

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

Opinion



LETTERS

Invest in our next generation

While on the Siuslaw School District website, I came across a "Wish List" of items the school district does not have the money to purchase.

These items include such things as AA batteries for keyboards; glue sticks, erasers, markers, pens, colored pencils; classroom books; and the list goes on and on.

Nothing fancy, nothing frivolous — Just items teachers and kids need to learn.

Measure 97 was supposed to help with that, but business interests in the country, state, county and even locally within the Florence area spent a lot of money to defeat Measure 97 and were successful.

Even the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce came out against Measure 97 (Oct. 1 issue of Siuslaw News).

Although I am now a retired high tech executive, I worked in business for over 40 years. One of the issues that was always critical was the ability to hire qualified employees and keep them. Not continuously working towards that aim was shooting yourself in the foot.

Without investment in education, your children and the children of your employees will not have an opportunity to succeed — and neither will your business.

Invest in the education of the next generation, the one you hope will support you.

Go to that Siuslaw School District "Wish List" and start investing in the education of our next generation.

*Pat Reno
 Florence*

Common sense in government

In regards to Florence City Councilor Joshua Greene's letter (Saturday, Nov. 12) and his take

on the Rhododendron Drive multi-use path, I would like to comment on his last two sentences.

First: "Who would've thought that common sense in government would prevail?"

I would point out that common sense in government only happened after the Save The Rhodys protest was formed and over 3,000 signatures protesting the building of the 10-foot-wide multi-use path were obtained.

The last sentence: "We serve at your pleasure."

This was one time that city government did serve its residents, but it sure took a tremendous amount of effort by the Save the Rhodys volunteers and the citizenry of the city of Florence.

In closing, this is my thought on City government: Be wary of government that pats itself on the back.

*Bill Johnson
 Florence*

Individual votes should count

I must confess that I was disappointed that Trump won but given two choices it was hard to define who would be worse. In the movie "Master and Commander," Russell Crow asked his crew "who was the lesser of two weevils?"

I'm not sure which one we got.

Admittedly, I had no comprehension of the Electoral College and how it works. I discovered there is some complex way that individuals in states cast votes that determine the outcome of an election.

Due to my uninformed mentality, I thought if

one candidate won a specific state they would win the electoral votes.

How wrong was I.

This confuses me because I believe that the individual votes should rule. However, I discovered that a few individuals in each state are Electoral College voters and they control the outcome of the election — not us.

It seems there is no "by the people and for the people" in our national elections. We need to get away from this potentially corrupt and archaic election system and elect those that the people vote for.

I feel like I casted my vote only to have an individual at his or her discretion change it.

*Win Jolley
 Florence*

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:
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The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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