

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 Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned.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:

How long do we have to look at the eyesore that used to be the Ski Inn? That's prime real estate in our beautiful new downtown. There are laws against abandoning cars, is there a law about abandoned buildings?

Just tear it down. A half-day job for an excavator.

And why in the world is the City working on a way to give away money to attract business when we don't have housing for their employees? This is putting the cart before the horse. If the City has money to throw away, they should use that money to attract a builder for the apartments that have already been master-planned at Cold Springs.

Bruce Berryhill



To the Editor:

I'm writing about a new policy at the Sisters Public Library that has me flummoxed. Walking or biking to the Sisters

library accompanied by my well-behaved and friendly dog has always been fun for me. Unfortunately, there is a new pet policy that does not allow your pet to wait outside leashed next to a bench or a tree while you check out your book.

Sisters has always felt like a pet-friendly place to live. Last week it didn't feel like that when I was singled out in front of other patrons by a library employee walking around the library asking who's dog was outside. I thought, "Oh no, what is my dog up to?" Well, apparently, just quietly lying there curled up waiting 10 minutes for me at the bench. I guess this is now unacceptable to library staff.

When I said the dog was mine, I was told there is a new pet policy everyone knows about, forbidding unattended pets on the property and that I could go tie my dog up "over there somewhere." Never mind that there was no signage or other way for me to have known that my dog was unwelcome outside.

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John Kass

American Voices

Call me a loser conservative, but Donald Trump is not my cup of tea.

Rand Paul was the candidate I liked, one who suffered a charisma deficit, yes, but a conservative who actually referred to the Constitution.

I thought he had a chance to attract young voters and realign the Republicans away from their war-party impulses and toward some semblance of fiscal sanity.

As a result, Paul was savaged early on by the GOP establishment as some kind of dangerous "isolationist," which means he didn't want American kids to fight wars in the Middle East.

Back then the GOP establishment didn't mind Trump, when he was sucking up all the TV media oxygen on Fox News and thereby asphyxiating the Paul campaign. In the establishment mind, Trump must have been a useful idiot.

Now they fear Trump. I don't fear him — Congress and the courts will do their job — but Trump is everything I don't like in a leader for the republic.

He's charismatic and strenuously nonspecific, with a campaign built largely on messianic appeal. His core true believers really don't care what he says anymore. So in this, Trump is rather like the current president, only pinker, and with crazy hair and a lot more attitude and fewer establishment media pooches begging for his biscuits.

That said, I'm loving what Trump's been doing to the Republican political establishment.

Because if any collection of weasels deserved what's coming to them, it's this crew, for all the promises they've made to their conservative base, and all the times they've broken them so the big donors wouldn't be angry.

I can't say I don't like what's happening, because they deserve it so.

The common wisdom is that if Trump continues on and wins the Republican nomination, he'll be trounced by Democrat Hillary Clinton, who recently announced that she always tries to tell the truth.

But I'm not so sure. Still,

if you read the bleating op-eds, you get a sniff of the GOP establishment panic. They weep about disaster at hand.

What they don't say is that they'd rather have Democrat Hillary Clinton in there — the true establishment Wall Street candidate — than Trump.

But they haven't abandoned their dreams of a Trumpless ticket just yet. They think if only they can get Ben Carson to drop out, and arrange a marriage, something to elevate their new flavor, Marco Rubio. If they can only talk sense into Ted Cruz, but they can't, because they've spent the past couple of years hating Cruz's guts.

What they've completely missed is that the American people are angrier than they've ever been, and with good reason. The party leaders thought they could herd that anger.

"They didn't see Trump as the vessel for all this anger," Tom Bevan, a friend and publisher of the RealClearPolitics website, said.

"They looked at Trump and thought ... there's no way Republicans, no matter how angry, would rally around this guy. You've heard the establishment types say that they don't know a single person who'd vote for Donald Trump. And then he goes out and wins."

The anger you see on the Republican side will hit the Democrats in the next election cycle. As much as I'd hoped, I think it's too early for that kind of revolt this year. The liberal media ripped on the GOP for having so many candidates running for president, but it is the Democratic Party that has insulated itself against democracy.

All those millennials feeling the burn for Bernie Sanders will soon realize that Clinton and the Democratic Party have already rigged the game with all her superdelegates and Wall Street cash.

But that's in the next cycle.

Now it's the time of Trump, the barbarian at the Republican establishment's gates.

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Sisters Weather Forecast
 Courtesy of the National Weather Service, Pendleton, Oregon

Wednesday Partly Sunny 55/37	Thursday Chance Showers 54/31	Friday Rain Likely 53/33	Saturday Rain Likely 53/34	Sunday Chance Showers 50/29	Monday Chance Rain/Snow 47/NA
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