

**Siuslaw News**  
P.O. Box 10  
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# Opinion

FLORENCE FLASHBACK

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## PICNICS ARE ECONOMICAL, EXPERTS SAY

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**T**he reason for the continued growing popularity of summer picnicking, according to experts in these matters, is the ease and economy to other outdoor activities.

You need no expensive equipment and no particular sports proficiency. The requirements for a good picnic include: some simple food supplies, a minimum of basic picnic equipment and a fair amount of common horse sense.

The rest is up to you.

When King George VI of England visited this country a few years ago, he was fed hot dogs by President Roosevelt on the White House lawn. The king was entertained royally by American standards. Yet, the cost of that backyard shindig could easily have been managed by any American family.

The White House equipment was simply this: a good sized thermos bottle filled with iced drinks, a picnic container to keep all food fresh until ready to be eaten and a portable grill containing its own fuel.



SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTO

Experts suggest a handsome matched set of thermos jugs, insulated bags and portable charcoal grills for easy, stylish picnicking.

Anyone with similar paraphernalia, the experts say, can make his picnic fit for a king. The cost for

a complete outfit is extremely minimum. Once you have it on hand, it will last a lifetime.

Under a hot sun at the beach all day, iced drinks stay iced in a handy and economical one-gallon metal thermos jug. When the gang comes in from the water, they don't get a flat, warm drink that makes them wish they had stayed home.

If you like hot dogs or hamburgers on a picnic, experts suggest you take along a handy, easy to manage portable grill. Some picnic areas provide stone grills, but other areas specifically prohibit the lighting of open fires.

Next, make sure you bring plenty of food. Appetites go up as the result of strenuous outdoor activity. Best way to estimate how much to bring is to calculate more than you think anyone can possibly eat, then multiply by two. Don't think in terms of the bridge club and bring dainty cucumber sandwiches. For extra food and drinks, the experts recommend a handy insulated bag.

Once you have assembled your basic equipment, you are ready for anything. Whether you are going on a beach party, boating expedition, fishing trip, all-night camp out or motoring junket, all you need now are the people and the food. ❖

### LETTERS

#### The Open

With all the turmoil that was going on in the United States and abroad, it was a wonderful break to watch The Open golf tournament this past Sunday.

Watching Phil Mickelson and Henrik Stenson go blow by blow for 18 holes in what was the best ever one-on-one battle in golf history. Henrik made history along the way by breaking numerous records but Phil, always gracious, gave him his due.

Then we got back to the ugly in our world.  
Win Jolley  
Florence

#### Stolen weapons

I must agree with Madelyne Barnett's letter in regards to assault weapons ("Assault Weapons," July 13). I have felt very blessed to live in such a peaceful place, with so much violence out in the world.

That was until I heard about the burglary at True Value. I was struck with fear. For the first time it became real to me. I could feel the imminent threat of having that sort of weapon on the loose and in our area. Umpqua Community College is not so distant in the past.

This is a great place to raise children. People flourish here. Citizens do not need assault weapons. Hunters do not consider such weapons necessary, or even desirable.

Please stop selling these guns and help to keep our community stay safe.

Mae Fleischer  
Mapleton

#### More doctors needed

I received a letter from PeaceHealth recently that informed me my very-much-liked Primary Care doctor, Dr. Jalilian, will be leaving in August of this year. I'm unsure, but I believe he's been here barely a year. I was told in this letter that I would be assigned to another Primary Care physician and that four doctors were coming, staggered through the end of the year and into the next.

I called and spoke with the very nice lady who handles these matters at PeaceHealth and



was told Dr. Johnson, whom I'd called to be assigned to after hearing great things about him, had his quota of patients and that I was on the "waiting list" for the next available doctor.

When I asked why I hadn't been automatically transferred to the first available doctor, since it was my doctor who was leaving, I was told that another doctor had left prior to Dr. Jalilian and those patients were being assigned to the first available doctor. I expressed my displeasure with PeaceHealth's management (or lack thereof) politely a few times and this kind lady was very patient with my frustration and profound disappointment. She is to be commended for her professionalism, kindness and empathy.

I asked what I was to do about my yearly wellness visit, coming up in November, and she said that the clinic could not do these and my option would be choosing a doctor at their facility in Eugene — an hour-plus away! I waited three years for Dr. Jalilian. Will I have to wait three more years for another doctor?

Why can't PeaceHealth keep a doctor here in Florence? I can't help but wonder, considering

the huge profits they made last year, why they don't pay their doctors what they are worth so that they will stay? Or target doctors interested in small towns? Not having enough Primary Care physicians to care for the population is not only unacceptable, but extends into the areas of unethical operating behavior by PeaceHealth's management.

I've found the staff at PeaceHealth to be wonderful, warm and caring individuals who go out of their way to give great service to our community. The management, the policy makers, however, are clueless, having their eyes only on the bottom line, much to the detriment of those of us seeking a Primary Care doctor to care for us. It is up to management to sweeten the deal to possible doctors for our area and stop dragging their feet, or our terrific little town will begin losing its population, rather than growing.

And, as is obvious, I am profoundly aggravated and frustrated to once again be without a Primary Care physician.

Vicki Ferguson  
Florence

#### Power grab

As a western Lane County (Dunes City) property owner and taxpayer, I am appalled at the blatant attempt by the four commissioners to subvert the initiative process.

This is a transparent move to derail citizens' rights in favor of timber and extraction industries. Serious health concerns with aerial spraying and clear cutting of private lands that impact riparian as well as creating a monoculture forest are swept under the carpet.

Now the commissioners and timber industries want to insure that they can continue their destructive and unhealthy practices unimpeded by being able to eliminate any initiative that might run counter to their vested interests.

On the coast we see major evidence of the damage that is being done by the clear cutting and the negative health aspects of spraying. The timber industry is an embarrassment to Oregon with clear cutting rather than selective harvesting and their refusal to end aerial spraying and replace it with land-based application with less toxic herbicides.

Now they want to sue the state to be able to clear cut more of Oregon's forests with the same archaic harvesting methods. Who are they serving? Not you, unless you're in the timber industry.

We are poorly represented on the coast (not having a commissioner from the west side of coast range). We need a board of commissioners that represents every Lane County taxpayer and a board that protects forests and humans, not a board of commissioners that wants to take away the initiative process in the event it doesn't agree with the timber industry.

I am against clear cutting and aerial spraying and I am definitely against a board of commissioners that is turning a blind eye to the health of Oregon's forests and citizens.

We need a change. Vote the commissioners out that are supporting this subversion of the initiative process.

Jon Tipple  
Dunes City

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## 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.

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