

stones that will lead us (not without some challenges) to a more sustainable future, such as algae for biodiesel, biomass waste for energy and net-zero energy buildings. One person can adapt to a changing world, but millions doing so causes a transformation that can lead to a more equitable world order. A global movement is already afoot, and the decisions we make are choices that affect more than just ourselves, whether choosing the cars we buy, the amount of energy we use, the food we eat or even the wine we buy. Just look for the signs.

Ali Gartlan
Eugene

R-G BANS GAYS

I have never met John Self or Christopher Fraley from New York City.

I do know that they met through an online dating service in 2003. Self, 37, is the director of operations in New York for a chain of health clubs and graduated from University of Virginia. Fraley, 38, works as a partner and senior vice president of Rockwood Capital, and graduated from New York University and received an M.B.A. from Yale.

Self sent an e-mail message to Fraley after the couple was matched by the dating service, and after weeks of phone chats and corresponding through email messages they met in person. After dating eight months, they moved in together in Brooklyn Heights.

The Rev. William Warner-Prouty, a United Church of Christ minister, led a commitment ceremony on April 26, 2008.

Self and Fraley are working with

Growing Generations, a Los Angeles-based agency that arranges for surrogate mothers to have babies for same-sex couples

How do I know so much about this couple? Their picture and all the above information was in *The New York Times* wedding/celebrations section on April 27, 2008.

After reading their celebration column and sharing their excitement, sadness fell over me. If Self and Fraley lived in Eugene, they would not be allowed the joy of having their birth announcement of their planned child in *The Register-Guard*. It is past time for *The Register-Guard* to change their policy and print all birth announcements.

Shirley Gauthier
Springfield

STREET KIDS

Here I am, sitting in a certain park in south Eugene, and I meet this young kid named Thomas. I ask him, "Did somebody throw you out of the house or something?" And he says, "Yes."

Well, all this just blows me away. I'm looking at myself, years ago, when my own family disowned me. I remember the feeling of rejection and abandonment and the loneliness. When we do this to our kids, we're not helping them. This schoolboy feels as if he was thrown away. Why?

As for you parents doing this, thinking that maybe if they were out on their own they might straighten out: Don't be a fool with that old way of thinking. You have no idea the danger — spiritual, physical and mental danger — when you throw your sons and your daughters out in the street.

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