



This long Thanksgiving weekend, those of us who are capable of leaving the house (or actually have a house) might look at alternatives to the retail mania that grips our nation. If you feel compelled to shop, Holiday Market with all its delights will be open at the Fairgrounds and it's a marvelous place to hang out even if you're broke. Fifth Street Public Market is hosting "Small Business Saturday" for the third year in a row Nov. 30. All the shops there are locally owned and operated, as are hundreds of small businesses around town. What about the big chain stores that stay open on Thanksgiving Day, keeping their employees from enjoying the holiday with friends and families? We're not inclined to encourage that.

Replay Toys & Collectibles opened Nov. 22 at 255 E. 18th Ave. in a building that was previously occupied by Discount Sports & Vitamins. Shane Billings is the owner and tells us Replay is a buy, sell and trade shop as well as offering collectibles. Billings has had online businesses but this is his first bricks-and-mortar retail enterprise. "Unlike existing local toy shops and the big-box stores where the bulk of toys originate, this store's primary mission is reuse," he says. "We look to provide a place for people to buy and sell used toys for kids of all ages." Used toys make up 80 to 90 percent of the inventory. Hours are noon to 6 pm Tuesday through Saturday, email replayeugene@gmail.com.

Mother Ship Food Cart has landed in Eugene with "food that is out of this world," Rebecca Kagawa says. The cart is currently docked at the Pacific Pride fueling station at the corner of 6th and Lincoln. Fresh local food is on the menu, including pot stickers, biscuits and sausage gravy, udon, hamburgers and brisket tacos. The cart was formerly called Streets but has a new menu.

Springfield businesses, schools and community organizations will be participating in the Springfield Christmas Parade that will begin at 1 pm Saturday, Dec. 7, on Olympic Street heading west to Mohawk, south to 14th and Main, then west to end at Pioneer Parkway and C Street. Parade entries this year number 82 and range from unicycles to Hawaiian dancers to an airplane or two.

Back issues of **McKenzie River Reflections** are being digitally archived, says Ken Engelman, co-publisher of the paper that has documented life on the McKenzie since 1978. The work involves scanning about 15,000 tabloid-sized pages in bound archives, and a database will be searchable by key words or phrases. The project is being financed by NewsArk using crowd-funding. Find information on the newspaper's Facebook page.

We hear the **Lane Community College Foundation** raised nearly \$300,000 at its annual Harvest Dinner and Auction Oct. 30, exceeding last year's total by about \$36,000. Lead sponsor of the event was Lease Crutcher Lewis, a commercial construction company.

Plan ahead for the nonprofit **Cascadia Wildlands** 11th annual Wonderland Auction from 6 to 10 pm Saturday, Dec. 14, at the EMU Ballroom on the UO campus. Nearly 200 businesses have contributed so far to the event, from cash and in-kind services to donated goods and services. Mountain Rose Herbs is the event's lead sponsor. Entry is \$40 in advance, \$50 at the door, kids 12 and under are free. See cascwild.org.

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

lighten up

BY RAFAEL ALDAVE

The story that recycled bottles are made into new ones turns out to be a myth. It ranks up there with the one that the toilet was invented by Thomas Crapper.

NEWS

LOCAL ACTIVISTS PROTEST PIPELINE

Big Oil is looming. The Keystone XL pipeline project, a massive 1,179 mile crude-oil pipeline that would run through the middle of the U.S., is currently on the forefront of the environmental radar as the country waits to hear whether the U.S. State Department will recommend its approval by the president. On Nov. 13, Mary DeMocker and 24 other climate activists delivered an "on notice" letter to the Eugene Federal Building, informing government officials that if the Keystone XL project moves forward, they will stage a nonviolent protest by blocking the doors to the Federal Building with their bodies until forcibly removed by police officers.

According to the project's website, the finished pipeline would transport 830,000 barrels of tar sands crude oil per day from Canada to the Gulf Coast and refineries in the Midwest, costing the U.S. \$5.3 billion to build. Although the tar sands are in Canada, megaloads of tar sands equip-

ment are now being shipped through Eastern Oregon (see EW's coverage at wkly.ws/1mo). DeMocker says that she's nervous about staging a protest in which she could end up in jail, but the alternative frightens her even more when she thinks of cataclysmic events like Hurricane Sandy and the wreckage caused by the Philippine typhoon.

"This is human-caused climate change, and it's past time to stop belching carbon," DeMocker writes of her experience. "Nature's message is clear: The atmosphere can't afford new fossil fuel infrastructure — especially the Keystone Pipeline, that will, as NASA's Dr. James Hansen stated, ignite the 'fuse to the world's biggest carbon bomb.'"

DeMocker is part of a group of 60 environmental activists from Eugene and Corvallis, including members of Corvallis 350, who have signed the Keystone Pledge of Resistance and plan on taking part in protests and acts of civil disobedience if the State Department vets the oil pipeline. For more information or to attend a training in Eugene, contact stopkeystonexlnow@gmail.com or go to action-at-350corvallis.org, or nokxl.org. — Amy Schneider

'The problem is that every year bees are dying and not coming back.'

— LISA ARKIN,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BEYOND TOXICS

BEE PROTECTIONS STRENGTHENED

Most people are happy to see a decline in insects as the winter months set in. But beekeepers across America have watched their bees disappearing, and if they go away permanently then the effects could be dire. Last week the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) announced that it will begin requiring specific label statements restricting use of products containing the active ingredients dinotefuran and imidacloprid, which have been linked to bee deaths.

"The problem is that every year bees are dying and not coming back," Lisa Arkin, executive director of Beyond Toxics, says. "This is a topic that should be near and dear to everyone's heart because bees pollinate everyone's food."

Beyond Toxics and other organizations cite studies that blame a class of pesticides called neonicotinoids for the drop off in bees. Dinotefuran and imidacloprid belong to the class, which many refer to as "neonics."

On Nov. 21, Beyond Toxics took 12,000 signatures to the state capitol and presented them to Katy Coba, the director of the ODA. They highlighted a number of problems the epidemic of bee death has presented to Oregon, specifically naming an instance in Wilsonville where 50,000 bees died suddenly in a parking lot where neonics had been sprayed on linden trees.

"We take these incidents seriously and we are stepping up both our regulatory and educational efforts," Coba said in a Nov. 21 press release. The agency says it will

be strengthening its "outreach and education efforts to pesticide users regarding pollinator protection." ODA is requiring, as a condition of annual registration for 2014, an Oregon-specific label statement on dinotefuran and imidacloprid products being sold or distributed prohibiting these products from being used on linden, basswood or Tilia tree species.

Coba said she also sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency requesting additional evaluation of these and other neonics to determine if national limitations should be placed on these pesticides.

Locally, businesses such as Jerry's Home Improvement have included information in their pesticides aisle about the dangers of such chemicals as well as putting products known to harm bees in a less prominent position, both actions Arkin says are highly appreciated by activists.

Other groups such as Healthy Bees = Healthy Gardens have taken to grassroots measures to eliminate pesticide use person by person. Doug and Jen Hornaday, founders of Healthy Bees = Healthy Gardens, created a Friends of Healthy Bees pledge, which they say many have signed and has eliminated pesticide use in at least four neighborhoods around Eugene.

"This was a huge win for bees in our area," Doug Hornaday says.

Beyond Toxics is currently working with the city of Eugene to employ measures to protect beekeepers and agriculture. The group is also working with the Oregon League of Conservation Voters in similar strides. — Jordan Tichenor