

## Unwelcome visitors

Have you noticed the similarities between Oregon LNG and the so-called militia occupying the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge? Both came from outside Oregon, wanting to take public lands for their own purposes and profit.

Both ignore local desires and property rights. Both are willing to sacrifice wildlife and fragile natural environments for their own gain. Both believe it's OK to bully government and residents to get their way. Both are tying up federal, state, and local resources and personnel at great cost to taxpayers.

I am grateful that Gov. Brown and many Oregonians are urging the federal government to immediately stop the Malheur occupiers. I urge the governor to take that same kind of action to stop the Oregon LNG and Jordan Cove liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminals and pipelines proposed for Oregon.

Each of us needs to urge Governor Brown to tell the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and state agencies to honor and enforce Clatsop County's denial of the permit for Oregon LNG's proposed pipeline. Without a pipeline, there can be no terminal.

Each of us needs to urge state agencies to deny permits for both Oregon LNG and Jordan Cove. Those agencies have abundant evidence that neither proposal complies with state law. Contact Gov. Brown at 503-378-4582, or [www.oregon.gov/gov/Pages/share-your-opinion.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/gov/Pages/share-your-opinion.aspx)

Find out about the local No LNG group by calling Laurie Caplan at 503-338-6508.

It's unlikely that Oregon LNG and Jordan Cove will go away without a big push from us. Please do your part to stop the LNG proposals in Oregon.

Laurie Caplan  
Astoria

## Good health care

A person very close to me was the full beneficiary of the partnership between Columbia Memorial Hospital

# My platform for U.S. president

I hereby announce my write-in candidacy for president of the U.S. I will solicit no campaign donations, and will return any I might receive. As president, I will serve all the people, without party loyalty, without ideology and without partiality to any organized interests.

My platform will be available for perusal by all Americans with access to the Constitution of the U.S. It will be, verbatim, Article II, Sections 2 and 3 of that document, which enumerate the duties of the office of president. They number four paragraphs and may be read in a couple of minutes. Not a

word in them is beyond the comprehension of any literate citizen. To wit: commander-in-chief of the armed forces, the making of treaties, appointment of ambassadors, nomination of justices of the Supreme Court, and a few others of minor consequence.

Any item reaching my desk which does not fall within the purview of those duties will be referred to the Congress or the appropriate state legislatures. The authors of the Constitution feared, above all, despotic powers in the hands of a single individual, having just broken asunder, by armed rebellion, the yoke of the world's most

far-reaching colonial monarch. How far we have drifted from the intent of our founders, I leave the reader to decide.

Lastly, the president shall — and this duty is stated in the most casual language imaginable, attesting to what was meant to be a relatively insignificant office — “from time to time give to the Congress information of the State of the Union.” I shall execute that duty as infrequently and as briefly as possible, so as not to detain my audience from more profitable entertainments.

Louis Sargent  
Gearhart

and Oregon Health and Science University.

Suspecting an imminent heart attack, he requested an immediate appointment with CMH's Cardiac Department. The cardiac nurse, Susan McGuffin, determined an emergency, as the man's pulse was down to 24. The department's medical director, Dr. Diana Rinkevich, a professor at OHSU, ordered the immediate transfer of the patient by ambulance to OHSU for the implant of a heart pacemaker.

When the patient arrived at OHSU's Cardiology Department, the pacemaker implant team was ready. Although no blood pressure could be determined at the customary locations of the body, and the first lead to his heart's ventricle had to be removed and replaced with a different one, the implant of the dual-chamber pacemaker by Dr. Thomas Dewland was completed within four hours.

This community is fortunate to have a person of Dr. Rinkevich's ability, resolve and connections at its disposal. Without her, the patient would have been a statistic in the column of heart attack victims.

Erhard Gross  
Astoria

participating in phone surveys when time permits. When answering a recorded voice survey recently however, I was disturbed by the rush of answering complex questions on a subject little-known to most, but addressed so eloquently by Roger Dorband (“Economic terrorism,” *The Daily Astorian*, Jan 29).

Our Clatsop County Commission is being asked to join the Linn County lawsuit to basically change the ratio of chopping down our forests, among other things, for a perceived lack of money due Linn County. I raised this Linn County lawsuit issue at a recent county commission meeting, so I knew a little about it, but I felt as though I could not push the buttons on my phone fast enough to keep up with the recorded confusing questions and answers.

Among the many questions asked: Should the Clatsop County Commissioners join the Linn County lawsuit? Had I ever voted against a school bond? Did I feel my taxes were being used in a fair manner? Well, you get the idea.

“Of course!” I shouted when a friend, hearing my exasperated rehash of the call, reminded me this type of phone survey is really a push poll. And, one of the kinder definitions: an opinion poll done with loaded questions or offering negative information

to sway the opinions of those polled.

So now you are forewarned. How we maintain our forests is a very important issue. I urge you to discuss entering into this lawsuit with your county commissioner as soon as possible.

By the way, in case you get a call, the caller ID number is 503-111-1122. And good luck.

Nancy Holmes  
Seaside

## A necessity

People have shown an interest in the sounding of a horn around sunset from the Columbia House Condominiums. This was not intended to annoy or alarm neighbors, rather it is designed to deter a murmuration of starlings, which wish to roost under the Columbia Condos.

Their droppings are a source of great concern for all Astorians who use the Riverwalk and surrounding areas. Starling feces can carry viruses and organisms that cause disease, which pose a hazard to our neighbors, Riverwalk bicyclists, pedestrians, and the residents of the Columbia Condos. Additionally, the feces can cause structural damage to our home. The collapse of the interstate bridge in Minnesota in 2007 was attributed, in part, to pigeon feces.

The condos require building inspections. The Columbia House Condominium Association has been advised that the presence of droppings would prevent this safety inspection. So, the association determined that use of the horn system is the best way to prohibit starlings from roosting beneath the building. The guidance document that we consulted for this was “G9447 Controlling Nuisance Blackbirds in Roosts” from the University of Missouri Extension service, <http://extension.missouri.edu/p/G9447>.

Not wanting to bother our neighbors unnecessarily, and certainly not more than necessary, we researched alternatives to our method. A review of options suggested that the one we are using to be one of the best. Past experience has shown that our method is effective. Universities in Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, as well as in Scotland, produced research to support our process.

Still, wanting to be thoughtful and accountable neighbors, we changed the frequency and volume of the horn. The sound actually only occurs for a few minutes at a time, and for less than an hour daily. The hope is that these adjustments make our efforts easier on the human ear. Additionally we have already looked into other means of dealing with this problem, such as barriers and visual

frightening devices, and we will continue to do so.

Concerns for everyone about disease and structural safety are our constant priority, and the noise is only temporary. We hope the community will recognize the necessity of this measure and our efforts to be responsive to the needs of our community.

Charles Stuart  
Member, Columbia House  
Condominiums Building and  
Grounds Committee

## LNG plea

Open letter to Gov. Kate Brown: Thank you for your intervention in Harney County. Please do the same for Clatsop County. State lands on the Skipanon Peninsula are still being held hostage by out-of-state energy corporations.

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) has no place disrupting our local community for investor profits. Other places in the U.S. and Canada may permit extraction and transmission industries to make a mess with intrusive pipelines and natural gas tanks, but we in the Columbia Pacific region are drawing the line and just saying no.

Also, are Oregonians going to pay to decommission the gas plant and pipelines when they are no longer safe or profitable to operate?

Coos Bay may fall for their schemes, but we in Clatsop County will not be bought off by corporate bullies with their (perhaps false) promises of tax money and high-paying jobs for current residents.

Please, Gov. Brown, do whatever you can to end this occupation of our tidelands. Please do it now, even if it means subjecting Oregon to a lawsuit by negating the original lease. Many of your supporters here are getting really angry about LNG and their continuing terrorism. They need to go and not come back.

Free us from LNG, and don't force us to do something rash like “take back the Skip” (especially not before the 2016 fall election).

Steve Emons  
Astoria

## Understanding the value of sacred stories



Tricia Gates Brown  
February 18

“An honest, piercing, blunt, lyrical, remarkable writer about the endless chambers of joy and pain in the heart.” -Brian Doyle

### TO ATTEND:

For Members:  
Dinner & Lecture: \$25 ea.  
Lecture only: no charge

For Non-Members:  
Dinner & Lecture: \$35 ea.  
Lecture only: \$15 ea.

Appetizers will be available at 6 p.m.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

The speaker will begin after the dinner service is complete and non-dinner members and guests of the audience take their seats.

Forum to be held at the CMH Community Center at 2021 Exchange St., Astoria.

LIMITED SEATING  
RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY!

# ColumbiaForum

FOR RESERVATION OR TO JOIN COLUMBIA FORUM CONTACT:  
Holly Larkins at 503.325.3211 ext. 227 or [forum@dailyastorian.com](mailto:forum@dailyastorian.com) by Feb. 15th, 2016

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COLUMBIA  
MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL

Working for a strong  
Community

## We make a difference together

Each year, CMH caregivers give more than 10,000 volunteer hours and thousands of dollars in donations to our community. CMH raises money each year for worthy community organizations, including United Way, American Cancer Society and March of Dimes. Our caregivers are little league coaches, volunteer firefighters, board members and more.

At home and at work, our caregivers are dedicated to serving our neighbors. That is why CMH offers many programs designed to help those who are uninsured or under-insured. We provide the healthcare you need, when you need it.



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