

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



A LOSING STRATEGY

So why did the Democrats, excepting places like Oregon, take a beating in this last election? It is all very simple. A mind-numbingly stupid, disgraceful and pathetic campaign strategy adopted by national Democratic strategists that some call "Republican-lite." It is quite possible that a few of the seven close Senate races could have been won had Democrats simply acted like Democrats.

This tactic has been proven to be a losing strategy again and again. At a time when the economy has been gaining strength with 10 million new jobs and millions of people covered under the Affordable Care Act, these candidates ran from the successes — almost apologized for them. At a time when economic populist issues are polling very high, they assumed the fetal position and decided to stand for nothing. And of course the base stayed home and didn't vote.

Is it all just raving stupidity and lack of understanding on the concept of "offense" or is it something even worse? Gaius Publius at Truth-out.org and other analysts make the case that some of these strategists are so adverse to the concept of economic populist issues winning the day that they would rather risk losing Senate seats than embrace the progressive issues platform — basically Kryptonite to the corporatist masters that they serve.

I strongly believe that this is the case. Democratic strategists took the despicable low road on this and the result is absolute disaster. It is time to metaphorically throw these scoundrels out of their office windows and purge the machine. This anti-progressive dynamic cannot be allowed to remain within the party for the upcoming 2016 election.

Gerry Rempel
Eugene

LOCAL SCOURGE

Recent missives to the *Weekly* have pinpointed a local scourge, namely — the dastardly train whistle. Exposure to its

Valkyrie-like shriek has actually infected me with TWAIDS, that is to say, train whistle AIDS. My poor housecat has been infected with FTWAIDS (feline train whistle AIDS), due to exposure to the whistle.

Additionally, my houseplant has become infected with Hebola (houseplant Ebola). This malady, too, has been closely linked to GMOs and, of course, the train whistle. Black mold, fibromyalgia and multiple chemical sensitivity disorder have all been proven to stem from the nightmarish wail produced by oncoming locomotives. Chronic Lyme disease and autism, too. Science shows it and stuff. High dudgeon and taxpayer dollars are obviously needed to rid us of this menace.

Or maybe chelation therapy.

Mahla Shaebanyan-Bady
Eugene

WRONG COUNTY

We Americans are known for our lack of geographical knowledge, so I wasn't especially surprised to see an image of Cape Perpetua accompanying a list of Best Lane County Vacation Spots [Best of Eugene, 11/ 6]. But Cape Perpetua is actually in Lincoln County.

There are, of course, many equally picturesque sites along Lane County's own shoreline, which extends from Captain Cook Point — a mile or so south of Cape Perpetua — to just south of the Siltcoos River estuary. Stunning Heceta Head — seen from the north side, without the lighthouse — comes to mind. Maybe next year?

Whitey Lueck
Eugene

REFORM OUR ELECTIONS

The last election just showed that the U.S. has the best government money can buy.

Thanks to the Supreme Court's ruling on *Citizens United*, the "citizens" of corporate America were allowed to flood TV and radio with anonymous attack ads. Over \$4

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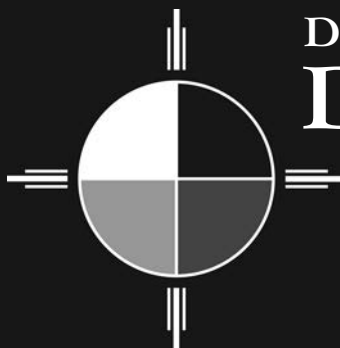
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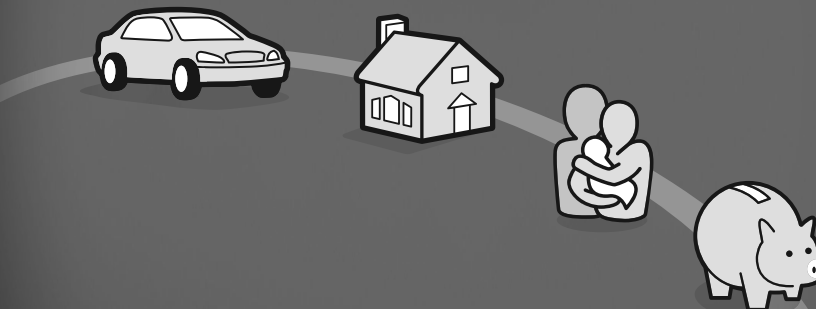
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