

commitment to inclusion, diversity, and fairness. Shorter and more creative features would be much more respectful of the mecca for the arts that Eugene is known for.

Mike Meyer
Eugene

ABUSING THE SYSTEM

I am an LCC student. It is very disturbing to watch what I call "professional students" abuse the financial aid system. Yes, everyone has the right to further their education, but not to abuse it! Some may not see this as an issue, but I do. Financial aid is not to support drug habits or to party with. This leads me to the welfare system and how it can also be abused. If in the future the government starts drug testing everyone who is in the welfare system, then I believe financial aid should also do drug screenings. After all, it is government money!

Kim Myers
Eugene

ONE OF LIFE'S GIFTS

One of the reasons pot should be legal is that the secrecy that prohibition brings to families and friends is very divisive. Parents and other relatives can't smoke around minors. They have to hide from all their relations as if they were criminals. This creates a mentality in all those involved that there is something bad and it should either be hidden or told to the authorities.

Cops aren't doctors, and although they have the experience of being around pot users, they are not qualified to speak to its healing or harmful qualities.

I don't smoke it, but I don't abstain because of moral reasons. I am very sensitive to it and it reacts badly with me. Even though I stay away from consuming it, I think it and for that matter all entheogens should be legal, its use legitimized and its quality kept pure. I mention entheogens, a word many may not be familiar with, to encapsulate all drugs (plants and chemicals) that have a spiritual value, hence the word theo or "god."

Let this new age of the water bearer that is coming upon us be one of enlightenment and unity. Let's free up our jails (the most populated per capita than any country in the world, even China). Let's use jails in the traditional sense for murderers, rapists, thieves and other people who harm others, not those that are trying to explore their minds and find religion. Hemp products would also be a great boon to our economy and the environment.

David Ivan Piccioni
Eugene

LETTERS POLICY: We welcome letters on all topics and will print as many as space allows, with priority given to timely local issues. Please limit length to 200 words, keep submissions to once a month, and include your address and phone number for our files. Email to letters@eugeneweekly.com fax to 484-4044, or mail to 1251 Lincoln, Eugene 97401.

RE-ELECT

Betty Taylor

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Judge of the Circuit Court, 2nd District, Position 7

Vincent Mulier

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• Dr. Vincent Mulier is a Write-In Candidate for Circuit Court Judge, 2nd District, Position 7.

• Your vote will count this time. No names are on the ballot for this position. Establishment candidates are also running write-in campaigns. This is a rare chance to beat the establishment and elect the alternative candidate.

• Dr. Mulier is a Lane County public defense attorney and a Philosophy Professor at PSU. He holds a PhD in Philosophy from the U of O and a law degree from Willamette University. He is a member of the American Federation of Teachers.

• Dr. Mulier is the Founder and Executive Director of Celilo Falls Restoration Fund, a nonprofit group that promotes the restoration of traditional salmon fisheries on the Columbia River.

• Dr. Mulier has lived in Eugene since 1990. His daughter is a freshman at the U of O.

www.mulier4judge.org