

Eugene City Council is considering an ordinance to make city operations “carbon neutral” by 2020 and to reduce energy in half by 2030. Meanwhile, they are expanding EUG airport and are planning to expand Beltline highway (one option calls for a 11-lane bridge). War is peace, ignorance is strength, widening highways is carbon neutrality.

Oregon’s petroleum mostly comes from the Alaska Pipeline, which peaked in 1988 and has dropped three-fourths since. In 2030, we will be lucky to be able to use half our current energy consumption, due to depletion.

The “350” campaign to divest from fossil fuel companies is well intentioned but innumerate. Fossil fuels are concentrated, that is why we use them. Growth-based economies (whether capitalist or socialist or any other “ist”) require constant increases of extraction so the loans of today can be paid by the growth of tomorrow.

350.org could set an example by divesting from more grants from the Rockefeller foundation.

Building You Owe’s new sports stadiums used large amounts of fossil fuels and mineral ores, without protests from Eugene’s climate groups. Divesting from Nike and timber companies could have more local impact than selling oil company stocks.

Our society is interested in math if it involves sports scores, but not limits to growth.

Mark Robinowitz
PeakChoice.org
Eugene

NOISE TOWN

There have been many complaints and now a grassroots effort for a “quiet zone” in Eugene. Have any of these complainers ever looked up the history of railroad crossings, especially at night, and learned why trains blow their horns? The answer is simple. In the dark, people, cars, vehicles, etc., have often been stupid or confused, and stood in or ran into oncoming trains at crossings. A large enough percentage of accidents happened to cause the whistle-blowing practice.

I have to live right next to River Road because our intelligent leaders widened all of River Road, a very long residential street, so that now none of us can sleep at night. They did this against our wishes. It was supposed to be “for the public good,” and now a lot of us can’t sleep or even live next to it. What do we do? Earplugs, noise-resistant window glass. Soundproofing. If you do get a “quiet zone” in Eugene, you will be the exception. And it will be you guys who will be responsible for the inevitable folk who get squashed by trains in the dark.

Dorothy H. Bucher
Eugene

SLOW WALKERS

The weather is beautiful and there are a lot more pedestrians out, including me. Lately when I cross a street or driveway, I’ve noticed drivers accelerating quickly before there is much room between us. This is something that rarely happened to

me until the last several months when my chronic illness worsened, making walking very difficult for me, forcing me to significantly pace myself. It is frightening when drivers are impatient and I feel pressured to speed up even though it could cause me to collapse, as I do on occasion.

Drivers, please be aware that disabled people exist, whether you can tell we’re disabled or not. We deserve to feel safe no matter how slow we walk or otherwise get around.

Casie Clausen
Eugene

BOZIEVICH’S CLAIMS

Is there any limit to the false and fictitious claims some incumbents make in order to keep their jobs?

West Lane Commissioner Jay Bozievich has been bragging that he brought “500 new jobs” to the Junction City area by landing the new hospital. Such a boast is like the rooster claiming credit for the dawn. Citing and funding that hospital was a state of Oregon administrative and legislative decision. Rep. Val Hoyle did play a role in persisting in the final funding but Bozievich had virtually no authorship of this.

What Bozievich CAN claim credit for, however, is personally orchestrating the disastrous and costly hiring of former administrator Liane Richardson and for single handedly crafting an outrageous and highly partisan redistricting “gerrymandering” scheme which would make Chicago city power brokers proud. As a co-founder of the Lane County Tea Party, Bozievich also saw to it to get his fellow Commissioners Faye Stewart and Sid Leiken to dismantle Lane County’s nationally respected Animal Services department and to eliminate both the county’s Human Rights Advisory Committee and its Roads Advisory Committee which had been trying to protect rural residents from potentially cancer and birth defects-causing chemical spraying.

Some “experience” is not worth repeating.

Kirk Bissell
Eugene

FREEDOM FROM RELIGION

The devil made me do it. It says in Revelations that the anti-Christ will take over the Christian religion. Now the Supreme Court has ruled that we have to be subjected to the chants invoking the God of evil if we wish to attend our local City Council meetings. The First Amendment should also include “freedom from religion.”

Vince Loving
Eugene

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