

## JUST IRONIC SNARK

Barb Stevens-Newcomb's response Nov. 15 to my letter Nov. 1 about an *EW* cover story supporting Betty Taylor's reelection bid for Ward 2 baselessly accuses me of racism, misogyny, sexual violence and opposition to interracial marriage. Let me be clear: My intention was to criticize through ridicule the cover story's totally inappropriate and silly headline, "Fifty Shades of Betty." By associating the octogenarian city councilor with a best-selling BDSM porn novel, the *Weekly* demeaned both the politician and the electoral process.

Stevens-Newcomb misread or doesn't seem to understand some of the words I used. The terms "breeder" and "vanilla" originated as useful ironic snark in queer culture and have passed into Millennial generation slang. The first term simply means heterosexuals who have children and the second term refers to a style or selection of conventional mainstream sexual behaviors and activities. Nothing more. I made no reference to Juan Carlos Valle's race or ethnicity, and I have no idea what his wife's race is. I disagree with Stevens-Newcomb's assertion that words "kill people everyday," and I suggest she consider the difference between speech and action.

I further mocked the obligatory campaign literature and advertising in which a candidate must be shown with family, especially spouse/partner and children to affirm they are good people. Taylor, apparently without readily available family, appeared with a puppy surrogate, so we would all know the candidate is kind and lovable. But this might not be enough for Eugene's politically correct vigilantes. Is that dog from the pound or from a puppy farm? Is it a purebred or a mutt? Is the pup spayed or not? Is it fed meat or is it vegan? Is it wearing a chemical flea collar or not? These are crucial electoral issues in south Eugene. Informed voters need answers!

Chuck Kleinhans  
Eugene

## ONE-TRICK PONY

Once again, George Beres [Letters, 11/15] has wasted the ink of a local newspaper with his anti-Israel drivel. Somehow, he always manages to insert his propaganda into every letter that he writes to *EW* and *The Register-Guard*. For some reason, both newspapers continue to publish his misinformed and ill-intentioned letters.

Reading the news on the internet last week, I noticed an article about the public execution of six alleged Palestinian spies in Gaza City. There was no trial, no judge, no jury, just Hamas taking justice into its own hands. After the murders, a mob surrounded five of the corpses, stomped on them, and spit on the bodies. The sixth corpse was tied to a motorcycle and dragged through the streets.

Although this is extremely shocking, public executions and desecration of the bodies of alleged spies is not new in Palestine; it has been occurring for over 20 years. This activity has been condemned by Human Rights Watch, the Palestinian Center for Human Rights and other international rights groups. Yet Beres continues to foul our newspapers with his charges that Israel is the uncivilized country and the Palestinians are innocent victims.

Since Beres is obviously unable to get off his one-trick pony and come up with anything useful or original, maybe our local newspapers should do a better job of filtering out his nonsense.

Dave Taube  
Eugene

## FIX WILLAMETTE

We have an important decision to make regarding the improvements to South Willamette Street. Those changes, when made, will dictate how the next generation deals with the growing health challenges. According to Dr. Richard Jackson (who spoke at the Downtown Public Library June 19), well-designed communities can improve both physical and mental health.



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# SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

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(select concerts & shows)

- 11.30-12.16 Musical: Singin' In The Rain
- 12.6-13 Christmas at The Shedd '12
- 1.04 Jenny Scheinman - Blade & Frisell
- 1.11 Monterey Jazz on Tour 55 (Hult)
- 1.12 Robin Williams (Hult)
- 1.16 Loudon Wainwright/Dar Williams
- 1.24 Solas: Shamrock City Tour
- 2.01 Black Prairie
- 2.15 Victor Wooten
- 2.16 Afro-Cuban All Stars
- 2.20 Led Kaapana
- 2.21 Woideck: Jazz/Mancini
- 3.2 Ken Peplowski
- 3.6-17 Siri Vik. My Funny Valentine
- 3.8 Blues at the Crossroads II (Hult)
- 3.10 B. B. King (Hult)
- 4.12 Molly Ringwald
- 4.24 Taj Mahal-Shemekia Copeland (Hult)
- 4.25 John Pizzarelli Quartet

