

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

and judicial elections. Constitutionally protected democracy busting, so to speak. Kind of ironic.

Here's an example of what's at stake. By spending just 1 percent of their profits, the largest 100 corporations will be able to double the current political spending by all parties and federal candidates. So who's your daddy? Soon all elected officials will know the answer.

I scanned the forum for any paper and ink corporations that might stand for Citizens United, et al and unlimited corporate campaign financing. No thing stood. But the flesh and blood people who filled the room all stood for democracy and common sense.

My conclusion: Corporations have no legs, and Citizens United and its ilk make no sense. If you agree, then join me in telling our elected representatives that corporations are not people and money is not speech. Hurry, while they'll still take our calls.

Benton Elliott  
Eugene

### THE REAL TEA PARTY

There are some realities to the origin and motives of the Tea Party that, apparently, are not as well researched by some Eugeneans as the colors of prison garb worn by WW II Nazi prison camp inmates ("Tea Party of the '20s" letter, 1/27).

A quick visit to Wikipedia will show that the Tea Party was born of Ron Paul supporters commemorating the anniversary

of the original Boston Tea Party. A fundraiser was held for the 2008 presidential primaries advocating and end to fiat monies, disengaging from foreign entanglements in Iraq and Afghanistan, and upholding states' rights. It endorses reduced government spending (on war and entitlement programs), lower taxes, reduction of the national debt and federal budget deficit, and adherence to an originalist interpretation of the U.S. Constitution. I pulled this information almost verbatim from Wiki.

Glen Beck hijacked the Tea Party. He assumed control of something that was born of the people. Something simple and very American in motivation; millions of citizens who had little to no political involvement until they collectively said aloud what they were thinking for many years. Beck represents the ideology of millions of uninformed and under-educated people, but he does not represent the ideology of the Tea Party. Anyone who wants a real high profile representation of Tea Party ideology should look at Ron Paul. Paul and Beck could not be further apart in motivation, life experience, ideology or credibility.

Perhaps if either side of the political spectrum stop casting their opponents as "modern day Nazis" there could be real and fruitful debate and agreement on issues that are bankrupting our country financially and socially.

Keith Schneider  
Kerry Sipe  
Eugene

## West Eugene EmX: We're listening.

The West Eugene EmX (WEE) project is nearing an alignment decision and your input is important!

At the Joint Locally Preferred Alternatives (LPA) Committee meeting on January 31, representatives from the Eugene City Council, LTD Board, and Metropolitan Policy Committee selected their preliminary LPA recommendation for the WEE project:

- West 13th/11th Alignment Mitigated Concept, and
- No Build

*Your voice needs to be heard!* Plan to attend this open house and public hearing to learn more and provide your feedback.

### Open House/Joint Public Hearing

Tuesday, February 8, 2011

Open House: 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Joint Public Hearing: 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Eugene Hilton, 66 East 6th Avenue, Eugene

To find out more about the project, go to our website at [weemx.ltd.org](http://weemx.ltd.org). Input can be made at these events. Input can also be provided by email ([ltd@ltd.org](mailto:ltd@ltd.org)), by mail (PO Box 7070, Eugene, OR), or by telephone (541-682-6100).



Plan to  
attend!

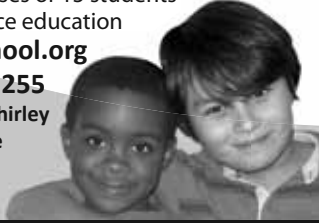


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**WEDNESDAY, FEB. 9**  
**DROP BY 6-8PM**

SHO 3rd Annual  
*Wine Tasting*  
**FUNDRAISER**

Saturday, Feb. 19, 2011  
4:00-7:00pm  
Hult Center for the Performing Arts - Lobby  
A 21 & Over Event

Wine Sampling  
Hors d'oeuvres  
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Tickets \$15  
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## BIRKENSTOCK REPAIR SALE

Sale ends February 28th

Bring in your  
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footwear during the  
month of February  
and **SAVE 10% on  
repairs\***



\*Sale limited to classic Birkenstock, Birki's, Papillio and selected Tatami and Footprints. Lifts and modifications excluded.

Note: Footwise-Corvallis Repair Sale starts March 1st

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