

# THE Skanner

Challenging People to Shape  
a Better Future Now

Bernie Foster  
Founder/Publisher

Bobbie Dore Foster  
Executive Editor

Jerry Foster  
Advertising Manager

Patricia Irvin  
Product Manager  
Graphic Designer

Saundra Sorenson  
Reporter

Mary Reischmann  
Digital Content

Monica J. Foster  
Seattle Office Coordinator

Susan Fried  
Photographer

**The Skanner Newspaper**, established in October 1975, is a weekly publication, published every Wednesday by IMM Publications Inc.

415 N. Killingsworth St.  
P.O. Box 5455  
Portland, OR 97228

Telephone (503) 285-5555  
Fax: (503) 285-2900

info@theskanner.com

www.TheSkanner.com

The Skanner is a member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association and West Coast Black Publishers Association.

All photos submitted become the property of *The Skanner*. We are not responsible for lost or damaged photos either solicited or unsolicited.

©2024 The Skanner. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission prohibited.

## THE Skanner.com

Local News

Pacific NW News

World News

Opinions

Jobs, Bids

Entertainment

Community Calendar

LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL EVENTS

Updated daily online.

Hear about it first.

Sign up for  
Breaking News  
and Events at

THE Skanner.com



# Opinion

## America Needs Kamala Harris to Win

### Because a 'House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand'

Vice President Kamala Harris has the vision, the intellect and the heart to lead a conversation about how to preserve American democracy. As a country, we are still struggling to make this "A more perfect union." We are an incredibly unique and beautifully diverse nation, blessed in so many ways. However, our history of cultural cleavage and racial unrest still plagues us. At times, the ideological divide seems to be an unbridgeable chasm. There are those who would use political power to exploit our differences and undermine the very democratic institutions that have held us together as a nation.

So, America is at the crossroads. What we choose to do between now and election day will determine our destiny. Will we work hard to keep our democracy, or will we be seduced to accept authoritarian rule? Let there be no doubt about it: The choice is upon us, and we will have to live with the consequences of our collective decision for years to come.

As providence would have it, the American people are



Michael A. Grant, J.D.

Pres. Emerit.  
National Bankers Assoc.

now being offered two very different candidates for president: one who is the embodiment of democratic norms, individual liberty and a respect for the rule of law. The

“What we choose to do between now and election day will determine our destiny.

other, a candidate who has not sought to hide his vision for America: a welcoming of authoritarian rule. He and his cohorts will work through a master plan (Project 2025) for gutting the federal bureaucracy with its system of meritocracy, replacing it with one that favors cronyism and dictatorial decision-making.

For an example of how Trumpism would fundamentally change the American political system (with its checks and balances), one need only to observe how he has already transformed the Supreme Court into a vehicle

of his power-grabbing. In its recent ruling on presidential immunity, six of the justices, disregarding precedent, placed the president above the law. These political hacks - parading as jurists sitting on the highest court of the land - broke with 250 years of jurisprudence to give the president powers reserved for a king. So why did we fight the American Revolutionary War?

Donald Trump is working in concert with many others who are prepared to destabilize our sacred democracy in favor of a system that is anathema to what has made America the envy of the world: A system that celebrates the consent of the governed and the rule of law.

Yes, we are at a critical moment in American history not witnessed since the Civil War. The forces of retrenchment are highly organized, well-funded and prepared to do whatever is necessary to impose their minority will on the will of the majority. Donald Trump has publicly stated that he doesn't need the votes. Is that so? Then, tell us, Mr. Trump, how do you intend to come back into power?

Thankfully, Vice President Kamala Harris has prepared herself for this moment in our nation's history. Like Joan of Arc, she has donned her suit of armor and is prepared to confront the enemies of America's democracy! While

she has announced her policy positions on a number of issues: favoring a woman's right to control her own body; protect the healthcare of millions of Americans; calling major businesses for a summit to discuss price gouging; continuing her decades-long fight for equality for all Americans; continuing to address global warming; and protecting her fellow Americans from the insane proliferation of senseless gun violence, she knows that this election is about more than a civil debate about policy differences. She knows that this election is about protecting our most cherished freedoms as Americans.

We, the people, are being given the choice to continue our march towards a more perfect union, or to accept a new model of governance where some are considered above the law and the masses are subjugated to an injudicious system where revenge, retribution and cronyism are tolerated with impunity.

I think it is interesting that when the American family has become so dysfunctional, a house divided again, that Almighty God would send us a leader who has shown herself to be a proven guardian of what we hold as sacred: Democracy buttressed by the rule of law.

Read the rest of this commentary at  
[TheSkanner.com](https://www.theskanner.com)

## The IRA is Still Our Biggest Step Toward a Brighter Future for Our Children

I often think about a factory hallway in Dalton, Georgia that is filled with pictures drawn by children. It is a reminder of what can be, what will be, thanks to the historic Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which celebrates its second anniversary this month.

The drawings capture how these children see their parents who work at this solar manufacturing plant. There are pictures of beautiful sunny days, of the earth with pristine water. Of their parents saving the world. These children see their parents as superheroes. As I remember these pictures, I wonder: how can anyone not be inspired by these children to fight every day for a better, livable future? For more clean energy jobs, in big cities and rural communities across the country, that will power our economy - and our homes - for generations to come?

Around this anniversary, the news has been filled with reflection on what the IRA has achieved and what still needs to be done. It is - as it should be - a major focal point at the Democratic National Convention happening now in Chicago.



Ben Jealous

Dir. Sierra Club, Prof University of Penn.

go.

You do not have to look hard to find examples of its success. More than 334,000 new clean energy jobs have been created across the country. More than 3 million U.S. households have collectively saved over

“No other single piece of legislation has done more to address our climate goals

\$8 billion on upgrades that will save them money and make their homes more energy efficient. In Illinois alone, for example, nearly 140,000 residents claimed more than \$260 million in tax credits on their 2023 tax returns for installing solar or making other energy efficiency improvements on their homes.

One fact should loom larger than most: the IRA is still this nation's biggest single

step ever toward securing a healthy and livable planet for all. No other single piece of legislation has done more to address our climate goals and support the clean energy revolution already underway. Through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program, the IRA is projected to reduce greenhouse gas pollution by as much as 971 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2050. That's equivalent to the emissions from about 5 million homes' energy use every year for

more than 25 years.

Need a reminder of the urgency and necessity of this investment in combating the climate crisis? Just turn on the news. Or step outside. We are experiencing the hottest summer on record ... in the hottest year on record. Supercharged storms and wildfires from all that heat are impacting more and more Americans. Hurricane Ernesto is just the latest storm to

batter homes and businesses and leave hundreds of thousands of Americans without power. With so many people hurting and at risk, the IRA remains one of our most powerful tools to mitigate climate change's harm. We must continue to learn from our experience implementing it, fill gaps where we see them, and double down on our efforts to protect people, places and the planet we call home. And we must remember that throwing everything we have at combating the climate crisis is also the way America wins in the next economy.

In the decades since the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the shipping of U.S. jobs overseas has helped destroy towns and cities across America. Now, the IRA is fueling a manufacturing rebirth that is creating good-paying jobs while bringing our energy economy into the 21st century.

Plans to build a new solar cell factory near Minneapolis, Minnesota are currently underway. This factory will create more clean energy jobs in the Midwest while addressing the need for more American-made solar cells. The solar company Heliene, which co-owns the project, publicly credits the IRA's tax credits for inspiring its decision to invest in U.S. solar manufacturing.