

ACTIVIST ALERT

• Lane County is gathering public input on **proposed rules for outdoor events** on county property. A second informal “listening session” is planned for 3 to 7 pm Thursday, March 27, at the Lane County Customer Service Center, 3050 N. Delta Hwy. in Eugene. See wkly.ws/1pg for more information and to take an online survey.

• Author and historian **Steve McQuiddy** will speak on “World War II Conscientious Objectors on the Oregon Coast — Seeds of the Sixties” at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, March 28, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette St. McQuiddy teaches writing at LCC and has been a contributing writer to *Eugene Weekly* and numerous other regional and national publications. He wrote about his new book *Here on the Edge* in our Oct. 31, 2013, issue. See wkly.ws/1pn.

• **Rep. Peter DeFazio** will be among the speakers at a fundraiser hosted by the Democratic Party of Oregon and the Democratic Party of Lane County. The event will be at 6:30 pm Saturday, March 29, at LCC’s Center for Meeting and Learning on the main campus. \$40 admission, \$35 for college Democrats. Tickets at dplc.org. The fundraiser is in part a response to a Republican event with Gov. **Mike Huckabee** in Eugene Wednesday, April 2, with \$150 admission. Deadline for tickets is Thursday, March 27. See huckabeeineugene.com or call 833-0648.

• Public meetings are scheduled to discuss the **design of three new schools** in District 4J. The first will be from 5:30 to 7 pm Tuesday, April 1, at Roosevelt Middle School, 680 E. 24th Ave. The next will be the same time Tuesday, April 8, at Howard Elementary, 700 Howard Ave. The last will be the same time Tuesday, May 6, at River Road/El Camino del Río Elementary, 120 W. Hilliard. See 4j.lane.edu/bond.

• A forum on “**Economic Disobedience**: Taking Action to Challenge the Status Quo” will be at 6:45 pm Wednesday, April 2, at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St. Speakers include Erica Weiland of the National War Tax Coordinating Committee. Sponsored by CALC, Taxes for Peace Not War, WAND and ESSN. Call 485-1755 or email calcpeace@efn.org. Free but donations will be accepted.

• The nationally syndicated public radio show **Philosophy Talk** will visit OSU April 2 for a live taping. Show hosts Ken Taylor and John Perry will discuss “The New Surveillance Society: Big Brother Grows Up.” Guest will be Christopher McKnight Nichols of the School of History, Philosophy and Religion in OSU’s College of Liberal Arts. The event begins at 7 pm in the Austin Auditorium at the LaSells Stewart Center in Corvallis. Free and open to the public, with an opportunity for audience participation.

• The 12th Annual **¡César Chávez, Presente!** community celebration begins at 5:45 pm Thursday, April 3, at Hamlin Middle School, 326 Centennial Blvd. in Springfield. This free, family-friendly event will feature performances by ¡Mariachi del Sol! and the A3 Dance Group. Community groups will also be offering children’s activities and information. Sponsored by Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect (SAFER) and the Springfield School District.

• Boston law scholar, author and TV commentator **Wendy Murphy** will present the 2014 Lorwin Lecture on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties from 6:30 to 8 pm Thursday, April 3, at Columbia 150 on the UO campus. Her topic is “How Title IX Finally Won Its Rightful Seat at the Civil Rights Table of Justice — and Why the Legs are Still So Wobbly.” See WendyMurphyLaw.com.

• LCC’s annual **Peace Symposium** will be April 25-26 and one of the keynoters this year will be John Perkins, author of *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*. The Pachamama Alliance and Move to Amend will also participate. The symposium will merge with the Global Climate Convergence this year. To get involved, contact Stan Taylor, chair of the Lane Peace Center, at 463-5820 or email taylors@lanecce.edu.

NEWS

COMMUNITY HOPES FOR INFO ON PESTICIDES SPRAYED ON HOMES, PEOPLE

On Oct. 16, 2013 John Burns says a private timber helicopter dripped poison onto him, his land, his neighbors and their water supply. He started coughing and his sinuses ran for hours. Neighbors reported their dogs getting sick and even dying, a horse went blind and the local fire chief had to go to the emergency room. Five months later, the more than 30 people of the Cedar Valley area outside Gold Beach who reported symptoms from asthma to nose bleeds still don’t know what was in the chemical mix that hit the rural community.

‘There is a public need for this information. There is no reason not to release it.’

—LISA ARKIN, BEYOND TOXICS

Unable to get answers from local and state government, the residents teamed up with Eugene-based Beyond Toxics. On Jan. 27, Beyond Toxics filed a public records request with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)

but was denied the records. Beyond Toxics Executive Director Lisa Arkin appealed the decision to the Oregon attorney general and the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ). On March 20, the AG agreed the records should be released.

Bruce Pokarney, the ODA’s director of communications, says the agency has initiated the process of preparing the documents for Arkin, but since the “request is relatively extensive, we are not able to give a precise date of delivery, but the public records she has requested will be processed as soon as possible.”

Arkin says rural residents and their doctors need to know what was in the chemical soup in order to be properly



treated. Many of the residents are buying bottled water to drink because they don’t know if the chemicals used bio-persist in water.

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) spray notice for the area says the chemicals that were potentially sprayed include 2,4-D, glyphosate, triclopyr, imazapyr, metsulfuron-methyl and crop oil as carrier. Crop oil is a petroleum-based product added to increase the effectiveness of the pesticide. Spray notices indicate what might be sprayed but not what was actually used in an aerial spray. Burns points out that 2,4-D is one of the ingredients in Agent Orange.

Burns, who retired to the coastal community with his wife from a career in industrial construction, says he is cautiously happy about the decision out of the AG’s office, saying, “We feel, yeah it’s great, if it does happen. We have to see it happen — we don’t have the information in our hands yet.”

On March 25, Arkin filed another petition with the DOJ asking for the “remaining undisclosed records” from the ODF on the spray and appealing ODF’s denial of a fee waiver for the records.

“There is a public need for this information,” Arkin says. “There is no reason not to release it.” — *Camilla Mortensen*



HOPE CRANDALL

“I think of myself as a New Englander,” says Hope Crandall, who grew up in Connecticut and went to boarding school in Massachusetts. She moved west to Lake Forest College in Illinois for a degree in philosophy, then continued on to Woodburn, Ore., in 1970, for an Office of Economic Opportunity job in migrant child development. “I realized I wanted to pursue multilingual, multicultural education,” says Crandall, who enrolled in a grad program at UC Santa Barbara, earned a California teaching license, then returned to Oregon. She taught in a bilingual classroom in Dayton for 20 years, then served 10 years as a bilingual elementary school librarian in Woodburn. “I wanted to support

kids, staffers and families’ literacy in two languages and cultures,” she says. “Family literacy is really important.” She retired in 2010, moved to Eugene, and now volunteers in the library at River Road/El Camino del Río dual-immersion school. Soon after learning about the Little Free Library (LFL) movement online, Crandall enlisted her neighborhood group, Friendly Area Neighbors, and won a matching grant from the city’s neighborhood program to construct an LFL in Friendly Park, 27th and Monroe. “The bottom shelf is for children’s books,” says Crandall, who invites young readers to look for Día de Los Niños/Día de los Libros events at Eugene and Springfield public libraries on the last weekend in April.