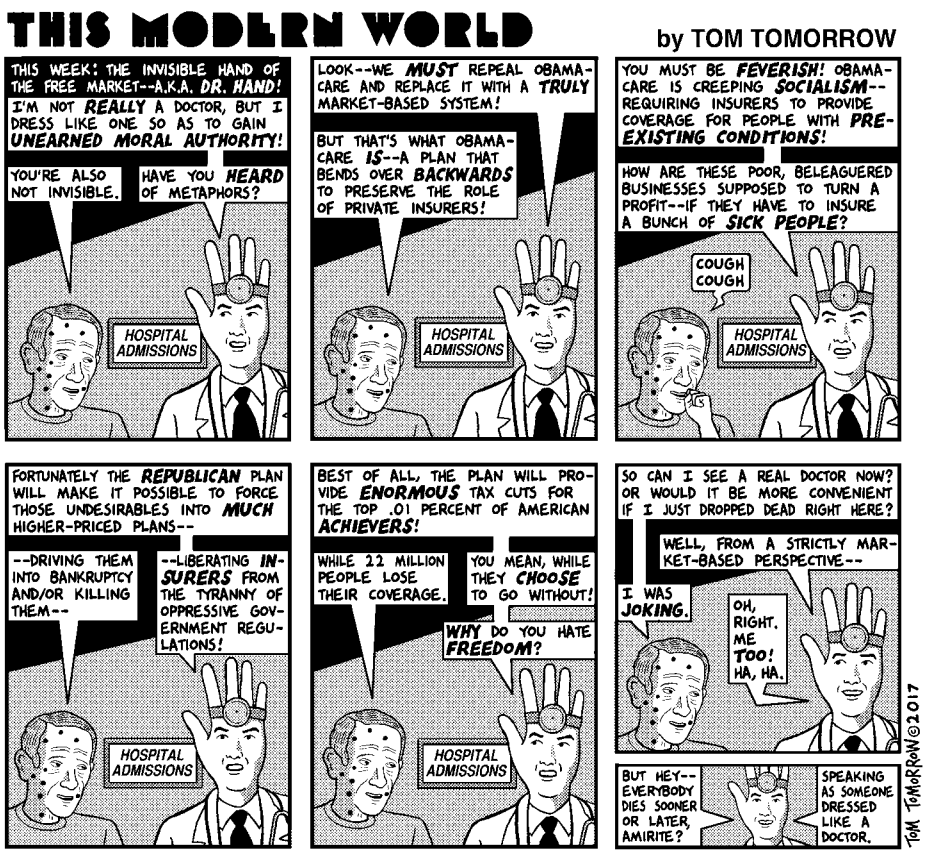

of paid rehearsal and performance while auditioning to find your next gig. Talk to any actor of color, going out for a third of the auditions per week that are available for white actors, and you will understand what OSF, whose company has a majority of POC actors, is doing for diversity.

For that matter, talk to Daniel Dae Kim and Grace Park — stars of *Hawaii Five-0*, who just left the show because they were being paid 10 to 15 percent less than their white colleagues — about what OSF is doing to even the scales.

OSF features and commissions authors of color every season, providing even more opportunities for POC actors, writers and directors to tell their stories.

Rick, tell the 10-year old South Asian girl, who saw (through her public school at a reduced price) a production of *King Lear* with the titular character's three daughters all played by actors of different ethnicities, and realized then and there that she could be brown and still be chosen to play some of the most interesting and complex characters ever written, that OSF's diversity initiatives are fraudulent. She doesn't buy it.

Arun Storrs
Los Angeles
(formerly South Eugene)

LOST IN THE WOODS

Regarding your article on prescribed fire ("Rx: Fire," June 22), particularly the quote from the Forest Service about "opening forest canopies a little bit and removing the understory," federal agencies and the Nature Conservancy prescribe forests be taken down to 30 to 40 percent — hardly a little bit.

Removing the understory would devastate plants and animals living there. Most prescribed burning is done in spring, when emerging vegetation and animal life is vulnerable to damage by fire and, because it's so moist, amounts to spreading around poorly ignited diesel fuel.

Ecological management should be targeted: prairies and oak savannas in the Willamette Valley or ponderosa pine woodlands east of the Cascades, not all forests in Oregon. Judicious fuels management should be done around homes and communities as the first priority of fire safety. Anything less is a distraction.

Fires often initiate brushy and dense conditions that were historically common. Dense forests are not inherently unhealthy.

Contrary to what this article suggests, most forests are perfectly healthy save those heavily impacted by industrial logging. The forest is not in need of saving from itself but rather from misguided management.

Please research these issues better to avoid becoming a mouthpiece for federal agency and Nature Conservancy propaganda.

Dominic DiPaolo
Selma

NO VINIS FAN

The critical letters about Mayor Vinis won't be the last in regards to her positions and performance. In the rush to defeat Mike Clark, Eugene picked a mayor that will at best deliver the status quo, and whose incompetence and lack of experience will do more harm that good.

Don French
Eugene

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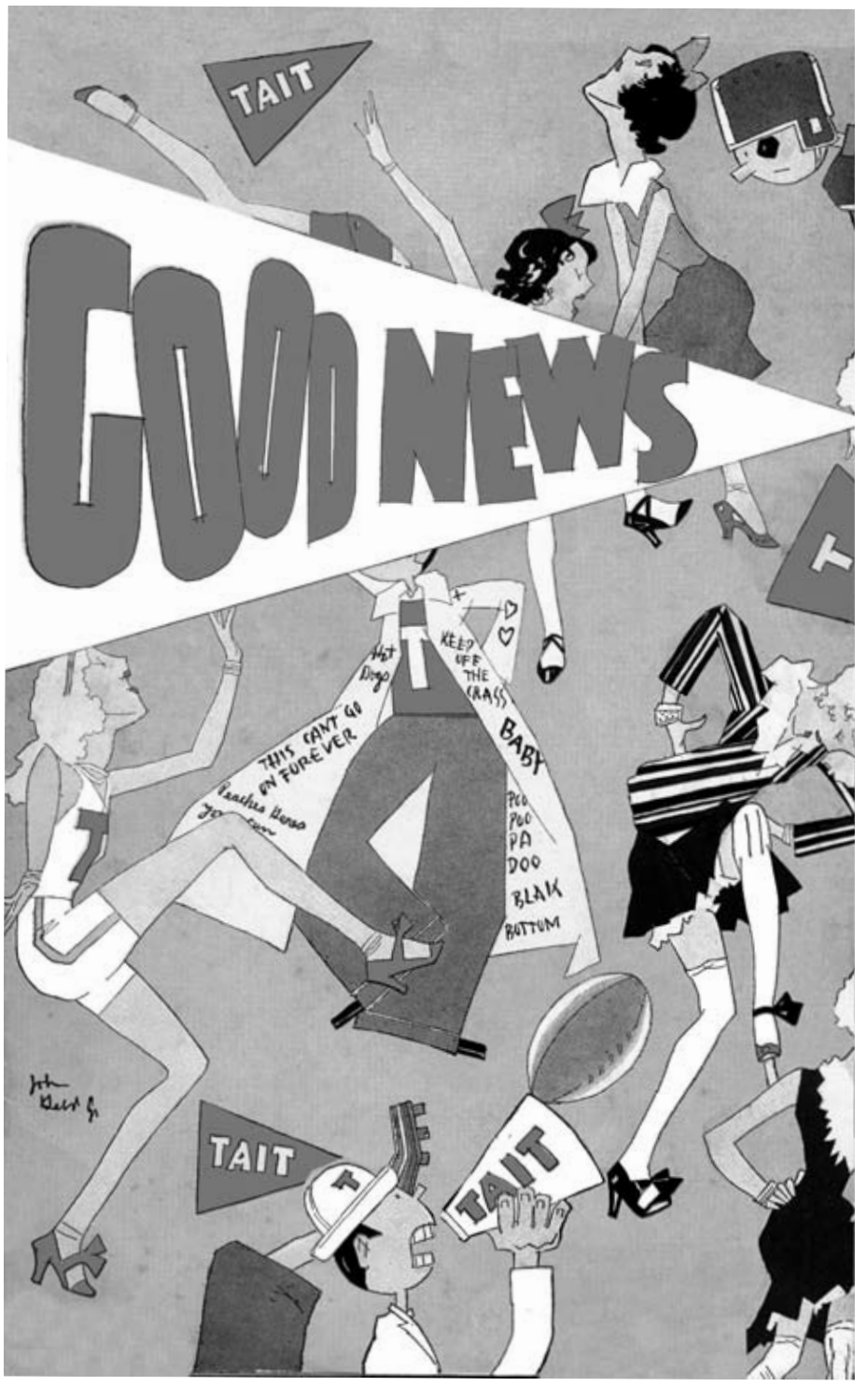
www.theshedd.org - 541.434.7000
The Eye Center
John H. Haines, MD
Kent A. Karren, MD

Shedd Theatricals 2017



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