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Multicultural FESTIVAL

Tuesday, Aug. 2
5:00-8:30 pm

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Enjoy Swamp Rock Cajun music
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- Cosmic Swimming (4:30 pm)
- Information Booths
- The Pacific Island Dancers
- Hands On Drumming
- Americanistan
- Zapp Dancers
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including motorcycle and
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more information

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and Cultural
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

and bought out Bread & Circus, our local natural foods grocery.

Bread & Circus always bought from local growers as much as possible. Whole Foods claimed they would continue that practice. Bread & Circus supported local community fund-raising. Again Whole Foods announced they would be similarly active locally.

Many years have passed and our great local store has morphed into an incredibly over-priced, designer, yuppie, supposedly natural food emporium. This year the store was doubled in size, the majority of it devoted to wine, cheese, chocolate and fancy coffees. Items in bulk seeds and grains were reduced, the bulk herb section practically eliminated and shoved into an awkward corner.

The dairy product area discontinued using all local suppliers for eggs, milk and butter. Throughout the store local cottage industry products were replaced with more expensive items shipped in from out of state.

Instead there is now an elaborate makeup area in cosmetics and stacks of conventional magazines at the registers. Much of the fresh food deli items are now prepared offsite along with many of the baked goods.

As for involvement in community fund-raising, Whole Foods is notorious among local school fund-raisers as being the only large grocery that has not participated in any programs over the past 10 years.

Make no mistake, Whole Foods is big business, devoted to profits and governed from Texas — no matter what the public relations people say.

*Kristine Sinicrope
Amherst, Mass.*

THE BLACK VOID

When the new library was opened in Eugene, I was very pleased to discover that it has a fairly large collection of movies, including even new releases which usually cost more than a few dollars to rent at places like Blockbuster. But then, what an unpleasant surprise it was to realize that I probably won't be able to watch many of those new DVDs available at our city's library! Why? Because the library for some strange reason buys most DVDs only in the so-called "widescreen" format, which can be fully appreciated if viewed only on special new TVs.

Widescreen TV sets still are quite expensive and are perhaps only affordable to a small portion of the library's patrons. Moreover, I also think that if one has enough money to buy such an expensive TV, then it's most likely no problem for them to simply buy the DVD itself, or at least rent it at a video rental store. On the other hand, the majority of people who can't afford to buy widescreen TVs prefer to borrow movies

from the library. But this is where the problem comes in. Almost all of the movies that the library has on DVDs are now in that widescreen format and thus are almost impossible to watch on a regular TV set, because the movie itself takes up only half of the screen, while the rest is just a black void.

Why can't the library buy, say, three copies of the movie in widescreen and one copy in normal full-screen mode?

*Gabriella Anelaukskaite
Eugene*

CHEM WARFARE

I am very grateful to Ursula Evans-Heritage for her article, "Silent Summer" (6/16). Yet I must mention that she did not cover one of the main current and relevant issues about pesticides in Oregon. Since 2004, Lynn Bowers, founder of Forestland Dwellers No-Spray Group, has mapped more than 51,000 corporate timberland acres in Lane County just between the Coast Range, the Willamette River and south of Eugene that are repeatedly being aerially sprayed with herbicides, including 2,4-D. This chemical is one of the components of Agent Orange (a chemical warfare agent developed for use in defoliating the jungle and farms in Vietnam) and it leaves a persistent, known carcinogen dioxin in the environment forever.

This practice is not limited to Lane County, but is repeated all over Oregon, wherever timber companies first clearcut, then plant Doug fir seedlings. Frequently they must replant the seedlings because the herbicides which are meant to kill competing vegetation can also kill them.

Why are chemical warfare agents being used on Oregon forests, which in turn creates deadly health hazards for Oregonians? And why would corporate timber companies use these deadly chemicals unless they are at war with the forests and Oregonians, or are just they beholden to the petrochemical industry?

If people would like more information about herbicide use in Oregon, Talking Points to Change Herbicide Use in Oregon is available by calling 342-8332 or e-mailing: amy@informproductions.com. If people would like to know more about the environmental causes of cancer, please check out www.preventcancer.com

*Amy Pincus Merwin
InForm Productions and Radio*

LAND OF THE FREE

I agree with everything Charles Dalton said in his "Corrupt Strategy" (7/7) letter. The question is, what do we do now to correct Bush and Cheney's numerous errors that have caused so much misery? It is immoral, illegal, a war crime and an impeachable-of-

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