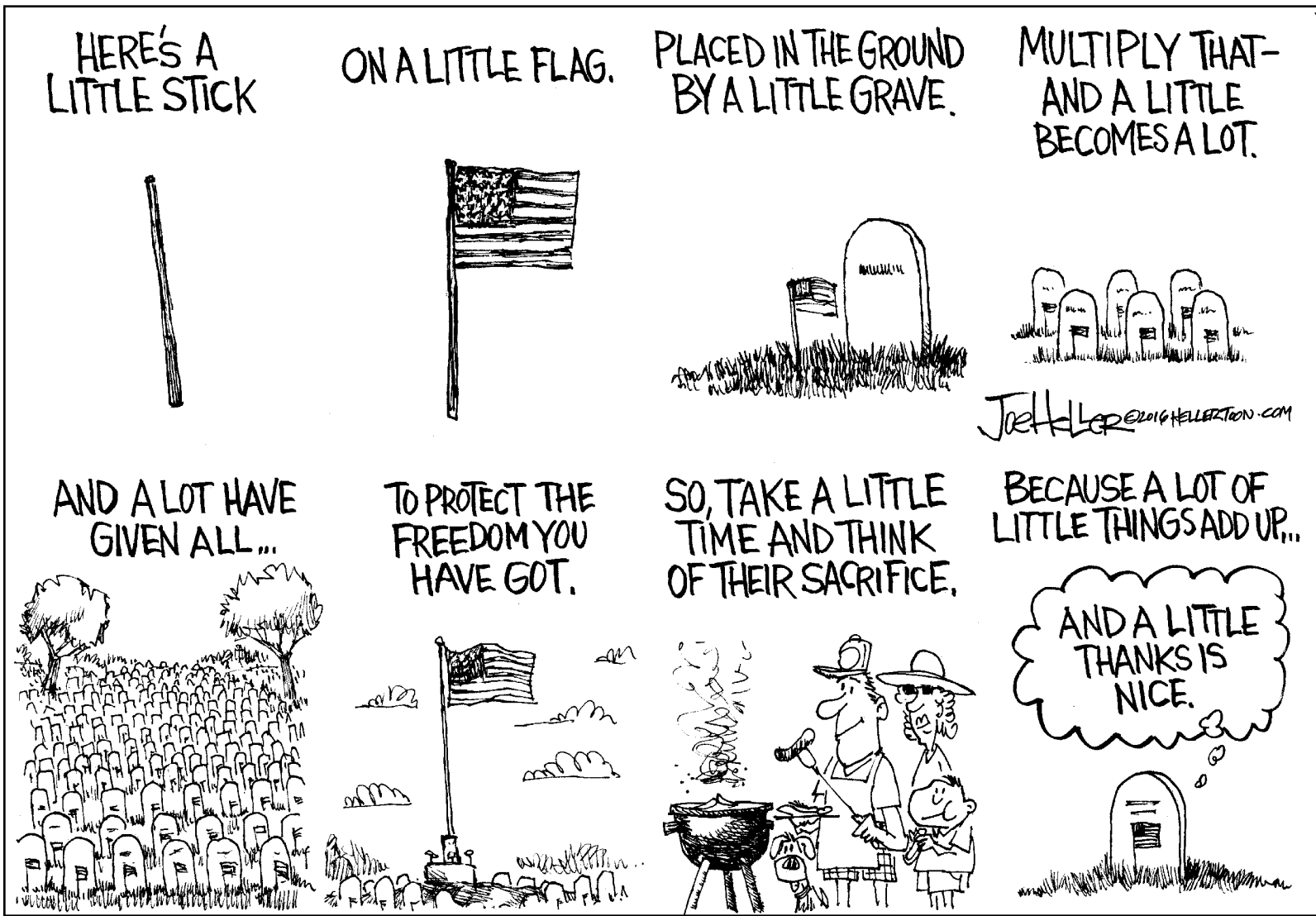


Siuslaw News
 P.O. Box 10
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Opinion



YESTERDAY'S NEWS

MOMENTS IN TIME The History Channel

- On May 30, 1911, Ray Harroun drives his single-seater Marmon Wasp to victory in the inaugural Indianapolis 500 auto race. Harroun completed the 500-mile race in 6 hours and 42 minutes, averaging almost 75 mph.

- On May 31, 1929, after two years of friendly negotiations, Ford Motor Company signs a landmark agreement to produce cars in the Soviet Union, which in 1928 had only 20,000 cars and a single truck factory.

- On June 5, 1933, the United States goes off the gold standard, a monetary system in which currency is backed by gold. All persons owning gold coin, bullion or certificates were required to deliver it to the Federal Reserve for the set price of \$20.67 per ounce. Americans could not legally own gold again until 1974.

- On June 3, 1940, determined to wreck France's economy and military, the German air force bombs Paris, killing 254 people. Most of the victims were civilians, including school-children.

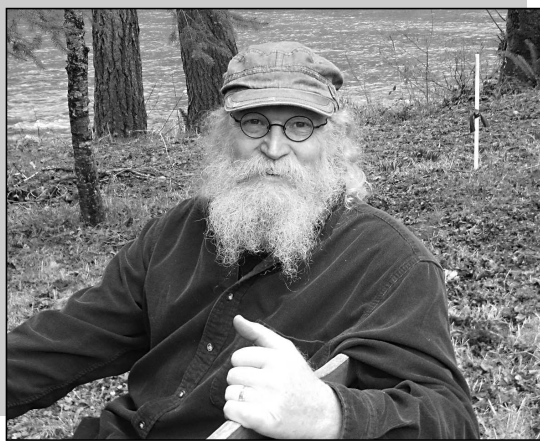
- On June 2, 1953, Queen Elizabeth II, age 27, is formally crowned monarch of the United Kingdom at London's Westminster Abbey in a ceremony steeped in traditions that date back a millennium.

- On June 1, 1967, the Beatles release "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," regarded by many as the greatest album in the history of rock 'n' roll. Upon hearing the album for the first time, Bob Dylan told Beatle Paul McCartney: "Oh, I get it, you don't want to be cute anymore."

- On June 4, 1972, Angela Davis, a black militant, is acquitted on charges of conspiracy, murder and kidnapping by an all-white jury in California. She was accused of supplying weapons used in a courtroom takeover and shoot-out that killed a superior court judge and three others.

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VIEW FROM UPRIVER



That yes gives me hope

WESLEY VOTH
 For the Siuslaw News

those buildings every year, and for whom I wish the very best.

Those school buildings represent their working environment for 13 of the most important years of their lives. It is the working environment for a number of adults for even more hours per year than the children. Instead of grumbling, I will remember that every time I pay those costs. I will focus on the belief that it is not just my responsibility, but the best investment in the future and of this community of anything I do.

Mapleton's Fourth of July fireworks are set to happen this year after their rather sudden cancellation last summer. Mapleton's biggest annual spectacle will be on the evening of the Fourth itself, according to Terry Saubert, who procures both the permit and the pyrotechnics.

Since he can no longer use the dock where these were set off in the past, the launch site will be slightly different, although on or near the bridge will still be prime viewing.

The event happens thanks to local generosity. Donations can be taken to the Mapleton Branch of Banner Bank, including those who wish to make it in memory of Mitch Williams, an ardent enthusiast and supporter of this very special celebration in past years.

I hear from the folks who care for Deadwood Cemetery that they plan a program there starting at noon on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, to which all the public is invited. Free hot dogs, chili, cookies and bottled water will be provided; bring chairs, and if you wish, potluck salads or dessert. There will also be pioneer re-enactments and story-telling.

Deadwood Cemetery is located on Deadwood Creek Road just off Highway 36 near Deadwood Tavern and Store.

The morning bird chorus here, now that it is late spring and should be full through, does not sound as robust to my ears as it has in the past. The Swainson's thrush has arrived early and joined the other lyrical singers: robins, white-crowned and song sparrows, black headed grosbeaks and winter wrens. In early morning these begin before being joined at full daylight with the non-song but no less earnest vocalizing of evening grosbeaks, goldfinches, cowbirds, band-tailed pigeons, ravens, ospreys and the several swallows species.

It doesn't seem as much that some species are missing as that our local bird population is just reduced. Robins and Steller's jays, two of our formerly most abundant, are noticeably fewer. Local insect pollinators continue their decline, diminished like the dragonflies that used to be so numerous along our length of river.

The nearly 400 people voting yes carried the day here on our Mapleton School bond, yes votes outnumbering no by almost a two to one margin. Why does this make me so happy? I didn't go to school here, my kids didn't, and I am about to enter the period of my life when I am on a limited fixed income. I have significant health costs. I am not related to, nor close to, any of those involved in this school. But I do see children every day whose welfare is tied to it, who spend upwards of a thousand hours in



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Siuslaw News welcomes letters to the editor concerning issues affecting the Florence area and Lane County.

Emailed letters are preferred. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed. All letters should be limited to about 300 words and must include the writer's full name, address and phone number for verification.

Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and clarity. Publication of any letter is not guaranteed and depends on space available and the volume of letters received.

Libelous and anonymous letters as well as poetry will not be published.

All submissions become the property of Siuslaw News and will not be returned.

Write to:

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