

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

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.

"I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend." —Thomas Jefferson (1800)

Four reasons I and others will vote for Jay Bozievich

(Editor's Note: Viewpoint submissions on this and other topics are always welcome as part of our goal to encourage community discussion and exchange of perspectives.)

This week I asked a handful of folks as to why they would vote for Jay Bozievich for County Commissioner.

The first was Joe R., a long-time resident of Florence.

He quickly responded, saying "The man has integrity to a fault. My God, the man sacrifices his time and is absolutely absorbed by the job."

Joe had more to say, but I felt those words captured his feelings best.

Joel, a retired history professor, gave me a carefully reasoned answer.

"Jay's dedicated to limited government. That means he is dedicated to balancing the budget — which for us means we pay less tax."

The next person I spoke with, a big man dressed mostly in camo, described him as a friend of loggers. "And loggers need a friend. After all, it's a renewable

Guest Viewpoint By Jeff Ashmead

resource and, if managed properly, it's a jewel for the schools and county."

I didn't disagree.

And even if I did, this wasn't a man I wanted to disagree with.

Lastly, a lady who lives out on Siltco-

os Lake gave me a personal story:

"We were having some runoff issues a few years back and Jay came all the way out here to see it for himself. He got in my car and I drove him to where we were extremely concerned about a hazard.

"He's an engineer you know — soils, erosion — he used to be a project manager. He told us exactly what was going on and said that the thing we had planned to do would best not be done, and he was right.

"The guy really cares."

So between Joe, Joel, the man in camo and the woman on Siltcoos, I found four reasons to vote for Jay Bozievich: Integrity, fiscally conservative, properly managed logging and a guy who really cares.

LETTERS

Need a light

My wife and I went to the Event Center Open House regarding the Streetscape Project construction to begin August 3, 2018. This is a wonderful project and it sounds like they want to make safety as important as scenic views.

Our understanding is they plan to put a pedestrian crossing at Hwy. 126 and Spruce Street. It is very difficult to make a left turn going east onto Hwy. 126 to the casino or Eugene.

It would make more sense to put a traffic light for pedestrians and cars at that intersection, due to the speed of oncoming logging trucks and the many cars coming into Florence.

There have been noted accidents at that intersection due to the speed of cars and trucks and the fact there is no light to alert vehicles to slow down.

We will gladly chip in \$500 to pay for this needed traffic light.

—Sam and Carolyn Saiia
Florence

Shout out for clean up

I wanted to give a big shout out and

thank you to the Mapleton Community, Mapleton schools, Mapleton and Siuslaw fire departments, Mapleton Food Share, U of O students, the Nora Kent Team, Siuslaw News, Rosa's Mexican Restaurant, Mapleton Gas Station, City of Florence, Florence Chamber of Commerce, KCST Radio and whoever else may have helped in Saturday's Mapleton Clean-Up project.

—Karen Harden
Mapleton

No evidence of wrongdoing to conservatives

I'm glad the conservatives of Florence have a meeting place. As long as they understand they aren't the only patriots in town.

I'm a proud liberal (which means open-minded, like the Founding Fathers) from a military family. In the Siuslaw News article (Patriot Place Opens With Candidate Forum," May 2), it mentioned how the organization's website stated that the need for the Patriot Place arose from perceived "ridicule and intimidation."

I would like to have seen the Siuslaw News ask about the when and where of this inflammatory assertion. I don't see intimidation or ridicule towards the group. What specifically is the website talking about?

In my opinion, ridicule has been the president's forte, insulting everyone from a Gold Star family, to a POW senator and a disabled person.

It seems to me it falls a little flat when there is no ownership or specific evidence of wrongdoing to the group.

—Stephanie Spradling
Florence

Get ready for the rumble

Soon, noise pollution from motorcycles will make our little town a noisy place again this summer. The noise must be music to the motorcyclist mentality. But to the rest of us it's like a garbage truck at 5 a.m.

The police, both state and local, choose not to enforce the noise pollution laws.

—Glenn Doffee
Florence

West Lane County needs Nora Kent as commissioner

I met Nora Kent less than a year ago. We were both on the Human Rights Committee for FOR (Florence Organizes), a local non-profit organization that identifies a need in the community and works to fill that need.

In a meeting in late fall of 2017, Nora suggested that we could raise funds for DACA applicants. She is an instructor at LCC in the ESL department, (English as a Second Language.) She explained the DACA program to the committee as she had several students either going through the process or intending to.

The committee agreed to take on this fund raising effort by showing the movie "Delores." The problem was this meeting was just prior to the holidays and many members of the committee would be busy.

That didn't stop Nora.

During the holidays, she procured the

movie and set up the date. When the FOR Human Right committee met again in January, Nora announced that the date of the movie had been set for Feb.10.

The committee members were shocked and more than a little worried; it was less

Guest Viewpoint By Eric D. Hauptman Dunes City Mayor 2007-2011

than a month away. Nora calmed said not to worry and that everything had been taken care of. Nora had not only arranged for the movie's showing at Cty Lights Cinemas but had contacted three restaurants to donate food. She had written press releases, secured the template for printing posters and had contacted merchants to place posters in their stores.

In essence, Nora had pretty much made everything happen to insure the success of this fundraising project. Initially, the committee was hoping to raise \$400-\$500. The end result was five times that amount — and it was all due to Nora.

I share this because I've read some Letters to the Editor in our newspaper saying Nora is "only a teacher" with no experience in government or administration. Nonsense. I saw her in action and she gets things done. She is well known and respected in West Lane County among residents and both the businesses and education community.

It's true that Nora has not held prior public office and is not a politician. But she is a long-time West Lane County resident and now a citizen stepping up as our forefathers intended.

We don't need more politicians. We need citizens like Nora who are willing to step up.



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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.

Letters that are anonymous, libelous, argumentative, sarcastic or contain accusations that are unourced or documented will not be published.

Letters containing poetry or from outside the Siuslaw News 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.

Email letters to:
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