

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

to space-based solar energy collection that is actually in progress now.

Donald Nordin
Cottage Grove

AS A MATTER OF FACT

The “facts” of physics are, fortunately, only theories. Most scientists would agree that there is no way to prove a theory — just a chance to show a lot of good supporting evidence. Nonetheless, the basic theories of physics are well documented, and very well supported, and it is painful for me to see a good theory misapplied.

I was excited to see Warren Weisman's Viewpoint (12/3) on photovoltaic panels and am quite familiar with the many misguided attempts to solve the world's energy crisis using photovoltaic panels. The problem is that he has misused some basic physics concepts.

To suggest that PV panels do not create energy is like suggesting babies are not delivered by a stork. Energy, as a physics concept, cannot be created or destroyed. Not only is it true that PV panels do not create energy, it is also true that nothing can create energy. We can only ever hope to convert energy from one form to another, for our convenient use.

Secondly, a watt is not a unit used to measure energy; it is used to measure power. It is meaningless to say that sunlight falls on the earth at rate of “200 watts an hour.” The more correct use would be to say that sunlight falls on the earth with an average power of 200 watts per square meter. Or, since Weisman goes on to discuss BTUs, he could present this information in terms of average BTUs per hour.

And while it is true that a single PV cell produces a very low voltage, they are rarely deployed as single cells. It is not only easy but extremely common to use them in series with each other to produce tens or hundreds of volts of electrical potential. And for any household purposes you can connect a PV panel to a power inverter.

Weisman's overarching point that we should be very critical of all of the implications of PV panels is absolutely spot-on. My concern is that he has still failed to correctly state the facts. We need to do more than just face the facts — we need to correctly understand them.

Sylvan Cambier
Eugene

DOWN WITH GOP

The wretched Republican Party has exposed the American public to the vilest, most treacherous and treasonous pattern of public discourse in the history of the republic. They have questioned President Obama's birth legitimacy, his U.S. citizenship and now from the lips of that most vile of criminal minds, Dick Cheney, an accusation that he is a traitor.

Once the campaign for 2010 actually gets under way, any worthy Democrat will take his or her Republican opponent to task for all of the despicable words uttered and dirty deeds done by the likes of Dick Cheney, Michael Steele and all the other mental midgits who have opposed health care reform, the extension of unemployment compensation, housing for the homeless and feeding hungry children.

I say, to hell with the GOP; down with the treasonous miscreants.

Gerry Merritt
Eugene

YOU BETCHA!

This here's a message to let all y'all Eugene commists and hippys, know how a proud right-wang Merkin tareist stands on the dangers facin our Great country today and to warn of the danjers of the soshlist Hitler Obama takin away are hard erned freedoms for which so many proud Merkins have died, caws uv the danger posed by evil kenyan moslim fanatic who has seezed complete! control of are gummint to insert his feendish Communist Mind Control Pills into are dinkin water and are schools and are churches which he has closed and taken are own guns to use for with his death panils for are parents and sick folk for which he has plans to make them go to death panils to decide if they have the right to live.

And I say “NO”! too the death panils becaws are olds folks have suffered enuff with floridazing they water to sap are preshis bodily fluids so as to weaken us so when they come to take are guns becaws he thinks he jest as good as us with his fancy “High School Diploma” and whatnot and then he went to collige to show he thinks we aint so good as him becaws he wants to take are guns and are parents cant do anything.

So I never got any help from nobody when I was on welfare and foodstamps and had to go to public health clinics for to get free medicine for my sick kids did anyone lend me a hand? NO! Oh, and the Messkins too also, you betcha!

Jamie Selko
Eugene

DON'T BE FOOLED

Here we go again. If Ballot Measures 66 & 67 pass, the state of Oregon is going to be in big trouble. If the cost of business increases, that is passed on to us the consumers. Do you think that Walmart, Aunt Martha's Dress Shop or anything in between is going to pull that extra money out of their own pockets? Would you? No they will raise prices, let go of employees and not hire anyone.

That is how business works. In an ideal world it would make sense, however this is the real world, not Fantasy Land.

As for those who make \$125,000, that is not rich, folks! Those people are our neighbors, friends and relatives. There has been no withholding taken from their wages all year for the new tax rates. If this ridiculous ballot measure passes, where will they get the money to pay their taxes by April?

The bottom line is if these ballot measures pass, prices will go up, unemployment will go up and there will be a whole lot less money circulating in the community.

I used to be on the other side of this issue. That was years ago before I realized how business works in the real world.

Don't be fooled by these misleading TV ads.

Anna DeMarco
Marcola

LETTERS POLICY: We welcome letters on all topics and will print as many as space allows, with priority given to timely local issues. Please limit length to 200 words, keep submissions to once a month, and include your address and phone number for our files. E-mail to letters@eugeneweekly.com fax to 484-4044, or mail to 1251 Lincoln, Eugene 97401.

Annual time.. Again?? Ugh!
Who was my friend telling
me about?

- A specialist in women's health
- Be seen on time. Suffer no waiting
- Ask questions without feeling rushed
- Safe, comfortable, and confidential



Anne Marie Moore
Women's Health Care
Nurse Practitioner
MA, MSN, RNC, WHNP-BC

Gynecology and General Health
(541) 393-2334
Insurance Billing or Private Pay



BUY • SELL • TRADE
GUILT-FREE
Fashion

Buffalo
EXCHANGE
New & Recycled Fashion

131 E. 5th Ave. (between Oak & Pearl) 681-2805

BUFFALOEXCHANGE.COM

Holiday Bazaar

EVERY WEEKEND {FRIDAY - SUNDAY}
NOVEMBER 20TH
THRU
DECEMBER 20TH
{FRIDAY + SATURDAY 10-7 :: SUNDAY 11-5}

LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR
OF THE MARKETS WEST END NEXT TO LAVELLE

YOUR LOCAL ARTISAN BOUTIQUE
for the holidays!