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OUR VIEW

A mistake by any other name

You can tell a lot about a culture by its euphemisms.

For instance, in the U.S. we're obsessed with death, as evidenced by the wealth of words and phrases we've created to avoid saying it. You can kick the bucket, bite the dust, buy the farm, push up daisies, pass on, pass away or croak. But simply dying is unseemly.

There's a similarly large workaround vocabulary for being fired (losing your job, being terminated, right-sizing the workforce, getting a pink slip), getting drunk (hammered, sloshed, blotto, three sheets to the wind) and having sex (we'll let you pick your own).

And of course, culturally we've found many ways to describe our mistakes. Gaffes and goofs, flubs and fluffs, bungles and bloopers. To err is human, but the way we describe it says a lot.

We saw two examples recently of mistakes — outright oversights — filed under the classification of "miscommunication." Which, in fact, they were, but a miscommunication implies both sides are to blame, which is only true in one of the cases.

The one-sided miscommunication between the Army Corps of Engineers and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation could end up costing a third party — the Port of Arlington — about \$2 million.

The Army Corps, a department of the federal government, approved a plan for the port to build a dock on the Columbia River near the confluence of Willow Creek. The port went ahead and started construction, putting millions into the project, before it was told to stop construction. The feds hadn't cleared the project with the Tribes, who have treaty rights to all "usual and accustomed" fishing sites — including where the dock was being built.

Last week the port pulled the pieces of the dock out of the river and almost a decade of work was completely undone. Millions of

dollars were lost.

Whoops. We also witnessed last week another in a series of miscommunications at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center in Hermiston. When the board met in public on Friday it was surprised to learn Frew Construction expected

to wrap the project on Aug. 17, 2017. Especially surprised because the fair is always the second week of August, which in 2017 means it would start August 8.

Somehow the agency planning the new home of the fairgrounds — the EOTEC board — and the agency building it — Frew

Development — aren't working from the same calendar. Now Frew is seeing if it can squeeze down the build schedule to be ready with a fully functional fairgrounds in time for what should be a momentous grand opening next summer.

Other miscommunications so far have included how much the barns will cost to build and when the fair would be able to move (We have photos from a prior groundbreaking that proudly proclaim "EOTEC 2016!")

Communication should be easier than ever in this technology age. Contact information is indexed and hyperlinked, calendars are synced and shared.

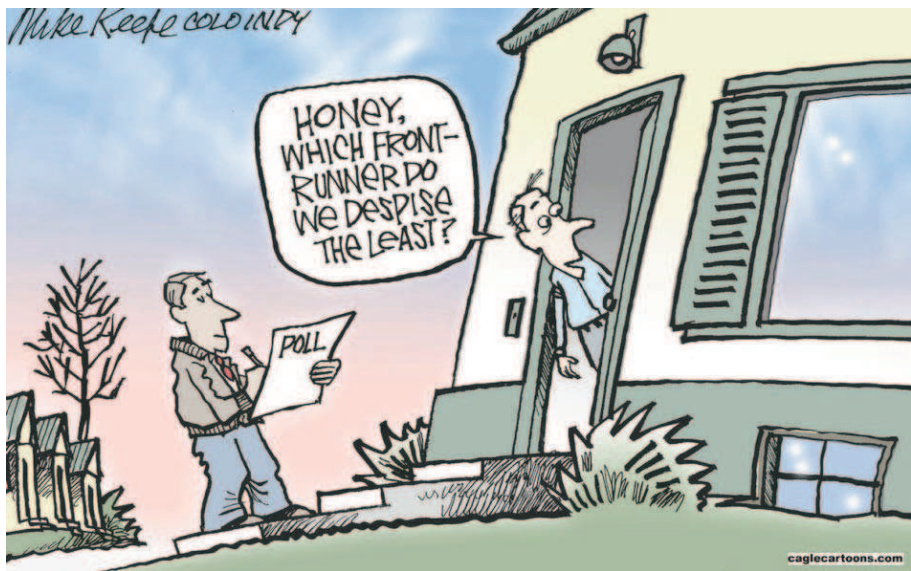
Perhaps because of the ease of communication it can be taken for granted, with bases left uncovered and loose ends left untied. There's the sense that anyone can be contacted at a moment's notice, so there's no reason to pass along each detail as it arrives.

But whatever you want to call it — when people drop the ball, botch something up or pull a Britta — it's important to correct course rather than dismiss the mistake and continue to mis-communicate.

In the case of the Port of Arlington, it's too late. For EOTEC, open and direct dialogue in the coming 16 months is all that stands between minor confusion and a major catastrophe.

Communication should be easier than ever in this technology age. But because it is so easy, it can be taken for granted.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the East Oregonian editorial board of Publisher Kathryn Brown, Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, and Opinion Page Editor Tim Trainor. Other columns, letters and cartoons on this page express the opinions of the authors and not necessarily that of the East Oregonian.



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Farmers Market leaving Main Street is a loss for Pendleton community

As owners of Zimmerman & Co. True Value Hardware Inc., we were surprised and saddened by the news of Farmers Market leaving Main Street. Our families have been supporters of this great community event since its inception.

Our business does not benefit directly from Farmers Market — in fact, our sales drop dramatically during the market.

However, it is one of the special times the people of Pendleton and their friends and neighbors have an opportunity to gather and mingle in a relaxed atmosphere. You have a chance to enjoy a unique variety of foods, friends and crafts by walking our downtown streets. Our community needs more of this type of event to bring such a diverse group of folks together.

Perhaps we can find some common ground and make this

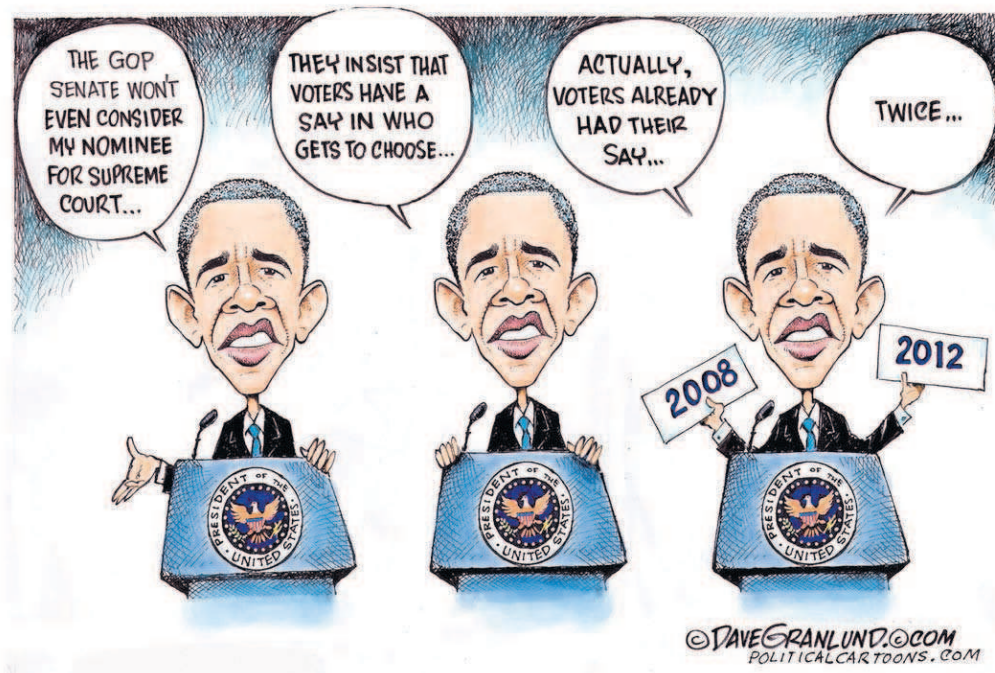
work. Remember, is only four hours on a Friday afternoon. I would hope that our merchants could make this small sacrifice for the good of the community.

Jim, Judy and Jim Naughton
Zimmerman & Company True Value Hardware Inc., Pendleton

Pendleton can't afford parks and other amenities, should concentrate on basics

I've read the letter from the individual that seems to think the city of Pendleton and its taxpayers should provide dog owners a place to let their dogs run free, keeping both them and their dogs healthy. Look around — we already have more parks than we can adequately maintain.

If you simply must have a dog run, get together with other dog owners and form a dog club, buy the proposed property, fence it in, and let your dog run to its heart's content. This would give the city a chance to divest of some of the



OTHER VIEWS

Do Trump's rivals benefit by blaming him for Chicago chaos?

LAKELAND, Florida — Marco Rubio lays much of the blame for the mass protest that shut down Donald Trump's Chicago rally on Trump himself. But some of Rubio's supporters see things differently. They see the protesters as bearing most or all of the guilt for the chaos in Chicago. And they point to the work of leftist organizing groups as the key factor in the affair.

"It was too organized," said Cynthia Dugan, who came to Concord Coffee here in Lakeland to catch Rubio's quick stop Saturday afternoon, just four days before the Florida primary. "I think it was organized by MoveOn.org and Black Lives Matter; it wasn't just a spontaneous event."

I asked Dugan who was to blame. "The protesters," she answered. "And, unfortunately, some of the press."

"To me, it's just too well organized — MoveOn.org and George Soros are spending a tremendous amount of money to disrupt," said Richard Dempsey, of Lakeland. I asked Dempsey whether he blamed Trump for the chaos in Chicago. "No, I don't," Dempsey said. "I think it's an effort to discredit Trump. Everybody from every direction is trying to discredit him and defeat his campaign. I'm not a big supporter, but I will vote for him if he is the eventual nominee."

I asked Dick Goddard, of Lakeland, who was to blame. "It's the protesters," Goddard answered quickly. "They've got no business doing that."

Dugan and Dempsey said they will enthusiastically vote for Rubio on Tuesday; Goddard said he is still trying to choose between Rubio and Ted Cruz.

Earlier Saturday, in an appearance in Largo, Rubio conceded that the protesters were "not blameless" in the Trump Chicago affair. But Rubio saved his most critical words for Trump himself.

"I think we also have to look at the rhetoric coming from the front-runner in the presidential campaign," Rubio told reporters. "This is a man who in rallies has told his supporters to basically beat up the people who are in the crowd and he will pay their legal fees. Someone who has encouraged people in the audience to rough up anyone who stands up and says something he doesn't like."

"There are people in this country that are angry because they feel disenfranchised from the American dream," Rubio continued. "But the job of a leader is not to stoke that anger. The job of a leader is to address the causes of that anger and try to solve it, not try to stoke that anger so that they vote for you."

In rallies the day after the Chicago chaos, Trump emphasized the organized nature of the disruption. "We're all together and we want to get along with everybody, but when they have organized, professionally staged wise guys, we've got to fight back, we've got to fight back," Trump said in Dayton.

Trump was right about the organization. In a report headlined "How Bernie Sanders supporters shut down a Donald Trump rally in Chicago," NBC's Alex Seitz-Wald detailed how veterans of the Occupy movement, of Black Lives Matter, of MoveOn.org, and other organizations, many of them now supporting Bernie Sanders, worked together to overpower Trump. And Seitz-Wald reported that Trump may have picked the worst possible location by coming to Chicago.



BYRON YORK
Comment

"The pump was primed in Chicago," Seitz-Wald wrote, "thanks to now near-constant demonstrations against Mayor Rahm Emanuel over the shooting of Laquan McDonald and other issues. Trump chose a venue, the University of Illinois Chicago campus, in the heart of the city, where student organizers whipped a demonstration together. And activists tapped into existing networks of pro-Bernie Sanders and Black Lives Matter activists."

"We wanted to show Trump that this is Chicago, and we run Chicago, and we're not going to take this," Seitz-Wald quoted local activist Ja'Mal Green as saying. "We got better organizers here."

"Remember the #TrumpRally wasn't just luck," tweeted the pro-Sanders group People for Bernie. "It took organizers from dozens of organizations and thousands of people to pull off. Great work."

"I think it's an effort to discredit Trump. Everybody from every direction is trying to discredit him and defeat his campaign."

— **Richard Dempsey,**
GOP voter in Florida primary

The *Los Angeles Times* published a similar report, "How black, Latino and Muslim college students organized to stop Trump's rally in Chicago." Even Bill Ayers, the 1960s Weather Underground bomber who became a bete noir of conservatives in the Obama years, was in the picture. "We shut Trump down!" Ayers tweeted after the canceled rally. "Beautiful gathering of anti-racist youth."

Still, Rubio directed most of his blame at Trump. Fellow Trump rivals Ted Cruz and John Kasich also placed blame on the front-runner. Now, the question is whether their supporters agree.

Yes, some Rubio voters blamed Trump. "He brought it on himself," said Chickie Migliaccio, of Kissimmee, who came to see Rubio in Lakeland. "He incites people, he's provocative," added Chickie's husband Pat. "Hey, I'm from New Jersey. We don't talk that way in New Jersey."

But many of Rubio's supporters, and Republican voters in general, are big consumers of conservative media, and for years they have seen reports about MoveOn.org, about Occupy, about Black Lives Matter, about Soros, about Ayers — a veritable roster of villainy on the left. Now they are seeing (accurate) reports that some of those groups were behind the Trump protests in Chicago. And they are supposed to blame Trump? Not likely.

But that doesn't mean they support Trump. Indeed, the reactions at the small Rubio event in Lakeland served to show that voters can support a non-Trump candidate and still believe Trump was unjustly targeted by left-wing activists. Take Cynthia Dugan, who has liked Rubio for years. "I support him because he's a gentleman and he's got good ethics," Dugan told me. "He's a family man, and he absolutely knows the issues."

The bottom line is, the more Republicans learn about the events in Chicago, the more they are likely to blame the left-wing activists behind the chaos. It seems unlikely that Rubio, or Cruz, or Kasich, will gain much by blaming Trump. For many Republican voters, blaming the actual culprits in the Trump Chicago affair is a matter of seeing the far left, not Trump, as the real adversary — and that does not necessarily equal supporting Trump.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for *The Washington Examiner*.

YOUR VIEWS

excess property they've accumulated, and you might even approach PAWS to form a joint venture since they have been expanding their service area. Glad to see we can now support Yakima.

This also applies to the bike/cross country trails at the airport. The city could supply the property and let the interested parties take care of the financing and insurance. This mindset that the city has to finance these types of projects has put us where we are today. The city has its hands full trying to figure out how to maintain the other infrastructure that's been sorely neglected while concentrating their efforts on statues, speed bumps and now dogs and trees.

You might want to suggest that the city retain ownership of the Eighth Street Bridge, move it a couple of blocks, and use it for a dedicated pedestrian/dog crossing/bicycle path to the north side of the river.

Rick Rohde,
Pendleton