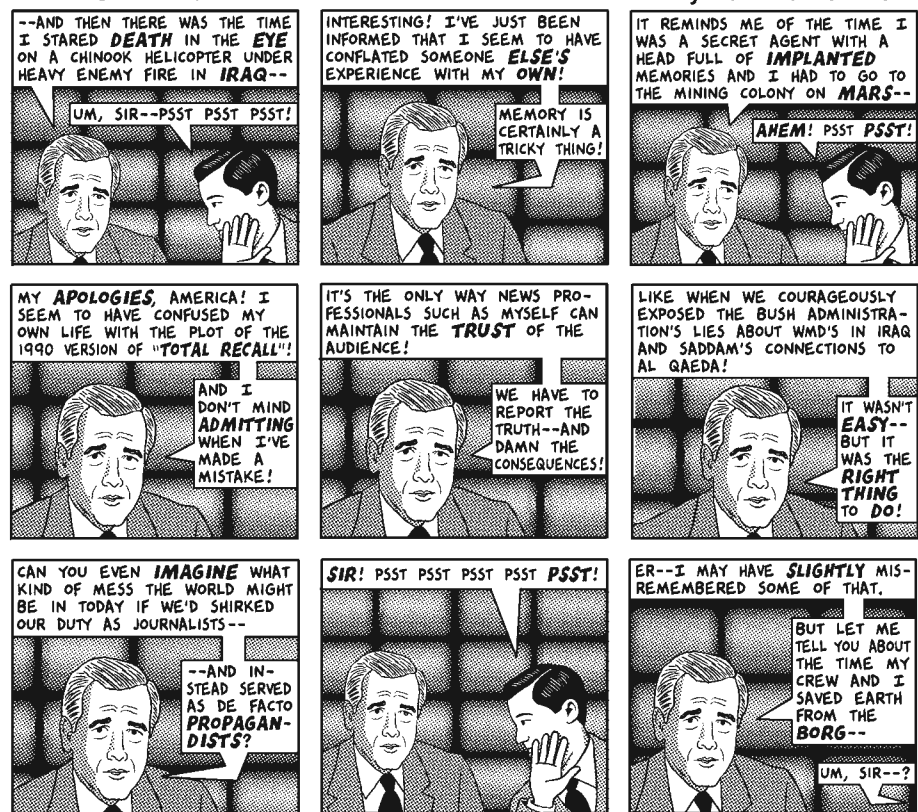


THIS MODERN WORLD



to ensure newcomers are detoured from choosing Lane County.

It's not hard to choose between a county that charges entrance fines and one that does not. You can be sure, many who already live in the county are going to figure out how to either move out of the county or get rid of currently registered vehicles. You know who is really going to scramble: the poor. Though the fees are not significant to wealthy people, like our commissioners, the majority of Lane County's residents are going to be hit hard. Many of the wealthy will just change their residence to another county or state, where they have another home, to avoid the fees, if they feel it at all.

The fees are being collected as a tax to repair our roads. They will be flat fees, no matter your vehicle, within two broad classes: \$35 for each car, truck and trailer (above and below specific weights), or \$20 for motorcycles. So, it's the same price for a compact car as it is for a monster truck with 42-inch tires? Who is damaging the road more?

Another consideration should be given to our small business owners, who struggle to maintain service vehicles and trailers. This is just one more slap during a hard economy. Have our commissioners considered the lost potential tax revenue of the detoured incoming future residents, the outstream of current residents or the registered vehicles that will be taken off the rolls? Fortunately, by some grace, the commissioners are putting it up to a vote. Vote "no" in May and then vote out the commissioners who came up with the idea.

Sam Dantone
Florence

BALANCE OF POWER

UO head coach gets a \$17.5 million contract. Eugene taxpayers get a dollar from the UO for prime downtown city owned property. Makes me dizzy.

Vince Loving
Eugene

NINKASI NOISEFEST

I do not like playing dodgeball. It is a mean-spirited sport that pits the strong against the weak and plays out until everyone but one person has been injured and knocked out of the game. Just like Brian Green [Letters, 2/12], many neighbors have been living in misery since Ninkasi's 220 Blair St. operation went online. The 24/7 noise is debilitating and akin to having a semitruck idling in your home. The noise is constant with intermittent noxious odor. The sound often exceeds 60 decibels and registers as high as 50 decibels in my home. All rooms are affected. I am awakened several times a night by the unsettling monotonous tone and vibration. It gives me heart palpitations.

It will soon be a year since Nikos Ridge assured us of his commitment to resolving the negative impact of placing a multimillion-dollar operation against established residential homes in the Whiteaker. The architect and design of the manufacturing warehouse placed cooling fans exhausting directly on the residential homes instead of the commercial side of their operations.

I have been told by neighbors that the impact of this drawn-out noise fest has

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School Visitation Week

Monday, Feb. 23–
Friday, Feb. 27

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

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Monday, Feb. 23,
7 p.m.

4J Education Center,
200 N. Monroe St.

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