

stop sign, just sure that the police were there to make an example out of me.

Critical Mass wasn't last week; we didn't have the mass to make it critical. I feel sad that I live in an environment where the Eugene police think they have to watch four bicycles with eight officers. My kids now have evidence that a police officer is someone we have to watch out for. I feel sad about that too.

We will come again, but I'm not sure when. We live rurally and have to drive into town to support Critical Mass (driving our bio-diesel station wagon, of course). I love Critical Mass, the concept and the party it was (and is) in Berkeley. I hope Eugene will be that way someday, too.

*Kaseja Wilder  
Eugene*

**BLUR THE BORDER**

The problems of illegal immigration are not going away. With upwards of 11 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S. and more millions on the way, there is no solution under the present system. A fence is not the answer; enforcement is not the answer; nor is amnesty.

The only real solution is based on the model provided by the European Union, whose member nations allow for the free movement of its citizens to live and work where they choose. This system, applied to North America (beginning with the U.S. and Mexico and expanding to other countries later) would solve the major problem of entire families moving to the U.S. and then hiding from the authorities and not participating in our culture.

An open border would allow wage-earners to travel and work freely, allowing families who choose to stay home to stay home, but also allowing those wage earners to travel home at will. It would also solve another major problem by increasing the local tax base.

As the huge black-market labor industry is legitimized, workers will pay taxes in the jurisdictions in which they work. The converse would be the free movement of U.S. citizens into Mexico to work and live, bringing new opportunities to exchange ideas and cultures to the benefit of all. The final stipulation is the retention of citizenship for those coming and their children, whether born in the U.S. or brought into this country, who would not become automatic citizens but would need to earn it as people from other nations now are required. Open the border: the result will be a level playing field for all *norteamericanos*.

*Mark Sixel  
Eugene*

**THE BUZZ ON 10TH**

Let's see, mosquito netting? Check. Protective clothing? Got it. Toxic citronella coils? Better get 200. And some of that repellent spray with TOTAL DEET — the kind they issue to Special Forces jungle warfare platoons? Better give me 10 — no, 20 of those.

What? Am I planning a summer rafting trip up the Amazon River to learn native basket weaving? Nope. Amazon Creek, maybe. I'm expecting a biblical mosquito plague to emerge from that festering excavated pond on 10th Avenue, across from the library.

Bzzzz! Anybody else getting early season bites yet?

*Ron Ramsey  
Eugene*

**DEFY TEMPTATION**

I was talking with an out-of-state friend about the plans for a Whole Foods store in Eugene and my plans not to shop there. "Oh, that store is so seductive," she replied. "Everyone will want to shop there." Her remark reminded me of another seductive



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