

# KeizerOpinion

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## Serving up generosity

Jim Marshall celebrated the one year anniversary of Delaney Madison Grill at Inland Shores this week. He did more than toot his own horn, though. He opened the restaurant to treat people assisted by Hope Station Community Services led by Pastor Marcia Mattoso.

Early this week he served dinner to three large groups of people who look to Hope Station for help because they are not eligible for government assistance. He prepared a select menu of choices.

Hope Station serves people from its large facility in Salem, offering food, clothing, computer training

and money management.

Marshall is a generous supporter of Hope Station and by serving free dinner, he gives a bright spot to those who live too precariously near the poverty line.

Dozens of businesses support Hope Station with their services, products and financial help. Each is worthy of recognition and heart felt thanks.

Keizer is a generous community and Jim Marshall and his restaurant are but another example of people helping people.

—LAZ

## 2020 starts in 15 months

By LYNDON ZAITZ

How exciting! The 2020 presidential campaign will begin in only 15 months.

The day after the 2016 election there will be speculation about who will run for president four years from then. It happens after every national election. And we can start predicting not only who will run but who will win.

That is an exercise in craziness, no? No crazier than what is unfolding today. Six months ago Hillary Clinton was all but coronated as the next president. Jeb Bush was the hands-on favorite to win the 2016 GOP presidential nomination. Now? Not so much.

Jeb Bush's poll numbers decline in proportion to Donald Trump's rise. Unthinkable only six weeks ago, U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, an independent from Vermont is polling ahead of Clinton for the first-in-the-nation primary in New Hampshire—which is seven months away. That's an eternity in American politics.

The leaders in polls this early don't always go on to win the presidency, let alone their party's nomination. Just ask President Gary Hart, President Mike Duakakis or President Mitt Romney. It is pure entertainment for political aficionados to hear pundits breathlessly talk about why this or that poll is so important and a portent of the future election.

on my mind

Fans of Donald Trump are already thinking of who his running mate should be. Trump leads in polls, just as Bush and Scott Walker did before him. Some say that Trump will flame out long before the first caucus or primary votes are cast. Others say that he is mirroring a frustrated and angry electorate and will ride that sentiment straight to the White House.

There are so many things that can happen in the country or in the world that can upend this entire campaign season. Jimmy Carter was barely a blip on the radar 15 months before the 1976 election. Barack Obama was known because of his 2004 Democratic convention speech, but he still trailed Hillary Clinton 15 months before the 2008 election.

Anyone who claims they know who the two final candidates will be in November, 2016 is just being fanciful. We won't know who the two nominees will be until next spring.

We will have a new president in 15 months. But whoever wins will have to start thinking about re-election immediately. Potential opponents will already be setting up their exploratory committees and political action committees by then.

Ain't politics grand?  
(Lyndon Zaitz is publisher of the *Keizertimes*.)



## Real journalism, fair and balanced

By DEBRA J. SAUNDERS

"Conservatives Furious at Fox, Say Trump Wasn't Treated Fairly," read the *Newsmax* headline last week. Talk-radio show host Mark Levin told *Breitbart News* it was "outrageous" that moderator Megyn Kelly questioned Donald Trump about his coarse language—"fat pigs, dogs, slob"—referring to women. Levin complained it was "a National Enquirer debate, not a Republican debate," with too much "opposition research." Political analyst Dick Morris detected a "disturbing" trend at Fox. The conservative blog *Media Equalizer* offered that many conservatives "thought they might have been watching MSNBC by mistake."

So this is what happens when Trump meets up with the "news" part of Fox News. Conservatives frequently complain about liberal media bias. Then they complain when conservative media practice journalism.

The Trump-Kelly feud is like crack for cable TV news. CNN's Jake Tapper started Monday's "The Lead" by noting that conservatives wanted the media to cover such stories as Democratic politicians turning on President Barack Obama's Iran deal, a trip made by Iranian Revolutionary Guard

other views

shouting down Democratic presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders. But after The Donald told CNN on Friday that he could see the blood coming out of Kelly's eyes—and "wherever"—Tapper suggested he had no choice but to lead Monday's show with Trump's tirade.

To keep the vapid story alive Monday, Trump the Bombast trash-tweeted Kelly. He sent out a link to a 2010 Howard Stern interview in which Kelly talked about her sex life: "Oh really, check out innocent @megynkelly discussion on @HowardStern show 5 years ago—I am the innocent (pure) one!" Translation: She had it coming.

Mayhap Trump wants fans to forget the opening question of the prime-time debate. Fox moderator Bret Baier asked the 10 GOP hopefuls to raise a hand if they were unwilling to pledge to support the eventual Republican nominee and not run a third-party campaign. Trump alone raised his

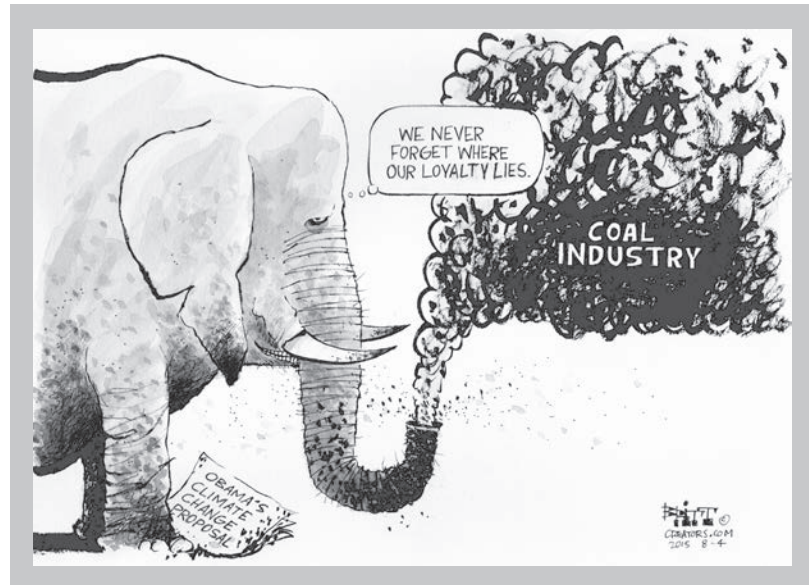
Corps chief Qassem Soleimani to Russia in defiance of a U.N. Security Council ban or "black lives matter" activists

hand. Many in the audience booed Trump. (In a 2011 GOP primary debate, Baier asked hopefuls to raise a hand if they would accept a budget deal with \$1 in tax increases for each \$10 in spending cuts. Not one Republican raised a hand—a stark signal that compromise would not be on the GOP menu.)

All three Fox News anchors asked questions that begged to be asked. Fox News moderator Chris Wallace asked Trump about his four corporate bankruptcies. "Four times, I've taken advantage of the laws," Trump answered. "And frankly, so has everybody else in my position."

All three moderators asked probing questions that explored each candidate's weaknesses. That was a service to Republicans who want a nominee who can win in November. Fox News would have been remiss to not include a question about Trump's big mouth. I can only hope that the know-nothings who trash Fox News Channel without watching its news programs tuned in. And I can only hope that CNN asks equally pointed questions at the Democrats' first primary debate, which will be on Oct. 13.

(Creators Syndicate)



## U.S. needs guidelines for entering war

As things turned out, one could argue with fairness and accuracy that Barack Obama's campaign promise to end U.S. warring in the Middle East was half-hearted. Many an American thinks he should have stood by his word while perhaps too many others want war now and, apparently, forever. The debate over U.S. involvement in the Middle East is currently in debate in Washington, D.C. over negotiations with Iran to stop their making of the bomb.

With implications for U.S. warring overseas, a dozen years ago author Micheal Lewis wrote *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*, the story of how Billy Beane of Oakland A's fame used his wits to build a winning franchise. Beane questioned old assumptions, every sacred cow, and all that was familiar to create a successful team. In foreign policy, the ideas cited in *Moneyball* relate to America's role in the world in a new way that's designed to maximize the returns on taxpayer dollars. It recognizes that the U.S. has some global responsibilities that no other nation can handle well. Then, too, with overseas ventures, the U.S. must now better husband our ever-dwindling financial resources to continue as world cop. The best path for the U.S. is to promote our value at keeping the world from imploding not our values as the "better way" when they're imposed on others who are less and less receptive nowadays.

George H. W. Bush did not initiate a war with Saddam Hussein's Iraq. Rather, he organized and led an international coalition against Saddam and his forces after Saddam invaded Kuwait with intent to overpower it and thereby control its oil and gas resources so he could acquire a position of dominance over a huge part of the world's oil and gas reserves. Bush and his advisors demanded that Saddam get out of Kuwait, which he refused to do, threatening that his army would be the mother of all armies and would crush the U.S. if the Americans tried to oust him from his new prize.

Bush responded with the U.S. military and four months later Saddam's legions were sent back in-

gene h. mcintyre

side Iraq. Bush wisely fended off those who wanted him to send U.S. forces into Iraq to occupy Baghdad and the entire nation. He responded that he would not do that because it would spill a lot of blood with no sure advantage for the U.S. since the oil fields of the Middle East were no longer threatened by a Saddam takeover. For reasons that have never been fully disclosed by official explanation George W. Bush, on the pretext that Saddam possessed weapons of mass destruction that he would use on Americans in America, "W" took us into a war that's lasted 11 years, remains unfinished and led to the establishment of the Islamic State (ISIS).

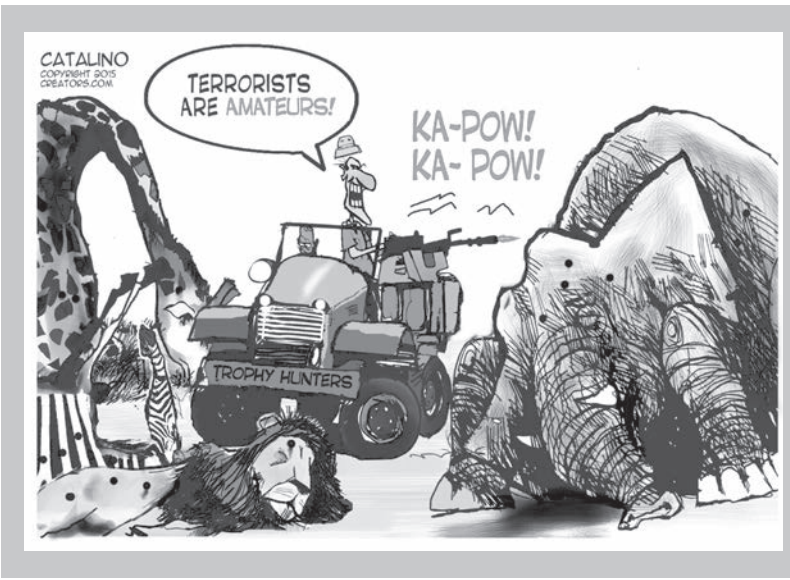
Our future leaders need a clear and workable set of guidelines to address as quickly as possible when war is the last but only means of defending our interests. Although Colin Powell did his reputation serious harm when he spoke on behalf of the George W. Bush administration to defend going into Iraq, he, along with contributions from former defense secretary Caspar Weinberger, have developed common sense principles that piggyback on *Moneyball* thinking.

These principles must be observed

by our leaders in all future decisions regarding going to war: Is a vital national security interest threatened? Do we have a clear and attainable objective? Have the risks and costs been fully and frankly analyzed? Have all other nonviolent policy means been fully exhausted? Is there a plausible exit strategy to avoid endless entanglement? Have the consequences of U.S. action been fully considered? Is the action supported by the American people who are openly and honestly informed? Do we have broad international support?

If any one of these questions receives a "No" answer, war is not the answer. And if any kneejerk hawks or automatic appeasers are among the decision making group, he and she should be dismissed from the deliberations and replaced by persons not voting for war due to hidden agendas supporting war profiteering or wearing to meetings a costume like the one Napoleon wore at Waterloo. Meanwhile, it'd be in our best interest, as a nation that wants a future, for those in D.C. to take a long and hard look at the negotiations with Iran before slamming the door on what's been worked out with a blind determination to go to war when the salient questions as listed above have not been thoroughly, exhaustingly answered.

(Gene H. McIntyre's column appears weekly in the *Keizertimes*.)



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