

2) Citizens who understand the world has long been this way but who exemplify the courage to go on living and dying in the faith that we can make a better world and who enact a story we must reject as naïve or share by moving from spectators to participants.

3) Protesters from the Arab Spring to the Occupy Fall, who know that when we take stands, we may not only be inconvenienced but also pepper sprayed or even shot dead. 4) Knowing the difference between a deep, enduring hope and a shallow, fragile optimism. As Augustine said, Hope has two beautiful daughters whose names are Anger and Courage: anger at the way things are and courage to see that they do not remain so.

5) Knowing that the word is love, as the Beatles sang, but that justice is the way to bring love to flower. 6) Most of all, a commitment to, and from, friends and family, who love me even when I'm unlovable, freeing us from guilt and self-absorption to lead lives of concern for the most vulnerable, including nature.

Sam Porter
Eugene

LOUIE'S POOR POT

My compassion for Dante Zuniga West for tackling the medical marijuana procurement problem (cover story, 11/23). This is a logical consequence of what happens when states pass initiatives that are in opposition to federal law. In the article Louis Armstrong referred to marijuana as being "a thousand times better than whiskey.



It is an assistant and a friend." It's important to know that the pot smoked by Louis Armstrong (1901-1971) had very little of the psychoactive ingredient THC. It is well known that due to genetic engineering, cloning, chemicals, etc. THC has increased up to 10 times in potency since the '60s.

Sally Smith, LCSW, CADC
Albany

TAXES ARE STIMULATING

Increasing taxes on the wealthy will reduce unemployment. The only time in the last 30 years the marginal tax rate

on millionaires rose (during the Clinton administration,) the economy improved and added millions of jobs. Higher tax rates encourage wealthy people to reinvest profits in their businesses to avoid paying taxes.

Paul Spencer
Eugene

REDISTRICTING

Regarding Gary Crum's viewpoint Nov. 17: If Crum believes the redistricting is unconstitutional then instead of writing to the EW, he should do the same thing I did with Judge Gillespie's decision under the public meetings law. As a citizen — without an

attorney — appeal the actions of the county commissioners to the Oregon Supreme Court.

Our elected representatives are our agents and do not operate independently. As long as the issue is not for a specific individual and affects many citizens, any citizen can appeal to the judicial branch of government — the same way we petition the other two branches of government. The judicial branch is no different and the mandatory "procedures" only apply to lawyers not citizens. If the "staff attorney" at the court blocks your petition, immediately file a complaint with the Oregon Bar Association.

Due process and equal rights cannot be blocked by "procedures" or the monopolies that attorneys have. (Note: all monopolies are evil.) The judicial branch of government must serve the people — not the lawyers — or the courts will be abolished — we have the votes.

Frank Skipton
Springfield

KNIGHT WATCH

Show of hands: How many believe that the UO president would still be on his way out if Uncle Phil wasn't OK with it?

Bill Smee
Springfield

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"Have you finished your shopping yet, Rabbit?" asked Chocolate Duck. "No, I haven't" said Rabbit. "I have one good friend left on my list." "Does this good friend love chocolate?" asked Duck. "Yes, very much so" replied Rabbit. "Ah, then, I think that Euphoria Chocolates would be a very good choice, indeed" said Duck. "Yes, I thought so, too" said Rabbit.

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17th and Willamette Bertelsen and Stewart

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