

LETTERS

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To the Editor:

Hello again to my wonderful community. I would like to take a moment to add to the information regarding COVID-19 that I feel has not been reported on enough. It is the actual hands-on care (acuity) that is needed to care for the hospitalized COVID-positive patients.

As you may already know, I work as an RN in the ICU in Bend. I work with a wonderful, hard-working, compassionate team of health-care providers; Doctors, RNs, RTs, CNAs, etc. In this letter I can only speak personally for the processes in the ICU, but I know all the units are working just as hard to care for our community.

Typically in the ICU it takes one RN for two ICU patients — 2:1. Frequently there are 1:1 ratios when an ICU patient is requiring a higher acuity of care. When a COVID patient comes to the unit they are a higher acuity and require 1:1 care. We also need a “rover” RN as the assigned RN is typically gowned in PPE in isolation and often needing items outside of the room in order to provide care for our COVID patient. The ICU doctor is not only caring for the COVID patients but all the other ICU patients in the unit as well. We are still admitting traumas, strokes, cardiac arrests, etc.

An important part of the COVID patient’s care is placing them in the prone position (on their stomachs) while intubated and on a ventilator. This process takes at least five health care providers — an RT, two RNs, and two CNAs — to provide this important care. This typically takes place once a shift. These patients are very sick and need a lot of care. This “proning team” is assembled from health-care providers that already have patients of their own to care for.

So the next time you see the number of patients in the ICU, please take in consideration the specialized care and health-care staff that are working really hard to save their lives. As of right now there are four in the ICU per the St. Charles website.

The “COVID admission number” is just a count, it is not telling you the acuity count. Hopefully you will understand this a little more after this letter.

This is why we as health-care providers are asking you to take this seriously, and educating about suppressing the curve. Being overwhelmed with COVID patients in the hospital can greatly influence the care we all strive to give. We need your help.

Thank you to all the health-care workers that are working so hard to care for all the patients in our community.

From the primary-care offices to the ICU, know that you are appreciated and respected for the work that you do. Thank you to the community members that are caring for the sick and looking after the high-risk populations by wearing a mask and respecting social distancing as able.

Be kind, wear a mask. It’s the right thing to do for your fellow humans.

Emily Kroytz



To the Editor:

We have now seen many weeks of protests after the death of George Floyd. I realize that his tragic death brought the matter of racial justice to a boil and was fueled by the frustrations of people being cooped up at home for so long.

But we need some perspective. We are told he was a recidivist ex-felon who was contacted by police for buying cigarettes with a bad \$20 bill. Not the person you would suggest as a role model for your children.

And, yet, he is the central figure in all the rioting, vandalism, property damage, and personal injuries resulting from these “peaceful demonstrations” BLM organizes.

Interestingly, a few weeks later an innocent one-year-old boy was gunned down and no one cares.

The media does not talk about it and BLM is not outraged. Why? Because it is not news. It happens all the time.

BLM is a political organization and there is no political gain to be garnered there.

Furthermore, anarchists/troublemakers/Antifa have highjacked the good name of BLM and incited more violence and conflict with law enforcement officers.

Incidentally, if the Portland City Council and Mayor and Oregon’s governor (who

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Obituary

Scott Allen Peterson

August 24, 1957 – July 16, 2020

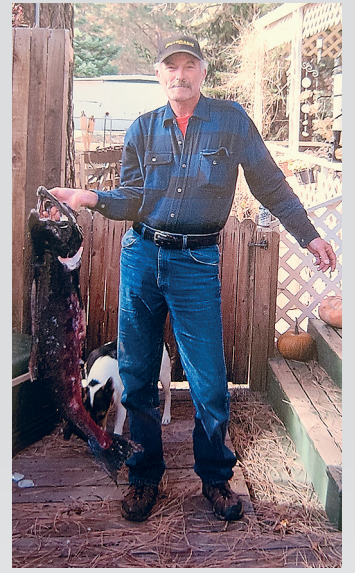
Scott Allen Peterson of Sisters passed away peacefully in his home and surrounded by his family July 16 at the age of 62 of ongoing health issues.

He is survived by his wife and partner of 27 years Toni Ramsey; parents Wendell and Ruth Peterson of Salem; sister Cheryl Peterson; son Eric Peterson of Lyons, Oregon; daughters Amy Thomas of Stayton, Tabatha Hammond of Sisters, and Tanya Nason of Sisters.

Scott had seven grandchildren: Brandon and Taylor Thomas of Stayton; Cody Hammond of Redmond and Brianna Hammond of Bend; Johnathan Nason of Sisters/Na’alehu, HI, Zoey Nason of Sisters, and Sydney Nason of Sisters.

Scott worked as an excavator in Sisters for many years but was considered a jack-of-all-trades and a master of none...unless you consider fishing. Scott loved the outdoors and spent as much time outside as he could, camping, woodcutting, fishing, and working on machinery.

Scott was a diehard Nascar fan and would plan



a weekend around a race. Many people remember Scott for his willingness to help, his honesty, and capabilities with working on a car. Though the man couldn’t dance he loved classic rock and country music and always had music playing when he was working in the garage.

In Scott’s younger years he spent a lot of time on motorcycles and loved to ride.

Scott was a kind, honest man and was loved by many. Due to the current pandemic the family is waiting to have a service for Scott but we will be sure and let friends and family know when we do.

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