

• Lane County's new **Performance Auditor Shanda Miller** will be available to talk about her work in a series of public meetings that will include at least one county commissioner. The next will be at 3 pm and again at 6 pm Thursday, Oct. 1, at the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence. Future meetings will be at 5:30 pm Monday, Oct. 19, at the Brewstation in Cottage Grove; 7 pm Tuesday, Oct. 20, at South Eugene High School cafeteria; and noon Thursday, Nov. 19, at Springfield City Club. The auditor assists the commissioners in improving the performance, accountability and transparency of county government.

• The Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE) is hosting "**Life After High-Stakes Standardized Testing**," 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 1, at Eugene Friends Church, 3498 W. 18th Avenue. Speakers are Rachel Eells, a Seattle teacher, and Sarita Amaya, an administrator from Beaverton.

• Arguments for and against the **Eugene Library Levy Measure 20-235** will be the program at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, Oct. 2, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette Street. Arguing for the measure will be Rep. Val Hoyle, talking about the importance of Eugene's library system. Arguing against the measure will be former city councilor Bonny Bettman McCornack, blaming library fund shortages on mismanagement of city funds and lack of accountability by the mayor and council. \$5 for non-members. Police profiling will be the program for the following week, Oct. 9.

• A lecture on "**Climate Change, Analytical Psychology and 'What the World Hangs On'**" will be from 7 to 9 pm Friday, Oct. 2, at the Downtown Baker Center, 975 High Street. Speaker is Jenny Gordon, Ph.D., founding member of the Eugene Friends of Jung and licensed psychologist and Jungian analyst. Free for students and EFJ members, \$15 for others. A workshop follows Saturday, Oct. 3. See [eugenefriendsofjung.org](http://eugenefriendsofjung.org) for details and registration.

• The annual **Great Willamette Clean Up** begins 8 am Saturday, Oct. 3, at various sites along 200 miles of the Willamette from Portland to Oakridge. Sponsored by Willamette Riverkeeper and more than two dozen businesses and agencies. A volunteer thank-you party and free lunch will follow around noon. Register or learn about sites in Lane County by visiting [willametteriverkeeper.org](http://willametteriverkeeper.org) or email [Emmons@willametteriverkeeper.org](mailto:Emmons@willametteriverkeeper.org).

• A **Harvest Festival for Human Rights** will be from noon to 2 pm Saturday, Oct. 3, at 1175 G Street outside the First Baptist Church in Springfield. The free event features a hot meal, children's activities and a produce giveaway. Information tables will showcase resources available for low-income people. Volunteers and produce donations are needed. The event is organized by the Springfield Shelter Rights Alliance, a program of CALC. For more information call 485-1755.

• Local high school students are organizing the **Willamette Valley Student Union** to advocate for students, citing "ongoing issues of injustice and inequity in Lane County schools." An organizing meeting is planned at 2 pm Sunday, Oct. 3, at The Boreal, 450 W. 3rd Ave. next to REI in Eugene. Call (458) 215-0060 for more information.

• "**Diversity in Higher Education: Dangers of a Colorblind Policy**" is the topic of a free lecture at 7 pm Tuesday, Oct. 6, at the Knight Law Center, Room 175. Speakers are Gary Orfield and Patricia Gandara, co-directors of the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles at UCLA. The event is part of the Wayne Morse Center's 1015-17 theme of "The Future of Public Education."

## CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

The one-in-four statistic for the prevalence of mental illness discussed in our "Into the Institution" (9/24) comes from two places, the World Health Organization's 2001 report and a NAMI factsheet using numbers from the National Institutes of Mental Health. The most recent 2013 numbers from NIMH show 18.5 percent, one-in-five Americans, have "any mental illness," but we neglected to explain that, causing consternation for some of our readers who like to do math. Whether using the one-in-four or one-in-five statistic, mental health issues are rife in our community and across the country, and our stories last week only address the tip of the iceberg.

# NEWS

## COMMUNITY CELEBRATION AT CIVIC SITE OCT. 4

As Linda Wheatley stood on the edges of the Civic Stadium site on June 29 and watched the structure become engulfed by flames, she felt sick. "It was as if something I owned myself were burning," she says.

As a member of the Eugene Civic Alliance advisory board, Wheatley had worked hard to save the historic baseball stadium, and now, the old wooden beams were beyond repair. Despite her grief, she watched the fire and listened to those around her telling stories of wonderful times spent at Civic, and she says it became clear to her that "this was a powerful moment."

Wheatley says she and others hope to recapture the storytelling spirit at the Civic Play On Community Day Oct. 4. Although the historic stadium is lost, the fire did not change Eugene Civic Alliance's core mission: to create a community hub for all ages to enjoy.

Matthew Scheibe, a landscape architect working on the site, says while historic preservation is now out of the equation, the clean slate offers more flexibility in the alliance's plan. It still makes sense to position the new stadium, Lane United soccer field and children's fieldhouse in the same configuration, he says, but elements like accessibility and the positioning of the pocket park are now easier to align.

"It is a community events center that transcends sports — it's a place for us to be together for the ambiance, to enjoy concessions or be in an outdoor environment," Scheibe says. "And we're hoping this event will give everyone a taste of that."

Wheatley says Lane United Football Club and Eugene Timbers Football Club Azul will attend the event, as well as Healthy Moves, Kidsports and the Ems baseball team with its Sluggo mascot. The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art will provide art activities for kids, and the field will also host food carts and a beer garden.

To help capture stories, Wheatley says students from Pacific University will set up a story booth in the style of NPR's StoryCorps, where community members can record memories of Civic.

It's also a last chance to see the baseball diamond and dugouts before the field is razed in preparation for renovation. Wheatley says a group of artists, including Jud Turner, Betsy Wolfston and Tim Boyden, will make art from the piles of scrap metal, and the works will be auctioned off in the spring.

The alliance estimates it will need to raise \$17 to \$20 million to complete its vision.

Scheibe says that although the old stadium is lost, the site and community memories are still there. "We lost something big, but we still have a lot to be excited about," he says.

Civic Play On Community Day is noon to 4 pm Sunday, Oct. 4, at the Civic Stadium site. Admission is free. — *Amy Schneider*

## FIGHTING BACK AGAINST CORPORATE RIGHTS

It's the opposite of *Citizens United* and then some. Corporations have rights beyond personhood, according to Thomas Linzey of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF). Those rights allow corporations to run roughshod over local communities, affecting everything from their drinking water (think of Nestlé in the Columbia Gorge) to their homes (as with coal trains running through towns).

CELDF and local communities across Oregon are working to establish community bills of rights that assert the right to local self-governance as well as proposing ballot measures that challenge the current legal structure that puts control in

the hands of corporations, not citizens.

Linzey will speak at Lane Community College on Oct. 7 on the topic "Time for an Oregon Revolt: Communities taking on corporations and the state of Oregon."

Linzey is giving his talk as part of a seven-city community rights tour that will highlight work not only in Lane County but also in Benton, Lincoln, Coos, Columbia and Douglas counties, where people are working on adopting community bills of rights to ban GMOs, coal trains, pipelines and pesticide sprays.

In that vein, the Oregon Community Rights Network (O4CR), one of the groups bringing Linzey to town together with the LCC Peace Center, announced it has re-filed its proposed state constitutional amendment that seeks to "secure the right of local community self-government most specifically in placing community rights above corporate privilege."

The group says it has begun to gather "the required 1,000 sponsorship signatures for the administrative review process to take place" with an aim to be cleared for the signature gathering needed to qualify for the November 2016 ballot.

This isn't the first time Linzey has come to Oregon to talk about community rights. He spoke in 2013 as a keynote speaker at the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference and again in 2014 at The Shedd. Since then, he says, the issue has grown and people are now talking about changing the federal Constitution, not just local laws, so he will be giving a more advanced talk.

Linzey says that almost more controversial than the local efforts to ban activities like growing GMOs in Lane County is the aspect of the law that would protect it "from challenges from corporations by stripping them of certain rights and protections."

It's a broad new expansion of civil rights that insulates the law from corporations, he says. Linzey points out that when it comes to stopping something like a liquefied natural gas pipeline, as citizens are trying to do in Coos and Columbia counties, there is no means to halt it at the local level.

The community rights effort for a charter amendment to ban GMOs in Lane County will not only be bolstered by Linzey's talk but also by Neil Young's "The Monsanto Years" tour at Matthew Knight Arena Oct. 8 (see music this issue). Young also co-produced a documentary, *Seeding Fear*, about Monsanto. The group Support Local Food Rights, Lane County, will table at the concert to gather signatures and call attention to its work to pass a charter amendment that would ban GMOs in Lane County.

Linzey speaks 7 pm Oct. 7 at LCC's downtown campus conference room, 101 W. 10th Ave. More information on Linzey and CELDF's work is at [celdf.org](http://celdf.org). See *Seeding Fear* at [wkly.ws/22t](http://wkly.ws/22t). — *Camilla Mortensen*

## GAMING AND COMIC CONVENTIONS TAKE OVER EUGENE OCT. 2-4

Two big conventions — or "cons," as attendees call them — hit Eugene this weekend, one focused on gaming and the other revolving around comics and pop culture.

The emergence of tech-centric events is great for the area economically, but the question of whether this town is too small for multiple cons has led to a little drama, according to event organizers.

Indie Game Con packed the house at Eugene Mindworks on 5th Avenue last year, with at least 300 guests. The convention is moving to LCC's downtown campus this year, where game developers will display 27 video games, most of which are locally created.

"There's a desire for this kind of thing," says Ted Brown, director of Indie Game Con. "It gives exposure to developers who otherwise have few outlets to showcase their games."

It's also good for Eugene, Brown says, because it exposes people to the area — a developer from Canada will participate this year — and encourages growth in the tech scene.

"The more people we have here working, the better we