

than welcome downtown, regardless of age, manner of dress or number of piercings.

The exclusion ordinance is only an attempt to enforce some basic respect and decency in an area where it has been sorely lacking for too long. People who live, work and own businesses downtown are fed up with the all too prevalent attitude that downtown Eugene is the designated go-ape-shit zone for the rest of the region.

Downtown is the heart of Eugene, but it is also our neighborhood, and we intend to protect it. If the exclusion ordinance does not succeed in putting the kibosh on people coming downtown specifically to engage in obnoxious, destructive or unlawful behavior, then we will find something that does.

*Elizabeth Henning
Eugene*

SPRINGFIELD HAS ENOUGH

I don't think Mayor Kitty Piercy has thought her exclusion plan through. I know there is a problem with drugs in our community, but is kicking citizens out of a public space the real solution? We here in Springfield like being your neighbor, so please don't send your issues and problems to us. We have enough of our own.

*Tina Towne
Springfield*

STINKY SKUNKS

I was intrigued by Paul Prenskey's "Martial Law" letter (8/7), which posits the possibility for Cheney/Bush to declare martial law powers. Actually this would be a good move for us the people, for it would force the Congress to do what they should have done long ago: impeach Cheney/Bush. It would be literally suicidal for them to declare martial law when a large majority of U.S. citizens think they are stinky skunks, and it would validate the whole impeachment process. Go ahead, Bushies, declare a second Civil War. But I don't think that even the Bushies are that crazy.

*Bob Saxton
Eugene*

GLIMPSE OF LIFE

Driving down 6th Avenue — which, by the way, is a one way street — it was impossible not to notice a young couple heading down this beat.

She was stepping lively, walking briskly; she moved with confidence and verve, while the boychild at her side tried to match her stride and maintain this vision beside him that was causing vehicles to swerve.

Passing cars were slowing down to check out the scene coming round, and traffic was beginning to pile up.

My friend and I got a good look at why everyone wanted to see ... for the young lady in question was, well, completely shirt free, and the vision of her lovelies was about to cause a wreck ... for any man driving by had to crane his neck for a glimpse of life seen only in Eugene, where the law says it's fine for bare breasts to be seen.

*Debra Y. Mathis
Eugene*

ANIMAL ATTACK

Recently, I was walking in my neighborhood in the River Road area when I was attacked and bitten by a German

shepherd. I've walked that street hundreds of times, never having an incident. The owner came out, and when I informed him that I had been bitten, he denied his dog's wrongdoing twice until I dropped my pants and showed him the bite. His remark was, "At least the skin isn't broken!"

I told him I didn't care if the skin was broken; his dog had bitten me. He got in my face, so I went home and called the police. They were unable to help. I was told to call animal control, which I did, and was told that since the skin wasn't broken, they could do nothing. I then asked if I could at least file a report with them and was told they have no forms to record this matter.

So, I decided I need to see my doctor to be sure all is well. Told him my plight, and he said he would dictate all this into my medical record, in case I needed something documented.

Now here I am, bitten by a dog, bruised and sore, owner in my face, no help from government agencies and having to see my doctor, and more than likely, paying my own medical bill.

Where's the justice?

*G.F. Ziegler
Eugene*

RULES FOR BIKES

Leah Kleinberger's ignorance of bicycle laws is pretty silly (letters, 8/7). There are state laws for bicycles, just as there are for motor vehicles. The Oregon Department of Transportation has a manual available online at oregon.gov/ODOT. It lists such common sense rules as: Bicycles have to come to a full stop at a stop sign and a red light. You wouldn't know it by watching many Eugene cyclists, but bikes have to follow almost all the rules that apply to motor vehicles, and the bike manual tells bikers that they should read and follow the rules in the Motor Vehicle Rules of the Road book.

*Chuck Kleinhans
Eugene*

RECIPE BOOK?

I love your *Chow!* insert (7/31). I especially enjoy the recipes featured from the wonderful chefs that inhabit Eugene. I wish you would collect all the recipes into a cookbook and sell it at local bookstores. I know I would buy one! Thanks for all your hard work and great reporting.

*Jesse Mull
Eugene*

HYDROGEN'S LIMITS

Fred Marsico (letters, 8/14) can't understand why an OSU professor isn't on the hydrogen bandwagon. It's because the professor understands fundamental physics and chemistry.

Marsico, Bobby Kennedy Jr. and others who apparently think that hydrogen is a viable answer to our energy woes "because it's made from water" clearly don't understand these basics.

Separating hydrogen from the water molecule takes energy. Some of that energy is recovered when the hydrogen is burned and reforms water. But not all of it. No energy conversion process is 100 percent efficient. Hydrogen from water is therefore a losing proposition from an energy standpoint unless a way to fuse it into helium without

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