

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)



LETTERS

DON'T FORGET CHARGES NEVER PURSUED

I've been out of state RVing for the last couple of months and just returned home and have been busy catching up with some forwarded on editions of the *Siuslaw News*.
A Letter to the Editor in the Feb. 22 edition written by Ray Plumery ("Politics, Judicial System Should Not Mix") caught my eye.
In his letter, Mr. Plumery complains about a government that chooses to not bring charges against behavior detrimental to society, referring (I believe) to our current President and Attorney General.
I wonder if he may have forgotten a slew of charges that *should* have been brought up against Hillary Clinton and other Obama holdovers but were over looked?
No one took more liberty with our wonderful U.S. Constitution than Barack Hussein Obama and his regime.
I believe more clarity of thinking is needed if Mr. Plumery really believes, as he says, that our criminal justice system must remain out of the realm of politics.
How many persons going into politics and/or government office leave their personal beliefs behind and speak with a neutral voice?
Does he really think the left-leaning judges on the Supreme Court think with a "neutral" mind?
—Tony Cavarno
Florence

RHODY DAY WRONG PLACE FOR NATIONAL AGENDAS, POLITICS

I did not go to the Indoor Garage Sale at FEC but I have been reading the recent Letters to the Editor in the newspaper about the Oregon Right to Life presence there.
Recently, I had an experience

that made me uncomfortable for the City of Florence:
I submitted a request to use the Gazebo Park after the Rhody Parade for a Fanny Rugburn concert. After I didn't hear back for about three weeks, I called to inquire about the request and was told the Gazebo Park had already been requested by Florence Right to Life (I think that's what they called it) for all three days of the Rhody Festival.
I was fine with being a "late requester" but a little concerned about having that specific group in such a public place during a festival that is supposed to attract townspeople and tourists.
I think political issues — conservative or otherwise — sends the wrong message during what is supposed to be a community festival.
— Paula Burnette
Florence

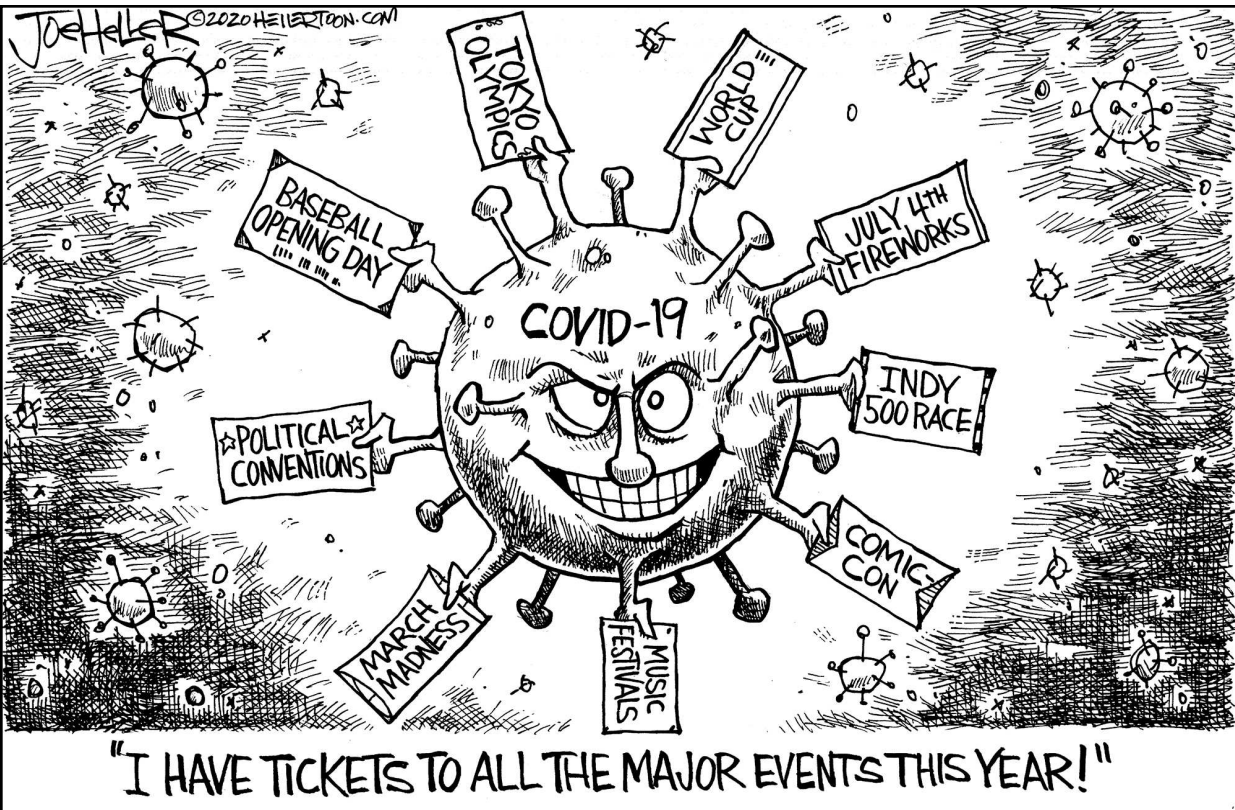
SENIOR CENTER NOT JUST FOR SENIOR ANYMORE

Our Senior Center is a wonderful addition to our community. We are now a true community center, welcoming all ages.
Meals are available five days a week; we offer games of all kinds (bingo, poker, 5 crowns, triple play, pinochle, etc.); we have a pool room; a chair exercise class, Yoga and line-dancing are also available.
We also have rooms for parties and meetings.
I hope community members will come see our facility and take advantage of what we have to offer.
It's not just for seniors anymore.
—Nancy Coughlan
Florence

MOST WEALTHY SHOULD HELP COVER HEALTHCARE

I was having coffee the other day with friends and we talked about global warming, poverty and the cost of healthcare.

I will soon turn 80, so I will not experience the human destruction of Earth. As for poverty, we must address what is at *home* first, rather than in third-world countries.
I was then asked how could we pay for universal healthcare.
I am completely happy with my Medicare and the supplemental insurance coverage. But it does not address two thirds of our population.
I think our nation's wealthiest individuals and corporations should help pay for healthcare by being taxed for at least 25 percent of their net yearly gained worth, (or what they might want to call a grant.)
I will just mention a few who should provide grants and shoulder the cost of healthcare.
• Amazon's Jeff Bezos — \$180 billion and just donated \$10 billion to climate change (or 7 percent of his net worth.)
• Microsoft's Bill Gates — \$90 billion and his wife \$37 billion.
• Those who only have a bit less: Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg at \$77 billion, Google founders Sergey and Larry Page each at \$60 billion, along with Bloomberg.
Now on the lesser side: The Walmart kids S. Robson Walton, his sister Alice and brother each in the realm of \$40 to 50 billion.
In addition, corporations Chevron (\$190 billion), Exxon (\$350 billion), Johnson + Johnson (\$360 billion), Amazon (\$919 billion), Microsoft (\$920 billion) and Apple (\$943 billion.)
Way down the wealth line we have do-gooder individuals that provide money to third-world countries for food, healthcare and education. Instead, they could be addressing what is much needed here at home.
—Win Jolley
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.
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:
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WHERE TO WRITE

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