

With this sentence Lininger supports the classist stereotype that batterers are backwoods, uneducated drunks. Conversely, it promotes the idea that upstanding citizens are "above" abusive behavior. In actuality, domestic violence spans all cultures and socioeconomic classes.

Batterers can be "simple-minded hicks" as well as peace-loving hippies, police officers, or even law professors. Domestic violence is a choice — a choice supported by the beliefs of our society. These beliefs are based in sexism, as well as classism and myriad other forms of oppression. And they can show themselves in ways as overt as an affluent batterer evading prosecution, or as subtle as a joke about "shooting cans."

We need to change our own beliefs in order to remove an obstacle already before us: How do we hold batterers accountable when we believe that respected people aren't capable of domestic violence?

*Lucas Spiegel  
Eugene*

**DON'T PAVE WETLANDS**

At a transportation meeting held in Springfield, Judy Valpa, the mayor of Coburg, said she "knows" the people of this community want the West Eugene Parkway (WEP) to go through right when and where it is planned. She said she knows this, not by public testimony, but by reading letters to the editor.

We disagree with building the WEP. A new multi-lane expressway in the area will not ease traffic problems. We can learn from the mistakes of others. Los Angeles to the south has built many multi-lane roadways. Their traffic problems have not gone away. Now their land is paved and they still have traffic.

We can't afford this expenditure. Yes, there are matching funds of some kind. Let's not take something that's bad for us just because we can get it.

A great deal of time and money has gone into restoring and preserving the wetlands. Now they want to spend a great deal more to destroy, by paving, the very same wetlands. What a slap in the face to the people who foot the bill for both projects. We, as a community, have more pressing work to do together than to build another multi-lane expressway.

The people that have signed this letter have not made public testimony, nor have we written to the editor about this subject before. The following signers agree with this letter and urge our representatives to not push the parkway through.

*Tiffany Mitchell, John DeLean,  
Craig Dishner, Anita Russell  
Springfield*

**PIERCY FOR MAYOR**

What a pleasure to read the cogent article by Mary O'Brien, "Vibrant Democracy" (4/10)!

While I do not know Nancy Nathanson personally, Mary's recap of her behavior and voting record are most concerning.

I do know Kitty Piercy. She was my daughter's preschool teacher 10 years ago at the Patterson Co-op Preschool. My strong-willed 2 1/2-year-old daughter learned a lot from Kitty that year. In her own words, "No hit, no pinch, no bite." My daughter had been a challenge, but Kitty had taught her to "play nicely with others," just exactly what she needed to learn and when she needed to learn it. Kitty saw and capitalized on my daughter's strengths.

The next year I got to work more closely with Kitty as a parent board member of the Co-op. I found Kitty to consistently be enthusiastic, honest, fair-minded and always able to help a group of diverse and opinionated people to move forward as a group to adopt solutions that represented the highest good for all concerned.

With more and more people settling in our beautiful city, Eugene is faced with many different emerging issues. These issues will require the best leadership we have to manage the complexity and diverse interests involved. Sprawl is edging out West 11th, we're paving and building on our surrounding farmlands and endangering our wetlands, our school districts are struggling and people are still underemployed.

Eugeneans will be making critical decisions about the future quality of our community life. We need the solid and proven experience, integrity, intellect and leadership of Kitty Piercy. If you love Eugene, vote for Kitty Piercy.

*Deb McGee  
Eugene*



**BOXING FOR BRAINS**

My brain spun dizzily from the misinformation in the "The Contender" (3/25). While Bobbie Willis tried to be fair to both pro- and anti-boxing schools of thought, the inclusion of the "Sports Fatality Rates" box was highly misleading. The primary injury from boxing is brain damage. The boxer who most brain-damages

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