



Keeping a few chickens in your backyard is one thing; the idea of parking ruminants there is another. Importing every ounce of feed that these animals need into a city environment doesn't strike me as "sustainable," nor does it smack of "homesteading." It seems to me more like a miniature Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). It doesn't leave any room for rotational grazing or using the land in a responsible manner. Nor will animals appreciate living in a mud pit during our rainy winters, which will happen when you have hoofed animals roaming around a small area.

Ruminants need room. There are formulas for stocking densities per acre. This isn't breaking news; there are libraries of books on the subject, universities dedicated to animal management and production and plenty of local sources to buy animal products that have been humanely raised. The Eugene city code isn't the problem; the problem is the perpetuation of misinformation leading to feelings of warm fuzzies about having your livestock close at hand, where you can treat them as "pets" and anthropomorphize all day long, imagining their thoughts and feelings.

Livestock belong in the country. Leave the farming to farmers and support them at your farmer's market and/or at restaurants that chose local purveyors, or buy a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) share. Or get a job on a farm.

*Phil Biboux
Cheshire*

POPULATION CONTROL

Inasmuch as guns don't kill people but that people do, it appears there are too many people. Does the NRA have an official stance on birth control?

*James L. Whetstone
Eugene*

TIRED ARGUMENT

I'd like to respond to Curtis Taylor's letter of July 19. The reason I didn't mention either mandatory spay/neuter or breeding ban laws is because they do not work. Even the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (I am not a fan) does not support these laws; and Curtis, it's not "euthanasia," it's killing.

I did rather enjoy his rant blaming the "irresponsible public." Blaming the public for the very real shortcomings of animal

facilities that do not fully embrace the No Kill equation is a very old and very tired argument. Sorry, Curtis (and Greenhill), we don't buy it. Affordable (not mandatory) spay/neuter is one of the cornerstones of the No Kill equation; thankfully we have the Willamette Animal Guild Spay/Neuter clinic here. WAG has made a gigantic impact reducing the number of kittens and puppies born locally.

Curtis' argument about "excess" animals locally does not make sense, either, as Greenhill imports dogs from California. There is certainly the same number of dogs locally that they could help. What Lane County deserves and wants is to be a No Kill community, based honestly on the No Kill equation. The transition at LCAS in its last 18 months of operation under the leadership of Rick Hammel proves that. See wkly.ws/1by for an explanation of No Kill.

Pointing fingers at Greenhill? You bet we are. Greenhill should be leading the way to a No Kill community, and they refuse. It's time for transparent and accountable No Kill administration at Greenhill. The No Kill equation saves lives.

*Tamara Barnes
No Kill Lane County
Eugene*

FACING GREATER TRAGEDIES

Could the media please give us a break with endless grisly accounts of the Aurora killings? I understand it was a tragedy, and our sympathies lie with the 70 innocent victims. But we also need to appreciate that 86 Americans are killed by firearms every day, and nearly 4,000 are killed prematurely by chronic diseases linked with consumption of animal products and lack of exercise.

So, let's replace the vacuous hand wringing over the Aurora tragedy with constructive personal steps to lessen the greater tragedies facing us every day.

*Edward Newland
Eugene*

WHICH WAY, 4J?

The only purpose of consolidation of any school is to benefit the career bureaucrats and keep the parents away — completely out!! Costs and everything else mentioned in the article are totally irrelevant.

*Frank Skipton
Springfield*

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