

## Stupid killing

While it's true cormorants do not bring money to the Columbia River commercial fishing industry like salmon do, they are animals and they do have rights. Killing one species to save another is just plain stupid.

TESS CHEDSEY  
Warrenton

## Famous politicians

In the Nov. 14, 2014, edition of *The Daily Astorian*, Brent Walth, managing editor of the *Willamette Week*, lionizes Tom McCall as Oregon's most famous politician ("Tom McCall casts a long shadow"). Walth appears to be too young to remember Wayne Morse.

On the flip side, in the Rogue's Gallery of Oregon politicians, move over Neil Goldschmidt and Bob Packwood. Make room for John Kitzhaber.

History does not repeat itself, but it rhymes.

GARY DURHEIM  
Cannon Beach

## Astoria Pure

I was initially heartened by the headline and news that Astoria would be selling carbon credits and thereby reducing logging on some of its land holdings ("Astoria sees forest through the trees," *The Daily Astorian*, Jan. 29).

However, while I can see the overall benefit of such an approach I'm still dismayed that trees are used as poker chips in the high stakes game of global warming. It is not a romantic notion to see trees as a symbol of the sacred interconnectedness of life. Trees and other vegetation clean up our carbon dioxide and produce the one element we can't live without for more than about eight minutes: oxygen. Until we stop seeing trees as a commodity and begin to attune to their deeper significance and importance, we unwittingly hasten the disastrous consequences of global warming, and in this case, endanger our water supply.

The article states that the carbon credits that Astoria will receive are derived from the city's having agreed to "not log aggressively in the Bear Creek watershed." I was shocked that aggressive logging in the watershed was the plan prior to selling the carbon credits. It is unconscionable for there to be any logging permitted in the watershed that provides Astoria's drinking water. In 1996 logging of any kind was completely banned in the Bull Run watershed that provides Portland's drinking water.

Logging and clearcuts in particular pollute and deplete the amount of ground water because they encourage rapid runoff during heavy rainfall. Native trees and indigenous plants hold more of that rainwater which augments the groundwater supply that eventually leaches into the reservoirs. Having an abundant supply of water will become increasingly more important as the population of Astoria grows and new industries come into the area.

The worldwide droughts being caused by global warming are making clean drinking water a rarer and rarer commodity. Just as some Bull Run water has been bottled and sold, one can imagine a time in the future when Astoria's

# Kitzhaber and his corrupt crony politics

I am shocked that Oregonians have tolerated Gov. Kitzhaber as long as they have. His move to eliminate gillnet fishing from the main stem of the Columbia River is contrary to core principals of democracy that our families and fellow Americans have given their lives to defend.

Oregon voters voted in landslide proportions to retain commercial gillnet fishing on the river, as they had twice prior to the last vote. I am not surprised by recent revelations of his corrupt crony politics. I also feel that it is likely the same type of politics are at play in the gillnet ban,

especially when the political make-up of his fish commission is considered.

This governor has no respect for the will of the people and should be removed.

DAVID LAWLER  
La Conner, Wash.

surplus water might also be a "cash crop." Love that Astoria Pure, don't you?

The Astoria City Counsel needs to get busy and find sources for revenue for the Capital Improvement Fund that don't involve degrading the watershed by logging. Astoria has a ways to go before the citizenry can be guaranteed an intact watershed and abundant clean water.

ROGER DORBAND  
Astoria

## Consider alternatives

On Feb. 6, my wife and I attended the Oregon Public Broadcasting production of *Astoria* at the Columbia River Maritime Museum. The 30-minute show was very interesting, and we would enjoy a sequel. One segment highlighted the character of the downtown core and the architectural styles of many of the houses. Visitors always comment favorably on these features.

Astorians have been pretty good at preserving some of Astoria's architectural treasures, the Liberty Theater, Hotel Elliott, Flavel House and the list could go on. Conversely, many buildings were lost. Some of the commercial structures were saved with public funds, and some with private capital. The point is that they were saved from the wrecking ball.

Now we come to the library renovation project, that at one time considered the demolition of the adjacent Merwyn (Waldorf) Hotel. I hope the Merwyn can be incorporated with the Library project. The Merwyn facade contributes additional interest to City Hall next door. Saving the hotel would allow the library to expand at ground level, and if the city needed more room in the future, perhaps they could use space in the upper floors of the Merwyn.

Please give all the alternatives for preserving the Merwyn serious consideration.

MIKE GREEN  
Astoria

## Misguided policy

One of the first public hearings of the Oregon Legislature's 2015 session was for Senate Bill 324, which extends the sunset for a Low Carbon Fuel Standards (LCFS) program set to expire Dec. 31.

The alleged purpose of LCFS is to reduce the carbon intensity of fossil fuels. Producers of biofuels will be given carbon intensity credits for their production of renewable energy products. Suppliers of gasoline and diesel will be forced to purchase these carbon intensity credits to mitigate their carbon dioxide emissions.

The Department of Environmental Quality estimates this will increase the price of gasoline by about 19 cents per gallon. Consumer user groups are estimating costs to be

closer to \$1 per gallon.

SB 324 requires no notification of the covert tax to be provided to consumers. Most Oregonians won't realize that they are paying an extra \$2 to \$20 to fill up their gas tanks.

The LCFS is not really about saving the planet. Even the complete elimination of all Oregon greenhouse gas emissions would not result in a measurable difference in global emissions.

It's not about social justice, either. Families living at or near poverty levels spend the highest percentage of their income for energy. They will suffer the greatest harm by forcing artificial and unaffordable increases in energy prices upon them.

Oregonians concerned about this misguided policy should contact their state representatives and senators and urge them to oppose SB 324.

SEN. DOUG WHITSETT  
Salem

## What if?

What if, instead of being a clean energy, economic development and sustainability consultant, the governor's girlfriend was a Christian journalism expert? Instead of playing an active role in Gov. Kitzhaber's administration by attending meetings, communicating with state officials and helping him push for environmental and clean energy policies, she did the same thing in meetings with officials involved with the press and the churches, especially Christian churches?

Instead of being friends and consulting with clean energy and sustainability companies and organizations and their leaders, what if she had similar relationships with

George Will, William Kristol, Charles Krauthammer and the Christian Broadcasting Network? And maybe those people and their organizations offered her fees for furthering their interests, and even pursued and got jobs in our state government? Would *The Oregonian* or Willamette Reek give a rip about any of it? I don't think so. Their opposition to Cylvia Hayes would not exist if she championed different causes. They are simply using it to slime the governor because Republicans couldn't beat him at the ballot box, or in the marketplace of ideas and values.

JOSEPH WEBB  
Astoria

## Undue influence?

I am a newcomer to Astoria and Oregon politics. My vote for governor went to Dennis Richardson, even though I have been a lifelong Democrat. The main reason was Kitzhaber's decision to end gillnets on the Columbia River.

Did Cylvia Hayes receive any money from the sports fishermen association for her counsel or "pillow talk" to the governor? What else did she consult the governor on while making his decision?

Will the FBI find out when Hayes gets back from Sweden, or wherever?

BARBARA KNICK  
Astoria

## Save the wolves

Thank you, *Daily Astorian*, for your article, "Idaho wolf control board asks lawmakers to maintain budget" (Feb. 3). I find the allocating of \$400,000 to kill America's wolves disgraceful. These

funds would better serve all of America if used for deterrents and education, instead of appeasing special interest groups that lavish in the spilling of blood.

Idaho's Wolf Depredation Control Board is clearly determined to exterminate America's wolves for the sheer pleasure of killing and collecting trophies. This board, created by the whims of Gov. Butch Otter, a known wolf hater, is based on the appeasement of killers who lust to kill elk and deer, taking the biggest for trophies. The slaughtering of wolves to deter livestock losses is an excuse to win the public's approval.

Wolves nearly vanished from America's wilderness because of greed, fear, trophy hunting and inflictions of torture. It's through the demands of taxpayers that the Endangered Species Act was enacted, providing a safe haven for wolf recovery. However through an agreement in the middle of the night, behind closed doors and under the table, the ESA, wolves and taxpayer were sold out.

Since the delisting, Idaho spent little time to eradicate wolves, returning to barbaric ways of torture and trophy murdering. There is no limit Idaho officials will stop at in the extermination of wolves. Pregnant females and babies are wiped out in a vengeful lust to satisfy the thirst of blood from man's greatest and misunderstood competitor, the wolf.

Instead of using science and deterrents to safeguard livestock, ranchers continue to graze livestock in known wolf territory and public lands, or leave carcasses in fields, baiting wolves to approach herds.

Wolves are essential in

maintaining equilibrium; they remove the weak, so elk and deer herds are stronger. Wolves are intelligent; given a chance wolves will learn to avoid livestock when deterrents are used. They'll establish their territory, and discourage other predators, thus providing protection to livestock.

Wolves belong to all America. The majority of Americans, like myself, want wolves to fully recover, and still believe in the upholding of the ESA.

The attitude of Idaho's official is to exterminate wolves, not support recovery. Therefore, Idaho should be relieved of its wolf slaughtering management, and wolves placed back on the endangered species list for all of America.

IRENE SETTE  
New Milford, N.J.

## Need the insight

House Speaker John Boehner's hit it out of the park when he extended an invitation to Ben Netanyahu to address a joint session of Congress. America, indeed, the world, needs Netanyahu's insight into how to battle Islamic terrorism, which is taking aim at the West. Israel's done it successfully for years.

Those watching closely know that this administration is being played by Iran. Iran has no intention of turning back from their quest to becoming a nuclear power. They think their willingness to use the nuke will gain them supremacy (and if they get it, they will; no Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) for them); not just over Israel, but the West.

The president's taken advice from the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), an arm of the Muslim Brotherhood; it's reasonable that Congress should hear the other side. Netanyahu's address, if televised, will be watched to the end by the head of every Western Government, save ours, on the planet.

WAYNE MAYO  
Scappoose



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### CITY OF ASTORIA PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Astoria Community Development Department has received the following request(s):

Wireless Communications Facility WCF15-01 by Steven W Topp, AICP, on behalf of Verizon to install a new wireless communication facility antennae on the roof of the existing elevator penthouse with the addition of a 5' high screened enclosure above the existing penthouse at 342 14th Street (Map T8N-R9W Section 8CA, Tax Lot(s) 6600; Lot(s) 4, 5, 6, Block 135, Shively) in the C-4, Central Commercial, Zone.

In accordance with Astoria Development Code Sections 3.095, 13.310, and/or Articles 6, 9, 12 & 15, a decision on the request(s) will be processed administratively by the Community Development Department.

A copy of the application, all documents and evidence relied upon by the applicant, and applicable criteria are available for inspection at no cost and will be provided at reasonable cost. All such documents and information are available at the office of the Community Development Director at 1095 Duane Street, Astoria. Contact the Planner at 503-338-5183 for additional information.

All interested parties are invited to express their opinion for or against the request by letter addressed to the Community Development Department, 1095 Duane St, Astoria OR 97103. Comments from interested parties must be received by 5:00 pm on February 25, 2015.

The Community Development Department reserves the right to modify the proposal; no further public notice will be provided.

