

We deserve better

In their weekly advertisement in the *Columbia Press*, Oregon LNG keeps telling us that Warrenton deserves better. Well, for once I have to agree with them.

Warrenton does deserve better. We deserve to not have a noisy, sulphur, methane spewing plant with a 69 to 150-foot flame making the night sky look like daylight. So much for looking at the stars at night.

We deserve to know the whole truth, not just what Oregon LNG wants us to know. And, just because the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) thinks there won't be a problem doesn't mean that there isn't one. Anyone who has followed the FERC rulings over the last few years know they rubber stamp everything. What the hey — they don't live here.

If you haven't been up to the Astoria Column for a while, then go. Stand at the bottom and look way up to the top. Each of the two liquefied natural gas storage tanks will be taller than the column.

And those jobs they keep promising. How many will actually go to locals, not to workers that are from Portland, Vancouver, Washington, Idaho, etc.?

And where on earth will all those people live while they are working on the LNG plant? We don't have enough rentals for those in the area, much less for all the people coming into the area to work on the plant. If they fill the hotels, then where are the tourists going to stay, if they decide to come at all with the traffic mess that will come with the construction?

Yes, Oregon LNG architects say that the plant will be safe and secure during a 9.0-plus earthquake and resulting tsunami. How many of these plants have they designed and tested in a real life major 9.0 earthquake/tsunami situation, in an area such as ours, that they are so confident that they are right? It's not their lives on the line. What happens if there is an LNG tanker tied up when the earthquake and tsunami hit? As we know, there will not be just one wave but several, that could span 24 hours.

The three Democrats running for secretary of state have told the state's building trades council that, in exchange for the trade unions support, if elected, they will not block the Jordan Cove LNG plant in Coos Bay. Now let's see — Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, is running for governor in the next election. Makes you kind of stop and wonder why she is not invoking the Coastal Zone Management Act for the Oregon LNG facility in Warrenton, doesn't it?

I usually don't recommend movies, but has anyone seen the movie "San Andreas"? If not, do so. Maybe we should send a copy to FERC and Gov. Brown.

Yes, Oregon LNG is right. Warrenton deserves so much better than them.

DIANA TALARSKY
Warrenton

Committed to care

I appreciated the timely editorial in Oct. 29 edition of *The Daily Astorian*, "Dementia takes costly toll on coast." The editorial accurately discusses the challenges of rising health-care costs for care associated with dementia-related diseases that will not be reimbursed by Medicare.

Clatsop County is fortunate to have the Clatsop Care Health District, whose sole mission is to serve the community's long term care needs. The district receives a small tax base, approximately \$500,000 a year, which assists in supplementing services to those who need care and are receiving Medicaid assistance.

The district currently operates the Clatsop Care Center, Clatsop Care Retirement Village and recently opened the Memory Care facility in Warrenton. This facility was specifically designed and built to accommodate those suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia-related diseases. We are also working on the expansion of in-home care services to serve the Medicaid population in the county.

Despite the money received from taxes, the district is still greatly impacted by the leg-

Pet owner thanks local pet hospital

This is Maggie (pictured). We rescued her in 2005. Since then, she has been seen at Bayshore Animal Hospital in Warrenton. They have saved Maggie twice.

Once when she had a tumor on her spleen. They removed it in the nick of time. A couple years later, Maggie ended up having bloat (a life-threatening condition where the stomach twist and turns). Once again, Maggie was saved. Then she had a heart murmur and ended up with liver cancer. Her cancer doctor in Clackamas gave my sweet baby three months to live. Dr. Brad Pope at Bayshore Animal Hospital helped Maggie live an additional 22 months.

Nov. 5, unfortunately, Maggie lost her battle with cancer. We had to make the toughest decision and put my sweet little baby to sleep. My Maggie was a strong dog, and I am so grateful to have such an amazing vet, who in my opin-



Maggie

ion is the best in Clatsop County. The staff is awesome and so understanding.

They have all treated me and my animals with respect and having patience with me.

We now have six cats and they will continue to go to Bayshore Animal Hospital for treatment because they are the only veterinarian in this area that I trust, and when I leave my animals in their hands, I feel good knowing they are in good hands. My animals mean the world to me, they are my kids and they will only have the best, and Bayshore Animal Hospital is the best.

Maggie is gone from this household but she will never be gone from my heart. I will miss her and think about her every day, and no other dog will ever replace her. Rest in peace my sweet little angel. Thank you Dr. Pope, Dr. Sheila Kilponen, Dr. Lisa Lewis and their staff for everything you do for me and my animals. It is very much appreciated.

BERNICE LAWRENCE
Warrenton

islative changes made at both the federal and the state level. In 2013, the state passed HB 2216, which targeted nursing facilities specifically, and mandated a reduction of beds across the state.

In the bill, the rural communities were held to the same reductions as the metropolitan areas, even though communities like ours only have one nursing home facility that serves a region that includes southwest Washington state. The state did not reach its target of reducing 1,500 nursing home beds by Dec. 31, which means that we will receive another significant reduction of reimbursement rates on July 1.

These reimbursement rate reductions continue to impact the services we can provide locally. It forces the district to reconsider services we offer this community in the future. Focus in long term care will be on expansion of community-based care, respite programs such as adult day care, as well as in-home care programs.

Despite all the changes being made at the federal and state level, Clatsop Care Health District is committed to continuing to serve the community's long term care needs in the most economically prudent way possible.

NICOLE WILLIAMS
CEO, Clatsop Care Health
District
Astoria

Do your job

I see the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners has backed away from adopting a tsunami hazard overlay district because it will impact land use. In Clatsop speak, this means "this will reduce the value of my property; don't tell potential buyers."

Yes, it would do this, just like it would if your property is in a flood zone or in a slide area or a high property tax area or in a poorly performing school district or in an area with controversial Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC and Rs). That is why the state of Oregon requires that when property is sold, certain disclosures must be made by sellers and acknowledged by buyers.

Yes, it can also lead to difficult financing and high insurance. These requirements are part of ORS 105.464 item 1G. Where is the state real estate agency?

Government has a responsibility to study land-planning issues and publish these results. This is not the wild west anymore where sellers and their Realtors can just shine their responsibilities. The county commissioners should do their job.

If commissioners can't take the heat of making decisions based on what is morally and legally right, then don't run for office. Realtors should live up to their responsibilities under the ethical practices required by their licenses. Owners should follow the law.

It is quite feasible to utilize property in this overlay zone if it has been correctly designed. The science is quite clear — let's get on to solving problems, not just kicking the can down the road for the kids to solve.

JOHN DUNZER
Seaside

Backlashed reels

I have served as a captain and guide in Alaska for the past

21 years. I take customers fishing for salmon, halibut and other bottom fish.

But occasionally the joy of fishing is erased by a customer hitting the wrong lever and bango, there's a big backlash on the reel, with the lines on the reel snarled and tangled in a big mess. I respond by saying, "Don't worry, it happens all the time" (under my breath, "How stupid can you be?"). Often, there will be a fish on the line, which then requires bringing the line and fish in hand over hand.

Oftentimes it seems like our lives experience a backlash. In my wife's and my case, within a short period of time I was diagnosed with prostate cancer, followed by surgery. My wife developed a skin condition which resulted in itching, bleeding sores over much of her body, and to top it off, she had a heart attack that was remedied by a stent in her artery.

As I pondered over the situation, the analogy of a backlash reel came floating into my mind. I'm not very good at unsnarling a backlash reel, to I usually put it into the hands of someone more skilled.

So in our situation, we were totally at the end of our human ability to unsnarl our situation — so we have handed our backlashed reel over to the Master Fisherman, who said, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men," and who also said, "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

Sure, life sometimes hands us a backlashed reel — but by the grace and love of God, lines can be untangled, snarls undone. Free spool restored, fishing goes on, living goes on. Thank you, Lord.

JAMES BERNARD
Warrenton

Editorial failure

The Daily Astorian's recent editorial "Why women are the target" (Nov. 2) was nothing more than a third-rate hatchet job. Reasonable people ought to be able to disagree on hot-button issues without resorting to inflammatory epithets lacking any substantive support. Bomb throwers get peoples' attention, but they rarely change hearts and minds.

The purpose of local editorials should be to enlighten and persuade. Unfortunately, this piece did neither. It served only to inflame the passions of those already in the camp.

Instead of the thoughtful deconstruction of the faulty logic of an opposing view, the editorial took the low road by simply lobbing fire at the shadows of the fears of the ignorant: "akin to denial of the 20th century"; "anti-intellectualism that denies modern science"; and, "an obsession with subjugating women — controlling their lives and denying them opportunity." What kind of hideous monster is out there?

I've read numerous editorials, on this page, that made sense, and led me to further examination of the issues. This wasn't one of them.

Regardless of my personal political leanings, this editorial failed its readers by failing to offer anything substantive or logical to support its position. If I want to drink the Kool-Aid, I'll attend a local party meeting; if I want to be informed,

I'll look beyond this piece of journalistic drivel.

ROBERT JOHNSTONE
Astoria

Veteran housing

In Oregon there are 18. In Washington there are 29. In Idaho there are five. Among these 52 closed military bases there must be one or two which could be converted to housing facilities for homeless veterans.

There would be some investment in updating, but the facilities are there if we could take advantage of them. For singles there are probably bunk room dormitories, lockers and toilet facilities. They could easily be set up on the same basis as many of these veterans had on active duty.

Most of these bases may have adequate facilities for families. I am not talking fancy facilities. I am talking decent places to live until employment can provide something better. The places could be organized to provide safety and reasonable supervision for all, and provide jobs for many.

There could be all the facilities of any small military base, given a little time and money to get them into shape. The residents could provide a great

deal of the man power needed to make the places functional, including employment counseling, medical services, recreation, and anything else needed, even libraries and movie theaters.

Besides, why should support of returned homeless veterans and their families fall to the state? The state did not put them on active duty and into harm's way. The state is not responsible for their unemployment or homelessness.

The state could obtain federal grants to provide the care needed. There are many of these veterans who can provide the administrative abilities needed. If we continue to burden the cities with this problem, it will never get done more than half-way.

ED GARRITY
Seaside

Makes no sense

The iconic Oregon Coast is not for sale, we say, as the pressure for fossil fuel export expansion mounts. A climatic eruption with criteria that is laden with eminent domain, environmental, occupational, health, and economical degradation are at the helm of this proposal. All set and ready to commence with costly and

obscene drippings of synthetic crippling material and gases that will forever alter the health and beauty of the bioregion.

The iconic Oregon coastline is beautiful and currently public land, and these are a few of the many special features of Oregon's coastline. All watersheds, forests, and green spaces are of value, and their protection is a time honored proven business model that works. All of these community lands are currently owned and accessible by the public, and produced for the public benefit. A liquefied natural gas (LNG) expansion will not be in the public's benefit for use of these lands.

Fossil fuel expansion on these lands will lower access and destroy the biggest growing sector of our local economies, which happens to be tourism, outdoor adventure, wildlife watching, hospitality, and technology — not fossil fuel export.

The few, full-time, long-term jobs offered by such LNG fossil fuel land use expansion proposed for Jordan Cove and Warrenton, Oregon, will be miniscule compared to the thousands of current jobs lost in tourism, hospitality, fishing, and wildlife watching.

It is the sweeping vistas and amazing flora and fauna all across the state that fuels Oregon's current growing economy. Moreover, the beauty of the bioregion, coupled with a healthy environment is the lifeblood of our local communities.

It is prudent to note that very little of these monies from LNG import/export will stay in the state, so such a degradation will not benefit the people financially or esthetically, so the costs clearly outweigh the public benefits.

In the end, Jordan Cove and Warrenton are in a tsunami and on a subduction zone, and it simply defies common sense for we the public to forfeit our land while bearing all the cost of environmental and economic suicide to boost the profits of multi-national corporations. This debt ought not to be incurred as Oregon's new legacy for future generations. Fossil fuel expansion in Jordan Cove and Warrenton, Oregon, defies common sense and Economics 101.

NINETTE JONES
Portland

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