

people who work hard and don't pay this bill on time to leave the city and patronize some other utility.

Andrew Mendoza
Eugene

SAD NEWS

It is a sad day when an arts organization closes in Eugene. And it is particularly sad when it is a theater company that has produced many quality productions, providing employment to artists and exceptional entertainment to audiences. We offer our condolences and best wishes to the founders and supporters of the Willamette Repertory Theatre.

Craig Willis, artistic director
Donald van Houten, board president
Lord Leebrick Theatre Company

MORE ALARMS

I hear many voicing concerns about the health of our environment these days. That is a first step, acknowledging that we have a serious problem! Considering the signs in front of us — fishery depletion, habitat destruction, species extinction, melting glaciers and global warming — it seems to me that there should be more alarms going off. The question I have is, what are we willing to give up in our life? Maybe a better way to put this is, what changes in our lives are we ready to make? I ask this for the sake of the Earth, our grandkids and not just for humankind's sake, but for all the Earth's creatures and plants.

I understand the scale of these problems is quite daunting and seems overwhelming. But I also believe that every bit we do does help. It empowers us and also sets a joyful example of change for those around us. I think change from the ground up is our only hope. The corporate and governmental powers are stuck in old paradigms of endless economic growth, which they call progress, and base their decisions upon our so-called economic interests. I believe this has proven itself to be quite destructive, violent and surely unsustainable.

Again, I truly wonder, are we seriously

willing to make changes to lighten our footprint upon our precious Earth? As difficult as change is, I fear the other choices are continuing natural disasters and collapse. And to those awaiting a technological reprieve, I quote Albert Einstein: "The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the level of thinking that created the problems."

Tim Boyden
Eugene

TWO VIEWS

Recently I attended a candidates' forum at a Democratic Party of Lane County meeting. The candidates running for Lane County commissioner from north Eugene were part of the forum. Although there are four candidates, this election will primarily be about two men who have a totally different perspective on what public service entails and to whom one should be responsive.

Running against an incumbent has its inherent problems. Current Commissioner Bobby Green touts his years of experience. My question is how that experience has been and is being put to use. Look to his contributors and look to his voting record. The voters in west Lane County got rid of former Commissioner Anna Morrison with many of the same contributors and much the same voting record. As with any new job, there is a learning curve. However, Rob Handy is well versed on the issues and the nuts and bolts of the job will soon be the tools of his trade.

Anyone can be responsive to his or her constituency. The other night a woman in the audience addressed her frustration with Commissioner Green's unresponsiveness. I, too, have appeared before the County Commissioners to make public comment and have found him to be very inattentive. I know the public is not nearly as exciting as the junkets he takes, but, gee, give the public a chance. Handy listens and will act on behalf of all of us.

Mona Linstromberg
Veneta

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• Wet Bean & Cheese Burrito	• Cheese Quesadilla	

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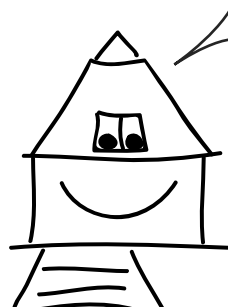
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