

Opinion

GUEST COMMENTARY

Subtle changes to end violence

Who are you a fan of? Is there someone you look up to?

If you have a particular interest, you may follow the experts in that field. Perhaps you read their articles or blogs, own their books, or listen to them on TV or radio.

Maybe you have attended an event, game or presentation they have made in a metropolitan area.

Living here, my guess is you would not expect the opportunity to see one of your heroes here in Tillamook. But I was able to do just that. As one of approximately 100 people who attended the recent two-day "Imagine No Violence" summit sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, I met one of my heroes: Rev. Dr. Marie Fortune.

For more than 30 years, Marie Fortune has been the prophetic voice of religion and domestic violence.

As an author, educator, practicing ethicist and theologian, Marie Fortune was one of the first to speak out about clergy abuse.

The "Imagine No Violence" summit provided an in-depth examination of the myriad contributors to domestic violence. Marie Fortune was one of the keynote presenters.

Conferences such as these are full of theories, facts, figures and graphs intended to provide an increased understanding of a subject. What made the "Imagine No Violence" summit extraordinary was its call to action on both an individual and a community level.

Information was provided to help attendees understand that everyone is impacted by domestic violence – each and every one of us – either directly or indirectly.

While I could easily go on and on about what I learned



Carol L. Brown

and how outstanding the summit was, I want to share what resonated with me most.

Domestic violence continues because we permit it. We allow it. Our culture is steeped in violence; some of it is subtle, some of it is blatant.

So what can be done about it? What difference can one person make? Is there something you could do today?

I know what I am going to do. I have committed to becoming keenly aware of my speech. By this, I mean I am going to be intentional about each word I use. Our everyday speech is full of common expressions of violence. We use phrases we aren't even consciously aware of.

This may seem a small thing, to eliminate violent expressions from everyday speech. But I believe small changes have great potential for genuine, lasting change.

"While I could offer bullet points that were right on target, I don't want to overkill the common violence in our speech." Get it?

Care to join me?

(Carol L. Brown is vice president of operations and business development for TLC Federal Credit Union, as well as a member of the United Methodist clergy serving both Tillamook United Methodist Church and the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office.)

SPEEDBUMP

by Dave Coverly



READERS' OPEN FORUM

A little bit of paint could prevent a lot of accidents

I appreciate the attention to the road issues here in Tillamook. Some of them are being repaired.

I am concerned about those newer areas, though. Is there a shortage of bright, lane-defining paint? The little flat markers in the middle of some of these newer repairs are impossible to see in the dark, especially when it is raining.

There are also no white fog lines to mark where the black road ends and the black ditch begins. The drop-off at the sides of these roads is steep enough to cause one to lose control of his car if veered into.

Third Street is a case in point, as is 12th Street by the schools. There are no more

gist in question, says he was misquoted and provided no date to the reporter.

Because of purported global warming, the world supposedly "suffered rapidly rising costs due to extreme weather-related events since the 1970s." The U.N. cited one unpublished study to prove this.

When the research eventually was published in 2008 after the IPCC report was released, the authors backpedaled: "We find insufficient evidence to claim a statistical relationship between global temperature increase and catastrophic losses."

There are so many examples of IPCC fraud that I could fill this newspaper. Not to mention the carbon credit sham that Al Gore devised to make him and others like

very deep, put the poop in it and covered it up, again waiting for the ocean to wash it out.

There are poop pick-up bags and disposals provided free.

I wish all owners would be more responsible.

I have yet to have a dog jump on me, but I have had them run up to me and growl. No bites yet.

Janet Lease
Nehalem

Every American should take Nov. 2 seriously

For a non-presidential election year, this could be one of the most important elections this state and the entire country have ever seen.

We hold the keys to our future in our hands

and ultimately work for us.

Please don't miss this, our greatest of all rights as free Americans. Choose wisely and make your vote count!

Jill Williams
Tillamook

Things on Lake Lytle have changed in 50 years

Normally, I would not respond to a letter such as yours ("Former Rockaway Beach mayor has selfish motives," Sept. 22). This will be my only response, because it involves gravitating. But I will start with your comment about what did I achieve.

I ran for mayor, won, and then your ex led the charge to recall me, which did indeed happen.

You mentioned 1960. Ms. May, that was 50 years ago.

Write to us

We want to hear from you, and encourage you to write letters to the editor.

Because of space limitations, shorter letters have a better chance of being printed. We may edit your letter for style, grammar and clarity, although we do as little editing as possible.

(If you don't want your letter printed under those conditions, let us know and we'll respect your wishes.)

Thank-you letters are limited to mentioning individuals and non-commercial organizations.

Letters received after noon on Friday may not be in time for the following Wednesday's paper.

We also encourage your longer, guest editorials. These might be columns written by newsmakers, public officials or organization representatives. These can run a little longer in length.

To verify authenticity, all guest opinions must be signed and include your address and daytime phone number. We won't print your street address or phone number.

Submissions may be e-mailed to editor@orcoastnews.com or sent via mail or dropped off to Headlight Herald, 1908 Second St., Tillamook, OR 97141.

Any guest opinion may appear on the Headlight Herald's Web site.

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