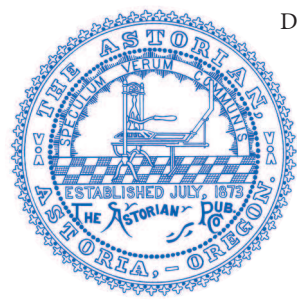


THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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OUR VIEW

Recapping our endorsements

Ballots for the Nov. 8 general election are arriving in Clatsop County mailboxes, and no matter who wins, the most important thing is to exercise your right in the democratic process by voting.

Our recommendations

The Daily Astorian recommends:

- **President:** Democrat Hillary Clinton. Her Republican opponent, Donald Trump, has too many deep flaws to be at the helm of our country, and Clinton has the experience to lead our nation.
- **U.S. Senate:** Incumbent Democrat Ron Wyden, whose lengthy tenure in the Senate will pay far more dividends to Oregon than his inexperienced challenger, Republican Mark Callahan, could provide.
- **U.S. House:** Incumbent Democrat Suzanne Bonamici, who faces Republican newcomer Brian Heinrich. Bonamici has served the congressional district well and deserves another term.

Statewide

- **Governor:** Incumbent Kate Brown, a Democrat who inherited the governor's office when Gov. John Kitzhaber resigned amid scandal. Brown has a greater chance of helping Oregon during the remaining two years of Kitzhaber's term than her inexperienced Republican opponent, Bud Pierce. Brown, though, needs to step up her visibility and leadership.
- **Secretary of State:** Republican Dennis Richardson would provide needed balance among the state's top leaders. He is a better fit for the job than his Democratic opponent, Brad Avakian, the blustery head of the state's Bureau of Labor and Industries. In a job that needs impartiality, Richardson is a far more steady hand than Avakian, who is known for partisan activism.
- **Attorney General:** Incumbent Democrat Ellen Rosenblum is a clear choice over Republican challenger Daniel Crowe, and her performance merits another term.
- **Treasurer:** Democrat Tobias Read stands apart from his three opponents. Read has a more complete resume with experience as a state representative and expertise while working with the U.S. Treasury.

The Measures

- **Measure 97:** "No." The gross receipts tax on C-corporations with more than \$25 million in sales is misleading and fatally flawed. It's a costly, hidden sales tax that would create as many problems as it tries to solve.
- **Measure 98:** "Yes." The measure fills an educational need by earmarking general fund money for dropout prevention programs that include vocational and career technical education.
- **Measure 99:** "No." Outdoor school can be funded by a variety of public and private sources other than using state lottery money specified for economic development.
- **Measure 94:** "Yes." This measure would rightfully eliminate forced judicial retirements.
- **Measure 95:** "Yes." Universities need investment options that this measure would allow.
- **Measure 96:** "Yes." Oregon's veterans aren't a special interest group and they deserve the support this measure provides.
- **Measure 100:** "Yes." This measure would prohibit the sale in Oregon of products and parts of 12 endangered animals.

Locally

- **State Representative District 32:** Deborah Boone's legislative accomplishments should earn her a seventh term in the state House. She is being challenged by Republican Bruce Bobek.
 - **Astoria City Council:** Bruce Jones, a retired U.S. Coast Guard commander, stands out for his career achievements and strategic planning experience. His opponent is Cory Pederson, a symphony conductor and music teacher.
 - **Gearhart Mayor:** Voters should elect Matt Brown, who has a better chance of helping resolve the community's recent divisiveness than his opponent, Bob Shortman.
 - **Seaside School Bond:** "Yes." The bond issue would allow the district to move three schools out of the tsunami danger zone.
 - **Pot Taxes:** Voters in Astoria, Seaside and Cannon Beach should say "Yes" to taxing recreational sales. Voters in Cannon Beach will also decide whether sales should be allowed within the city.
 - **Warrenton Charter Amendment:** "No." The initiative would require double-majority voter approval before the city can transfer or dispose of assets valued at \$100,000 or more and would tie the hands of those who are elected to do that job.
- Three other contested races are on the ballot that The Daily Astorian chose not to endorse in: a seat on the Warrenton City Commission with incumbent Pam Ackley being opposed by Ryan Lampi; Cannon Beach City Council with Herb Florer, Brandon Ogilvie and Nancy McCarthy vying for two spots as a councilor at large; and in Seaside with Don Johnson and Tom Horning vying for a City Council seat.



Dear Republican voters ...

By DAVID LEONHARDT
New York Times News Service

You are a Republican. You believe President Barack Obama has been a disappointment if not a failure. You think Hillary Clinton is wrong on most issues, and you worry about her judgment.

You are agonizing about what to do this year, and I understand why. Donald Trump is clearly distasteful. Yet he at least seems likely to appoint conservative judges and sign Republican bills. So what are you supposed to do?



Allow me to tell you about my grandparents. They grew up as middle-class children of the Depression in Philadelphia. My grandmother was a star athlete who went on to raise a tightly knit family filled with laughter. My outgoing grandfather first sold pens door to door and later sold ads for The Saturday Evening Post and Business Week. My grandparents believed in American business, and they were small-c conservative. They voted Republican, year after year. Until 1964.

Goldwater

That year, Barry Goldwater won the nomination from the far right. Most alarming to many people, he mused about using nuclear weapons in the Cold War. Befitting their generation's reserve, my grandparents didn't talk much politics. They simply said they had considered Goldwater beyond the pale. But years ago, I stumbled on a four-minute television ad that Lyndon Johnson's campaign had run against Goldwater, and I felt as if I were listening to my grandparents. Called "Confessions of a Republican," the ad shows a man wearing

a suit and glasses (who eventually lights a cigarette) in a chair. He is a Republican, he says, like his father and grandfather. "But when we come to Sen. Goldwater, now it seems to me we're up against a very different kind of a man," says the actor, himself an anti-Goldwater Republican. "This man scares me."

Trump is scarier

For Republicans today, Trump is scarier than Goldwater. He is scarier because he resembles a double agent dreamed up by liberal screenwriters. He embodies almost every left-wing caricature of Republicans that Republicans despise.

He is a racist and a sexist — having refused to rent apartments to African-Americans, retweeted neo-Nazis, besmirched Muslims and Latinos and boastfully molested women. For years, Republicans have been frustrated by liberal sensitivity on race and gender. Comes now Trump, spewing bigotry.

He is also an unrepentant denier of reality. Do you remember that Al Franken wrote a jeremiad against conservatives called "Lies: And the Lying Liars Who Tell Them"? I imagine the book's title offends you. Yet it now feels like a preview of a candidate who almost every day makes immediately disprovable claims.

Trump likewise plays into the liberal narrative that the radical right verges on being anti-American. He has suggested our democracy is illegitimate and advocated jail for his opponent.

Finally, Trump displays a proud mean-spiritedness about others' struggles — a mean-spiritedness that Democrats have long tried to link to Republican economic policy. He mocks parents who have lost a child, people with disabilities and prisoners of war. He relishes firing people.

Trump is so distinct that he has made this election unavoidably about him. If you vote for him, you can't pass it off as voting for Supreme

Court nominees. You will be voting for Donald Trump. You will be embracing those parodies of conservatism. You do not need to do that.

No great options

It's true that you have no great options, which is why polls still show many undecided voters. Gary Johnson, initially intriguing, has proved unqualified. You could stay home or write in a vote, but those protests often feel weak.

The best path is the hardest one. Only an unambiguous rejection of Trump will banish Trumpism for 2020 and beyond. Only a lopsided loss, with millions of Republicans so repelled by him that they vote for someone they never imagined they would, sends the message that bigotry, lying and authoritarianism violate Republican values — your values.

I don't take lightly how hard it is for you to consider a vote for Hillary Clinton. I'm sure that George H.W. Bush, who's signaled he is voting for her, will do so out of duty, not joy. The same applies to many Republican military figures and conservative newspapers. Any other choice, as the former Reagan aide Ken Adelman says, is at least "a half vote for Trump."

At the end of the 1964 ad, the man says: "I've thought about just not voting in this election, just staying home. But you can't do that, because that's saying you don't care who wins, and I do care."

That same year, my grandparents endured rare arguments with some close friends. Their friends viewed it as a betrayal to vote for a Democrat. My grandparents viewed it as a betrayal to take lightly a man unfit for the Oval Office. And they never again voted for a Democrat for president. They were Republicans.

This year, the most important statement that any Republican can make is clear: I am not Trump.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bobek for House

I am writing on behalf of, and in the certain knowledge that Dr. Bruce Bobek is the best candidate for House District 32. He is caring, compassionate and capable of working with and for the people of Clatsop County.

A vote for Dr. Bobek insures that he will work to improve the health-care, education and job opportunities in Clatsop County, and he desires to change the abysmal lack of affordable housing.

Vote for someone new — vote for Dr. Bruce Bobek.

KAREN CUSTER
 Seaside

Sprit booster

I guess most of us from time to time let our spirits get us down. I know I do. The other day I came across a silly story with a message that seemed to give me a boost.

A group of construction workers always ate their lunch together. One of the workers would open his lunch pail and say, "Oh no, not another tuna fish sandwich." Every day the same thing, "Oh no, not another tuna fish sandwich."

Finally the construction supervisor said to him, "Why don't you do us all a favor. When you get up tomorrow morning, ask your wife to make a different kind of sandwich." To which he replied, "What do you mean? I make my own sandwiches." The point of the story is, to a large

extent we pack our own lunch pails. Feeling down, bored, feeling sorry for yourself? Recognize that we pack our own lunch pails. Why not make it positive? It's our attitude that makes the difference.

JIM BERNARD
 Warrenton

Support schools

When the Seaside School District put forth a bond measure in 2013 to raise \$129 million for relocation of our schools I opposed it, primarily because it seemed excessive, put a significant burden on property owners (\$2.16 per thousand of assessed value or \$650 per year on an assessed home value of \$300,000), and because many of the attributes in the design seemed to be more about a desire as opposed to a need.

This time around the school district has focused on what is essential and necessary. They have reduced their request by almost 40 percent with the cost to tax payers at \$1.35 per thousand of assessed value, or just over \$400 per year on an assessed home value of \$300,000.

The district is first on a waiting list to receive \$4 million in matching funds from the state, and Weyerhaeuser Co. has graciously donated 80 acres to site the schools well above the tsunami inundation zone.

Our schools are the lifeblood of our communities. They assist our students in realizing their potential in

academics, and help ready them for their future. The investment in our students is also an investment in our future. It will benefit us all.

The time to act is now. Interest rates are at historic lows, and the cost to construct and develop a school will only continue to increase. Please vote yes for our local schools. It's important to our community, our families and our livability.

PATRICK NOFIELD
 Cannon Beach

Out of touch

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden has been in Congress for 35 years, and has grown out of touch with Oregonians. His Oregonian challenger, Mark Callahan, is up to date about what concerns us.

Wyden is a globalist, not a nationalist. From trying to force us into a western version of the European Union through the Trans Pacific Trade Partnership, to habitually voting against both border security and internal immigration enforcement, he typifies the elite.

Although Oregonians overwhelmingly rejected driver cards for illegal aliens, Wyden has not budgeted in his desire for open borders. His agenda is as far removed from ours as is his longtime New York home. Callahan lives here, and intends to return Oregon and our employment to the rule of law.

LYNEIL VANDERMOLLEN
 Tualatin