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Anarchists

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chism, without rule, without rulers, is something I guess anybody who calls themselves anarchists would have to hold as a basic tenet," Cater said. "As far as the finer points about how to bring it about, how to produce a paradigm that doesn't exist inside the paradigm of destruction and greed, that's a tougher one. Everybody has different views about tactics."

Cascadia Alive! is the anarchist media outlet. Cater helps produce

“Anarchists believe in ‘mutual aid.’ The idea of building an alternative community that provides and assists each member in a non-hierarchical, non-exploitative manner.”

Audrey Vanderford
Eugene anarchist
and University
graduate student

the public access show, which is aired live on cable channel 97 at 9 p.m. on Wednesday nights.

"Every week we allow other people to have their voices heard, and we do a very minimal amount of controlling what goes on the show," Cater said. "Sometimes that results in a really boring show or a really controversial show or a really informative show. It just always comes out the way it comes out."

Vanderford defines anarchism as "the rejection of domination in all its forms — sexism, racism, capitalism, homophobia, nationalism and environmental destruction." She said that anarchists believe that humans are inherently good and that they don't need institutions, such as the government, police and religion to protect them from each other.

"Anarchists believe in 'mutual aid,'" she said. "The idea of building an alternative community that provides and assists each member in a non-hierarchical, non-exploitative manner."

Mutual aid is, in fact, a large part of what the Eugene anarchist community is about. However, nobody is sure of exactly how large that group is.

The number of people who actually consider themselves anarchists is pretty small, said Lucy Humus, a

Eugene resident and part of the anarchist community.

"Then there's this huge community of anywhere from 200 to 800 people who interact in a mutual aid-type way," Humus said.

While the national media has recently been portraying Eugene as a hotbed for anarchy, Cater says that this is a false notion.

"I know anarchists in every city I ever visit in this country," she said, "and some of those communities are way more together than we are."

However, because of all of the media attention Eugene has been getting, Cater said that a lot more anarchists are coming to check out the scene for themselves.

"There's anarchists all over the world," she said. "It's a very powerful movement. It's a movement with a lot of history."

A history that is filled, at least one anarchist said, with misrepresentations.

"The media's interpretation of the anarchists is exactly what police feed them," Steve Heslin said. "It's the same misrepresentation that was started in 1886 with the Hay Market anarchists."

It's true that the anarchy movement is nothing new, and in Eugene, anarchists have been working to achieve their goal for a long time through various projects. Community gardens, such as the one at Scobert Park in the Whiteaker neighborhood, have sprung up in different locations around the city. Here, anarchists and activists work together planting and maintaining organic gardens that provide food for those who need it and a beautiful place to visit for others.

There are also housing co-ops, education and day care programs and, of course, political activism. Protesting and rallying are the activities that receive the most attention from both the media and the Eugene Police Department.

Cater and Humus both said that they choose not to participate in the protests and riots, and that sentiment is shared by many anarchists.

Food Not Bombs is another project run primarily by the anarchist community. It provides free meals to those who need it weekly at Scobert Park. Humus said that Food Not Bombs has at least 400 chapters around the world.

"They're all getting food from their local community, cooking it and serving it hot for free in a public place," Humus said. "It's a perfect example of shared leadership and cooperation."

Free ride

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Although this won't be a problem right away with classes just starting, Vobora said LTD has found that a small percentage of residents continue to ride the bus for free even after they are no longer students. The fraud rate was about 4 percent based on 852 records.

Surprisingly, he pointed out, the fraud rate among former University faculty and staff was at almost 13 percent. Stamm said that OPS is looking at a system that would require those who leaving University employment to turn in their ID cards with their keys, if they have been issued a set. OPS is also working with each department to get the

ID cards back during exit interviews, he said.

One enrolled student, senior Kate Downing, said that she rides the bus to school every day because she doesn't own a car. Downing said the system works well, but she would like to see improvements in weekend service.

"There's no bus service, especially on Sundays until 9 a.m. or so," Downing said. "I know a lot of people who have to be to work at 7 or 8 in the morning and it's inconvenient."

Despite that hassle, Downing is not ready to join the mass of automobile drivers making their way to the University.

"I definitely wouldn't want to give up the student pass system," she said.

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