

THIS Bizarro WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



lacking in arts classes more than ever. Often, students find themselves unconvinced that they should even attend their classes.

By providing classes that grab students' interest, I argue that attendance, and therefore graduation, will go up. Only a few years ago, photography classes were offered at my school. Post budget cuts, only two arts classes have survived. I have taken both the art classes available to me.

However, I am interested more in photography and cinematography. There are no classes offered that would fit or even come close to suiting my interests. Although I understand the academic drive of my school, students who would find themselves more attentive in an arts class should be made a priority.

Public schools should strive to be all-inclusive and acknowledge what appeals to the community.

*Indigo Amarys
South Eugene High School
Eugene*

INDEPENDENT PERSPECTIVE

I endorse Emily Semple for the Ward 1 seat on Eugene City Council. I have known Emily as a downtown resident and neighbor for many years. I can attest to her dedication regarding many important neighborhood concerns.

To diversify the voices on the council, Emily will bring a new independent perspective and be another woman on the job. Emily's presence will bring a fresh start for constituents who have grown distrustful of city government, e.g., council missteps such as City Hall, South Willamette rezoning and the Urban Renewal district. She has actively supported keeping Kesey Square a public open space.

Emily Semple will work to hold city government accountable and minimize top-down decision making. She will continue to support our low-income and homeless residents by lobbying for shelter solutions and for increased social services

with human rights for all people.

Be sure to vote in November. To elect a new voice in our civic conversations, the choice is Semple.

*Cary Thompson
Eugene*

BRISSENDEN FOR LANE COUNTY

As election time draws near, I would like to remind readers that Florence and all Lane County residents will be voting for a Lane County Justice of the Peace, serving here in Florence.

I would also like to remind others that we have an excellent candidate already fulfilling the Lane County Justice of the Peace position.

Judge Rick Brissenden has been Florence's Municipal Court Judge for the past 18 years. Due to a vacancy, Brissenden was appointed justice of the peace beginning March 1, 2016, where he has been handling all of the JP duties as well as the Municipal Court. He will serve out that appointment as JP until December 31, 2016, no matter who wins this election.

There is no reason to remove an expert who is doing his job and replace him with a however well-meaning citizen who will have to be trained for the position at taxpayer expense. Plus, there would no doubt be a learning curve to bring another candidate up to the speed and expertise of an 18-year judge.

Brissenden has concrete ideas for helping bring services to more people in other parts of Lane County, not just to serve Florence, and he has the network and know-how to get the job done.

If it's not broken, why pay to fix it? Please join me in voting for Judge Rick Brissenden for Lane County justice of the peace and help all of us have access to a just, experienced, knowledgeable judge.

*Mary Beth Rawlins
Florence*

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