

“most modern and up-to-date knowledge of treating mentally ill.”

As a young woman, I was incarcerated in a mental institution against my wishes because a doctor intervened “for my own good.” This automatically put me in victim status: Despite having committed no crime, I was confined with no power over what happened to my body (restraints) or mind (pharmaceutical drugs), and I had no knowledge of when this would end. This scene is ripe for accidental and intentional abuse.

I don’t believe that when anybody freezes to death that “he was doing exactly what he wanted.” It is a choice about power and whether you will exchange all your power for a bed and food. We lucky ones with jobs and homes only have to exchange part of our power for a bed and food.

Catherine Burke-Maher
Springfield

DOWNTOWN’S COMEBACK

I would like to throw in my two cents about our downtown and its growing pains as it attempts to reassert itself as a place to both shop and gather publicly. For disclosure’s sake, I am both a small business owner (Out on a Limb Gallery at 191 E. Broadway) and also an activist for basic rights for all, which certainly includes the right to gather in public squares.

I would start by reminding folks of the two huge pits/eyesores that were quite recently part of our downtown. My second thought is this will certainly not be fixed overnight. Thirdly this involves not just business folks taking a chance, but also you, me and your friends coming down and supporting these businesses! This is our downtown we are talking about, our community. To me this is the biggest thing that will make it all come together, a magical number of folks, a critical mass of us.

We all make choices daily where to shop, eat and go for entertainment, within reason of course, depending upon our finances. Many good folks in our town live simply and still make it a priority to support local farmers, artists, etc., in essence supporting their neighbors. I have a vision of a downtown that perhaps dates me. Call it Mayberry if you like, and even call me a dreamer, for “nothing happens, unless first a dream.”

My little business just passed two years, and I hope it has a long run. I am quite proud of Out on a Limb and hope it is a tiny piece of our downtown’s comeback! We have recently made some pretty big steps in that direction. Ever the optimist, I do my best to keep my glass more than half full and my heart as well. We can do this, but it will take all of us. And knowing how many truly amazing folks I know around here, I am confident. Come back to our downtown. Let’s do this!

Tim Boyden
Eugene

NO ASSETS TO COLLECT

In response to Gwen Heineman’s complaint that Oregon Health Plan (OHP) will take her assets after death: Yes, it says right on the Cover Oregon application that if you die while receiving OHP, they will attempt to recover the amount they paid out

in medical costs from your estate, unless you have a surviving spouse, a child under 21 years old or a disabled or blind child. If you have assets but not income, you are eligible for OHP but not for the exchanges.

Why not get on OHP to satisfy the individual mandate but pay all your medical bills with cash? Or write to your lawmakers and ask them to tweak the system so you can get a subsidy instead of OHP. The vast majority of people on OHP have no assets worth recovering, and I am personally quite happy if they try to recover assets from those who have used the system in their lifetime (including me).

Kara Huntermoon
Eugene

ON WOOD BURNING

David Hugh Tyson is so savagely furious he can barely marshal the coherence to compose a missive to the EW readership.

That he, with such a fine stack of seasoned madrona, which burns with such bright sublimity, should be denied his comfort because of weaklings with respiratory discomforts! Chicken-chested weaklings who nonetheless cling like lice to their fossil fuel systems dumping gigatons of lung-damaging, planet-destroying poisons into the atmosphere, acidifying oceans and melting icecaps — not to mention the suffering of future generations who don’t yet even have a voice to whine about how they have to wear a gas mask to enjoy any outdoor recreation!

David Hugh Tyson thinks it is insupportably unjust that his short-cycle wood burning should be repressed by these asthmatic fossil fuel fools.

David Hugh Tyson
Eugene

ENDANGERED MEADOW

We reside in the River Road area and own a home 200 yards from the bike path. I walk this path with my dogs along side the river daily. We are blessed to live in such a beautiful area, with no developments on our side of the river — until now. There is a proposed development to be built on a beautiful meadow just off the bike path on private property. Presently, the meadow is filled with life. Beavers, osprey, eagles and river otters all frequent the area. The property owners and Oakleigh Meadow Co-Housing (OMC) have decided to put 28 condos, a large 4,000-sq.-ft. community house, 48 parking units, bike garages and concrete walls where this meadow currently thrives.

I feel it is in the best interest of the Ruth Bascom Path users to stop this development and save the meadow. We should prevent the loss of open spaces we have so few of. Once it is gone, it can never return. And the precedent is set for more and more development. I encourage the developers and investors of the Oakleigh Meadows Co-Housing to consider the loss of yet another open space and natural habitat. I urge, with respect for the land and environment, that OMC sell the property to the city for park use and preserve a threatened ecosystem, an urban meadow. Please think wisely.

Cecelia Baxter-Heintz
STOMP (Save The Oakleigh Meadow Please)

The Shedd Institute
www.theshedd.org - 541.434.7000

The Eye Center
John H. Haines, MD
Kent A. Karren, MD

Shedd
Theatricals
2013
presents

Lerner & Loewe’s
Camelot

Dec. 20-22

Final
Weekend!



GIVE MUSIC

Shedd Institute Gift Certificates for the holidays
541.434.7000 | www.theshedd.org/gift

Coming to The Shedd

(full, updated listing at theshedd.org)

- 1.17 Blues Harmonica Blowout 2014
- 1.18 Woideck: Stormy Weather w/ Loren
- 1.25 Moombah! It Could Always Be Worse!
- 2.1 Mamo: N. Aweau & J. Peterson
- 2.7 Ken Peplowski: Bix & Hoagy
- 2.8 Boz Scaggs (Hult)
- 2.13-20 The Jazz Kings: Give Me A Song
- 2.19 Brian Blade Fellowship
- 2.20 Keb' Mo'
- 2.21 Cécile McLorin Salvant
- 2.22 Dan Tepfer
- 2.25 Grace Kelly
- 2.27 Mike Marshall & Chris Thile
- 3.1 Pat Metheny Unity Group
- 3.4 Väsen
- 3.5 Wynton Marsalis & JLCO (Hult)
- 3.8 Moombah! Tina's Latin Cantina!
- 3.13 Manis & Vik: You Are Too Beautiful
- 3.19 Hanneke Cassel
- 3.27 Solas
- 4.4-6 Siri Mix
- 4.26 The Ungar-Mason Family Band
- 5.7-11 The Jazz Kings: Besame Mucho
- 5.7 Carol Burnett (Hult)
- 5.9 Steve Martin w/ Edie Brickell (Hult)

