

- The city of Eugene received an application for a **10-year property tax exemption under the Multi-Unit Property Tax Exemption (MUPE) Program** and it is taking public comments on the proposal. According to the city, “The Olive Lofts in Eugene is a proposed 5-story, 36-unit housing with ground floor commercial space at 844 Olive Street. The property is currently vacant and was formerly Rogue Public House (restaurant and brewery).” You can see the application online at [eugene-or.gov/3281/MUPE-Applications](http://eugene-or.gov/3281/MUPE-Applications) or view it at the Eugene Permit and Information Center, 99 W. 10th Avenue, between 9 am and 5 pm, weekdays. Written comments may be submitted to Amanda Nobel Flannery, City of Eugene Planning and Development Department, 99 W. 10th Avenue or [amanda.nobel@flannery.ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:amanda.nobel@flannery.ci.eugene.or.us). For more info, call 541-682-5535. Comments must be in by 5 pm Wednesday, June 8.

- If you live in Springfield and pick up your dog’s poop, you can enter the Canines for Clean Water Calendar Contest. Springfield’s Development & Public Works Department is kicking off the Canines for Clean Water Calendar Contest for 2017. To enter, dog owners must live in Springfield and pledge to pick up their pup’s poop. You can enter either via email or on Facebook by going to [facebook.com/SpringfieldOR](https://facebook.com/SpringfieldOR) and posting a photo of your dog along with #CaninePledge #SpringfieldRes. Or email a photo of your dog and include in your email: #CaninePledge #SpringfieldRes to [WaterResources@springfield-or.gov](mailto:WaterResources@springfield-or.gov). The contest runs from through June 24. Go to [springfieldstreams.org](http://springfieldstreams.org) for more info.

- **Eugene Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America** will be wearing orange and marching in recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day. To join, meet at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street, at 5 pm June 2 and walk to the corner of Oak and 8th to hear from community leaders starting at 6 pm. For more info contact Rev. Adam Briddell [adambriddell@gmail.com](mailto:adambriddell@gmail.com) or check out [wearorange.org](http://wearorange.org).

## CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

In our May 19 news story “Cannabis Changes the Game of Real Estate,” we wrote that landlord Darrel Mansell plans on raising the rents on his remaining tenants. We meant to write he does not plan on raising the rent.

## POLLUTION UPDATE

It’s come to light since last week’s Pollution Update that in addition to the warning letter the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) recently sent to the **Springfield Target Store** (store number 612, located at Gateway Mall) for hazardous waste law violations, the Springfield Target was one of four Oregon Target stores that were assessed a penalty of \$6,850 by DEQ on May 13 for failing to obtain authorization for “underground injection control” (UIC) systems. The Springfield Target store has six roof and parking lot UICs, which have the potential to degrade groundwater quality if not properly maintained and operated. DEQ also recently assessed a penalty of \$7,217 against **McFarland Cascade Holdings, Inc.** for discharging illegal levels of pentachlorophenol and copper to the South Yamhill River from its Sheridan wood treatment facility in December and January. **McFarland Cascade Pole & Lumber Company** operates a wood treatment facility on Hwy. 99 in Eugene that also discharges pentachlorophenol and copper to Oregon waters.

*Doug Quirke/Oregon Clean Water Action Project*

# NEWS

BY CAMILLA MORTENSEN

## RAPE SURVIVORS TESTIFY AGAINST REQUIRED REPORTING



PHOTO CREDIT: BRIANA CERESO

**A**t the University of Oregon, if a student is sexually assaulted and tells her or his instructor, then the professor or graduate teaching fellow must report what happened, whether or not the student wants it reported. This is required reporting, also known as mandatory reporting. Reports go to the UO’s Title IX coordinator.

The UO Faculty Senate voted May 18 on new required reporting rules, with proposed rules narrowly defeated.

For some, required reporting is the best way to handle discrimination and harassment. Others, such as UO psychology professor Jennifer Freyd, UO alum and rape survivor Laura Hanson and Oregon State rape survivor Brenda Tracy, say mandatory reporting can cause more harm than good.

Under Oregon law, workers in “certain professions” are mandatory reporters of child abuse, and according to the UO, “Oregon law requires that all university employees with credible evidence that any form of prohibited discrimination by or against students, faculty or staff is occurring have a duty to report that information.”

Sexual harassment and assault are considered “prohibited discrimination.” But just how that reporting should be done is at the center of a heated debate.

Hanson was unable to leave her job in Portland to come and testify against the required reporting policy, but she sent a statement to be read by Freyd at the meeting.

Hanson writes, “In January 2013, I was roofed and raped by the president of Chi Psi at the University of Oregon. You should already be familiar with how poorly the UO handled my rape report, given that the decisions you’re making will directly affect my fellow survivors.”

The fraternity president was found guilty of sexual misconduct under the student code, though not until after the UO forgot to pursue her case for several months, took her counseling records without her consent and created a situation where, on top of being sexually assaulted, she was ostracized by her peers and traumatized by the school’s inept handling of her case.

“From my perspective, the UO shouldn’t be making these huge policy changes/statements without having a system in place to thoughtfully and effectively resolve the rape complaints received,” Hanson continues.

She tells *EW* that mandatory reporting “puts adults in a position they would not normally be in. As an adult you don’t

expect decisions to be taken away from you, especially in a situation where you are already vulnerable.”

Hanson has repeatedly offered to partner with the UO in repairing its system of dealing with sexual assaults — between her case and that of a young woman who says she was gang raped by three UO basketball players, the school has paid out hundreds of thousands of dollars in settling allegations it has mishandled the cases — the UO has rebuffed her offer.

Brenda Tracy also testified against required reporting. In the fall of 2014 she went public with her story of four men, three of them football players, raping her at an apartment near OSU in 1998. OSU apologized and reached out to her to help the school protect rape victims.

When it comes to mandatory reporting, Tracy, like Hanson, say she feels college students can make informed decisions, as opposed to vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly or those with certain disabilities. “It’s scary to come forward and use your voice, and it doesn’t turn out well for everyone,” she said after tearful testimony before the

.....  
**‘As an adult you don’t expect decisions to be taken away from you, especially in a situation where you are already vulnerable.’**  
.....

— LAURA HANSON, RAPE SURVIVOR

Faculty Senate.

Tracy says that as an outsider looking in, she thinks OSU is clearer than the UO about who is a mandatory reporter and who is not. OSU’s document on “How to Help a Survivor” says employees should “inform the survivor of your responsibility to consult with the Office of Equity and Inclusion.” Hanson agrees that the UO’s policies and materials for dealing with sexual assault remain unclear.

UO professor and University Committee on Sexual and Gender Based Violence co-chair Carole Stabile spoke before the Faculty Senate on May 11 when the “responsible employee policy” was first brought up by the committee. She said the mandatory reporting policy that came out under former UO president Michael Gottfredson at the time of basketball sexual assault scandal was unclear.

Under the revised policy, Stabile said, survivors have options, such as disclosing to confidential reporters such as counselors.

With regard to the concerns raised by Freyd and others, the committee writes in its rationale that it “recognizes that there are serious arguments raised in opposition to this policy, especially with regard to its potential for discouraging some survivors of sexual violence from seeking confidential assistance.”