

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

except for one thing. Historically, police like to have everything in one place, all of their services, offices etc.

Well, that's true, but perhaps in order to make everyone happy and get what they want the police, city and citizens of Eugene will need to compromise and change things in order to — oh, wait. There is no such thing as compromise and change among Eugeneans. Never mind.

Alisa McLaughlin
Eugene

LOVE POTPIE

Glad to see the hilarious Live Matinee performances get a well-deserved mention in your recent issue. The wonderful WYMPROV! is represented in the *Weekly* by the always insightful Sally Sheklow. But come on, *Eugene Weekly*, where's the love for Potpie Theater? I refuse to believe that your staff doesn't "get" their style of humor. Perhaps you haven't yet taken the opportunity to watch these two talented actors at work? With all due respect to the aforementioned groups, Potpie Theater is the comedy show local television producers (and newspapers, and everyone) should sit up and take notice of.

Deanna Hardin
Eugene

HEMP VS. GRASS

The good Gov. giveth and taketh. The Oregon Senate just passed SB 676, giving Oregon farmers permission to grow and possess industrial hemp, which is used for building material, cloth, cordage, fiber, food, floor coverings, fuel, industrial chemicals, paint, particle board, plastics, seed meal, seed oil and yarn. The growing of hemp requires no herbicides, pesticides or burning. The Oregon Senate just passed SB 528, taking the Oregon grass seed farmer's permit to burn their fields down to 20,000 acres. Grass seed is used for lawns, golf courses and pastures and requires herbicides, pesticides and burning to sanitize the fields. The only thing blocking Oregon and fifteen other states who have passed similar hemp legislation is the "reefer madness" of the federal government. It is time to stop this madness and allow American farmers the right to grow the crop our nation was founded on.

Michael T. Hinojosa
Drain

TORTUROUS THUGS

I enjoyed the two civilized letters about Eugene police defects written by Steven Morris and Mechelle Coburn. I do not visit downtown Eugene and will continue to boycott it until Eugene police are trained to be decent human beings instead of being trained to be torturous thugs equipped with mind-crippling tasers and with minds warped with medieval training and a medieval disgrace of a weird union instead of a good union.

Bob Saxton
Eugene

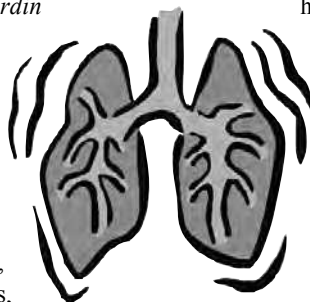
BIOMASS BURNING

Congratulations to the Toxic Alliance and the medical community who supported the ban on field burning. Thanks also to those Democratic legislators, especially Rep. Paul Holvey who created the legislation, for voting to end this serious air polluting problem.

Field burning was a health hazard to many in our air polluted valley. However, have you noticed how the sky has taken on a grayish brown tone, no longer the beautiful blue when the rain cleans our air. I'm afraid we don't do enough in our valley to reduce the pollution we have here in Eugene/Springfield, and we are now facing the additional hundreds of tons of pollution with biomass burners. Our wood burning wigwams are gone. Our utilities no longer burn hog fuel. The newest threat to our breathing is biomass wood burners, wigwams with some controls.

The Oregon American Lung Association has just issued its 2009 report and gave Lane County a D for ozone (smog) and an F for particulates that enter the lungs producing cancer, asthma and other breathing problems. The report stated that the following were groups at risk: Asthma 32,733, Chronic Bronchitis 9,465, Emphysema 4,780, Cardiovascular Disease 101,414, Diabetes 21,907 out of our population of 343,591. I hope our community demands air pollution reduction, not new sources of pollution!

Ruth Duemler
Eugene





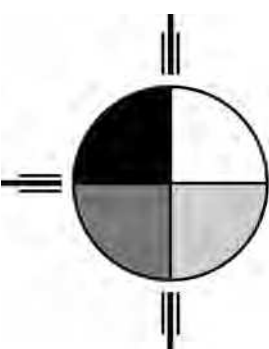
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