

lieve that one key to convincing the school districts to devote resources to school gardens is for SGP to bring an impressive amount of donated labor and materials to the table to demonstrate community support. We are especially looking for irrigation contractors to volunteer and help us design irrigation systems for school gardens so kids don't come back in the fall to find their school gardens dried up and dead. If you can help with irrigation or other projects, please contact us at 284-9984.

Sharon Blick
Executive director, SGP

SAVAGE ATTACK

I'm a little shocked that *EW*, given its generally progressive nature, would print the Savage (well named) column (9/8) about New Orleans. The column could have been written by Rove, Delay, Gingrich et al, or other Republican strategists trying to deflect the blame for the tragic suffering of mostly poor black folks and the city where jazz and other amazing American culture has been born and lives from the incredibly greed-minded tax and service cuts of the Republicans, and put it on the people of the city itself.

As my friend Sabina of New Orleans says: "Please help to save it. Defend it and try to explain it to others that just see it as 'sin city'." Tell them about the people and the culture and the art and music that pours out of the poorest neighborhoods. The sweetness and the fun. I miss it so much."

Stephen Ramey
Eugene

MISSING PIECES

Thank you for your cover story (9/1) on local, organic school lunches. The story brings a worthy program to public attention. We are, however, disappointed in your failure to discuss local Farm to School efforts already in place.

There was no mention of the Springfield School District's efforts to include some organic food in their lunches. Nor was there any mention of the many school gardens in Eugene and Springfield, the use of local, organic food by the Emerald Valley School, or The Lane County Food Coalition's FOOD On Project that educates and mobilizes parents on the issue.

You also neglected to speak with any of the organizers, other than Sodexo, of the May 2004 Sheldon High School pilot project. Our group of students, Be Involved To End Hunger, teamed together with FOOD for Lane County, the Lane County Food Coalition, the Let's Talk Food group, and Groundwork, Ruby and Amber's, and Hand to Mouth organic farms to initiate and implement the project.

The pilot only lasted three weeks, but in that time student interest began to build. Most students who bought a salad once came back to

buy one again. Though they were interested in the project, being in early spring made it difficult for local growers to make such a small project profitable. Many of the barriers we came up against could be overcome with careful planning and good use of community and federal resources.

We encourage anybody who supports local, organic food in the 4J district to contact Chad Williams and Nicole Lalor of Sodexo and ask them to resume working on this project, or to contact BITE hunger at bitehunger@yahoo.com. With enough community support, this could happen (again) in Eugene.

Carolina Lyddy and
the members of BITE Hunger

GO SUDOKU

I am writing in regards to the new Sudoku feature in the Weekly. It's great. Thanks for taking a chance on a new puzzle. Please keep it up. I'm not sure if it is in any danger of being discontinued, but I felt I had to vocalize some support for it — just in case. I have been an *EW* reader for over five years now, and while I do love the crossword every week, Sudoku is a major improvement.

Ryan Shelton
Eugene

NO EXPERT ON N.O.

I was bewildered by Michel Savage's recent commentary (9/8) on New Orleans. It was a bitter and purposeless attack on a fallen city, with little to offer beyond two-dimensional thinking.

Savage is clearly no expert on New Orleans, despite living there "over a year" and being "very much a part of the culture." I wonder. Culture is exactly the reason the city will be rebuilt, an idea Savage calls "pretending." I would argue that it's inevitable. The geography of New Orleans, like Venice, is regrettable and currently untenable, but its cultural value is beyond any doubt. The blend of music, food, dance, and people — French-Canadian, Spanish, African, Caribbean — is unique to all the world.

Right now, my favorite New Orleans bar is under water. My favorite restaurant is allegedly gone. Their loss is a loss to the culture, but I believe they will be back. To be honest, I've never doubted it.

Savage is basically a disaster tourist, pointing out what's broken when so much needs fixing. "Who in their right mind is going to live there again?" Once the infrastructure is restored, I'm guessing one half of its former citizens. I take my hat off to each of them. Years from now, New Orleans will be defined by how well it managed to rebuild itself. It will be different, of course. The "Big Easy" doesn't feel right anymore. "Hurricanes" won't taste the same. But I plan to see with my own eyes soon, if only to remedy the jaundiced outlook of Savage and others who blame rather than



**A Neighborhood Market
With World-Class Variety!**
"Locally Grown, Locally Owned."

GIFT CARDS ARE HERE!!



- Easy purchase at checkstand.
- Load with any dollar amount.
- Use just like cash at Capella.
- Reloadable at any time.
- A perfect gift for anyone.
- Schools & nonprofits: ask about our 'scrip' program.

25th & WILLAMETTE • EUGENE • OPEN DAILY 8AM-10PM
(541) 345-1014 • www.capellamarket.com



buy sell trade

take the cost out of your costume!

Buffalo EXCHANGE
New & Recycled Fashion

131 E. 5th Ave (between Oak & Pearl) 687-2805 BUFFALOEXCHANGE.COM



The Shedd Institute

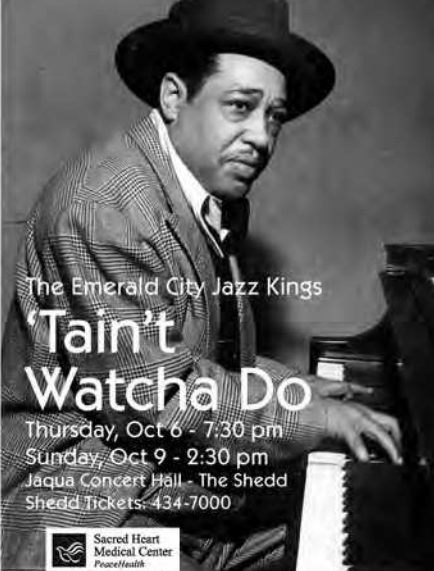
John H. Haines, MD
Kent A. Karren, MD
The Eye Center

434-7000
www.theshedd.org

All tix reserved. No tix processing fees.

Upcoming Concerts

09-24 Rickie Lee Jones
10-06 The Jazz Kings - It Ain't
-09 Watcha Do (Eug, Flor, Corv)
10-25 Dave Douglas - Keystone
10-27 Alison Brown
11-09 Ian Tyson



The Emerald City Jazz Kings
**'Tain't
Watcha Do**
Thursday, Oct 6 - 7:30 pm
Sunday, Oct 9 - 2:30 pm
Jaqua Concert Hall - The Shedd
Shedd Tickets: 434-7000

Sacred Heart Medical Center
Proud Sponsor

Now Hear This 2005-06

Rickie Lee Jones

Saturday Sept 24
Jaqua Concert Hall
The Shedd Institute
Tickets: 434-7000

ISLER & CO.
Certified Public Accountants
and Business Advisors

TERRITORIAL
Vineyards & Wine Company



Home Of The
**EUGENE MARTINI
ASSOCIATION**

**Membership Has
It's Privileges**

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