

from the multi-family housing total leads to quite a different picture than the one he has presented.

Subtracting the Downtown, West University, South University and Fairmont neighborhood counts of multi-family permits (all likely to be mostly student housing projects) from the overall multi-family counts of permits shows an increase in multi-family housing since the recession only in 2011, 2012 and 2013. In these years, the bulk of the multi-family permits were not for the urban core, but were for outlying neighborhoods: in 2011 the Harlow Neighbors (these permits could be in part student as well since it includes the Chase area), in 2012 Northeast

Neighbors, and in 2013 Goodpasture Island Neighbors and River Road Community Organization. Taking out these non-urban-center neighborhood multi-family permit counts for these years results in a picture of flat multi-family building at the urban core since 2006, dwindling to zero for 2013.

Arguments for sustainable growth and increasing density at the urban core won't be helped by faulty or misleading analysis.

Joe Wayman

Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: Fodor tells us he stands by his analysis and notes that the data does not distinguish between student housing and other multi-family housing, so other conclusions are speculation. See fodorandassociates.com.

NOT PARTICIPATING

The revered holiday season is upon us once again, with a mixture of Black Friday shopping frenzy that lasts a month, incessant religious Christmas music playing in almost every store you enter, inundation from print ads and TV commercials to buy, buy, buy presents for everyone we know. The sad part is, we have taken the bait.

I realize that my ranting will not change anything. The only satisfaction I can take from this season is in knowing that I, on a personal level, refuse to participate. My friends and relatives know that I do not give, nor do I accept, holiday cards

or presents. Not being Christian, I try to avoid religious displays and religious music. Being bombarded by other people's religion is not my favorite thing.

I, for one, will be glad when the holiday season is over.

Allan Grossman
Springfield

TO PAUL BIONDI

Wow ... leave it to you, Paul. Your humanity has touched so many people from so many walks of life — that was evident on Nov. 24. If you weren't at Sunday evening's MEMA event to "pay it forward" for Paul Biondi, you missed a

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