

Siuslaw News
 P.O. Box 10
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Opinion

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.

A brief history of 'the press'

In the front office of the Siuslaw News sits an 1892 Palmer & Rey 10x15 press, also referred to a "quarter medium press," which meant that to make a 20 x 15 newspaper, pressmen folded the paper in half and put it through the press four times to print the paper.

As presses advanced, the Washington Style handpress, the largest of these machines, was created, allowing a whole sheet in two passes through the press. These presses were said to be able to do 200 sheets per hour with just two operators.

This style of set up was pretty much the norm for smalltown papers.

In the east it was a different story, with companies building large-cylinder presses to print papers and magazines. Meanwhile, the rural West didn't see those type of presses until cities increased in size to support the investment in the machinery.

Another issue was the making of paper.

Paper mills were in the east in the 1800s and had to be shipped by rail to San Francisco, Calif., or Portland, Ore., then brought by wagon or boat, depending on where your printing office was.

The Palmer & Rey at Siuslaw News is a copy of an old style Gordon, which marked a huge milestone in presses; it had inking rollers that inked the form, and



Pressman, historian and restorer

By SEAN O'REILLY
 LOST CREEK PRESS

housed an impression that was automatic, allowing a seasoned pressman to produce 1,000 sheets per hour — as opposed to the hand press, which took two men to produce 200 sheets per hour.

As a historical note, the first press arrived in Oregon in 1839, coming from the Hawaiian Islands where it

was used by missionaries to translate Bible verses into pidgin English.

It was used at a mission in the Oregon Territory near what is now Lewiston, Idaho, at that time, Oregon was only a territory encompassing that area. It was used to produce Bible verses in the Chinook jargon, which was the trading

language at the time.

Though the language has evolved and changed along with the machinery used to convey it, the conversations inspired by "the press" and members of the community continue.

LETTERS

GROCERIES AND GUNS SENDS WRONG MESSAGE

We found it very troubling when our local Fred Meyer store began selling firearms.

Now, in the wake of increasing incidents of violence and the most recent mass killing of innocent people in Las Vegas, we feel we must take a stand.

Being able to purchase a gun at the same place we can buy a gallon of milk normalizes the purchase of lethal weapons in our country.

While there is certainly a place for gun sales for hunting, personal protection and target shooting, promotion of firearms shouldn't be acceptable adjacent to the children's toy department.

Krogers is in it for maximizing their financial benefit and we find the promotion of guns in our grocery store offensive.

There are other appropriate venues for gun sales.

Because of this, we are no longer shoppers at Fred Meyer.

— Mark and Cynthia Chandler
 Florence

WELL WORTH THE TRIP FOR WRITERS WEEKEND

Florence's annual Festival of Books and the "Making Your Writing the Best it Can Be" panel discussion conducted Friday, Sept. 29, was much appreciated by all who attended.

After the lengthy discussions and Q & A, the presenters followed up with one-on-one talks. Much thanks to everyone who shared their stories, especially Ellen Traylor and Ned Hickson, whom I spoke with afterward.

More than 25 years ago, I discovered writing and publishing. To attend this event, my wife Enid and I drove up from Garden Valley, near Placerville, El Dorado County, Calif. It was a 9-hour drive and well worth the trip.

We attended the Saturday Festival of Books as well, where I traded a couple of my books with featured writers.

We have a second home north of Florence, and our subscription to the Siuslaw News is currently sent to our small farm on the Georgetown Divide.

—Ken and Enid Deibert
 Garden Valley, Calif.
 and Florence

TIME FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CONVERSATION

When a community of this size is confronted with a problem by its citizens, one of two results occur:

1) It is properly addressed with sincere efforts on the part of those involved to find an acceptable solution and, consequently, very little public discussion in our local paper from that point on, or

2) Complaints are still forthcoming and questions continue to remain unanswered with little apparent effort to find suitable solutions.

In my opinion, it seems very apparent that No. 2 is what animal lovers are facing.

Ever since the problems with our local Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) were brought to light way back in mid-summer, there have been articles and letters in nearly every edition of the Siuslaw News from concerned animal advocates (many of whom were once volunteers at either the shelter or the thrift shop) voicing their genuine concern for the animals or the extreme changes in management of the thrift shop.

All this rhetoric, in my opinion, is getting us nowhere.

It would appear that the current board has dug in and is not particularly receptive to questions or suggestions from the general public, which helps support the program through donations of time and money.

Recent letters from Carol Strenkoski and Tony Cavarno may lead the way for us to address this a bit more forcefully. I also would like to attend these board meetings, but have seen no public announcement as to when they will be held.

I will find out when and where the next one is and will attend; I encourage any residents concerned with the situation to do the same.

Mr. Cavarno's letter suggested that there should definitely be changes to the board with volunteers who have either worked with the animals or in the store. I volunteered in the thrift shop for nearly 3-and-1/2 years and very rarely saw any appearance of board members on the days I was there.

Hopefully, if we can get a large turnout for the next meeting, a constructive conversation will result in some better decisions regarding the shelter, care for homeless animals and the organization

The animals deserve better — and so does the community.

I hope to see you at the next meeting.
 —Sue Hale
 Florence

MEDIA IS AGAINST PRESIDENT TRUMP

Why doesn't the media want us to know anything good about President Trump? Why can't people see all the good he's doing for our country?

They seem to take all the little things he says and turn it around. For example, it's obvious that they hate him on "The View." Those women had a hard time with Dr. Ben Carson because he is in favor of President Trump.

In the Oct. 5 issue of Rolling Stone magazine, the headline was "The Madness of Trump." In the article by Matt Taibbi, he projects an image of our President as insane, quoting percentages without backing them up and talking like he is a psychiatrist capable of diagnosing Donald Trump's "mental disorder" — all to condemn our Commander-in-Chief.

What is wrong with this picture? President Trump is returning our country to "We, the people."

He knows the Constitution.

He listens to our voices and televises what's going on in Congress. At this point in time, we have no idea what our Constitution is, and neither do the people who represent us. That's why presidents have been getting elected by special interest groups and lobbyist.

That is unconstitutional.

In my opinion, President Trump is the first Constitutionally correct president to get elected in decades.

And while The View and Rolling Stone magazine are bad, "Saturday Night Live" is the worst offender. Its skits were obstructing justice by making fun of "Pizza Gate." The child molesters and child sex rings are being shaken out of Washington D.C. and the swamp is finally being drained.

President Trump is addressing issues that have destroyed our economy, workforce, education and our health. He has brought back jobs and has succeeded in making better trade deals.

He has sought to include everyone and he has defended our country.

—Guthrie Kushner
 Florence

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Siuslaw News welcomes letters to the editor as part of a community discussion of issues on the local, state and national level.

Emailed letters are preferred. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed. All letters need to include full name, address and phone number; only name and city will be printed. Letters should be limited to about 300 words. 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, argumentative and anonymous letters or poetry, or letters from outside our readership area will only be published at the discretion of the editor.

POLITICAL/ELECTION LETTERS:

Election-related letters must address pertinent or timely issues of interest to our readers at-large.

Letters must 1) Not be a part of letter-writing campaigns on behalf of (or by) candidates; 2) Ensure any information about a candidate is accurate, fair and not from second-hand knowledge or hearsay; and 3) explain the reasons to support candidates based on personal experience and perspective rather than partisanship and campaign-style rhetoric.

Candidates themselves may not use the letters to the editor column to outline their views and platforms or to ask for votes; this constitutes paid political advertising.

As with all letters and advertising content, the newspaper, at the sole discretion of the publisher, general manager and editor, reserves the right to reject any letter that doesn't follow the above criteria.

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