

Skykomish Senate



Politically Incorrect

News

Views

Economic Opinion

Political Commentary



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Working to Promote American Values in Skykomish

How much does bad government cost?

it may not be apparent at first

When you pull up to the gas pump and it says \$3.24/gallon, you immediately feel the pain.

Many think bad government is free because they don't see or understand the consequences.

Do you realise that if you paid for gasoline in Gold instead of Dollars, it's still inexpensive? That's right, it's the falling value of the dollar that makes gasoline expensive for Americans.

Decades of mismanaging government finance has left us with a hollowed out economy, full of debt and over priced assets.

We've sent so many dollars around the globe buying oil from unstable middle eastern despots and baubles from China, a country devoid of human rights, that we've caused the value of our currency to depreciate.

Remember economics 101? The more of something you have the less you value it. That first cheeseburger tastes great, but what about the 5th? A world awash in dollars has left our neighbours questioning their value.

the biggest scandal of all

We've all witnessed the collapse of Enron and the wave of corporate accounting scandals that followed.

When it comes to accounting crimes, no entity on the face of this earth employs more smoke and mirrors, more chican-



Schneider's Hotel 1903. Predecessor to Skykomish Hotel

ery or fraud than our own government.

We have accumulated a national debt of over \$9,000,000,000,000 (9 trillion).

Those of us who still pay federal taxes are paying interest on this money every day... Forever.

The money we spend on interest is no longer available to pay for the things our nation really needs. We are headed for bankruptcy.

We face trillions more in potential liabilities from quasi-government agencies like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac who finance low income housing (I'll bet you thought that was a free lunch too).

Ever wonder how your parents raised a family, bought a home, cars, paid for college educations, vacations... all without having to mortgage their first born?

How did our nation build great cities, the interstate highway system, airports, schools, roads, libraries and state universities, all on an essentially pay as you go basis?

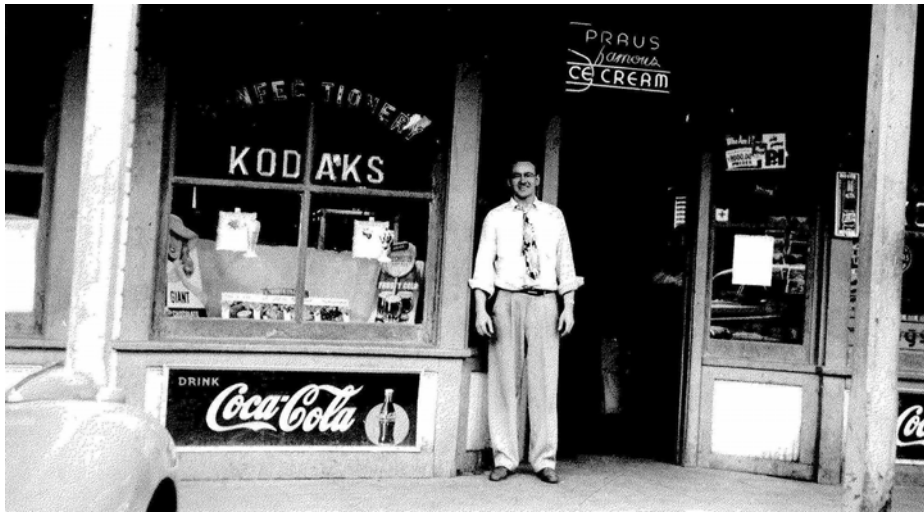
Today, we can't even afford to fix potholes, bridges or deteriorating schools? Some, like Sky, can't even afford to replace the bald tires on their new snow plough.

Parents can't afford to send children to college without student loans and can only afford to buy a new car on 72 or now, 84 monthly payments.

Many must buy Christmas presents and take vacations using credit card debt.

there's a simple explanation

When was the last time you voted for a politician who told you the hard facts?



'Glick' Henry stands proudly in front of his drugstore. Circa 1940

Such patriots rarely make it to the primaries these days.

It's much more fun voting for the Pollyanna's and those with fun (but expensive) solutions to non-existent problems.

They help us feel warm and fuzzy inside, telling us what we want to hear and promising presents like Santa Claus, even though they know we can't afford them.

How else do you think we've created such huge liabilities and debt?

Do you remember Welfare Reform a decade ago? Nothing was reformed. We merely renamed welfare, now calling it the 'Earned Income Tax Credit'.

With a name like that, one might mistakenly think this is a tax credit paid to those who earned enough income to pay taxes.

Not so, it's a direct payment from the federal treasury to those who didn't earn enough income to pay taxes. It's the same old welfare pig in a pretty new dress. Only now, you don't have to bother going down to the welfare office to tell all those lies or hide the boyfriend in a closet when they come snooping.

We've been doing on a national scale what Sky has been doing on the local level... Allowing others, who have been corrupted, to run the operation while we raise families, go to work and try and make ends meet.

Sky and our once great nation are in

trouble due to severe neglect by those charged with the responsibility of running it: We, the American people.

I recently read an article that graphically shows just how low we have sunk.

The influx of Asian immigration has changed many neighbourhood demographics. Existing residents are up in arms over changes being demanded of our schools by these new neighbours.

Asians are pressuring school districts to increase and upgrade math and science offerings while de-emphasizing basket weaving, box top collecting, riding school buses, study hall, etc.

American parents, not seeing much value in math or science, are fighting tooth and nail to maintain the status quo. Our answer: Keep dumbing down the WASL until dogs and cats can pass with flying colours. Does anyone think for a moment that this is going to help us compete in a global economy?

We get the government we deserve. We are also getting the toasted economy we deserve.

Look at the Ethanol scam that is costing Americans billions and getting us accused of Crimes Against Humanity by United Nations members.

We demanded Congress give taxpayer dollars to those who would grow the corn, build the processing plants and distribute this latest enviro-miracle.

These are the same wackos that brought us gasoline oxygenated with MTBE to clean up the air. Instead, this deadly chemical polluted virtually every ground water supply in the nation before being banned.

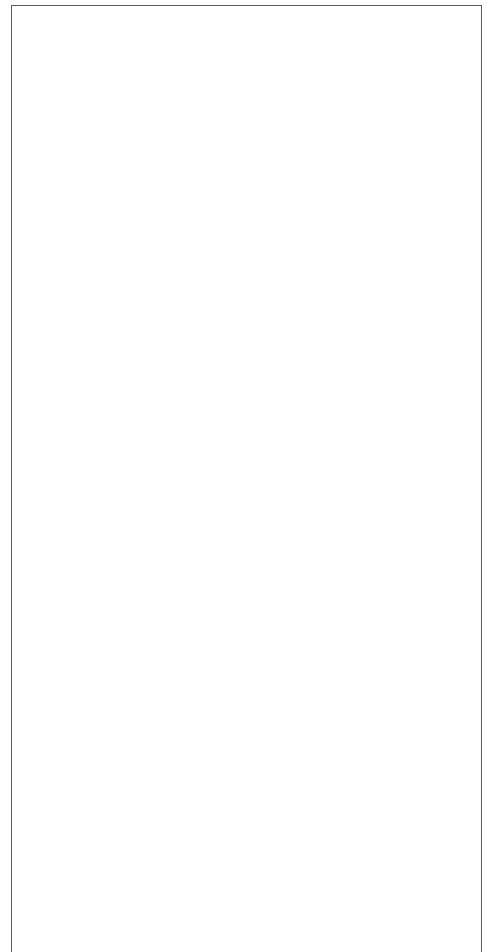
Ethanol is so corrosive it can't be transported like gasoline or diesel via our national pipeline system. Instead, thousands of special railroad tank cars are being built at a cost of billions of dollars.

Crop land has been diverted through taxpayer subsidy to produce ethanol.

Such government meddling in the marketplace has caused a worldwide surge in food crop prices, leading to inflation, forcing people in developing countries to sell their most basic possessions just to put food into their children's mouths.

As if that isn't bad enough, it's now coming to light just how toxic ethanol is to the human respiratory system. As we introduce this latest enviro-miracle, get

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ready for the next public health disaster.

Electing those who make us feel good but haven't got a clue is causing America to go down like an over the hill, punch drunk prize fighter. It's sad to watch.

Government has been spending more than it takes in for decades. Bogus projects are one more effort to mask our declining standard of living brought about by decades of Congressional bungling.

We could have invested our wealth, building a 21st century infrastructure with high speed rail, modern airports and roads, and an educational system second to none... all without debt.

Instead, we've squandered trillions of dollars redistributing income from those who work for a living to those who choose not to.

Karl Marx, the father of Communism, wrote: "take from each according to their means and give to each according to their needs".

It sounds good, but this bankrupt doctrine didn't work then and it won't work now.

Those who work quit doing so when they realise the fruits of their labour are being taken from them for redistribution to those who choose not to work.

Every Communist economy has toppled from its own weight, but only after enslaving its people and leaving a trail of devastation, ruin and misery. Of course, those at the top drive around in the 'people's limousines' on their way to the 'people's mansions'.

As hard as our own government tries, it can't even do this dastardly redistribution deed efficiently. Much of every dollar we give to government is consumed by bureaucrats before the little that's left over hits intended beneficiaries.

Did you know that 45% of every dollar given to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) goes directly to administrative overhead and by the time all is said and done, only about 15 cents of every dollar actually goes to real road repairs or improvements?



The Oriental Limited. Circa 1900

Is it any wonder we sit in gridlocked traffic even after voting for every possible road tax increase? If endless talking, meetings, studies and paper shuffling could do the job, WSDOT would be a super star.

it's no accident

The tools employed by politicians to get into your pockets have become increasingly sophisticated.

To hell with focus groups. Today's Presidential candidates use behind the scene subjects wired with the latest brain wave scanning technology to gauge audience response in real time.

Candidates can now change stories in midstream or even mid sentence, barely skipping a beat. They only need listen to their handler's instructions via an ear-piece.

No wonder we increasingly like the seductive siren sound of their messages.

Unfortunately, it's what they do once in office that counts.

what about WSDOE?

Our real fight in Sky is with WSDOE (Washington State Department of Ecology). We didn't pick this fight, they did.

The BNSF Railway is doing a great job of minimizing cleanup costs for those they represent: BNSF Shareholders.

WSDOE's job is to protect the environ-

ment for Citizens of The State of Washington.

if it looks like duck, quacks like a duck and walks like a duck...

WSDOE appears to have climbed into bed with those they are charged with monitoring and regulating.

Individuals of average intelligence find it increasingly difficult to see any difference between BNSF goals and WSDOE actions. Is WSDOE acting as an agent to promote railroad interests?

Town Council, mayor Mackner, Planning and Design Review appear firmly locked into WSDOE's orbit by the Trojan Horse, Mr. Stanovsky.

Attention is diverted from real issues as we decide colour schemes for levy lights, toilet fixtures for public bathing facilities and shelving styles for the Sky Hotel grocery and fruit stand.

WSDOE Responsibility

Most Americans know their Miranda Rights. We, through our Supreme Court, decided the Constitution protected Americans from self-incrimination due to ignorance.

WSDOE has a similar responsibility to Sky. They, BNSF and the Town of Sky all have different agendas and separate interests regarding BNSF's environmental cleanup.



I believe it became apparent early on to WSDOE that Sky, with an old geezer mayor and 5 slothful Council members, was no match for a lawyered up WSDOE or BNSF.

WSDOE doesn't make a move without plenty of legal horsepower. What would make them think Sky could protect its interests during this most important and technically complex time in its history, without benefit of competent legal representation?

The issue of competent legal representation is making the news. Is it right for the State to send some poor slob to the electric chair because he was unfortunate enough to have incompetent court appointed legal counsel, versus the State's virtually unlimited power and access to legal beagles?

Courts have increasingly ruled that legal rights are meaningless without competent legal representation in matters with potentially serious consequences.

I believe WSDOE and BNSF should have insisted Sky continue with competent environmental legal counsel, if for no other reason than to see that decisions were not challenged later on the basis of incompetent or inadequate legal representation in a very serious matter with consequences aplenty.

I believe WSDOE made a poor choice: Knowing Sky was easy prey, they offered to place a Trojan Horse within our midst instead of advising the Town to maintain competent representation. The word you're looking for is: **Exploitation.**

Mr. Sladek earlier explained to me that his reasoning for getting rid of the Town's environmental legal counsel was that the Town's (general) counsel said he could do the job just as well and at a lower cost (forget the fact that this cost was fully recoverable).

I am requesting the Town produce evidence that General Counsel is competent to represent and guide us through complex environmental law as it is being applied here.

[why has WSDOE thrown Sky under the bus?](#)

Were they paid off? Is the 'fix' in? WSDOE actions certainly suggest this as a possibility and even though this appears to be the prevailing sentiment in town, I disagree.

I believe their crime was committed with the same motivation as Town Council's: Cowardliness and Sloth!

Can you imagine how thrilling it must be to get a degree in the Environmental Sciences, knowing you'll soon be working for WSDOE, helping save Planet Earth while cruising around in a Prius?

Can you imagine the let down as it begins to dawn that instead of protecting the environment, you're actually promoting the interests of America's largest corporations to the exclusion of the people?

Being a government employee, you certainly don't want to endanger your hard earned, cushy, guaranteed job with great pay, unbelievable benefits and the ability to hide in the crowd so as never to actually be held accountable.

If you do screw up royally and the spotlight shines upon you, you'll probably be promoted out of that boring cubicle to a nice view office with an increase in rank and salary to boot.

Most government types aren't about to rock the boat, regardless of concern for the environment, convictions, scruples or conscience. 'After all, we're helping some fish in Sky to live better... aren't we?'

[it's up to us](#)

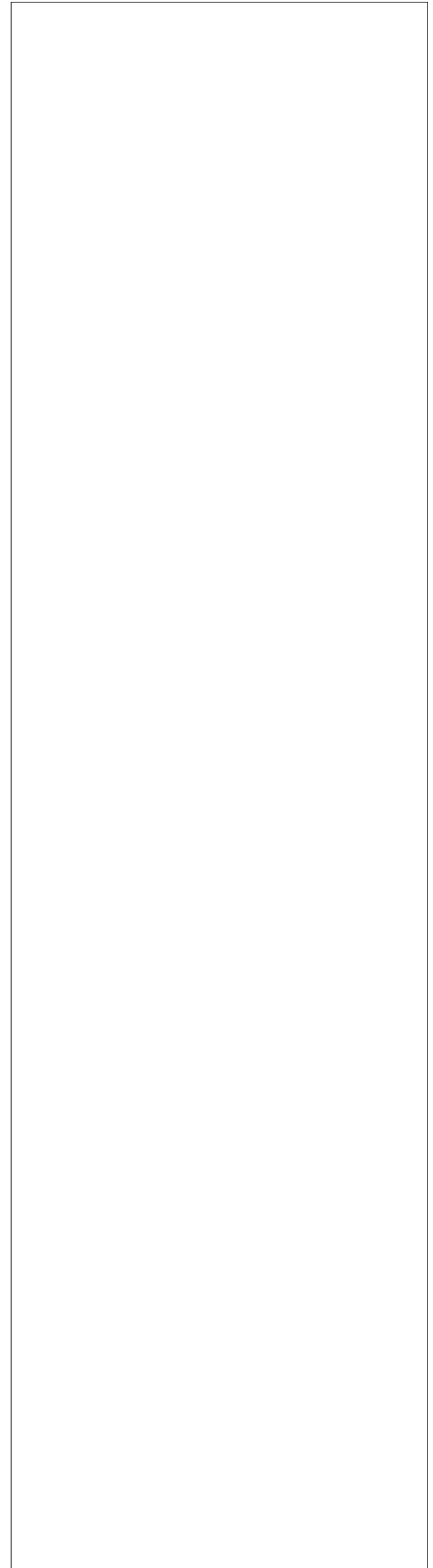
If we're going to be saved, we'll have to be the ones to do it. The Senate has generated a lot of interest and provoked considerable thought.

Many already have it figured out that Sky is getting a big hose job because of Council's antics and its refusal to control itself or mayor Mackner.

Some are focused upon the BNSF as the culprit instead of the real perp: WSDOE.

A few are in a hurry, looking for the Hail Mary pass instead of focusing upon the hard work it's going to take to turn this

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ship around.

One individual is already well along on a complementary mission of his own that should bear fruit with some follow-through.

Others have let us know they support what we're doing, but aren't quite ready to get involved just yet.

my position

I have been asked to run for Mayor or once again sit on Town Council.

I am not for change. I'm for improvement through change.

I will not be part of any illegal or unethical methods in the pursuit of the goal.

I cannot afford to spend time on ideas or plans that my background and experience tell me will be unsuccessful. Life is too short.

Sky has many good, practical individuals with common sense who want the same things as people everywhere:

The right to go about their business, live the lives they have chosen, raise families and pursue their dreams without undue interference from their own government.

People want government to perform so they don't have to personally straighten it out after coming home from work, feeding the kids, cleaning up the place and doing the laundry.

Sky citizens want their government to treat them as the owners they are, not as subjects to be manipulated or talked down to. Government must be friendly and helpful.

We do not require the assistance of the people of Sky to protect the interests of the Skykomish Hotel. It's been a hard and expensive 7 years, but we're more than up for the challenge.

Sky does however need the help of those who possess the skills, experience, strength, vision, stamina and leadership necessary to guide our town in a new and positive direction.

While we remain ready to do our part, we're not going to continue carrying your water. If you want to save your

town, you're going to have to pick up a pail and begin doing your part. It doesn't have to be much, but it's got to be more than nothing.

Several good neighbours have already said they want to be part of the next Skykomish government.

how much has bad government cost Sky?

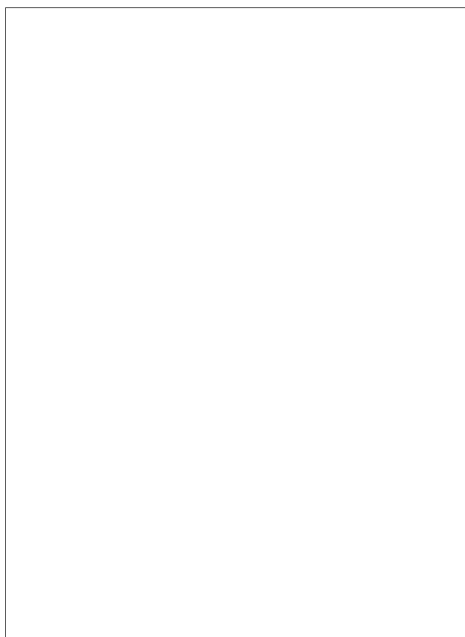
One thing leads to another with economic development so it will never be known exactly how much the final bill will be.

How many future opportunities will never take place because the first step (the 2001 renovation of the Sky Hotel) was aborted? We'll never know.

There are many costs that can be calculated. We know the owners have lost a ton of money. We know the Town has lost well over a million dollars in tax revenue and we know that 18 people could not find jobs in Sky for the past 6 years, instead having to drive the 'highway of death'.

We also know that King County and Sky bad practices have been emailed worldwide for many to see. Soon, the world will be able to view Sky Bloopers on the Internet or Telly. Won't that be a good time?

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REWARD

\$100/\$500

One of two Skykomish Hotel wrought iron fire escape ladders has been stolen from the rear yard of the Hotel property. The fire escape ladders can be seen in this historic photo.



A \$100 reward will be paid for information leading to the recovery.

An additional \$500 will be paid if perps are arrested and convicted.

theSenate@SkykomishHotel.com

See You Later Alligator

