

- OSPIRG Foundation's new report, "Oregon's Multi-Million Dollar Democracy," will be released at 10 am Thursday, Jan. 21, outside Harris Hall, 125 E. 8th Ave. The report highlights the disparity between large and small donors in Oregon's 2014 elections and recommends steps to level the playing field. Speakers will include Linda Lynch, president of Lane County League of Women Voters, and Amy Laws of OSPIRG.

- Green Party presidential candidate **Dr. Jill Stein** will talk about the future of the climate justice movement and her participation in the Paris conference at 7 pm Thursday, Jan. 21, at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Blvd. in Corvallis. Her free talk is on "Ecological Economics and Jill Stein's Green New Deal."

- Congressman **Peter DeFazio** will be the speaker at City Club of Eugene at noon Friday, Jan. 22, at the Downtown Athletic Club, 999 Willamette Street. DeFazio is the top Democrat on the bipartisan Transportation and Infrastructure Committee in Congress and will describe his legislative priorities for 2016. \$5 for non-members.

- Author and University of Paris professor **Frank Romano** will be available to talk about his book *Love and Terror in the Middle East, 4th Ed.* from 2 to 4 pm Saturday, Jan. 23, at Black Sun Books, 2467 Hilyard Street. His book "dramatically captures the author's efforts to promote understanding and cooperation between Jews, Muslims and Christians."

- A "Save Kesey Square" rally has been planned for 6:30 pm Monday, Jan. 25, at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza in front of Harris Hall (125 E. 8th Ave.), where a 7 pm council meeting is scheduled. Find the event on Facebook. A different Kesey Square event is being planned at Kesey Square at 3:30 pm Friday, Jan. 29.

- UO President **Michael Shill** will speak on "Access and Higher Education" at 4 pm Tuesday, Jan. 26, at the UO Law School Room 175, 1515 Agate Street. Shill will speak on the Oregon Commitment program that assures students have the support they need to graduate in four years.

- "Violence with Guns" is the topic of a forum from 7 to 9 pm Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 West 13th Ave. Panelists will include Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Commissioner Pete Sorenson, Mayor Kitty Piercy and rabbi Jonathan Seidel. Email mydiane@q.com for more information.

LANE COUNTY AREA SPRAY SCHEDULE

Seneca Jones Timber Company LLC, 689-1011, plans to spray roadsides near Siuslaw River Road, Crow Creek, Douglas Creek, Sheffler Road, Doane and Crow Roads, Simonsen Road, Farman Creek and Camas Swale Creek near Weiss Road. See ODF notifications 2016-781-00876, 00877, 00879, 00880, 00881 and 2016-781-00882, call Brian Peterson or Robin Biesecker at 998-2283 with questions.

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

COMMISSIONERS VOTED ON KICKING PEOPLE OFF COUNTY PROPERTY

On Dec. 15, the Lane County Board of Commissioners quietly voted on an ordinance that made an already ambiguous policy about who has the right to be on county property even more problematic.

Under Chapter 6 of the Lane County Code, "a duly authorized officer," who could be a board member, the county administrator or "any person delegated the authority to control county property" by those people — and the delegation of authority does need not be in writing — can trespass someone from county property.

Commissioner Pete Sorenson, who was the lone vote against the change to the ordinance, says the events in the Malheur have caused him to think even more about the issue of protected speech versus civil versus criminal disobedience.

He says, "The reason I voted no on adopting this is the board or administrator or anybody can be delegated to kick somebody off of property and doesn't have to be in writing, and it is not limited to the reasons the county said it needed it for, like the courthouse or Juvenile Justice Building. It's on all county-owned property."

He calls the code on the issue too big and too broad. "It allows anybody who can claim to have the power of the Board of Commissioners to kick anybody off the premises."

Under the ordinance that was already in place, it is assumed someone is acting unlawfully if they simply refuse to say why they are there.

County property under the ordinance includes "county roads, county-owned parks and parking lots, the County Courthouse, the Juvenile Court Center, the County Fairgrounds and Extension Building, and Willamalane Park and Recreation District roads, parks, parking lots and buildings."

County spokesperson Devon Ashbridge says of the changes: "This ordinance simply aligns written policy with current practice by defining a 'duly authorized officer' for the purpose of determining who has authority under Oregon law to order an individual to leave property or make a request to law enforcement to do so."

The issue of changing the code arose in early December, and Sorenson called for time to give the public a chance to weigh in

on the code. Ten days later, Eugene attorney Brian Michaels was one of two people to come to the Dec. 15 board meeting to give public comment on the ordinance.

Michaels says that the amendment being considered was "ridiculous but the ordinance already in place for decades was ridiculous in itself."

Michaels attended the meeting because his client, former Eugene activist Alley Valkyrie, had been involved in an incident in which County Counsel Stephen Dingle attempted to ban her from the Lane County Public Services Building, which is also the location of Eugene City Council meetings and offices.

Valkyrie had been part of a protest in 2012 and 2013 in which homeless residents and homeless advocates set up a camp in the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza. Then-county administrator Liane (Richardson) Inkster ordered the plaza to be closed, causing an outcry from protesters who use the plaza.

Dingle and Inkster tried to exclude Valkyrie from the county building after she was charged, but not convicted, of trespassing in the protest events. They threatened to have her arrested if she came to the county courthouse, Michaels says, but "Dingle didn't have the authority." Despite Dingle's threats of arrest, Valkyrie repeatedly entered the building for public meetings.

Michaels says that Dingle essentially tried to ban Valkyrie from the building because of her political speech.

Michaels says that at the December meeting, while pushing for the change in the ordinance, Dingle made repeated references to a "release agreement" with Valkyrie as the pretext for the threats to arrest her. Release agreements give conditions for someone's activities after they have been released from jail.

Valkyrie says, "I was never at any time prohibited by any court agreement from being on the courthouse property."

Dingle "never said anything to me or Alley about a release agreement," Michaels adds, calling it a "complete lie."

He says of Dingle, "Seems to me that they have a legal counsel that's willing to lie to them."

Dingle did not wish to respond to Michaels' allegations that he fabricated his statements.

In an email to the commissioners, Michaels writes, "Ask yourselves this: If Ms. Valkyrie was not threatened with arrest because of some release agreement, then because of what?"

Valkyrie tells *EW* that the ordinance is being used to deny people in Lane County their constitutional rights. — *Camilla Mortensen*

KLCC DROPS POPULAR ALTERNATIVE RADIO

KLCC public radio in Eugene is no longer running *Alternative Radio*, a weekly program that has run for 30 years. The hour-long program slot at 7 pm Tuesday has been filled by *Reveal*, investigative reports from the Center for Public Integrity, Public Radio Exchange and partner public radio stations around the country. KLCC is now a partner station with opportunities to give Eugene-area stories national exposure. *Reveal* is free for KLCC, as was *Alternative Radio*.

"We are excited to be able to bring long-form, in-depth investigative journalism to our audience in a weekly program," says Don Hein, KLCC's program director, "and we are talking with KWVA about the possibility of their picking up the local broadcast of the show. It also airs on many of the low-power FM stations on the coast and around the region, and is available online." Hein says *Alternative Radio* podcasts might continue through the KLCC app for smart phones, but he's not sure.

Not everyone is happy to see *Alternative Radio* depart from the largest public radio listening audience in the region. "Alternative Radio is the last radio progressive show airing there," says David Zupan, a longtime advocate for public affairs broadcast-

ing. "It's a real loss to our communities that shouldn't go down without a fight or at least folks knowing how very far KLCC has gone away from its mission to be a community radio station and why we need alternatives like KEPW and KOCF."

Zupan notes that KLCC runs national programs, such as *Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me!* and *Radiolab*, that are repeated each week. He wonders why one of those repeat program slots can't be replaced with *Alternative Radio*.

Hein says *Wait Wait* is "one of public radio's, and KLCC's, most popular programs. Our audience benefits from having multiple opportunities to catch it each week."

David Barsamian is founder and host of *Alternative Radio* and lectures in Eugene every year or two. He says in an email exchange with Zupan that the "duplication of three other programs and the dropping of AR is most disturbing. By the way, AR is free of charge to all stations so the move can't be financial. Is Eugene going to lose the only progressive one-hour from the airwaves? Say it ain't so."

Ralph Nader has called *Alternative Radio* "a ray of light in the media darkness." — *Ted Taylor*