

Opinion

LETTERS

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.

(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.)

CONSIDER THE NURSES

At the start of the pandemic in 2020, many of our fellow nurses left Peace Harbor Medical Center (PHMC) or the profession all together for fear of the virus. In April 2020, we were treated as heroes for staying at the bedside. PeaceHealth initiated a COVID-19 Paid Sick Bank for those who were exposed and affected by the virus.

This year, PeaceHealth ignored one of their most critical assets: nurses. We have been negotiating for reinstatement of the COVID sick bank and other reasonable measures of support. PeaceHealth has repeatedly refused our requests.

Now, if a nurse contracts the virus as a result of patient care and has depleted their PTO bank, they will need to stay home without pay.

Instead of protecting and rewarding their staff nurses for our loyalty, PeaceHealth has chosen to employ travel nurses, some being paid upwards of \$10,000 a week. This is demoralizing for all PHMC nurses who have worked so hard for their community.

Please show your support by contacting PeaceHealth Oregon Network CEO, Todd Salnas (541-

222-2004, tsalnas@peacehealth.org) and asking that PeaceHealth stop harming its nurses and work toward a collaborative agreement to protect our health as well as that of the community.

— Barb Davis
On behalf of Oregon Nurses Association Peace Harbor Medical Center Executive Committee

VOTING RIGHTS

I found one statement in the Sept. 1 article on voting rights quite troubling: "...but here we are protecting our rights to vote, for everyone."

"Everyone" is a bit too inclusive. The 10 to 12 million undocumented/illegal immigrants in the U.S. do not have that right. That precious right is, by law, given to American citizens 18 years old or older.

I wonder how many people, pro and con, have actually read the "For the People Act?" I did, and found it to be of the same type of bureaucratic hyperbole as the so called "Infrastructure Bill." They should be titled, "For the Democrat Party."

For example, Title 11, Subtitle D, provides a pathway for District of Columbia Statehood — a means to pack the Senate with Democrats.

Also, Title 1, Subtitle N, allows for sworn affidavits in lieu of photo ID. I cannot understand why Democrats become unglued at the concept of proper IDs. Try cashing a check, checking in to a motel or boarding a plane without one.

There are 44 million people on food stamps (SNAP). Among the documents required to apply for SNAP is proper ID, such as photo ID or birth certificate, and proof of citizenship. Apparently, low income people are quite capable of providing ID when required.

How about an act that simply states, "The right of every American citizen of legal age, excepting convicted felons, shall not be infringed."

— Keith Kraft
Florence

I SAY

In response to a letter in the Oct. 9 Siuslaw News entitled "They Say," I want to ask — what planet is Mr. Titus living on?

It's easy for a retired person living in a very comfortable community such as Florence with a secure income to throw out a letter to convey that all is well and beautiful under the current administration. Really?

The influence of this administration is reaching across America to tear everything apart for our survival. When you go outside of our cocoon here, you will have a wake-up call.

Mr. Titus can criticize the conservative Christians, but I have to point out that these are the very people who are working tirelessly to maintain the freedom and values we grew up with as children.

We are not against masks and vaccinations per se, but the mandates of force. The climate change

is another issue for control over the way we live. The liberal politicians say one thing and do another.

Our education system is one of the more serious issues at hand. Some things have no business being taught in our schools, directing our youth towards radical ideas. Education should be a guide towards a career, not an indoctrination to cause division.

It's grievous to see what has happened to this country in these short nine months: gas prices on the rise and soon to be in short supply, empty grocery shelves in larger cities, nurses and doctors walking off their jobs, airlines cancelling flights in large number and the list goes on. This is just the beginning.

People are afraid and becoming desperate.

In my mind, the delusional democrats need to get a grip on reality.

— Donna Dobson
Florence

DUNES CITY ORDINANCE

#259

Dunes City Planning Ordinance #259 is being presented as a mere tweak to language of a dated development code, but is in fact a lengthy collection of wide-sweeping changes. Some critical changes are related to fees, fines, land seizure and the right to be heard by a municipal judge.

A Code Enforcement Officer is to determine validity of com-

plaints of code violations, hire outside code investigators, issue fines and authorize repairs less than \$2,000 on the owner's behalf. There is NO cap on homeowner fines, which are currently set at \$1,000. This officer will be the sole and final "judge" of all property owners' appeals — unless the homeowner pays for an appeal before the city council, whose decision is also final.

Ordinance #259 assesses fines on a case by case basis.

Another change included is a new policy that permits a code violation letter to be sent with the wrong name and/or address and still serve as a valid notification to the homeowner.

Dunes City Planning Commission's meeting on Oct. 28 may be the only opportunity for residents of Dunes City to provide feedback regarding the ordinance.

Dunes City has already submitted their plan to the state. The city's Charter states that new legislation may be passed with as little as 24 hours public notice.

The state, county and city acknowledge the importance of citizen involvement in city planning. Examine Ordinance #259 on the Dunes City website and call, write, email or attend the Dunes City Planning Commission's Oct. 28 meeting. Make your voice heard, like other concerned citizens of Dunes City.

— S.B.
Dunes City

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