Many Eugenians know Emily Semple as a SLUG Queen, others as a graphic designer, and still others as a mother of two and a good neighbor. Occupiers knew her as Brave Beatrice, a staunch member of Occupy Eugene who has supported countless members in their actions and who successfully sued the Federal govern- ment to protect the rights of citizens to protest. Soon, the citizens of Eugene will know her as Councilor Semple of Eugene’s First Ward.

“I never really gave it much thought,” said Emily. “George Brown was my counselor and I was very happy with his voting record and the way he represented Ward One.”

But then George Brown decided to retire from council. Several candidates had already declared for the seat, but Brown found them unsatisfactory. He was delighted when Emily stopped by the Kiva to talk with him about running. “I endorse her wholeheartedly and without reserva- tion,” he said. In addition to George Brown’s endorsement, progressive stalwarts Betty Taylor and Pete Sorrenson have also endorsed Semple. When she decided to run, Semple found herself in the middle of several controversial issues. One issue that spoke ur- gently to Semple was the proposal to sell Kesey Square to private developers who would then build condos with taxpayer subsidies. “This was one close to my heart,” said Semple. “It was when I read Kesey’s book Sometimes A Great Notion as a teenager in New York that I first began to dream of moving to Oregon.” Also, “Kesey Square is the last remaining public property where it is legal to occupy our First Amendment right to peaceful assembly and free speech.”

Semple also distinguishes herself by opposing MUPTE, the tax subsidy program that has given Eugene the Capstone proj- ect and other unneeded and unsuccessful developments at public expense.

Environmental issues play a key role in her campaign. Semple declares herself against the expansion of Eugene’s Urban Growth Boundary. “We have very fertile farmland in Eu- gene, and it is going to be increasingly valuable as the climate changes.” Semple also chided the city staff for dragging its feet in finding ways to enact the Climate Recovery Ordinance passed by City Council, and has suggested that Eugene explore the idea of having free bus rides.

Voters reacted with enthusiasm to her campaign, as a coal- ition of neighborhood groups, progressives and environmen- talists voted for her. With four opponents who were declared first, but didn’t get the fifty percent needed to be the outright victor so she faces one remaining candidate in November.

“Will be a tough race,” Semple said. “When the Register- Guard admitted my last opponent outspent me by three-to- one but came in second,” the voters of Ward One will decide their next councilor, not the Chamber of Commerce — who endorsed the other candidate.

“We have a broad coalition and all are welcome. This cam- paign is about making sure our neighbors in Ward One have their voices heard at council.”

Anyone interested in helping out in this fall’s campaign should visit www.emilysemple.org.

Welcome to the new issue of Occupy Eugene’s newsletter! We hope you enjoy our articles and find a place to join Occupy Eugene in our efforts to bring about our vision. If you are looking for a way to get involved please visit: http://occupyeugenemedia.org/volunteer/

WWW.OCUPPEUGENEMEDIA.ORG
A Review of Pixar-Disney's “Inside Out”

Dave Ivan Piccioni

Pixar-Disney films use high-quality images generated using Renderman software. I recently watched the movie “Inside Out.” As part of our “Trauma Therapy” I participated in. Not only was the quality of this “cartoon” excellent, but it's content was that of a graduate level psychology course. The story of Riley, an 11-year-old girl who moves from Minnesota to San Francisco with her mom and dad. It describes her trauma and later on, her healing. The characters in this story are the girl’s emotions personified: Joy, Sadness, Anger and some imaginary friends. The local community drama which is buried beneath the emotions contains difficulties such as fears, nightmares and other obstacles in ways learned by humans along their evolutionary path. Directing everything from “headquarters” are the core cartoons. These personages cannot stand any other situations as well as a Riley’s dreams and nightmares.

Memories are depicted as crystal marbles where images and other sensory materials are stored. A cleanup crew whose purpose is to “trash” the memories which may be unuseful or create a dangerous situation. As some very important pieces of Riley’s psyche, some of her “core memories,” start being tossed into the “dark hole” of her subconscious mind. When this happens, pieces that make up the central part of her personality get mixed up with unimportant psychic material such as TV commercials and memories of lesser value.

A major gift this presentation gives the viewer is recognition of parts of the personality which everyday people take for granted in our society.
Philip L. Gregory, one of the lead attorneys for the plaintiffs, stands surrounded by people of all ages on the steps of the Federal Courthouse in Eugene.

**Kids' Climate Case Heads Back to Court**

**Youth v. United States Climate Case to be heard in Eugene September 13**

**By Our Children's Trust**

U.S. District Court Judge Ann Aiken scheduled oral argument for youths' landmark climate lawsuit for Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. in Eugene. The 21 young plaintiffs received a favorable decision in their case brought against the federal government and fossil fuel industry from U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas Coffin back in April. Now they are looking forward to their next opportunity to appear in court to fight for climate justice.

"I am excited that Judge Aiken is interested in hearing our oral argument this September," said plaintiff Kiran Oommen, a 19-year-old from Eugene. "The U.S. government's continued support of the fossil fuel industry, despite the obvious high risks, is hurting people all the time and it's getting worse. With incidents like the oil train derailment and . . . disaster in Mosier, OR, this month, we can see the direct negative consequences of the government's blatant disregard for the health and safety of our children."

Oommen further speaks to the larger case at hand, "Similar cases across the country and in other cases this last case lasts, the greater the evidence will be condemning their actions."

"We look forward to the opportunity to argue this case before Judge Aiken," said Julian Leavitt, one of the plaintiffs and executive director of Our Children's Trust. "These brave young climate advocates appear in court, with the treasured public support we anticipate for this September 13 hearing, the better. This is another chance to tell the egregious story of this case: that for more than 50 years our government has exploited fossil fuels, hand in hand with industry, knowing that it would destroy our climate system and the healthy futures for these young people. We are eager to show the court how these youth's fundamental constitutional rights are being infringed."

The plaintiffs sued the federal government for violating their constitutional rights to life, liberty and property, and their right to essential public trust resources, by permitting, encouraging, and otherwise enabling continued exploitation, production, and combustion of fossil fuels. The case is one of multiple related legal actions brought by youth in several states and countries, all supported by Our Children's Trust, seeking science-based action by governments to stabilize the climate system. Recently, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and the King County Superior Court in Seattle, Washington, also ruled in favor of youth in related actions.

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**Commissioners Attempt to Keep the People at Bay**

The Lane County Commission is considering a proposed ordinance that would give elected officials a stronghold on the people’s local initiative process. Let’s be clear: the initiative and referendum power belongs to the people free from government interference, as recognized by the Oregon Constitution. The people have fought to ensure this constitutional protection is respected by the state Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The Commissioners proposed meddling with the people’s initiative is patently unconstitutional.

The Oregon Constitution has taken a sudden interest in interfering with the people’s law-making powers.

Because Lane County residents are now circulating three initiatives to protect Lane County residents’ health, safety, and the environment, the Commissioners areLexer-trying to stop these initiatives by defunding the people’s local initiative process. The people are demanding to use this constitutional right to hold our government officials accountable, and recognizing our legal authority to make these decisions in our own community. With enough qualifying signatures, these initiatives will appear on county ballots; but if the people’s law-making powers are defunded, this process is over.

Two of the initiatives ban corporations from engaging in industrial activities that harm local residents and the environment. One bans the aerial spraying of herbicides, the other bans the use of GMOs in agriculture, recognizing residents’ rights to our free food system.

The third initiative recognizes the people’s broader authority to write and pass local laws that would recognize residents’ rights to health, safety, and welfare; ban industrial harms; and prevent corporations from throwing out the people’s laws. In a failed effort to stop this initiative, a farm and forest industry group recently lost a prolonged legal challenge in the Lane County Circuit Court (Case No. 16CV28768) that asked the court that the initiative was not ‘of concern to the County.’

The court ruled that the question of whether or not an initiative addresses a ‘matter of county concern’ cannot be decided pre-election, only post-enactment. This principle applies to the County Commission as well.

But did the Commissioners take note of this? No. Undeterred, the Commission has directed County Counsel, paid by the taxpayers, to revise a proposed ordinance committed to the Commissioners by a forest industry group in order to defund the people’s local initiative process.

Jay Bozievich continues to profess concerns about county funds wasted to advance “unconstitutional initiatives.” This is a transparent pandering to a reason why we are not permitted to vote on local issues. The real defense of the Commission is not to save the initiative process from the people, but to save the people’s law-making powers from being co-opted by corporate interests.

In reality, along the yardstick of political thought, we are not fighting over the right to escape from the people’s law-making powers. Rather, we are fighting over the right to be taxed.

The more these brave young climate advocates appear in court, with the tremendous public support we anticipate for this September hearing, the better. This is another chance to tell the story of this case: that for more than 50 years our government has exploited fossil fuels, hand in hand with industry, knowing that it would destroy our climate system and the healthy futures for these young people. We are eager to show the court how these youth’s fundamental constitutional rights are being infringed.

From the outside among America’s allies and victims, our duopoly is easily recognizable — one side is hell-bent on attacking our imperium. The Monroe Doctrine defined the Western Hemisphere as our empire. Manifest Destiny encouraged the US to bring our corporatocracy, our power to govern, to all lands with the greatest possible violence. We have subsequently assumed dominion over Central and South America, the Caribbean, the Middle East. We now have a military presence in 175 countries.

OPINION: We Need a Moral and Realistic Third Party

From the inside, America’s presidential elections are treated as urgently consequential, as if Democrats and Republicans represent polar extremes with the soul of America hanging in the balance. In reality, along the yardstick of political thought, they are about an inch and a half apart, located the right-hand end, and with no trace of soul.

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Why the slaughter?

By Larry Leverone

Killings based on hatred of sexual orientation. Killings based on untreated mental illness. Killings based purely on disruption of teachings of faith. Killings based on service what can help?

We need progress on many fronts: Accepting our jobs. Education within the reach of all. Religious things are good. Reasonable gun safety regulations. Acceptance of mental health care. Increased respect for the rule of law. Wise and honorable leadership.

If there is to be a diminishing of this constant human carnage across our land, many more of us can no longer remain detached, silent, or uninvolved. The outpouring of grief, sorrow, anger, frustration, caring, or calls for action can no longer occur only after recent tragedies like those that happened in Dallas, Minnesota, Orlando, Newtown, Baton Rouge, Charleston, San Bernardino, Boston, NY, Colorado Springs, Sanford, Aurora and so many more places across this country.


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or Change

Killings based on hatred or fear of race. Killings based on the seeking of fame or glory. Killings based on corrup-

Why the slaughter?

The outpouring of grief, sorrow, anger, frustration only after recent tragedies like those that happened in Parkland, Florida, Sanford, Sanford, Aurora and so many more places across this country.

In Dallas, Minnesota, Orlando, Newtown, Baton Rouge, Charleston, San Bernardino, Boston, NY, Colorado, and with loud and reasoned voices. Those of us on the brink of despair must hold onto hope and hold on to brief speeches, the mourners planted their photographs in the ground, creating a sea of lost men, women, and children.

July 8 — Rally and March for Lost Black Lives

Over 300 people, including both UO students and local residents, gathered at the EMU Amphitheater for a memorial for Philando Castile and Alton Sterling, two black men recently killed by police. Pastor Kim McGrew of Eugene led a prayer and a moment of silence and asked the crowd to remain peaceful and non-confrontational. The crowd, carrying large photographs of black people who have been killed at the hands of police since Trayvon Martin’s death in 2012, later marched from the EMU to Agate and 13th. After listening to brief speeches, the mourners planted their photographs in the ground, creating a sea of lost men, women, and children.

July 21 — Movement for Black Lives Rally and March

Showing Up for Racial Justice and Community Alliance of Lane County encouraged Eugene activists to respond to a national call to action by the Movement for Black Lives. At least 200 people of all ages and races responded with a rally that began at the Lane County Jail and marched to Kesey Square. The website of the Movement for Black Lives begins: “Guided by love, we continue to stand together for justice, human dignity and our shared goal of ending all forms of state violence against Black people.”

WWW.OCCUPYEUGEN MEDIA.ORG
The courageous and talented American Indian movement leader John Trudell died on December 8, 2015. Trudell's gift for words had propelled him to the forefront of the 1969 Alcatraz occupation but his imagined threat to the colonial masters led to tragic ends. Once, “Historically speaking, we were from being Indians to pagans to savages to hostages to militants to activists to Native Americans. It's 500 years later and they still can't see us. We are still invisible.”

Born in 1946 to a Santee Dakota father and Mexican mother, Trudell grew up on the Santee Sioux reservation in northern Nebraska, a tiny fragment of Sioux lands that once spread across what today is the states of Minnesota and North Dakota. In his 1868 treaty with the Sioux that gave American Indians the right to unfettered property on Indian land, demanded the right to live where their ancestors were, as a cultural and educational center, Trudell conducted news conferences, delivered regular “Radio Free Alcatraz” broadcasts, and rejected any government approach to Alcatraz that curtailed habeas corpus or regular “Radio Free Alcatraz” broadcasts, and rejected any government approach to Alcatraz that curtailed habeas corpus or rights of litigants. It’s 500 years later and we have created a mass incarceration of Native Americans that is comparable to the British Crown’s destruction of the indigenous societies we treated with contempt. Chronic illnesses and accidents are far more frequent among people who are homeless than among the housed, and it has been estimated that people who are homeless die on average twenty years earlier than people who have housing.

The pressures are building for the Eugene City Council to re-examine the no-camping ordinance and the harm it does. The U.S. Department of Justice recently filed a brief in a case against Eugene that has drawn national attention. The ordinance allows exceptions but only in the case of emergency situations. This is in lieu of simply sweeping camps, dispersing their residents, and leaving them with no choice but to illegally camp again elsewhere, which is what happens in Eugene.

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Eugene is at a crossroads. Do we want to spend taxpayer money on unsuccessful attempts to eradicate homelessness or do we want to understand the social, economic, and medical reasons for it? We need to spend money wisely and fairly.

Eugene also stands to lose federal grants if it continues its criminalization policy. Eugene is vulnerable to being the subject of such a suit and the City Council does not seem concerned. Eugene’s approximately 3,000 people who are homeless are unsheltered on any given night due to insufficient shelter beds. Eugene’s no-camping ordinance is again being challenged in court due to the Supreme Court’s 2015 decision in the case of Hawaii v. Trump. The ordinance allows exceptions but only in the case of emergency situations. This is in lieu of simply sweeping camps, dispersing their residents, and leaving them with no choice but to illegally camp again elsewhere, which is what happens in Eugene.

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Eugene also stands to lose federal grants if it continues its criminalization policy. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has begun to ask questions about what recipients of HUD funds granted to fight homelessness in Lane County are doing to eliminate criminalization and how they are protecting the rights of homeless people who are or have been in the criminal justice system.

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Springfield Bans Panhandling Under Guise of Traffic Safety
By Teresa Williams

This past April, Springfield City Council held a vote on an ordinance that would fine motorists for transferring cash or other items to panhandlers within city limits. A couple dozen people arrived for public forum, with 14 slated to speak against the ordinance versus two to speak in support. At the previous session, 9 out of 10 spoke against the proposal. Despite the pleas and arguments made by those in opposition, the ordinance passed 4-1, with Ward 2 councilor Hillary Wyble being the single dissenting voice. Eyes swelled with tears and activists and advocates gathered outside council chambers to decried and discuss how to overcome this defeat.

The anti-panhandling ordinance was passed under the guise of traffic safety and Council stuck to their story throughout the session. That the City of Springfield was coming from a place of true concern for safety on the roads was obvious. But there were a multitude of reasons.

When the ordinance was originally proposed, it included a provision for fining the panhandler $50 in addition to fining the motorist for violating the code. Across the country, courts have declared panhandling to be “freedom of speech” and that punishing sign-holders violates first amendment rights. Springfield was wise to remove that provision just one month before the vote.

At their meeting on April 4, councilors still seemed to be in a quandary over whether to grant exemption to fundraisers such as “fill the boot” held by local firefighters and other organizations that accept drive-by donations for a cause. After much deliberation and Mayor Lundberg’s declaration that she would veto any ordinance discriminating among fund solicitors, council ultimately decided they couldn’t make exceptions for anyone as much as it pained them to see those fundraisers impacted by their decision. City officials didn’t express the same outward moral struggle when considering the impact of the ordinance on our unhoused neighbors. It should also be noted that Springfield City Manager Gino Grimaldi is an active member of the League of Oregon Cities who once served on the Board of Directors and, according to their website, currently serves as the chair of the General Government Policy Committee. In September 2015, The LOC held their annual conference in Bend. One workshop was titled “Meeting the Challenge of Homelessness.” The outline reveals that the presenters recommended strategies for eliminating panhandling and erasing our unhoused neighbors from public view. It included a suggestion to build a “record” of [attempts to address the problem], i.e. public safety concerns — this is not an attempt to regulate expressive activity. More on this can be found on their website at www.occities.org.

Is the crisis of homelessness not a public safety and health concern? In dire times, asking for help from others is a relatively polite and civil means of meeting wants and needs. When the city deters its citizens from asking for help, it creates an environment where the panhandler is left in a desperate situation.

Many of the forum speakers identified themselves as members of social justice and anti-war coalitions. Many of them advocated for the residents and said that they refused to stop and they hoped others would not be discouraged by this law but continue practicing kindness. Our actions come with consequences. Do we ignore our fellow humans in need and force them into further desperation, or do we challenge this anti-kindness policy?

If your kindness leads to a citation please contact the Civil Liberties Defense Center at 541-687-9180.

Peg Morton, Presenté

By Sue Barnhart

From the February/March 2016 issue of the National Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee’s newsletter, More Than a Paycheck

Peg Morton, a long-time war tax resister and peace and social justice activist, died peacefully in Eugene on Dec 19, 2015, following an intentional end-of-life fast. Born in Cambridge, MA, on Oct 31, 1930, she spent her childhood summers in Maine where she developed a lifelong love of nature. She became a Quaker as a young girl and raised three daughters in Carbondale, Illinois. As soon as Peg divorced she became a war tax resister. She had a career as a mental health worker, and began to resist 50% of her taxes.

In 1989, Peg moved to Eugene where two of her daughters lived, and became a full time activist. Soon after arriving she got my phone number from NWTRCC, and we started Taxes for Peace Not War. We met in her living room and shared food, planned events, educated people about war tax resistance, provided support to members who were being levied, and ended each meeting with a group hug. Peg kept notes of every meeting and all of our decisions on where our resisted money went. Every year we gave away the resisted money to local causes on the steps of the post office on Tax Day.

Peg gave away money that she had inherited so that she could keep her income low. Some years her income was low enough so she didn’t owe any taxes, but she still gave away money at our Tax Day event. She loved counseling people who were interested in becoming war tax resisters and providing support and advice to people who were facing levies. She organized letters to the editor about war tax resistance and opinion editorials for both the Register-Guard and the Eugene Weekly. Peg coordinated tabling at local events and educational workshops, always working on outreach to fellow activists to get them to become resisters. Peg was one of the few of us who still had a landline telephone, and she continued to resist the federal tax on that.

Peg also enjoyed having fun while we protested and educated people about the atrocities of war and their support of war through paying taxes. She organized exciting marches and demonstrations involving singing and pageantry.

Peg was also a long-time supporter of the Latin America Solidarity Committee. She was active in Witness for Peace and traveled to Latin America several times. She participated in many acts of civil disobedience, including being arrested for illegally crossing the grounds onto the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia.

She was a devoted member of the Oregon Women’s Alliance and other groups and could be seen outside protesting in all kinds of weather. In one action, she fasted on the steps of the state capital building to protest budget cuts to health care for people with disabilities. Peg loved to sing and joined the Eugene chapter of the Raging Grannies. She was also an active member of Eugene Friends Meeting, her spiritual home for more than 25 years.

Peg was a remarkable woman who leaves a legacy of commitment to social justice and peace. Throughout her adult life she was guided by the Quaker principles of simplicity, pacifism, equality, and integrity. She was deeply touched by and carried in her love of life shone through her. She was someone who could get along with everyone and will leave a big hole in our community.

Peg’s memoir, Feeling Light Within, is available from feelinglightwithin.com, or at CALC. To honor her memory: live more simply, take time to absorb the beauty of the natural world, speak out in support of people who are marginalized or oppressed, reach out in friendship to someone who is different from you, or sit in silence, listening to the still, small voice within you.

The current state of the three molten reactor cores is still officially unknown. We don’t know whether these cores have burned through the bedrock, rolled into the Pacific, or are still sitting in their containment vessels. The consequences of any of the missing cores having entirely escaped its containment vessel would be given. The fact that we are now witnessing a massive die-off of marine life in the Pacific Ocean is extremely worrying.

What we do know is that a large number of fuel rods and most likely one core were vaporized into the atmosphere. A rain of highly radioactive glass micro-beads covered Tokyo. The west coast of North America got the brunt of the radioactive plume carried by the jet stream.

Thousands of tons of highly radioactive cooling water has flooded and is still flooding into the Pacific Ocean (the recently attempted ice wall did not work well). Fukushima’s radioactive ongoing nuclear crises around the world. Here in America our aging nuclear plants’ infrastructure is breaking down with plants leaking radioactive activity into the environment in New York (Indian Point), Washington State (Hanford), and Florida (Florida Power and Light).

In 2014 the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico experienced a serious radioactive fire and leak. Currently an uncontrolled fire is burning underground radioactive waste at a storage facility near Saint Louis. We dispose of the ever-increasing radioactive waste produced by fracking in landfills that leach into the ground water.

When you consider the many other human-made environmental threats and our tinkering with the highly evolved DNA of our benefactors the plants, it is clear that humans are in a race to the grave. We must wake up now or it’s all over.

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All nations should take Fukushima seriously and attempt to develop technology, as Japan has requested, to mitigate this ongoing disaster — possibly by using a high power RF transmitter to bombard the cores with enough gamma energy to increase their decay rate? I am not an expert, but I do know we need to start paying attention to this problem now, not as individuals but as a species, if it is not too late already.

Fukushima Update 2016
By Clark Barwin

On March 11, 2016, five years from the day the three cores at Fukushima melted down, activists from Eugene PeaceWorks and Lane County American Peace Test gathered in front of the Eugene Public Library to bring light to the fact that Fukushima is nowhere near stable and has to be addressed now.

Fukushima is the worst of many ongoing nuclear crises around the world. Here in America our aging nuclear plants’ infrastructure is breaking down with plants leaking radioactive activity into the environment in New York (Indian Point), Washington State (Hanford), and Florida (Florida Power and Light).

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WWW.OCUPPEYEUGENEMEDIA.ORG
By Graham Lewis

Reliability might as well be David Adkins’ middle name. David has come through for OE every week of every month since he first joined CommComm in January 2012. He also participated in many earlier Occupy Eugene events, including the big Protest and March held on October 11, 2011. There aren’t many who have David’s level of organizational and technical skills. As IT “admin” with help from Jana Thrift and Conner Salisbury, he monitors our OE Web site and the Rise-up listserv keeping them virtually ad-free and bug-free. While others have come and gone, we Occupiers have long depended on David Adkins for our positive media presence. David talks of being raised in a counterculture environment, mostly in the coastal redwoods of central and Northern California, the southwest, and Vancouver Island, BC. He moved to Eugene with his parents in 1971 in his mid-teens and, like many of us guys, eventually grew long hair and beard. Can you picture that? “I learned early that corporate and individual greed are bad for humanity and our environment.”

“Why should we need a . . . system with single payer healthcare when we see social or environmental injustice? Why should we incarcerate a man in the middle of public disputes because he [must] be indignant,” he says, “but it’s important to also consider the fact that it performs an essential service to its patients and the city as a whole. The clinic is managed by Sue Sierralupe, who relies on volunteers organized into teams by area of specialization for the smooth operation of this complex organization. The unifying principle underlying the work of the OM volunteers is that, everyone, regardless of income and status, should have access to medical care without the fear of financial burden or being unheard by caregivers. We strive . . . to give the best care possible to all.”

David has been a mainstay of Occupy Eugene from the beginning.