



# The Register-Guard

EUGENE, OREGON

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## Council high on downtown ideas

The West Broadway Advisory Committee's development recommendations are accepted on a 6-2 vote

By EDWARD RUSSO  
The Register-Guard

Condos. A four-screen movie theater. Restaurants. A grocery store. Even a 24-hour newsstand. The Eugene City Council on

Wednesday liked all of those ideas and more for revitalizing two blocks in the heart of downtown.

Councilors voted 6-2 to accept the recommendations of the West Broadway Advisory Committee, which could influence a yet-to-be-reached

deal between two Portland developers and the city to build on two blocks of West Broadway, between Willamette and Charnelton streets.

Six of the eight councilors and Mayor Kitty Piercy praised the committee's work, which culminated in 123 recommendations on everything from the type of businesses that should be in the development, to their design, public space, parking and ways to help existing businesses

that would be displaced by the project.

West Broadway Advisory Committee co-chairman Greg McLauchlan told councilors that the group's ideas are based on a vision of a "dense, multiple-use area."

Broadway would be transformed into "a highly energetic neighborhood that has things going on day and night," he said.

The council is scheduled to

discuss the committee's recommendations in more detail next Monday.

If some or all of the ideas are embraced by the council, they could influence the yet-to-be written redevelopment agreement between the developers and the city.

McLauchlan said committee members took the concepts from the two Portland developers tentatively

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### A report recommends ways to save the lives of more animals



THOMAS BOYD / The Register-Guard

Jordan Coyle of Junction City delivers a stray cat in a cardboard box recently to the Lane County Animal Regulation Authority in Eugene.

## Shelter under the spotlight

By MATT COOPER  
The Register-Guard

From euthanasia to reducing "kennel stress," the Lane County animal shelter should make changes to ensure that more cats and dogs are adopted and not put down, a task force said in a report released Wednesday.

The Lane County Animal Regulation Authority should develop a better policy on euthanasia, build a network of foster homes, promote

the trapping, neutering and release of wild cats and make other changes, the Save Adoptable Animals Task Force said in a 40-page report.

The report, ordered by the Lane County commissioners earlier this year, is a response to what board Chairman Faye Stewart said is a top issue for county residents: animal welfare.

"Out of the three years I've been a commissioner, we've had more public input, more public involvement (on this issue) than on any other issue," Stewart said Wednesday. "We need to

do a better job to make people feel good (about county animal services)."

The task force held a public meeting on the report Wednesday night, and the board will review the 30 recommendations in October.

Stewart hopes many will be approved, but that means walking the tightrope between the public's concern for animals and a shelter that says it can't keep up with the negligence of the

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## Contract workers exceed U.S. forces

Critics say the war in Iraq is relying too heavily on private contractors

By RICHARD LARDNER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The United States has assembled an imposing industrial army in Iraq larger than its uniformed fighting force and responsible for a such a broad swath of responsibilities that the military might not be able to operate without its private-sector partners.

More than 180,000 Americans, Iraqis and nationals from other countries work under a slew of federal contracts to provide security, gather intelligence, build roads, forge a financial system and transport needed supplies in a country the size of California.

That figure contrasts with the 163,100 U.S. military personnel, according to U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla., the organization responsible for military operations in the Middle East. The Pentagon puts the military figure at 169,000. There are another 12,400 coalition forces in Iraq.

But it has its dangers. Employees

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**180,000**

People working in Iraq for private contractors hired by the United States

**169,000**

U.S. military personnel in Iraq

## Toxic algae stills life for some near lake

Normally, the Siltcoos area would be bustling with outdoor water enthusiasts

By WINSTON ROSS  
The Register-Guard

DUNES CITY — On a typical fall day — especially one blessed with the sunshine that lit up the area on Wednesday — the Oregon Coast's largest coastal lake would be busy with boats.

Instead, Ron Johnston looked out at the water from his perch at the Darling's Marina and RV Resort bar and saw stillness. The boats were tied to the docks.

"You'd definitely see way more people," Johnston said, if not for the health alert issued this week that warns

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KEVIN CLARK / The Register-Guard

Dawn Cassaro, who works at Darlings RV Resort and Marina, says the toxic algae has hurt business.

## Torrey turns Independent

A Republican for 46 years, the ex-mayor switches to be free of party expectations

By EDWARD RUSSO  
The Register-Guard

Former Eugene Mayor Jim Torrey, a lifelong Republican, no longer belongs to the Grand Old Party.

Torrey last month switched his voter registration from Republican to the fledgling Independent Party of Oregon.

A Republican since he turned 21, the 67-year-old Torrey said he switched parties so he can work on his favorite issues without being "shoehorned" into Republican positions or having a Republican label used against him by political opponents.

"I want the freedom to do what I think is important and

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"I want the freedom to do what I think is important."

— JIM TORREY

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### Today's weather



Partly sunny and pleasant  
High 73/Low 47  
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### Tomorrow

Sprout City Studios, once an upstart in the recording field, is blossoming after 10 years  
**Friday in Ticket**

Circulation . . . . . **485-3311**  
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