

BY CORINNE BOYER

- Calico Resources USA Corp. is considering construction of a **gold mine in Malheur County**, and an upcoming meeting in Bend is an opportunity to voice your concerns. The meeting is on Wednesday, June 14, from 2 to 4 pm at the Department of Environmental Quality, 475 NE Bellevue Drive, Suite 110, Bend. Written comments will be accepted until 5 pm on July 3, and may be submitted by email to Calico.File@oregon.gov (please note “Grassy Mtn Comments” in subject line) or by mail to DOGAMI, Attn: Grassy Mtn Comments, 229 Broadalbin Street SW, Albany, OR 97321. See EW’s 2011 story, “Nothing Gold Can Stay” goo.gl/9pXUDE.

- The **third annual Gun Violence Awareness Day** is Friday, June 2, the birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, a Chicago teenager who was killed by gunfire days after performing at President Obama’s second inauguration. Moms Demand Action, along with over 200 other organizations nationwide, is using Hadiya’s birthday as a day to raise awareness about gun violence. Wear orange clothing — the color hunters wear to not be shot by other hunters. In Eugene, the downtown LED lights will turn orange the night of June 2, and 1-3 pm June 3 there will be a family friendly Gun Violence Awareness Fair in the First United Methodist Church parking lot in downtown Eugene.

- **Bite of Burrito Brigade** is 5:30 to 9 pm Friday, June, 2 and benefits the grassroots organization that serves nutritious vegan meals to Eugene’s hungry. The event is at Off the Waffle, 840 Willamette Street downtown. For \$5, guests can taste Burrito Brigade’s “signature delicious vegan burritos, which will also be available as a bowl [gluten free].” The event coincides with Eugene’s First Friday Art Walk and includes beer or wine for purchase, live music by Chico Schwall, a silent auction, raffle and T-shirt sales. The organization says it has served more than 80,000 meals to date. Find a list of regularly needed produce and supplies at burrito-brigade.org. Financial donations may be made via Paypal using burritosundays@gmail.com, or checks may be sent to Burrito Brigade at 2040 Dewey Street, Eugene, OR 97402-1261. Produce or supply donations may be left on the front porch of 2040 Dewey Street. Burrito Brigade is a 501 c3 nonprofit.

- Join Indivisible Eugene and community allies to stand up for truth, accountability and transparency in American politics at a short rally and **March for Truth** 1 to 3 pm Saturday, June 3, starting at the U.S. Courthouse at 405 Eighth Avenue. More than 125 cities across the country will be marching; come enjoy the debut of the 350 Eugene Street Medics Collective.

- A **Eugene/Springfield Legislative Town Hall** begins at 10 am Saturday June 3 at the University of Oregon’s McKenzie Hall Room 240A. Come get a legislative update from area representatives.



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‘I’M AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE? OKAY, PROVE IT’

John Hockenberry, who started at KLCC, discusses his journalism career

In 2012, journalist John Hockenberry took the TED stage and talked about living life with intent. In his talk, “We Are All Designers,” he recalled his favorite design moment: While he was covering the collapse of Zaire, amid the failure of the banks, looting and bullets flying overhead, someone began shouting at Hockenberry. It was another man in a wheelchair, and he wanted to compare his wheels to Hockenberry’s.

Years later, Hockenberry installed flashy caster wheels to the front of his wheelchair, which he has used since a car accident when he was 19, and said he wished he could have shown them to the man in Zaire.

While he was a music major at the University of Oregon, he called KLCC to complain about the public radio station’s programming. Hockenberry tells *Eugene Weekly* that he didn’t intend on becoming a journalist, but KLCC invited him to become a news volunteer after receiving his critique.

“So I was just interested enough in trying something new,” Hockenberry says. “Eugene was this place to try something new.”

His KLCC volunteer gig landed him a job at NPR in Washington. Since then he has reported as a foreign correspondent from Zaire, Jerusalem, Iran, Iraq, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey and Jordan and has worked for ABC and NBC.

For the past eight years he has hosted the *Takeaway*, a daily news show broadcast from WNYC in New York. Hockenberry was this year’s inaugural speaker at Lane Community College’s Presidential Lecture Series.

***Eugene Weekly*: I read that you first called KLCC to complain about a story, and I was wondering what story did you call and complain about?**

John Hockenberry: It’s a famous old story. I didn’t call in to complain about a particular story, I just complained that they were using too many repeats from the morning network shows

and putting them on their local special. And I was at home practicing the piano because I was a music student at the UO, and I was just in a nasty kind of mood. I just picked up the phone and I said, “Why don’t you rename your *Blue Plate Special* noon show *NPR Playback*, how would that be? Because maybe that’s more correct?”

And I was prepared for any answer other than the one Don Hein, who was the news director back then, said. “Well, we’re a public station and we like to have everyone’s input, so why don’t you come down and be a part of the creation of the news. We’d love to have you come down and we’ll listen to your ideas.”

I mean this is like something out of some weird Bible story. I mean, it didn’t make any sense. I couldn’t say anything, so I just said, maybe I will. And then I did. And I went there and I loved it. I knew a lot about history. I knew a lot about science. My curiosity really drove my interest in news, and I was good with audio equipment because of my music background.

I kicked around as a volunteer for a while, and then Mount St. Helens erupted and all of a sudden the station was in the middle of this big story. In that first year it was still erupting and they needed people to do the little eruptions, and I did the little eruption stories. Gradually, I did bigger stories about the region and I remember I did the first story for NPR on Amazon. Amazon.com launched itself, and it got a center column piece in the *Wall Street Journal*, and I remember thinking that’s amazing — that’s going to be a big deal.

From that time, KLCC has been the birthplace of trying things that are a little scary.

So before you volunteered, it wasn’t your plan to become a journalist, it just happened?

No, I was studying French Baroque harpsichord with a teacher I loved at the University of Oregon. I loved the harpsichord. We