

## Trump tribute

Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign slogan was "It's the economy, stupid." Ironically for Hillary Clinton, the shoe's now on the other foot.

Hillary and other establishment politicians get the lion's share of their money from certain bankers, executives and very wealthy people. There's no doubt this wealthy donor class is better off today than eight years ago.

Worse off today are workers and the middle class. Current tax policy and international agreements are still sending jobs abroad. Donald Trump wants to help those worse off by changing job-hurting policies of the present Democrat administration. Hillary will just continue them.

Trump's policy changes will rebuild manufacturing and strengthen America. And Trump's new border policy will ensure a recognizable country that will have a strong economy again.

Trump wants to reduce taxes so business has money to expand and create more jobs. A good job and less tax also means more money in your hands to spend, invest, or save as you see fit.

Trump's not an establishment politician, and is using his own money to campaign. Trump isn't controlled by anybody. That scares the hell out of the very wealthy, who are used to controlling politicians like Hillary. They want Hillary to continue government policies that protect and increase their wealth, even though the policies may be harmful to the rest of us.

Unfortunately, there's little positive to say about Hillary except her gender. The venom Hillary and other Democrats are spewing out daily about Trump are obvious political strategies to distract us from policy failures of a Democrat administration, and Hillary's terrible 30-year record of corruption. And it's ridiculous for Democrats to criticize Trump for not having to pay taxes. After all, Trump followed all tax laws Democrats helped pass.

Trump is human and, like us all, isn't perfect. But compared to Hillary's dismal past, Trump's a roaring success story.

America needs to change the disastrous economic policies of this Democrat administration. Simply put, we've gone way too far in the wrong direction. We need to elect Donald Trump and turn the economy around.

DON HASKELL  
Astoria

## Lied

"What difference, at this point, does it make?" — Hillary Clinton, Jan. 23, 2013

Here are four reasons why Hillary Clinton shouldn't be elected president: Ambassador Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Glen Doherty and Tyrone Woods. Hillary lied after these four Americans died.

RENEE DICK  
Salem

## Bruce for Astoria

Retired U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Bruce Jones earned the confidence of our country. We are lucky he stayed in Astoria and is willing to share his experience, expertise and integrity with our community. Bruce deserves to be elected to Astoria's City Council.

In service to our country, Bruce distinguished himself by heading many significant posts in the Coast Guard. He is an expert in dealing with multiple agencies at various levels. Also, as an air station commander, he led aerial rescue efforts after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. These skills are directly applicable to us who live in the Cascadia Subduction Zone. Bruce can head in preparedness planning, and, heaven forbid, rescue and recovery efforts.

In our community, Bruce serves without personal agenda but as a consensus builder. He currently chairs the Astoria Armory board and has served the community on the boards of the United Way, Columbia River Maritime

# Save animals by passing Measure 100

Animals across the planet face a variety of threats — habitat destruction, pollution, and many others. But the issue of wildlife trafficking is one with clear and obvious solutions.

Measure 100 will help save endangered sea turtles, elephants, rhinos and other wild animals threatened with cruel poaching and extinction by banning the commercial trade in their parts and products here in Oregon.

The scale of the world's poaching crisis is immense. Every day nearly 100

elephants are brutally killed in Africa, their tusks hacked off, to supply the black market for ivory trinkets. Organized criminal gangs and armed rebels use military weapons to kill wildlife for the multi-billion dollar illegal wildlife trade.

Poachers and traffickers exploit weak laws and regulations to sell ivory, rhino horns, sea turtle shells and other animal parts. Products from endangered animals can be found for sale here, in Oregon. We must shut down the Oregon market for these animal products;

any amount of trade will continue to motivate this killing for profit.

Measure 100 is endorsed by a broad coalition of individuals and groups. The Oregon Coast Aquarium, Oregon Zoo Foundation, Oregon Humane Society, animal protection and conservation leaders, a bi-partisan group of elected officials, veterinarians, and untold numbers of individuals understand the important role that Oregon has in saving these endangered animals.

KRISTIN LEPPERT  
Portland

Museum and Astoria Column. His calm and effective manner helped those organizations navigate difficult waters and reach the safe harbor of enlightened and effective results. He will do the same on our city council.

For the betterment of Astoria, voters in Ward 4 should vote for Bruce Jones.

DAN STEIN  
Astoria

## Immoral and unfit

Recently an audio tape was released with Donald Trump describing how he attempted to bed a married woman while he was also married. And then he goes on to brag that when he sees beautiful women he just starts kissing them, without even asking, and "when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab them by the (private parts). You can do anything."

Mr. Trump has already shown that he has no business ethics by bilking thousands of dollars from contractors he defaulted on with his failed Trump Casino and the fake Trump University, and now he has proved that he also has no moral character, as well. Apparently he believes that half of the people on this planet, the women, were created strictly to quench his lust.

I am a man, and I understand lustful thoughts, but I have always treated women with the respect that they deserve as intelligent individuals. I have never once uttered insults of the kind on Mr. Trump's tape, nor could I possibly ever respect a man who did so.

Is this really the person that you want to be our president? This sleazebag? Yes, Hillary Clinton has made some mistakes, but Donald Trump is morally unfit to be president of our great country.

ROD DAWSON  
Seaside

## Jones for the job

Bruce Jones is a tremendous candidate for the Astoria City Council. He came to Astoria in 2011 as the sector commander of the Coast Guard. This translates to being the person in charge of the coast from North Bend, Oregon, to Westport, Washington, and up the Columbia River to Portland.

Under his leadership the sector commander dealt with saving people on the shore, in their boats, and monitoring potential drug trafficking, as well as issues with Homeland Security. All of this was managed by Bruce, who is cool under pressure. He thinks clearly, and is able to make a good decision about what is best for all concerned.

There is the primary element that brings us to the recommendation of Bruce Jones for city councilor. Bruce brings a solid calm to the table for collaboration. He is a leader who listens, and has done his homework and is prepared to discuss important topics. Bruce has worked with companies and agencies with issues around the areas of his responsibilities. He would approach his job as city councilor with the same thoughtful consideration.

Since retiring from the Coast Guard, Bruce has been actively involved in the restoration of the old Astoria Armory, which had been years without attention. He raised interest, wrote grants and, after years of hard work, the Armory has been brought back to life for the use of the community.

Bruce Jones is an educated,

thoughtful, caring and diplomatic person, and we would be fortunate to have him serve as city councilor of Astoria.

CRAIG and SARA WISTI  
Astoria

## Safe schools needed

The safety of schools cannot be minimized. The probability of a major earthquake off the coast of Oregon, triggering a catastrophic tsunami, increases each day it doesn't happen. We need only to watch PBS's "Oregon Field Guide" episode "Unprepared" to grasp the seriousness of this. Free viewing is available at <http://tinyurl.com/opb-unprep>

All schools, including Seaside's schools, need to be out of the tsunami inundation zone. The bond to raise money to build new schools in safe areas in Seaside, if done with integrity and good management, could save 1,700 lives. The monthly price to residents will probably be about the cost of a tank of gasoline, but what price can one place on 1,700 lives?

An added note: Safe, high quality schools increase property value.

POLLY MINER  
Warrenton

## Sales tax

Read the text of Measure 97. It is a sales tax. No matter how broad or limited it

may be, it's still a sales tax. If adopted, it will surely encourage the politicians to pass more general sales taxes. Oregon will then be like California, with both an income and sales tax.

Sales taxes are the most regressive of taxation, because they hurt the people who can least afford them the most. If you truly want more taxes on everything you buy, in just a few years, then vote to approve this measure.

CLEVE ROLFE  
Seaside

## Move schools

I always thought that I had a good understanding of the danger our community and schools were in, but I really had no clue until I started to extensively research the Cascadia Subduction Zone during my senior year at Seaside High School.

The fact of the matter is that Seaside schools will not survive the magnitude of a Cascadia subduction earthquake. The schools will collapse on children, leaving them trapped as a large tsunami rolls in. Trapped with no way to escape, the majority of children in Seaside School District will either drown or be killed by a building collapsing on top of them. The few who manage to escape the collapsed building will have to overcome all odds to make it to

high ground before the tsunami reaches land.

As students, we were oblivious. We believed we would make it out of the building after the earthquake hit, and if we moved fast enough we would be able to make it to high ground safely. This sense of hope that I and the other students had was completely false. The reality is that as long as Seaside schools continue to reside in the tsunami inundation zone, there is a very slim chance for students to survive a Cascadia event.

The new bond measure isn't about enriching Seaside students with more advanced education opportunities that the 2013 bond measure provided, but instead simply providing safe, reliable facilities where students will be afforded peace of mind.

Our community needs this new campus. It can serve as the central location providing refuge, aid and relief after disaster strikes, with emergency supplies having been stored at the campus ahead of time. We cannot wait any longer. We are 73 years overdue, and need to start thinking proactively while we still have the chance. It shouldn't come down to the students to convince people to move our schools, but that is exactly what has happened.

TAYLOR BARNES  
Seaside

## Write in

It is opined over and over again, and on almost all hands agreed to, that Donald Trump is unfit to be president. His opponent then, by implication, is "fit." Hillary Clinton looked away while her husband, a lascivious, adulterous womanizer all his political life, turned first the Little Rock, Arkansas, statehouse and then the White House into his personal bordellos.

Then, disdaining a cardinal dogma of contemporary feminism, she "stuck by her man" as he unctuously slithered, squirmed and perjured his way to impeachment. Her own mendacity and devious evasions are known to all. It is reported that 75 per cent of the electorate will vote against one or the other, and not for either.

Friends, Oregonians, countrymen and women: Vote for neither. Vote against both. Has the American electorate lost all sense of moral discernment that it will accede in a choice between a bombastic clown and a liar to serve in its highest elected office? Has virtue become a minor irrelevance in our nation's governance?

Cast your ballot for a third-party candidate, or write in the name of a neighbor or an acquaintance you know to be a plain-talking, honest, thrifty and industrious soul who would serve, not as a political party ideologue, but as president of all the people, with humility and great respect for our nation's founding document, the Constitution; who will preside over a government run as frugally as his or her own household; and who will not splinter society into competing groups organized by race, ethnicity, gender, age, business, occupation or class by holding out the promise of government favors in return for party fealty, votes or campaign contributions.

Whatever way comes to mind, on your ballot, just say no to Hillary and Trump.

LOUIS SARGENT  
Gearhart

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