



Afraid to go to the doctor because of the high cost of health care?

We can help!

FREE HEALTH BENEFIT FAIRS held in Eugene

 PeaceHealth is offering **FREE Health Benefits Fairs** in conjunction with national **Cover the Uninsured Week** to help relieve fears of Lane County residents who may avoid seeking medical care because they can't pay for it.

 Trained financial counselors, including Spanish-speaking counselors, will meet individually with those interested at the Fairs, and help them apply for the Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) through OHP, PeaceHealth's Bridge Assistance Program, and other state and private assistance programs.

The Fairs are scheduled:

Tuesday, May 11, 2004, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
PeaceHealth Medical Group's
Downtown Clinic, 1162 Willamette Street

Friday, May 14, 2004, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
PeaceHealth Medical Group's
Barger Medical Building, 4010 Aerial Way

Saturday, May 22, 2004, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sacred Heart Medical Center's
Auditorium, 1255 Hilyard Street



PeaceHealth

Eugene's **HEALTH BENEFITS FAIRS** are sponsored by **PeaceHealth** in conjunction with the **Human Services Network.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the detriment of his constituents. Examples: The Oregon League of Conservation Voters gave Meisner a dismal 10 percent rating — an "F" for Failure by any measure! That, by itself, should give pause to constituents considering a vote for him, but there's more. A recent *EW* review of city councilor votes gave Meisner low marks as well: He only voted to support Eugene's livability a mere 20 percent of the time and, even worse, voted only 14 percent of the time in the interest of Ward 7's poor.

By contrast, Andrea Ortiz has been endorsed by the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Oregon Natural Resources Council Action PAC, Educacion y Justicia Para La Raza and Local 1724 of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Andrea has the support of a wide variety of community activists working tirelessly for the public good. The voters of Eugene's Ward 7 deserve better: new leadership in the person of Andrea Ortiz.

*John Jordan-Cascade
Eugene*

IRRESPONSIBLE RULING

Thank you Alan Pittman for the candidate voting records of April 8. It demonstrates a true picture of what we can expect from Nancy Nathanson and Scott Meisner. They do not recognize the relationship between a healthy environment and a healthy economy with their votes for a road through our West Eugene Wetlands, against improving storm water collection, against funding Toxics Right to Know and against protecting our streams and beautiful trees in Eugene. I'm also concerned with their support of another developer slush fund for the Riverfront Urban Renewal Park. Where is fiscal and environmental responsibility?

*Ruth Duemler
Eugene*

HEROIC DEFENSE?

Like most people I know, I'm a little hazy on many details of U.S. history. The passage of time, together with subjective accounts of motives and events, makes it difficult to really know what happened and why. When a movie such as *The Alamo* comes along, we gain strong impressions of our history, impressions made more vivid by the persuasive power of Hollywood filmmaking and the simplification inherent in all storytelling.

It is important to recognize who is telling the story, however, and Lois Wadsworth might consider how a movie made by a Mexican (or any foreign) film studio might differ from the one she gushes over in her review of April 15.

The ragtag embattled underdog is guaranteed to gain the (U.S.) viewers' sympathy, particularly when history is turned on its head, and the Manifest Destiny of U.S. expansionism and aggression against a weaker nation is portrayed as heroic defense against a well-equipped, armed occupation force.

The occupation, siege and battle of the Alamo was but one chapter in decades of provocative U.S. maneuvering into Mexico. Our government made no secret of the fact that it wanted territory that didn't belong to it. Many Americans wanted to annex the entire country. That which they couldn't acquire by peaceful means, they took by warfare. Before hostilities ended, the U.S. had gained over 500,000 square miles of Mexican territory. Henry David Thoreau was tossed in jail for

his peaceful protest and later wrote *Civil Disobedience* in response.

If current events weren't similarly rife with provocation, illegal occupations, and U.S. public acceptance of rhetoric that sounds much like the Manifest Destiny of an earlier era, then a positive recommendation in *EW* for a propaganda film might pass without notice. But a movie can be more than simple entertainment, and in times like these, even an arts editor at *EW* needs to be somewhat informed.

As they say, those not familiar with history are destined to sit through some dreary reruns.

*John Morris
Florence*

MARKETING VIOLENCE

The UO is marketing a leading cause of college student dropouts, violence against women, and student death by subcontracting its broadcast message formation to ESPN. The university receives money to sell the university's image to sports networks which leads to commercial broadcasts of university events becoming 100 percent supportive of alcohol use. Furthermore, the exclusive deal terms that the university representatives brokers with Anheuser-Busch are kept secret from the students and public that supports the institution at the request of the beer company.

As a student and member of the Eugene community, I feel that the result of this lack of responsible regulation by the UO is the polar opposite of the university mission statement. The college states it supports diversity, caring, civic responsibilities, learning and anti-discrimination. Yet no other messages involving alcohol are supported by the UO on its commercial broadcasts other than the support of use of the product. The result of UO contracts clearly discriminates, thwarts learning and stifles diversity.

Until the UO invests 50 percent of its name to commercial broadcasts that question the use of alcohol or eliminates the ads, it is in gross violation of its mission statement. A learning institution has no business validating its most disruptive influence, especially without investing in a diversity of ideas about it from a dime of the beer ad profits. Please contact Student Life to add your voice to this issue.

*Mike Meyer
Eugene*

U.S. DICTATOR

Journalist Bob Woodward has just given us two new stunning pieces of information: 1) President Bush has made a secret deal with the Saudis to influence the November elections by manipulating gas prices, and 2) President Bush revealed Iraq war plans to Saudi Prince Bandar before he showed them to his own Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Can we trust a president who uses his influence to manipulate world events without consulting even his own cabinet? When will we stop believing we could never have dictatorship in our own country?

*Ingrid Wendt
Eugene*

LETTERS POLICY: We welcome letters on all topics and will print as many as space allows. Please limit length to 250 words, keep submissions to once a month, and include your address and phone number for our files. E-mail to editor@eugeneweekly.com (please put "letters" in the subject line), fax to 484-4044, or mail to 1251 Lincoln, Eugene 97401.