

Fairy tale

If you really want to offend a Scandinavian, tell them they are a socialist. None of the Scandinavian countries are socialist.

They are more business-friendly, part of the European Union and have low corporate tax. They have lower regulations, and they do everything to encourage and help businesses. However, personal taxation is high. They have a 25% sales tax and on top of that, they pay high income tax.

They have general social programs, but they are not socialist.

Here, in Astoria, most of us have Scandinavian roots. We are law-abiding, hardworking and happy people. I still have relatives in Europe; my daughter lives there, enjoys the European lifestyle, and is very happy.

My son-in-law is a political refugee from a former Eastern European socialist country. I heard many stories, and I don't wish socialism on any human being. It starts with a fairy tale, utopian idea, and ends up as a brutal dictatorship.

Who are the happiest people in the world? The list provided by the World Economic Forum, that a previous letter-writer cites, has to be seen through the eyes of the people representing it.

The forum consists mostly of left-leaning politicians. The forum engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas. Guess who is on the forum's board of trustees? Al Gore. According to him, the world is coming to an end in the next few years.

We need to be learning from history. Yes, be careful what you wish for.

RUTH KORTLEVER
Astoria

Team mask

I'm voting for the team whose members wear their masks, as recommended, whenever people get together.

DAVE CUNDIFF, M.D.
Ilwaco, Washington

Great capacity

I am writing to express my support for Kathy Kleczek to be elected to the Seaside City Council. Kathy is a smart, kind, energetic and down-to-earth person who listens, and is willing to find creative solutions to real problems.

I believe Kathy can bring a diverse view to the council due to her experience in public service, as well as having been a business owner and hospitality industry worker in our county for many years.

Kathy served on the Sunset Empire Transportation District board for seven years, until 2019. As a current SETD board commissioner myself, I've seen her contributions, which helped bring positive changes to our transportation district.

I believe in Kathy's ability to be an advocate for small businesses and workers, helping make Seaside a great place to live, work and visit.

Kathy currently sits on the board of the Special Districts Association of Oregon, which means she understands how our city fits into the bigger picture of what's going on in the rest of the state. She has a great capacity to collaborate with people from different backgrounds, and different points of view.

Her life experience and public service show me she's a woman of service and integrity, who truly wants the best for Seaside.

DIANA M. NIÑO
Seaside

Strong leadership

I have been a resident of Clatsop County for 10 years. I am employed with the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare. In my job, I work with families and children who struggle daily just to stay alive.

This includes working with the homeless, individuals who struggle with drug addiction and mental illness. The current health crises have exposed the vulnerability of the marginalized members of our society and people of color.

What does this all mean? It means we need to elect Debbie Boothe-Schmidt as

our next House District 32 representative. Today's political challenges, social unrest and current health crises require strong leadership and dedication to address these issues. Debbie is that leader.

As a mother who raised two children as a single parent, she knows what it is like to choose between putting food on the table or paying for health care. As the owner of a small business, Debbie understands how local small businesses that drive our economy are struggling from the coronavirus.

Debbie has lived, worked and raised a family on the North Coast for almost three decades. She is aware of the importance to protect our environment, but also the mandate of maintaining jobs in the timber industry. She is open to any discussion about creating that fine balance between the environment and keeping jobs.

Debbie understands what we need on the coast: affordable housing and health care, support for small business and quality schools. A vote for Debbie means a better tomorrow.

GUILLERMO ROMERO
Warrenton

Very impressed

I have served on the Gearhart City Council for several years, and have learned a lot about my fellow councilors, not only by how they vote on issues, but by the questions they ask and the information they provide.

I have been very impressed by my fellow councilor, Dan Jesse, by his knowledge of our Gearhart community and the heritage it represents. His respect for the town and his professional demeanor is a credit to all of us.

REITA FACKERELL
Gearhart City Council

Decency and democracy

Most Oregonians want good people, wisdom and integrity in government. Local voters have an unprecedented opportunity to defend our democracy in November's election.

We can vote for candidates who back policies to benefit all Oregonians, not just wealthy campaign donors and corporations. We can support public safety, the rule of law and economic and social justice.

These are Indivisible North Coast Oregon's endorsements:

- Joe Biden and Kamala Harris for president and vice president. Vote for democracy, and to restore dignity and decency to American leadership. The only possible winners in this election are President Donald Trump or Biden. If you don't vote for Biden, you are helping Trump.
- Debbie Boothe-Schmidt for state representative. A Clatsop County resident, Debbie advocates for public education, increased internet access and other services in rural areas and climate legislation.
- Shemia Fagan for Oregon Secretary of State. Shemia will protect Oregon's vote by mail and voter registration systems.
- Reelect Sen. Jeff Merkley, Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum and Treasurer Tobias Read.
- Vote "no" on Measure 4-205. This measure would prohibit the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office from enforcing common sense gun laws that the majority of Americans support.
- Vote "yes" on ballot Measure 107 to allow laws about political campaign contributions and expenditures. Indivisible North Coast Oregon didn't study the other ballot measures.

Ballots are due by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3. Postmarks don't count. Ballot drop box locations and other information are at co.clatsop.or.us

Thank you for being a voter.

LAURIE CAPLAN
Chairwoman,
Indivisible North Coast Oregon

Reasonable and thoughtful

We are voting to reelect Reita Fackerell and Dan Jesse for Gearhart City Council. They have proven to be reasonable and thoughtful people who work well with others, and seek consensus in tackling problems.

We value their experience, hard work

and their vision for the future of Gearhart. Make the right choice for Gearhart — keep Reita and Dan on the City Council.

BEBE MICHEL
ERIC HALPERIN
Gearhart

Professional attention

It's 2020. The year that's unfolding as stranger than fiction. Emotional ups and downs, turmoil, anxiety and tensions in our homes, on our jobs (or loss of them), in our neighborhoods, our communities, Oregon and our nation, have become the norm.

Our right to cast our vote by Nov. 3 remains one of the few things we can take control of and act on. As a Gearhart resident for many years, I count on my town's all-volunteer City Council to represent me.

Watching the council in recent years, I observe professional attention to detail centering on what is best for our community. They examine, they discuss. They are open to resident and nonresident input, inquiries and issues. They don't bully, they don't yell at one another. Though they may not always agree, they know how to work together.

Dan Jesse and Reita Fackerell are a part of the council team that makes my Gearhart community a better place to live. My vote will go for incumbent council members Jesse and Fackerell. I urge you to do likewise.

Whatever your decision, please vote. It's your right, your voice and your privilege.

MARILYN GILBAUGH
Gearhart

Govern through consensus

I endorse Dan Jesse for Gearhart City Council. I have worked with Dan on the Gearhart Planning Commission, our Community Emergency Response Team and the City Council for over 10 years.

We don't always agree on every issue, but Dan is always thoughtful and helpful in his deliberations, and we have successfully been able to govern through consensus. He adds to our discussions through his perspective as an employer, builder and supporter of our brave volunteer firefighters.

I also endorse Reita Fackerell for Gearhart City Council. I worked with Reita many years ago at the local hospital, and have worked with Reita now for two years on the council. I always find her perspective to be helpful in our deliberations and decision-making.

My experience is that she is level-headed, forthright and honest. She has helped us to maintain an ability to work through complex issues, and still is able to successfully govern through consensus. Her experience as the Seaside Public Library director, with finance and budgeting experience, has helped us to bring greater transparency to city work processes.

Please vote, and vote early.

PAULINA COCKRUM
President, Gearhart City Council

Important

I think it is important for voters to note that Suzanne Weber has received money from Koch Industries. Climate deniers and corporate interests do not belong in Clatsop County.

A vote for Debbie Boothe-Schmidt is a vote for Clatsop County, not big business.

DEBORAH ALBRECHT
Gearhart

No need to replace

I don't understand why there is an attempt to replace Tom Brownson (Astoria City Council, Ward 2). He has served faithfully, and would like to give four more years of service.

All of the council members at this time get along and work well together. We have enough turmoil in our lives. Let's keep it tranquil, where we have peace and efficiency.

When I had a concern, I wrote Brownson a letter and received a prompt reply with exactly what he was going to do, as opposed to vague promises and platitudes that you get

from some politicians.

He appeared before a group that I belong to via Zoom, and he gave us the feeling of his competency while still being easygoing, with no pushy agenda. He just wants to give four more years and complete his job.

Let's give him another term. There will be plenty of time for those who feel we need a "businessman."

JEAN HOOGE
Astoria

Don't get me started

There's an old saying: If it ain't broke, don't try fixing it. America's infrastructure (roads, bridges, etc.) is crumbling. This government said we'd have great infrastructure. Well, where is it?

One way President Franklin Roosevelt pulled our country out of the Great Depression was by creating the Civilian Conservation Corps. My dad was in it. It could provide jobs and revenue. Win-win.

This administration has tirelessly worked 24/7 to destroy the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), while promising its own great insurance, but refusing to tell us what it is. Throwing millions of people off their health insurance in the middle of the worst pandemic in 100 years makes zero sense. If anyone thinks COVID-19 is bad now, just wait until millions more have no health insurance.

Don't even get me started on the current administration's lack of response to the coronavirus. Don't tell anyone, but the Supreme Court hears the Texas case that could destroy the Affordable Care Act one week after Nov. 3 elections. Hmm.

This administration did accomplish the 2017 tax reform, which raised my taxes considerably, and I'll guess lots of other peoples' too, while magically bestowing huge tax breaks on the corporations and wealthy. Hmm.

Mama said, "Don't listen to what they say, watch what they do." Smart lady.

In my opinion, the government's broken, and it's time for a new administration. Not voting is the quickest way to lose the privilege. The voter registration deadline is Tuesday. Call the county elections office at 503-325-8605.

CARL DOMINEY
Astoria

Moral deadbeat

With the conclusion of the 2020 census, we'll be about a third of a billion strong. Therefore, there must be thousands of men and women who can hold high political office in a reasonably ethical manner.

Whether we are collectively liberal, conservative or moderate, there's no reason to settle for a moral deadbeat.

DALE FLOWERS
Warrenton

Guns or ballots

Because our newly declared republic had no standing army, George Washington depended on citizens, and their experience with firearms, to fight the British.

Once independence was achieved, citizen militias were replaced by a national standing army, state national guards and state and local policing organizations. To date, and together, these services have protected the democratic principles and structures of our country.

In another moment in time and place, at the end of World War I, the Treaty of Versailles restricted Germany's standing army and forced its newly established republican government to enforce reparations that bankrupted the country.

In response, citizen militias began to appear. By 1923, Adolf Hitler had organized several such militias around the idea that Jews and communists were responsible for the crippled economy. Hitler had begun his march to power and dictatorship.

Today, here in the U.S., some people are using guns to defend their interpretation of the Constitution, even against fellow citizens who understand the Constitution differently.

This is not how a democracy works. Even with all its flaws, ballots, not guns, produce the results we need to keep working towards a more perfect union.

JULIE SNYDER
Astoria

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY



61 51

Breezy with rain

SUNDAY



59 54

Breezy with rain

MONDAY



62 53

A little morning rain

TUESDAY



61 48

Rain tapering off

WEDNESDAY



62 47

Rain possible

THURSDAY



62 49

Showers possible

FRIDAY



64 51

Showers possible

ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday

Temperatures

High/low 64/52

Normal high/low 63/45

Record high 81 in 1971

Record low 33 in 1985

Precipitation

Thursday 0.00"

Month to date 0.00"

Normal month to date 1.01"

Year to date 41.87"

Normal year to date 41.50"

Forecasts and graphics provided by
AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Moon at last quarter (5:40 p.m.).

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:26 a.m.

Sunset tonight 6:38 p.m.

Moonrise today none

Moonset today 3:49 p.m.

Last

New

First

Full

Oct 9

Oct 16

Oct 23

Oct 31

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time

High (ft.)

Time

Low (ft.)

8:56 a.m. 5.5 1:56 a.m. 0.8

7:28 p.m. 6.7 2:01 p.m. 3.8

Cape Disappointment

8:38 a.m. 5.4 1:15 a.m. 0.8

7:21 p.m. 6.5 1:18 p.m. 4.2

Hammond

8:49 a.m. 5.6 1:35 a.m. 0.6

7:31 p.m. 6.7 1:42 p.m. 3.9

Warrenton

8:51 a.m. 5.9 1:40 a.m. 0.9

7:23 p.m. 7.1 1:45 p.m. 3.9

Knapapa

9:33 a.m. 5.9 2:57 a.m. 0.7

8:05 p.m. 7.0 3:02 p.m. 3.3

Depoe Bay

8:01 a.m. 5.9 12:48 a.m. 1.0

6:31 p.m. 6.8 12:48 p.m. 4.5

NATIONAL CITIES

City

Today

Sun.

Atlanta

77/71/r

78/69/r

Boston

76/57/p

60/49/pc

Chicago

76/56/pc

76/61/pc

Dallas

88/67/s

96/71/s

Denver

86/54/pc

76/41/pc

Honolulu

89/73/s

90/74/pc

Houston

89/67/pc

93/73/s

Los Angeles

76/62/pc

79/61/pc

Miami

88/79/sh

89/78/t

New York City

77/63/s

72/56/pc

Phoenix

95/69/s

93/68/s

San Francisco

71/56/c

74/56/pc

Wash., DC

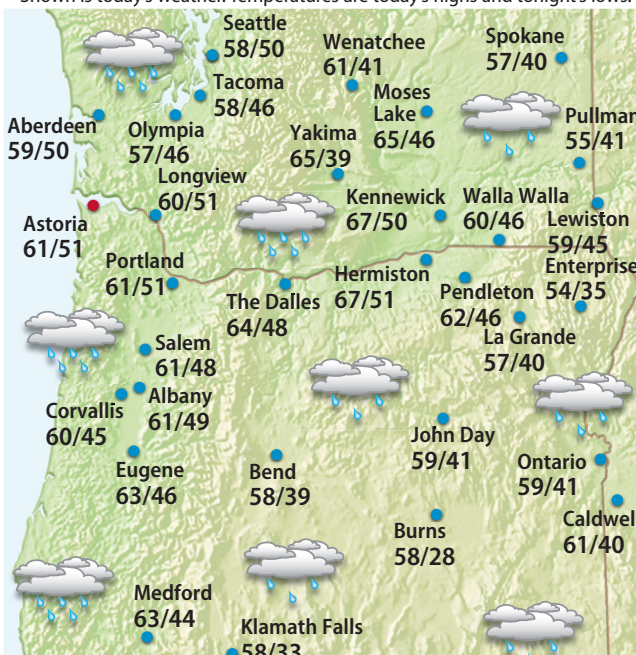
79/63/c

74/64/r

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



City

Today

Sun.

City

Today

Sun.

Baker City

59/36/sh

57/39/pc

North Bend

63/51/r

64/53/r

Brookings

60/49/r

60/53/c

Roseburg

62/48/r

65/50/pc

Ilwaco

60/53/r

59/56/r

Seaside

60/52/r

59/56/r

Newberg

61/49/r

57/54/r

Springfield

61/49/r

61/53/pc

Newport

60/51/r

59/54/r

Vancouver

61/51/r

58/55/r