

**LETTERS**

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To the Editor:

I want to thank Tom Donahue for writing the commentary “*Goodnight Molly*” (*The Nugget*, April 3, page 8).

I recently had a near miss with my big boy Odin and hearing Mr. Donahue express the emotions we all have for our faithful, trusted and well-loved companions was inspiring as well as a reminder to let them know in little ways how important they are to each one of us.

Bernice Rossana



To the Editor:

As a resident of Sisters, I’m surrounded with its sense of community. The annual celebrations, festivals, and volunteerism have contributed to nurturing a heartfelt fellowship based on respect for each other and the community.

Because of this, I’m saddened and troubled to see the Confederate flag flown in the community. Displaying this flag has long been and continues to be controversial throughout the United States due to its inseparable association with segregation, slavery, and white supremacy. This extraordinarily divisive symbol has no place anywhere in our country, much less in our community.

Kathy Liverman



To the Editor:

2,100 trees to be cut down is grossly overkill in my mind! That figures out to be 210 trees per mile based on the 10-mile timber-killed area and the Camp Sherman Junction.

I count maybe 200 trees that should be taken down — the rest should be allowed to die on their own time; some may even manage to survive!

I pray the Oregon Department of Agriculture will ban (the herbicide) Perspective from use in the state of Oregon. It should be banned on the entire western forests.

Cutting 2,100 trees along the iconic Sisters-Suttle Lake highway will gut the “Welcome to Central Oregon” feeling as you come down off the Santiam Pass and enter the long straightaway into Sisters. It will now be an ugly swath through the remaining bushes and only be a massive 12-mile firebreak 100-150 yards wide! Let’s call it the Dead Tree Valley Canyon, “Welcome to Central Oregon.” Is that really what Sisters and the Forest Service want to happen? I would like to think that an Oregon State (University) forestry graduate would be more sensitive to his planning and projects in his district.

I have been in the Sisters-Camp Sherman area a long time — since 1951 — and have seen many changes — mostly all bad! I fished here when you could keep the fish. I hunted here; I worked here; I even fought fire here — and we put them out “pronto.”

I have lived here in Camp Sherman permanently since 1995 and I feel very strongly about destruction of habitat, forest, and quality of life in Central Oregon. We moved here and spent most of our life here because of trees, rivers, and solitude here in Camp Sherman. Please don’t destroy it in the summer of 2019.

The best solution would be to cut only the hazard trees and let the rest of them stand — as a reminder of a public mistake by ODOT and the U.S. Forest Service so that hopefully it will never happen again!

C. Childrey



To the Editor:

Ah, statistics! It is amazingly easy to throw out a random assortment of numbers from “studies” without noting dates, conditions or sources of populations from which these results emanated. This is seemingly the methodology of JK Wells in his April 10 letter, equating our homeless population with the rise in crime and subsequent need for more law enforcement.

A quantum leap to be sure!

Undoubtedly Sisters is growing and enticing more tourists with our attractive development. Clearly we will eventually need more law enforcement. However, to compare our five to seven verified homeless crimes with cities like Seattle, Vancouver, BC, and a national average, with no basis for comparison except the word, “homeless” coupled with wild speculation, is not justified. How about focusing on this small town’s efforts to see the humanity in every homeless person via providing food and shelter, but above all tolerance rather than judgment in each situation?

Providing basic human needs tends to support the best in a person, rather than promoting the potential worst. I am grateful for all the volunteer efforts to do just that in our small burg!

Wendie Vermillion

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