

logues who oppose the agenda of the ruling elite. Some defendants are being threatened with life imprisonment plus 300 years!

You should be asking yourselves, "Who will be the next target of these neo-fascists: the peace activists, civil rights attorneys, environmentalists, journalists, student groups, Muslims, unions, or anyone who believes they or people abroad have a basic right to justice, due process and a clean environment?"

These neo-fascists still depend on a positive public image to accomplish their agenda. As I see it, the people must expose their blatant tactics and agenda, acting as a shield for groups and individuals targeted by these neo-fascists.

We are sliding very quickly toward a totalitarian regime. We don't have much time to reverse it. With another 9/11 event or pandemic we could see our Bill of Rights and Constitution suspended. Congress could be dissolved, not that that matters much currently.

The people need to stand up and speak now for those who are currently the target. Even if it's just with neighbors, friends or relatives. The people are the ultimate check and balance to unyielding power and absolute corruption.

Shannon Wilson
Eugene

SHARKING FOR PARKING

Give me a break! Its the same old "welcome to Oregon, now go home" attitude. If the same situation presented itself, except with an Oregonian behind the company wanting to build, we would welcome it with open arms. This whole town would love a farmers' market, but because the company is from Texas it's vetoed. We are diverse as long as they don't stay too long or take our cheese.

As far as garages half full, I spent "time" looking for a parking spot in those garages. It didn't matter if the garage was by the DAC or at the hospital, we have all "sharked" for a parking spot.

One last thing: this isn't the first time the City Council has disregarded what the city that voted them in wanted.

Besides, someone has to build the City Hall parking garage.

Joel Stephens
Eugene

THE BRAT FACTOR

As a former preschool teacher, referring to a difficult child as a "brat" would be deemed unacceptable as well as unprofessional. However, now I feel freer to call things as I really see them.

Whole Foods has threatened to not come to Eugene if it doesn't get its demanded parking garage (at the city of Eugene's expense to the tune of \$9 million, of course). The parking garage would exclusively be for the Whole Foods' customers when parking downtown can be scarce.

Certain city officials have agreed to give in to these brats' — oops, I mean Whole Foods' — demands. This \$9 million is what our city needs for a crumbling City Hall, crappy city streets and lighting and our public schools, amongst many of our city's needs.

If I were part of the decision-making process, I would calmly but firmly inform Whole Foods that they are welcome in Eugene, but if they want their own parking garage, they need to pay for it themselves. If Whole Brats — I mean Foods — decides not to come to Eugene, well, that's their choice.

This sounds a lot like a common situation that I have dealt with professionally in my years of working with children as well as my own two kids. The city officials didn't need to cater to Whole Foods' demanding tantrum.

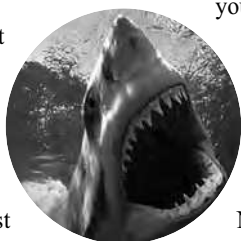
Patricia Lakin
Eugene

THE IRK FACTOR

Your stories regarding Whole Foods are making me more and more angry. I find myself having to write you and hope that perhaps you can listen to another point of view.

- A Whole Foods customer is not a Kiva or Sundance customer. It is an entirely different demographic. At Whole Foods you pay \$2 for an organic apple. No Kiva or Sundance customer is going to do that.

- Whole Foods uses most of the same suppliers that Sundance and Kiva do, i.e. Mountain People's Warehouse, and both local and national natural food distributors (like Nancy's Yogurt, Toby's, etc).



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