

guy. I have to assume listing him as Hubert J. Prichard (as it must have appeared on his check to Valle) is simply the writer's, and editor's, ignorance of who he is.

This knee-jerk assumption that because you own and/or develop property automatically makes you some kind of progressive pariah is the kind of holier-than-thou ideological cul-de-sac that casts a pall on the liberal/progressive movement in general. All of the people listed above are valued community members who have advocated for progressive goals. Whether *EW*'s characterization of them as "far less progressive" is bad reporting, clumsy editing, ignorance, or ideological orthodoxy, it's exactly the kind of message that discredits progressives in general.

For the sake of all of us with progressive values and goals, please, get it right, or don't write it.

John Wagner  
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: There must be 50 shades of progressive.

### FOOD BUSINESS ALLIANCE

As reported in last week's [Biz Beat, 11/1], Mayor Kitty Piercy proclaimed Oct. 24 as "Food Day." But what wasn't reported was that this proclamation took place at a meeting of the members of the Willamette Valley Sustainable Foods Alliance — many of whom graced the "Best of Eugene" pages of the very same *EW* issue.

The Willamette Valley Sustainable Foods Alliance (WVSFA) is a group of approximately 50 local food businesses that have come together to establish recognition of the Willamette Valley as a premiere source of natural foods through shared values, relationships, education and sustainable business practices.

At the "Taste of the Valley" in the fall and "Fun with Fermentation" in January, WVSFA's efforts are on display as member businesses gather under one roof to sample their products to the public.

WVSFA member businesses themselves continue to innovate and delight throughout the year, as evidenced by last week's "Best of Eugene" awards for Ninkasi, Oakshire, Falling Sky, Sweet Life Patisserie, Café Yumm and Vanilla Jill's, as well as the Biz Beat mention of "Jack and Jill's Courtyard." We are truly lucky to have such innovative businesses in our backyard, as well as a city government and public that supports them.

Zachariah Baker  
Eugene

### VULGAR ATTACK

An overtly racist letter entitled "The Puppy Vote" was printed in *EW* Nov. 1. This letter is a vulgar attack against women and against interracial marriage. To refer to Juan Carlos Valle's family, using the words "vanilla breeder credentials," is racist and sexually violent. In addition, misogynistic sexual references are included in this letter about Betty Taylor are an affront to women and to Betty Taylor as a woman.

Words hurt and kill people every day. This letter in *EW* supports disempowerment and its inclusion confuses me. There is a great danger in the use of blind words and

attitudes about people who are seen as different from oneself. We all need to keep challenging ourselves and those around us to grow, to see where we can create connection, not division.

The letter ironically comes after "You Are Not Alone," a letter from the Human Rights Commission and Mayor Kitty Piercy, which calls for Eugene to be welcoming, and it expresses sympathy for racism and acts of violence and hatred in our community.

Barb Stevens-Newcomb  
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: We're not 100 percent certain of the author's intentions but we perceived the letter as satire, alas a risky form of humor.

### BAD HANGOVER

Hey, the election is over and your guy won. I know you feel great this morning.

I feel like I drank crappy Schnapps and chased it with a six-pack of PBR. While my head doesn't physically hurt, my stomach is a mess and my emotions are in a whirl.

But in the end, I am not just some pissed off Republican who was hoping for revenge. Oh, wait, that was your guy. What I really am is simply and supremely disappointed that enough lazy turds that are content with being spoon-fed all their lives; that are content living off their Oregon Trail Cards (which is me, actually); that think taking from others who may have 15 cents more than they do is justified; that think the unions are looking out for them; got together and chose to push our country closer to a pure drug-addled, video game, spoon-fed haze of mediocrity largely at the expense of others who get up every day and go to work.

I wish more lazy turds had higher hopes for themselves and their children.

I need another PBR.

Brian Palmer  
Eugene

### REALLY, OREGON?

I don't know if I'm more shocked, angry, or disappointed to see that Oregonians failed to pass the measure for legalizing marijuana in the recent election. I originally moved to Oregon decades ago, believing that Oregon was the most progressive state in the U.S. I guess I'm really going to have to rethink that at this point!

So rather than collect taxes on marijuana to aid the state's failing budget issues (among the worst in the U.S.), and end the useless and ill-conceived enforcement of Victorian-era prohibition, we have instead chosen to spend even more state revenue on enforcing that which can not be enforced. This is proven out, as there is better and more marijuana now than there has ever been, despite almost a century of prohibition.

Here in Lane County, we can not even keep the perpetrators of violent crimes in our jail, due to budget issues that keep us from both maintaining and staffing the county jail, yet we will now continue to add to that problem instead of resolving it.

But what really shocks me the most is that a more conservative state like Colorado would be the first to challenge federal laws and break the ice on this issue, and classify

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Nov 30, Dec 1, 7, 8, 14 & 15 - 7:30 pm  
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# LET IT SNOW!

Dec 6 evening & 9 matinee