

I reuse plastic bottles. The water here is very good. I reuse individual cranberry juice bottles because they are the perfect size for a half a cup of Splash or V8 fusion.

I only throw the bottles away when they are too worn out or they won't come clean.

*Catherine E. Southward
Eugene*

GUN CRAZY

Earlier this month we marked one year since the shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, and two years since the shooting at a church in Charleston, S.C. And the world watched in shock as members of Congress were targeted while practicing baseball.

These are only the shootings that made headlines. The reality is 93 people are killed by gun violence every day in this country, and few of those deaths make the papers. Between these shocking mass shootings and the daily toll of gun violence, I run out of language to talk about the carnage.

In fact, you know one of my greatest fears? That all the media coverage and all the vigils will numb us until it starts to feel normal.

It doesn't have to be this way. It shouldn't be this way. And together we can fight this terrifying "new normal."

We are one nation united against this kind of violence and working toward a nation where you can go to work or school or baseball practice without the fear of being shot. If a divided Congress can come together for nine innings of baseball, we can work together to make this the safer nation we all want and deserve.

*Curtis Taylor
Eugene*

MOTHER NATURE'S REVENGE

The United Nations just released a report predicting that our planet's human population will grow by another 2.2 billion (with a "B") by 2050. America's contribution to that increase will be due almost entirely to immigration and births to immigrants.

It's interesting that those who holler the loudest about anthropogenic-related climate change, crowded classrooms, resource depletion, traffic gridlock, deforestation, loss of farmland, habitat destruction and shrinking water supplies rarely cite the root cause of all the foregoing as well as many of the world's other problems.

Instead they clamor for open borders, greatly increased "refugee" admission and sanctuary cities that will lure more illegal immigration.

Since we refuse to control our numbers, Mother Nature will eventually do it for us, and it ain't gonna be pretty.

*Jerry Ritter
Springfield*

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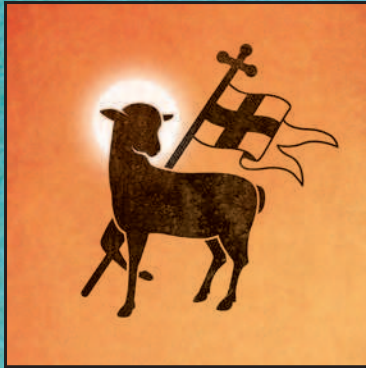


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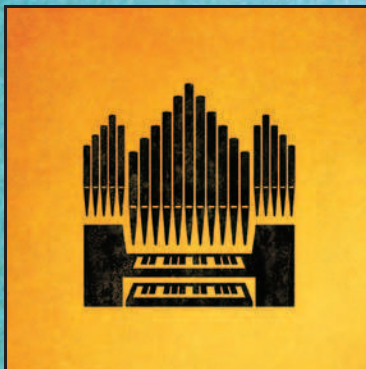
Bach: St. Matthew Passion
June 29 & 30



Explore German Baroque
with Monica Huggett
July 1



[re]Discovery Series
Bach: St. John Passion
July 5, 10, 12



Paul Jacobs
All-Bach Organ Recital
July 6



Venus & Adonis
July 7



Handel: Hercules
July 8



The Protecting Veil
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Don Quixote
July 13



Beethoven: Missa Solemnis
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