

- **Dr. Jim Sallis**, a national expert on active living, will speak at a meeting between 5 and 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 9, at the LCC Downtown Center. Other speakers will include Claire Syrett, Dr. Rick Kincade and Shane MacRhodes. Sponsored by the American Planning Association's Healthy Communities Speaker Series.

- A free public talk with scientist E.G. Valianatos, author of *Poison Spring: The Secret History of Pollution and the EPA*, will be at 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Healing Matrix, 632 E. Main St. in Cottage Grove; 7 pm Friday, Oct. 10, at the LCC Downtown Center, Room 105; 3 pm Saturday, Oct. 11 at the First Alternative Coop, 1007 SE 3rd St. in Corvallis; and 3 pm Sunday, Oct. 12, at the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence.

- **State Geologist Vicki McConnell** and State Sen. Arnie Roblan will speak on "Oregon's Geology: Scientists Warn of Hazards, but do Lawmakers & Agencies Respond?" at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, Oct. 10, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette St. \$5 for non-members. The Oct. 17 program will feature Oregon Treasurer Ted Wheeler.

- **Microbiologist Ray Seidler**, retired EPA senior scientist, will speak on "The Truths About Genetically Engineered Crops: An Ecological Perspective" at 7:30 pm Friday, Oct. 10, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 13th and Chambers. Seidler is an international speaker on health and environmental effects who has conducted many studies of genetic modification and dispersal of GM organisms and authored EPA's biosafety plan regarding GM crops.

- The 2nd Annual **Cargo Bike Disaster Relief Trials** are 11 am – 6 pm Saturday, Oct. 11 in Alton Baker Park. The event demonstrates the capabilities of bikes in disaster situations and features a cargo bike race, a cargo bike and safety fair and preparedness-related activities as well as face painting, raffles and disaster kit giveaways.

- A **National Coming Out Day** celebration and potluck is planned for 4:30 to 7 pm Saturday, Oct. 11, at the Many Nations Longhouse, 1630 Columbia St., on the UO campus. A dessert potluck and movie showing will be at 5 pm. Free and open to all. Contact Ada Ball, community organizer with the Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC) at 485-1755 ext. 203.

- "**Schools Oregon Students Deserve**" is the theme of the week of action across Oregon in support of public education. Locally, a gathering is planned for noon to 4 pm Saturday, Oct. 11, at Kesey Square downtown. The event includes "music, food and have fun with a whole family," organizers say. Sponsored by the Oregon Education Association, Eugene Education Association and other education organizations.

- **Peter DeFazio**, Art Robinson and Michael Bielstein will debate in a special City Club of Eugene program at 7 pm Wednesday, Oct. 15, at the UO Law School, Room 175. Questions for the candidates can be emailed to administrator@cityclubofeugene.org.

- A free talk on "**Surveillance, Suppression and Secrecy**" with Nadine Strossen of the New York Law School and ACLU will be at 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 16, at the UO Law School, Room 175. Sponsored by the Wayne Morse Center on campus.

- Author **David Hartsough** will be in Eugene next week on tour with his latest book, *Waging Peace: Global Adventures of a Lifelong Activist*. He will speak at 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 16, at the Friends Meeting House, 2274 Onyx St. Free.

LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

ODOT recently sprayed **Highway 126 and Territorial Highway**. For daily information call ODOT Herbicide Application Information Line (888) 996-8080. You may also call Tony Kilmer at the Springfield office at 744-8080 for herbicide and additives information and to ask what time a highway was sprayed.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy and Gary Hale, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, forestlanddwellers.org.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

In our "Studying in the Dark" story Oct. 2, we incorrectly stated that Michael Weed had served as the sustainability coordinator of LCC. In fact, he had served as the Associated Students of Lane Community College (ASLCC) sustainability coordinator.

EUGENE LIBRARY DELIVERS IMAGINATION

Dolly Parton is making sure the kids of Eugene are getting the books they need to improve their literacy, regardless of their family's income. Parton's Imagination Library, which partially funds the monthly mailing of age-appropriate books to children ages birth to four in communities nationally and internationally, has come to Eugene. The response from residents has been enthusiastic.

The program, spearheaded by the country legend herself, is in more than 1,600 cities and towns and, in each instance, is funded by the Imagination Library and by a local charity that pledges a certain dollar amount per year. In this case, the Eugene Public Library Foundation has pledged to make the program possible and completely free for every child living within Eugene city limits.

The online signup opened Sept. 5, and since then 1,473 of the approximately 8,000 eligible Eugene children have registered for the program, which Eugene Public Library Customer Experience Manager LaVena Nohrenberg says was "around where the Imagination Library said we'd be in 18 months."

Eugene resident Allison Howard, whose 7-month-old daughter is registered for the program, says that "I haven't ever pledged money to the Public Library Foundation before, but I definitely plan on it, especially since \$25 per year funds a whole year of a child's experience in the program ... It's such a big impact for so little money, and I'm benefitting from the program, so I feel like I should give back in some way."

Although community members' pledges to the library foundation do ultimately fund part of the program, Nohrenberg stresses that the families that benefiting from the program are under no obligation to donate.

"It's the kind of program that you hear about and think, *there's got to be a catch*," she says, "and there's beautifully not. It's a gift the foundation is giving to the children of our community."

While the Imagination Library began as an effort to promote literacy in underprivileged areas, it also strives to solidify the habit of reading with children in communities that may already be literacy-conscious.

"In this life that's so busy and crazy, it's easy just to gloss over things like reading," Howard says. "Something like this is really important to my husband and I to remind ourselves to take that moment with her every single day."

To donate or sign up, go to wkly.ws/1tp.

More upcoming literary events include a reading by authors Nick Dybek and Inara Verzemnieks at 7:30 pm Oct. 10 at Valley Library, 201 S.W. Waldo Pl., Corvallis. An "Afternoon in Parisburg" fundraiser for the building of a Harrisburg community library will be at 6 pm Oct. 12 at Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton St., and Olympic track and field athlete Nick Simmons will be signing books at 7:46 pm Oct. 17 at City Hall Fountain Plaza, 225 Fifth St., Springfield. — *Isabel Zacharias*

DOG FROM VIRAL VIDEO NEEDS A FOREVER HOME

More than three million people have watched the sad but hopeful video of a pitbull who was left to die in a remote location in California. Named Bunny and shy and wary of strangers, the dog was lured into a live trap with some cheeseburger by her rescuers. Now Bunny has made her way to Eugene, where she is searching for a forever home.

The L.A.-based Hope for Paws has become internet-famous for its heartstring-tugging videos documenting the rescues of abandoned dogs on the street. Local rescue SevaDog has teamed up with Hope for Paws and Rescue from the Hart to find Bunny a permanent home here in Oregon and to educate the public about "bully breeds," according to Mandy DeGuc, SevaDog's co-founder and executive director. She says Bunny is an example of the resilience of abandoned, neglected pitbulls.

The video shows a sad and scruffy dog behind a fence on government property in the desert where she was left to die. Unable to get through the fence, the rescuers draw Bunny closer with food. The scared and cowering dog is then taken back to the rescue, where she is let out and, when offered a drink of water, instead begins to snuggle up to her rescuers and wildly wag her tail.

DeGuc says SevaDog has a long waiting list but keeps spots for dogs like Bunny. Taking Bunny in also brings SevaDog a donation that supports "a local dog's emergency surgery or 10 spay/neuters," she adds. And the calls from all over the country offering to adopt Bunny give SevaDog the chance to urge people to adopt from their local shelter. "There are way too many Bunnys that are slated for euthanasia because no one is coming for them," DeGuc says.

SevaDog specializes in dogs "who may not know much about living in a home, walking on a leash, going to soccer games, etc.," DeGuc tells *EW*. "Bunny needed our program as she had no social skills upon arrival."

She says Bunny has become a polite family dog, but SevaDog wants her to stay local so the rescue can continue working with her as "she still has feral tendencies." The video shows Bunny nuzzling a cat, and DeGuc says Bunny is "a love" with other dogs. She wants Bunny to find a "kind and loving home with people who are home often and have time to put into her."

You can see Bunny's rescue at wkly.ws/1tq and to find out about adopting her please go to sevadog.org. — *Camilla Mortensen*



PHOTO CREDIT: SEVADOG