

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wake up

When specifically asked, our failed president has refused to commit to a peaceful transfer of power should he lose the upcoming election. Instead, he has repeatedly cast doubt on the integrity of our electoral process, primarily mail-in voting, without providing any evidence to back up his claims.

America’s intelligence agencies have reported that foreign countries, particularly Russia, waged a war of disinformation to influence the 2016 election in Donald Trump’s favor and continue to do so today. But Republicans, Trump and his followers don’t care. They believe it is helping them increase their power.

We have 200,000 and counting deaths due to his rejection of science and inept pandemic response. Our standing in the international community has plummeted to historic lows as Trump abandons our allies and embraces our enemies.

White supremacists march openly in our streets waving Confederate and Nazi flags while demonstrations protesting police violence are assaulted with tear gas and rubber bullets. He has added \$7 trillion to the national debt. Children are locked in cages for years on end. Women are being forcibly sterilized.

Meanwhile, his followers parade around in their taticool outfits, waving Trump flags and brandishing AR-15s. They are not protesters or counterprotesters or Second Amendment supporters. They are only cosplay patriots attempting to frighten and intimidate the rest of us into obedience, just like some sort of Taliban or ISIS parade in the Middle East. What does that make them? You do the math.

Wake up, America. Fascism is on your doorstep.

BILL GRAFFIUS
Gearhart

Derailing democracy

Are we becoming more like Russia? They pretend to have a democratic-like government with elections, but everyone knows it’s a sham. The government is really run by oligarchs and their chief, Vladimir Putin.

The citizens are expected to go about their business without causing trouble. They live under the specter of unethical and criminal fiefdoms, whose draconian practices are feared. Russia ruthlessly pursues wealth and power.

We’re catching up, and so it’s no surprise that our experts and public figures who help us navigate the responsibilities of self-rule are being systematically sidelined. Our information systems have been so corrupted the average citizen seems ill-equipped cognitively and emotionally to cope; as a consequence, millions of frustrated and angst-filled voters are tempted to follow right-wing rhetoric.

Russians and right-wing extremists use the internet to stoke anxiety and anger through false and inflammatory claims that are simply more appealing than the intellectual and thoughtful rigors needed in a vibrant democracy. If you believe you and your party should have most everything your way, then you are not American, but an authoritarian in American clothing.

The current polarization can be stopped by the reduction of false and misleading information being pumped daily into our homes. You know it’s fake news when it makes fantastic allegations, i.e. Hillary Clinton was trafficking children through a pizza parlor. Seriously?

If you believed this, you’re being what the Russian spymasters call a “useful idiot.” In the words of Jeff Foxworthy it’s, “here’s your sign.”

BRENTON KAHLE
Astoria

Seriously

Before you vote, seriously, find out what’s going on, and do what’s right for this country. This may be the most important election in our modern history.

Take a second look at other countries that have lost their freedom with socialism and communism. Is that what you want? Then look out for the globalist that will usher in satanic rule.

And, even if you do not believe there is a creator, the Ten Commandments, that we took out of our schools, would be a working guide for us. How about bearing false witness, stealing, respecting parents, adultery, abortion, etc.?

Please look at the issues and their results for us. What kind of country do you want? Find out why we have the right to bear arms. And keep them.

CHARLES BERGERSON
Warrenton

Scary

‘Fires, COVID fires.” What did I hear him say?

It is not a fire. It’s a nothing fire, hoax fire, witchcraft fire, conspiracy fire. If I don’t do anything, close my eyes, no fire. It is only 15, next week it will be three and poof, it will be gone. Miraculous.

I’m easy to work with. Just do as I say. I know everything. Don’t consult the fire marshals. Don’t test for fire. It will just find fires. No test, no fires.

Fire marshals say there are fires out of control; I will just replace them and then, no fires. New fire marshals say what I want them to say. Am I great, or what?

Fire is trying to discredit me. It’s not my fault we have fire.

The federal stockpile of

personal protective equipment isn’t for you, or your states. It’s for me. I am not a distributor of protective equipment.

Which states, cities, fire departments can I defund? I have withheld funding to the 9/11 firefighters’ health fund for 3 1/2 years. I have changed the leadership in the federal agencies which deal with fires.

This is scary. Is this how you want fires, COVID fires, managed? Hire this fire-in-chief to another term? Massive unemployment, economy in the tank, COVID deaths at 200,000, to be 400,000 by December, wildfires, civil unrest, stochastic terrorism and hate stoked by the “in-chief” must stop.

You are responsible. Vote.

MONICA TAYLOR
Astoria

A ways to go

Our country is great in so many ways, but I was saddened to understand that Ruth Bader Ginsburg was the first woman to lie in state in the U.S. Capitol, and the first Jew. We have a ways to go.

MARY TANGUAY WEBB
Astoria

One of us

I would like to encourage my fellow North Coast citizens to vote for Suzanne Weber.

Suzanne is someone we can relate to, because she is one of us. She taught school for 30 years. As a teacher myself, I can relate to her statement on her website, “I’ve spent my career helping kids and families right here on the North Coast.”

As a co-owner of a small business, I can also agree when she states, “I’m tired of our community having no voice for our values in

the Oregon House. Portland is welcome to visit our coastal communities, but the Portland agenda is not our agenda.”

Last, but not least, Suzanne has been a nonpartisan mayor. She has a solid track record in Tillamook of performance, and as our representative from here, she can bring our concerns to Salem ... because she is one of us.

LYNN SHORTMAN
Gearhart

Message to vandals

To whoever vandalized my anti-Trump signs, and desecrated the American flag, on my farm out on U.S. Highway 26 east of Seaside on Sept. 17: If you don’t believe in freedom of expression and the American way, then go back where you came from.

LESTER H. NEITZEL
Seaside

Pure power

In case you ever wondered whether ethics, or anything but power politics plays any role in nominating justices to the U.S. Supreme Court, Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Senate majority leader, lays that case to rest.

When President Barack Obama nominated the moderate, highly reputed Judge Merrick Garland to the court, McConnell, also majority leader at that time, simply sat on the nomination, refusing to act, with his fellow Republicans following suit. Hence the nomination was carried over into the Trump administration, so the new Republican president could nominate a justice representing the Republican right instead of Obama’s centrist candidate.

Now McConnell continues the Republican politics of pure power, devoid of ethics, by rushing through

another right-wing justice a little over a month before the presidential election. One of his faux arguments against the Garland nomination had been that it was in the last year of Obama’s term.

McConnell is nothing if not a colossal hypocrite and wholly unprincipled power politician.

STEPHEN BERK
Astoria

Impressed

I just visited Seaside City Council candidate David Posalski’s website, davidforseaside.com, and I’m impressed.

David runs four successful restaurants in Seaside, creating 50 jobs for our community. As a planning commissioner, he pragmatically advanced community development and investment with smart use of regulation.

As a chamber of commerce board member, he ensured Seaside’s economic development remained strong, and as transporta-

tion commissioner, he recognized city priorities and worked successfully with the public and intergovernmental agencies. He is a doer, not a talker.

His goals for Seaside are presented clearly, comprehensively and without ambiguity. Unlike other candidates, there is no politically correct mumbo jumbo that doesn’t really say anything. He’s clear with what he thinks needs to be accomplished, and how he thinks it should be accomplished.

He is a husband of 23 years and proud father of a Seaside High School graduate. He knows commitment and sacrifice.

Leadership is directing a strategy to meet needs. It demands tangible results. Seaside’s successful tourism community is due to successful tourism leaders like Posalski.

David truly is for Seaside. He is a strong and proven community leader with a track record of success.

STEPHEN MALKOWSKI
Seaside



Consult a PROFESSIONAL



LEO FINZI
Astoria's Best



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How to check and repair Windows

Click  then type "CMD"

In the lower right click  Run as administrator

Click "Yes" to allow.

In the black window type "sfc /scannow" (Note the space between the sfc and the /)

At the end of the test, the app will report that either 1. No errors were found 2. Errors were found and repaired, or 3. Errors were found but some were not repaired.

It is a good idea to run this app once a month to help fix any Windows errors.



JEFFREY M. LEINASSAR
DMD, FAGD



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1414 MARINE DRIVE,
ASTORIA
www.smileastoria.com

Q: I can't afford regular dental care. Are there some resources available to me?

A: We have third-party financial groups that we work with, including Care Credit, Springstone, or your personal bank may offer low-interest loans. Dentistry itself is not necessarily expensive, but neglect and abuse are. Call to consult with us on your options.



ASTORIA CHIROPRACTIC

Alicia M. Smith, DC
Owner

503-325-3311
2935 Marine Drive
Astoria, Oregon

Q:I've had multiple spinal surgeries. Will Chiropractic work for me?

A: Unless you have a full spinal fusion we should have success getting movement in some areas. We always can do a free consult to see if you are a chiropractic candidate.



Heather Jensen
Advertising Representative

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Q: What is the Consult a Professional section and how can it help my business?

A: The Consult a Professional section in The Astorian is a great and affordable way to advertise your business and inform readers about the types of services you provide. All you need to do is come up with a question that a customer might ask about your line of expertise and then give a detailed answer to help educate them before they even walk through your door. We are offering great rates and package deals that help save you money!



CANDIDATE FORUM

A forum for candidates in the November election will be held on Oct. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. in Astoria

The forum will be conducted via Facebook Live and will also be broadcast by Coast Community Radio on Oct. 7 from 6 to 8 p.m.

STATE HOUSE DIST. 32

- **Debbie Boothe-Schmidt (D)**
- **Suzanne Weber (R)**

ASTORIA WARD 2

- **Tom Brownson**
- **Floyd Holcom**

ASTORIA WARD 4

- **Joshua Conklin**
- **Tom Hilton**
- **Heather Kelez**
- **Lisa Morley**

The forum is a collaboration between the American Association of University Women Astoria Branch, Clatsop Community College, The Astorian and Coast Community Radio.

People can submit questions for the candidates via **aauwforum@gmail.com**

