



HAPPENING PEOPLE

BY PAUL NEEVEL



Karly Loveling

“When I was a kid, my mom started a youth choir at our church,” says Karly Loveling, who grew up in suburban Garland, Texas. “She had no musical training and she still can’t read music. But she knew that to keep us active in church, she needed to bring kids together in programs that are fun, uplifting and community-building.” Loveling sang with the youth choir from age 10 through high school, then went on to Stephens College, a women’s college in Columbia, Missouri, where she majored in dance. She spent 10 years in modern dance performing groups in New York City and in Austin, Texas. Loveling arrived in Eugene in 2004 along with a childhood friend from the youth choir. She stayed at the Lost Valley Educational Center near Dexter and worked in the Heart of Now, personal growth workshop program. “We always sang before we ate,” she recalls, “but I got tired of the same songs every night, so I started collecting songs from visitors. I got to be known as someone who carries songs.” Loveling has been leading songs at the Singing Alive Cascadia annual song gathering since it began in 2007, and she has since founded two local choirs. The Hummingbirds Girls Choir is limited to 12 girls ages 8-12 and practices once a week. The Singing Heart Choir is open to all ages, welcomes drop-ins and meets twice a week. Meeting times and locations can be found online on their websites. They perform at community events like the Saturday Market and the Oregon Country Fair. “The choirs were born out of the songs I’ve learned at Singing Alive,” Loveling says, “community-singing songs, taught by call and response, no books, no instruments [except as back up], just the voice.”

SLANT

• Sorry to remind you, but **Donald Trump has now been in office two years.** The good news is that means it’s time for the annual **Womxn’s March.** Womxn’s March Eugene 2019 is an inclusive community event, 10 am to 1 pm, Saturday, Jan. 19, starting at the Wayne Lyman Morse United States Courthouse at 405 E. 8th in Eugene. Make your signs, wear your T-shirts, raise your voice and help others raise theirs.

• **Morsels:** Borrowing this title from our popular Chow section on food (coming out next week!), from time to time we will include brief tips on eating locally here in Slant. First is a little restaurant at 1123 Monroe on the west side called Scribles, after the owner. Great sandwiches served here with many gluten-free options. We tried the tuna and never had better. Find out more at ScriblesBistroandDeli.com.

• **University of Oregon President Michael Schill** spoke at Eugene City Club on Friday, Jan. 11. Officials say the event was mistakenly advertised as a “State of the University” because it wasn’t an official assessment of the UO. The title of the event brought out UO students, who were annoyed only City Club members could ask questions. Regardless, Schill had a few things to brag about during his speech, but what topped it was the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. He said the campus will generate about \$80 million in economic activity annually in Eugene — and that’s a conservative calculation — and create a lot of new jobs. It’s all a part of making the UO a research university. What about humanities? Well, Schill told EW that humanities and social sciences are important to be a great research university, adding that dwindling support for arts, humanities and social sciences isn’t unique to UO — it’s a nationwide problem. He also mentioned that higher education would be dealing without any more assistance from Gov. Kate Brown’s proposed budget. Schill did tell EW how he dealt with a boring RedBox Bowl. He says he ate a ton of junk food and mingled with alumni — but will these alumni be tapped to pay for the rest of the Knight campus?

• **Eugene was rocked by the police shooting of local activist and person of color Charlie Landeros** at Cascade Middle School Jan. 11. One question we’ve seen on social media is: Why did Landeros bring a gun to campus? We have a question right back at you: If Landeros had been a white man, not a person of mixed Mexican and Filipino heritage, would anyone be asking why they had a gun, or would instead there be praise for standing up for gun rights?

SLANT INCLUDES SHORT OPINION PIECES, OBSERVATIONS AND RUMOR-CHASING NOTES COMPILED BY THE EW EDITORIAL BOARD. **HEARD ANY GOOD RUMORS LATELY?** CONTACT EDITOR@EUGENEWEEKLY.COM

NEWS

BY ASHLEY WALTERS

EUGENE BALLET TO THE RESCUE

A small town’s Nutcracker show will go on with borrowed sets and costumes

Eugene Ballet Company recently stepped up to rescue a small northern California ballet company’s annual production of *The Nutcracker*, which was canceled after last year’s lethal Camp Fire.

Earlier in January, EBC sent leotards, dance shoes, costumes, sets and props to tiny Northern California Ballet, based in Paradise, California, a town that was largely destroyed in the Camp Fire that started Nov. 8. The wildfire, which killed about 85 people, also engulfed NCB’s small studio.

Paradise native Marilyn Brady, now a resident of Eugene, says the postponed *Nutcracker* will be held Jan. 18 through 20 at the State Theatre in the neighboring town of Oroville. Paradise Performing Arts Center survived the blaze but couldn’t schedule NCB’s January performance.

A dancer herself, Brady speaks warmly of EBC, which has had a special relationship

with NCB for years.

“As long as I can remember, starting ballet when I was 10, and I’m now 24, NCB’s artistic director always hires EBC dancers to perform the principal roles as well as teach,” Brady says.

Since 2002, Eugene Ballet has sent nearly 20 dancers to work as guest artists and instructors with dancers at NCB, says Jennifer Martin, EBC principal dancer and associate artistic director. Many stayed with host families in houses that are no longer standing.

Paradise resident Heather Rae Bingham Pete is hosting a GoFundMe fundraiser to help NCB, “Small Ballet Studio Destroyed in Paradise Fire.” In one month, 22 people have helped raise \$2,107 out of a \$15,000 goal. According to the GoFundMe, most of the dancers, along with the director, also lost their homes and belongings.

“Your NCB Oroville family is here for you all,” a donor writes on the GoFundMe page. ■