

ACTIVIST LERT

• Florence **police chief candidates** will be available for an informal public “meet and greet” from 5:30 to 7:30 pm Thursday, April 17, at the Florence Events Center on Quince Street.

• **City Club of Eugene** will be talking about “Growing Forward: Maintaining Livability Through Better Town-Gown Relations” at noon Friday, April 18, at Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette. Speakers will include Camilla Bayliss, Karen Hyatt, Kelly Putnam and Paul Shang. See cityclubofeugene.org. \$5 non-members. Next week, April 25, will be County Commission candidates Jay Bozievich and Dawn Lesley.

• **David Wagner**, a local expert on spore-bearing plants and author of EW’s “It’s About Time,” will be leading a free plant walk at 1 pm Easter Sunday, April 20, in Hendricks Park, beginning at the Wilkins Picnic Shelter. Wagner will identify and describe the importance of mosses, ferns and lichens in our ecosystem.

• Fish biologist **Jim Lichatowich**, author of *Salmon Without Rivers*, will be the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of McKenzie Flyfishers at 8 pm Monday, April 21, at Lewis & Clark Catering, 2210 MLK Blvd., next to the Mercedes dealership. Lichatowich will talk about challenges fish biologists face as they try to rebuild salmon and steelhead runs. Non-members are welcome. Social hour begins at 6 pm with dinner at 6:45 pm. Free, but optional dinner is \$17. See mckenzieflyfishers.org.

• Philosopher and noted author **Kathleen Dean Moore** will visit Eugene for Earth Day. Her talk “When Your House is on Fire: Finding the Moral Courage to Fight for Freedom from Fossil Fuels” will be followed by music and interactive art. The event begins at 7 pm Tuesday, April 22, at Willamette 100 on the UO campus. Email marydemocker@gmail.com for more information.

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NEWS

>>> CONTINUED FROM P. 8

The grassroots effort was spearheaded in large part by musician David Nickles, author of the recent “Whiteaker Manifesto,” a document that opposes in heated rhetoric the forces of gentrification that many residents see as threatening the neighborhood’s appeal as an affordable, free-spirited arts hub. “The forces of growth will saddle us with noise ordinances, parking fees and assessments,” he writes. “We cannot stop growth, but we can have a say in what kind of growth we want to see in our neighborhood.”

Christine Anderson, who distributed fliers and created an event page on Facebook notifying residents of the April 9 meeting, said there was an immediate “tidal wave” of community interest surrounding the proposed noise ordinance. As a musician who also books and runs sound for live shows at Tiny Tavern, Anderson said she was concerned about “some blanket law” being enacted. “I would be more comfortable with any decision being made if more residents were involved,” she said.

After the meeting, Nickles said he was pleased with the large turnout as well as the WCC’s flexibility in rescheduling the elections to April 23, when as many as a dozen new board members can be elected. “There’s a sense that if we want to have a say in how our neighborhood grows and develops, we’d better get involved now before it’s too late,” he said. “By the time they break ground on the first luxury condo, it’s usually too late.”

Nickles, who continues to reach out to members of Whiteaker’s arts and business community in preparation for the election, said he’s encouraged by the increase in community awareness he’s encountered. “This isn’t about any one person’s agenda,” he said. “What really became apparent through this process was that we need broad participation from the neighborhood as a whole, and that’s what we’re working toward.” — *Rick Levin*

COALITION SEEKS PAID SICK LEAVE IN EUGENE BUSINESSES

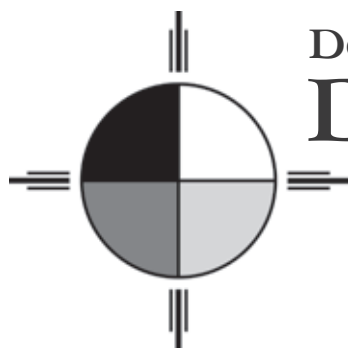
Achoo! Uh oh, your hamburger was totally just attacked by a snot-rocket! Thankfully, 48 companies in the Eugene area see the benefits of not having sick staff serve food. Paid sick leave, which gives workers the ability to stay home sick without losing financial stability, could be granted to workers within the city limits of Eugene as soon as January 2015.

The topic of paid sick leave was first brought before the Eugene City Council on Feb. 24 by a coalition including Family Forward, an organization dedicated to making sure families are economically stable. After the first meeting, a majority of council members seemed in favor of learning more about the issue with Councilors Alan Zelenka and Claire Syrett as the strongest advocates. But during the second work session on April 9 other councilors like Mike Clark expressed concerns about Eugene losing firms due to the added cost.

Family Forward has canvassed around Eugene, collecting 2,200 signatures from community members in support of paid sick leave. Educating the community was a huge priority in the proposed timeline presented at the second council meeting.

“They’re not voting on it yet. They’re making sure people from the community are heard, which I think is important,” Family Forward Communications Director Lisa Frack says. “There’s a lot of on the ground work to make sure people are informed and that’s both businesses and workers,” Frack says.

Falling Sky Brewing is one of the 48 businesses in support of paid sick leave. Co-Owner Rob Cohen explains that his business is not as efficient if his workers are not healthy.



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City of Eugene and Eugene Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meetings Notice

The City of Eugene and Eugene Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee is preparing to review the proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 (FY15) and to provide its recommendations on the budget to the City Council. The Budget Committee wants your help in setting funding priorities for our community. Please join the Budget Committee at its upcoming meetings to learn more and to speak about your priorities.

Presentation of the FY15 Proposed Budget
Tuesday, April 29, 2014 • 5:30 pm

Public Testimony and Discussions on the FY15 Proposed Budget
Thursday, May 1, 2014 • 5:30 pm

All meetings will be held in the Bascom-Tykeson Room, Downtown Public Library, 100 W. 10th Avenue.

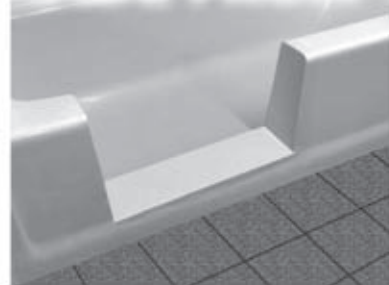
How You Can Get Involved

Members of the public are encouraged to express their views on the FY15 proposed budget. Public testimony will be taken at 5:30 pm at the May 1 Budget Committee meeting. Public testimony can also be submitted by sending a written statement to the Budget Committee or City Council, c/o City of Eugene Finance Division, 100 W. 10th Ave. Ste. 400, Eugene, Oregon, 97401; submit a written statement at the meeting or public hearing; or via the Budget Committee contact form at www.eugene-or.gov/budget. Scroll to the bottom of the web page, and click the “Contact the Budget Committee” button.

How to Get More Information

The FY15 proposed budget is available on the City of Eugene web site at www.eugene-or.gov/budget starting on Friday, April 25, 2014. Hard copies of the FY15 proposed budget are available for public review at the City of Eugene Finance Division (100 W 10th Avenue, Suite 400, Eugene, Oregon 97401), Downtown Public Library reference desk (100 W 10th Avenue, 2nd floor, Eugene, Oregon 97401), and at the City Manager’s Office (Lane County Public Service Building, 125 E 8th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401), Friday, April 25, 2014. Budget Committee meeting materials and webcasts are available at www.eugene-or.gov/budget by selecting the “Get Involved” tab. Please contact the City of Eugene Finance Division at 541-682-5512 if you have any questions or need additional information.

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