

TONY'S BALONEY

Tony Corcoran's mud slinging op-ed (Dec. 27) had nothing of substance to say. Why the know-it-all smirk and misplaced aggression? Obviously, he's clueless about the amazing dedication and leadership of Bob Emmons with Land-watch Lane County.

Corcoran idealizes Rep. Peter DeFazio so excessively that he would stamp out criticism of any kind. Even he ought to realize that massive pro-timber initiatives do not slide by unnoticed.

Six years ago, DeFazio unapologetically became the leading proponent of a bill that would have divided Oregon's O&C lands, giving more than a million federal forest acres to timber industry control.

When Democrats chose a minority leader for the House Natural Resource Committee, 15 Oregon environmental groups and two former U.S. Representatives signed letters favoring Raul Grijalva (D-Arizona) over DeFazio. Clearly, Emmons is not alone in the hope that the natural world can survive.

Corcoran's piece is ignorant and crude. Let's hope that whoever chose to print it will have some remorse and be more careful in 2019.

Elaine B. Weiss
Eugene

NO LNG

As we work on stopping the dangerous Jordan Cove Liquid Natural Gas project, which includes a pipeline through Oregon over 200 miles and the gas terminal in Coos Bay from being approved, we need to work on bringing alternatives for the folks struggling financially in Coos Bay. It makes no sense to allow the Jordan Cove project to go through for many serious and important reasons.

We should be exploring/inviting industries/businesses that we can be proud of. How about a hemp processing plant? There are only a few in the entire country, and now that hemp is legal nationwide, there is great demand for a plant to process hemp into the products that will help us mitigate climate change; the building material Hempcrete, nutritious hemp seeds, replacing fossil fuels for plastic with hemp oil, etc. Let's keep our public forests intact for the massive amounts of carbon they sequester here in Oregon and help facilitate sustainable alternative building material production and put rural Oregonians to work.

Another idea: a plastic recycling plant. We no longer are able to ship plastic recyclables to China, so let's build our own. We must work on transitioning from a resource extractive economy to a truly sustainable one. First action: Stop Jordan Cove LNG pipeline and gas terminal.

Pam Driscoll
Dexter

HOMELESS COUNT

"Invisible But Still Here" (Dec. 13) touches on an aspect of homelessness outside of the "literal homeless" definition from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Lane County's Community Action Agency and Continuum of Care has responded to continu-

THIS MODERN WORLD

from the case files of...

DONALD J. TRUMP
Detective-in-Chief

I was working on the toughest case of my career, when Ferret Face and the White-Haired Guy walked in...

IT MAKES NO SENSE! WHY ARE DEMOCRATS BLAMING ME FOR THE SHUTDOWN--WHEN THEY'RE THE ONES WHO WON'T PAY FOR THE WALL?

CLEARLY IT IS A CASE OF TRUMP DERANGEMENT SYNDROME, SIR!

EXCUSE ME-- I'LL SOLVE THE MYSTERIES AROUND HERE.

THEY SAY WALLS ARE OLD TECHNOLOGY! WELL, SO ARE WHEELS! ALSO, ROCKS ARE GREAT FOR HITTING PEOPLE OVER THE HEAD! YOU CAN'T GO WRONG WITH THE CLASSICS!

WHO COULD ARGUE WITH SUCH IMPECCABLE LOGIC?



REMEMBER WHAT I SAID DURING MY CAMPAIGN RALLIES? "WE'RE GOING TO BUILD A WALL WITH FUNDING FROM CONGRESS, BUT MEXICO WILL ESSENTIALLY PAY FOR IT THROUGH SAVINGS FROM OUR GREAT NEW TRADE DEAL!"

YOUR EXACT WORDS, SIR! AND YOU WON!

PRECISELY! AND YET, DEMOCRATS CONTINUE TO DEFY ME!



THEY ARE LOW-I.Q. INDIVIDUALS! THEY DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND THAT MOST OF THE WALL HAS ALREADY BEEN BUILT OR RENOVATED! ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU TOLD ME, FERRET-FACE?

ABSOLUTELY, SIR! ANOTHER MAJOR SUCCESS, IGNORED BY THE MEDIA!



by TOM TOMORROW

THERE'S ONLY ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER! THEY ARE OPPOSED TO A CONCRETE WALL! THEY DO NOT REALIZE THAT MY WALL WILL BE COMPRISED OF ARTISTICALLY-DESIGNED STEEL SLATS!

A BRILLIANT DEDUCTION, SIR!

YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN!



Next: an even STRANGER mystery! HOW CAN YOU IMPEACH SOMEONE WHO WON THE GREATEST ELECTION OF ALL TIME? I FIND THIS CONFOUNDING, AND I HAVE A VERY GOOD BRAIN, DON'T YOU AGREE?

IT IS DEFINITELY NOT FULL OF WORMS, SIR!

ER--NOTHING! SIR!



ally help quantify and convey the need for housing investment in our community.

On Jan. 31, for the first time, volunteers across Lane County will be conducting a Youth-Specific Point in Time Count. This means that anyone 24 and younger who completes the Point in Time Count survey will be counted if they are experiencing housing instability, such as couch surfing or doubling up. This is only possible if people volunteer to help canvass the county.

Lane County is committed to developing housing strategies to address the housing crisis. Be a part of the solution and volunteer to collect Point in Time Count surveys. PIT Count data is used locally to make data-driven decisions to address the housing crisis. It is also reported to the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Congress.

Every congressional representative is not going to physically visit Lane County anytime soon, but they can see what homelessness looks like here through our data. Volunteer at lanecounty.org/homeless-count.

Alexandria K. Dreher
Lane County Department of
Health & Human Services

THE LANDLADY SPEAKS

Re: Meerah Powell's "Invisible But Still Here," Dec. 13:

Speaking from the experience of being a landlady for over 20 years, I have never evicted someone for "no cause." When you have a good renter, they stay until they decide to leave. Pushing them out before their time is done only happens when they break the rental rules or the owner decides to sell the property (even then, a renter can stay if the new owner agrees and continues to use the property as a rental.)

Having rentals is a business and business people don't invest their money or time to let others (no matter what their status in life is) ruin it.

I feel for people who can't follow rules, respect others' property or can't hold down

a job, but if they are not able to stay in a rental, there's a reason.

Annie Kayner
Eugene

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

There are many ways to take Greg Williams' letter "The Old Saw" (Dec. 20): as a surrender to corporate interests, a denial of today's climate reality, an attempt to disempower courageous youth in their efforts to hold to account supposed leaders who, with regard to climate change, have repeatedly proven themselves worse than non-responsive.

But I choose to see his letter as a challenge — namely, how do we clean our hands? What realistic options are open to us in the face of our dependence on, and complicity in creating, the very situation we're trying to confront? How do we change our dependencies and wants so the means of obtaining them, and the consequences of using them, benefit not only ourselves, but also the health of the earth as a whole?

These are, I think, some of the tough questions underlying the superficial questions Williams asked. And rather than serving to discredit a meaningful act of socio-ecological engagement, perhaps these questions help take it to a level it needs to go.

Tim Fox
McKenzie Bridge

SACRED INCLUSION

I appreciate that the Eugene Sacred Harp Singers got some special attention in the Dec. 20 *Eugene Weekly* ("Getting in Shape [Note Singing]"), which probably boosted the attendance at our open sing-along, making up for our inadvertently having been left out of the Holiday Happenings.

But I had some serious issues with the accuracy of some things said in that article, especially the "quote" attributed to me that said "Eugene Sacred Harp Singers have removed many

of the references to Jesus Christ to make the hymns more inclusive."

That is not something we do or that I would ever say. While the music is spiritual, from a Christian tradition, we are not a religious group and are welcoming to others whatever their religious beliefs, while at the same time doing our best to honor the tradition out of which the Sacred Harp arose.

The few minor words we do change have to do more with references to things like "man" being changed to "us" or "all," and in that respect, yes, we do try to be inclusive.

Beyond that, it is up to each participant as to how they relate to the words and thoughts expressed in the music.

Had I had any idea that such a misrepresentation might occur, I think I would have requested to see the article before it got published. I am sad to see us presented this way, when we love this music and want to feel we are contributing to it, not detracting from it.

Karen Stingle
Eugene Sacred Harp Singers

RULES OF THE ROAD

I'm not sure why Zane Hager (Letters, Dec. 27) chose to obfuscate the legal issues regarding bicycle use on sidewalks. All I know is that he is 100-percent wrong.

The complete text of the portion of the law he cites (ORS 814.420 (1) (b)) is easily searchable: "... a person commits the offense of failure to use a bicycle lane or path if the person operates a bicycle on any portion of a roadway that is not a bicycle lane or bicycle path when a bicycle lane or bicycle path is adjacent to or near the roadway."

Since a sidewalk is not "a portion of a roadway," there is generally no offense for choosing to ride on the sidewalk instead of the road, unless there is a specific law prohibiting riding on a specific sidewalk, e.g. certain sidewalks in downtown Corvallis.

Moreover, the Oregon law provides exceptions even for the above offense if necessary to "avoid debris or other hazardous conditions." (ORS 814.410 does spell out the rules for riding on sidewalks, which I would advise bicyclists to be aware of and follow when choosing not to ride on the road.)

We already have enough politicians playing fast and loose with the facts; adding one more untruth can only make all of us crazier than we already are.

Please, everyone, fact check yourselves.

John Tietjen
Corvallis

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

It was rather perplexing to find a small ad in the latest issue of the *Eugene Weekly* (page 3, Jan. 3) for READYNY.org, a website for New York City emergency preparedness.

What? Eugene has its own department of emergency management that has been doing a slap-bang job of raising awareness and providing resources and materials for individuals and groups who want to be ready for the next local disaster (most