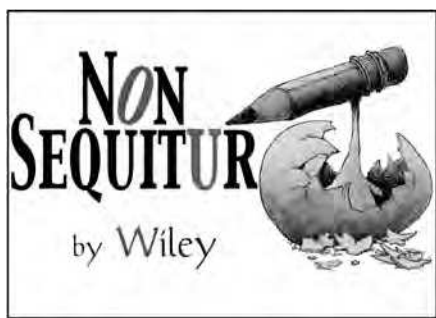




letters

CONCERNED STUDENTS

I am part of the Hebrew School program at Temple Beth Israel. The rest of my class and I are concerned about the school funding issue. Most of the kids are seventh-grade middle-schoolers in public schools that experience underfunding on a daily basis.

For example, I am a seventh-grader at Roosevelt Middle School and I am taking the art class elective. My art teacher expressed the possibility that she may lose her job next year due to underfunding. This really worried us, because art class is very appreciated by the vast majority of students.

Art class is a way to take a mental break during the day, which can really help concerning stress and level of focus. Art is also a way for students to express their feelings, which can really help with mental health and a student's well being.

No to mention, it is unfair to any teacher to have their subject cut. I know that in the current financial state, it is near necessary to have something cut, but it shouldn't be that way.

Another issue that I have noticed is teachers being underpaid. Teachers have a crucial job that is under appreciated. What teachers receive for this work is partly the gratitude from the students, but in terms of money, it is not even close to enough.

What I ask is to spread awareness on the issue of underfunding in public schools. It is important and affecting kids and adults, and I am worried that people aren't aware of this issue are not involved in the public school program.

Sylvie Neve
Temple Beth Israel

SWAN SONGS

Thank you so very much for printing Bob Keefer's article "Music to Heal a Dying Planet: Contemporary Composers Contemplate the Apocalypse" (EW, 6-13). I have spent the afternoon listening to the exquisite music referenced in his article. It is not often that an article leads to such a deeply gratifying experience.

Now I only wish I could hear the Malheur Symphony in its entirety!

Anne Millhollen
Eugene

SONG OF THE OPPRESSED

Eugene has a flourishing, rich, diverse community music scene. Your popular music section wrote four long articles on the same one music bar for the past two weeks.

Your news section fulfills your mission statement of expression for the oppressed and dismissed while your music section is actively oppressing and dismissing less alcoholic, community-minded music, much of it world class touring and local artists.

Please explore the diversity and non-profit nature of music in Eugene and honor your mission statement in your music section. You can start by printing stories about more than one venue.

Mike Meyer
Eugene

GREEN GROW THE VOTES

The Lane County commissioners on June 18 voted 3-to-2 to drop membership from the Association of O&C Counties (AOCC). Commissioners Heather Buch, Pete Sorenson and Joe Berney made this happen.

This is great news, as the AOCC is a de-facto lobbying organization that practices in secret for the logging industry, working to increase logging of our public forests. We have 10 percent or less of our native forests left in Oregon. These forests in western Oregon are some of the best forests in the world for the carbon they sequester.

Then, at the state level, we have a majority to vote in the Clean Energy Jobs bill; however, Oregon puppet Republican senators refuse to vote.

You can't run away from climate change. We have a system of representative democracy and they are obstructing this. Time is running out for us to mitigate the worst effects.

The latest expert scientists estimate 11 years or less to make the necessary changes. We must all stand

up and quickly transition off fossil fuels, protect our forests, fund electric mass transit and subsidize local regenerative organic agriculture for starters.

When the people lead, the leaders follow.

Pam Driscoll
Dexter

WE'RE ALL MAD HERE

I was saddened and a bit frustrated while reading your review of *Alice in Wonderland* ("Curioser and Curioser," 6/20). There was an assumption in a specific paragraph about the movement and choreography that there are stagehands that create the world of Wonderland.

I would love for this to be changed because every set piece and prop (hoops, L-brackets, etc.) is brought to life by the actors. Even all the veterans of Oregon Shakespeare Festival in the show operate a prop/set piece to create the world.

I myself am a part of the cast and as dance/movement captain, and am used probably the most out of the entire cast to create the world of Wonderland. For example, the actors who created that "entire ocean of tears" were Eddie Lopez and me — Eddie on the hoop with the mouse swimming, and myself on Alice's (Emily Ota's) hoop.

Our creation of the world of Alice through movement and choreography, in the vision of director Sara Bruner and movement director Jaclyn Miller, is just as methodically thought out and executed as any of the nonsensical text delivery in the show.

I would also love for myself (Matthew Ranaudo) and (Eddie Lopez) to be credited in the movement section, and not the assumption that we are stagehands.

Matthew Ranaudo
Ashland

WELCOME TO THE OCCUPATION

Current membership at the Eugene Planning Commission (EPC) violates state statutes and city code. EPC has "stacked the deck" with for-profit

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