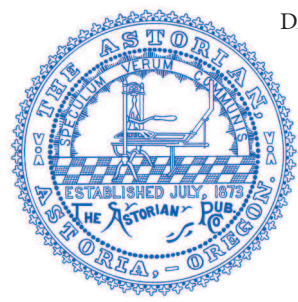


# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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## OUR VIEW

Each week we recognize those people and organizations in the community deserving of public praise for the good things they do to make the North Coast a better place to live, and also those who should be called out for their actions.



## SHOUTOUTS

This week's Shoutouts go to:

• **Gearhart Mayor-elect and PGA golf pro Matt Brown**, who received the 2016 PGA National Merchandiser of the Year award for public golf courses. Brown, the golf pro and manager at Highlands Golf Course, received the award in New York City the day after Gearhart voters elected him to be the city's new mayor.

• **The Seaside Downtown Wine Walk**, which brought visitors to the Gilbert District who sampled a wide assortment of regional and international wines while connecting with friends and family in Seaside last weekend. Sarah Dailey, executive director of the Seaside Downtown Development Association, which organized the Wine Walk, said response to the event was "awesome" with 841 tasters.

• **Windermere employees** throughout the North Coast who are conducting their annual Share the Wealth coat and blanket drive. The drive seeks donations of new or laundered, gently used coats and blankets and can be dropped off at Windermere offices in Astoria, Gearhart and Cannon Beach along with Columbia Bank and U.S. Bank branches in Cannon Beach and Manzanita. The donated items will be distributed to those in need by The Wishing Tree and Food Basket Program, Head Start, Astoria Rescue Mission, Siuslaw Outreach Services, NESKO Women's Club and Seaside Family Literacy.

• **Marine Corps Sgt. Rebekah Eggleston** of Astoria, who was part of a team that ran 241 miles through California to commemorate the Marine Corps 214th anniversary on Nov. 10. The Marine team incorporated their run as part of the Regnar Relay, a 183-mile endurance event through the Napa Valley, and Eggleston and her teammates added an additional 58 miles to the end of the run to commemorate the number of years of service the Marines have given to the United States. Eggleston, a Marine administrator, and her teammates ran the final five miles together as a unit, crossing the finish line with an American flag in hand.

• **The Cannon Beach Academy**, which held a potluck dinner this past Monday to celebrate the Seaside School District's unconditional approval of its application as well as the passage of the district's \$99.7 million bond to move the schools. Supporters of the academy hope to open an elementary school in Cannon Beach in fall 2017.

• **The Astoria High School football team**, which concluded its best season since 2008. The Fishermen lost a 25-21 heartbreaker to Cottage Grove this past weekend in the state playoff quarterfinals and finished the season 8-2 overall. Coach Howard Rub called it "a tremendous season" and one that the team "will remember forever." Across the river in Washington, Ilwaco ended its Class 2B state playoff run with a 35-14 loss to Toledo, while Naselle won its first-round playoff game in Class 1B with a 34-28 victory over Rainier Christian. Naselle will play Lummi Nation this weekend.



## CALLOUTS

This week's Callouts go to:

• **The Oregon Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Program**, which an audit shows has a backlog of inspections that are long overdue. The agency is responsible for carrying out inspections of dairies, grocery stores, food processors and other establishments to ensure food safety. Auditors from the secretary of state's office found that out of approximately 12,000 food safety licenses in Oregon, 2,841 licenses were overdue for inspections by more than three months. The 28-page report resulting from the audit stressed that adhering to food safety regulations is crucial to minimize the risk of food contamination and that it's up to the agency's food safety inspectors to make sure those regulations are followed. The agency said it would adopt and follow the audit's recommendations.

### Suggestions?

Do you have a Shoutout or Callout you think we should know about? Let us know at [news@dailyastorian.com](mailto:news@dailyastorian.com) and we'll make sure to take a look.

## LETTERS WELCOME

Letters should be exclusive to The Daily Astorian.

Letters should be fewer than 350 words and must include the writer's name, address and phone numbers. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar and, on occasion, factual accuracy. Only two letters per writer are printed each month.

Letters written in response to other letter writers should address the issue at hand and, rather than

mentioning the writer by name, should refer to the headline and date the letter was published. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner.

Submissions may be sent in any of these ways:

E-mail to [editor@dailyastorian.com](mailto:editor@dailyastorian.com); online at [www.dailyastorian.com](http://www.dailyastorian.com); delivered to the Astorian offices at 949 Exchange St. and 1555 N. Roosevelt in Seaside or by mail to Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103.



# President Obama fights obliteration by Trump

By MAUREEN DOWD  
*New York Times News Service*

WASHINGTON — You know how desperate President Barack Obama is — as he contemplates all his accomplishments going down the drain at the hands of a man he has total contempt for — when he is willing to do something so

against his nature.

He tried to persuade Donald Trump.

We saw that unicorn glimpsed only fleetingly in the last eight years: the cajoling Barack Obama.

The president flattered the president-elect by letting Trump rack up the ego arithmetic.

"This was a meeting that was going to last for maybe 10 or 15 minutes and we were just going to get to know each other," Trump told reporters afterward, as they sat in front of the Oval Office fireplace. But, he marveled, "The meeting lasted for almost an hour and a half."

### It worked, sort of

And lo and behold, it worked — sort of. In his first postelection newspaper interview, Trump told The Wall Street Journal that he would consider leaving in place the parts of Obamacare that allow children to stay on their parents' health plan until they are 26 and that prevent people from being refused insurance because of existing conditions.

"I told him I will look at his suggestions, and out of respect, I will do that," Trump said.

Of course, those are two very popular elements of the law that Republicans wouldn't dream of killing anyway. Still, Obama's charm and civility clearly made a strong impression, though it's impossible to say when a nasty tweet will come in the middle of the night.

"I want a country that loves each other," Trump told the paper. "I want to stress that."

Harry Reid wasn't in a kumbaya frame of mind, calling Trump "a sexual predator who lost the popular vote."

### The Obama revolution

Out of a hailstorm of unfathomable things during the week, one sticks out to me: How can it be that in the end, Barack Obama did not understand the Obama revolution?

He came away from that elated whoosh in 2008 not comprehending that many voters viewed him as the escape hatch from Clinton Inc. It never would have occurred to anyone then — even the Clintons — that Obama would be the one to brush away any aversions and objections, take us by the elbow, and firmly steer us back to Clinton Inc.

Voters waited in line for hours at those early Obama rallies because they wanted thunderous change. They wanted a newcomer who didn't look like the old dudes on our money, someone who would bust up the incestuous system and give us, as the poster said, hope.

But Obama lost touch with his revolutionary side and settled comfortably into being an Ivy League East Coast cerebral elitist who hung out with celebrities, lectured Congress and scorned the art of political persuasion.

He was cozy with Silicon Valley and dismissive of working-class voters anxious about globalization, shrugging that "We're part of



Stephen Crowley/The New York Times  
**Donald Trump, the president-elect, and President Barack Obama meet in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington last week. How can it be that in the end, Barack Obama did not understand the Obama revolution, asks Maureen Dowd.**

an interconnected global economy now, and there's no going back from that." He was dismissive of Americans anxious about terrorism after the Paris attacks, noting that you'd be more likely to die from a bathtub fall.

He was dismissive of Bernie Sanders and his voters, treating Sanders as a fairy tale, just as Bill Clinton treated him in 2008 when he was a senator with little record but with an army of passionate supporters who wanted to upend moldy politics.

## Hillary should have spent less time collecting money on Wall Street and more time collecting votes in Wisconsin.

Nudging Sanders and Joe Biden toward the exit, Obama was the ultimate establishmentarian. As he told the Rutgers student paper in May, "We have to make incremental changes where we can, and every once in a while you'll get a breakthrough and make the kind of big changes that are necessary."

The man who swept into the White House in a boisterous rebellion was dismissive of the boisterous rebellions in both the Democratic and Republican parties. He insisted that the incrementalist and fellow Ivy League East Coast cerebral elitist who hangs out with celebrities would be best to save his legacy.

Even Michelle, who understands the importance of the visceral in politics better than her husband and who said in 2007 that the bid to usurp Hillary was about "our souls," tamped down hope. "Remember, it's not about voting for the perfect candidate," she told a crowd at La

Salle University. "There is no such person."

### Insurgent mood

The leaked John Podesta emails showed how deluded the campaign was about the insurgent mood of the voters.

In January 2015, Hillary's communications director, Jennifer Palmieri, advised Podesta: "Make a virtue of her longevity. Embrace all the Clinton-ness — the forty years in politics, the decades on the national stage."

As late as February, Hillary's chief strategist, Joel Benenson, was fretting that the candidate had no vision or message compared to Sanders: "Do we have any sense from her what she believes or wants her core message to be?"

As she cuddled up to Wall Street, Hillary forgot about the forgotten man — and woman. Bill complained in meetings that campaign manager Robby Mook was ignoring white working-class voters, according to Politico, but his concern was waved off as the plea of "a talented but aging politician who simply refused to accept the new Democratic map."

They should have listened. Bill ousted the first President Bush by focusing on "you" rather than "I," what the voters wanted. Hillary's campaign message boiled down to "It's my turn, dammit."

Obama, trying to hoist Hillary over the finish line, offered a solipsistic message, saying it would be "a personal insult" if African-Americans did not vote for Hillary, and an accusatory message, suggesting that sexism was stopping men from voting for Hillary.

In September, Hillary stumbled when she dismissed half of Trump supporters as a "basket of deplorables." Tellingly, the snooty remarks were made at a high-dollar fundraiser hosted by Barbra Streisand and other sparklies at Cipriani Wall Street.

Hillary should have spent less time collecting money on Wall Street and more time collecting votes in Wisconsin.