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OPINION HOME

LETTERS IN THE EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Oregon youths protecting lands

AUG. 4, 2017



In a recent Register-Guard article, "For teens, tradition of summer jobs fading," the author stated that fewer young people today (36 percent) are employed compared to 31 years ago (57 percent). Unemployed youth miss out on money and the responsibility that a job entails.

As we find ourselves in the hottest days of summer, and with the promise of an estimated 1 million visitors coming to Oregon later this month for the eclipse, we can now count other reasons to employ youth: Protecting Oregon's public lands against wildfire, invasive weeds, and aging recreational infrastructure.

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The increased number of people in our state's public lands provides a fitting opportunity to recognize some of the conservation work being achieved in our state. For example, this month, teens and young adults enrolled at Northwest Youth Corps are helping clear brush at Shotgun Creek, mulching and planting projects with the Friends of Trees, removing invasive weeds at the Bonneville Lock and Dam, building bridges at Umatilla and working on new trail construction in the Steens Mountain Wilderness.

Involving Oregon's youth in contributing energy to our state's environmental stewardship challenges is a win-win. In addition to earning money, these young people are earning high school credit, job references, and/or professional certifications needed for an outdoor career.

Thank you to those involved with NYC, including young Oregonians who are helping sustain our state's natural resources and better our communities. To find out more about job opportunities right now, visit Northwest Youth Corps at <http://bit.ly/2uaqR4y>.

NATALIE WHITSON
NORTHWEST YOUTH CORPS



Eugene

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Sports

TRACK & FIELD

Allen ousted in semis of 110 hurdles at worlds

The former Duck is edged for the last finals berth by thousandths of a second

LONDON — By three-thousandths of a second Devon Allen's stay at the IAAF World Track & Field Championships ended early on a disappointing Sunday for Oregon athletes. Some "sloppy" work in the middle of his ...



- With a lean and a tumble, Bowie snaps island reign

- Pass connection was found in fog of tough season
- Quarterback McMaryion will transfer from Beavers

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Healthy Families

DISEASE

A growing concer: Rare tumor at the center of Medford teacher's disjointed pain

Betsy Whispell suffered from acromegaly, a disorder that results from excess growth hormone caused by a pituitary gland tumor

MEDFORD — Medford resident Betsy Whispell was on her annual wind-surfing vacation on the Oregon Coast last year when a friend she hadn't seen in a year noticed that her face, hands and feet had ...



- How to stay cool in the heat while pregnant
- Annual benefit evening for Parenting Now! set for Thursday; learn about the 'Ayurveda Way'
- Average American runners are getting slower, data show

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Weekend

OUT AND ABOUT

Mirth, myth and magic

Dance, music, creativity star at 2nd Star Festival, Saturday and Sunday at Dorris Ranch

Between the time spent each day on work, laundry and grocery store trips it can be hard to find creativity and magic in daily life. However, inspiration can be found anywhere if you teach yourself ...



- Weekend events for Lane County and beyond, Aug. 12-13
- Painted rocks paint it forward
- Nature seasons feast for the eye

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