
YOUR LETTERS: 9-16-2018

Posted Sep 16, 2018 at 12:01 AM

Assault vessels?

The author of the letter on Aug. 11 must need some counseling in the form of hydro-marine vessel paranoia syndrome. He's calling out the entire boating industry by suggesting we need "anti-boat legislation" and titling watercraft as "Assault Vessels." That my friends, is without a doubt one of the stupidest comments I think I have ever read in the op-ed page.

First off, I have been a boater for my entire life, raising all my children on our boats including them being breastfed as infants to skiing their hearts out for entire weekends. The accident that occurred in Needles on Labor Day weekend was a terrible, unfortunate accident that was obviously due to driver error, which is usually always the way accidents occur.

With his philosophy applied, we should ban all vehicles.

Bob Harriman, Victorville

McCain V Trump

John McCain married a model and later dumped her for another model and was a "wild child" at Annapolis, chasing young women. Apparently, this makes him a terrible person that America should hate.

Donald Trump cheated on his first model wife, dumped her for his pregnant second model wife, cheated on her and then dumped her for his third model wife who he also cheated on with a Playboy Playmate and a porn star, and those are just the ones we know about. But he should be president.

McCain risked his life for his country as a fighter pilot in Vietnam. He was shot down, and endured five years of imprisonment and torture at the hands of the Viet Cong, refusing an offer to be released early because his father was a Navy

Admiral to stay with his fellow prisoners. Despite the lies told to those who believe that the “MSM” is fake news but Fox tells the truth, he was never called “Songbird” by his fellow POWs. This is just one of the many lies told about McCain during the 2000 election by the same people that told lies about John Kerry in 2004.

Donald Trump avoided serving his country in Vietnam by paying a doctor to claim he had bone spurs and later claimed that not getting an STD during the swinging '60s and '70s was “his personal Vietnam.” But he doesn't respect soldiers that were captured.

I disagreed with John McCain politically, and I did not vote for him, but I still believe he would have won the 2008 election had he not been stuck with Caribou Barbie as his running mate. I did admire his honor and integrity and service to our country. He truly was an American hero who put the people's interests above his own.

Rick Benefield, Apple Valley

VVC Board of Trustees

Re: Sept. 10, 2018 Daily Press, “More than half of VVC Trustees Board up for Re-Election,”...

Joe Brady — thank you for running. The college Board is great and important! Wish you would run for Congressman in our area! You will win by many votes! You're the best politician in the “Mojave River Valley” running this year!

Bill Tuck Jr., Phelan

In favor of the High Desert

Daily Press editor Steve Hunt recently proposed an image change in our area in the form of rebranding our section of California from the High Desert (or the Victor Valley) in favor of the Mojave River Valley. I have a couple of problems with that, the first being the word “valley,” which is way overused in our neck of the Joshua Tree woods. For instance, to get from the I-15 to Quail Valley, a

development in Apple Valley (which is in the Mojave Valley), you have to take Bear Valley Road toward Lucerne Valley, traveling past Desert Valley Hospital, Spring Valley Lake, and Victor Valley College. Enough, already.

Second, there's that word "river." We all know that the Mojave is technically a river, but if we want to engender a positive view of our area to outsiders, we need to avoid using a word that brings to mind something entirely different than our generally dry and sandy channel to Baker. The term might even invite derision (except perhaps by those who reside near the Los Angeles River). As for Mojave, I have no problem with that, but one word out of three does not bode well for the Mojave River Valley makeover.

Personally, I like the High Desert, both the area and the term, which I was first made aware of a few decades ago while my family and I were living in New York's Hudson River Valley (which is a perfectly apt name for the picturesque region to either side of that majestic waterway). The introduction was via "The Right Stuff," Tom Wolfe's book about the early space program, and I was immediately intrigued with the long description of "the high elevations of the Mojave Desert," starting with the statement that "it looked like some fossil landscape that had long since been left behind by the rest of terrestrial evolution." OK, not a very pretty image, but pretty accurate, and I have grown to appreciate the desert more and more in the 22 years since we moved to the area. The biggest disadvantage of the High Desert moniker is, as Steve correctly pointed out, the fact that the region's boundaries include the Palmdale/Lancaster area, a.k.a. the Antelope Valley (there's that word again). So even though there's an HD in my business name, I am open to an improved label for this area, but I haven't heard it yet. In the meantime, I have no problem at all with saying that I live and work in the High Desert.

Byron Ward, Spring Valley Lake

We refuse to remember

I wonder how many of these post 9/11 students were enlightened as to the religious affiliation of all these jihadi terrorists?

Will we remember that?

Or is that part of what we refuse to remember?

Algot Stephenson, Apple Valley