

FOODCOMA

Serving up morsels of Eugene food and drink news

The fourth annual **Eugene Beer Week** kicks off Monday, June 2, and this year's lineup of events is full of flavor, fun and education. Find the full schedule at eugenebeerweek.org. Here's our recommendation of how to celebrate each day:

Monday, June 2: Beer Family Feud, 7 pm at the Bier Stein

Tuesday, June 3: Bend Invades Eugene, on tap all day at the Bier Stein

Wednesday, June 4: Cider is the New Beer Fest, 5 pm to 10 pm at 16 Tons Taphouse

Thursday, June 5: In-House Cask Ale Fest, all day at Plank Town

Friday, June 6: Cheese Wars VI w/ Agrarian & Oregon Wine Lab, 8 pm at 16 Tons Cafe

Saturday, June 7: Sasquatch Brew Fest, noon at the Ninkasi parking lot

Sunday, June 8: Brunch Beers & Brunch Foods, 10 am to 3 pm at Party Downtown



Hotspot, an app-making company co-founded by Marist grad Jasjit Singh, is launching a new app, **Happy Hours**, which contains more than 100 Eugene happy hours. Find out more at gethotspotapp.com.



Check it out at Lane County Farmers Market: **Lola's Fruit Shrubs** is making four variations of drinking vinegars: lime, blueberry ginger, strawberry balsamic and orange serrano. Shrubs have a history in the Americas dating back to colonial times and are known for their refreshing taste.

Now open: **100 Mile Bakery**, locally sourced bakery, 418 A St., Spfd. (Sprout! Kitchen), 100milebakery.com; **Danang Vietnamese Eatery**, food truck, facebook.com/danangeatery; **Grilling Places**, food truck, facebook.com/grillingplaces; **Leela's Kitchen**, Indian, 418 A St., Spfd. (Sprout! Kitchen); **Membrillo Latin Cafe**, Cuban, 45 E. 8th Ave., membrillolatincafe.com; **Tacovore**, Mexican, 530 Blair Blvd., facebook.com/tacovore.

Chaos Kolaches has closed and is looking for someone to take over the lease at 388 Q St., Spfd. See wkly.ws/1rd for photos and info.

Basic Rights Oregon, which advocates for equal rights for LGBT folks, is having a fantastic year. But there's more to be done in the fight for justice and parity, so mark your calendars for BRO's big **Bites for Rights** fundraiser 6/19. These Eugene restaurants are all donating a portion of their proceeds to BRO that day: Agate Alley's Laboratory, Cornbread Cafe, Poppi's Anatolia, Sweet Life Patisserie, Wandering Goat Coffee Company and Whirled Pies Pizzeria.



THEATER

BY ANNA GRACE

EVOLUTIONARY THEATER

The Very Little Theater puts its own spin on Inherit the Wind



BILL CAMPBELL, JESSI COTTER, STEVE MANDELL AND CHRIS PINTO

According to the National Survey of High School Biology Teachers, 13 percent of American high school bio teachers explicitly teach creationism in the classroom. Sixty percent give evolution very little class time and 17 percent don't even touch the subject at all, wanting to avoid the whole controversy. These statistics speak to the state of radical religious interference with education, which gives a '50s play new relevance in the 21st century.

Inherit the Wind is a fictionalized retelling of the 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial, in which high school biology teacher John Scopes is tried and convicted for teaching evolution. Vivid public figures such as William Jennings Bryan, Clarence Darrow and H.L. Mencken took part in the trial, lending it a dramatic air that was destined to become theater. But writers Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee were interested in more than just monkeys and their descendants; the play debuted in 1955, amidst rabid McCarthyism and the authors used the trial as a vehicle to criticize McCarthy's anti-communist witch hunts. "It's not about science versus religion. It's about the right to think," Lawrence noted.

Chris McVay, who is clearly aware of the current relevance of the play, directs the Very Little Theatre's production of *Inherit the Wind*. "The fact that the themes of science vs. religious dogma (creationism or intelligent design) and the place of individual rights in society are profoundly relevant today, nearly 60 years after this play was written, gives *Inherit the Wind* a contemporary universality," McVay says. "This play is about the dignity of every individual mind, the right to think, speak and, in this case, teach ideas that may go against traditional accepted thinking and even the law."

McVay has put together a cast that includes Chris Pinto, Bill Campbell, Zachary Twardowski, Tony Stirpe, Mike Hawkins and several other well-known performers about town. I'm interested to see the spin they put on this classic piece.

The most powerful resource any of us possess is our attention. *Inherit the Wind* offers a chance to turn our gaze once again to the folly of allowing fear to set any agenda, educational or political. ■

Inherit the Wind runs at The Very Little Theatre May 30 – June 14; \$12-\$17.

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