

letters

DON'T BUILD UNNECESSARY RESERVOIRS

EWEB needs to hold a public hearing before putting two reservoirs at 40th and Patterson (EW 6/3). This forest is a Eugene treasure, something to save, not destroy. Mature stands of trees can help mitigate the climate catastrophe.

Has a search of all possible public owned property at the proper elevation for a reservoir been made to see if any can be found that does not have a forest on it? Perhaps a trade could be made and this property could become a park. Or one reservoir could be put on this property and most of the oak savanna and fir forest could be saved.

I understand we do not need two reservoirs now, and with better conservation practices we may not need another reservoir in 10 years. EWEB could help every household to collect rainwater from their roofs into storage containers to be used in an emergency. Water could be conserved by not watering golf courses and lawns. Switching to compostable means drinkable water would not be used to flush toilets.

Sue Barnhart
Eugene

GET OVER IT, SOUTH EUGENE

I have lived my 65 years as a white middle class person with ample opportunities. I grew up in a small midwest town where railroad tracks divided my neighborhood from those of my Black class and teammates who enjoyed far less.

But this letter is not about that division. I'm writing about the behavior of some of my neighbors in south Eugene and the views of some recent letter writers. Behavior that appears disturbing and selfish to me. Behavior that captures what it means to have white privilege.

These neighbors are protesting EWEB's planned installation of two water storage tanks in a small patch of woods on a butte top near 40th and Hilyard. After a few years of significant noise and disruption the tanks will quietly deliver water to thousands of kitchen sinks from land that was purchased for that purpose before I was born. Neighborhood children will continue to play in the woods, and EWEB will help restore the hilltop's remaining oak savanna.

Most of us at some time have had to weigh our own interests against those of the common good. For some the costs are high and they have little or no control. I would ask my south Eugene neighbors to take a step back and realize how well off they are.

David C. Hausam
Eugene

THE REAL ANTI-VIETNAM WAR PROTESTERS

I am responding to Alix Li's two letters of 6/10 and 7/28. Li claims that "boomers sold out" and should have "turned your energy to fighting racism."

The conventional narrative that opposition to the Vietnam War was dominated by the privileged white students, and that the reactionary working class supported the war is wrong.

By 1968, the movement was a cross-class/multiracial force that included students, civil rights activists, clergy, GIs, veterans, gays and people of color from working-class backgrounds. However, anti-war sentiment didn't always get expressed as class politics, but rather as part of racial/ethnic empowerment and feminist politics.

Black, Latino and Asian Americans were the most militant antiwar activists, effectively expressing the intersection of imperialism, racism, genocide, poverty, and economic exploitation.

In his last year of life, Martin Luther King, Jr. linked Vietnamese self-determination and U.S. racism, militarism and working-class struggles. He stated, "There must be better distribution of wealth, maybe we must move toward a democratic socialism."

The most significant anti-war resistance was in the military, overwhelmingly composed of working-class soldiers with a disproportionate number of people of color being drafted and killed. Ongoing defiance included desertion, evasion of combat, attacks on officers as well as anti-war newspapers and coffee houses and declining enlistment.

Veterans organized highly-visible anti-war organizations with mostly working-class members. Also, they confronted racism, unemployment and inadequate health services.

With perseverance, courage and sacrifice, boomers challenged a repressive power structure, ushering in the most tolerant, inclusive, and environmentally



Youth Radio Festival July 2021!!

This month KEPW-LP 97.3FM PeaceWorks Community Radio is celebrating its 4th year putting youth voices on the air with the Youth Radio Project. Our Youth Radio Festival includes special interviews, music and events produced by KEPW youth students to play on air and on our Friends of KEPW Facebook group page throughout July.

Go to KEPW.org for a full schedule and donate to buy raffle tickets.

6pm to 8pm July 24th we will be livestreaming our celebration with youth sharing what they love about being on the radio, drawing raffle tickets to share prizes from local businesses and individuals and live music from Dakota, a young local performer.

3pm to 6pm July 25th our virtual Youth Appreciation Concert co-sponsored by MEPAA and KidzRock will play on air at 97.3FM, KEPW.org and on Facebook with youth bands from Eugene to Nashville to Alaska, including the H*Fam Band, McKayla Marie, Anna Fine, Ian W. and beatboxing by Jayden.



For more info go to www.kepw.org or our Friends of KEPW Facebook page, email stationmanager@kepw.org or call 541-833-0622

Kids Eat Free This Summer!

Free Grab & Go meals for kids and teens 18 and younger in parks and at community centers. Mondays thru Fridays, June 28 thru September 3. For a site near you, call (541) 343-2822 or go to foodforlanecounty.org/summerfood.



IF YOU HAVE BEEN THE TARGET OF ANY BIAS (OR HAVE WITNESSED OR HEARD ABOUT A BIAS-RELATED INCIDENT), PLEASE REPORT THE INCIDENT.

STOP THE HATE

ACTS OF INTIMIDATION TOWARDS PEOPLE DUE TO THEIR RACE, HOUSING STATUS, ETHNICITY, RELIGION, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND ABILITY ARE BIAS CRIMES IN THE SECOND DEGREE IN THE CITY OF EUGENE

CALL 541-682-5177 OR REPORT ONLINE AT WWW.EUGENE-OR.GOV/REPORTHATE

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Dentistry

541-868-2008

4725 Village Plaza Loop
Ste 101
Eugene OR

Rob Whicker DDS

www.wcdentistry.com

