

by the noise from Ninkasi and live blocks away.

I do not understand how it can be OK for someone to invade another person's space or home resulting in stress and unhappiness in the person being invaded. I think the police would stop it if it were a person — even if it happened only once. This has been going on for over a year. Is it because Ninkasi is generating money (beer) with their noise? How horrible is that?

Ninkasi says they are working on it. Did they not realize that their machines would make noise? Did they not see the houses and families that are affected by their money-making acts?

The Whiteaker is inundated with noise. It is party central — with some parties that cost a lot of money to attend going on for days in neighborhoods where people live. I am sick and tired of being overrun by inconsiderate people making money. Where are the lawmakers and enforcers?

The World Health Organization has done studies showing that noise creates stress and impairs children's ability to learn. When Reagan was in office one of James Watts' first actions was to defund the Office of Noise Abatement, saying "Noise is power. The noisier we are as Americans, the more powerful we appear to be to others."

How about some peace and quiet? Or a class-action lawsuit?

Jean Denis
Eugene

EDITOR'S NOTE: In response to previous letters on this issue, Nikos Ridge of Ninkasi told EW: "We're working on it; we have encountered some design issues with adding

the sufficient sound dampening to the existing structural elements of the building, and unfortunately it takes time to meet code and do it right."

WORDS OF WISDOM

Two years ago *EW* had a "Bailing Out City Hall" column by retired city councilor Bonny Bettman McCornack (see wkly.ws/1yl). I kept a copy knowing that her words of wisdom needed to be listened to again. She explained how the rich became richer and the poor are getting poorer with all the money grabs for tax waivers, rate reductions and giveaways to developers and speculators.

She explained flat taxation tagged on to the stormwater budget of EWEB was added for parks and recreation. "A flat fee is one of the most regressive taxing mechanisms imaginable. A senior living in an apartment will pay the same fee as someone in a seven-bedroom, five-bath house with tennis court and pool. Entire multi-unit complexes will pay one flat fee. Regional non-Eugene residents who enjoy Eugene's parks will pay nothing." We are again having another flat tax proposed for our EWEB bill. Hopefully we can have a fairer tax such as a carbon tax on gasoline plus large fees for heavier trucks and studded tires? Both could go for repairing roads and bridges.

Ruth Duemler
Eugene

HOYLE'S BROWN BILL

One of the "good guys" (gag), our own Democrat Rep. Val Hoyle, is pushing House Bill 2666, which is a sop to mining

interests and a blow to local farmers. With friends like that, who needs enemies? Of course the whole Democrat = Green hand-waving is a bunch of bull; the only green these characters respect comes off a printing press.

Karl Stout
Eugene

ANY BETTER OPTIONS?

Folks have long fussed about the need for immigrants to master English before they're granted citizenship, and also about the need for U.S. students to score higher than those from elsewhere.

We're a language-driven social species. It's easier for children than adults to master language, and various tests have always been used to measure such achievement. All innovative systems, such as the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), gene analysis, automobiles and parents don't function perfectly at the start. But if they don't get started, they'll never improve. CCSS began with the easier areas to test. Language and math testing will have improved after a few years. Similarly, effective testing of such areas as the natural/social sciences and the arts will also occur.

What functional options do the critics propose?

Robert Sylwester
Eugene

BUBBLES IN A HURRICANE

I found a quote that eloquently describes all of us who have given a great portion

of our lives, thought, study and devotion to a cause we truly believe in: preventing wireless "smart" meters.

The quote below was written by a powerful and compassionate man:

"One thing I have come to believe is that if we accept things in silence, then we ultimately approve of those things or we become susceptible to the negative influences of those things."

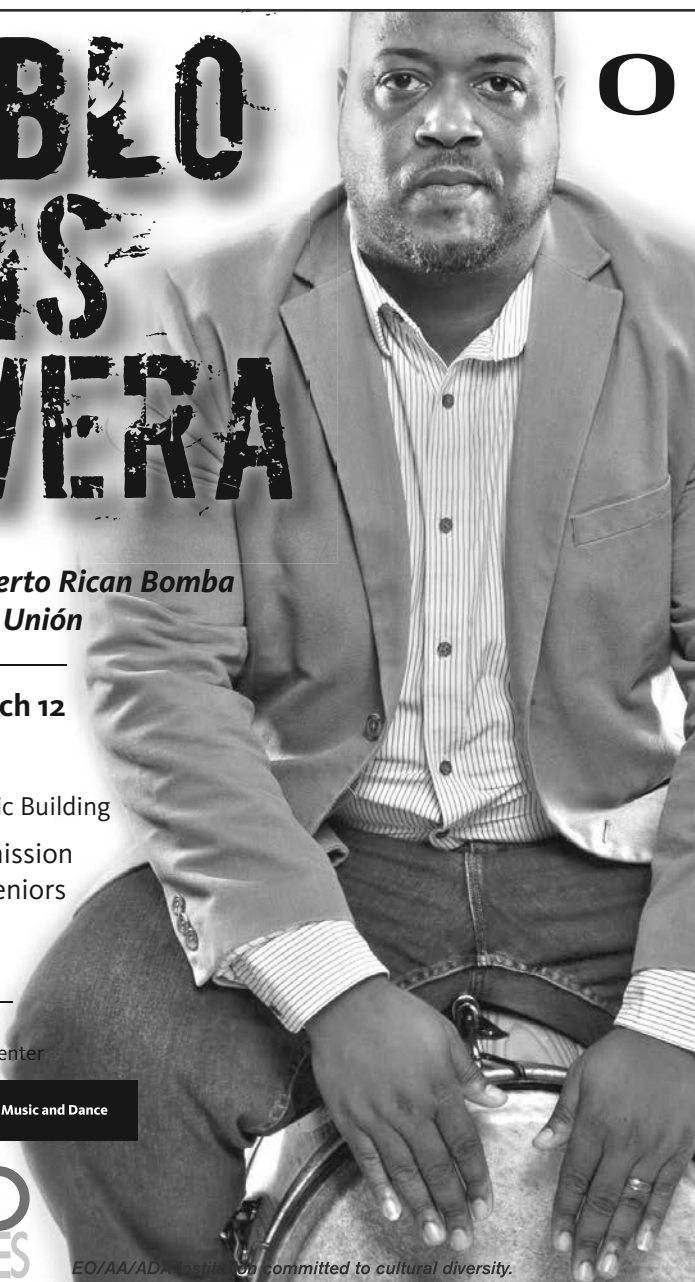
This man was Roger Gray, at that time information officer of Pacific Gas & Electric. These words were written to his colleagues upon leaving his 19-year position at the company. He was one of the 228 recipients of the \$84.5 million in bonuses awarded to top executives shortly after the utility's 2001 bankruptcy filing. It is said, before he left "he didn't think it was fair that the employees were making a lot of sacrifices while senior managers were getting all the money."

Roger Gray is now general manager of EWEB. He has the power and influence to prevent untold suffering before it is too late. The implementation of proven unsafe wireless smart meters has begun.

For years Gray and the EWEB board have heard evidence from concerned, educated citizens sharing research from around the world leaving no doubt about the dangers of wireless smart meters.

EWEB has not been forthcoming with the horrifying truths of smart meters. No person or other living beings are immune to smart meter radiation. This time will money override conscience?

Eve Woodward-Shaw
Eugene



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