

Letters from 4A

WHAT ABOUT THE ANIMALS?

I'm writing in regard to the recent ad in the Siuslaw News paid for by Oregon Coast Humane Society (Aug. 23).

What is astonishingly absent from that self-aggrandizing advertisement is the animals. There was little or no mention of enrichment programs for long-term animals — only passing mention of the spay/neuter clinic, and no mention of the fact there has been only one spay/neuter clinic since February.

Those volunteers and concerned citizens who have spoken up in recent weeks about

OCHS are concerned about the animals at OCHS and accusations of neglect at the hands of the current board, as well as certain shelter staff members.

Many of us have been concerned and brought issues forward years ago — only to be ignored.

You must ask yourself: Did the ad say anything about how the animals are being taken care of day-to-day? Did it explain why there currently is no vet on staff? Was there any talk of what the OCHS is doing to educate the public about how spay/neuter is crucial to ending the cycle of unwanted animals? Did it address the total absence of low-cost spay-neuter services

for the past 5-plus months?

The OCHS board has abused its power. A new board comprised of people who are less interested in protecting their fiefdom and more focused on taking care of the animals is needed.

—Dolly Brock
Florence

STOP FALLING FOR THE LIES

I am thoroughly disgusted that we are even discussing the possibility of cutting after school programs like our local "Twilight" program.

I don't understand what is wrong with this swamp-filled administration. Cutting \$10 billion from education is like

shooting yourself in the foot. Kids are our future and no one can dispute that. Cutting the Twilight programs for middle and high school students is particularly upsetting because these kids are old enough to be unsupervised but not necessarily mature enough to be making good choices.

Drugs and alcohol are out there, and there are people looking for young, unsupervised kids to influence. To make it here in Florence, many parents must work, and having a good after school program is essential. Parents need to know their kids are in a safe, nurturing environment while they are working.

My three kids all graduated from the Siuslaw School

District and I drove a school bus here for 17 years. My youngest graduated in 2003 and I stopped driving in 1997. Drugs, alcohol and teen sex were problems then and I'm sure are even more prevalent now.

Where would you want your kids to spend several hours after school? Is this really "Putting America first?"

Regarding budget cuts, why is the Trump Administration cutting over 1/3 of the State Department's budget?

The State Department is vital in virtually every aspect of how America is represented literally *everywhere* in the world. That includes issues dealing with health, such as fresh water, women's health, disease control, vaccinations and so much more.

Diplomacy puts a good face on how we are represented, navigating other customs and trying to keep the peace

around the world. And the budget is being cut?

My son, who has worked for the State Department's Foreign Service for the past 13 years, has represented the U.S. in Bulgaria, Bosnia, Estonia and Kenya, and now he and his family are spending three years in Belgium.

Sounds glamorous, but it isn't. Pay is low and danger is high — especially under the current administration.

The rest of the world is wondering what America was thinking and so am I.

America fell for his lies, "Buh-lieve me."

—Gail Katz Hanson
Florence

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NEW LISTING
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\$119,900 BH7570 ML#17523254

NEW LISTING
Enchanted Valley lot. Mercer View Drive, septic notes on file. Dock, lake access & boat slips.
.77 acre
\$79,900 BH7568 ML#17341221

PRICE REDUCED
Located at the Reserve. Charm, warmth & elegance! Brazilian Cherrywood floors, quartz counter tops, bonus room, 3 car garage, timber frame style covered deck & patio, fire ring, privacy surrounded by nature! 3 Bdrm, 3 Ba 2184 sq ft
\$438,900 BH7553 ML#17567670

FEATURED LISTING
First class amenities, marble, quartz, 2nd floor suite with office & bath, decks, fireplace, RV parking & hookups 4 Bdrm, 2 3/4 Ba 3141 sq ft
\$599,000 BH7467 ML#17538753

FEATURED LISTING
In-town beautifully remodeled ranch style home. Fireplace, double garage, boat/RV parking – professionally landscaped. A must see!
3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1276 sq ft
\$235,000 BH7549 ML#17664947

FEATURED LISTING
Beach cottage. Come play at the beach. Eateries & market nearby. Live full time or part time.
1 Bdrm, 1 Ba 840 sq ft
\$125,000 BH7394 ML#17200307

FEATURED LISTING
Lovely home, open floor plan, real hardwood floors, fireplace, deck & much more
3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1999 sq ft
\$358,000 BH7357 ML#176340702

PRICE REDUCED
Greentrees East 1976 single wide home. Almost all vinyl windows, carport, shop & studio w/full baths.
2 Bdrm, 2 Ba 784 sq ft
\$64,000 BH7438 ML#17660701

FEATURED LISTING
South Shore subdivision Woahink Lake access. Corner lot. Ready for dream home, cleared septic approval. Lake water available.
1 acre
\$95,900 BH6892 ML#14666443