

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



When Trump's supporters are shown his blatant treason and money laundering, will they still buy into his Fox News branding of the Republican white nationalist party?

Tell me again how the FBI skipped a vetting process and allowed a tax-evading gangster to become our "grate" President?

Sorry Marvel heroes — crime pays.

Glenn Jones
Eugene

if only someone would give them the opportunity.

We are now standing on a cusp. The president-who-would-be-king is taking the stand that he is totally and absolutely above the law, and we now must hope that some Republican senators and congressmen find a spine, some testicles and a conscience.

I hold little hope.

Jamie Selko
Eugene

REFLECTIONS

I've been ponderin' the division of folks these days and came to realize that we are livin' the days of ME vs. WE. (Duh!) The sad thing is, if you put ME over WE, you just get a reflection of ourselves. What are we doing? Do we just think of ME, or, should we think of All of US? Just asking. Your choice.

Rick Blake
Springfield

NO EXCUSES FOR ICE

There are two reasons why ICE agents rip crying kids away from their parents, and "Orders are orders" is not one. The two reasons are because it makes the Rippers feel powerful and because they like it. If they didn't enjoy it, they could refuse or quit.

"Following orders" is neither excuse nor explanation. Nazi perpetrators said "If we didn't they would have sent us to the front." Well — you were "soldiers," and millions of your countrymen fought the Russians while you stayed behind safe, bullying, torturing and murdering. No one in the German armed forces was ever punished for refusing to murder people. Soldiers who declined were given other duties (while eager volunteers took their place). No one is forcing these agents to behave like monsters. If Nazis could decline, so can they.

The really scary thing about the Trumpists is that there are tens of thousands who would love to take part in savagery, love to watch parents and children cry, love to be guards at camps set up to hold "undesirables" where they could act like gods.

And, just as certain but even scarier, there are thousands who would willingly perform state-sponsored mass murder,

DON'T DROP AUDITOR IDEA

On vacation while auditing votes were counted, I have been bemused by post-election comments. One side says Eugene avoided an autocratic, over-priced elected auditor promoted by a narrow neighborhood cabal; the other side says the people's preference was defeated by a late insincere option aimed at vote-splitting, resulting in continued double-dealing by local government.

As someone who voted "no" on both, I am not one of those opposed to hiring an auditor (Letters, May 24). I found both proposals too flawed to warrant support, but hope an improved design, from an inclusive process, could garner a majority. I don't pretend to know its full details, but even in our current weak council-strong manager governance structure I suspect most citizens agree the council is currently far too weak. Auditor support — similar to what Congress gets from the Congressional Budget Office and Government Accountability Office — could help strengthen the council. Yet making the auditor entirely subject to, or independent of, the council also seems unproductive. The auditor needs some control of his or her agenda, budget and personnel to be effective. But complete autonomy may frustrate shared responsibilities and shared powers among branches of government, and contribute to continuing toxic mutual suspicions.

Here's hoping that Eugene citizens will see the late election not as an end, but rather the start of an extended but ultimately productive effort to make an auditor an effective part of Eugene government, and foster a shared spirit of cooperation and accountability to Eugene residents by all involved.

Branden Johnson
Eugene

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