

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)

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Siuslaw News

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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that are anonymous, libelous, argumentative, sarcastic or contain accusations that are unsourced or documented will not be published.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 partisan-ship 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.

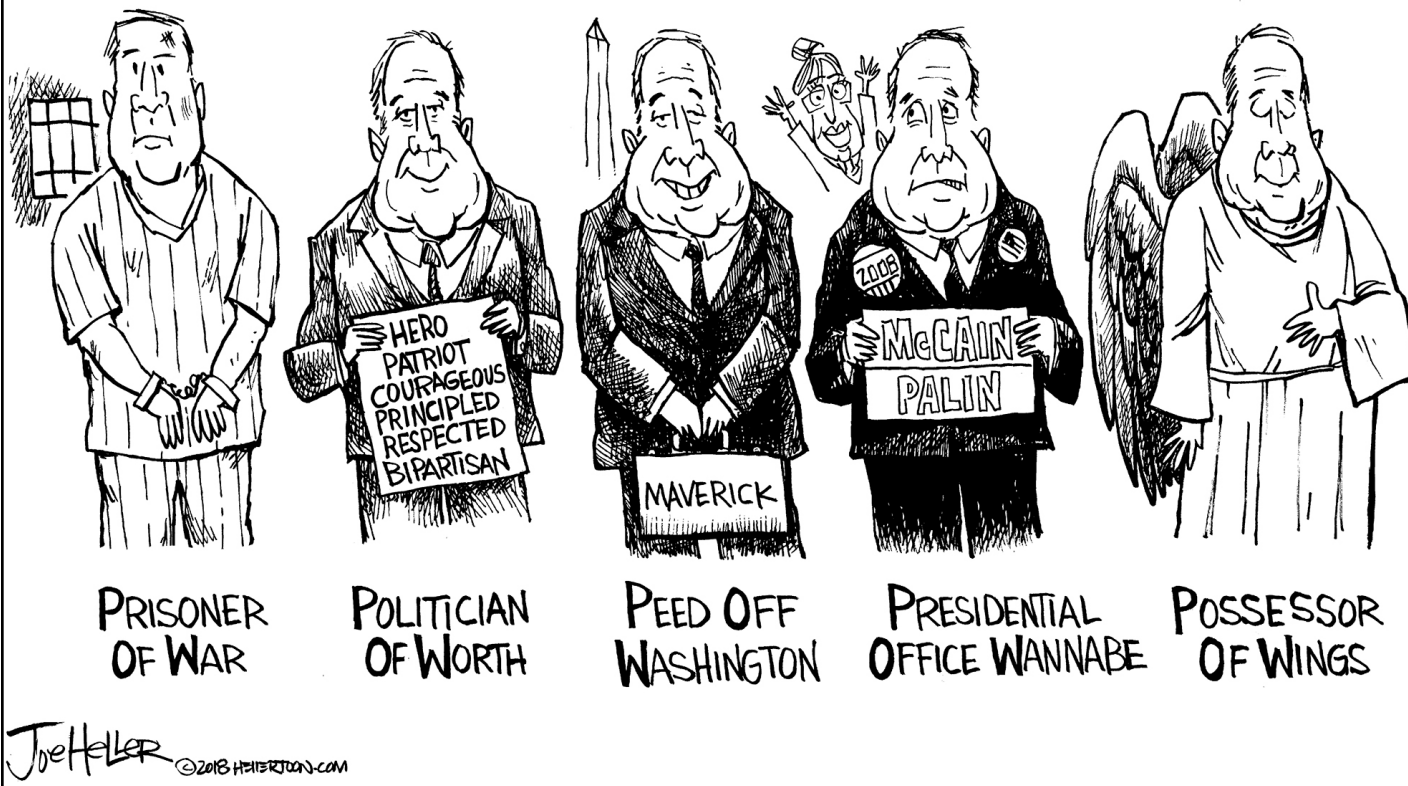
As with all letters and advertising content, the newspaper, at the sole discretion of the publisher, general manager and editor, reserves the right to reject any letter that doesn't follow the above criteria.

Email letters to:
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WHERE TO WRITE

PRES. DONALD TRUMP The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20500 Comments: 202-456-1111 Switchboard: 202-456-1414 FAX: 202-456-2461 TTY/TDD Comments: 202-456-6213 www.whitehouse.gov	U.S. REP. PETER DEFAZIO (4TH DIST.) 2134 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515 202-225-6416 541-269-2609 541-465-6732 www.defazio.house.gov
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JOHN MCCAIN-POW



LETTERS

NO CHERRY PICKING

Mr. Tony Cavarno mentioned in his letter "Overlooking the Good President Trump Has Done" (Aug. 25), which was about how "the left" is not looking at the good accomplishments that have occurred under President Trump.

I therefore request that he list the "good" that he feels fall in that category, and then be so kind to list the "bad."

No cherry picking allowed; bring the good and the bad. I would like to see how truthful the outcome would be.

I'd suggest starting the list of the bad, beginning with the more than 4,000 lies he has said or tweeted (as recorded in an ongoing list by The Washington Post).

By the way, be sure to break out your I.D. the next time you visit Safeway or Fred Meyer's.

I hear it is a common practice.
—Tom Jackson
Florence

PLAYGROUND NEEDED IN OLD TOWN AREA

A few weeks ago, my daughter babysat for an afternoon for two younger children at their home in Old Town. Before she went, she asked me to help her think of a playground she could walk to with them. We could not think of any playgrounds in the Old Town area where younger children could walk to and play.

None.

We took our kids, when they were young, to every playground in town. When we went to any other town, we searched out the playgrounds. We learned that a little time spent at the playground made happier little ones; we could do something we wanted to, and they were satisfied with their playtime.

And there could always be a promise of more playtime when we were finished with our adult activity. Old Town Florence needs a playground, something to take the kids to before or after parents shop a bit.

Some towns have very memorable playgrounds. We had names for each of them. "Do you want to go to the Big Wooden Bridge playground?" was our way of asking if the kids wanted to go to Lincoln City. Yachats was the "Climbing Dome play-

ground," now nicknamed the "New Treehouse" playground after being rebuilt.

Florence could also have a memorable playground. How about a slide that looks like a sand dune? Or a play-replica of our iconic bridge? It doesn't have to be really big; young children are usually easily pleased with any playground.

When I drive through the Old Town area, I can see two or three places that would make a good playground. That grassy lot between the Veterans Memorial and what is now public parking. Or somewhere in the boardwalk area. Or how about under the bridge?

In real estate evaluation, the highest and best use for a location refers to what is considered the maximum potential for a site. For example, oceanfront lots will command a higher value for residences than for sheep grazing. On most parts of the Oregon coast, the waterfront land is too valuable to graze sheep on it.

I see this same thing for the land under the bridge. Now it is a parking lot; a few lucky people get to park their cars there. Instead, it could be turned into a playground that is somewhat sheltered from the weather, is centrally located so that many Old Town area residents could use it easily, and visitors to Old Town would have something to enjoy with their smaller children.

It might even draw more people than ever to the area.

In some towns, community members get together and build a playground. Or service clubs. Or the city builds it. We have seen playgrounds with handprints of children on tiles, covering a wall.

Bricks with names of donors. Play equipment with donors' names.

Who can get this idea made into reality?

I read about Siusaw Vision. I hope this idea can be added to it.

—Mary Beth Rawlins
Florence

SOME OF THE 'ACCOMPLISHMENTS' OF PRESIDENT TRUMP

In Mr. Tony Cavarno's recent letter to the editor ("Overlooking All the Good President Trump Has Done," Aug. 25) he mentioned "all

the good accomplishments that have happened in the United States since President Trump and his administration took office."

Yet, he failed to mention any of these accomplishments. So, I am offering to help remember just some of those "accomplishments."

- There are still over 500 immigrant children in detention, some under five years old, whose parents either have been deported or can't be found.

- Trump's strategy to end North Korea's nuclear threat has so far failed as he has cancelled a scheduled trip by the Secretary of State.

- Passing the Republican tax bill that leaves the country more than \$1 trillion deeper in debt, with no acceleration in wage growth, and which mostly benefits corporate shareholders and is projected by the Tax Policy Center in 2027 to force 53 percent of Americans to pay more in taxes.

- Downsizing national monuments and opening them up to corporate plundering of our natural resources.

- Increasing dependency on fossil fuel use while cutting environmental regulations, resulting in a more polluted environment.

- Making the U.S. soon to be the only nation in the world (as of November 2019) not to be part of the Paris climate agreement.

- Not lowering drug prices as promised, nor replacing Obamacare with "something better."

- Spending 25 percent of his days at one of his golf resorts, costing taxpayers upwards of \$77 million.

- Many of the "best people" he put into positions within his administration, or campaign, have either been found guilty of — or pleaded guilty to — crimes, with more still in the pipeline.

- And being the first American president not welcome to attend two funerals for prominent members of his own party.

I am tired of "winning" with all these "accomplishments" and, in November, the American people will have a chance to express what they think of those accomplishments.

Vote. Vote. Vote.

—Mary DeCaault
Dunes City