



TODD COOPER

BILL CLINTON DOES J-CITY

The first person who greets us outside Junction City High School at Bill Clinton's appearance April 26 is a ponytailed, clipboard-wielding volunteer with a Hillary sticker affixed to his shirt. I'm an Obama backer myself, and as we start to complete the forms he hands us, my wife asks whether I'll be allowed to enter if I don't sign the paperwork's pledge to vote for Hillary Clinton in the upcoming Democratic primary.

"Oh, I'm an Obama supporter," the volunteer offers. He's just here stumping for Clinton, he explains, because his wife asked him to. Preach on, brother.

It's standing room only by the time we file into the gym. I don't mind, since we're closer to the stage.

"I feel like we're seeing the heartland," my wife observes. "There's a lot of flannel in here." Classic rock and feel-good country blares from the gym sound system to get us in the mood for a politician who once used Fleetwood Mac as his campaign house band.

A wholesome-looking young woman with very white teeth takes the podium, and, identifying herself only as "Katie," proceeds to pump up the crowd and toss out a few Hillary T-shirts.

The president was set to start at 8:45 am, and he finally ascends to the podium at around 9:20. He flashes that mischievous schoolboy grin at us, the one that manages to be both shy and sly, and all is forgiven.

The president's talk itself touches on numerous Northwest-based issues, and he rattles off Oregon-related statistics. "There's a very high literacy level on environmental issues in Oregon," Bill Clinton says, and outlines a plan for his wife's administration to create five million new jobs retrofitting existing buildings to bring them in line with eco-friendly standards, as well as a call for federal and local authorities to work together to stamp out the Northwest meth resurgence.

He speaks a great deal about bridging the "rural/urban divide," about education's "achievement gap," about the "income divide." But he is tactfully positive in skirting the issues separating Barack Obama's platform from that of Hillary Clinton's.

He does say a couple things that presumably everyone in the gym can agree on. "We have a government that's left too many people behind," he says. Later he earns a rousing response as he decries the neocons' "abject selfishness masquerading as an economic policy."

As we start to file out of the gym, directly behind Mayor Kitty Piercy, the sound system kicks back to life to serenade our departure. I exit to the strains of John Cougar Mellencamp's "Small Town." — *Aaron Ragan-Fore*

Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

- ODOT: The approximate schedule of nighttime spraying is: April 21-24 for Cloverdale, Hwy. 99 South, 126 West to Austa, and Territorial Highway; April 28-May 1 for Hwy. 126 West (Austa to Florence), Hwy. 36, and Hwy. 101, all within Lane County. Call (888) 996-8080 or Dennis Joll, IVM coordinator at 686-7526.
- 2007 herbicide spray acreage: totals for Oregon Department of Forestry notifications in Lane County: 80,162; Weyerhaeuser: 38,939. 2008 spray acreage: January and February totals: 28,647.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers: 342-8332, forestlanddwellers.org

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE ELITIST MENACE

THEY'VE INFILTRATED THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF OUR SOCIETY--

--AND NOW ONE OF THEM MAY BECOME PRESIDENT!



IF THERE'S ONE THING AMERICANS CAN'T STAND, IT'S AN ELITIST--AND HILLARY CLINTON HAS BEEN WORKING HARD TO PROVE SHE'S NOT ONE!

HERE I AM, HAVING A SHOT AND A BEER IN A WORKING CLASS TAVERN--JUST LIKE I ALWAYS DO WHEN I NEED TO RELAX!



HEY, ANYBODY GOT A GUN? I JUST LOVE GUNS!

AND PICKUP TRUCKS! AND, UH, WHATEVER ELSE IT IS YOU PEOPLE LIKE.

BARACK OBAMA, HOWEVER DOESN'T ALWAYS SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE! YOU WANNA TRY SOME OF OUR DOWN-HOME, DEEP FRIED FAT BALLS--COVERED IN DELICIOUS GREASY FAT SAUCE?

ER--I--UH--NO THANKS.



WHAT'S THE MATTER? NOT FANCY ENOUGH FOR YA--SENATOR FANCYPANTS?

AND HIGHLY-PAID MEDIA PROFESSIONALS REMAIN AGNAST AT HIS POOR CHOICE OF AN ADJECTIVE THAT ONE TIME.

IT'S LIKE I WAS SAYING TO MY CHAUFFEUR THIS MORNING--OBAMA JUST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND REAL AMERICANS AS WELL AS WE HIGHLY-PAID MEDIA PROFESSIONALS DO!



MY HOUSEHOLD STAFF CONCURS!

BUT--AS CONSEQUENTIAL AS THIS ISSUE MAY BE, THERE ARE OTHER FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING THE NEXT LEADER OF THE FREE WORLD--LIKE WHO LOVES AMERICA THE MOST...

NOT ONLY DO I WEAR A FLAG PIN--I STICK IT DIRECTLY INTO MY BARE FLESH!



WOW! HE REALLY LOVES AMERICA!

MORE THAN OBAMA--THAT'S FOR SURE!

news Briefs

CITY BUDGET MAY SCRAP LRAPA

Outgoing acting City Manager Angel Jones has proposed a city of Eugene budget that would eliminate the Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) and spend \$4.5 million in money saved for a new City Hall on potholes.

The Jones proposal would also cut library and park funding while adding a 911 manager and a tree cutter. It would increase spending on artificial turf and move two traffic cops to patrol.

Jones would eliminate the city's share (\$146,000) of annual LRAPA funding in the next year, forcing the agency to close. Jones said the city will then ask state regulators to take over LRAPA's air quality function as the state does for the rest of Oregon.

The \$4.5 million from the city's \$29 million facility reserve will be spent over the next three years on street maintenance. Lowering the reserve could result in taxpayers eventually making up the loss in a larger bond measure for a new City Hall.

Jones said she hopes to make up a \$100,000 cut to the city's popular library with donations. The budget also eliminates an annual \$100,000 payment to the River Road Parks District.

The proposed budget moves two traffic cops to patrol to address staffing needs and adds a 911 call center manager. Jones also would add a tree crew position and add \$165,000 a year for maintenance and operations of 4J artificial turf fields.

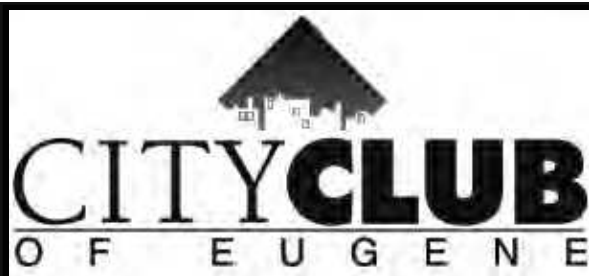
The Eugene Budget Committee will hold a hearing on the proposal May 19. The City Council has scheduled a public hearing on the budget and possible vote June 9.

— *Alan Pittman*

ARSONIST SENTENCING; MINK RELEASED

Eco-activism continues to plague the feds in Oregon. Though the Oregon and Washington eco-arson cases are drawing to a close, the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) continues on with eco-tage activities, according to a recent communiqué.

According to the statement which is attributed to "ALF- Cascadia," 40 mink were released on the night of April 21 by "masked avengers" who also destroyed breeding records maintained by the farm in Jefferson, Ore. "Tear down this death camp and let the mink live free," says the com-



**FRIDAYS • 11:50AM
DOWNTOWN ATHLETIC CLUB**

*Unless Otherwise Noted

**MAY 2
DEBATE
Mayor for Eugene**
Kitty Piercy
Incumbent Mayor of Eugene
Jim Ray
Home Depot Employee
Jim Torrey
Former Mayor of Eugene
Nick Urhausen
Social Security
Administration Employee

***SPECIAL*
TUESDAY,
MAY 6
PARTY TO
MEET THE
CANDIDATES
5:30-7:30pm
Free and open
to the public**

**MAY 9
OREGON
COUNTRY
FAIR:
Work of Heart
and Hand
Leslie Scott
General Manager,
Oregon Country Fair**

**MAY 16
EUGENE &
BEYOND:
Sustaining
the Arts
Henry Fogel
President and CEO,
League of American
Orchestras
*AT EUGENE HILTON**

**MAY 23
THE EYES
OF YOUTH:
Race Relations
In Our Schools
Three Students from
North & Churchill
High Schools**

**MAY 30
ONCE
A YEAR:
City Club's
Annual
Membership
Meeting**

\$3 admission • Free to City Club Members • 485-7433 • www.cityclubofeugene.org