

suggestions are made using handpicked lines from text, his assumptions only act to minimize the point. The developers, Oakleigh Meadow Co-Housing (OMC), propose a 28-plus unit condo development on private land that is within the boundaries of the Willamette River Greenway.

The issue is not about public vs. private land use or her neighbors' views of the river being affected (views of the river do not currently exist from Bovilsky's house or anywhere else on Oakleigh Lane). The issue is clearly whether a development of this size, and others that would likely follow precedent, should be built within and along the Willamette River Greenway. The Willamette Greenway was established to "protect and preserve the natural, scenic, and recreational qualities along the Willamette River." Bovilsky calls on the greater community who uses and values this legacy to consider whether large housing developments fit within the original intent for land use management of this natural legacy.

There is still time to voice your opposition to the hearings official. Please contact Becky Taylor of the Eugene Planning Department at [becky.g.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:becky.g.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us) before Oct. 9.

*Rich Dambrov  
Oakleigh Lane resident  
Eugene*

## MORE RAT BASTARDS

In the Slant piece [9/26], *EW* slams unnamed "rat bastards in Congress" for wanting to "whack" the SNAP program. The obvious insinuation is that such action would "whack" the poor. That's probably true.

But what about the "rat bastards" on the other side of the congressional aisle who voted for Senate Bill 744, about which even liberal columnist Eugene Robinson acknowledges, "of course it's amnesty"?

SB 744 would allow millions more foreign workers into the U.S. It would effectively legalize work for the eight million to 10 million illegal immigrants already here. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says it would raise unemployment and reduce wages well into the future.

How's that going to help America's poor who have to compete with low-cost foreign labor for jobs? Both Oregon senators thought this was a swell idea. I think it's a travesty. Corporate America loves it — but I hope the rat bastards to whom *EW* refers will be able to whack it.

*Jerry Ritter  
Springfield*

## MUTUAL RESPECT

I agree that all people of Eugene should have the right to live houseless as a lifestyle and the homeless should be respected and acknowledged. I would like to see an equal understanding and respect towards my family and myself.

We are not a family of means. We are not even close to middle class but we work hard, volunteer, donate and teach our children that even though there are "things" they "just have to have," there are plenty who have far less so be appreciative of what we do have.

I am tired of hearing "Come on lady, you can afford a buck. Look at you!" and several similar statements within a few blocks. If I have anything to spare, I'll totally buy you a burrito or give you my change, just don't be rude, friend! I'm tired of reading how I am expected to provide for others when we barely provide for our own and without outside help.

I'm tired of explaining to my children why we need to cross the street to avoid a belligerent person trying to engage us with negativity. I am tired of being forced to leave an area on a family walk to avoid yet another needle. Agreed these examples do not apply to everyone.

Nobody bitches about the good, right? Still the problems remain and seem to grow on the not-so-good side of the coin. Please clean up after yourselves. Please clean up after those who choose not to. Please find a way to be productive and earn your keep in this beautifully diverse city.

I acknowledge you, I respect you and I feel you as a human being. Won't you do the same?

*JeanMarie Indell  
Eugene*

## GREED AND INSANITY

Legislators from Oregon with ties to the timber industry are very short-sighted and narrow-minded, looking only at "board feet" concerning our forests. The DeFazio O&C bill to clearcut 1.6 million acres of federal public forests in Oregon is an outrage. We must change our strategies for jobs and revenue or we will have much bigger issues to deal with such as loss of biodiversity, food and water shortages within the next 30 years.

Reps. Val Hoyle, John Lively and Caddy McKeown have the same "clearcut the forest" business-as-usual attitude, which contributes to climate change, species extinction and accumulating toxins in our air, water and soils. Our state economy relies on tourism and fishing as well as logging and this clearcut bill would hurt those industries. There are 20 to 30 years of work thinning our public forests with many more jobs than clearcut logging. The timber harvest tax is shamefully low; let's increase that for the struggling county budgets.

We have some of the best forests in the world for carbon sequestration here in western Oregon and should promote getting paid for carbon offsets, a win-win which would also help restore health to our forests. Diverse age and species of trees fare far better in forest fires than the tree plantations we have on private forestland. There are alternative options that will require intelligence, wisdom and no political favors to the logging industry in order to restore our forests and a healthy future for generations to come. The insanity and greed must stop.

*Donald Alexander  
Dexter*

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