

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fred, a dark skinned Puerto Rican, was walking in the vicinity of Pegasus Pizza with two friends on the evening of Jan 9. Another man approached him asking for a cigarette. When Fred said he didn't have one, the man, Billy Brosowski, identified himself as a white supremacist and said "I'm going to fucking kill you." He then proceeded to bite off Fred's ear. Brosowski was later arrested and will stand trial on March 3. I was unable to find out what he has been charged with.

Sadly, there have been too many similar acts of violence in our community in the not so distant past. Just as many men support women and children by standing up and telling their brothers who commit acts of sexual and domestic violence that those acts are unacceptable; and straight people support their lesbian, gay, transsexual and bisexual sisters and brothers by speaking out against acts of violence towards individuals based on gender identity, white folks need to make it clear that acts of violence towards people who are not white cannot and will not be tolerated. It is way past time for such ignorant and abhorrent behavior to become nonexistent. All forms of violence towards others, regardless of age, gender, sexual identity, and ethnicity must end if we are to evolve and remain on this planet. We need to acknowledge our oneness and honor our diversity.

We once saw a poster in a small northern Idaho town, and we would like to see that poster all over Eugene. It would say, "EUGENE IS TOO GREAT TO HATE." Let's come together and find ways to end all violence in our community so that we may all walk our streets free of fear.

Micki Scott, Lola Broomberg,
Jessica Gilbertson, Jenny Lor
Dana Gorman, Noor Rajabzadeh,
Jenny Root
Eugene

COLD SHOULDER

My husband has myotonic dystrophy 2, a recently discovered genetic type of muscular dystrophy which makes walking hard. It is an official ADA recognized disability; however, if one is in a decent physical condition, it might not be debilitating to the

point of needing a wheelchair. My husband is fighting this option. On short walks, he uses a cane with a seat and rests every block or so, and for longer distances, he uses a small electric scooter with an added seat, a maximum speed of 6.5 mph and 9-inch diameter wheels. He has a handicapped flag for his car.

On Saturday (1/24) we went to the Home, Garden & Living Show at the Fairgrounds and my husband took his scooter, as the amount of walking required to tour the show is beyond his capabilities. When he entered the building a security guard stopped him and begrudgingly let him go when my husband explained that the scooter was in lieu of a wheelchair. However, within seconds, the guard called Eugene police officer Bobby McDermed.

McDermed argued that "the Home Show folks were upset by the presence of a bike." This scooter, with its tiny wheels, bears no resemblance to a bike; it closely resembles electric wheelchairs with handlebars, which were allowed. Even after my husband pleaded his case, the officer denied him access.

We pride ourselves on being progressive and disabled-friendly. It was a sad day for all parties involved, a trampling of the general principles of ethics and human compassion and possibly a violation of the ADA.

Bojana Stefanovska
Eugene

ENOUGH RILING

Here's a glimpse of the 90 percent of the story you missed in your 1/22 article that discussed impacts to the park from the I-5 Willamette Bridge project:

The Environmental Assessment (EA) document was the result of hundreds of hours of collaboration between representatives of ODOT, Willamalane Park and Recreation District, Eugene Parks and Open Space, and — probably most important to your article — the Citizen Planning Committee for the Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park (CPC). The CPC is well-known for its staunch, relentless advocacy for the park, especially regarding environmental issues.

9 Locations in Eugene and Springfield

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