

Now is the time for us to hold them responsible for that.

Kerstin Britz  
Dorena

## ALASKAN FARCE

Remember the Pebble Mine in Alaska? That environmental disaster we thought we'd averted? Well, it's back.

Encouraged by a new president, the same Canadian mining company has quietly advanced its plan for an open-pit mine at the headwaters of Bristol Bay, the most productive salmon fishery in the world. They assure us that the resulting ponds of poisoned water and tailings held behind earthen dams are entirely safe.

One expert (Daniel Schindler at the University of Washington) called their environmental impact statement "a farce." The public comment period will close soon. Go to pebbleprojecteis.com.

John Witte  
Eugene

## CLEAN ENERGY BILL

Climate change is perhaps the greatest threat faced by humanity, and the consequences — from rising sea levels to increasing temperatures that are driving more intense wildfire seasons and threatening coastal communities — are already being felt here in Oregon.

However, we have the tools to mitigate these effects, most notably HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

Passing this bill would put a price on carbon pollution from Oregon's largest polluters while simultaneously increasing investment in clean energy.

HB 2020 would also protect those who will be most affected by the effects of climate change — communities of color, rural communities, low-income communities and those who live along the coast.

As a student at the University of Oregon, the threat of climate change constantly looms in my mind. The most up-to-date science says that we must act now to curb carbon emissions and avoid a climate catastrophe.

The famous saying "think globally, act locally" comes to mind here. Passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill would show the nation that Oregon is a climate leader and that we are doing our part in the fight against climate change, while paving the way for the rest of the country to do their part.

I urge Oregon's legislators — especially those who represent me, Sen. James Manning and Rep. Nancy Nathanson — to pass HB 2020 and commit to much-needed climate action.

Brendan Adamczyk  
Eugene

## LOST TRUST

As a reader who has enjoyed *Eugene Weekly* for over twenty years, I was frankly shocked to read your feature about and endorsement of Jim Torrey for the Eugene 4J school board. I haven't forgotten how, as mayor, this man's toxic leadership deeply harmed our community and left a legacy of damage that we have yet to fully repair.

Torrey's right-wing views only hinder any effort to support and improve our schools. And your argument that we "need" conservative representation to make good decisions for our kids (thereby encouraging progressive voters to vote for a right-wing candidate) is ludicrous to the point of being offensive.

Sure, as a wealthy white man, Torrey has enjoyed the luxury of repeatedly "re-branding" himself, as you put it, so that our community has been forced to deal with his deceptive and self-serving agenda continually in various roles throughout the years, when he should have been forced to retire in shame long ago.

*Eugene Weekly* should be deeply ashamed of this endorsement. I know that, after reading it, I will never trust the paper's political endorsements again.

Maria Paladino  
Eugene

*Editor's Note: EW previously endorsed Torrey in the 2015 school board race.*

## PUMP THE BRAKES

As I read letters to the editor and gather my news from various media, it is plain to me that the answer to the problem is two-fold.

One, applying the brakes to the bullshit: Habitat destruction, petrochemical production, wasteful resource extraction, deforestation, human violence... and it's an emergency brake.

And two, immediate and full-scale reparations: Protect all water, health care as a human right, a just transition to sustainable energy, stable housing, food security. We will begin with our local communities.

Expand to include the states until we reach the federal level.

It isn't a crisis. That was 20 years ago. Now it is a catastrophe.

Our foreign policy is: Stop the violence, and the way to do that is by example.

Waverly Hayner  
Yachats

## Letters Policy:

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