

LOCAL BOOK SALES AFFECTED BY TRUMP ELECTION

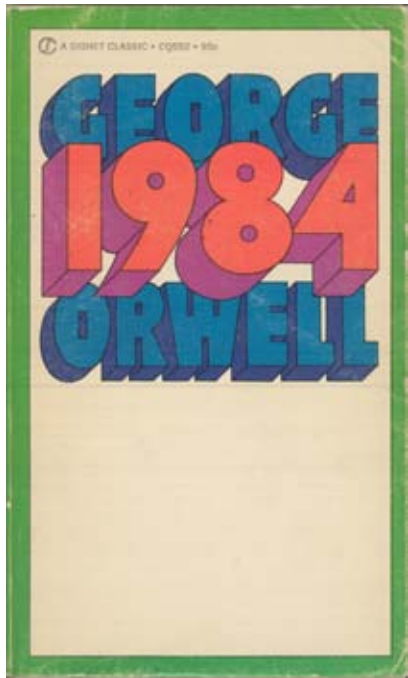
George Orwell's *1984*, as well as other novels envisioning a dystopian future, have made their way to the top of Amazon's bestseller list since the election of Donald Trump. In Eugene, readers are supporting their local bookstores and pumping up the sales of political books as well.

Bruce Lundy, team leader for the bookstore portion of the University of Oregon's Duck Store, says that during the election more political titles than usual were being picked up. "Especially funny Trump books like *Trumpisms*, *Quotations from Chairman Trump*, *Trump Coloring Book*, *Yuge! 30 Years of Doonesbury on Trump*," Lundy says, "but also other titles like Maureen Dowd's *The Year of Voting Dangerously*, and some of the more serious books about the election."

After the election, the Duck Store had a major decline in the sale of these books, he adds. "Perhaps people now want to read about anything but politics."

At Black Sun Books in south Eugene, the story is similar to what's happening at Amazon. Peter Ogura says that in addition to Orwell's *1984*, Jane Mayer's *Dark Money: The Hidden History of the Billionaires Behind the Rise of the Radical Right* is "flying out the door."

Ogura adds, "Books by Noam Chomsky are also being sold, sales of which lagged during the Obama years." Chomsky, a lin-



guist, is also known for his work as an activist and social critic.

J. Michaels downtown has seen a similar post-election pattern. But, owner Jeremy Nissel says, the difference between Amazon and J. Michaels is that, while shopping juggernaut Amazon can stock thousands of copies of a book like *1984*, local bookstores cannot.

Also, Nissel says, while everyone is certainly focused on Donald Trump, shoppers at J. Michaels are still "feeling the Bern" with copies of Bernie Sander's *Our Revolution* still coming off the shelves.

"We are selling books that give people positive ideas on how to combat the current administration," Nissel says, pointing to *What We Do Now: Standing Up for Your Values in Trump's America*, a collection of essays by authors including Sanders and Democratic darling Elizabeth Warren.

Scott Landfield, owner of Tsunami Books on Willamette Street, says the locally owned bookstore has been selling a lot more books

in general since Trump's election.

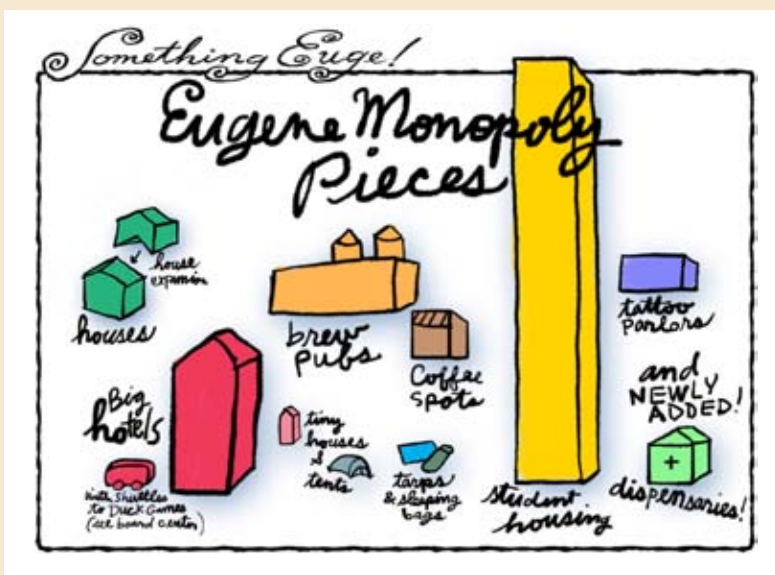
However, Landfield says that he is too busy fundraising to talk about Trump. Tsunami Books is facing financial difficulties regarding its lease and is asking for community support to be able to keep the more than 20-year-old bookstore and performance space in business. You can pledge your support at tsunamibooks.org/support. ■

SLANT

• Rumor has it that *The Register-Guard* is laying off another 20 employees. The toll this time includes reporter Lillian Schrock, who was let go Friday, and newsroom veteran Diane Dietz, who got laid off on Tuesday. Dietz has bulldogged the leadership chaos and financial shenanigans at the University of Oregon for years. In a gracious Facebook post about her departure, she writes: "We must do all we can to bolster and to comfort the young reporters who — while caught in the squeeze of news economics — must nonetheless provide us with the fruits of their work, the facts that we so desperately need." She's right. America needs aggressive, independent journalism now more than ever.

• Blankets, parkas, sweaters, socks, towels, bags of used but still useful stuff have nearly blocked the Weekly's reception space at 1251 Lincoln Street over the past few months. We have been running a small ad in the paper every week and you readers really have been responding. Richard Hunt, our circulation manager, has hauled five pickup truck loads over to White Bird, where they hand out every item to people in need. We all thank you and hope you will keep caring and contributing.

• Right-wing money from creepy billionaire Robert Mercer is once again slouching into an Oregon political race. Mercer — who helped found the alt-right's Breitbart news site with a \$10 million investment — has poured as much as \$1.7 million over the last four congressional elections into Oregon pseudoscientist (remember the urine samples and dumping nuclear waste in the oceans?) Art Robinson's



unsuccessful bid to unseat long-time Fourth District Rep. Peter DeFazio. Mercer is back again, DeFazio says in a email to supporters: "2018 will be their greatest offensive to date, but I know we've got what it takes to beat them fair and square."



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