

## Vote Trump?

If you plan to vote for Donald Trump because President Obama is a black man, there are better reasons. Vote for Mr. Trump because he used to be a Democrat, but isn't now. Vote for him because he used to be pro-choice, but isn't now. Vote for him because he used to be godless, but has now found religion. Vote for him because he used to be a "birther," but isn't now. Vote for him because he likes women, lots of them.

Vote for him because he believes in the sanctity of marriage, three times. Vote for him because he has used thousands of dollars of other people's money from a charity to pay his personal debts. Vote for him because he has swindled thousands more from folks who had signed up for his fake Trump University. Vote for him if you want a reactionary, vindictive, me-first sociopath, with the personality of a child, with his hand on the big red nuclear war button.

Vote for him if you want to see NATO gutted, and Russia invading Estonia and Latvia with impunity. Vote for him so he can become the world's second wealthiest man, after his buddy Vladimir Putin. Vote for him because Russia has endorsed him. Vote for him because he refuses to release his tax returns, because they will show his cheating on charity contributions and his financial ties to Russia.

Vote for this billionaire, born with a silver spoon in his mouth, who has never worked a day for wages in his life, because he is just "one of the guys." Vote for him because he says he will cancel trade agreements and somehow, miraculously, bring back jobs that were actually mostly lost to technology advances rather than trade.

Vote for him because, when asked why he had outsourced his trademark Trump apparel line to China, he said "You can't get anything made in this country."

And, most of all, vote for him because he is not a woman.  
ROD DAWSON  
Seaside

## Vote for schools

Our community must come together to pass the proposed Seaside School Bond to build a safe, secure place for children today and into the future to learn. I urge you to visit the [www.voteeyesforlocalschools.com](http://www.voteeyesforlocalschools.com) website to see for yourself the deplorable condition of our schools. How can we retain and recruit the best teachers? How can students possibly feel that we value their learning? Yes, the tsunami is also a serious concern. But even if it were not a factor, our school facilities are woefully inadequate.

The American Association of University Women strongly advocates for quality education for all children. As a member of our local group and a retired educator, I also place a high priority on education as a child's path to a productive and positive future. This bond is not only about our youth, it is about you. You are likely to attend concerts, plays, sporting events, adult education or community gatherings in our school facilities. Shouldn't all of these events happen in a safe place? Shouldn't we have a structurally safe place to go in the case of an emergency?

We all count on our schools and now they are counting on us. Vote yes for the school bond. It is urgent, and it is the right thing to do.

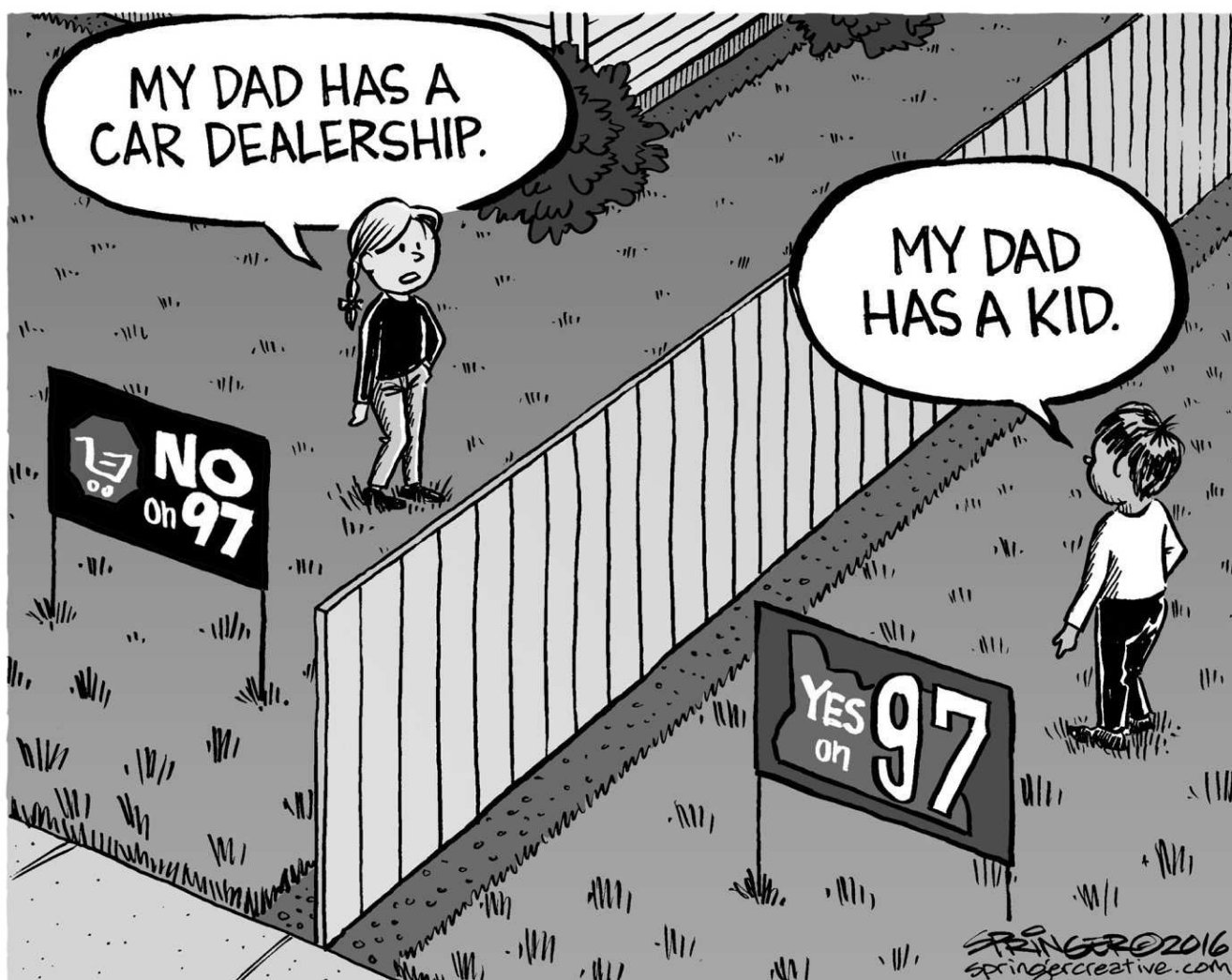
JANE MCGEEHAN  
Seaside

## Liberal thoughts

To my compatriot living in Salem ("What's a liberal?" *The Daily Astorian*, Sept. 15), may I offer a few items for consideration?

The points he makes pertaining to unions are not without merit, but I would suggest the state of affairs is attributable to abuses of the spirit of the law, not in unions themselves. The intent to protect workers' rights is a noble one along the lines of child labor laws, the 40-hour work week, overtime pay and a minimum wage.

The fact that there are some who abuse the protections intended by the formation of unions ought not obscure their



potential for good. Although I don't know of a solution to this dilemma, I suspect it would be found in common ground and moderation.

As pertaining to illegal aliens, one need only put themselves in the shoes of the truly oppressed to realize it's not surprising that some are willing to risk everything for the mere possibility of a better life. Sometimes such people fail to go through "proper channels" as they attempt to escape the often life-threatening trauma with which they live daily; little or no opportunity to comply with the law is the stark reality for many people on this planet.

The U.S. is depicted worldwide as the land of opportunity and freedom; therefore, it can be expected that those suffering under oppression and violence would set their sights on relocating to such a place. Perhaps a compassionate and inclusive solution should be sought, one in which we expand the definition of legality, to welcome and respect those who are seeking a better life for themselves and their loved ones.

And finally, it is often said that God helps those who help themselves. So let us help ourselves by embracing the concepts of democracy, find resolution to challenges through moderation, seeking common ground, and recognize that desperate people in dire straits are to be respected, if not admired, for their courage, demonstrated in doing something — whatever they can — to alleviate their plight.

They are merely trying to help themselves.  
NATE MARTIN  
Astoria

## Women needed

American women have had a lot to celebrate this summer. In June, the White House hosted the United State of Women Summit, the Supreme Court reaffirmed our right to choose and 28 major companies signed an Equal Pay Pledge. In July, we saw the first female presidential nominee of a major party. And in August, female athletes were the unquestionable breakout stars of Team USA.

Despite these high points, we can't afford to take for granted what's at stake for American women right now. Women are more likely to live in poverty and work a minimum wage job. Access to reproductive healthcare is continually under threat, and sexual assault pervades our campuses and communities.

We need our elected leaders to address these critical issues. However, it's difficult when the individuals who understand them best remain so under-represented in government. Women bring a unique perspective and prioritize policies that help women and families. And in Oregon, with just two women governors, six women members of Congress and not nearly enough women elected to state and local positions throughout the state, we need more of them to jump into politics and begin moving up the ladder.

Why not you, or a woman you know? When it comes to politics, many don't know where to start. That's where Emerge Oregon comes in. We train Democratic women to run for elected office, and we're recruiting right now for the class of 2017. Learn more at [www.emergeor.org](http://www.emergeor.org) — and let us help you be a force of change.

JILLIAN SCHOENE  
Executive director,  
Emerge Oregon  
Portland

## Salute Arnie Palmer

Years ago, Portland-bred pro golfer Peter Jacobsen brought his golf open to the Portland Golf Club. He always brought his favorite professional, Arnold Palmer, to play.

The last year that Arnie could play in "Peter's Party" I watched, and the thing that brought me to my knees was

the presence that final day of the many silent, slow-moving older gentlemen who stood in the shaded recesses behind the 18th hole grandstands. They waited quietly for a long time to see "Arnie" to pay their respects or to just salute him.

Well, I salute them. I salute their generation and their devotion to their game and their hero. Most are over 80. They were too slow to walk the course, but they could not let the man who had entertained them every Sunday on TV for years pass by without a "thank you." They loved to watch Arnie and Jack duke it out. Surely they lived a little vicariously through these pros, as most played a fairly inconsistent game of golf.

My dad (an Astoria Golf Club member) was lucky enough to qualify for the 1978 U.S. Senior Golf Tournament, played at Portland Golf Club. His last name was Osgood and

his "O" locker was right next to the "P" for Palmer. He was so thrilled to be in the company of such talent.

I salute all these men of their wonderful generation for their devotion to their country, for they were the soldiers who won World War II for all of us. But most of all, let's celebrate Arnold Palmer's long life of hard work and entertainment. He, like my dad, had a darling twinkle in his eye that we who followed him will always remember.

DIANE OSGOOD  
DOHERTY  
Portland

## Wonderful event

The Knappton Cove Heritage Center's (KCHC) New Citizenship Ceremony went off without a hitch, thanks to so many volunteers. We'd like to give a shout-out to President Charlene Larson

and the Astoria Lions Club for not only donating the use of their event tent, but also setting it up and taking it down under the capable supervision of Tom Gill. That is a big job. The Lions Club also displayed their beautiful international small flag display to decorate the podium.

Kudos to *The Daily Astorian* for the nice article about this important and moving event ("New citizens welcomed at historic point of entry," Sept. 21). Additional thanks to the PEO and Daughters of the American Revolution friends who provided lots of goodies for the reception, and all the KCHC board members who supervised parking and hosted about 130 visitors throughout the day. And, of course, congratulations and thanks to the 11 new U.S. citizens who chose to travel to this historic site for this special ceremony.

Our closing event for 2016 will be our annual "O, How Horrible is the Day" tribute to the Lewis & Clark Expedition, which canoed past Knappton Cove on Nov. 10, 1805. We'll be serving Hot Cider & History from 1 to 3 pm on Friday, Nov. 11, and Saturday, Nov. 12.

NANCY ANDERSON  
President, Knappton Cove  
Heritage Center  
Gearhart

## Great performance

Recently we attended opening night of "Don't Dress for Dinner." We thoroughly enjoyed the play, with its many unexpected twists and turns, and all of the actors and actresses provided great performances. This was our first time attending the Coaster Theatre Playhouse, which is cozy with good acoustics. We highly recommend this if you are up for a night of fun, laughter and entertainment. We were also delighted with a delicious dinner at the Castaways before attending the performance.

STEVE and  
DONNA OBERG  
Seaside

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