

the water go “elsewhere,” please explain how their plans respect the surrounding community of people who are currently above flood level, but may not be above the water diverted around the new houses? How is building on pyramids of fill dirt respectful of those whose homes will be lower than those pyramid houses, and whose homes will be in the path of the water diverted around the pyramids?

This is not respect. It is starting a “race to the top.” Oh, that phrase has been appropriated — appropriated to describe exactly the same kind of behavior. The same kind of behavior is sponsored by our paternalistic federal government that knows what is best for our children’s schools. And this flood-plain example proves that the monsters who dreamed up that schools program know that’s what it is. You win by drowning your neighbor. It’s a zero-sum game, like sports.

Will our Eugene city government sponsor this climb-on-your-neighbor’s-back-and-drown-him behavior, or will they do the right thing and stop this race to the top along the Willamette River in Eugene?

As they will soon discover along River Road, what you do to your neighbor also can be done to you.

*Ann Tattersall
Eugene*

THE PROMISED LAND

I am a pioneer on the Cover Oregon trail. I started the journey to the promised land months ago, with a folksy jingle stuck in my head. Yes, I want to live long in Oregon. I immediately hit a road block as the gold-plated Oracle of failure refused to let me through its portal. So I took the other pass through Paperwork Canyon. After fighting through the blizzard of paper, I urgently waited at the trailhead for a reply. This trail would soon be closed to me, as winter set in. I called out for help, a high-school girl took my call and was confused as I was.

After much delay and time on hold I was finally able to get confirmation for my passage into the promised land. Ironically, my Escher-esque journey turned out to be a Mobius-strip path, as I returned back to my same old coverage, from the same old company. Déjà vu! But now instead of paying \$350 a month for a useless \$5,000 high-deductible “bronze” plan, I will now be paying \$50 a month.

Cue the jingle. “To care for each one, every daughter and son, long live Oregon.” Maybe. Maybe not.

*Michael T. Hinojosa
Drain*

GET SMART ABOUT METERS

Last fall, there was considerable buzz after each of two showings of the powerful new film *Take Back Your Power*. People

who participated were, for the most part, strongly affected and incredulous that this technology is as invasive as it appears to be!

Some of the issues discussed in the film may have direct bearing for EWEB customers. We will be “asked” to pay the hugely expensive costs for the smart-meters program, which is currently in the planning stages, and then asked to opt in to having these electric and water meters installed on our homes and businesses — with little to no substantive public discussion of any of the related issues so far, by EWEB. Bear in mind that once you opt in, you may not be able to claim court damages for negligence or harm in the future.

The EWEB service area is the only place in the country that I know of where concerned citizens have rallied to avoid automatically having these meters installed. We have an opportunity here, people, because important issues need to be understood about this technology before we make these permanent choices.

If you care to be an informed citizen, then come to the next free showing of *Take Back Your Power* at 6:30 pm Wednesday, Jan. 29, at Tsunami Books, 2585 S. Willamette St. There will be further discussion afterwards.

If you cannot make this showing, please go to TakeBackYourPower.net and watch it for a nominal fee.

*Robin Bee
Eugene*

LOWELL VINDICATION

Recently recalled Lowell Councilwoman Pam Bryant filed a complaint in Lane County Circuit Court on Jan. 7 against “Recall For Lowell’s Future Committee” [members] Kenneth Hern and Nancy Garratt. It cites ORS 260.532, “False Publication Relating to Recall Election,” as the allegation against the defendants. She did so in an effort to clear her name of the defendants’ prior written and verbal statements against her.

I look forward to reading the facts of this case as they come out under oath and become public, and are adjudicated in a court of law, as well as any subsequent vindication of Mrs. Bryant. It was important for her to take this first step in an effort to clear her name, and to protect our American way of honest elections, keeping it sacred for all citizens.

It’s my personal opinion that no abuse of our election process, by the condoning or permitting of false statements or publications against an elected official, should be allowed to take place, go unchallenged or unpunished. Let the truth be heard by all, and may it ring out loud and clear across this state!

*Gary Lynn Reese
Lowell*

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The Survival Center, Multicultural Center and Native American Student Union Present:

Undoing Border Imperialism
BOOK LAUNCH
w/ the Author
Monday, January 27th
7pm McKenzie 240C
University of Oregon
Kalapuya Territory

Undoing Border Imperialism is an exciting new book that situates immigrant rights movements within a transnational analysis of capitalism, labor exploitation, settler colonialism, state building, and racialized empire.

EUGENE FAMILIES:

School's open!



See what our schools offer.

It's school choice time. In Eugene School District 4J, every school offers an excellent education.

You can enroll in your neighborhood school at any time. To request enrollment in a different school for 2014-15, apply online at www.4j.lane.edu/choice by **February 28 at 5 p.m.** Requests will be accepted in an order determined by lottery.

School Showcase

**Saturday, Jan. 25,
9 a.m.–12 p.m.**

4J Education Center,
200 N. Monroe St.

9–10 a.m. School choice
information presentation

10 a.m.–12 p.m. Talk to
representatives from every
4J school.

Schools Open for Visits

**Monday, Jan. 27–
Friday, Jan. 31**

**Monday, Feb. 24–
Friday, Feb. 28**

Each school offers activities
and times when parents
can visit. Please see
www.4j.lane.edu/choice or
phone ahead for details.

School Choice Information Meetings

Thursday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 25, 9 a.m.
(part of the School Showcase)

Thursday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m.

4J Education Center,
200 N. Monroe St.

Learn about the school
choice process.

**Apply by
Feb. 28
at 5 p.m.**

Eugene School District 4J
www.4j.lane.edu/choice • 541-790-7570

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