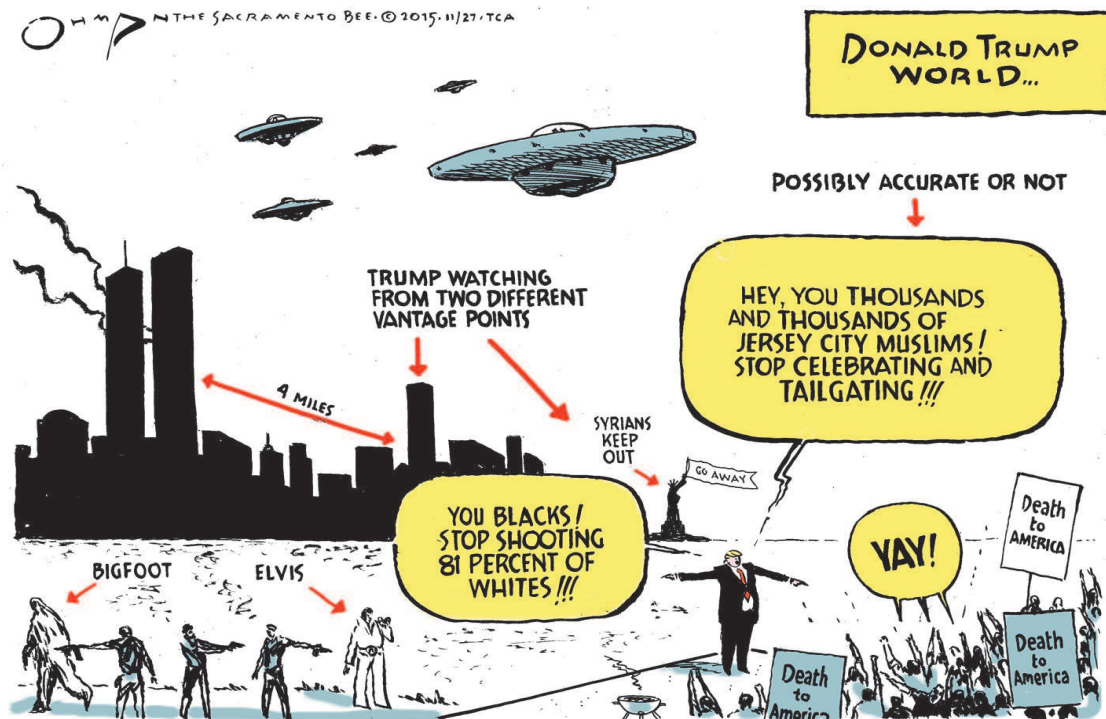


O P I N I O N



Letters to the Editor...

The Nugget welcomes contributions from its readers, which must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Letters to the Editor is an open forum for the community and contains unsolicited opinions not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Nugget reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted to the Editor. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned. The deadline for all letters is noon Monday.

To the Editor:

The KZSO frequency fiasco is a perfect illustration of Murphy's law.

An article in the October 28 edition of *The Nugget* ("KZSO loses its frequency," pg. 1) alluded to KCOE's interference "... with communications for air traffic into Redmond airport." Unable to reconcile how a commercial FM station could interfere with aviation communication, I spent hours researching KCOE and frequency assignments in the FCC database and discovered the answer.

KCOE-FM's interference at 106.5 Mhz had to do with transmitter siting on Powell Butte. The interference appears to be due to a bizarre coincidental gremlin in the nearby FAA radio site. Though the FAA admits it will have to address their problem, in this case their authority trumped the FCC's, forcing the FCC to suspend KCOE's testing and requiring KCOE

to change frequency from the frequency the FCC reserved for covering Terrebonne. Links to public correspondence between KCOE and the FCC: <http://bit.ly/1Rf0Iod> and the technical "smoking gun": <http://bit.ly/1OoiKDF> that the problem is in the FAA equipment.

What needs investigation is why the FCC originally assigned KZSO the "reserved" frequency for Terrebonne coverage at 106.5 since other frequencies were available. After I mapped FM channel allocations for our area, it appears there are any number of frequencies which could have been assigned to KZSO. It is also unclear why 94.9 Mhz was assigned when KCOE claimed 106.5, when 94.9 appears to be the last available commercial station frequency in our area, making it the only alternate frequency for KCOE. Why hasn't the

See LETTERS on page 24

Sisters Weather Forecast

Courtesy of the National Weather Service, Pendleton, Oregon

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Rain 40/32	Chance rain 44/28	Chance rain/snow 44/30	Partly sunny 42/31	Cloudy 45/29	Mostly cloudy 39/na

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Rachel Marsden

American Voices

PARIS —The U.S. State Department has issued a blunt worldwide travel alert for Americans. Nothing cuts through murky rhetorical waters and diplomatic platitudes like a terrorist's bomb. Suddenly, reasonable people are faced with a stark choice between keeping safe and taking the sort of laissez-faire approach to security that the Paris attackers were able to exploit.

It should come as no surprise that in the wake of terrorist massacres, blunt speakers with a clear, simple vision of how to make a dent in the problem gain in popularity. Since the Paris attacks earlier this month, far-right French National Front leader Marine Le Pen and Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump have seen their vision translate into polling victories in their respective nations.

Le Pen faces a criminal court judgment next month on charges of inciting racial hatred for comparing Muslim prayer in the streets of France to the Nazi occupation — even though the prosecutor in the case has said Le Pen should be acquitted. Trump remains insistent on deporting undocumented migrants and building a wall to keep them out.

Russia, long regarded as a close-minded nation, is now viewed by many as a white knight. Russian President Vladimir Putin has been vilified by the West, but in the absence of effective anti-Islamic State action by the U.S. and its allies, the world finds itself counting on Putin and his aggressive bombing campaign.

U.S. President Barack Obama has smarmily implored the Russians to direct their bombs at Islamic State targets rather than at opponents of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad — apparently trying to convince us that they're not one and the same. Such rhetoric represents a political agenda rather than a solution to a global threat that has spiraled out of control.

While the Russians are trying to bomb the Islamic State back to the Stone Age, Turkey — a NATO member that hosted an operational staging area for the so-called "Syrian rebels," many of

whom ultimately became Islamic State fighters — shot down a Russian fighter jet. NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg responded with a rebuke ... for Russia.

I'm based about four miles from the site of the Islamic State-inspired massacres in Paris. Those of us who literally live inside a terrorist target have a very clear idea of who the enemy is. It isn't Russia. Nor is it politicians with hard-nosed opinions on national security. Nor is the enemy the French police, as they execute hundreds of raids on long-watched terrorism suspects.

The enemy, obviously, is the Islamic State and any other group that seeks to kill or injure innocent civilians. But this enemy is abetted by the so-called "intellectuals" who deny their own survival instincts and insist that others do the same, lest they be denounced as morally flawed. We are faced with a truly psychopathic threat that has spiraled out of control due in part to our insistence on confusing tolerance with self-sacrifice. It is insidious to think that people should suppress their self-preservation instincts.

In a recent *New York Times* article, aggrieved activists and academics whined about the risk of French authorities overreacting and potentially violating the civil rights of Muslim residents. The attacks in Paris killed 130 people and wounded scores of others. French authorities can certainly be forgiven for taking additional security precautions. Is there middle ground between a total lockdown and "anything goes"? Yes, and Canada is providing an example.

New Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has decided that his country will accept Syrian refugees, but only women, children and full families. Single, unaccompanied males, who represent a greater security risk, will not be granted asylum in Canada.

By refusing to cater to permissive leftists, Trudeau was able to come up with a sensible immigration policy. It's a lesson that Europe is learning too late.

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