

it, play some international hip hop. There is a world full of folks that love some good hip hop that are under-represented. Check out some African, Caribbean, and South American beats that get played in Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan. Because some of us are from Brooklyn, and nothing about John Henry's reminds us of Brooklyn except maybe the drunks peeing on the sidewalk outside.

Just say no to fluff!

*Silky Johnson
Buc Nasty & Beautiful
Eugene*

SHALLOW VIEW

I want to respond to Jerry Harris (1/6). Have you ever met Mark Harris? He is a substance abuse counselor as well as an important part of racism awareness. To say that race is his livelihood is a shallow point of view. I believe that the smallest amount of racism is too much. I think that racial profiling is a form of racism, and therefore is unacceptable.

Do you think Eugene should wait until African Americans are being killed here more frequently and then start awareness programs? An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

*Ann Lane
Eugene*

LIVING WITH WOLVES

In the populated, agricultural and forested upper Midwest, the wolf population is today estimated at 3,800. In 1970 there were about 750 wolves left surviving in Minnesota, no wolves in Wisconsin, and a few individuals in Michigan. How have some hearty people since been working out life with another great animal of our sublime planet?

The impressive International Wolf Center is based in a rural town in the northern

woods, Ely, Minn. — comparable to a town like Oakridge. The ecological movement sought out funding, worked with state and national agencies, ranchers and ecologists, and developed successful education campaigns reaching out enthusiastically and respectfully to people across the rural, suburban and urban upper Midwest. With plenty of compelling science and culture the Wolf Center has brought groups together, showing us paths by which we all — wolves, rural and urban humans — can thrive in nature and our societies.

That's how the wolf has been able to prosper in our very own dark age. It's still an ongoing struggle, partly because it isn't easy to organize community cultural experiences and forge relationships across divides. If we are to contribute to something both transcendental and real in our short time here, we will do well to fight smart and lovingly for our fellow Earth denizens — even here in the U.S. And we've got to work very hard to improve our strategies and maintain our determination. Maybe wolves aren't the center of that endless fight, but they're a moving part of it.

*Mara Fridell
Eugene*

MEAN CARTOON

Your cover cartoon of the Dec. 23 issue was a mean-spirited slap on the face of thousands of hard-working Oregonians who own or work on Christmas tree farms that grow, harvest and sell Christmas trees each year. It is a business that brings joy to millions of people nationwide. Oregon is the leading producer of Christmas trees and produces about one fourth of the nation's total production. It adds \$125 million to the Oregon economy. Furthermore, this production takes place on marginal agriculture land that will produce few other profitable crops.

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- 02.19 Karrin Allyson
- 02.21 Nanci Griffith
- 02.27 BeauSoleil
- 03.12 Laurie Anderson
- 05.12 Ricky Skaggs & KT
- 05.25 Audra McDonald (Hult)

Regina Carter
January 28
The Shedd

*Arnold Gallagher
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