

## eugeneweekly.com comments:

“Tech is more like Gandalf than Sauron in its relationship to the Shire. For now, Gandalf is bringing some exciting fireworks to the Shire, which entertain but don’t particularly impact the daily lives of many of our nobler residents. As the author alludes, the scouts of Sauron already did come through the Shire, but haven’t really left that much of a mark — yet. Those in the Shire who choose to follow Gandalf now may be in for the adventure of their life, not always pleasant, but upon their return could be the key to ensuring sustainability of the lifestyle we all enjoy. A grinding decline into ‘equal opportunity poverty for all’ may be our future ‘alternative lifestyle’ if we choose to insist that the wrenching socio-economic and technological changes in the wider world will leave us alone as long as we just keep ignoring them...”

— Chris Hazen on “*And in the Darkness Bind Them: Inside Eugene’s cult of tech,*” Sept. 22

“Possibly the best writing I’ve ever seen in the *Eugene Weekly*. It captures an important part of the beating heart of Eugene — its magnificence, its humanity, even its human flaws and errors. It’s also energizing and gives hope. Let’s cut through the bullshit and actually work through the problems we face. Onward.”

— Nathan Zebrowski on “*Citizen Terry: No waste goes to waste on Terry McDonald’s watch,*” Aug. 25

## FLUSH THE TOILET

Kudos to our next CIC, POTUS, Donald J. Trump.

He pulled off the biggest con in history.

He played the fear card on the American sheeple like a Stradivarius (if Stradivarius had made dog whistles or bullhorns).

He exposed to the world the truth of the “Ugly American.”

After the party of “I hope he fails” managed to plug the toilet of our democracy, Trump as the biggest, greasiest, shiniest turd, was able to rise to the top.

America’s chicken hawk karma has come home to roost.

The next four years will be a test to see if love can really trump hate.

If not, I think Mother Earth will flush the toilet on her own.

Michael T. Hinojosa, *Eugene*  
Nov. 17

## MISGUIDED WRATH

Well, I feel very sorry upon hearing of the tragedy at Orlando. But as I took up my Bible, I opened at the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. After re-reading chapter and verse, I can’t help but think God is giving us an example of his punishment for perverts and deviants. You cannot escape the eye of the Lord!

Lon Miller, *Drain*  
June 30

## BUTT SEX

Lon Miller, [Letters, 6/30] when I was reading your response to the editor in the *Weekly*, I opened up the Bible and opened it to Ezekiel Chapter 16: “Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy. They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen.”

The Christian God did not mention a thing about the lovely butt sex that must have been going on in Sodom when accounting for the sins of Sodom. Arrogant people who turn away the poor and needy are the sinners of Sodom!

As a decent person, people being shot at and killed certainly qualify as the needy in my book.

Bonnie Doran, *Eugene*  
July 21

## TAYLOR DEFENSE

William Kennedy’s “attack” of James Taylor [“The Good, the Bad and the Noodly,” July 14] is nothing short of a pebble sneering at the ocean.

Michael Billings, *Eugene*  
July 21

## EW BURN

As I write this I stand over a pile of wadded up and crushed copies of *Eugene Weekly*, and in front of me is a pile of burning *Eugene Weeklys*. This wasn’t malicious, simply coincidental, but I realized that the *Eugene Weekly* does so much for so many people who never read the poorly written articles within your “paper.”

I picked up several stacks of *EW* as packing material for moving. This protected my various glasses and china quite well, kudos. Once done moving into my new house, it was time to fire up the barbecue, and *EW* was again to the rescue as the cheap printing material is fantastically flammable.

These events gave me an epiphany: If literally nobody reads *EW* anymore because of the corporate bias blatant in their poorly written articles, what are people using *EW* for?

I listed the top five uses for *EW*: #1 toilet paper for the homeless; #2 packing material; #3 BBQ starter; #4 floor covering to collect animal droppings; #5 paper crafts like origami/ paper maché.

Please get better journalists, editors, and stop being an embarrassment to our city.

Stefan Streck, *Eugene*  
Sept. 1



ILLUSTRATION BY JEFF DREW

## DONE WITH HIDING

The fencing of places where homeless people camp isn’t really about trash. If it was, the city would be providing trashcans and portable potties at locations all over Eugene, along with a lot more managed shelter. Instead, it spends money on services that people have to walk to, carrying all of their possessions, and policing to keep them from camping.

What the fences are really about is trying to force the homeless to hide, to be invisible, so their very existence doesn’t offend the middle class and give the lie to the American way of life. The talk about trash is meant to justify this and demonize the homeless — to portray them as trash.

As activists, we need to understand the difference between protest and resistance. Protest is useful in focusing public attention on a problem, but it doesn’t make those in power do anything. Protest may, in fact, provide a useful social safety valve for people to vent while allowing the politicians and the middle-class folks who elect them to continue business as usual.

Resistance, on the other hand, creates a cost for business-as-usual that makes it more difficult to continue doing it. It inflicts pain and is much harder to ignore.

As a resistance response to the fencing, I suggest that activists publicly designate the fenced areas as dumps for homeless trash and feces, and encourage the homeless to use them to deposit their waste. Create a real problem that the authorities cannot ignore, a cost to business as usual. Tell the community that we are done with hiding and we don’t recognize their authority.

Lynn Porter, *Eugene*  
March 31

EDITOR’S NOTE: Eugene Weekly does not condone pooping as a form of protest.