

"Life is just one cup of coffee after another,
and don't look for anything else."

- said to be Bertrand Russell's last words

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"Because the Mouth Bone is Connected to the Body Bone"



DR. ROB WHICKER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

people who want their child in an alternative school will re-enter the lottery every year until they finally get in.

Even at that, it must be a relatively small number of people actually applying. My son goes to school at Eastside with three other children from a play group he was in as a baby and toddler. The odds of that happening would be pretty small if all the people complaining about "unfair, elitist, alternative schools" put the names of their children in the lottery system instead of wringing their hands about how they could never get in.

I will admit that there are some elitist attitudes among a few of the parents I have encountered, but they are squarely in the minority. I have not noticed any such attitudes among the students I have encountered.

I went to Eastside myself when I was a child and I was *low income*. My parents felt it was an important thing for me to be in that kind of learning environment, and they did what they could so I could attend.

Now my son goes there and, guess what, I am *low income*. I never once got asked by the school board to show the contents of my wallet before I was allowed to put my child's name in the lottery!

People complain about how the alternative schools allow wealthy people to get a private education at taxpayer expense. I don't look at it that way. I see it as possibly the only chance a poor child has of getting a private school-type education, period.

Adam Campbell-Kaswell
Eugene

VIVA DHARMALAYA

I've lived in this area for about 20 years, raised two children here, worked hard and paid a lot of taxes. Over the past few years I have attended and benefited from several educational programs at Dharmalaya. I've been consistently impressed with the generous and truly inclusive nature of the occasions, inspired by the quality of the programs and have only *ever* seen happy, healthy people interacting in constructive ways around worthwhile topics.

I have never witnessed anything that made me feel concerned for the health or safety of anyone attending. It has always



been a pleasant, cooperative atmosphere. never loud or rowdy, and I've never seen any use of alcohol or drugs — never. (Much unlike the Eugene Celebration.)

Every occasion I have attended at Dharmalaya appears to have been well organized with careful, thoughtful integrity, authentic concern for the well-being of attendees and the selfless promotion of human and community benefit.

I appreciate the city's guidance with regard to matters of public safety and health, I really do. But beyond that, I'm left with a feeling that the city is overstepping its usefulness. A useful role for government in this situation would be to encourage, support and guide innovative efforts — especially in the face of multiple converging challenges we all face with regards to energy, environment, economics, etc. — not thwart or punish constructive efforts to adapt to oncoming changes.

Heading down *that* path, the path of discouraging or suppressing innovative efforts, will result in the government losing its relevancy and legitimacy to lead the people.

The spirit of Dharmalaya is alive in the hearts of many in this community whose lives have been touched and enriched by their programs.

Don Schneider
Pleasant Hill

HAPHAZARD REVIEW

In regards to the "review" of The Gourds in the Feb. 14 issue of *EW*: Wow, I'm impressed that the author of this review

Spring Term Classes Offered by Continuing Education Department at Lane

Better Bones and Balance for OSTEOPOROSIS RISK REDUCTION

10:30 am-noon, M, Mar 31-Jun 9, DTC Rm 301 (\$39)
An Exercise system for OSTEOPOROSIS RISK REDUCTION developed at Oregon State University's Bone Research Lab. This class is taught by certified Better Bones and Balance Instructor Don Hildenbrand and is recommended not only for older adults but as a preventative measure for all.

Self Defense for Women 6-8:30 pm, W, Apr 2-May 21, DTC Rm 301 (\$99)

Self defense training helps with everyday assertiveness and boundary-setting as well as preparing you to fight back in physical attacks. For more information email befree@efn.org
Class taught by Nadia Telsey.

Kundalini Yoga 5:30-6:30 pm, M/W, Mar 31-Jun 9, DTC Rm 317 (\$99)

Kundalini Yoga increases our radiance and the benefits impact all aspects of our physical, mental and spiritual being.

REGISTER BY: Phone: Call the Continuing Education Department at (541) 463-5252

Web: [ExpressLane \(www.lanecc.edu/explane\)](http://ExpressLane.lanecc.edu/explane).

In-Person: Downtown Center, 1059 Willamette St., Eugene, OR 97401

See more classes at: www.lanecc.edu/ce

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