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who to blame

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OPINION

letters

EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS AND MORE

SPS Cutting Off Its Own Leg

Public education in Springfield faces two major hits this year. Budget shortfalls have the city looking at a massive cut to library funding, while the school district just decided to fire dozens of teachers mid-school year. Why should one service or staff classification bear the brunt of ALL cuts? Why not take a little from admin, tech subscriptions, and other operations?

Nothing sensible operates this way. If I want to lose 25 pounds, I don't cut off a leg and declare my goals met. If my personal spending needs reigning in, I cut back in multiple places: dining, entertainment, that used-book habit...

Both these cuts are exclusively to entities whose sole purpose is to serve our community. This isn't logical from a community service or business perspective.

We already know the library brings extra foot traffic (and sales) to downtown small businesses. We also know that schools reducing class options and increasing class sizes discourages enrollment. That means both cuts continue a cycle of lower revenue and smaller budgets.

It's a shame that educational services are being targeted. As we can tell from these decisions, Springfield is already educationally underserved. Thankfully, we're periodically given the chance to vote for new decision-makers.

Ky Fireside
Springfield

Community College vs. Corporate College

I have taught at Lane Community College for over 20 years, and I have never

felt so demoralized as I do under this current administration. The situation at Lane reminds me of all of those documentaries where a Big City Corporation comes to a small town in order to dismantle the local economy before taking away all the resources for themselves. To date, this administration has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars of the college's budget on slick anti-labor lawyers, been found guilty of email surveillance of the labor union, and misrepresented budget numbers. All of this in the name of an agenda aimed at stripping away worker protections, rights, and benefits while simultaneously increasing workloads and class sizes to the great detriment of the educational quality of the students. Trying to provide your students a high-quality education is hard enough without having to worry about losing your job at any moment in order to maximize output efficiency. I hope, for the sake of the students, we don't end up striking, but I also hope, for the sake of the students, that a strike will show this administration we stand together in protecting our community college from hostile forces that only seem to care about their own agenda, and who seemingly refuse to listen to the voices of the very people who make up the community they are supposed to serve.

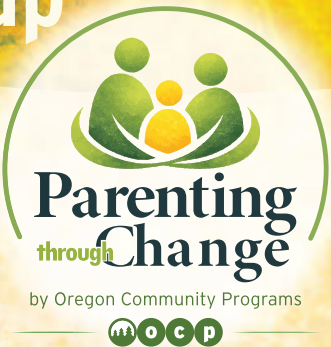
Jose Chaves
Lane Community College,
English faculty instructor
Eugene

ICE 'Loves' the Constitution

My name is Ulises Demian Rivera Garcia. This is a really important topic that is important to me because I come from immigrant parents and other parents and families' rights are getting violated or ignored. Recently, with our current administration, we have seen our government start to deploy mass immigration raids all over the country. With ICE deporting thousands of people, they have been ignoring their right to due process, which every person has a right to.



FREE Parenting Support Group



FREE 10-week
parenting group offered to
families in Lane County

- ✓ Childcare & Meal Provided
- ✓ Weekly \$25 gift card for participation

Build community with other parents while **enhancing** parenting practices to increase cooperation and connection.

Thursdays | Feb. 5th-April 16th | 5:30-7PM
Oregon Community Programs • 1170 Pearl Street. Eugene, OR

Spots are limited, sign up today!

Call or text 541-743-4350




THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



SPARKY GETS ICED: PART 2
YOU CAN'T DO THIS! I'M AN AMERICAN CITIZEN! I WAS BORN IN THE SAN FRANCISCO ZOO!

BUT THEN-- OH, MAN, LOOK AT THIS! WE'VE GOT ORDERS TO DEPLOY IMMEDIATELY TO MINNEAPOLIS!

ALL WE ARE TRYING TO DO IS DEPORT PEOPLE WHO LOOK LIKE CRIMINALS! IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

DOESN'T ANYONE RESPECT BRAVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SUCH AS OURSELVES ANYMORE?

IT'S GETTING SO A MASKED, SECRET POLICE FORCE CAN'T EVEN RUN AROUND VIOLATING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS WITHOUT AGITATORS BLOWING WHISTLES AND BANGING DRUMS AT YOU!

HEY! WHERE'D THE PENGUIN GO?

HE'S OVER THERE-- SLOWLY WADDLING AWAY!

AH, SCREW IT, IF WE CHASE HIM, SOMEONE WILL JUST MAKE ONE OF THOSE "YAKETY SAX" VIDEOS.

BUT THEN-- YOU THERE! SHOW US YOUR PAPERS!

UH OH.

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