

protect this most precious resource, the insects that we all rely on for survival.

Doug Hornaday
Eugene

INFLATED HEADS

When President Obama took over the helm, our country was floundering. President Bush, with tax cuts for the rich, two unfunded wars, an unfunded prescription drug scheme and an unregulated vulture banking system plan, had emptied the coffers. The 20-year war against the middle class and the image of a black man in the White House created the recipe for a grass roots rebellion.

Sensing the opportunity to pump some blood into the Republicans' electoral dysfunction problem, the Koch brothers started bankrolling the emerging Tea Party. The Koch-bankrolled and engorged Tea Party was able to take control of the Congress and soon after the disastrous side effects became evident. Total obstruction to anything with Obama's name attached and a \$24 billion government shutdown became the new playbook for the emerging leader of the GOP, Sen. Ted Cruz.

Hopefully this new Koch blood will wear off and the big heads in the GOP will take back control from the little inflated heads of their party.

Michael T. Hinojosa
Drain

PEDDLEPHILE ALERT

Inspired by the little old grandmas who biked supplies through the bombed-out Ho Chi Minh Trail to aid in the Vietnamese victory over the last of the invasions from the West, there is now a Eugene-based bicycle cargo carriers club, and it is gearing up training to prepare for disaster emergency response ["Biking Out of Disaster" story, 10/24.]

Jason York, Eugene's emergency manager, has been found guilty of spreading misinformation. He said, "The biggest post-disaster advantage to cargo bikes is that they don't require a fuel

source." This is an outright lie; everybody knows the delivery personnel have to be fed.

Vince Loving
Eugene

RESPONSIBLE REVENUE

We must write our elected officers about a more permanent solution to the fiscal crises (which have merely been postponed for a few months).

We should sell to the world's tropical rainforest owners the expertise for harvesting their land much more profitably (and sustainably). This is discussed at rain-tree.com/facts.htm, which has links to various rainforest organizations who might supply the experts. If we took a quarter of the increased profits for a certain number of years, it would yield \$1.4 trillion a year — twice the federal deficit. It might mean temporarily raising the debt limit, but only for the last time in awhile.

Then with the surplus it could shift some of the onus for Obamacare from individuals and businesses onto the government, at least for a while. The deficit reduction, the pay-down and the shifting of Obamacare could all be more permanent, however, if we take 20 percent leases and/or invest some of the surplus.

As for the issue of subsistence farmers, there is a discussion of this at rainforestsaver.org. Regarding the cutting down of trees for firewood, one can contact Solar Cookers International.

Alex Sokolow
Santa Monica

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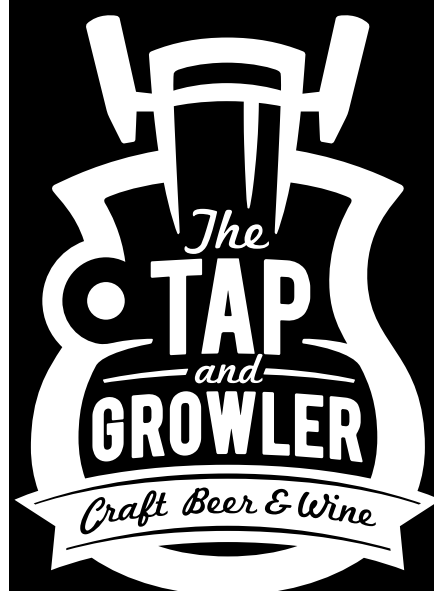


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