

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

2018:  
THE TRUMP  
NEWS CYCLE  
CONTINUES

gered and invaluable species to the Pacific Northwest, which has had a very interesting series of interactions with the Oregon timber industry.

Jesse Kidd, student  
Eugene

GERRYMANDERING  
OBSTRUCTIONIST PARTY

There are three letters (J. Thielking, R. Gross, K. Britz) in the Jan. 11 edition of *Eugene Weekly* complaining about how four of the five Lane County Commissioner changed the rules to prevent an initiative those commissioners didn't like from inclusion in the May election.

How can this undemocratic event happen? It's called "gerrymandering." Lane has 40 percent more Democrats than Republicans, indicating a left-leaning county. But four of the five commissioners are conservatives.

I looked at the 2011 re-apportionment report (where the election districts are redrawn) a few years ago when I became curious about this seeming misfit. I didn't study the report in detail, but a cursory look at the new districts showed the telltale signs of the "packing and cracking" techniques favored by gerrymandering Republicans.

If we want democracy at the county level, we need an independent committee to oversee the Commission's redistricting in 2021. It's sad to say, but in these times we can't trust the GOP (Gerrymandering Obstructionist Party?) to show deference to democratic principles.

James Stauffer  
Eugene

## IN PRAISE OF TRAPEZOID E

Blake Andrews writes ["Outdoor Art for the Avid Indoorsman," 1/18], "I have never seen any person interact with Robert Maki's *Trapezoid E*." However, Seattle sculptor Robert Maki's 1975 sculpture deserves the attention and interaction of everyone.

*Trapezoid E* is among the most important contemporary sculptures in Eugene's

outdoor, permanently installed public art. Maki articulates space with sheet-aluminum planes welded at odd angles to suggest the illusion of volume. Also, Maki had to concern himself with the environment within which his sculpture exists in the physical world.

In Maki's case, his sculpture was originally sited at the center of the Federal Building's plaza; however, due to security concerns the artist was consulted several years ago, and the sculpture was moved to the corner of High Street and 6th Avenue on the northeast corner of the Federal Building.

*Trapezoid E* is assertively dramatic and consists of one-inch aluminum planes in triangular and trapezoidal shapes (12' x 12' x 12' variable size). As you walk around the work, you realize it is constructed of two-dimensional planes, but from any angle conveys three-dimensional form and volume.

Robert Maki's sculpture continually challenges the accepted ways of seeing in the Northwest. His minimalist aesthetic offers a visual acumen and forces art out of the known into the unknown — evoking fresh forms to provide insight into perception, art and life.

Mike E. Walsh  
Eugene

## PERMISSION GRANTED

Since we weren't allowed to say "ass" on TV until Bush the Elder told us we were going to "kick Saddam's," can we now say "shit?"

Bill Smee  
Eugene

## AUTO-CENTRIC CITY

If Eugene is such a pedestrian friendly town, why are there no crosswalks on the eight streets between Willamette Street and the university from 13th Avenue to 18th Avenue (Oak, Pearl, High, Mill, Ferry, Patterson, Hilyard and Alder)?

Additionally, why is the speed limit 30 mph instead of a more reasonable 25 mph?

Beverly Mowery  
Eugene

Cannabis  
Lexicon 101

RIVER VALLEY REMEDIES ON EXTRACTS

River Valley Remedies (RVR) is a modern boutique apothecary specializing in high-end cannabis products and other alternative remedies. They host an array of educational workshops and events to bring accessible information on the science behind whole plant medicine.

RVR recently interviewed Brice Sherman, co-owner of Willamette Valley Alchemy (WVA), on the terminology of extracts in the effort to bring even more education on cannabis to light. This is the first edition in a series of cannabis columns.

**RVR: WVA uses BHE instead of BHO. Can you explain the difference?**

WVA: BHE stands for blended hydrocarbon extract, where as BHO is short for butane hash oil. BHO has become a general term for anything made with butane gas as a solvent. Although most extractors use a blend of gases that usually contains less butane than propane. Through extensive R&D, we've found our specific in-house blend of gases yields a product that is the most accurate representation of the starting (cannabis) material and makes our processes truly unique.

**There are a lot of different products on the market that we're seeing labeled as live resin. How are many of these products so much different than the others? How can someone trust a store to know they are selling "live resin"?**

Live resin means the product was made from flowers frozen within 48 hours of being harvested. This product has much higher terpene percentage than product made using cured material. Terpenes are very volatile and dissipate as the product cures. Our process requires the product to be immediately frozen as its being harvested and remains frozen throughout the whole process. This creates terpene rich oil that tastes like the plant did when it was still growing.

**What is HTE?**

HTE or high terpene extract is a term we use to describe the high terpene fraction that is created in our process of crystalizing THC-a.

**WVA recently added Terp Diamonds to their menu. Can you tell us what diamonds are?**

"Diamonds" is a brand new product that we helped innovate for the recreational market. It's a very detailed process of crystalizing the THC-a, similar to how sugar crystals are made, using a super-saturated solution. It is then separated from the HTE, de-gassed, and packaged on a 60:40 ratio of HTE to THC-a crystals. This product has an extremely high terpene percentage and has been selling out quicker than we can make them. WVA was the original company to release this highly sought-after product in 2017.

**At what stores in Eugene can you find WVA diamonds?**

River Valley Remedies, TJ' Organic Provisions, Eugene OG, Amazon Organics, The Greenside, Grasslands, Buds LLC, Terpene Station, Nectar and Moss Crossing.

**Do you have any new products comings in 2018?**

Yes! We are working diligently on a high-end cartridge line that will use our full spectrum extracts and serve a larger demographic. Also we are continuing to innovate new products and methods of ingestion. Lots more to come! Thanks for supporting our local, family-owned business in 2018 and beyond!

*River Valley Remedies is hosting an educational event on Sunday, February 11 from 7pm to 8pm. Join us as Emma Chasen debunks the myth behind Sativa and Indica. Learn what the two cannabis terms actually mean and what to look for when searching for the right strain for you. Free to attend, registration via Eventbrite is required. Visit River Valley Remedies on Facebook for more information.*



RIVER VALLEY  
REMEDIES

1985 W 7th Ave, Eugene • (458) 205-8257  
rivervalleyremedies.net  
M-S 9am to 10pm • Sun 10am-8pm