

to make that happen and I know others would too.

Let's find a sound solution and preserve the meadow for generations to come.

Stacey Janssen
Eugene

THE STORY GOES ON

Just wanted to drop you a quick line and let you know how much I enjoyed an article online from 2010. I came across it by chance on Flickr by a man who linked to it in a photo of a homeless person ["Nowhere to Be: Young & Homeless in Lane County," wkly.ws/1szj].

I just wanted you to know the power of the written word can change minds and concepts about issues like this, and in fact I live thousands of miles away from you in Canada and it reached me and made me appreciate the fact that many homeless individuals are such by *no* choice of their own.

Please pass on my appreciation to the writers and photographer for the very heartfelt article with pictures.

Mary Akis
Thunder Bay, Ontario

RISING AGAINST CARTELS

Thousands of children from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador are sitting in limbo at border facilities, many fleeing narco-governments. Aside from the fact that the U.S. for decades has treated Latin America countries as banana republics for the benefit of U.S. corporations, sponsoring coups, torture and overthrown democracies, many of the drug cartel members were held and learned new tricks in U.S. prisons. They were then released and deported to their home countries, where many have been terrorizing and extorting indigenous communities.

Guarda Bosques or *Forest Keepers* is a film that shows how one community in Michoacan, Mexico, rose up against the drug cartels and won. Initially using only sticks, rocks and bottle rockets, they have taken the authorities' offices, weapons and pickup trucks, ousted all political parties and all local and state police, and have re-established a pre-Columbian form of self-governance that includes its own council of elders, a community police *ronda* and its own forest defense team.

The Lane branch of the Industrial Workers of the World will be sponsoring a free screening of *Guarda Bosques* at 7 pm Wednesday, Sept. 3, at the McNail-Riley House, 601 W. 13th Ave. Discussion to follow.

Scott Fife
Eugene

MCMILLIN'S VILLAIN

Thank you, Ray McMillin! [Letters, "The Real Villain" regarding fonts, 8/14].

Sara van Dyck
Eugene

DEADLY FORCE

I share the concern of many about the circumstances under which a dog was shot and injured by a Springfield police officer Aug. 12.

These tragedies happen more often than one would imagine. It's one of the

countless dangers faced by animals outside and unsupervised. It is imperative that guardians supervise animals' time outdoors and ensure the safety of the animal companions they care for.

Officers appropriately resort to deadly force when they believe that their lives, or the lives of others, are in danger. But sometimes officials draw their guns unnecessarily or too quickly. Regardless, surprise encounters with animals are inevitable for any law enforcement official. It is vital that officers be trained in basic animal control procedures, including the proper and humane handling of animals in the field and accurate risk assessment. This is crucial for the safety of field officers, the community and animals alike. Humane methods must be exhausted before guns are drawn.

Officers who shoot dogs that pose no real threat should be charged with cruelty to animals, just like anyone else would be. Additionally, they should be subject to internal reviews and, if appropriate, dismissal from their positions.

Curtis Taylor
Eugene

BAD DOG

In support of the police officer who shot an attacking dog in self-defense: After multiple complaints about the menacing vicious animal, the officer responded appropriately, protecting the public. No one should be subject to an unleashed, unwarranted intrusion from an uncontrolled, aggressive "pet." I'm glad the wound was non-fatal so that the dog can be legally euthanized for being unfit for human society.

Vince Loving
Eugene

BAD NIGHT AT CUTHBERT

In past experiences, Cuthbert Amphitheatre staff have been friendly and professional. This was *not* the case at the Eugene Celebration concert Aug. 23. As we were entering, an employee was rude to my daughter while claiming her chair was disallowed. My chair was identical, and both were checked and allowed at the ZZ Top concert (26-inch back height). We politely offered to take the chair back to the car, at which point the employee stated that we wouldn't be allowed back in because our tickets had already been torn. Fortunately, another employee stepped in and allowed us to take the chair to our car. Disconcerted, I wrote it off to either a nepotism hire or poorly trained personnel.

After we sat, our view of the stage was blocked by some inebriates dancing on the wall, near the "No Chairs, Sitting Only" sign — ironic? We dealt with a second rude employee who refused requests to have the inebriates sit, and who then proceeded to get mouthy, until other members of security intervened. The highlight of the night? The drunk woman fell off the wall. Excellent!

Crosby Stills & Nash Sept. 17 will be my last Cuthbert concert. No hard feelings, but no hard cash either. I'll spend my money elsewhere.

Christina Laureus
Eugene

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