



BEST NEW BUSINESS

1. **The Wayward Lamb** 150 W. Broadway. 654-5106. thewaywardlamb.com.
2. **Run Hub Northwest** 515 High St. 344-1239. runhubnw.com.
3. **beergarden.** 777 W. 6th Ave. 505-9432. beergardenme.com.

Wow. What a difference a year makes. It was last December that the two driving forces behind The Wayward Lamb — Colin Graham and John O'Malley — met for the first time. Since then, they have reenergized the local queer community and created Eugene's only queer-designated bar in town, in spite of a loud minority yelling about how LGBTQIA spaces are no longer relevant. Well, try telling that to all the people we see filling the seats every night of the week and hitting the dance floor at the cozy spot downtown. (And before some men's rights group starts trolling this blurb, let us be clear: People of *all* sexual and gender identities and preferences are welcome at The Wayward Lamb, including heterosexuals. What's not welcomed is douchebaggery. Just don't be a douchebag. But that's good life advice, anyway.)

The Wayward Lamb, which has only been open since August, is kind of like a hip, classy mullet: business in the front, party in the back. You can munch on Sammitch grub and sip on local libations in the mellow front bar, or grab some inspired cocktails and dance the night away in the backspace, dubbed The Den, outfitted with a legit DJ booth.

The Wayward Lamb team has also done loads of community outreach and killer programming such as Glamazon — an ongoing Friday night drag cabaret (featuring Best Drag Queen winner Karess Ann Slaughter), art shows, Wednesday viewings of *American Horror Story* and performances by The Kings of Eugene — a new local drag king troupe — on "Thersdays," kicking off Nov. 5. Cheers to safe and festive places.

to move to a pre-release facility. The tots would be free to clang tin cups against the bars of their prison all day long without irking diners out. They'd have the Willamette River at which to stare longingly for hours on end. The view from the peak is nice, too. The trails and paths could use a little maintenance, but that's what prison labor's for. Can we give them part of nearby Skinner City Farm? Otherwise we'll have to feed them. Either way, Skinner Butte Park is the best place to sequester Eugene's youth.

BEST THING ABOUT EUGENE

1. **The people**
2. **The outdoors**
3. **The lifestyle**

Anthropologically speaking, the names of tribes or collections of people — for instance, the Fulani of Africa — often translate loosely into "Greatest People on Earth." In other words, any given grouping of human beings tends to think ridiculously well of itself, and in this sense it's no wonder that *EW* readers said the best thing about Eugene was "the people." Translation: We're all wacky, eccentric, creative, free-spirited descendants of the Age of Aquarius. Bullshit. The idea that the party-line liberal pageantry of some bygone hippie circus is what defines us is outdated and delusional. What makes the people of Eugene truly unique is a complicated state of being, deriving from the rugged individualism of our rural past as it collides with the intrusive ideals of modern enlightenment. Old-timers in Oregon have a nickname for this condition: Cuddy (as in "Cuddy Rick"). A cuddy is a kind of wonderful libertarian grotesque, a *Twin Peaks*-ish character hovering proudly between urbane sophistication and rural shit-kicking — hippie rednecks, potheads who hunt elk, Deadheads with gun racks. These are the real people of Eugene, full of glorious, colorful contradictions.

BEST THING ABOUT EW

1. **It's free**
2. **Savage Love**
3. **Events calendar**

WORST THING ABOUT EW

1. **Too many pot and adult ads**
2. **Liberal bias**
3. **Too thin on content**

OK, folks. We're going to give you a little crash course in Newspaper Business 101. First of all, we're a free paper. In fact, voters usually say that's their favorite thing about *EW*. We have no paywall to access content online, and you can pick up *EW* at any of the numerous red boxes around town without paying a cent. News flash: Journalists can't live on idealism and social justice alone. We've tried, and it's not exactly viable. So those pot ads that readers love to hate? Those mean that we get to pay our rent, have a meal now and then and have the ink to write stories about the community. This is a community-supported newspaper, and our advertising department would love to see more local businesses take out ads to balance it all out. No ads equals no money, and without funding, *EW* would produce even less content. Does this knowledge make the ads any less annoying? Probably not. But what kind of newspaper would we be if we didn't rile things up?

BEST CATEGORY WE SHOULD HAVE HAD

Best voter suggestions:
 Best neighborhood
 Best barbershop
 Best booth at Saturday Market
 Best cider
 Best dog park
 Best photographer
 Best seafood
 Best massage therapist



BEST LOCAL CLOTHING STORE

1. **Kitsch-22** 1022 Willamette St. 343-2411. kitsch22.wix.com/kitsch-22.
2. **Buffalo Exchange** 131 E. 5th Ave. 687-2805. buffaloexchange.com.
3. **Folkways** 1801 Willamette St. 431-3411.

This category seems to get more competitive every year as new boutiques keep popping up around town. But Kitsch-22 has a cult following, and that's as it should be. Walking into Kitsch-22, in the old McDonald Theatre building on Willamette, is like entering a funhouse — it's weird, wacky, cool and packed to gills with original designs by local designers (who run the shop), vintage and secondhand clothing, costumes and other curiosities. Need artsy spandex leggings? They got 'em. How about a tail to complete your furry lifestyle? (We don't judge, and neither does Kitsch-22.) Check! Ugly sweaters for those holiday parties on the horizon? The ugliest! Or perhaps you're just looking for a really great worn-in pair of jeans. Yep, they've got a wall of those. Not to mention they consistently have the most entertaining storefront displays. Viva la Kitsch!