

**TERRIBLE IDEA**

Selling or leasing our Lane County Fairgrounds is a terrible idea. Having grown up enjoying this historic location, the Lane County Fair and all the various events during the year, I am annoyed that a tiny handful of county commissioners are maneuvering to auction off this popular facility.

Keeping the fairgrounds within the city is a big bonus, giving great convenience to the county's population center. The gem shows, 4H Fair, microbrew festival and numerous youth programs mean a lot to thousands of citizens. The Fairgrounds has been a pleasant memory maker for almost 100 years. Placing a hospital on this site is a short-sighted idea; we already have a hospital nearby. There is no reason to dismantle this facility that gives so much pleasure to over a million visitors a year.

Having grown up in rural Lane County and then resided in Eugene during my studies at the UO, I appreciate the unique connection between urban and rural cultures that the Lane Events Center provides. Call your County Commissioners and tell them not to sell out Lane County citizens by selling this priceless facility to narrow special interests. Shouldn't the public interest come first?

*Molly I. Halpern  
Eugene*

**TWO-SECOND RULE**

After having lived in several large cities, I moved to sleepy little Eugene where I planned to spend my retirement years. However, I had no idea how dangerous Eugene could be for walkers and bikers. Since living here, my son was hit and knocked off his bike by a driver pulling out of a downtown driveway. Though my son was lying on the street, the driver kept going and did not stop to help him.

While walking in crosswalks downtown, on two occasions I was nearly run over by drivers who didn't see, or ignored, the signals and crosswalk rules. On one occasion I ran for the curb to keep from getting run over by a driver who slammed on the brakes and skidded into the crosswalk.

While riding my bike on 5th Avenue an Amtrak bus once turned sharply in front of me and had I not been alert and with good breaks I would have slammed into the side of him and been run over.

Since living in Eugene I have developed my two-second rule. When my light turns green, I always wait two seconds for those drivers who are running the red light to make it through the intersection. In all my years of living in other cities, never once did I experience the hazards from

drivers that I have experienced and read about here. People usually break the rules that are not enforced, so I can only attribute our hazards from autos to poor controls by our police department.

*Wayne Pierce  
Eugene*

**RAMPANT HYPOCRISY**

Lance Jacobs' letter (6/21) states Jeff "Free" Luers was indoctrinated into anarchism, as if he was weak-minded, having no direction of his own. I've only seen evidence that Jeff is one of the most intelligent young people breathing on this earth, quite capable of coming to logical conclusions. Not only that, he's refreshingly honest about his motives and his prevailing pride in his intent when torching those SUVs.

In Jeff's letter (7/7), he points out that which should be obvious to us all in regard to property damage, asking, "what makes an individual act of sabotage more serious than crimes committed by governments and transnational corporations? Why is the destruction of an SUV more noteworthy than climate change and the accelerated rate of extinction worldwide?"

To a large degree, well-informed people know who the most egregious criminals are, how the wealthiest, most powerful international corporate terrorists threaten the life of the planet and its inhabitants, and what actions need to be done to bring about change.

Furthermore, I would like to say that I have grave doubts that Martin Luther King Jr. would be proud to have a street or a parkway named after him. I don't see any honor there. Perhaps MLK would feel insulted by these hollow gestures in light of all the heinous hypocrisy running rampant.

I suggest Lance Jacobs become more knowledgeable about world events, look at the big picture, and express criticism where it's appropriate. There's plenty to do.

*Sherry Franzen  
Eugene*

**AWKWARD IRONY**

Matt Hannigan's letter of suggestions (7/14) on how to socialize in a new town could be read at least two distinct ways — as a nice, PG-rated attempt at humor, which goes to show why he does not have a syndicated column like the increasingly clever "Too Much Coffee Man" or "Date Girl" (neither do I for that matter). Or, his letter was a Wonder Bready attempt at irony.

Either way, if I dare open my cakehole after enduring 42 years of hard knocks, at least I try to offer views you can use or

Oregon Festival of American Music  
**The Shedd Institute**

DICK HYMAN  
KEN PEPLOWSKI  
HARRY ALLEN  
SHIRLEY ANDRESS  
& MORE!

Afternoon  
Concerts  
Thu-Fri, Aug 11-12  
Jaqua Concert Hall  
The Shedd 434-7000

OFAM 2005  
GRAND FINALE!  
All Throu'  
The Night  
Saturday, Aug 13  
Cuthbert Amphith.  
Tickets: 682-5000  
John H. Haines, MD  
Kent A. Karren, MD  
The Eye Center

TONIGHT!  
OREGON FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN MUSIC 2005  
Classic Porter: An evening with  
**Sylvia McNair**  
Thursday, Aug 11th  
Hult Center 682-5000

Final performance tomorrow!  
"Worth any price!"  
- The Register Guard

OREGON FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN MUSIC 2005 PROUDLY PRESENTS  
**ANYTHING GOES!**  
MUSIC & LYRICS BY COLE PORTER  
ORIGINAL BOOK BY GUY BOLTON, P.G. WODEHOUSE, HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSEL CROUSE  
AUGUST 12 - 7:30 PM SILVA HALL, HULT CENTER  
TICKETS: 682-5000

Adam's Place  
30 East Broadway (541) 344-6948  
www.adamsplacerec.com

The Shedd Institute  
868 High Street (at Broadway)  
541-434-7000 - www.ofam.org

John H. Haines, MD  
Kent A. Karren, MD  
The Eye Center  
Presenting Sponsor

WINE SPECTATOR  
**'AWARD OF EXCELLENCE'**  
WINE LIST

Adam's  
PLACE

ADAM'S PLACE  
30 East Broadway (541) 344-6948  
www.adamsplacerec.com