

profit to the soccer club and then places the entire site on the tax rolls. In selling the site, the city can reformat the deed to guarantee that it will always be used as a recreational venue for the public. And for those who think it's an eyesore, the plywood facing is the perfect base for a large-scale mural. Paint it to look like the Roman Coliseum. Then, as you pass by during a game, the roar of the crowd may help you imagine a gladiator smack-down or feeding time for the lions.

So, the site could provide a major multi-entertainment venue for Eugene, tax dollars for the city, a new facility for the Y and, on top of all that, bring in millions of tourist dollars. Is this a no-brainer or what?

*Carlos Barerra  
Eugene*

**CREDIT TO BUSH?**

According to the tortured logic of the right-wing carnival barking pundits, President Bush should be given some credit for the death of bin Laden.

This is the same Bush who said "I don't know where bin Laden is. I have no idea and really don't care. It's not that important. It's not our priority." Bush said this after disbanding the bin Laden task force and ordering them to focus on Iraq. Bush said this after subjecting Khalid Sheik Mohamed to the illegal torture of waterboarding 183 times. The only information KSM gave while being tortured turned out to be false.

To turn President Obama's brilliant and courageous leadership into a defense of Bush's miserable failure takes a truly desperate and tortured mind.

*Michael T. Hinojosa  
Drain*

**URBAN WASTELAND**

Last week I awoke to the sound of blazing chainsaws in the South University neighborhood. I assumed a neighbor was clearing a tree or two, but when I returned home from work I was stunned to see piles upon piles of trees, some more than 30 feet in length. All in all I counted 40 trunks littered across the open yard (in Emerald Alley between 19th and 20th). The tallest tree that caught the axe—one of the biggest in all of the surrounding neighborhood—was not felled but was stripped of all its branches and now stands towering above nearby homes like a bizarre lifeless cactus.

I grew up in the neighborhood just south of the UO, a neighborhood that has always taken pride in one thing: It's not the WEST University neighborhood. The distinction? While West University is overrun with underage binge drinkers, blaring rap music and three-story eyesore apartment complexes, the South University neighborhood is quieter, with a sprinkling of students and a more residential feel.

But apparently not for long. In the past few years, many aging houses in my neighborhood have been flipped into newer, bigger, multi-unit complexes with high price tags and wealthy college students from out of state willing to foot the bill. While it's true that these new developments bring dollars into our community, I have to wonder: At what cost? Are we willing to take the steps to preserve the neighborhood feel of where we live, or is the south university neighborhood going the way of a college student utility zone?

*Ian Baldwin  
Eugene*

**CIVIC SOLUTION**

Sometimes I wonder if I'm reading the same news story as everyone else. When I look at the three proposals facing the Eugene School Board about what to do with the Civic Stadium property, the Y proposal seems so far and away to be the best of all worlds for this community. And yet, the school board gave a higher score to Fred Meyer. Some of our elected officials want the city to get involved and save the stadium. Then there's the *Weekly* with some convoluted idea about the city pressuring the Y into saving the stadium.

What I fear is going to happen, with everyone telling everyone else what they think they should be doing, is we'll end up with a Fred Meyer. OK, maybe a very nice Fred Meyer with recycled material from the stadium, but a Fred Meyer nonetheless. Instead, we could have a fabulous sports facility serving large portions of the community and student housing on top of it. The Y's plan dovetails beautifully with Envision Eugene's idea of creating higher density in this part of town. It will bring infill and vibrancy to a key piece of close-in property that is presently underutilized and in a key part of town that is poised for growth. It will serve unmet needs. We, as citizens, should be thankful that a partner as



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**Eugene 4J School Board, Position 4**



**Linda Hamilton**

Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Parole and Probation Officer

**Occupation Background:** 24 years in Adult Corrections

**Educational Background:** Lane Community College, Associates Degree in Community Service, University of Oregon, Bachelor of Science in Political Science

**Prior Government Experience:** Chair, Eugene Human Rights Commission; Lane Council of Government; Disability Services Advisory Council; Human Services Commission; Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee; Eugene Police Commission

**Community Service:** United Way of Lane County Navigator; Downtown Safety Task Team; 4J Equity Committee; Co-Chair, Community Alliance of Lane County

**Linda's Priorities:** Sustainable Budget, Teachers & Classrooms, Effective Education, Parent & Community Involvement

**Endorsed By:**

*All Lane County Commissioners:*

Commissioner Jay Bozievich, Commissioner Rob Handy, Commissioner Sid Leiken, Commissioner Peter Sorenson, Commissioner Faye Stewart

Pat Farr, Eugene City Councilor

"Linda's commitment to our community is unparalleled. 4J will benefit greatly from her proven leadership and fresh perspective."

— Jennifer Solomon, Former Eugene City Councilor

"As a School Board member, Linda Hamilton will work to ensure our children the best opportunities to succeed. In spite of heavy budget reductions, she will work hard to prevent our community from failing our responsibility to our children."

— Dr. Edwin Coleman, II, Professor Emeritus, U of O

"Linda Hamilton is a tireless crusader who ensures that EVERY child's right to an education is met, that prepares them to be bright, productive citizens in our society."

— Robin Brown-Wood

"As a 4J raised student, and a 10 year 4J school counselor I enthusiastically endorse Linda for 4J School Board, Position 4."

— Callan T. Coleman, M.A.

Learn More:

[www.lindahamilton4j.com](http://www.lindahamilton4j.com)

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