

# The INDEPENDENT

Published on the first and third Thursdays of each month by The Independent, LLC, 725 Bridge St., Vernonia, OR 97064. Phone/Fax: 503-429-9410. Publisher Clark McGaugh, clark@the-independent.net Editor Rebecca McGaugh, rebecca@the-independent.net Mentor Noni Andersen  
Printed on recycled paper with vegetable based dyes

## Opinion

### On campaigning & serving

People are saying that the dirty campaign tactics are worse this political season than they have ever been. It does seem that every candidate is so busy telling us what his/her opponent has done wrong they can't be bothered telling us why we should vote for them instead. Does anybody really care what the candidate's friends, family or religious leader thinks, says or does? Well, maybe, but that certainly shouldn't be the primary thing we know about a candidate. Instead of telling us what's wrong with your opponent, please, please, tell us what's right about you? Wouldn't it be nice to know what the actual candidate thinks, says or plans to do?

Maybe they tell us what's wrong with their opponent or what 'bad' thing their opponent will do or has done because they aren't actually planning to 'do' anything in office, except collect paychecks and smile for the cameras. Maybe they sling mud, true or not, hoping that when the time comes to mark your ballot, you'll remember the mud, true or not, and vote for them instead of the muddied one. Could it be as backward and convoluted as that? Yes, unfortunately, it could.

On the local, county, and even to some extent, the state level, one thing you can do is talk to the candidates when they are in town. This is particularly true of candidates for local mayoral and council positions. Talk to the candidates about how you want them to represent you and what's important to you. Tell them you don't want to hear about them going to meetings outside their jurisdiction and 'getting in peoples' faces', literally in many cases, while they represent you.

Candidates, once you are elected and you represent us, remember – YOU WORK FOR THE PEOPLE. Paid or unpaid, don't push your own agenda, or your friends' or your families' agendas. LISTEN to the people you represent, especially the ones you don't talk to regularly or don't like. Ask them questions, then LISTEN. If after getting as much, and as varied, input as you can and as much information (both sides) as you can, your decision (or vote) happens to agree with your personal position, fine. If not, too bad – remember YOU WORK FOR THE PEOPLE.

And, to all of you who have the ability and time to hold office but chose not to do so, don't complain about what happens. Finally, for all of you who do volunteer your time to serve, in elected positions, or in other positions that keep the world turning – THANKS.

WHY SHOULD THE GOVMENT  
BAILOUT THE GREEDY ON WALLSTREET?

WHAT THEY NEED TO DO IS DIVIDE  
THAT \$700 billion

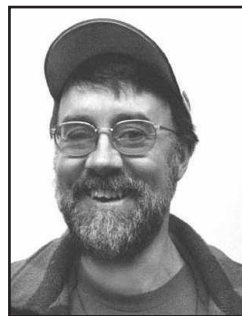
BETWEEN THE TAXPAYING NEEDY ON  
MAINSTREET!

WHAT BETTER WAY TO  
STIMULATE THE  
ECONOMY?!

BETTER THAN THAT PRESIDENTIAL KICKER CHECK!

### Ike Says . . .

By Dale Webb, member  
Nehalem Valley Chapter, Izaak Walton League



Well, surprises do happen when it comes to ODF&W. A few columns ago I mentioned that there was a proposal to allow a consumptive harvest of Cutthroat trout from the Northwest Zone, which would include our local streams. I truly figured it had no chance in its current form and actually could not support it personally, since it lacked protection for the Sea-run Cutthroat trout component of the Cutthroat population. Well beyond belief, the ODF&W commission passed the consumptive fishery proposal to allow taking two fish longer than eight-inches. Staff biologists argued that there was no reason to continue protecting cutthroat trout and that the limited consumptive fishery that has been ongoing on the south coast is proof of their support for this proposal. While I support this limited fishery in the early summer months, I still have some concern when known Sea-run Cutthroats enter the lower Nehalem in late summer and fall. Regardless, next spring it appears the regulations will reflect the new changes and people will once again be able to harvest Cutthroat trout from local streams.

Recently I went for a ride-along with a retired OSP trooper funded by an Access and Habitat grant that provides these additional officers to

help patrol private forest lands and keep the lands open to public recreation. It was an interesting ride-along, with topics of discussion that ranged from ATV's to thieves stealing power lines from West Oregon Electric Cooperative. These additional officers provide an expansion of the police force when the need is greatest, during the hunting seasons when many sportspeople, and unfortunately many outlaws, hit the woods. We discussed the fact that many of the illegal users of private forests are not sportspeople. A case in point is the numerous ATV riders who are unable or unwilling to read signs posted all over the place stating that ATV's are not allowed behind the gates. Each one of these violations of timberland rules brings us one step closer to a total lock-out. Another problem is when the gates are open, but there are certain roads that are off limits to vehicle travel. These are denoted by No Entry signs or Cooperative Travel Management signs that state unauthorized vehicles are not permitted on these roads. Trooper Holbrook pointed out that the sportspeople who are in the field and who see illegal activity going on, can help officers by providing information and, in this day and age of cell phones, communications are leading to more and more arrests. If you are interested in helping protect your use of local private timberlands, make sure you have the OSP TIP line number (1-800-542-7888) in your cell phone. If you happen to encounter one of the local troopers and are interested in helping, many of them carry business cards with their personal

Please see page 16