

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

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

COVID-19 VIRUS AND THE DELTA VARIANT

PLEASE GET VACCINATED! If you have questions, please do not go to social media for them. Go to the public health authorities or your doctor for information. You will get the correct answers to your questions instead of the misinformation that you may get from other sources. This virus does not care if you are a Republican or Democrat, what color you are or nationality you are. It does not pick or choose which person it is going to attack. Whether you are black, white, brown, pink or purple, COVID does not care! This virus has been, for some reason, put into a political situation and it should never have. This is affecting all of us — young, old and people with underlining conditions. I don't know about you, but I want to be able to enjoy my life again and be with people again. To go to dinner or to the market and not have to worry if I am going to get sick. Getting the vaccine is your choice, but if for some reason you think you won't get this, you may be very much mistaken. This Delta variant is attacking so many more people than in the last year because it attacks everybody, whether you have been vaccinated or not. However, if you have been vaccinated you may not wind up in the ICU or die because you have a better chance to survive. Please use the empathy God gave you and think about other people that you care about. Now, kids, grandkids and animals are getting this as well.

Please talk to somebody that has the information you are looking for. And PLEASE don't attack the messengers that are trying to do the right thing for this country and not be nasty to other people because of your own choice. I know myself and people that are trying to keep you and themselves safe, especially the first responders, the medical staff, the workers in your favorite store or restaurant, want to get back to some kind of normalcy. Thank you for hopefully listening.
— Barbara Rasmussen
Florence

GOOD OLD-FASHIONED AMERICANA

If you ever felt like you would like to be part of a Norman Rockwell painting or be completely immersed in good old fashioned Americana, you should have been (or perhaps

were) at the National Night Out staged last Tuesday, Aug. 3, at Miller Park. This is a nationwide program, the third year here in Florence, hosted by the police department and other first responders to foster knowledge and understanding within the community of what they do.

The public of all ages were able to interact with the men and women who are a part of our police and fire departments, paramedics and Coast Guard. The cars, trucks, ambulances and boats used by all of these folks to protect our safety were all on site at the park. It was particularly great to see the young kids get up close, and sometimes in, these vehicles and interact with the people that use them to rescue people and save lives.

There was an ample quantity of hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream and drinks to satisfy a good sized crowd — perhaps a couple thousand! — spanning a wide range of ages who were all happy, interacting with their fellow citizens, and generally having a great time.

We felt very fortunate to share a picnic table for dinner with a young couple who had just moved to Florence a couple of years ago. The pair, who had two young children, told us they were celebrating their seventh wedding anniversary at the gathering! What a treat to get to know them and others that we met that night.

Sometimes, with the constant back and forth of news' headlines, it's nice to be reminded that there are just a great number of people going about their lives with optimism, happiness and good cheer. It's also pleasant to sit back and reflect on the beautiful community we call home.

— Ralph Nichols
Florence

A STORM BREWING

Marshall Denton's article in Saturday's *Siuslaw News* (July 31) was outstanding, wherein he asked 18 different questions regarding the Democrat Party in the eyes of members of that party.

I don't expect he will get answers to his questions from the Left. Anyone, in my opinion, who would answer, yes, they were comfortable with all or any part of those 18 questions, has been sniffing the sauce.

Every one of his questions nails many of the ills presently in our great country. He could have gone on and asked another 10 or 20 related question relating to the destruction of our greatest nation on earth, which we are so lucky to be born in.

I feel there is a storm brewing out there and the more Biden (and whoever is pulling his strings) takes actions to undermine this country, the

closer we may be to saying, "This is enough. Enough!"

I appreciate every day that I have had the wonderful luck to have been born here in America instead of Africa, Russia, South America, China, Cuba and a dozen or so other countries. I love this country, as do so many others of us.

May God bless this country and may God help us as we are presently going down a path which is so unlike the country I had the privilege of being born in.

If America is so bad in the Left's eye, would someone explain to me why there are thousands upon thousands of people of other countries storming our country daily now at our southern border?

God bless our country.
— Tony Cavarro
Florence

So WHY?

So why is it that bailing out car companies, banks and corporations isn't socialism, but helping the poor during a pandemic is?

So why is it that putting on a mask or getting the vaccine is an attack on your freedom after 600,000 Americans are dead?

So why is it that in spite of overwhelming scientific evidence to the contrary, people have the gall to ignore the fact that our state is on fire (you forgot to blame it on antifa or Jewish space lasers this time)?

By the way, since Mr. Spayd insisted that Florence should only deal with issues at hand (in his Guest Viewpoint on May 29, and during public comments at the July 19 Florence City Council meeting), try this — there's a dead zone right off the coast running the length of Oregon. It's a zone of seawater with no oxygen whatsoever. This summer, it will come closer to the coast than ever before, it will decimate the Dungeness crab industry. Is that close enough for you?

So why is it that people would pledge their alliance to a draft dodging grifter, a want-to-be dictator that Putin supported because he is "mentally unstable?" Your dear leader used our National flag as a red cape to get you to do exactly what he wanted, and you obliged.

It's spelled Republican, but it's pronounced "hypocrite."

Hundreds of thousands have died for it, millions will suffer because of it — perhaps not you, but your children and your grandchildren will.

Your selfishness and arrogance, your compliance and privilege, your blindness and fear of change is what will doom this country.

And for that, I curse you with my last breath.

— Edward Gunderson
Florence

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Jenna Bartlett
Chantelle Meyer
Front Office
For Advertising: ext. 318

Publisher, ext. 318
Editor, ext. 314
541-997-3441
For Classifieds: ext. 310

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Siuslaw News

Office:
148 Maple St./PO Box 10
Florence, OR 97439

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The *Siuslaw News* welcomes Letters to the Editor and Guest Viewpoints as part of a community discussion of issues on the local, state and national level. 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.

Email letters to cmeyer@thesiuslawnews.com

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION:

Letters must address pertinent or timely issues of interest to our readers at-large. In addition:

- Letters reflect the opinion of the writer. The *Siuslaw News* cannot verify the accuracy of all statements made in letters. Authors should ensure any information is accurate, fair and not from second-hand knowledge or hearsay, and include sources where possible.
- Letters have a suggested 300-word limit and may be edited for grammar and clarity.
- Authors must sign their full name and include their street address (only city will be printed), as well as a daytime phone number and/or email address for verification. The person who signs the letter must be the actual author. *Siuslaw News* does not accept anonymous Letters to the Editor.
- *Siuslaw News* will not print form letters, libelous letters, business promotions or personal disputes, poetry, open letters, letters espousing religious views without reference to a current issue, or letters considered in poor taste. Letters also may not be part of letter-writing campaigns.
- Writers are limited to one published letter every two weeks.

TO SUBMIT TO THE SIUSLAW NEWS:

Emailed submissions are preferred. All letters need to include full name, address and phone number; only name and city will be printed. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed.

The newspaper, at the sole discretion of the publisher and editor, reserves the right to reject any letter that doesn't follow the above criteria.

WHERE TO WRITE

PRESIDENT JOSEPH BIDEN

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
Comments: 202-456-1111
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
TTY/TDD: 202-456-6213
www.whitehouse.gov

STATE SEN. DICK ANDERSON (DIST. 5)

900 Court St. NE - S-417
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1705
Email: Sen.DickAnderson@oregonlegislature.gov

OREGON GOV.

KATE BROWN
160 State Capitol 900 Court St.
Salem, Ore. 97301-4047
Message Line:
503-378-4582
www.oregon.gov/gov

STATE REP.

BOOMER WRIGHT (DIST. 9)
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1409
Email: Rep.BoomerWright@oregonlegislature.gov

U.S. SEN. RON WYDEN

221 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5244 | 541-431-0229
www.wyden.senate.gov

LANE COUNTY DIST. 1

COMMISSIONER

JAY BOZIEVICH

125 E. Eighth St.
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-4203
Email: Jay.Bozievich@co.lane.or.us

U.S. SEN. JEFF MERKLEY

313 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-3753 | 541-465-6750
www.merkley.senate.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

FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL & MAYOR JOE HENRY

Florence City Hall, 250
Highway 101, Florence, 97439
541-997-3437
ci.florence.or.us
Email comments to Florence
City Recorder Kelli Weese at
kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us