

The IWW union protesters are not interested in negotiating. They say they want to destroy Mother Kali Bookstore as an "example" of their "power in our community."

I've made the effort to learn both sides of this "story." Have you? Long live Mother Kali's!

Julia Wooten  
Eugene

**IN HER WORDS**

I read the article about Mother Kali's with great interest. I have taken the liberty of writing some replacement quotes that make the article ring more true to me. Consider, for instance, the following revisions:

"The store was doing well, supported by a customer and UO professor base, loyal to Tova and the staff." "She's why customers stayed with MK's," that and the outstanding collection of books she ordered. (So good that she was asked to continue that job if she were not the manager of the store.) Tova also successfully initiated the Mother Kali's 25th anniversary celebration.

"Tova became the creative, energetic and inviting manager of MK's. For the staff, there was no one that could replace her in these ways."

"The staff wanted Ironplow to have more training in board processes." "Tova's always had the best interest of the store and the community at heart." She's donated an enormous amount of time during her short tenure there, as well as energy and dedication. The store, and working for justice, were some of her many passions. "The stress of working with an autocratic system is intense. It's what's killing the store." "Tova does understand how things got so vitriolic." "Tova knows the big picture...and the bigger picture."

Bonnie Robbins  
Eugene

**GO, DOUG, GO**

I would like to applaud Douglas Hopper, the coordinator of the 12th Annual UO Queer Film Festival. This year's festival was a huge success, showing a variety of international films and focusing on the formation of queer history and culture through film. Way to go, Doug and the UO Cultural Forum.

Stacy Borke  
Eugene

**SAYING WHAT SHE MEANS**

Oh, Sally, Sally, diddlely, dally. I am so glad you write for *Eugene Weekly*! Your December piece on sex (12/18) had me cracking up in public as my sweetie man sat

beside me trying to shush my laughter. I am so sorry that I missed your January piece on abortion (1/22). You brought your abortion out of the closet with your sexuality and I appreciate your candid humor. You seem to have made your point that abortion is, and has always been, a form of birth control, a fact of life for those of us who have wombs. Some may decide that the life force should be coveted and taken to term. That is fine, however, that is not for all of us. At a time when 80 percent of counties in the U.S. lack abortion providers, we at least need a little humor to jar us out of complacency. Legality is nothing without access. You had the ability to travel back to So. California. Many women in Oregon lack the financial and support resources to travel to obtain a safe legal abortion. Good thing for services like Network for Reproductive Options to provide avenues for access! Keep up the good work, girl!

Robin Irish  
Eugene

**MAKING A MARRIAGE?**

The debate over gay marriage is, on the surface, one of semantics — what does marriage mean? — but the deeper issue is who decides. The media would have us believe it's in the domain of government, and most people without thinking would seem to agree, but it's not that simple.

Marriage is a *sacred* union between a man and a woman, and our prescient founders sought to limit state authority over the sacred with the First Amendment's Free Exercise and Establishment of Religion clauses. The power to marry or define marriage quite simply falls outside the limits of legitimate state authority.

As a Christian, I would never even consider getting married *legally*. I would find a holy man (or woman) to perform the ceremony with the power vested in him by God and God alone.

Couples, gay or straight, who wish to invite the government into their interpersonal relationships for tax, immigration, or other purposes, should be free to do so if they choose, but don't call it marriage. Life is confusing enough.

Pete Raiteri  
Eugene

**WMD IN CALIFORNIA**

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