

airfare and hotel, the UO said.

After hearing Hayes' talk Friday night and learning the details of his decades of scientific research that is peer reviewed and published in prestigious journals, it is obvious that his work is worthy and valid. He referenced the *R-G* article title often in his presentation. *Where is the controversy?* He kept implying.

It would have been a balanced article if the *R-G* included information from independent scientists on herbicides and not just the corporation that would be harmed if its product were banned.

The way the article ends implies the UO is spending money to pay for a liar. I

wonder if this is because Hayes is helping to make the case that the timber industry, along with big agriculture, has been given carte blanche to use harmful poisons, which hurt amphibians, birds, wildlife and humans at very low dosages, and the *R-G* gets big bucks in advertisement dollars from logging moguls to support them no matter the consequences for everyone and everything else.

Pam Driscoll
Dexter

STONEWALLED BY JUDGE

On Oct. 6, Lane County Circuit Court Judge Charles Carlson decided, for the

second time, that the Local Food System Ordinance of Lane County failed to meet pre-election requirements. In February, a Benton County judge ruled that an almost identical ordinance did, in fact, comply. The Benton folks are now gathering signatures to qualify for the May 2015 election, but here in Lane we are being stonewalled by this judge. What's up with Carlson?

Judge Carlson's decision is a victory for the corporations that profit from GMO agriculture in Lane County. It is a setback for local farmers, food-related businesses and residents who are personally and economically invested in local agricultural

products — both conventional and organic.

This decision is a roadblock to county residents' access to the initiative system — one in which citizens have the right to write laws and put them to a vote of the people. In the absence of a law protecting local farms, corporations like Syngenta and Monsanto will continue to bring more genetically engineered food varieties to the Willamette Valley.

However, Support Local Food Rights is undeterred and already planning next steps for our efforts to protect our county's food system. We remain committed to advocating for a law elevating the community's right to decide what our

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