

Editorials

Electoral question Where does Pappas stand?

U.S. Rep. Chris Pappas is apparently undecided on whether New Hampshire and the nation should continue with its current way of choosing a president. This view, made on a recent public radio “debate,” is astonishing.

The freshman congressman either does not understand the electoral college process and its importance for a small state like New Hampshire or he actually favors its abolishment and somehow thinks that not taking a stand on the matter is the safest way not to offend fellow Democrats.

But doing away with the electoral college would do great offense to the form of government the Constitution’s framers established. Without it, presidents would be chosen totally by

the citizens of New York, California, Florida, and other urban populations whose issues and interests are often not the same as our own.

Applied to presidential selection, “One man, one vote” would effectively mean no vote for any New Hampshire man or woman.

Scraping the electoral college might also do grave damage to New Hampshire’s first-in-the-nation primary, something that also rankles politicians — from both parties — from the big states. They fairly seethe at voters in our small state having any real say in the selection process.

New Hampshire voters have a right to know where the congressman stands on the matter. Will Pappas tell them?

Governor on nominee Sununu’s notable absence

We wonder: Was the other Chris in New Hampshire politics trying to emulate his namesake by not taking a stand on an issue of some importance to Granite Staters?

If not for fear of offending some voters, why did Gov. Sununu decline to sign up with most other Republican governors in a letter of support for supreme court nominee Amy Coney Barrett?

His office said it is simply because governors have nothing to do with selecting supreme court justices. While that is certainly technically

true, weighing in on that selection, especially one as contentious as this, is not without effect.

Sununu’s reason for not doing so might have been a bit more convincing had he not done the opposite in previous instances, expressing support of President Trump picks.

Not taking a stand this time probably won’t hurt Sununu much if at all at the polls. But speculation as to why he chose this course leaves voters to wonder if Justice Barrett’s pro-life views or the Trump stamp of approval somehow figured in to his decision to steer clear.

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Democrats and America need good Republicans

To the Editor: I read Chuck Douglas’ op-ed “Why I Can’t Vote for Trump” last week with great interest — and even greater surprise! I never thought I would see the day that Mr. Douglas, a former Republican congressman for the 2nd Congressional District (whom my father actually unseated 30 years ago!) and I would vote for the same presidential candidate. But 2020 never ceases to surprise me, and I was impressed by the reasoning he laid out for choosing to vote for Joe Biden this year.

I was especially struck by the lines, “To get my principled party back we first have to get rid of Trump.” I firmly believe that our democracy is better, healthier

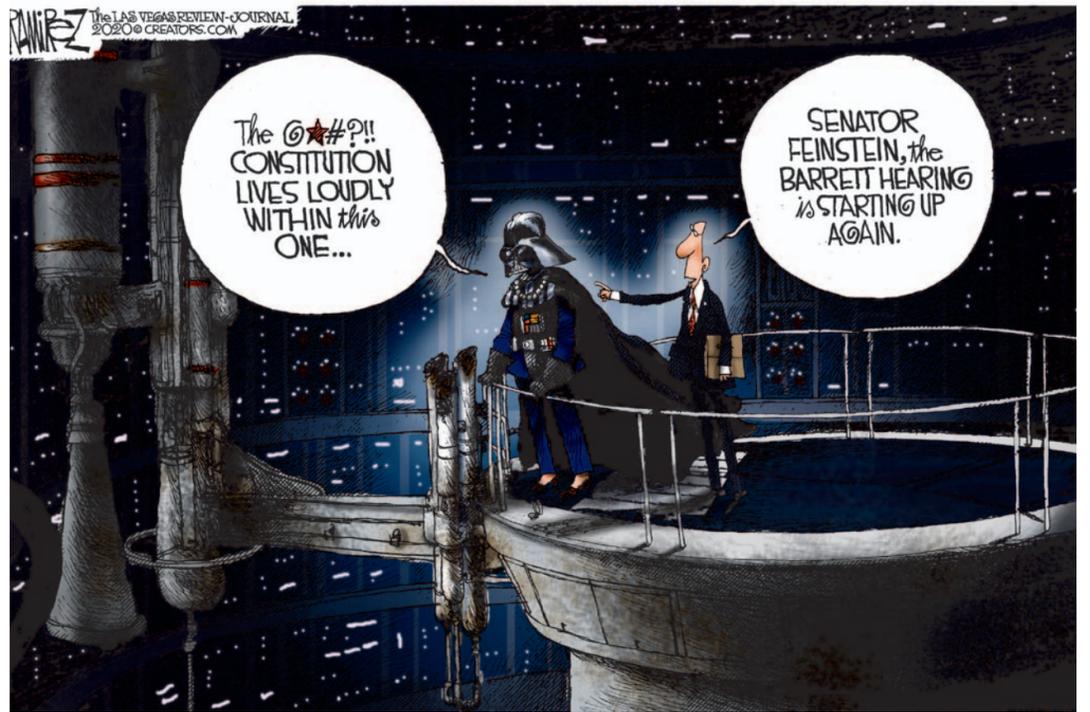
and more vibrant when both major political parties offer their best ideas and can rally behind decent, principled leaders. I would dearly love to see that become a reality again.

To achieve this, we need more than just Democrats like me to get out and vote for Joe Biden, we need independents and, yes, we need Republicans like Mr. Douglas. This may be the only year that our ballots match (at least at the top), but I’m glad to find common ground at this critical moment for our nation.

CHELSEA HEDQUIST
Bow

Hudson Logistics Center paves a brighter future

To the Editor: I am writing today in support of the Hudson Logistics Center project and respectfully ask our elected officials to grant the necessary permits



Sununu is a strong leader, Trump isn’t

AS WE TRANSITION into what is traditionally flu season when COVID infections and deaths are likely to continue to increase, it seems like a good time to recap where we are in this pandemic.

As I write this, it has been exactly seven months since the president of the United States declared a national emergency due to the spread of the novel coronavirus. In the past week, we saw more than 50,000 new infections per day for four days in a row.

Reported infections are on the rise in 31 states, and five states — including Vermont — are reporting an increase of over 50%. New Hampshire’s neighbor to the east, Maine, is among only three states reporting a decrease in cases.

New Hampshire’s infection rate is holding steady, one of 16 such states.

More than 214,000 Americans have lost their lives to the coronavirus. According to many experts, including Tom Frieden, former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the real number is likely higher as many, especially the elderly, may have been recorded on their death certificates as dying from an underlying condition rather than COVID-19.

“If you die from cancer, and you also have diabetes, you still died from cancer,”



Jennifer Horn

Frieden explained. “If you died from COVID, and you also had diabetes, you died from COVID.”

Frieden also suggests that while there are over 7 million confirmed infections in our country, the real number is likely closer to 40 million. The highly contagious nature of the disease, and the fact that we are still not testing at the rate most infectious disease experts say we should be makes it difficult to nail that down.

Of course, the most salacious news regarding COVID is that the president of the United States contracted the disease and was subsequently treated at Walter Reed Medical Center. On September 26 the president hosted a large event in the Rose Garden for Supreme Court nominee Judge Amy Coney Barrett where people were crowded together, shoulder to shoulder, sans masks.

The president’s super-spreader event has led to the infection of at least 30 people that we know of. Three U.S. Senators, several White House staff members,

debate set-up staff from the presidential debate that followed, Hope Hicks, Katelynn Conway, Kayleigh McEnany, Gov. Chris Christie, and others are among them. The maskless Sen. Mike Lee, seen on video from the event hugging several people with open arms, has also tested positive.

Because the administration has refused to engage in contact tracing from the gathering, we will never know how many people were ultimately infected from the exposure that began in the Rose Garden. Some, like Sen. Lindsey Graham, have openly refused to be tested despite the possibility that he could be infected and infecting others.

One would think that once he had contracted the potentially deadly disease himself that the president might have reevaluated his attitude and approach to COVID, but that unfortunately has not been so. Instead, he marched up the stairs to the White House balcony and ripped off his mask in front of the entire nation, making clear his contempt for medical science and the American people in one aggressive gesture.

In New Hampshire, we have seen a very different approach to the pandemic from our governor. Chris Sununu has taken the

danger this virus presents seriously from the beginning. He listened to both New Hampshire and CDC experts on infectious diseases. He listened to the guidance offered by both and implemented a balanced response that helped diminish the spread while respecting the rights of Granite Staters at the same time.

He also did something that Donald Trump has consistently refused to do. Gov. Sununu set the best possible example in his own actions. He wore a face mask, maintained appropriate physical distancing, and took other common-sense precautions to protect himself and others.

Gov. Sununu is a strong leader who has consistently put the safety and well-being of the people of New Hampshire at the forefront.

Donald Trump is not. So as we move toward the winter months, when coronavirus infections are expected to surge once again, leading potentially to a doubling of lives lost according to at least one model, I urge you all to continue to listen to our governor and follow his example.

Unfortunately, I cannot say the same about our president.

Former state Republican Party chair Jennifer Horn is a founding member of The Lincoln Project.

Letters

and allow the project to proceed.

I’ve been following this proposal since its inception earlier this year and the more I have learned about the positive benefits this will have on our entire town now and for years to come, the more I like it.

Upon approval the town will receive a one-time \$2 million dollar influx of cash just through the permitting process for this project. Additionally, the Logistics Center will be paying property taxes to the tune of \$5.1 million each year. This is a lot of new tax revenue flowing into our town and would greatly help the residents in terms of a variety of projects that are upcoming as well as what will be needed in the future.

What this money will mean to our town is immeasurable. Just think of the necessary capital improvements we could

make with these additional funds. Such as improved fire safety equipment, improvement to our schools and ability to fix our roads. Perhaps we can finally afford to provide our hard-working town employees the raise they deserve and have waited for so long to receive or even provide residents a modicum of tax relief.

Either way, the influx of this new revenue will help fortify our tax base.

JOSEPH VENSKUS JR.
Hudson

NH deserves unbiased statewide TV station

To the Editor: The political demographics of those voters that actually reside in the state of New Hampshire are pretty evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats, with a large group of

unaffiliated independent voters. That even division is representative of the independent thought that New Hampshire has long been noted for. Unfortunately, the local news reporting of our network-affiliated TV station makes no attempt to represent half of the state population.

Instead, we are given an endless stream of Democrat talking points, followed by a couple of cute puppy stories, more talking points and then decent weather and sports reporting. Any adverse news regarding Democrats is either not reported or glossed over, yet any unsubstantiated rumor about a Republican is reported as fact.

It is too bad New Hampshire cannot attract a TV station that would represent the entire populace.

TERRY PHAIR
Greenland

Trump is a peacemaker

To the Editor: The Middle East has been a thorn in our side over the course of numerous presidential administrations with peace either never tried or elusive. President Donald Trump has made a real and great start toward peace in that region with diplomatic relations between the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain with Israel. It’s reported that he is in talks with six more countries for peace deals. President Trump needs to continue this great work toward peace. He also wants to end our endless wars which, it seems the Democrat and Republican establishments are all too happy to have continue. If you want peace and prosperity keep Donald Trump as president.

MIKE AIELLO
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“There Is Nothing So Powerful As Truth” — Daniel Webster

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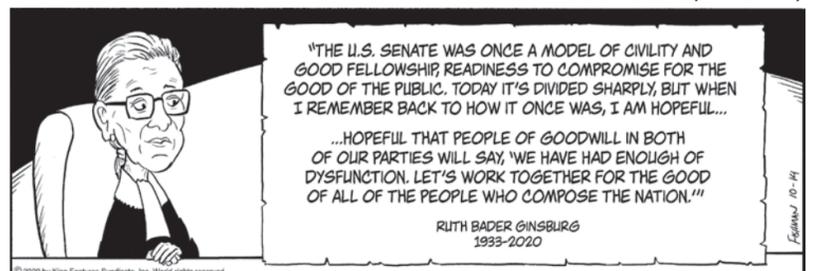
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“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is, There Is Liberty” — II Corinthians 3:17

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MALLARD FILLMORE

By Bruce Tinsley



RUTH BADER GINSBURG
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