



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Wary of natural gas

On July 19, Northwest Natural ran an ad in The R-G about their view of a proposal that the City Council consider prohibiting natural gas in new construction. A similar email was sent to NWN customers.

No mention was made of the fact that the natural gas presently sold in Eugene is mostly fracked gas, with almost no renewable natural gas in it. Or that renewable natural gas can only replace about 30% of the gas supply, even if every available source in Oregon was developed.

I would like to see NWN truly work together with the community it serves by presenting a full picture of the facts, rather than attempting to set us against each other as we make difficult decisions.

The problem is that in Eugene, about 30,000 businesses and households use gas, and about 80,000 use electricity. But over a quarter of our local carbon emissions are the result of natural gas use. Electricity produces only 2%. We need to tackle this problem with straightforward and honest discussion, not by bringing part of the picture to citizens and then asking them to contact the City Council. We don't need that kind of divisiveness in our community.

**Nancy Ahnert, Eugene**

### The good, the bad, the ugly

Timothy Vaughan states (Letters, July 22) that there were a few "warts" along the way to our becoming the "leader of the free world," and that erasing our history via the cancel-culture movement is wrong and narrow-minded.

Cancel culture appears to have arose in response to racist, homophobic, sexist or xenophobic statements made by celebrities like Dave Chappelle, Louis CK and Roseanne Barr. The president himself has explicitly and frequently advocated cancellations, boycotts and firings simply because he doesn't like something someone has said.

Is it wrong to expose and explore our "warts," the racism, slavery, Native American genocide, economic exploitation, ethnic, religious and gender bias and inequality? Besides the obvious fact that these are not just "warts," they are the part of who we are that has been de-emphasized, distorted or hidden in our history books and social discourse, leaving us lacking empathy as a culture, numb to the plight of minority groups today. Black Lives Matter, the #MeToo and Indian rights movements are a direct result of the closed mind that strives to whitewash our history rather than incorporate all of it into a realistic appreciation of who we are, the good, the bad and the ugly.

**John Pinney, Eugene**

