

Sign on.....

I'm writing this comment on Labor Day. I belonged to labor unions for most of my working life. I appreciate what the unions have done for the working class, who have very little power when it comes to standing up to big business. Decent wages, working conditions and benefits are, for the most part, acquired through bargaining. There are some businesses that think enough of their employees to give them the benefits without union representation, but not many. Like many organizations or businesses or corporations that have a lot of control, the unions can get a little grabby, too. My partner and I had a little meat market in a medium sized store, and the union representative came in one day and started laying down the rules about when we could sell meat and a few other restrictions. We told him that when he put some money into the business, he could tell us what to do, and we told him where to go. He actually wasn't a bad guy, and we kept our dues up and they left us alone. So, a belated Happy Labor Day to all! I talked on my last comment about government agency's employees not knowing what's going on in their jurisdiction. My friend Fred Nelson's last comment showed just how out of touch the Postal Services leadership is. Eureka's post office serves a large area, and moving those sorting and delivering services to Medford, Oregon is idiotic, in my opinion. Our congressman, Jared Huffman, is against it, and, I think, so are most, if not all the affected people in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. I don't know who we should write to, but perhaps Congressman Huffman's office could supply us with an address ~~to write to~~.XX Well, it looks like the ban on plastic bags is a pretty sure thing. I'll say it again- I don't agree with it- It's a selfish thing for me- If I'm on my crutches, I can carry a plastic bag, where I can't carry a paper bag, unless it's small enough to wrap around my crutch handles. Even a paper bag with glued on handles is dicey, because just a little slip and the handles come unglued. I do see the reason for banning the bags- it's human nature's stupidity and laziness. As I've said before- we recycle everything- plastic bags, cans, bottles-

plastic and glass-both white and colored, paper of all sorts, and anything else with a number on it. If everyone would do that, there wouldn't be a problem.//There was a nice write-up on the Coast Guard the other day in the Times-Standard. I had a meat market close to the Coast Guard housing off of Park Street in Myrtle town for several years and got to know many Coast Guard people-mostly the wives. Many of them were young women, away from home for the first time, and didn't know much about cooking meat. Mine was a service style meat counter, where I dug out a pound of hamburger or a steak or whatever, so I was able to talk to them and give them hints on how to cook certain cuts, or which cuts to take to that BBQ. The Coast Guard service men and women are great people, serving us in a very special way, a dangerous way, much of the time. We are very fortunate to have them based here. A quick story- one of the helicopter pilots was a hunting partner. He was crossing a small gulley on a log- stopped half-way across and said "I'm scared!" I said "you're a helicopter pilot!" "Yeah- but I'm strapped in there!"

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