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tion; it is now a community attitude with a mighty challenge to bring a bright horizon of opportunity back to the community.

From a distance of over a thousand miles, there is little that I can do "hands on" to help with the recovery and rebuilding. However, please be encouraged by the many thoughts and prayers from outsiders as you undertake this mighty task.

Sincerely,
Charles D. Comstock
Woodland Hills, CA

Lonsdale won't take PAC money

To the Editor:

The recent senate race to replace Packwood turned off a lot of Oregonians with negative campaigning and the amount of money spent for that coverage in the media. $40,000 a day for television coverage in the Portland area alone was one figure I heard. Much of this was PAC MONEY which is one of the corrupting influences in American politics.

There is a candidate running in the democratic primary on May 21st for the Senate who is not taking any PAC money and will fight for campaign reform. His name is Harry Lonsdale. At a recent meeting in Salem with Mr. Lonsdale he made a vow to those of us present to not use negative campaigning and has asked us to call him on it if he did. His claim is that it is bad for the country and bad for the candidate; both of which are true. Issues need to be discussed, no t cussed.

We can start the return to democracy by electing Harry Lonsdale to the US Senate in 1996 and take a step toward getting our country back. Anyone that wants further information on how Mr. Lonsdale stands on issues can drop me a line at 12865 Keasey Rd, Vernonia, OR 97064 and I'd be happy to mail you a Statement by Harry Lonsdale.

Thank You,
David M. Jones
Vernonia

Lawsuit is attempt at intimidation

To the Editor:

The suit brought against the community of Banks by Aho Construction Co. has worked remarkably well at intimidating and angering our small community. Even in these litigious times, when we should feel numb to such a large number as $18.8 million, we are still reeling from the impact of the blow.

The Coalition for Responsible Growth, a grass roots organization in Banks that has been named in the lawsuit, takes pride in its diverse membership and support. We represent a cross section of our community, including persons of all the groups whom the lawsuit alleges we discriminated against. Our motives have only been our publicly stated goals. It has never been our policy nor our goal to discriminate nor act in a prejudicial manner. We will continue to be active in growth and livability issues concerning our community.

Throughout the last year, the Coalition has attempted to work with Aho Construction Co. to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement on issues relating to the impact of 308 new homes in a city with a population of 500, only to be rebuffed. Rather than building trust and good will in our community, Aho Construction Co. has shown its true colors by initiating an expensive and slanderous slap suit, a common technique that developers with deep pockets and extensive legal resources use to threaten and intimidate opposition.

Aho Construction Co. has succeeded in creating an atmosphere which may silence vital community voices from fully exercising, without fear of recrimination, our rights to free speech and association guaranteed every citizen under the first Amendment.

Sincerely,
Jim Pursley, President
The Coalition for Responsible Growth, Banks

Vernonia youth, too, helped community

To the Editor:

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for helping out during the flood. People were volunteering to

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