

IDEASLAB

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nicholson right about Legislature

Kudos to candidate for governor, Kevin Nicholson, for addressing our legislators largesse ("Nicholson proposes slashing lawmakers' time, pay," March 30).

These self-important public servants have proved time and again they are in it for themselves. I have yet to hear a rational explanation why they didn't meet for over six months in 2020 while a crisis of historic proportions raged.

They were, however, able to run to court to litigate the role of public health. Their actions only served to erode public trust in a venerated institution and added to the confusion of who or what to believe.

If we've learned anything from COVID-19, it is the importance of a robust network of community, state and national health agencies. And they have been dismantled over the years by the "we know better" Captured Culture.

But for how much longer?

Jim Hajek
Cedarburg

Champion renewable energy

How utterly spineless of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Richard Glick to turn tail and run when Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell and Senate Energy Committee Chairman Joe Manchin called him "reckless" ("Energy agency re-thinks climate impact policy," Mar. 29).

His truly reckless action was abandoning the new energy policy that would have considered how natural gas projects affect climate change.

Of course we want countries to help Ukraine by boycotting Russian oil, but they shouldn't replace it with other fossil fuels like liquefied natural gas. We need to take advantage of this mo-

ment when not only a majority of our people want climate action, but also many of the world's democratic leaders are super motivated to do without Russian oil.

Let's mobilize America's know-how, entrepreneurial spirit and money to quickly scale up all kinds of green energy and shut down all fossil fuel infrastructure as soon as possible. As if it were an emergency, because it is!

President Joe Biden should fire the spineless Glick and appoint someone with a proven record of championing renewable energy and fiercely resisting the oil industry.

Phyllis Hasbrouck
Madison

We're Vos' fools

For the umpteenth time, again on March 31, the Journal Sentinel reminds us that the people of Wisconsin and its laws are being made fools of by Speaker Robyn Vos, Michael Gableman, and the Assembly with its "election investigation" ("Judge: Vos in contempt of court").

But why should the hard-working taxpayers of Wisconsin have to pay for this nonsense when it is all being done at the behest of former President Donald Trump? Is Vos afraid to bill Trump for these services? After all, Trump had to pay for the limited recount that ended up giving more votes to President Joe Biden.

John Karkheck
Glendale

A true hero: Volodymyr Zelensky

After watching the latest news of the war in Ukraine and realizing that in a little over a month cities lie in total destruction, thousands of people have died and many families are homeless with nothing to come back to, I found myself trying hard to find a "glimmer of hope" or lesson to be learned.

And then I thought of the people of Ukraine and their president. This young man of 44 years is showing the entire world what a true "hero" is made of. He has rallied his people and inspired them by his courage, by not running away when he had the chance to leave.

I look at our country with its senators and congressmen and women and see the public animosity they hold for others not of their party or who do not believe as they do. It was on display last week with the confirmation hearing of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Being a hero takes more than pumping your fist in the air or making some ridiculous statement to get your five minutes of air time on a cable TV station.

Stop and look at Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky. He is my hero.

Mary Kwiatkowski
East Troy

Infringing the right to vote

Right now, in Wisconsin, being physically able is a requirement for voting. Because of the recent court decision, no one — husband, wife, child or the neighbor you've known for 30 years — can carry your sealed, signed mail-in ballot to the mailbox or to the clerk's office. You can only vote if you are physically able to put the ballot in the slot on your own ("Ruling impedes disabled voters," March 23).

Who is affected by this? People in nursing homes and assisted living. People with mobility impairments and no transportation.

This court ruling takes away the right to vote from thousands of Wisconsinites. It takes away the voices of older adults and people with disabilities. It labels them as cheaters and illegitimate voters. It is outrageous disrespect for legitimate voters, and it is voter suppression on its face.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has an opportunity to restore the rights of

citizens who need support to exercise their right to vote. Let's hope the divided court recognizes the need to be unified on protecting older adults and people with disabilities.

Janice Wilberg
Milwaukee

'No' to factory farms

Eight thousand cows at one farm is reprehensible in my opinion ("Controversial Kewaunee Co. factory farm gets permit," March 27).

How do you safely and humanely house so many animals? Many industrial farms keep the animals crammed in stalls with little room to move or turn around and with little, if any, access to the outdoors.

Sadly, Wisconsin has insufficient laws to ensure the animals are living in humane conditions.

Greed must not outweigh compassion. Let Wisconsin be the land of small family farms where animals freely walk the pastures and feel the sunshine on their faces once more.

Wendy Wilson
Oconomowoc

MILWAUKEE-WISCONSIN JOURNAL SENTINEL

The Milwaukee Journal
LUCAS NEWMAN HARRY J. DRAGIT
Founder 1882 1916-1963

The Milwaukee Sentinel
SOLOMON JUREAU
Founder 1837

GEORGE STANLEY, Editor
DAVID D. HAYNES,
Ideas Lab Editor

Please email your letters to jxedit@jrn.com, or mail them to Letters to the editor, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, P.O. Box 371, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201-0371. Letters should be about 200 words.