

BEST of EUGENE
2025 Readers Poll
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EUGENE weekly

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EXPIRES: 09/21/25
ONE COUPON PER VISIT

20% OFF WISDOM
EXPIRES: 09/21/25
ONE COUPON PER VISIT

20% OFF OLCC INDUSTRY WORKERS
EXPIRES: 09/21/25
ONE COUPON PER VISIT

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EXPIRES: 09/21/25
ONE COUPON PER VISIT

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Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug. For use only by adults twenty-one years of age and older. Keep out reach of children.

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contents

AUGUST 21, 2025 - AUGUST 28, 2025

- 2 Letters
- 4 News
- 7 The Naked Issue
- 9 Calendar
- 12 Music
- 13 Arts
- 14 Savage Love
- 14 Classifieds
- 15 Astrology



editorial

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OPINION

letters

From Injections of Christianity to the Flock's Cameras

It's Insidious

It is scary to me that anyone on the Lane County Commission board is injecting Christianity into county meetings (EW, 8/14). The boundaries between "state" and religion are very important.

Thank you for publishing about this insidious takeover.

Debby Phillips
Eugene

Look at the Complexities

We write in response to the article entitled "The Art of Politics," written by Bob Keefer (EW, 7/31). We passionately believe in freedom of speech and artistic expression, and we believe that criticizing the acts of a foreign government are legitimate political protest. As an art reporter, Keefer did a fine job of framing Cassy Steuerwald's experience. Our concern is that so little media attention and concern has been directed toward the repeated targeting of Dean Adrian Parr Zaretsky.

Jews are not a monolith, and many of us have grave concerns about the current government of Israel, particularly in regard to Gaza. We are united in our belief that targeting Jews in the diaspora and holding them responsible for the actions of the Israeli government is not legitimate political protest; it is antisemitism.

What Keefer's article does not account for is that Parr Zaretsky has been targeted personally and repeatedly since the attacks on Israel Oct. 7, in ways that other University of Oregon officials and administrators have not. We suggest that her Jewish

identity is implicated in this. In this time when our own government uses actual, assumed and invented antisemitism as an excuse to repress academic freedom, we urge the University of Oregon to take the threats against Parr Zaretsky seriously and do everything in its power to support her.

We ask Eugene Weekly and other local news organizations to expand their reporting to include the complexities of our current political discourse and the impact that they are having on real people.

Reisa Maddex, president, Temple Beth Israel; Caitlin Roberts, 1st vice president; Judy Boles, 2nd vice president; Diane Baxer, past president; trustees Elliott Farren; tova stabin; Kelly Menachemson
Eugene

Respect the River — it's a Force

Two drownings at the Owosso Bridge in as many weeks. Two families devastated. Two tragedies that should remind us all of something we don't like to admit: the river doesn't play fair.

I grew up on a river. I've always been a strong swimmer, someone who respects both the thrill and the danger that comes with moving water. And I'll tell you this plainly: that part of the Willamette is not safe. I wouldn't raft it, float it or boat it — and I certainly wouldn't swim or wade in it.

It's deceptive. Water that looks calm isn't. It takes just three inches of moving water — three inches — to knock a grown adult off their feet. And beneath that surface is a tangle of hidden hazards — metal, tree branches, debris — that can snag even a life preserver and hold someone under.

And we need to teach our kids this. They don't inherently know. They see a hot day and a cool river, and it looks like fun. What they don't see is how quickly that moment of fun can turn fatal.

This isn't about fear. It's about honesty. About respect. The river is a force of nature, and if we fail to acknowledge its power, it will remind us in the harshest of ways. Please, for your safety and for the people who love you, stay out of the water at Owosso.

Daniel Isaacson
Eugene

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

AMERICA 2025: COULDN'T BE BETTER, WHY DO YOU ASK

AN ECONOMIC MIRACLE
SIR, HERE ARE THE REVISED JOB NUMBERS! I USED A SHARPIE, LIKE YOU SUGGESTED!
EXCELLENT WORK, WHO-EVER YOU ARE!

THE MAN WITH THE VERY GOOD BRAIN
I ACED THE COGNITIVE TEST! THE DOCTORS SAID, SIR, NO ONE HAS EVER DRAWN A CLOCK OR IDENTIFIED AN ELEPHANT AS WELL AS YOU!
(FASCINATING. DO GO ON.)

THE ALL-NEW SMITHSONIAN
WOW, I SURE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT HOW UNFAIRLY PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS BEEN TREATED!
WHY DOES HE NOT HAVE THE NOBEL PRIZE HE SO RICHLY DESERVES?
AT LEAST HE CAN GIVE HIMSELF A KENNEDY CENTER AWARD NOW!

AMERICA IS NOW AT WAR--WITH AMERICAN CITIES!
WE SHALL FIGHT IN THE STREETS AND IN THE BODEGAS--AND WE SHALL NEVER SURRENDER!

GHISLAINE MAXWELL HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR WORK RELEASE, FOR TOTALLY LEGITIMATE AND ABOVE-BOARD REASONS!
GREAT! NOW GET HER A JOB SHE'S QUALIFIED FOR-- LIKE RUNNING A TEENAGE BEAUTY PAGEANT!
I'LL, AH, MAKE SOME CALLS, SIR.

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