

letters

A Mixed Bag for Redesign

The color is nice, the calendar is easier, the logo is a bust. Two lines of identical print — how creative is that? I suggest a contest with grade schoolers. Surely they will come up with an improvement.

Don French
Eugene

The Joys of Being a Pedestrian

I thank Doyle Srader for pointing out the joys of being a pedestrian. Walking is a great way to notice the details of what makes your neighborhood special, to support your nearby businesses, and to get to know your neighbors.

Srader also provided tips for walking safely. I would add one additional suggestion: watch your step! Many of Eugene’s sidewalks are cracked, broken and hazardous, and hundreds of people have broken bones after tripping on a broken sidewalk.

Maintaining the sidewalk is actually the responsibility of the property owner, so I urge anyone who can to repair their broken sidewalks. But it’s such a large problem that a group called Citizens United to Repair Broken Sidewalks (CURBS) is urging the city to develop a city-wide strategy for fixing Eugene’s sidewalks. You can join the effort at Best-oregon.org/coc/walk.

Eugene residents are known for being into tripping — but not on our public sidewalks!

Sue Wolling
Eugene

The Day Will Come

Have charges been levied versus the embezzler?

Gary Vant Hul
McKenzie Bridge

EDITOR’S NOTE: Our latest update was in the August 1 issue. We are hoping to hand our information over to the Eugene Police Department soon. We are as anxious to move forward on this as our readers are.

That Dam is Trouble

On August 3 I watched the Eugene Springfield Fire department make a difficult rescue of a man that was stranded at the Millrace low head dam on the Willamette River just east of the I-5 bridge. The individual was extremely lucky to have survived, especially without wearing a life vest.

My son and I were tubing on the Willamette two years ago when we were caught in the Millrace. My son popped out of the swirling current, but I did not, and I was in serious trouble. I could see my son as I was spinning and slamming against the concrete abutments, and he was standing on the shallow rocks inflating his life vest. It was all I could do to motion for him not to try and rescue me otherwise he could get sucked under the violent water. I inflated my life vest and what seemed like an eternity I popped out — totally exhausted!

No agency seems to take ownership of the Millrace, and the Fire department says that nine out of 10 people pop out of the Millrace. What about the one that doesn’t? If the Oregon State Water Board

won’t take action and dismantle the dam, then install warning signs. Large signage at Island Park and at the West D Street Boat Ramp that could say, “Stay Right” at all times. It will save your life!

Frank Harper
Springfield

Keep the Wilderness Wild

Wilderness provides the highest form of protection for our land. That is where we go for solitude and to experience the natural world in all its glory. That is where our wildlife goes to escape the chaos of the modern world.

Now comes the threat to all those benefits by the intrusion of mountain bikes. The Wilderness Act specifically prohibits “mechanized” devices in designated wilderness. That means everything from logging trucks to off road vehicles to bicycles.

Who is behind this push to invade the wilderness? On the face of it, right wing conservative, Mike Lee of Utah. Who is behind him? The mountain bike manufacturers who want to sell more mountain bikes. Just like gun manufacturers who pretend the Second Amendment defines individuals as “well regulated militias” so they can sell more guns.

There are plenty of unprotected areas where mountain bikes can ride. Just say no mountain bikes in the wilderness.

Dave Stone
Springfield

What Happened at KWAX?

Thank you for running a short update on KWAX in Slant (July 25). As you report, Peter Van de Graaff had many reasons for his move from the radio station. One phrase of his caught my attention: “some of [his reasons for leaving] are not fit for publication,” and so he can only say “no comment.” What the heck?

As reporters for the community news, wouldn’t this be important to flesh out? I wouldn’t want to invade his privacy, but as a community-owned radio station, it would seem that we might have a reason to care about this. Was he pushed out? Did something nefarious occur?

Could you assign a reporter and do some digging? I’m sure others would like to know as well.

Lou Caton
Eugene

Thank You to OCF

Thanks to everyone (staff, volunteers) involved in putting on the Oregon Country Fair, especially those who live and work in the Veneta area. Thank you for your patience and kindness in hosting Fair visitors each year.

The Fair always amazes me. It’s such a contrast to how our society generally functions. It reminds me to be kind and careful in my communication and life.

I do hope that the powers that be will clear the woody debris collecting in the Fairground forests as I fear these may become kindling in our fire-prone region. I am happy to come and help with this work.

Until we meet again — thank you!
Albert Kaufman
Portland

FOLIAGE FEST

Summer Concert to Protect Old Growth Forests

PRESENTING
Henry Ivie-Gardner
Foreal Valentine

Public forest policy is under review and YOU have a chance to tell the government how to manage our public forests for decades to come. Join local non-profits to learn how you can make a difference before it’s too late.



350
EUGENE.ORG

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Nature education walks, art, & more!

LAMB COTTAGE.

SKINNER BUTTE.

AUG. 14, 2024 6-9 PM

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OREGON WILD



Lane County Crisis Line
Has Launched!

The Lane County Crisis Line provides:

- Behavioral health crisis support and de-escalation
- Collaboration with emergency service providers
- Care coordination and support with accessing needed services

Lane County's Crisis Line is now active:

(541) 682-1001

