

Voting for Trump

Johnny Depp aside, along with the many other voices in the public square are telling us that we do not have permission to support the presidential campaign of Mr. Donald J. Trump — who may not be, thankfully, an approved Republican — but the essential wonderful truth of American political crux remains that “when I pull the voting booth curtain closed behind me, I can vote for whatever and whomever I wish.”

This is what appears to be happening in the U.S. 2016 GOP primaries. The folks who have been able to successfully pull the puppet strings on voters for quite some time are aghast. More accurately, they are left flat footed and bewildered. Defeated?

If you thought that the direction of public policy was unalterably set, think again. “We the people” might still be the straw that stirs the drink. Anybody out there want to say that our drink isn’t being stirred?

Always pleased with the “Not Me” people ...

BOB EKSTROM
Scappoose

No Trump

The thought of Donald Trump being the next president of this country has me filled with great anxiety and dread for all of us people in this country who are not in his class of the extremely rich. He is not concerned with us, only his millionaire friends.

It appears that he has spent millions buying off two of his other opponents this past couple of weeks. He will be a great danger to this country if he is elected and able to negotiate with tyrants like Vladimir Putin of Russia, and turn this country over to him for the millions that will all go into Trump’s personal bank account.

Trump has not really said anything about improving the country for the benefit of the taxpayers and the ordinary people. All he is able to do is bad mouth anyone who opposes him in any way. During the last time he was talking to his supporters, there were opposers there, and he told people in the audience to beat the c*** out of them. That is certainly something for his supporters to be proud of this candidate.

All in all, this is a candidate that this country does not need.

GERALD D. WINTERS
Warrenton

Let Obama choose

Open letter to U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell: Are you kidding me? Your March 16 press release contained eight references about your office generously yielding to public choice.

That line you’ve been peddling, “Give the peo-

Logs, jobs, liquefied natural gas

At one of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) hearings regarding the proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant held in Warrenton, a local bank manager posed the question, “If not LNG, then what?”

One answer could be another acronym, CLT. Cross Laminated Timber, also called mass timber, is hailed as the greatest advancement in construction technology since reinforced concrete. Touted as “plywood on steroids,” it is, simply put, 2-foot by 6-foot boards glued (laminated) together in cross grained layers to form panels. These panels are computer design generated as prefabricated units, similar to concrete “tilt-ups,” creating beautiful mid-

sized buildings with finished wood inside and out.

The wood becomes a carbon sink, and eliminates the use of concrete, which is estimated to produce 5 percent of greenhouse gases worldwide. The process has been long used in Europe, Australia and Canada, and an example can be seen in Portland at the Oregon Zoo Elephant Lands habitat.

Astoria would likely be an ideal location for a CLT plant, having a skilled work force, local timber and shipping capabilities. A factory to produce CLT would not come cheap, but it wouldn’t require pipelines, river activity disruptions, military escorts, or hazardous cargo.

I believe the great majority of local

residents would welcome a clean industry that would provide good wage jobs and utilize local resources instead of extracting them and shipping the raw materials overseas. Picture a ship leaving Astoria with a school, an apartment building and houses bound for Los Angeles or China. It would be a healthy addition to tourism, brew pubs and pot shops.

This is a rapidly expanding industry, and Astoria would do well to get in now, in advance of competing interests. Information is all over the Internet — just enter “CLT wood” — and the Mass Timber Conference was held recently in Portland.

BRUCE JOHNSTON
Gearhart

ple a voice in the filling of this vacancy,” rings so tinny that I have to remind myself your comments are disingenuous, and sadly, you are sacrificing the credibility of your position and your historical legacy by awkwardly playing at politics. The last time I checked, the people used their voice, and they overwhelmingly re-elected President Obama.

On at least five occasions, your media release also attempted to piggy-back on the so-called “Biden Rule.” Well, Senator, your effort to cleverly apply a title and tradition to a nonexistent rule backfired if, in fact, your goal was to project statesmanship. Instead, you displayed an unsophisticated effort at political gamesmanship.

If Vice President Biden can create a “rule” simply by stating a political position from 20 years ago, perhaps your party and its minions have no basis to further your judicial efforts in overruling the president’s use of executive orders?

Unfortunately, these anti-Obama political behaviors, which you developed in the first term of his presidency (reference Time magazine’s coverage on your Republican Party off-site meeting in 2009), are the genesis for Donald Trump’s amazing success in the primaries. With that in mind, I wonder who the likely 44th president will nominate to the Supreme Court?

To my knowledge, Secretary Hillary Clinton hasn’t publicly offered any suggestions, but I’m confident that her nominee will be less appealing to you and the Republican Party than the Honorable Merrick Garland.

JOY BREWER
Astoria

Recall a bad idea

I’m as sorry as the next person that we lost our fire chief. But the truth is that you don’t lose a job like that without due process. Besides, he has a court case pending against the fire department board.

The board members under scrutiny have many decades of experience and training. I wonder if you’re aware that the Arch Cape fire station was designed and built by the current board, at no additional cost to the taxpayers? No small feat, that.

But now, our volunteer fire department is required to pay for this special recall vote. Why that isn’t paid for by the petitioners, I don’t quite understand. The pending court case could prove to be an additional expense. And, yet another certain expense would be years and years of trainings for new board members.

The fact is we’re getting a new fire chief. Nothing’s going to change that now. Are we really going to saddle him with a board of directors whose voting majority has no experience, no training and a large chip on its shoulders? The words “nose” and “face” spring to mind, with a measure of spite thrown in.

Let’s remember what’s at stake here, folks. These are our first responders. And, this is a matter of public safety.

I suggest that personal grudges should be aired in the courtroom. And if the petitioners honestly believe that

they can do a better job than our current board, then they should have to prove that to us in a general election.

Please join me in voting no recall.

VALOREE GIFT
Cannon Beach

Please reconsider

Open letter to the Gearhart mayor, city council, planning commissioners and city manager: We object strongly to the conditional approval of a brew pub replacing the Gearhart Grocery. What was the Planning Commission thinking, and why weren’t the residents of Gearhart given any advance knowledge of this proposal?

Gearhart’s restrictions to growth have been notoriously strong ever since we can remember. To replace the grocery store with a brew pub is below the standards of a community that prides itself on being a good wholesome family place. Within a mile of city center you have a hotel with bar and restaurant, an exceptional fine dining restaurant, a good Mexican restaurant on U.S. Highway 101, a Dairy Queen, a Chinese restaurant and a bowling alley that serves food and drink.

By placing an establishment that is devoted to drinking in the center of our town, you are placing our children and residents at risk for rowdiness, traffic, drunken driving, unpleasant smells and more.

We strongly urge you to reconsider your “conditional” approval of this proposal. I thank David Smith, Terry Graff and Jeremy Davis for voting against it.

NANCY AND JOHN
HERPERS
Gearhart

On Chicago

As I wrote this letter I was watching the protest at the Trump campaign — canceled March 11. I listened closely to the narratives offered across the mainstream media and the talking head analysis.

A good portion of the “blame” is put on Trump. Some analysts go as far as comparing Trump’s candidacy to Hitler’s Brownshirts during the 1930s. Give me a break, and if you don’t understand this, you are ignorant.

Trump’s chief competitors call for, paraphrasing, all of us to “remain calm.” More political correctness.

Trump is not the cause, he is a symptom. The fault lies with President Barack Hussein Obama. And do you want to know why? Because deep in our national psyche we are — get ready — a Christian nation built on Judeo-Christian values.

Granted, the nation has fallen from being a Christian nation to a secular society (by the way, how’s that working out for ya?) but deep in our psyche, that is to say our national conscience, we are tethered to our God-given, Ten Commandment fearing, “yes sir, thank you ma’am” conscience. God — the god of Abraham, Isaac and Joseph, that God — is the source of all goodness. We are created beings and coming into this world we are, all of us, lighted by Jesus Christ, the very source of goodness.

Allah is not God.

Peer pressure is horrible to youth and carries on through to adulthood, and in our day and age that peer pressure is known as political correctness.

Political correctness — that’s the (secular) issue. Political correctness has hijacked our free speech and with it, our Judeo-Christian ethics. Homosexuality has been shoved down our throat (no pun intended) as was, for instance, Obamacare. We don’t bad-mouth police — we revere them.

Eight years of a president who has either no values or values contrary to what our nation, at the aggregate, opposes. And that is what manifest in Chicago.

Adult peer pressure. Tolerance. Political correctness that promotes values forced on a nation that simply won’t accept them. Our president has forced a set of values that we simply, at the national level, do not accept, and that is what manifest in Chicago.

The problem is the presidency of Barack Hussein Obama — Trump is an afterthought.

GARY MAURO
Warrenton

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POLK AND CLATSOP COUNTY CERT PRESENT

Local CERT Training

Weekend Delivery

April 15, 16, 17, 2016

8-5 Daily, Final Exercise on Sunday
Camp Kiwanilong, Warrenton, OR
Instructor: Polk County CERT

This 21-hour course educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

Once trained, CERT members can join their local team or simply use the skills to improve their personal level of preparedness and assist others in their neighborhood, community or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

Limited space, registration required.

For more information and to register:
Clatsop County Emergency Management
clatsopemd@co.clatsop.or.us
503/325-8645
Email: bfayyaz@co.clatsop.or.us