

still be the Harvard valedicts. And the ax murderers will still be the ax murderers.

2) Yes, school mergers are an inconvenience, but fiscal realities means painful cuts. I feel for laid off teachers and staff.

3) Essentially nothing in Eugene is farther than 3 to 5 miles, so bus service could be cut (except for special needs students). I feel for the laid-off bus drivers.

See the BIG picture.

Also, having children is a choice. Income taxes should tax income, not family status.

*Jose Thometz
Eugene*

WHERE'S THE PROBE?

I don't get it. Usually *EW*, and Alan Pittman in particular, does an excellent job calling the city bureaucracy, developers and their ilk, on running scams on the people of Eugene. The out-of-control police department, Phil Knight — you guys do a great job on all of this. So why, oh why, has the *Weekly* decided to take up the cudgels for the West Eugene EmX?

Buses are good, yes. Mass transit is good, yes. But a very expensive bus to ... Walmart? Target? When LTD first started shutting down bus lines in order to fund the first EmXs, the *Weekly* was right on it. Now that some bus lines have been discontinued on West 11th, EmX is being praised to the skies, because it is soooo super-zoomy. Where will future operating money for it come from? Who exactly is it going to serve out in west Eugene (new

development?)? In the wetlands? We are not getting a balanced discussion about what's good, not quite so good, what we will gain, what we will lose. Instead we get really nasty and silly attacks on those who oppose the EmX extension.

I went to a demonstration, on a work day, of nearly 100 people and the ratio of cars honking and waving approval versus those expressing disapproval was at least 10-1. The Far West Neighborhood Association is not made up of car-oriented businesses, but we went on record opposing the extension, both when it was slated to go down the bike path in our neighborhood, and also down West 11th.

Some real reactionaries are opposing this project, but there are also some real supporters of public transit (mass transit, not rapid transit), and some veteran progressives who think this is just a bad idea. Please, stop repeating what LTD management tells you. Do some reporting; it's what you are good at, right?

*Jack Radey
Eugene*

CELEBRATING FAGGOTRY

I felt compelled to write regarding Jessica Zuckerman's letter in the Feb. 3 issue, in which she called out Sally Sheklow for using the word "faggoty" in her piece on seeing Joan Rivers. I can't personally speak for Sheklow. I also can't speak for the LGBT community, which is incredibly diverse and not in the habit of making unilaterally agreed upon



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