



**iPADS FOR 509J
STUDENTS; A DUST-UP**
WE SUGGEST THIS RESEARCH
AND A LITTLE COFFEE

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**THE CORVALLA
EVICTIONS**
WHY OUR CITY WILL
SEE MORE OF THESE

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the Corvallis Advocate

January 23-30, 2014



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THE JULIAN GOES TO REHAB

By Candy Smith

The Historic Hotel Undergoes a Major Facelift

At the start of the New Year, Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services (WNHS) ushered in a deal that will mean big changes for the historic Julian Hotel, which has been used for low-income housing in downtown Corvallis since the mid-1980s. The building has 35 dwelling units, but is in deep need of serious restoration and renovation. WNHS acquired the property from Northwest Housing Alternatives, and has a large-scale rehabilitation project in the works that will improve the quality of life for inhabitants and maintain the historic building for generations to come. The \$8.2 million deal includes a variety of funding sources, with \$3.7 million dedicated towards renovation of the property.

Built in 1893, the Julian Hotel is on the National Registry of Historic Places. Jim Moorefield, executive director of WNHS, insists that the renovations are being done with that historic listing in mind.

“Our plans don’t impact the property’s historic listing – that will stay in place,” he said. “However, its listing does

impact our approach to the rehab and the regulatory approvals we’ll need. We



know the Julian is an historic jewel and we’re contracting with an architecture firm, Carleton-Hart, with experience in historic rehabs.”

The building, however, is in need of some serious repair and recovery. The remodeling plans range from a new roof to updating the ground floor to include commercial space and a community room, as well as a property manager’s office and a resident services office. They also plan to update each apartment with new appliances, cabinets, fixtures, and flooring.

One large concern is how this remodel will affect current residents of the Julian. Moorefield states that all residents will be rehoused and will be welcome to return once remodeling is complete. Plans for the rehoming of residents were included in the initial funding for this project, and WNHS intends on helping people find secure housing in the increasingly tough rental market that is Corvallis, whether that be in motel rooms, in other downtown apartments, or by providing compensation to residents who stay with family members while they are displaced. Moorefield is very clear on this point.

“Resident relocation is temporary; everyone will be able to move back in if they want to, and the rent assistance they receive now will continue after they move back in,” he said. “No one will lose their home. WNHS will pay for the costs associated with temporary relocation [such as moving costs].”

Additionally, the Julian will still have access to the same Resident Services Program that WNHS provides to all

of their properties. The inclusion of a new office being added to the first floor will allow WHNS staff, as well as staff from other organizations to collaborate in-house to assist the residents of the building.

The Julian is an important part of the Corvallis community for the essential housing it provides to citizens. However, it does have a lurid history of drug and crime activity, which prior property management was not able to manage in a satisfactory way. WNHS will be working to improve some security features in the facility, and Moorefield believes that “The single most important step any property owner can take to prevent crime is to hire a quality, experienced property management company and to make sure the property has an on-site property manager.” Hopefully these efforts will have an impact on the culture of the Julian, and can help it to become a healthy living environment again. Corvallis stands to gain a great deal from having a stable and well-managed low-income housing facility in its downtown.

AS THE STATE TURNS

By Johnny Beaver

A Lonely Wolf, Job Vacancies, Forest Fires and the Snow Drought

THE LONE WOLF

Known to many at this point as OR-7, the gray wolf that historically has wandered west of the Cascades since it started being tracked in 2011 currently resides in Klamath County. Spending the winter feasting on a number of elk and deer carcasses that have been found, researchers believe the lone wolf is searching for something else – a mate. While the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife say that it’s technically possible for there to be other wolves in the area, it seems unlikely. For now, perhaps, OR-7 might have to do what us humans do when we’re lonely: find something that looks friendly and rub up against it.

VACANT JOBS

Despite Oregonian employers reporting five-year highs in terms of job openings this past year, a survey conducted by the Oregon Employment Department saw around 32,000 available jobs remain vacant last fall. The survey

also reported a drop in unemployment numbers, echoed by the estimated current four unemployed people per job opening figures – figures that looked more like 12 to 1 at the height of the recession.

When commenting on the “why” of the situation with the vacancies, a lack of applications were cited in addition to unfavorable working environments. Amongst the hardest positions to fill were heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers, retail salespersons, nursing assistance, mechanics and auto technicians, bus drivers, preschool teachers, physical therapists, construction laborers and registered nurses.

HEY TAXPAYERS, HELP SAVE MY FOREST

Private owners of forested land in Oregon have approached the state legislature to bring back an expired reforestation tax credit in addition

to creating a fund to help them recover from destructive fires. With 2013 launching forth 1,139 fires that obliterated over 100,000 acres, the firefighting tally alone shot up to around \$122 million. In February the Oregon Department of Forestry is set to approach the legislature for \$40 million to cover firefighting costs that weren’t accounted for in the budget.

While some citizens may be initially taken aback by the request, these private forests hold up many public interests, including jobs, habitat for wildlife and more. Without reforestation, landslides, erosion and damage to wildlife populations can, over time, become catastrophic.

RECENT SNOW DOESN'T HAVE US OUT OF THE COLD YET

Although OR-7 might ebb and flow with the season quite well, the US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service is a

bit worried. Despite last week seeing 20 inches or so dropped onto several areas of the Cascades, apparently it wasn’t enough to make any significant change to our incredibly low snow levels. The USDA expects Oregon state to see summer streams flowing at less than 50 percent of normal, which will impact everything from irrigation to hydroelectric power, the general water supply and will even strain fisheries. Most worrisome is the Klamath Basin, where USDA predictions indicate that some areas could see a reduced stream flow as low as 20 percent of normal.

Experts say it is unlikely that we’ll see enough snowfall to reverse the impending damage.



By Ygal Kaufman

ALEXIS OHANIAN LIVE AT LA SELLS

Reddit Co-Founder to Speak at OSU Jan. 30

What can Alexis Ohanian teach you about starting a new business? That all depends on what the words "search engine optimization" mean to you, I suppose. But the short version is that the 30-year-old web entrepreneur and co-founder of Reddit knows a thing or two about "harnessing the power of the Internet," if that phrase doesn't sound too douchey.



Aside from co-founding the most popular social news site in the universe, Ohanian also co-founds new Internet businesses with the same frequency that I change my socks.

I know what you're thinking, "whoa, three new businesses a month?"

Well maybe not quite that many, but the dude has what might be described as a Midas touch for this sort of thing. After founding Reddit, he went on to start Hipmunk, a popular travel site, and Breadpig, an innovative publishing catalyst for independently minded creative types.

He's currently on a speaking tour of 77 colleges in support of his recent book, *Without Their Permission*. He'll appear at OSU on Jan. 30.

"The goal of the book tour is to give people a blueprint of how to start being entrepreneurial and make the world suck less," says Ohanian about the tour, "The Internet has lowered the barriers to building something awesome and everyone should take advantage of that."

The goal of the talk is simple: "It's the book and the talk I wish I'd had before I'd gotten started on my entrepreneurial journey," he says.

The talk is geared mostly toward students, but Ohanian sees value for anyone who has interest in becoming their own boss and making the world "suck less." More importantly, he sees high value for people living in relatively small communities such as ours.

"One of the messages of this tour is that startup communities can thrive anywhere, not just in major cities like New York and San Francisco. So everyone who is interested in starting something that makes the world suck less should look at the qualities of a region (like mid-Oregon) that some industries see as a disadvantage and see how to turn them into an advantage."

But how do we bring our rural neighbors into the exciting future the Internet has opened for us? Not just for their growth as entrepreneurs, but for businesses needing customers.

Ohanian's prescription is simple: access.

"Making sure they've got access (millions of Americans still don't have broadband) and showing them how they can help themselves through the Internet. It could be as simple as starting their first Etsy store..." that's how he says we can all become Internet moguls.

Machines are taking over, changing our lives in new ways every day. Places like the Willamette Valley have a lot of people working in traditionally non-tech centered fields, but those businesses don't need to become extinct. Ohanian suggests the Internet can help those businesses evolve.

"Software is eating the world! No industry is safe."

Alexis Ohanian's *Without Their Permission* book and lecture tour will be at La Sells Stewart Center on Jan. 30 from 6 to 9 p.m., followed by a book signing. It is free to the public.

By Johnny Beaver

TIM BLACKBURN DROPS OUT AT DARKSIDE CINEMA

Local Stencil Artist's Event Kicks Off at 5 p.m., Jan. 24

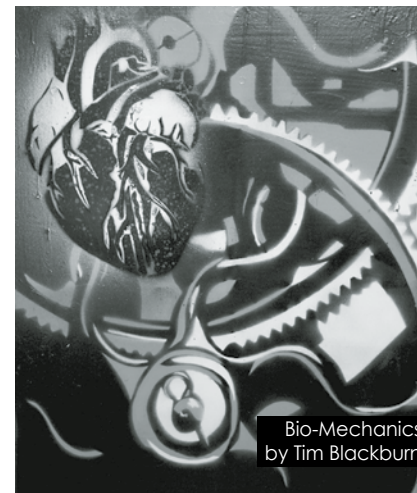
Tim Blackburn's Drop Out Art will be hosting an art extravaganza of sorts at the Darkside Cinema. Known around town for his instantly recognizable stencil work and his place in the Temporary Artists' Guild leadership, Blackburn's event will include dozens of hand-painted posters, vinyl LPs, panels, and canvas for sale at what he describes as "Cash 'n' Carry" prices. Additionally, a silent auction will be going on for three pieces of original Drop Out Art.

"Everything in existence is a copy

of a copy, a cycle of reproduction, a stencil of the former envisioned by the present," says Blackburn. And his work stays true to the theme, offering up images and machinations of the remnants of digested pop culture and the human condition. Not simply graffiti or stencil work, Blackburn has redefined the art form in his own image.

Everything goes down this Friday, Jan. 24 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Darkside Cinema, 215 SW 4th Street. More of Blackburn's work can be found at either <http://www.dropoutart.com/>

or <https://www.facebook.com/behold.DOA>.



Bio-Mechanics by Tim Blackburn

By Mandy Clark

A LEG UP FOR OSU'S COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Researchers Work to Uncover Locomotive Secrets

Researchers at OSU's College of Engineering may be taking more than baby steps toward finding out how humans walk. According to a study published last month in *The Journal of Experimental Biology*, the specific interaction between the ankle, knee, muscles, and tendons is outlined. This knowledge leads to understanding a leg moving forward in a way that maximizes motion while using minimal amounts of energy.

Jonathan Hurst, an OSU professor of mechanical engineering and expert in legged locomotion in robots,

says, "Walking is almost like passive falling. The robots existing today don't walk at all like humans—they lack that efficiency of motion and agility."



We've come a long way since 1982...

The high-power "push off" when the leg leaves the ground has been observed for some time, but understanding how it actually worked was a tough nut to crack. That said, researchers now believe they have the information to move forward.

The study concluded this motion has two phases: alleviation and launching. In the alleviation phase the trailing leg surrenders the burden of supporting the body mass. Then in the launching phase the knee buckles, allowing the rapid

release of stored elastic energy in the ankle tendons, similar to a catapult.

Daniel Renjewski, a postdoctoral research associate in the Dynamic Robotics Laboratory at OSU, says, "Contrary to what some other research has suggested, the catapult energy from the ankle is just being used to swing the leg, not add large amounts of energy to the forward motion." Walking robots do not function this way, many use force to "swing" the leg forward from a make-shift hip point. Although this allows the robots to move, it is neither energy efficient or agile.

Hurst believes the new research will bring them closer to developing walking robots that can move with as little energy as animals use. This technology will undoubtedly be adapted to advanced prosthetic limbs, which could improve the lives of countless amputees.

THE CORVALLA EVICTIONS ARE JUST THE BEGINNING

By Rob Goffins

Did the Boot Really Come from Corvallis Voters

You've probably all heard by now that the Corvalla Apartments complex is closing its doors for upscale remodeling, leaving many low income tenants and families homeless without options.

We all see how contentious this has been, not to mention heart-wrenching, but this story is part of a larger problem that the Corvallis community is currently facing. What we're seeing here will almost certainly become a trend if our community doesn't decide what it wants and act upon it. In other words, are we willing to welcome new housing development, even in our own backyards at times, or not?

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR

The Corvalla Apartments have been until now a modest complex of one-, two- and three-bedroom units available in the \$500 to \$700 range. The complex has recently changed hands and the new owner, Riverside Residential Group, plans to renovate and take the complex in a more upscale direction, with monthly rents ranging from about \$750 to over \$1,000. They are evicting the current tenants to get the work done; once complete, these more spendy units will be marketed as The Park at Fifth.

Many of the current tenants are lower income, some receive disability benefits or assistance from HUD, and they will not likely be able to return to their current homes once renovated. Some are fighting their evictions, but it can be anticipated that most all the tenants will be out by the end of February. Also predictable, some will simply not be able to find housing in Corvallis' currently tight and somewhat expensive inventory of available spaces.

THE COMING STORY; WHAT YOU MAY NOT WANT TO KNOW

Corvalla may represent some of the first casualties of an endangered species here in Corvallis; the older and plainer, but serviceable rental unit. Our city is replete with these older buildings and federal tax laws make regular buying and selling of these complexes attractive for landlords, so this will probably not be the last time our fair burb sees this happen.

In fact, what we may be witnessing is the gentrification of Corvallis. Most of the newer units that have been built attract top rents and lower cost units are already in dramatically short supply.

Take one large demographic that already struggles to find affordable rent, students.

Right now, OSU is home to about 28,000 of them. In 1997 that number was barely over 14,000; the current rate of change is estimated at around a six-



percent increase per year. According to the Corvallis Community Development department, only 1,658 units have been built in terms of multi-housing buildings... since 2001. And a third of those were built in that year. Our housing expansion hasn't even come close to compensating for OSU's growth, let alone the rest of those that have relocated here. And despite being often maligned, OSU seems to contribute to this town far more than it takes from it. For proof, just take a look at any other Oregon city of similar size that doesn't have a world class university. First, there is the incalculable cultural benefit the university offers, but more concretely, our employment rates are higher, and our property values are most definitely higher.

Just in terms of this one example, it seems almost certain that this problem will get worse before it gets better, if it gets better.

DO WE EVEN WANT THIS TO GET BETTER?

Supply and demand being what it is means Corvallis can anticipate increasing real estate values, and the more souls looking the loftier those values will climb — especially if supply stays about as short as it is. This all sounds pretty good if you already own property here. But, it may not be so helpful if you're lower income.

For instance, it is not only students and people on assistance that would hope for affordable housing here; the Corvallis children that are growing up right now may one day find that striking out on their own positions them with no option besides leaving their hometown. Also among our current residents are lower income workers that contribute to our economy. We could reach a point where living anywhere here requires a yearly income of \$50,000 or more.

The ramifications for property values, entrepreneurs and even the tax base could be said to have some benefits in this instance, but is that what we Corvallisites actually want?

Do the benefits outweigh the disadvantages? One can envision massive numbers of people commuting in and out of Corvallis for work as our economy grows, but rental opportunities are nowhere to be found. Families could wind up needing to live quite a bit further from one another.

THE NIMBY, THE PRIUS AND THE UNSAID

Truthfully, it is far easier to wish for a solution than to sacrifice for one. So many of us love this town and feel a substantial affinity to the neighborhoods we live in, so when the prospects of a housing development comes along we often gather and protest the NIMBY protest... Yes, but Not In My Backyard. This makes a solution here difficult, especially in a town dedicated to the sort of infill development that helps us to remain a compact city.

We are also a city that seems to care for the people around us and that makes all this even more difficult, because to really care for them probably means we will need to more proactively embrace new housing development. Of course there are environmental concerns, but it is also the case that the closer people are to work and school the more sustainably they can live.

So, the question may come down to this — will we be that Prius driver that slows our roll down enough to actually benefit from the car, or are we that individual that bought that Prius because it sounded like the right thing to do, but we still gun the thing in the never ending race between stoplights?

The one option that does not seem to be available is to simply pine for the human thrush into Corvallis to simply abate, and it may be a nice sentiment to some, but at this point it is probably little more than a form of magical thinking and denial.

In the final analysis, we are where we are, supply and demand is what it is and the question remains... gentrification or a less jaded view of development? The questions and answers are easy, the details are starkly difficult.

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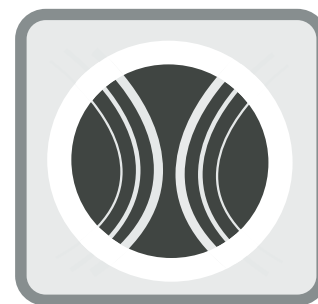
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By Patrick Fancher iPADS IN CORVALLIS SCHOOLS: THE DEBATE UNRAVELED

To Fully Implement, or Not to Fully Implement... Is That Even the Question?

Corvallis School District's latest drive to push technology in schools stalled after parents voiced concerns over the cost and wisdom of giving pupils iPads. The question now is whether this is a fatal error or merely cause for a reboot.

Superintendent Erin Prince and members of the 509J school district have called the project the 1 to 1 Apple iPad implementation, or the 1: World initiative. It envisioned issuing all Corvallis students third grade and above their own full-size, digital tablet (with mini-iPads going to students from kindergarten to second grade) for this school year.

A well-attended recent school board meeting, where parents and residents could ask questions and give testimonials to voice concerns over iPad implementation, appears to have halted the program for now. Prince recently said the district won't go with full implementation this year, and wants to continue to work on the infrastructure and development with the help of staff and parents.

This movement isn't just a newly discovered, trend-of-the-week project meant to bring Corvallis up to speed with other, national school districts already employing tablet technology in schools. It's been in the works for a while, according to 509J Assistant Superintendent Kevin Bogatin.

"This is probably year three of the discussion. Some of it was more grassroots as grants came through our



foundation. We also had individual teachers asking us to purchase iPads or some kind of tablet device. So this conversation and process began with teachers wanting more technology infused into the classroom," Bogatin said. "I think we're looking at this as reshaping education to include technology given its proliferation within our society, as well as it's the way our kids engage."

District staff began doing their homework on various platforms, while researching and visiting other districts around the country that had introduced iPads and digital curriculum into their schools. They noted that districts with similar deficits in Canby, Oregon and Mooresville, North Carolina made the jump to tablets and experienced positive results, including a significant rise in graduation rates each year.

THE PLAN

The superintendents and school board members had officially begun 1: World with a pilot program in the fall of 2012

for use in special education classrooms and a few other locations.

The first phase launched last year when students and teachers from select schools received these devices in science classes at the middle school and high school levels. A Wi-Fi connection was also installed throughout these participating schools.

This was the answer as school officials put it to "bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots," and increase graduation rates that are just below 70% in the 509J school district. It was funded through "reduced and re-directed textbook and computer replacement funds."

The second phase of the program began last October and saw about 2,000 iPad tablets issued to all students at Cheldelin and Linus Pauling middle schools and Mountain View Elementary School, as well as in all of the special education, English-only classrooms at Lincoln and Garfield elementary

schools and Advanced Via Individual Determination (AVID) classrooms at both Crescent Valley and Corvallis high schools.

Most parents signed permission slips and paid the optional \$45 for tablet insurance, while their children signed basic user agreements (agreeing not to use the portable tablets inappropriately, including to harass and/or bully other students) and the iPads were theirs. The planned infrastructure began to take shape.

The third phase of the initiative, which was to see iPads go to all students in the district this year created a major divide between the district and parents, who hadn't yet seen tablets implemented in their respective schools.

One concern, which Bogatin was quick to dismiss, was that this technology would eliminate the use of paper textbooks and alter the traditional school setting for children.

"Technology is another tool we use as part of the education process, but not in place of doing science experiments, going out in nature and observing, or reading poetry," he said.

But the district staff decided full implementation at this time wasn't possible. Since, they have slowed their approach to gather more information for safety and security purposes in addition to fully assessing the program metrics.

PARENTS OPPOSED

The concerns raised by parents at the board meeting seem to have had some



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impact on halting Phase III – at least for the time being. Chief concerns are that overexposure of screen time may be unhealthy for children, that using digital devices may negatively affect students’ social interactions with peers and teachers, and that lower-income households and at-risk youth can’t afford the Wi-Fi, let alone other monetary upkeep involved with using an iPad away from school.

Andy and Rachel Roberts—who have two daughters, one of whom will start kindergarten next year—are skeptical about providing iPads to all students. They aren’t convinced this technology presents the only way to correct student performance issues, and want the school board to provide better data and research to define its intentions. This was a main reason they both shared testimonies during the school board meeting.

“I think for me the biggest issues are a one-size-fits-all solution for all different grades, and it’s not clear what problem they’re really trying to solve,” Andy said. “They’ve listed some fairly vague problems this will solve, whether it’s the disparity gap between the haves and have-nots. By just throwing a technology at it, I don’t think they’re really getting at the heart of the problem.”

Andy, an IT manager at Oregon State University, said he has worked closely with Apple vendors in the past. He thinks the district may have rushed its judgment when it decided to use iPads exclusively.

“Apple is particularly good at marketing products to schools and businesses, and I think it’s easy for administrators to get caught up in a lot of the claims without fully vetting what problems they’re trying to solve,” he said.

There’s also some danger in indoctrinating impressionable young students into working with one brand of products.

Andy stated in his testimony that board members should experience the technology for themselves firsthand at work, by doing away with physical paper and solely using iPads for one month, then record their own observations of the frustrations and benefits of the device. His question was, if these devices are to be used by children, shouldn’t the board and administrators be able to model how beneficial the technology is?

Rachel, a former speech pathologist in the district, applauded the board for its efforts but questioned whether spending the reported \$1.2 million annually for iPads is the best use of allocated funds.

“Spending over \$1 million each year when budgets are tight, funding is insecure, teachers are taking pay freezes, and instructional days are close to being cut. Is this the best way to serve all of our children? We want our kids’ experiences and competence with technology to be as flexible and as agile as technology itself. That means not putting all of our eggs in a singular device’s basket,” she said in testimony to the board.

Rachel questioned whether her daughter headed for kindergarten really needs an iPad, as she makes the transition to a school setting for the first time.

“My kindergartener does not need to be responsible, even in school, for a \$500-plus device. Use the funds more judiciously for the middle and high schoolers where the technology might not be obsolete when they graduate,” she said.

These are only some of the questions raised that the district staff plans to address with more research, talking with teachers, and by conducting more meetings between parents and the school board by the time they attempt a 1:1 iPad rollout again.

Bogatin says most complaints the district has received are from parents

whose children aren’t using digital tablets in school yet.

Have parents with children using iPads since last October in Cheldelin Middle School or in special education classes, for example, spoken out against 1:1 implementation?

“We have not heard any of these families come and testify. The testifying and concerns are coming from our families who haven’t implemented the technology into their schools,” Bogatin said.

IPAD BENEFITS

One of those parents is Sara Gumm, who has children in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade attending Linus Pauling Middle School. She had her own concerns about seeing Pads given to her kids for school last year.

“When it was announced that the schools would be loaning every student in LP an iPad, I was initially very wary of the idea,” Gumm said. “First and foremost I was worried about keeping three very expensive tablets safe and accounted for. However, after the initial hesitation, I’ve found them extremely beneficial for all my kids.”

Gumm says the iPads have helped her kids be better organized in knowing when homework assignments/tests are scheduled, has improved their grades and performance confidence, and has them more engaged in school than they ever were before.

“The learning done on the iPad is interactive and exciting in a way a textbook can’t be. It gives them the ability to immediately follow up on something that peaks their curiosity during homework. They can find word definitions, watch instructional videos that break down math problems, and use a Spanish/English translator to help with their dual language homework,” she said.

THE COSTS

Though an exact price tag for 1: World

still needs to be established, Bogatin estimates it will cost the district \$1.2 million per year for the iPads, which includes professional development, application/software and an ongoing replacement cycle of three to four years. The district is still working on ways to make the costs of Wi-Fi at students’ homes and the iPad insurance more affordable to lower-income families, so their children can have the same tablet access as their classmates. Comcast reportedly offers a \$10 per month Wi-Fi connection to low-income families that qualify. There’s also the possibility of getting after school places like the library and the Boys and Girls Club to extend their hours and have wireless access available to local students.

The school district seems content with the implementation plan, and the interaction and information sharing with concerned teachers, parents, and community members in all districts will only help improve this process going forward.

“We’re interested in ongoing dialogue and feedback on how best to utilize, how best to support students and families in this endeavor. We know some folks are cautious about the technology and we want to work with them. We want the feedback,” Bogatin said.

Bogatin also said the district is planning a technology event for February by the school and there will be more opportunities for parents to speak with the school board in the months ahead.

The fact that Phase III of full iPad implementation in all schools isn’t being rushed should reassure concerned Corvallisites that they’re being heard loud and clear. The district is listening.

In the end, we can all agree that what’s best for the 509J students is the most important thing.

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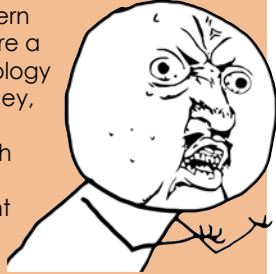
DIVERSITY CUTS

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By Ygal Kaufman

WHAT'RE THESE KIDS, THE KARDASHIANS? Y U No Cheaper Tablets?

Amongst the many potential problems associated with putting tablet computers in the hands of school kids, both real and imagined, is the very legitimate concern about cost. Tablets are a relatively new technology and they can be pricey, particularly if you've got unnecessarily high standards. There's a wide array of different tablet options to choose from.



So why exactly is Corvallis going with the Rolls-Royce of tablet computing? The iPad is the undisputed champ of tabs. The reason is the ease of use and the compatibility with the Apple environment. By locking millions of smart phone users into their ecosystem with the iPhone, before Android had a foothold, iPad's ubiquity was guaranteed.

For a school full of kids with diverse user experiences and a relatively limited set of needs, there are countless cheaper options. The Amazon Kindle and Galaxy Tab are just two of the non-iOS running tablets that run roughly half the cost of an iPad. These are two well-made tablets that have the tools and capability to be useful to students.

A little digging in the dark recesses of Chinese unbranded wholesale tech shopping yields still more options. Dealextrime has A13s, a slick Chinese knockoff (or Chipad) with all the features necessary for kids to get a cutting edge-education, for \$50 a pop. Roughly one tenth the cost of a new iPad (and those are made in China, too).

A quick jaunt through Alibaba, the Chinese wholesale behemoth, yields literally hundreds of choices for low cost tablet computing solutions.

There are some security concerns that an iPad may be the best solution for, but with a price point 5 to 10 times higher than the alternatives it's unclear that these security concerns are insurmountable.

Kids are using the tablets to get a technological leg up, to capitalize on multimedia teaching tools and to harness the power of the Internet to stay competitive with kids all over the world. Android tabs, with their open source environment, are better suited toward this. So why did Corvallis want to shell out for the more expensive iPad? Was it marketed to them more slickly by the Apple juggernaut? Was the security concern paramount? Or were iPads the easiest and most visible option?

Inquiring taxpayers want to know.

iPADS ARE THE NEW PENCIL

We Suggest This Research ... and a Little Coffee

By Johnny Beaver and Rob Goffins

Adapting new tools for the classroom is not something that's ever going to go away. History has shown time and again that, despite resistance, technological progress defines the way almost everything is done – eventually. There was a fight when calculators were first introduced as well, and while it would be a mistake to see the tablet – or iPad, in this case – as presenting the possibility of only such a narrow change, it is facing the same fundamental resistance. Most things have their potential for both the positive and negative, as does the tablet, so the question everyone should be asking here is not whether we should use these devices, but how we should use them. This is not some future event, it's happening now and has already been going on for a handful of years now. Yes, concern is needed... after all, some kids sniff glue despite the practical applications. Before we can take a fair swing at anything's permanent status, we have to account for all scenarios.

A comprehensive study in Quebec approached a test group of over 6,000 children of various ages, with a cataclysmic result – 99% of them reported back that they found the iPad distracting and that a third of all the students opted for playing games on them rather than working or studying. A key thing to note here is that they were either able to install games on the machines, or had games on them to begin with. But let's let that slide for now. Despite the above numbers, the researchers behind the study still recommended the school implement the devices, only in a more controlled way. Part of the study had revealed a major issue: 70% of teachers that had either never used an iPad, or had only done so rarely. When the instructors aren't prepared regarding a technology that most children are already well versed in, chaos is the least of your worries. Benefits reported by students and teachers alike included better access to information, portability and collaboration.

In Maine a 2012 study resulted in increased literacy test scores and interest in school amongst a group of 266 kindergartners. Part of a year-long study into eReaders specifically, results in Notre Dame management courses were reported as stellar, stating that the college-aged students had little issue using their iPads to consolidate and aggregate information effectively.



On another spectrum altogether, research in the January 2014 issue of *Computers and Education* concluded that certain applications, such as using an iPad to help students grasp difficult science concepts such as time, distance and the like were invaluable and that results could be seen in students as quickly as 20 minutes into using the technology. One example laid out was that of a timeline – if you start getting into millions of years, how exactly can the whiteboard compare to an application that can be zoomed in and out?

Any quick look online will be met with study after study on the topic, and likely about a 4 to 1 ratio in favor of pure speculation versus comprehensive research. The fact is, this is relatively new in several ways and it will take some time for the lasting impacts to be recorded, let alone the methodology to be ironed out. Even with the information currently available, it'd be difficult to justify an absolute position. It's certainly no magic bullet, but there is no such thing anyway. Every system likely leaves some number of students behind in any number of ways. Clearly there are drawbacks that have no current solutions, but it seems reasonable that the discussion would do well to be guided towards coming up with them, rather than winding up as heads being buried in two different kinds of sand.

MAY WE SUGGEST A PATH FORWARD?

Perhaps the most noteworthy thing to recognize is that it's the district's job to figure these things out, and so far it seems like they're making the right calls — both with responsible budgeting and also the spirit of collaboration. There are concerned parents with views everywhere on the spectrum, including Corvallisite

Sara Gumm, whose children have had a good experience so far with the technology.

With parents voicing said concerns and the district quickly slowing down their plans to listen, continued interaction would do well in the form of a workgroup. Parents and district staff together could anticipate the potentials and challenges in this matter, coming to quicker, more comprehensive solutions. This isn't a new concept. Having initial recommendations as early as April would permit the district some time to prepare for the next school year, and changes could be made as needs arise.

Despite hurdles, it can be confirmed that a majority of studies show improvements in one or more areas, typically starting with the older students. For this reason we hope the district will not wait to develop tablet programs at the middle and high schools levels when they're ready. However, a slower rollout for K-5 students seems reasonable as parents and the district chart a course for them.

For all age groups, interactive software platforms are emerging that will move the tablet beyond the glorified notebook state and into a place where it can fill in on some of the things that traditional classrooms are intrinsically bad at, including creating different experiences for different courses. Continuing to evolve with the technology is paramount, and again, a parent / district workgroup would be a wise choice for making this process efficient and effective.

Now, sensational rumors aside, the district isn't proposing to replace real hands-on experiences with tablets and nobody seems to be accusing them of trying to; tablets are only one of a number of tools, nobody seems to be claiming it is any sort of panacea. That said, there will almost certainly be problems with these devices being abused, although a zero tolerance approach to violations would likely prove as unproductive as taking away a pencil for doodling instead of note-taking.

One thing that's for certain is that families without the resources for Wi-Fi need to have a concrete plan in place. Moving to that from the current speculative dialogue is a definitive first step.

THERE'S A HOLE IN THAT COW

By Kyrá Young

Teddy the Fistulated OSU Steer Is a Real Beefcake

Cows. Let's play some "Did you know"... shall we? Did you know that cows are sometimes referred to as the foster mothers of the human race because they produce most of the milk we drink? Did you know it takes 12 pounds of whole milk to make one gallon of ice cream? Did you know that some cows have holes in them? That's right, holes. They're called fistulas, and they are pretty darn cool.

It's a normal day at the farm for Teddy, the fistulated steer that is used by the Animal Science Program at Oregon State. Feeding time rolls around and Teddy comes into that barn with the other cows. His day is a little different than theirs, however, because today a group of students from Animal Science 121 are here to take a look at the inside of his stomach, or rather, his rumen. As most people know, cattle have one stomach with four chambers, the largest of these being the rumen. Teddy is special because he has a fistula: a hole in his side through which students and researchers can access the rumen for educational and nutritional studies.

A fistula allows researchers to place digestive material straight into the rumen, and then remove it a few days later to see how the rumen digests different types of organic material. A lot of the research going on with Teddy surrounds how cattle digest cellulose, a plant particle that humans and other monogastrics cannot digest. Other benefits of having a cow with a hole in its side include helping to optimize feeding, reduce nitrogen emissions, produce milk with more beneficial fat components, and to contribute to research that aims to reduce methane emissions from livestock.



But what about Teddy? What's it like to be a cow with a hole in your side? Must be pretty inconvenient, right? Not really. The fistulas are inserted once the animals are fully grown, and the procedure is done, of course, very carefully and painlessly. This procedure can be done to all ruminants, but is usually only used in cattle and sheep. Once the fistula is in place, it causes no discomfort to the animals, and they lead normal, cow-like lives. You know, munching on grass, lying in the sun, burping methane, all in a day's work. Teddy has even figured out how to one-up the students and researchers who work with him. He has figured out how to—at just the right moment when the researcher is reaching his hand into the rumen to extract materials—cough, and send rumen fluid flying out at a projectile speed. Talk about a different kind of shower.

The main concern for Teddy's

caregivers is to make sure that the fistula doesn't leak, and that the plug that protects it doesn't come out. The bacteria that live in the rumen need to be in a consistent anaerobic environment, which means that they don't like oxygen, or rather, oxygen kills them. Therefore, Teddy is monitored closely by the Animal Care Committee and given veterinary attention when needed. His care also follows guidelines set by the Alack Agency for Lab Animals. Teddy's not the only one in town who is helping students learn about his species; cows at the Van Beek Dairy are also doing their part, but in a little different way.

A group of second and third year students at the Oregon State University School of Veterinary Medicine have started a new team with goals of competing in an interesting kind of competition in Fort Collins, Colorado: bovine palpation. Every

year the Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) puts on a symposium in which teams from all over the US compete. This year, the symposium will be held at Colorado State University from March 20 to 22, and for the first time Oregon State will be represented. The team of 14 members meets every week and each week one member presents a different topic related to reproduction in cattle. Then on Saturdays they visit the local dairy and practice their palpation skills firsthand.

The competition is judged in two phases. The first is a written test that covers the material presented by each of the members during the year. The students must pass this exam before they can move on to the actual palpation phase. In the palpation phase, the participants are judged on how quickly they can palpate a female cow and report whether she is pregnant, and if she is, how far along in the pregnancy she is. The judges have precise records of the breeding dates of the cows, and they place the teams based on the accuracy of their predictions.

Of course this begs the question: Why? According to members on the team, they have a passion for food animal medicine and reproduction in general. They say it is really fun, and is a nice break from studying in which you are still learning something. The team has to pay for attending the competition themselves, so they are looking for sponsors and donations. Contact Nikki Fadden for details, contact the cows for milk, and contact Teddy for a good rumen shower; all of them would be happy to help. Got milk?



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by Addie Maguire

LOCAL MUSICIAN: MAHOGANY DRIFTWOOD

Adam Larson Shares Stories in Song



by Maria Brown

SAY HELLO TO THE RED FOX

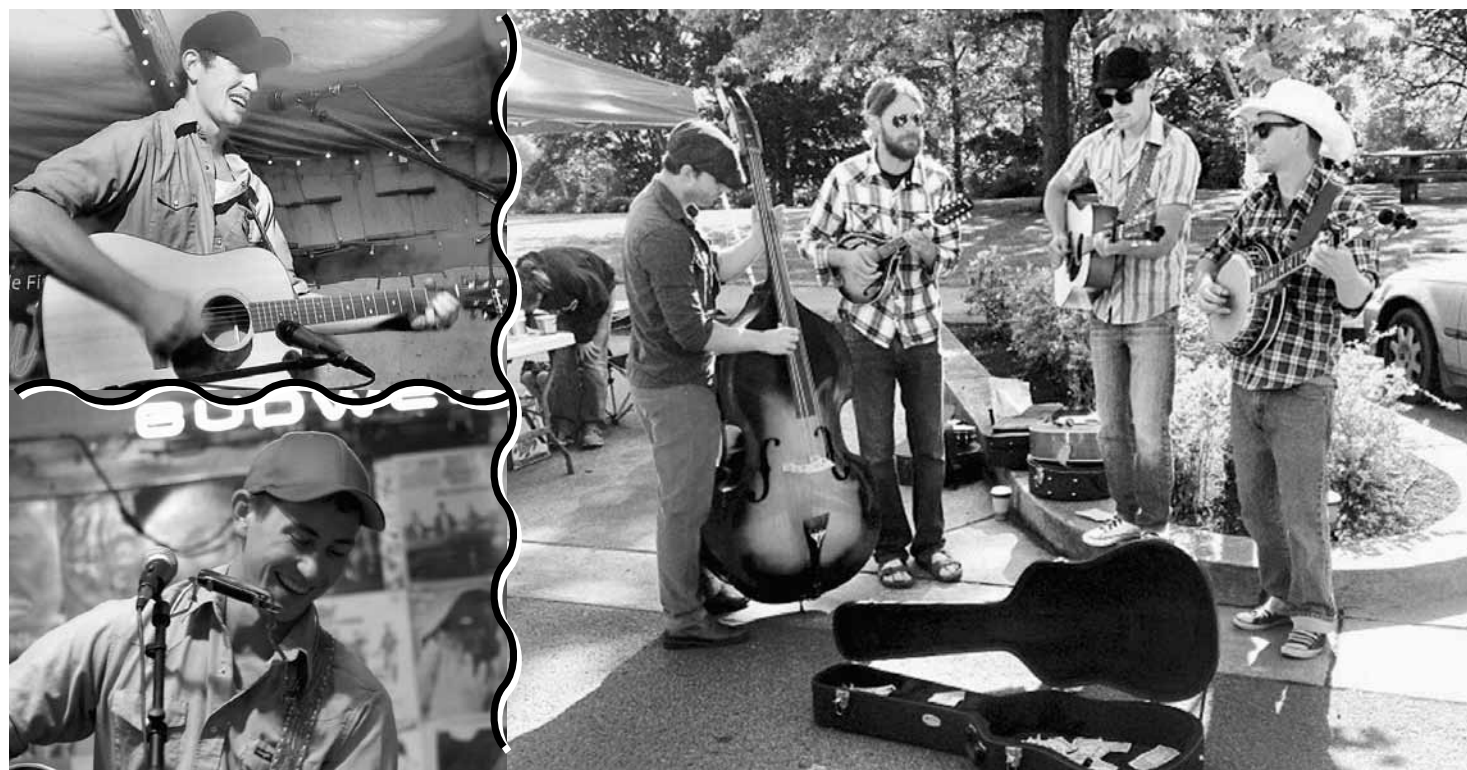
Local Restaurateur
to Launch Near-
Campus Café

Cloud Davidson, owner of Cloud and Kelly's Public House and its adjacent neighbor Downward Dog, is getting ready to open his third venture in Corvallis, this time next to the OSU campus.

The Red Fox Café, opening where the Brew Station used to be, will indeed retain the outdoor patio seating—a common, almost frighteningly panicked question Davidson hears often. And yes, he does have an affinity for animal names. With a menu similar to his downtown locations, students and non-students alike will be confronted with a smattering of delectable food and drink items.

Excited about the new location, Davidson wants to see Monroe blossom into a veritable orchard of delicious and exciting food options for students.

"In my experience, downtown in the last eight years I was one of a couple; now I'm one of many," he says. "I remember when I went to OSU there was nothing on OSU campus. I've been to a lot of campuses and they have a legendary strip next to them. That's what I envision. It's not just me doing it—I'm just a part of the process."



Local singer-songwriter Adam Larson, stage name Mahogany Driftwood, played for a welcoming crowd Jan. 17 at Dock 22. Bringing back storytelling to folk music, his style is easy-going with heartfelt lyrics and a personality to match. Playing prior to fellow singer-songwriter Frank Connor, Mahogany Driftwood performed his own originals along with some classics.

"He reminds me of John Prine [and Johnny Cash]," says James Wickman, a member of the audience. People are naturally attracted to Larson's music because it is largely a mix of hard work, hard times, and never lacks in humor.

The heart and soul of this one-man band, Larson stepped into this interview recalling his journey towards becoming a musician. Born in Colorado, he moved with his family as a youngster to Wyoming, eventually landing in Corvallis area, where he grew up. The road was a major part of his life and has influenced his work, perhaps especially the lyrics, which are rootsy, human and full of storytelling. Songwriting and music run in his

family and so it all came quite naturally to this songsmith who was rhyming words before he could even read.

When asked about his offbeat stage name, he said that it centered around the root and paradox of a musician. Larson explained that "mahogany" is a fancier wood, while "driftwood" is a wood that has seen better days. Songwriting and music run in his family and came naturally to this storyteller who was rhyming words before he could even read.

Larson recollects the best moment thus far in his career as having opened for Colin Woekil and Mudpuppy at Cloud and Kelly's in downtown Corvallis, back in 2011. Having achieved the goal of opening for a well-known band, Larson was spurred on to continue writing and playing. Of course, with the good comes the bad—his worst moment was taking to the road, playing on the deserted streets of Boise, Idaho for three hours and walking away with 10 cents in the tip jar.

When asked how he would describe himself, Adam just grins and says,

"Unfortunately positive." Hard times and moving on are the main themes to his songs, although he always seems to end on a happier note.

"I love interacting with people," Larson laughs. "I'll write songs about people I just met on the street."

His future in music seemed to really appear in front of him about a year ago when people started asking him about his music after his shows. Selling songs and continuing to perform are in his current plans, along with regular shows at Cloud and Kelly's, Dock 22, and other venues.

With music that brings back the raw edge popular country music is severely lacking, Mahogany Driftwood consistently puts on a great show.

Mahogany Driftwood will play with the Grange Hall Drifters at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25 at Squirrel's Tavern in downtown Corvallis. For more, visit www.MahoganyDriftWood.com or www.ReverbNation.com/mahoganydriftwood.

Picks of the Week

Open House Party

THE VUE. 517 SW 2ND ST., CORVALLIS. THURSDAY, JAN. 23 5 – 7 P.M.

Go to the Vue's Open House After-hours Party and enjoy a cocktail and some tasty bites with them as they celebrate the perfect marriage between Forks and Corks Catering and the Vue. Been looking to get out for some quality food and drink? This is your chance.

Corvallis Swing and Blues Weekend

CORVALLIS. FRIDAY, JAN. 24, ALL DAY.

Join Corvallis Swing and Blues for three nights of dancing and live music in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. This is a dance weekend in the grand tradition of Lindy and blues exchanges, with equal parts blues and swing dancing. You're invited to visit our town and celebrate. For complete information and to RSVP, visit www.SwingAndBlues.org. \$50.

2014 Lunafest Film Festival.

LA SELLS STEWART CENTER, 875 SW 26TH ST., CORVALLIS. SATURDAY, JAN. 25, 7 – 9:30 P.M.

Lunafest is a traveling film festival of award-winning short films by, for and about women. This season their program of nine films – filled with stories of reflection, hope and humor – will travel to over 150 cities and screen in front of 25,000 people. Each year, various organizations bring Lunafests to their communities and raise funds for their local non-profits as well as Lunafest's main beneficiary: Breast Cancer Fund.

Jim Malcolm

THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF THE MAJESTIC THEATRE, 115 SOUTHWEST 2ND ST., CORVALLIS. WEDNESDAY, JAN. 29 7:30 P.M.

Jim Malcolm performs award-winning original songs, traditional ballads and the works of Robert Burns, with guitar and harmonicas. He's Scotland's Songwriter of the Year in 2004 and three-times nominated for Scots Singer of the Year. Jim Malcolm's concerts are like a musical tour through Scotland's landscape and history, with humor his constant companion. \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door.

calendar of events

1/23-1/30

Thursday

23

Vinyasa Flow Yoga at Downtown Dance. 223 NW 2nd St., Corvallis. Noon – 12:50 p.m. Cost: \$7. For info, call 541-829-0070 or visit www.DowntownDanceCorvallis.com.

Beer Tastings at First Alternative North. 2855 NW Grant Ave., Corvallis. 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Open House Party at the Vue. 517 SW 2nd St., Corvallis. 5 – 7 p.m. Go to the Vue's Open House After-Hours Party and enjoy a cocktail and some tasty bites with them as they celebrate the perfect marriage between Forks and Corks Catering and the Vue.

Changing the Game with Community Rights.

Westminster House, 101 NW 23rd St., Corvallis. 6 – 9 p.m. This three-hour mini Democracy School led by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF.org) will provide a snapshot of how the corporate dominated, state-assisted structure operates today, what it looks like when we seek remedy for our communities, and what communities are doing to change the rules of the game to the benefit of the health, resiliency, and greater democracy for communities, people, family farmers, workers, neighborhoods, and nature.

2014 Ava Helen and Linus Pauling Memorial Peace Lecture.

Milam Auditorium, 2520 SW Campus Way, Corvallis. 7 p.m. Topic: "The Seeds of Peace Tomorrow

Are in the Children of Today." John Hunter, master teacher and creator of the World Peace Game, will share the subtle mechanics of his geopolitical simulation, how it has for 35 years proved to be a successful interdisciplinary classroom tool, and why now his work has been hailed as a tool for peace by institutions ranging from the US Pentagon to the United Nations.

Funk Jam at Bombs Away Café. 2527 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 8 p.m.

Emmett Williams at Cloud & Kelly's Public House. 126 SW 1st St., Corvallis. 9 p.m.

Ladies' Night Featuring DJ H-Ram & Josh Soto at Impulse Bar and Grill. 1425 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

Buckin' Thursday Western Night at Jack Okole's Bar & Grill. 140 NW 3rd St., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

Friday

24

Corvallis Swing and Blues Weekend. Participating venues, Corvallis. All day. Join Corvallis Swing and Blues for three nights of dancing and live music in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. This is a dance weekend in the grand tradition of Lindy and blues exchanges, with equal parts blues and swing dancing. Cost: \$50. For info or to RSVP, visit

www.SwingAndBlues.org.

Music à la Carte: Michael Bevington and Brian Wilson Trombone Duo. Memorial Union, 2501 SW Jefferson Way, Corvallis. Noon – 12:45 p.m.

Wine Tastings at First Alternative South. 1007 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

CHS Variety Show at Imagine Coffee Live Arts. 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. 7 p.m. Benefit for Zonta.

Jesse Meade at FireWorks Restaurant. 1115 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 8 p.m.

Hip-Hop Night at Jack Okole's Bar & Grill. 140 NW 3rd St., Corvallis. 10 p.m.


Tim Karplus Band at Cloud & Kelly's Public House. 126 SW 1st St., Corvallis. 10:30 p.m.

The Hunks and the Hottie at Bombs Away Café. 2527 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

Saturday

25

Corvallis Swing and Blues Weekend. Participating venues, Corvallis. All day. Join Corvallis Swing and Blues for three nights of dancing and live music in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. This is a


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1/24	CHS Variety Show to benefit Zonta, 7-9pm	Every Monday: Bryson Skaar, piano, 7:30-9pm
1/25	Mango Django, 7:30-9pm	Every Tuesday: Celtic Jam, 7pm
1/31	River Rocks, 7:30-9pm	Every Saturday: James Warren, Story Time for kids, 10am

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dance weekend in the grand tradition of Lindy and blues exchanges, with equal parts blues and swing dancing. Cost: \$50. For info or to RSVP, visit www.SwingAndBlues.org.

Corvallis Indoor Winter Market. Guerber Hall, Benton County Fairgrounds, 110 SW 53rd St., Corvallis. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Corvallis Indoor Winter Market offers fresh produce, dairy products, meats, crafts, and more. Stop in for locally produced goods from almost three dozen different vendors and live music every Saturday.

James Warren, Story Time for Kids at Imagine Coffee Live Arts. 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. 10 a.m.

Corvallis Climate Summit. First United Methodist Church Community Center, 1166 NW Jackson Ave., Corvallis. 2:30 – 5 p.m. Learn about what climate projects are already happening in Corvallis, envision innovative ways forward, and spark new alliances and collaborations. Open to anyone who is interested in finding ways to work together on climate change. For info, visit www.350Corvallis.org.

Elementary Strings Winter Concert. Corvallis High School PAC, 1400 NW Buchanan Ave. 3 – 4 p.m. Elementary Strings is one of the Corvallis Youth Symphony's many programs. Cost: \$3 at the door. For info, call 541-766-4903 or visit www.cysassoc.org.

2014 Lunafest Film Festival. LaSells Stewart Center, 875 SW 26th St., Corvallis. 7 – 9:30 p.m. Lunafest is a traveling film festival of award-winning short films by, for, and about women. This season their program of nine films – filled with stories of reflection, hope, and humor – will

travel to over 150 cities and screen in front of 25,000 people. Each year, various organizations bring Lunafests to their communities and raise funds for their local non-profits as well as Lunafest's main beneficiary, the Breast Cancer Fund.

Casey Joyce at FireWorks Restaurant. 1115 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 7 p.m.

10-Minute Play in a Day. Majestic Theatre, 115 SW 2nd St., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m. Local playwrights spend a day writing and rehearsing a 10-minute play to be performed the next evening. For info or to participate, visit www.Majestic.org.

Mango Django at Imagine Coffee Live Arts. 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m.

The Svens at Cloud & Kelly's Public House. 126 SW 1st St., Corvallis. 10 p.m. Cost: \$5.

Blackflowers Blacksun and Mudpuppy at Bombs Away Café. 2527 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

Sunday 26

Corvallis Swing and Blues Weekend. Participating venues, Corvallis. All day. Join Corvallis Swing and Blues for three nights of dancing and live music in the heart of Oregon's Willamette Valley. This is a dance weekend in the grand tradition of Lindy and blues exchanges, with equal parts blues and swing dancing. Cost: \$50. For info or to RSVP, visit www.SwingAndBlues.org.

Sunday Matinee Stitching. Stash, 110 SW 3rd St., Corvallis. 1 – 4 p.m. Bring a knitting or crochet project

or your spinning wheel and socialize with other fiber enthusiasts.

DIY Herbal Series: Making Infused Oils, Salves & Balms. Co-op Community Meeting Room, 1007 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 1:30 – 3 p.m. Learn to make simple and safe medicinal oils, salves, and balms with kitchen ingredients and local or home-grown herbs. These external preparations can be used for decadent head-to-toe pampering as well as for dealing with physical ailments. Each participant is sent home with a jar of salve and a bottle of infused oil co-created in class. Cost: \$18 (\$15 for co-op owners).

Relax and Recharge at Willamette Wellness Center. 6735 SW Country Club Dr., Corvallis. 5 – 6 p.m. Learn various meditation techniques to maintain good health, increase concentration, and reduce stress. Guaranteed to leave you centered and relaxed. For info, call 971-218-6798 or visit <https://sites.google.com/site/carolynschechtman>.

Majestic Readers Theatre. The Majestic Theatre, 115 SW 2nd St., Corvallis. 7 p.m. The Majestic Readers Theatre Company offers high quality staged readings on the last Sunday of every month. The Company will offer a production in the "reader's theater" style: trained actors, with scripts in hand, make the play come alive through vocal talent, facial expressions, and minimal staging. Reader's theater plays are a fun, accessible way to experience contemporary works by famous modern playwrights that might not otherwise be performed here. Cost: \$6 to \$8.

Cloud Mountain Ramblers at FireWorks Restaurant. 1115 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 7 p.m.

Monday

Bryson Skaar at Imagine Coffee Live Arts. 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m.

Southtown Performer Spotlight. FireWorks Restaurant, 1115 SE 3rd St., Corvallis. 9 p.m. Free admission with \$2 purchase.

Tuesday


Gearing Up for Gardening. 645 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. Noon – 1 p.m. Topic: "Shady Characters: Drought-Tolerant Plants for Shade." Tried and true plants for that difficult garden spot. Free. Bring lunch.

'Healing Landscapes: Wellness and Place in Coastal Salish Religious Life.' Memorial Union Journey Room, 2501 SW Jefferson Way, Corvallis. 7 – 9 p.m. This Hundere Lecture with Suzanne O'Brien explores the way in which places serve as sources for healing within Coast Salish cultures, and how Coast Salish people are, in turn, working to heal landscapes, restore native plants and animals, and build spaces for health and wholeness within their communities.

Celtic Jam at Imagine Coffee Live Arts. 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Timba Tuesday at Impulse Bar & Grill. 1425 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m. Join the Rumbanana Salsa Group every Tuesday night after Rumbanana's classes at Impulse. They'll be playing the best Timba, with a hint of Reggaeton and Bachata. Under 21 allowed until 9 p.m. No cover.

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Ongoing January Events

'Cool Tools!' Exhibit. Benton County Museum, 1101 Main St., Philomath. Runs through 2014. The exhibit features tools of regional and national significance from the workshop, laboratory, farm, field, and home. Informational labels are available on touch-screen computers or your smartphone. Visitors see the surveying tools used by Oregon pioneer Joseph C. Avery to lay out the town of Marysville in 1851, a theodolite used to survey Lake Superior in 1869, and a chainsaw that might be the largest you've ever seen. For info, call 541-929-6230 or visit www.bentoncountymuseum.org.

Pastel Painting Exhibit: 'Broken Color.' Springfield City Hall Gallery, 255 N 5th St., Springfield. Runs through Jan. 31. Regular gallery hours: Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday,

noon to 5 p.m.; Sundays, closed. Features Purely Pastel Artists from the lower Willamette Valley: Anna Horrigan, Gladys Bacon, Germaine Hammon, Joy Descoteaux, Marianne Post, and Kate McGee. For info, call Kate McGee at 541-232-2435 or visit www.springfieldartscommission.org/cityhall_gallery.html.

'Revelations in Paint and Glass.' Imagine Coffee, 5460 SW Philomath Blvd., Corvallis. Runs through Feb. 1. Hours are Monday to Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. An exhibit of paintings and mosaics of local artists.

'Artifacts & Incidents.' Fairbanks Gallery at OSU, 220 SW 26th St., Corvallis. Runs through Feb. 5. Hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An exhibit of photography by Nicole Jean Hill.

Corvallis Culinary Week.

Participating restaurants, Corvallis. Runs through Jan. 25. Top chefs show off their talents by offering chef's specialty plates for \$10. Paired with the perfect Benton County wine (not included in price), the meal becomes a feast for the senses. From Northwest to Asian fusion and Latin cuisine, there's something for every taste. For info, visit www.CorvallisCulinaryWeek.com.

'The Big Subject: Landscape Painting in the 21st Century.'

The Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. Runs Jan. 24 through Feb. 27. Noon to 5 p.m. Sandy Roumagoux and Kendra Larson feature in this two-person show with contemporary landscape paintings. For info, visit <http://theartscenter.net/>.

Wednesday

29

Zumba! at Downtown Dance. 223 NW 2nd St., Corvallis. 9:30 – 10:20 a.m. Cost: \$7. For info, call 541-829-0070 or visit www.DowntownDanceCorvallis.com.

OSUsed Store's Afternoon Sale. 644 SW 13th St., Corvallis. Noon – 3 p.m. The OSUsed Store opens for its first weekly afternoon public sale after being closed for two weeks. The sale includes many items – furniture, computers and computer accessories, sporting goods, bicycles, household items, and more. For info, visit <http://surplus.oregonstate.edu>.

Cheap Night at Darkside Cinema. 215 SW 4th St., Corvallis. Wednesday is Cheap Night at Darkside. Cost: \$6 for all shows. Bring your own container for discounted prices on popcorn.

Love Lightning at Cloud & Kelly's Public House. 126 SW 1st St., Corvallis. 7 p.m.

Miss Massive Snowflake and Rainstick Cowbell at Bombs Away Café. 2527 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m.

Jim Malcolm. The Community

Room of the Majestic Theatre, 115 SW 2nd St., Corvallis. 7:30 p.m. Jim Malcolm performs award-winning original songs, traditional ballads, and the works of Robert Burns with guitar and harmonicas. He's Scotland's Songwriter of the Year in 2004 and three-times nominated for Scots Singer of the Year. Jim Malcolm's concerts are like a musical tour through Scotland's landscape and history, with humor his constant companion. Cost: \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door.

Corvallis Belly Dance Guild Performance. Old World Deli, 341 SW 2nd St., Corvallis. 8 p.m.

Wednesday Acoustic Live at Les Caves Bier & Kitchen. 308 SW 3rd St., Corvallis. 8 – 10 p.m. Great local bands. No cover. Fine food and beer.

Thursday

30

Wine Tastings at First Alternative North. 2855 NW Grant Ave., Corvallis. 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Artist Reception: The Big Subject. The Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis. 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Join artists Sandy Roumagoux and Kendra Larson and other art patrons in celebration of Landscape Painting in the 21st Century.

Climate Change Conversations: Our Children's Trust – Protecting the Earth's Climate for Future Generations. Corvallis-Benton County Library, 645 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 7 p.m.

Lyrical Jazz at Downtown Dance. 223 NW 2nd St., Corvallis. 7:45 – 8:45 p.m. A technique class exploring the expressive and emotional side of contemporary jazz dance choreography. For info, call 541-829-0070 or visit www.DowntownDanceCorvallis.com.


Mahogany Driftwood, Frank Conner, and Steve Larson at Bombs Away Café. 2527 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 9 p.m.

The Weather Machine at Cloud & Kelly's Public House. 126 SW 1st St., Corvallis. 9 p.m.

Ladies' Night Featuring DJ H-Ram & Josh Soto at Impulse Bar and Grill. 1425 NW Monroe Ave., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

Buckin' Thursday Western Night at Jack Okole's Bar & Grill. 140 NW 3rd St., Corvallis. 10 p.m.

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Majestic Reader's Theater Company Presents...

STANDING ON CEREMONY: THE GAY MARRIAGE PLAYS

by Candy Smith

This Sunday, Jan. 26, the Majestic Reader's Theater Company will be presenting two performances of *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays* at 3 and 7 p.m. The show, which was conceived by Brian Shnipper, contains short scenes and monologues written by some of the greatest contemporary playwrights: Mo Gaffney, Jordan Harrison, Moisés Kaufman, Neil LaBute, Wendy MacLeod, José Rivera, Paul Rudnick, and Doug Wright.

Directed by Jane Donovan, it focuses on the comedic, poignant, and powerful experiences that have emerged with the rising tide of marriage equality around the world, focusing on the challenges that all relationships face, and the binding powers of love.

Johanna Spencer, an active member of the Majestic Reader's Theater Company, states that, "Reader's theater differs from other forms of theater because all actors carry scripts. They use their voice,

facial expression, and posture to convey emotion. Some small props and sound effects are used, but there is no set or backdrop. The imagination of the audience places the actors in a specific time and location. The reader's theater format gives Corvallis

a chance to attend contemporary works of famous modern playwrights."

In addition to the excellent source material, this performance stars local actors Jodi Altendorf, Ariel Ginsberg, Eric Nepom, Bryan Smith, Linda Spain, and Michael Winder, and promises to be a great show.

Tickets for this event are free, but the theater suggests reserving yours – call the box office at 541-738-7469. For more information on this show or upcoming shows (the Majestic Reader's Theater Company performs on the last Sunday of every month), go to: <http://majesticreaderstheater.wordpress.com>.



CROSSROADS FILM FESTIVAL

Six Great Films for a Great Cause

The 2014 Crossroads International Film Festival will be screening at the Darkside Cinema on all four Sundays in February.

Returning for its 8th incarnation, the festival gathers films from all over the world to raise money for Crossroads International Programs, which according to their promotional material "has promoted friendship and cultural sharing since 1969." Among other programs, they support a three-day home stay for visiting international students, a conversational English class for women and others.

The festival consists of six films chosen by Crossroads. Each Sunday three of the films will screen:

As it is in Heaven is the 2004 Swedish nominee for Best Foreign Film at the Oscars, about a successful conductor, played by *Dragon Tattoo* veteran and *MI4* bad guy du jour Michael Nyqvist, returning to his hometown.

English Vinglish is a 2012 family comedy

about an Indian housewife learning English secretly while on a trip to New York to visit her sister.



Hitler's Children is a documentary by Israeli filmmaker Chanoch Zeevi from 2011 which interviews descendants of Hitler's most notorious confederates, including Himmler and Goering. OSU professor Paul Kopperman will lead discussions after both screenings.

The Dish is a really fun Australian comedy from 2000 with Sam Neill and the great Patrick Warburton (Puddy from *Seinfeld*) about a NASA co-venture with the Australians in the 1960s.

Teddy Bear is a 2012 Danish drama about a bodybuilder seeking love in Thailand.

Chico & Rita is a 2010 animated love story set against the Cuban music scene in the 1940s.

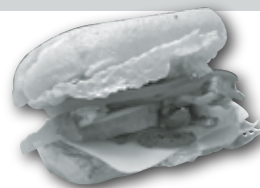
Tickets for the festival are available at the Darkside, \$6/film, or a Festival Passport for \$30.



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MULTI-FAIL

If Vladimir Putin Don't Dance, Then He Ain't No Friend of Mine

WHERE IS DA CLUB?

By Candy Smith

In a town where there are tens of thousands of 20-somethings looking for a good time, it seems absurd that we cannot sustain more than one dance club at a time. While some clubs have tried to succeed, the only one that has sustained itself for more than a few years at a time is Impulse Nightclub. While Impulse is very well positioned on the campus map, its ambience is one of horny men looking to grind, and walking up those stairs in heels is downright dangerous. While some bars in town have dance nights (Cloud and Kelly's, Jack Okole's, and the Peacock all have their nights), Corvallis needs a place for the whoo-hoo girls to go dance to Beyoncé any night of the week. It is a tremendous culture fail that Corvallis doesn't have another dance club for the youths to shake it.



In an attempt to go all bodyguard on his country's anti-gay laws, he blurted this turd of a statement out to the international community who, at this point, is barely even lifting an eyebrow. Russians need to "cleanse" themselves of homosexuals in order to get the "birth rate" up? There are plenty of homosexual men and women here in America and we're breeding like rabbits, so maybe the problem is that they just don't have enough reality television or greasy food. Wait, can you get pregnant from eating a Big Mac?

We can only hope that he'll dash out onto the slopes in a patriotic fit, shirt left far behind, and crack his head open in front of millions of people in the name of equality.

NO PRO FOOTBALL?

By Ygal Kaufman

Are you excited about the Seahawks? We live in Oregon. You should have your own in-state NFL team to root for.

We don't have the type of population that can support a pro sports team. Most here are (insanely) happy to follow college sports. But for transplants like me, and many here, it's hard to have to call a team in a city five hours away your "home team." Even for those born and raised around here, you'll often hear people say they root for the Forty Niners. Seattle doesn't quite have the market cornered. And as you move south, the jerseys turn red and gold pretty fast. Portland will sooner have a pro Quidditch team than a football team (spare me the, "They already have a futbol team!" routine, commie).

The only solution is a regional squad (like the Golden State Warriors or the New England Patriots), representing the Pacific Northwest corridor (stopping at Washington). The Beaver State Loggers perhaps? The Northwest Corridor Lumberjacks? The Oregon Valley Redskins? What? The name will probably be available soon... It's a sign of respect!

THE BENEFITS OF BEING FIRST LADY

by Addie Maguire

In December 2013, Cylvia Hayes, partner of Governor Kitzhaber, tried to use an Oregon State Police parking pass to park her Prius in downtown Portland illegally. In Oregon, it is a Class C felony to use law enforcement identification fraudulently. Granted, Hayes probably uses the pass for other reasons, like getting into crime scenes or making citizen arrests on people driving fossil fuel cars, of course. But, to use it to park in downtown Portland on personal business? Howabout, no.

VLAD THE IMPREGNATOR

by Johnny Beaver

Of all the stupid things Vladimir Putin has said and done, from riding the mythical unicorn to throwing protestors in prison for speaking their minds and wrestling wild grizzly bears shirtless, equating pedophiles to homosexuals is, sadly, only the newest of the bunch.

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