

## German lesson

In the early 1930s a man came to power in Germany at a time when they were suffering through the great depression. They said he was a strong leader and a man who could return Germany to its former greatness. He blamed minorities, immigrants and those who were not of German identity for all of the country's problems. Eighty years later the people there are still suffering from the tragedies and effects that have come from putting this man in power.

In 2016 there is a possibility of electing a man to the presidency of the U.S. This man is also being promoted (or self promoted) as a strong leader. He is a man who claims we are not doing well as a country, and blames it on immigrants and minorities. His ego is enormous, and he is someone who brags about his sexual harassment of women. He belittles people who are physically handicapped, and he has zero concept of what truth is. He is a bully. His name is Donald Trump and he has no qualifications to be our president.

I understand now how Adolf Hitler was able to ascend to power in Germany. I urge everyone to vote in this coming election, and to remember what happened over 80 years ago and the suffering it brought upon the world. The whole world is watching us, and hoping that we come to our senses on Nov. 8.

I will be voting for Hillary Clinton, and know that she is up to the task of running this great country of ours.

NED HEAVENRICH  
Brownsmead

## What I'm getting

I would rather vote for a boor than a sneak; I know what I'm getting.

TOM GILL  
Astoria

## Safe schools

One of my favorite parts about serving as your Congresswoman is visiting our local public schools. Hearing from students is always uplifting, and it gives me hope for the future. But when the students at Seaside High School recently shared their concerns and fears about going to school in a tsunami zone, I was dismayed. Students should never have to be afraid that the buildings around them — or worse yet, their lives — are in danger while they are at school.

I spent many years as a parent volunteer in the local public schools when my children were young, and I've spent the last two decades working to strengthen public education so all kids have the opportunity to succeed. Safe schools are a critical part of our public infrastructure, and an essential part of a strong system of public education.

In times of tightening budgets and limited resources, our children are always a worthy investment. Moving the Seaside and Gearhart schools and replacing aging buildings is the right thing to do for our students, our community, and our future. That's why I support Measure 4-185, and I hope you will join me.

U.S. REP. SUZANNE  
BONAMICI  
Beaverton

## Join another party

The two main political parties bring you the 2016 Presidential Election, which is the biggest insult to the intelligence of Americans yet. Did you know that the U.S. was ranked dead last in electoral integrity among established Western democracies, according to the Electoral Integrity Project? Uh huh. Is this why only 9 percent of eligible voters vote?

The two parties, Democrat and Republican, are both terribly corrupt, which is why we are where we are. But I have a solution, and it doesn't require very much effort on your part. First, leave those parties and join another. In Oregon there are several parties that you can join, like the Green Party, the Working Families Party, the Independent Party and others. You can change your party affiliation after the election.

Third parties? That would be a disaster — no third par-

# Thanks and no thanks, please

We at Pennywise Thrift Store would like to take this time, the holiday season, to thank the many loyal customers to our store for their many contributions of good, usable, quality items and cash donations to be used for the cause of ending the stigma of mental illness.

The many donations have included good, quality, gently used furniture and clothing, as well as the donation of vehicles and, recently, a 1998 Yamaha motorcycle (which we still have at the shop). Your item donations, as well as your cash donations, are greatly appreciated by the members of your community that we service.

In addition, we would like to take this

opportunity to thank the many customers who have bought from us, and who continue to utilize our facility, when they are aware that there are other outlets within the communities who provide the same service. Know that your purchases and continued support of our mission is gratefully acknowledged, even by "Grumpy," if you know who we mean.

The "no thanks, please" part of this letter is to all out there who are unwilling to take their discarded items — such as furniture which is broken, has tears, rips, stains and other unhealable blemishes or damage — to the dump, or to discard it in some other manner than dumping it in front of our shop when we are closed.

Just in the past month, this has resulted in us incurring a \$240 fee to dispose of items so left, this in addition to the \$172 that we already pay in monthly dump fees. We would appreciate it if you could spend the small amount it would cost to properly dispose of your own items.

To all, we would like to extend best wishes for a safe Halloween, a thankful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas (with remembrance of the reason for the season) and a most Happy (and fruitful) New Year.

PETER and PATRICIA FESSLER  
Owners, PennyWise  
Thrift Store  
Warrenton

ties, no-no-no. Do you know why you hear that? Because the two parties want you to believe it. Because it would be a disaster for them, not for you or America. I have been hearing about the Supreme Court nominee for years. Jill Stein would pick a better one than a racist idiot or a psychotic liar.

Everything is rigged in favor of the two main political parties. Mainstream media makes you think that it has to be just those two. Forget it. Take their corrupt power away from them, for your own sake and the sake of the future of this country. Its too late to try to change the Democratic Party from within, this party is running corporate people against their own progressives. In a leaked email Nancy Pelosi assures a Goldman Sachs lobbyist that "Elizabeth Warren does not speak on behalf of the Democratic Party." (<http://bit.ly/2dUH5CF>)

If everyone who voted for Bernie voted for Jill Stein, we might have a chance to have a president who was capable of leading this country out of constant warring into a better future. Clinton and Trump will not do that.

It's either global corporate interests, or your interests. The interests of the once-greatest democracy in the Western world, lie with you. Now is the time for you to think about joining a party that represents you, and vote.

DIXIE GAINER  
Nehalem

## Be proactive

I am writing today to urge all voters within the Seaside School District's boundary to vote yes on Measure 4-185, which will allow the district to construct two schools and expand a third school to withstand earthquakes and increase the safety of the students and staff who attend and work within Gearhart Elementary School, Broadway Middle School and Seaside High School.

Those three schools are currently located inside the tsunami inundation zone, and are rated with a high probability of catastrophic collapse in an earthquake. These schools have well served their communities but average 65 years of age, and buildings need to be replaced that have crumbling unreinforced masonry, inadequate fire and security systems, rusted pipes, leaky roofs and old electrical wiring.

My husband and I are retired educators who moved to Seaside one and a half years ago. We were drawn to this community because Seaside was a family-friendly tourist destination, provided good safety and health services and provided a wide variety of business and community services. After we moved here, we met many residents who had attended Seaside schools and decided to stay here to raise families in a secure and positive environment.

I have worked in school districts in Los Angeles and Napa counties in California, and saw firsthand the major damage done to school buildings after moderate earthquakes (5.1 to 6.5 in magnitude). The costs to repair or rebuild damaged school buildings and replace educational materials was staggering. Disruption of instruction after such an event was also a serious problem.

We do not have control over potential earthquakes or tsunamis. We do have the opportunity to be proactive

and relocate our schools to a safer location. If we vote yes, we can save taxpayers money by reducing maintenance costs and using land donated for the new schools. We can help modernize our schools and better prepare our students to become productive citizens in our community.

Our students are our greatest resource, and providing safe and adequate facilities is essential to their learning and development. Please join us in voting yes for our schools. This is an opportunity that cannot be missed.

TRICIA and ROBERT  
HOWELL  
Seaside

## Thanks for show

On behalf of our community, I would like to send a big thank you and thumbs up to all involved with producing the Astoria football games that are streamed live, and then offered as archived games to watch on YouTube.

First, thank you Dane Gouge of Astoria Ford. Your call of the varsity games along with Matt Samuelson truly sounds of duos that will be remembered long into our community's future. Like when Astoria scored the game-winning touchdown against Scappoose on

Saturday, with 19 seconds to go for the Cowapa League Championship.

Gouge and Samuelson gave us an awesome sound bite to stand the test of time (watch the archived game and fast forward to 2:33:45). I attended that game in person, but enjoyed the moment again watching the archived game on YouTube. Also, a thank you to the students and school district staff who assist with making the live streams happen.

And of most importance, a thank you to the head of Rub-Nation, coach Rub: a class act who truly leads our young adults instilling respect, passion, and a sense of duty. It makes my day to see this culture in a small town like Astoria.

And finally, I would like to congratulate the entire Fighting Fishermen football team on their big win against Scappoose and the Cowapa League title. Their never-give-up constitution prevailed in an absolute thriller. It is a game that will be remembered for a long time by football fans in Astoria and Scappoose. Go Fish!

To watch the archived games or the upcoming live streams, visit <http://bit.ly/2eSdhGG>.

CHRIS LEADER  
Astoria

## Maximize funds

I am writing today to voice my support for the upcoming Seaside School District bond.

Learning is a complex activity. The environment for our students needs to be secure, comfortable and safe. When looking at the current facilities, it is clear that the cost of maintenance for buildings (which have exceeded their useful life) is something that cannot be sustained.

The schools were built to last 50 years and were not designed for our harsh conditions along the coast. The average age of the schools is now 65 years — and they are deteriorating. A walk down the halls on a rainy day will show leaky roofs. Upon closer look below the hallways, there are rusted pipes, old electrical wiring and failing heating systems. In one school, there are 17 portable classrooms because the septic field is at capacity.

Why should we rebuild the schools and not repair? Current maintenance costs are \$300,000 to \$500,000 a year beyond normal maintenance costs. These tax dollars could be used to go into the classrooms if we decreased maintenance costs. To fully correct and renovate the roofing, pip-

ing, plumbing and electrical systems would cost over \$30 million. This doesn't include seismic retrofitting and correcting structural deficiencies.

Our community has been able to develop corporate support. Weyerhaeuser will donate the land to locate the new facilities next to the Seaside Heights Elementary school and outside of the tsunami zone.

Although I am not a parent of a child in the schools any longer, I believe that everyone in our community bears a responsibility to support the current generation of students. Business and individuals do look for good schools, and a well-educated workforce when they make decisions about where to locate. Investing in our schools is an investment in our community and employment opportunities.

We have a great opportunity to maximize available funds, take advantage of very favorable interest rates, reduce project costs and incorporate donated land. We should move forward to receive the best bang for our education dollars.

CARYL SCHARPF  
Gearhart

## Yes for Boone

State Rep. Debbie Boone has represented House District 32 for 16 years. During her time as a state representative, Debbie has always been accessible and responsive to her constituents. With Debbie (similar to Betsy Johnson), we never feel like it's about the party line; it's about dialogue, listening, gathering information and advocating for our needs as a community.

Debbie is engaged with the community and represents us well regarding areas that affect us; business, education and health and welfare. We fully support Debbie Boone, and we ask that you consider supporting her re-election, as well.

PATRICK NOFIELD  
Cannon Beach

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