

bears direct responsibility and has since the early 1990s. The Alwash/U.S. plan amounts to little more than eco-fascism.

John Hickam  
Eugene

## DISGUSTING VOTE

One has to wonder, sometimes, what goes on in the heads of people when they do such things as our county commissioners did last year. I'm sure many of you remember last year when Lane County commissioners voted to impose an income tax on everyone who lives or works in the county with the exception of those on PERS and other pensions. The three commissioners who voted for it made sure that they themselves would be exempt from the tax when they retire. This smacks way too much of the stuff that goes on in Washington, D.C., but I'd like to think we have greater control over our lives at the local level.

I found this vote disgusting for several reasons, the most important being that they tried to pit those of us facing retirement against each other. They asked the public employee unions to support this tax because they promised that their retired members would never have to pay, while other retired folks would still have to pay.

There's an election for some county commissioners coming up, and this is to remind you not to forget that vote of Feb. 21, 2007, where Bill Dwyer, Bobby Green and Faye Stewart imposed a tax on many of us against our will. We had already voted

it down.

Bill Fleenor and Pete Sorenson did not. I will not forget that when I get my ballot in the mail. Hold our politicians accountable.

Robert Thompson  
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: Only Green's and Sorenson's positions will be on the ballot in May.

## RITUAL SIGN-WAVING

The LCC Peace Conference and the peace rally on the anniversary of the invasion of Iraq have good intentions but avoid the reasons for the resource wars marketed as the "War on Terror." Being against war is admirable, but that does not stop war.

The LCC event has a speaker from United for Peace and Justice, a national group that has the "Communist Party USA" (whatever that is) on its steering committee. UFPJ is silent about how 9/11 was allowed to happen to create a pretext for the Peak Oil Wars. The real purpose of the war on Iraq is to create ethnic cleansing to redraw the boundaries to consolidate control of the oil. See the maps at [www.oilempire.us/new-map.html](http://www.oilempire.us/new-map.html)

The Take Back America rally will be another ritualistic waving of signs at an empty Federal Building while listening to speakers tell us things we already know.

One speaker is Mayor Piercy, whose police department just bought Taser torture devices. She voted for the Regional



## THE ASTORIA BAR & POKER ROOM

- **MONDAY:** Wii Bowling League - Sign your team up now!
- **TUESDAY:** 7pm Hold 'Em Tourney • \$30/\$10 add-on
- **WEDNESDAY:** 7pm Hold 'Em Tourney • \$35
- **THURSDAY:** 7pm Hold 'Em Tourney • \$25
- **FRIDAY:** First Friday of every month • \$105
- **SATURDAY:** 3pm Hold 'Em Tourney • \$30/\$15 add
- **SUNDAY:** 1pm Hold 'Em Tourney • \$30/Unlimited re-buys until first break. \$10 add-on

2406 W. 11th Ave. (West Side of Staples Building) 465-2277

For schedule and workshop descriptions go to: [www.lanecce.edu/peacecenter/conference](http://www.lanecce.edu/peacecenter/conference)

## The Lane Peace Center

Is Proud to Present the

### LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PEACE & DEMOCRACY CONFERENCE

February 29 - March 1, 2008

Center for Meeting & Learning, 4000 East 30th Ave, Bldg 19

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Medea Benjamin  
Cofounder of Global Exchange & CODEPINK

Bob Wing  
Cofounder of united for peace & justice

Plus over 15 inspiring workshop presenters on anti-war activism, immigration rights, constitutional rights, religion & peace, climate change & more!



Purchase Tickets Online at: [www.lanecce.edu/peacecenter](http://www.lanecce.edu/peacecenter)

tickets also available at the door

# Growing community through community gardens

Register now to rent your own garden plot

Eugene's Community Gardens Program offers rich soil, healthy food, fresh air garden plots in one of six gardens across the city:

- Amazon Gardens at 27th Ave. and High St.
- Mathews Gardens at 15th Ave. and Hayes St.
- Whiteaker Gardens at the end of North Polk St.
- River House Gardens at 301 North Adams St.
- Alton Baker Gardens on Day Island Rd. in Alton Baker Park
- Skinner City Farm at the west end of Skinner Butte Park

## Lottery registration deadline Monday, March 17

Garden plots will be awarded by a lottery drawing on March 24. Registration continues until all plots are filled. Rent is \$60/year and includes a garden plot (approx. 500 sq. ft.), access to tools and water. Wheelchair accessible and group plots are available at select locations.

### For registration forms and more information

call 682-4800, Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit [www.eugene-or.gov/parks](http://www.eugene-or.gov/parks) and click on **Community Gardens**



Parks and Open Space • 1820 Roosevelt Boulevard • Eugene, OR 97402

## NOTICE TO PARENTS

# School's open!

Visit your neighborhood school – and more!

Learn about Eugene School District 4J schools. Start by visiting your neighborhood school. With the district's school choice policy, parents may send their children to any school within the district, provided there is space available. All 4J schools focus on nurturing the success of each child.

You can enroll in your neighborhood school at any time. To enroll in another district school, the school choice period is from NOW until March 21 for the 2008–09 school year. The 4J Schools Guide — available at any school, at the 4J Education Center, or at [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu) — offers an overview of each school.

Schools throughout the district will be open for visits:

**Monday, Feb. 25 - Friday, Feb. 29**

Please phone ahead or visit [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu) as each school offers different activities and times when parents can visit.

### The Application Process

To enroll your child in a school other than your neighborhood school, parents should:

- Pick up an application at any school, at the 4J Education Center, 200 N. Monroe, or at [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu).
- Return the application no later than March 21 to the 4J Education Center.



More information is available at:

Eugene School District 4J  
200 N. Monroe Street, Eugene, OR 97402  
687-3481 [www.4j.lane.edu](http://www.4j.lane.edu)

School's open – and you're welcome to visit.