducks' home football games and other events. "We wanted to do something that was unique enough so that it could be an attraction unto itself," Hauser says. "We wanted to do something so unique that if you have a visitor, you would tell them, 'Hey, I've got to take you downtown to show you these lights, they're very cool.'" — Nick Poust

