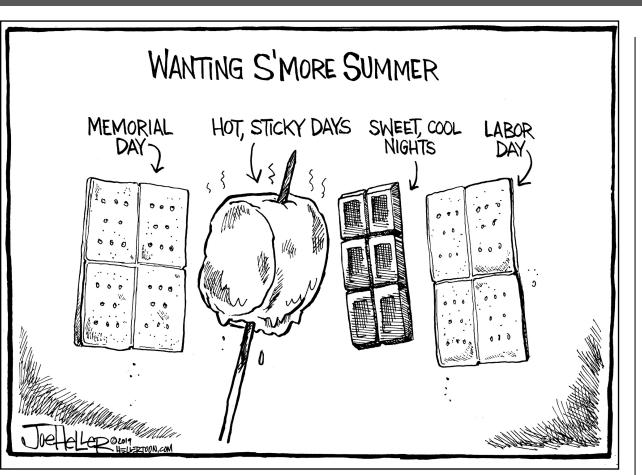
Siuslaw News P.O. Box 10 Florence, OR 97439

pinion

The First Amendment

'ongress shall make no law respect-■ ing 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)



LETTERS

THANK YOU TO WLCF FROM FOOD SHARE

Thanks to a generous grant from Western Lane Community Foundation (WLCF), Florence Food Share will be able to continue providing safe, nutritious food to the families and individuals in this community who depend on Food Share to help stretch their food budgets.

When Food Share's walk-in freezer desperately needed an evaporator coil to continue working properly, the WLCF stepped in with a grant to fund the repairs and parts necessary to keep the freezer functioning at the required temperature for food safety.

Over the years, the Western Lane Community Foundation has aided many individuals and organizations through scholarships and grants, and we are truly indebted to the individuals who had the vision to establish, and the generosity and determination to maintain this worthwhile organization.

> —Colin Morgan Operations Manager, for Florence Food Share

GET NEWS, LATIN FROM MORE THAN ONE SOURCE

I'm responding to two Letters to the Editor in the Siusaw News on Saturday, Aug. 24 ("Who Benefits" by Joel Marks and "Best Economy In 50 Years For a Reason" by Martin Cable.)

First from Joel Marks, my understanding of his letter presents a dichotomy: we shouldn't let "government" dictate how we make money, use property, etc., but he says we should let some amorphous entities do the dictating — presumably much wiser and wealthier than the citizenry.

Huh?

And by the way, the Latin for "who benefits?" is "cui bono?" not "Cumi Bono."

Second, from Martin Cable, I truly hope he's getting his news from more than one source.

The reality is that there are worries about another recession. China's economy is strong enough (and totalitarian enough) to see our tariffs and raise them. In the meantime here in the U.S., there are too many citizens working three jobs and living paycheck to paycheck, there is a furious and ugly divide in our citizens and I won't enumerate other egregious inequalities.

And you ask for whom I'm gonna vote?

Anyone but the incumbent.

—Patricia Burke Westlake

INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING ABOUT ART, GET INVOLVED

Recently there has been considerable complaining about the new mural on the Lincoln PUD building. The one thing that all of these complainers seem to have in common is that they failed to participate at every step in the process.

They failed to care enough to apply to become a public arts committee member at every publicly announced opportunity; they failed to attend regularly scheduled public meetings; and they failed to

attend public comment meetings. Not one of them submitted a proposal when the call to artists

was sent out publicly. In short, they failed at every one of many opportunities to offer any

meaningful or constructive input. So my question is: Now that all of the hard work has been done, why should anyone care at all about their opinion?

If you don't like the way things are going, get out of your chair, turn off the TV, get busy, become involved and make your opinion count when it really matters.

I would like to thank the Public Arts Committee, Central Lincoln PUD and all of the dedicated hard working people that have been involved with — and supportive of this public art project.

–Timothy A. Creager Florence

BEAR KILLINGS DESERVE MORE ATTENTION

I read with dismay on Saturday in the Register-Guard that five bears near Florence have been euthanized this summer.

There was also information in the Siuslaw News on Saturday ("Area Residents Reminded That Feeding Bears Is Illegal.")

I understand that some people are careless with trash, etc., and other people even deliberately feed bears for the selfish thrill of seeing This subject needs to be publi-

cized as much as possible so that eventually folks realize that they are dooming a bear's life by feeding it. The more people talk about this, the more people may understand.

Five bears in the Florence area have apparently been killed this summer alone.

Let's give this subject the attention that it deserves — this is their home, too.

> —Cris Reep Florence

'Who will I vote for?'

I have an answer to the question posed by Martin Cable in his Letter to the Editor ("Best Economy In 50 Years For A Reason," Aug. 24), "Who will you vote for?"

I would vote for the person who pulled "our USA" from the worst recession ever.

Unfortunately, President Barack Obama can't run for a third term. But alas, anyone else will do. "Our USA" will have to wait until a

Democrat is elected to run. —David J. Campbell Florence

HEY, THEY'RE STILL TREATING US BETTER THAN THEY TREAT EACH OTHER.

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DEADLINES: Wednesday Issue—General news, Monday noon; Budgets, four days prior to

publication; Regular classified ads, Monday 1 p.m.; Display ads, Monday noon; Dis play classified ads, Friday 5 p.m.

Saturday Issue—General news, Thursday noon; Budgets, two days prior to pub lication; Regular classified ads, Thursday 1 p.m.; Display ads, Thursday noon; Display classified ads, Wednesday 5 p.m. Soundings, Tuesday 5 p.m.

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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 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:

nhickson@thesiuslawnews.com

WHERE TO WRITE

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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

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