

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



is floundering. I encourage you to look over the publication at your next staff meeting, and to question whether and how the work might bolster your mission statement. Alternatively, you could just change the mission statement to something more honest, such as, "We endeavor to print at least 16 pages of mostly ad-based material, every single week."

I think you should try harder.

Shaun Winter
Eugene

SIMPLE KINDNESS

The owners of a local shoe repair shop asked me to fill in for them for a week. I agreed.

My first day there, Sonja, the counter woman, brought a worn-out pair of work boots to my work area. She showed them to me and asked if I could restitch the soles. I looked them over, then told Sonja the customer will be better served with new soles. I will need to take the boots' soles completely off, do the stitching, then reassemble them using the worn out old parts, saving him little, if any, money.

Sonja went to the counter, told him what I had said and came back to me again. She said: "He is strapped for cash right now, but plans to start working as a wild land firefighter next week. Is there anything less expensive you can do to get him by for a while?"

I replied: "I can do hand stitching on some parts, cement other parts and nail some areas to cobble them together. This would get him by for a while."

Sonja told him. "OK, do that," he said.

In the meanwhile, a woman customer had come in, overheard their conversation, came to the counter and said, "Do what needs to be done to his boots; I will pay for it. I appreciate these young people who are doing this work. I want him to be safe fighting those awful fires."

She paid the \$85, I did the work and he is now on the line fighting blazes in southern Oregon or northern California.

Jerry Martin
Eugene

NOT WORTH THE JOBS

I wonder what Oregonians would think to learn that the liquefied natural gas pipeline has been rejected two times by local jurisdictions in the past due to its impact and the possibility for widespread contamination? It was only until a Trump-appointed federal board came into being that it got this far and considered a possibility.

While it promises jobs in the tens of thousands during construction, it will lead to only 150 jobs once it's complete. One hundred and fifty jobs and an ecosystem is thrown into disarray. One hundred and fifty jobs and the Coos Bay harbor and waterways will be clogged with tankers and oil equipment from here on out and times to come. One hundred and fifty jobs and the fishing/rafting/outdoor/service-based businesses that support hundreds of communities will be disrupted. I don't know about you, but I am weary of this false dilemma of family-wage jobs or an environment we can live in that can be passed down to our children. All the while, CEOs and shareholders from out of state are laughing all the way to the bank.

Gov. Kate Brown and Sen. Ron Wyden are pandering to too many interests to see clearly on this one. Once again, it is up to us to identify and communicate what is essential and to be prioritized. Contact these politicians, network with organizations working on this (350.org, southern Oregon organizations such as KS Wild, etc.), get educated on this project, for the comment period is now. Oregonians: You know what to do!

Kerstin Britz
Cottage Grove

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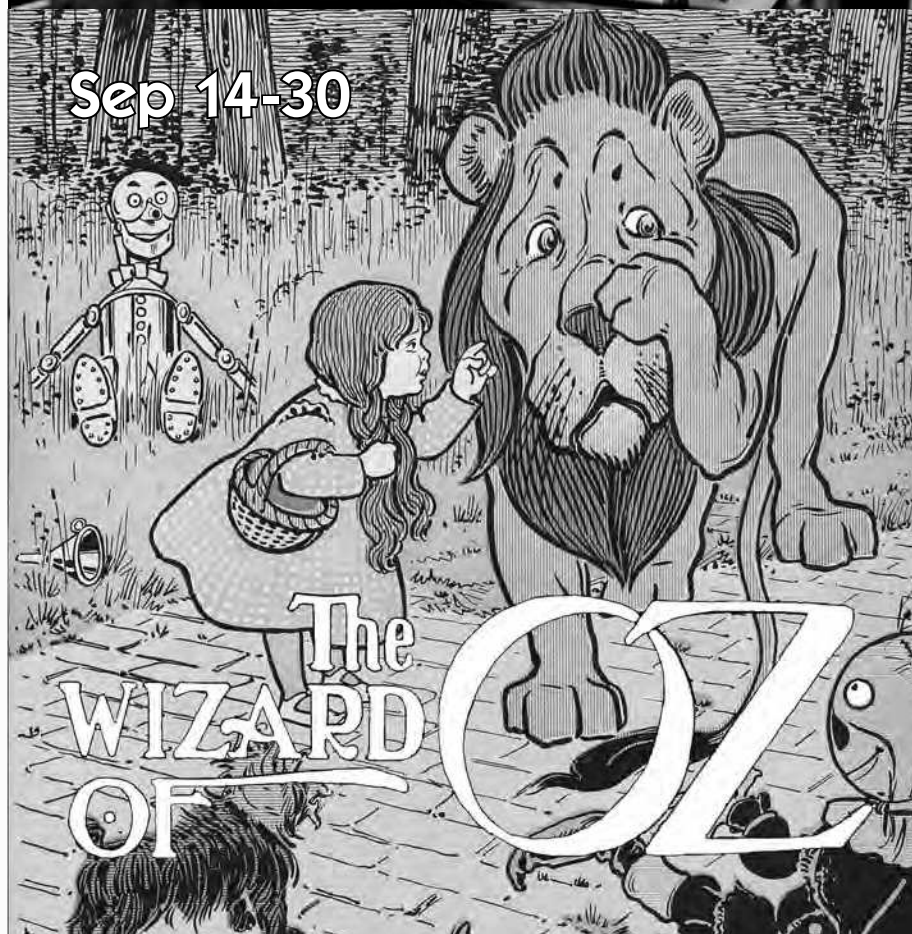
Felix Mendelssohn: *Sechs Lieder*

Tuesday, August 28 - 7:30 pm free



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