

are also involved in the controversial mining of scenic Parvin Butte in Dexter.

Willamette Water Co. said it intended to sell the water to rural communities around Lane County, and in October 2011 the conservative majority on the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted in favor of a resolution in support of the water bid. Commissioner Pete Sorenson and former commissioner Rob Handy voted against it.

In addition to getting a water right, Willamette Water also challenged fish protection conditions recommended by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and proposed by the WRD, Brown says.

The recent final order stemmed from a contested case hearing two years ago. In April of 2012 Administrative Law Judge James Han wrote in his ruling that “the preponderance of the evidence established” that the company’s application was speculative because it had no contracts to sell water, had not shown it would obtain them in the future and was applying for more water than it could show it would put to “actual beneficial use.” The case then went to the WRD.

Brown says in its 83-page ruling that the WRD “correctly found that Willamette Water Co.’s proposal was illegal because it was attempting to tie up a large block of water for undefined future sale, rather than proposing to use the water beneficially as required by law.” She adds that the department “agreed with the judge that what the company was proposing was not a beneficial use but rather was speculative and therefore wasteful.”

EW’s award-winning series on the McKenzie River and Willamette Water drew attention to the issue in 2010, and the articles were cited in the 2012 contest case hearing.

Willamette Water has 20 days to file objections to the state’s denial of the permit, after which the state could modify the decision and issue a new order. After that process ends, the state’s denial can be brought to the Oregon Court of Appeals. EW con-

tacted Reed Marbut, one of the attorneys for Willamette Water, for comment, but did not hear back before press time. — *Camilla Mortensen*

## NEIGHBORHOOD PLANS ALDER STREET MURAL

The Alder Street Advocates neighborhood group is planning a transportation-themed mural to be painted on the street surface of Alder Street between 19th and 24th avenues. The design and painting of the mural will happen through the collaborative efforts of people who live in the neighborhood.

Grant applicant Allen Hancock says the applicants have gone door to door and found 50 people who are interested in participating. “Not only because they want to create some art and make the street beautiful, but because they want to meet their neighbors,” he says.

Hancock is hoping the mural will increase the feeling of community in the neighborhood and pay tribute to Alder Street’s unique transportation history, such as the old trolley line from 1912 and contraflow bicycle lanes that were installed in the 1970s between 13th and 18th avenues. He notes that the contraflow bike lane, which made traffic two-way for bikes but one-way for other vehicles, was one of the first in the country.

“At the time that was really an unusual thing — to close a street off so just bicycles could go through it? That was crazy,” Hancock says.

Portland is home to several street murals, and there is one in Eugene on the intersection of Garfield Street and 22nd Avenue. Katie Geiser was one of the project coordinators for the Garfield mural. She says after the mural was painted, “the neighborhood

>>> CONTINUED ON P. 10



locally owned & operated  
Eugene / Gateway

**Limited Time Only**  
Large Double  
Cheeseburger Pizza  
**for just \$12!**



Zesty Burger Sauce, a DOUBLE portion of 100% real beef, fresh cut Roma tomatoes with dill pickle slices, and topped with our 100% real mozzarella cheese!

S. Eugene and Campus 541-484-7272  
N. Eugene and Gateway 541-461-7272

www.papajohnseugene.com

your order is just one click away

**NextStep ReUse Store**

Shop NextStep for Audio & Video equipment!

- ✓ Superior selection
- ✓ In-Store Specials
- ✓ Quality Tested

Shop with confidence!

Mon-Sat 10am-6pm Sun 11am-4pm  
**980 McKinley St**  
541.868.0904 NextStepRecycling.org

ReUse is the new Recycle™



NextStep Recycling is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit

# Need a new car?



Anything can happen to your car, from an accident to a run-in with a hungry goat. At SELCO, we can finance your next auto **and** protect your investment with great auto insurance. We’ll get you on the road and ready for whatever unexpected situation comes your way.

We offer great service and a wide variety of products to suit you, whatever your financial needs. Stop by, give us a call or visit us online today!

**selco.org** • 541-686-8000

Several locations in Eugene and Springfield

**SELCO**  
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

*Live a Good Life.*

Qualified borrowers only. Membership requirements apply. See SELCO for details.

Banking | Mortgages | Insurance | Retirement | Business Lending

## ACTIVIST ALERT

- A “**Hunger Banquet**” educational fundraiser is planned for 6 to 8 pm Thursday, March 13, at Unitarian Universalist Church at 13th and Chambers. Sponsored by OSPIRG, ShelterCare and others. All donations will go to the Rainy Day Food Pantry at LCC. Call Zack Wright of OSPIRG at 255-5364.

- “**Collaboration Corvallis**” is the topic at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, March 14, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette St. Speakers will be Steve Clark, VP for university relations at OSU and Patricia Daniels, representing 28 neighborhood associations in Corvallis. The project focuses on land use and transportation planning, along with off-campus behavior issues involving OSU students who make up about 45 percent of Corvallis’ population.

- A “**Save the Bees**” event is planned from 1 to 5 pm Saturday, March 15, at Cozmic, 199 W. 8th Ave. Speakers will include Paul Towers who was featured in the film *Killing the Bees*, along with Lisa Arkin, Philip Smith, Gary Rondeau and Bruce Newhouse. The event also includes short films, raffles, a silent auction and kids’ activities. See pacificgreens.

org or call 543-9159.

- The 2014 **Sharing the Coast Conference** will be March 14-16 in Seaside and Cannon Beach. The annual conference is co-sponsored by the Northwest Aquatic and Marine Educators and the CoastWatch program of the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition. Keynote speakers include Alan Rammer, Debbie Duffield, Stacy Galleher and Ralph Breitenstein. See oregonshores.org.

- Candidates for **East Lane County commissioner** are invited to a community forum at 6:30 pm Thursday, March 20, at the McKenzie River Mountain Resort in Blue River. Faye Stewart is the incumbent and challengers are Joann Ernst, Kevin Matthews, Jose Ortal and Jack Schoolcraft.

- About 72 **community garden plots** remain available in Eugene in gardens at Alton Baker, Amazon, Mathews, River House, Skinner City Farm and in the Whiteaker. Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 season. Call 682-4800 or visit the city website at wkly.ws/1p9. A lottery drawing will be March 24 and any unassigned lots will be offered first-come, first-served.