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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Christmas trees and their harvest in no way affects future forest production. It is very much like buying roses at a florist shop. At present time, there are three times as many trees being planted for Christmas trees as are being harvested.

It takes a lot of capital and hard work to produce a crop that on the average takes six to 10 years to be ready for harvest. During all these years, these little trees are improving air quality by removing carbon dioxide from the air and releasing oxygen.

If you or any of your readers are truly interested in learning more about this industry, there are many growers in western Oregon who would be willing to give you a tour of their farm.

Bob Kintigh
Springfield

OILY ECONOMY

Robert Simms (1-6) obviously has issues with motor vehicles, but attacking others who are attempting to support a local low-pollution alternative to petroleum fuels is wrong-headed. It would be illuminating for Mr. Simms to do an audit of the many ways in which motorized transport makes his life possible.

I'm betting that nearly all of the food he eats was grown, harvested and delivered using tractors and trucks. All of the consumer products that even a frugal person uses were manufactured and delivered using petroleum-fueled vehicles. The garbage trucks that take Mr. Simms' leavings to Short Mountain run on diesel, as do the Caterpillars which bury them. If he eschews the private automobile in favor of mass transit, that too is fueled by petroleum diesel

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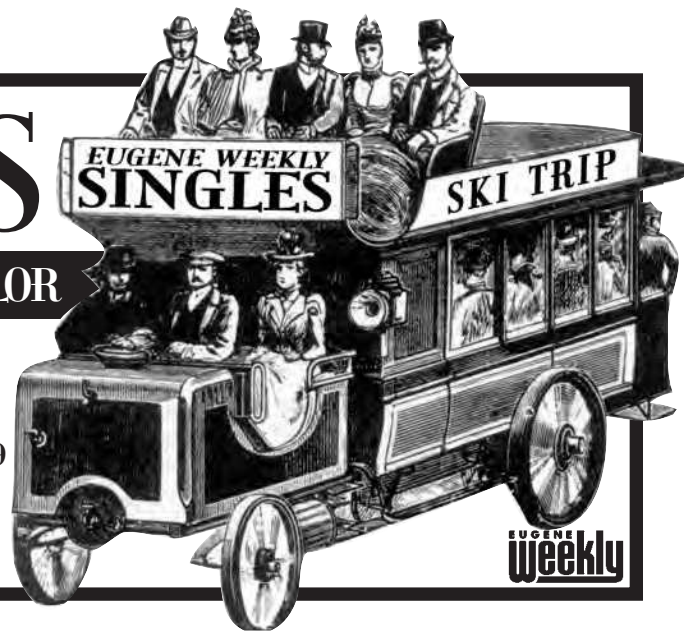
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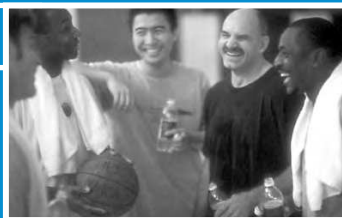


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