

WORTHY PROJECT?

It is hard to believe that "saving" Madison Meadow is worth half a million dollars of scarce charitable donations. Is a project that cuts off a chance for more families to give up their cars and walk or bicycle to work downtown and at the UO really worth donating to?

Lorri Goodman's pitch (11/24 Viewpoint) that a donation to buy Madison Meadow is somehow related to preserving the pristine Alaskan wilderness or helping children without health care is scary. There are a number of parks near 22nd and Madison. Of course having a private park right over the fence is nice, but pitching this as good for the environment or a substitute for health care is false. And no matter how she spins it, limiting an option to build housing in central Eugene *does* encourage sprawl.

If you do donate to Madison Meadow, please don't use charitable dollars that might have gone to saving the world's wild places or to a medical charity. Perhaps buying this land makes sense for the neighbors who border it; supposedly the park will increase their property values. Maybe it makes sense as an investment, but not as a charitable donation. \$500,000 could purchase hundreds of acres of critical habitat to save an endangered species or immunize a hundred thousand children. Is an acre or two within walking distance of Washington Park, Westmoreland Park, Wayne Morse Ranch, Friendly Park, and Amazon Park really more important than saving truly wild places or getting health care for those who don't have it?

Please make charitable donations this holiday season, but make sure that your dollars do the most good they possibly can.

Nancy Nichols
Deadwood

CRUSADER BOB

On Dec. 1, many Whiteaker households were subjected to a written diatribe from "God's faithful and true servant," Bob Berg [possibly an assumed name]. We received, taped to our doors, copies of a typewritten letter containing the greatest hits of homophobic Bible verses, and such pious, fanatical wisdom as: "It's impossible to be a Christian homosexual. But obviously it's possible to be a homosexual liar trying to deceive people. So what are these people doing in our schools teaching our children their ungodliness?" and: "If you reject the truth, God will give you up to a base mind, and you will find yourself committing shameless acts with a person of the same sex."

This crusader must think himself very

brave, venturing into the modern Mecca of sin that is the Whiteaker neighborhood.

Attention Mr. Berg and other "true and faithful servants of God": First off, if you think queer people are against God's greater plan, you're in great company — the Nazis agreed with you. Second, check out what the Bible says about letting God be the judge and keeping your mouth shut so the man upstairs can work. If you are such a devout believer, you'll notice that God gives more warnings to slanderers than he does to homosexuals.

And finally, hate-filled rhetoric and stubborn bigotry like yours passed Measure 36 just a short month ago. You got what you wanted, so please stop rubbing our noses in it.

Olivia Pepper
Eugene

DOUBLE STANDARD

OK, so if a person wants to pay money to get his/her rocks off from a sex-line or escort service as advertised in the back of *Eugene Weekly*, that's smutty and exploitative. But if a person wants to pay money for a Morning Glory Calendar (news story, 11/18) and get her/his rocks off by looking at Miss June, "a woman standing with her wrists bound above her head and two of those spoon-like tea holders clamped to her nipples" — that raises money for Eugene Peace Works.

The broad acceptance of double standards in our beloved city will never cease to amaze me. Merry Christmas everybody.

David J. Gibbs
Eugene

MARINE DIVERSITY

I have read *EW* for news and entertainment for a while. I don't always agree with the obvious political slant, but I don't complain. I have to write a rebuttal to a Mr. William Porter in the 11/24 issue on his letter headed "Christian Marines." Who is he to say that service members will be "vanquished for eternity" according to their religious preference? Yes, a majority of Marines tend to be more conservative than Mr. Porter but not necessarily Christian. We are of very diverse faiths.

I am a Marine and have served for 12 years. I see the military and the Marine Corps in particular as an outstanding opportunity for men and women to help make themselves successful. It is no coincidence that 35 percent of the Fortune 500 companies are run or owned by former Marines (founders of FedEx, Domino's Pizza, etc.). The Marines instill discipline, self-direction, leadership skills, and confidence as well as many other

OFAM at The Shedd

Johnny Gimble

Saturday, Dec. 11
The Shedd

89.7fm
D.D.12

ISLER & CO.
Certified Public Accountants
and Business Advisors

CHAMBERS
CONSTRUCTION
SINCE 1955

OFAM's Magical MOOMBAH!

Live music! Skits! Contests! and fun for the entire family!

"Gloria's Big Surprise"

Meet Gloria the sassy dummy and her awesome friends Mr. Big, Tommy Tom Tom, Uncle Mitch, and Rumbles Hangnail. Uncle Mitch brightens the holiday with marvelous toys. Gloria sings some cool songs, and everybody can sing along!

Tickets: \$5 - Call OFAM at 687-6526

Saturday, December 11th
10:00 am & 1:00 pm at The Shedd!

Your Moombah ticket includes the AMI playshop at 11:15 am!

Proudly brought to you by

The Eye Center Kettle Foods Starline Mist

www.moombah.org

Oregon Festival of American Music

Now Hear This 04-05

ISLER & CO. Title Sponsor
Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors

Upcoming Concerts:

- 12.11 Johnny Gimble
- 12.17 Ken Peplowski
- 01.26 Natalie MacMaster
- 01.28 Regina Carter
- 02.03 Herbie Hancock (Hult)
- 02.05 Darol Anger & AFE
- 02.09 Don Edwards
- 02.11 Mose Allison
- 02.12 The Bill Charlap Trio
- 02.27 BeauSoleil
- 03.10 Led Ka'apana
- 03.12 Laurie Anderson

Ken Peplowski
with The Jazz Kings

Friday, December 17
The Shedd - 687-6526

TWIN RIVERS PLUMBING, INC.

OFAM at The Shedd

868 High Street (at Broadway)
541-687-6526 - www.ofam.org

John H. Haines, MD
Kent A. Karren, MD
Robert H. Davis, MD
The Eye Center

Presenting Festival Sponsor

ew Staff

EDITORIAL Editor Ted Taylor
Associate Editor Melissa Bears
Executive/Arts Editor Lois Wadsworth
Contributing Editor Anita Johnson
Staff Writers Alan Pittman, Kera Abraham
Calendar Editor Kent Goodman Contributing Writers Brett Campbell, Rachel Foster, Jerry Harris, Kate Rogers Gessert, James Johnston, Sharleen Nelson, Mary O'Brien, Sylvie Pederson, Vanessa Salvia, Sally Sheklow, Lance Sparks, Kate Storm, Martha Ulman West Interns Alexandra Arch, Sarah Bricker, E. Anderson Cael, Christine Mathias

ART DEPARTMENT
Art Director/Production Manager Kevin Dougherty
Graphic Artist/Webmaster James Bateman
Graphic Artists Todd Cooper
Contributing Photographers Kurt Jensen, Paul Neevel

ADVERTISING
National Sales Manager Mark Frisbee
Display Marketing Consultant Jennifer D'Angelo, Rob Weiss
Advertising Traffic Coordinator Geneva Miller
Classified Manager Jeffrey Stout
Classified Marketing Consultant Molly Templeton

BUSINESS Director of Sales and Marketing Bill Shreve
Circulation Manager Deena Miller Controller Paula Hoemann
Distributors Bob Becker, Peter Dilcher, Roc Dosland, Kevin Greene, Robert Hewlett, Tim Risch, Carrie Wedmore, Pedalers Express
Printing Signature Graphics

HOW TO REACH US BY E-MAIL:
(letters): editor@eugeneweekly.com
(advertising): ads@eugeneweekly.com
(classifieds): class@eugeneweekly.com
(personals): personals@eugeneweekly.com
(calendar): cal@eugeneweekly.com
(music/clubs/special shows): music@eugeneweekly.com
(art/openings/galleries): visualarts@eugeneweekly.com
(performance/theater): performance@eugeneweekly.com
(literary arts/readings): books@eugeneweekly.com
(movies/film screenings): movies@eugeneweekly.com
(circulation): distribution@eugeneweekly.com

Eugene Weekly • 1251 Lincoln Street • Eugene, OR 97401 • 541.484.0519 • fax 541-484-4044