

NEWS



GTFF PICKET IN FRONT OF JORDAN SCHNITZER MUSEUM OF ART

PHOTO: JUSTIN COX @RESPECTTHEBOBA

GTFF STRIKE ENDS, FACULTY, GRADS AND UNDERGRADS DEAL WITH AFTERMATH

As we go to press, the Graduate Teaching Fellows Federation (GTFF) and the UO have announced a tentative agreement after an overnight mediation session Dec. 10 in which the UO agreed to create a seven-member committee to oversee a Graduate Student Assistance Fund that allows graduate students to take sick or parental leave, according to a statement from the GTFF.

The end of the eight-day strike means that GTFFs will resume their teaching positions in the aftermath of the administration's attempts to replace the graduate workers. "The administration canceled classes, hired replacement instructors and asked faculty to change the format of some exams to make them simpler to grade," the GTFF statement says. "Some students were given

the option to skip taking the final exam altogether."

It's unclear how the UO will resolve these grading problems, but the issue concerned undergrads, grads and faculty alike before the strike ended.

Dana Rognlie, a Ph.D. candidate in philosophy, said she was concerned about academic integrity. "All these administrative fixes they're making are going to grades that don't mean anything," Rognlie called this "institutional betrayal," because the UO was not following through on its stated mission of serving students.

Prior to the end of the strike, Benjamin Gaultier, a UO undergrad, said he planned to write a letter to the UO asking for partial tuition reimbursement. "We can't have these classes because the professor is a GTF," Gaultier said. "So we're paying for nothing."

In a Dec. 8 open letter to UO undergraduates, the GTFF said when the strike ends, "we will help create, proctor and grade exams or make-up exams and final papers and presentations properly. And then we can give you the actual grade you have earned." — *Daemion Lee and EW staff*

DONNA RIDDLE

SoCal gal Donna Riddle spent childhood summers at Outpost Camp on the trail to Mount Whitney. "My mom, my sister and I ran a trail camp for a pack station that hauled people to the summit," she says. "I have love-of-nature genes from that time." Riddle got married just out of Corona High School, had a couple kids and did anti-war work in Orange County. "I went to a protest in Century City," she says. "People sat down, and police attacked with clubs." A year later, in 1968, she and the kids moved to Eugene. Her husband followed, and soon a third child. She got into raising kids, alternative education, the Children's Community School and its fundraiser that became the Oregon Country Fair. After a divorce in 1977, she organized a summer food program for kids in Whiteaker that later became part of FOOD For Lane County. She got a UO degree in public affairs and spent two years in Washington, D.C., helping write the Child Nutrition Act of 1980. Returning for her daughter's senior year, she found a new boyfriend, who lasted 15 years, and had a son in 1985. She ran a family day shelter for St. Vinnies and oversaw a clinic remodel for White Bird. An avid kayaker, she put volunteer hours into river clean-ups until the Occupy movement appeared in late 2011. "I got involved with the first-aid tent," she says. "I've done intake for Occupy Medical since they opened on the Park Blocks. I'm the queen of tent-drying." Occupy Medical offers free medical services from noon to 4 pm every Sunday at 8th and Oak in Eugene. Volunteers and donations are welcomed.

HAPPENING PEOPLE

BY PAUL NEEVEL



ACTIVIST ! LERT

• **Beyond Toxics** is planning its annual winter event, this year called "Cozy Up With Beyond Toxics," from 5 to 7:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 11, at 1192 Lawrence St. A video premier will be part of the festivities. See beyondtoxics.org.

• The Eugene **Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee** will meet at 5:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Atrium Building Sloat Conference Room, 99 West 10th Ave. Contact Lee Shoemaker at 682-5471 or email lee.shoemaker@ci.eugene.or.us.

• The Eugene **Police Commission** will meet at 5:30 pm Thursday, Dec. 11, at EPD headquarters, 300 Country Club Rd., Kilcullen Room. On the agenda will be recruitment and the police budget. Contact Jeremy Cleversey, 682-5852 or email jeremy.d.cleversey@ci.eugene.or.us.

• A **Benefit for Bees** will be from noon to 4 pm Saturday, Dec. 13, at Cozmic, 199 W. 8th Ave., featuring a silent auction, bee education, honey tasting and music by Laura Kemp, Paul Biondi, members of the Sugar Beets and others. Donations are tax-deductible. See website healthybeeshealthygardens.com or call 914-2225 to donate or volunteer to help with the event.

• **Sexual violence prevention at UO** is the topic at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, Dec. 12, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette St. Speakers include Abigail Leeder, director of Experiential Education and Prevention Initiatives; Kerry Frazee, director of Sexual Violence Prevention and Education; and Renae De Sautel, director of Crisis Intervention and Sexual Violence Support Services. \$5 for non-members.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

• David Wagner's "It's About Time" feature last week had a previous month's caption on the illustration. The actual name of the plant in the drawing is Pacific scalewort, *Porella navicularis*.

• Several readers pointed out some squirrely math in our Nov. 26 Gift Guide blurb on the new Vespa Sprint scooter sold by Wheelworks. At \$3.75 per gallon of gas, this scooter actually goes 31.2 miles per dollar spent. And yes, you can drive around the circumference of the Earth for \$800, except for those pesky oceans that tend to get in the way.

POLLUTION UPDATE

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) recently sent **Jeanne M. Burris** a pre-enforcement notice for illegal waste tire storage at property owned by Burris at 29882 Kelso St. in Eugene. This notice follows up on a warning letter that DEQ sent to Burris for the same violation in July of last year [see *EW* 8/8/13, goo.gl/8za9J3]. The 2013 warning letter gave Burris until Jan. 15, 2014 to address the problem, but it appears that Burris has failed to do so. The recent notice gives Burris until the end of this year to correct the problem.

DEQ also recently sent a warning letter to **Schnitzer Steel Industries** illegally transporting waste tires on rims from the Kelso Street site to its Eugene facility, de-rimmed them, and then transporting them back to the Kelso Street site. DEQ points out that "[i]mproper storage of waste tires can create fire hazards and provide habitat for noxious insects and rodents."

DEQ is accepting comments on the erosion and sediment control plan for **Hayden Homes' Glacier Meadows Subdivision** in Springfield until 5 pm Dec. 15. Visit goo.gl/Yp4iAK for information on commenting.

Doug Quirke/Oregon Clean Water Action Project

lighten up
BY RAFAEL ALDAVE

If life were fair, the proceedings of grand juries would be broadcast on Comedy Central.