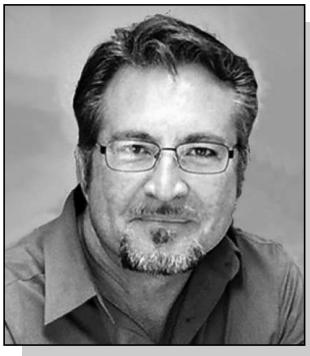


Siuslaw News
P.O. Box 10
Florence, OR 97439

Opinion



Together, we are more than words, ink and paper

What it *actually* is, of course, is a wallpaper stretch-er.

Ok, I'll stop. The cranks, gears and rollers on this Redington Printer first came off of a Chicago assembly line in 1908. It eventually made its way to Oregon, where it traveled the coastline by boat between Coos Bay and Florence, printing and delivering the latest news.

It stopped from port to port, offering those communities a shared experience through words, ink and paper.

More than 100 years later, that same combination of words, ink and paper is being distributed on a grander scale but with no less importance than it did in the early 1900s.

Whether it comes from your laptop, tablet, phone, local news stand or mail box, hometown newspapers are still a crucial part of a community's shared experience.

What accomplishments we need to remember and which mistakes not to repeat.

Today marks the 1,560th time I've been a part of producing this shared experience

between these pages of words, ink and paper.

But it's not just newspaper staff that makes the experience complete. It takes community involvement and support. Without it, the pages are one dimensional rather than a reflection of its readers — the key component to a true community newspaper.

For this reason, as we celebrate National Newspaper Week (Oct. 2 to 8), I want to thank you, our readers and subscribers, for helping make this newspaper what it is through your letters to the editor, press releases, phone calls, bacon-gingersnap cookies, Guest Viewpoints and community columns like "Neighbors" and local arts reviews.

Did I mention bacon-gingersnap cookies?

I'm very proud to be a part of the tradition at Siuslaw News for nearly two decades now — and a member of this special community for even longer.

And even though that Redington printer (pasta maker, taffy puller, etc.) is no longer making its way up and down the coast, inspiring community conversation with the latest news, it remains a sentinel to that tradition — inspiring its own conversation that continues today.

Write Siuslaw News editor Ned Hickson at nhickson@thesiuslawnews.com or P.O. Box 10, Florence, Ore. 97439.

From the Editor's Desk

NED HICKSON

They inform, inspire and chronicle the aspects of our lives that define who we are as a community — and do so in a way nothing else does.

And just as importantly, they provide a look into the past for future generations, offering a snapshot in time.

Who we were. How we got here.

we call Siuslaw News. And every time I walk into the office on Wednesday morning and see it sitting on my desk, I marvel at how so many people come together on a deadline twice a week — from reporters and ad designers to office staff, sales people and pressmen — to contribute to the experience we all share

In the lobby of our front office sits the ultimate conversation starter, a large mechanical device with giant gears, cranks and rollers that I've convinced one or two tourists is the very first industrial pasta maker.

I might've even told a few that it's a taffy puller.

And maybe a mechanical massage chair.

I'm sure there's a photo on someone's Facebook page somewhere to that affect.

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 or poetry will not be published.

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

Write to:

Editor@TheSiuslawNews.com

A GOOD NEWSPAPER...
 IS A NATION TALKING TO
 ITSELF - ARTHUR MILLER



LETTERS

In defense of Donald Trump

Try to keep this in mind: Donald Trump did not steal your money. Donald Trump did not raise your taxes. Donald Trump did not quadruple the price of food.

Trump is not stirring a race war. Trump did not leave any U.S. soldiers in Benghazi to be slaughtered and desecrated.

Trump did not shrivel our military, and betray our veterans. Trump did not cripple our economy.

Trump did not increase our debt to 20 trillion dollars. Trump did not ruin our credit, twice. Trump has not destroyed our Social Security Department, making it impossible for Americans to retire.

Trump did not double African American unemployment.

Trump did not set free all of terrorists in Guantanamo Bay. Trump did not steal your rights, violate U.S. Constitutional law or commit treason.

Yet Trump is being ripped apart in the news, nonstop.

Barrack Hussein Obama, Hillary Clinton and the criminals occupying our government, are not.

The media is the Democratic Party. Save our culture.

Stop listening to them.

Dianna Allison
 Florence

Powerful message

There was a wonderful display on the walls in the entrance to the library for the month of September and I hope that people were able to take a few moments to reflect on the power of the message presented by Birgit Lyon, the photographer.

It makes me think of the trouble that is happening right now in this country. We are being torn apart by the divisive climate of our politics. We are a nation of immigrants and all have made this country what it is. Granted, there are flaws and troubles like in every family.

It takes all of us working together to get a government that works for everyone to be strong and fair to address the needs of every cit-

izen in our country.

We need to make sure that we are not building a new wall that will divide us for years. This family needs to be strong and tolerant of each other and work for all. Things can not be fixed by making new classes of people to hate and fear.

The world is still suffering from those years of hate when the Berlin Wall was built. We must be better than that.

Each vote counts and each person in this family is important.

Nancy Rickard
 Florence

Thanks for the change

The fall Single Mom's Oil Change at the Nazarene Church was a great success. The team changed the oil in 20 cars.

A big, big thanks goes to Napa, which provides the oil filters at a deep discount, and to Shell Oil who provides all the oil used.

Thank you so much.

Elisa Gray
 Florence

Talk is cheap

In response to Stephanie Spralding's "Thoughtful, Sane Letter..." Thank You for your voice of reason. Seems to me, America has lost her moral compass. We are in the midst of mass hysteria on both sides.

Is Hillary perfect? A resounding no! Is Trump perfect? No!

However awful Clinton's actions were, they pale in comparison to Trump's.

Talk is cheap.

Actions speak louder than words. Please look closely at the experience of both candidates. America is not a for-profit business where we can just claim bankruptcy whenever we like.

Vote your conscience, watch the next two debates closely.

Listen carefully.

Who will attack and tell lies?

Who has actual plans for America's future? God Bless America.

Please...

Gail Hanson
 Florence

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DEADLINES:

Wednesday Issue—General news, Monday noon; Budgets, four days prior to publication; Regular classified ads, Monday 1 p.m.; Display ads, Monday noon; Boxed and display classified ads, Friday 5 p.m.
 Saturday Issue—General news, Thursday noon; Budgets, two days prior to publication; Regular classified ads, Thursday 1 p.m.; Display ads, Thursday noon; Boxed and display classified ads, Wednesday 5 p.m. Soundings, Tuesday 5 p.m.

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 Website and E-Edition: www.TheSiuslawNews.com

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