

letters

DON'T COUNT ME IN WITH CONTE

Just as candidates reject endorsements from sleazy politicians like Donald Trump, I reject the cynical compliment from Paul Conte (Letters, 8/25) for my *Eugene Weekly* Viewpoint, "The Town Square Sting" (8/18).

None of the issues he piles on have anything whatsoever to do with what I was writing about. And I am not in agreement with him on any of them. There was no "bait and switch" involved in any of them. There was no "sting" involved. Just a washroom list of things that Conte does not like. The last thing that I want is for my name to be associated in any way with anything that Conte advocates for, or against.

Bob Warren
Eugene

THANKS FOR THE OBITUARY

Thank you for the caring words about Sam Brown ("Sam Brown: 1958-2022," *EW* 8/25) and sharing the circumstances around his passing.

I had numerous good chats with Sam outside the post office. He would play. I would listen. Just a gentle music-loving soul. I didn't know that he was unhoused. But I support buskers, and told him so, and I always made sure I had some cash in my pocket on my runs to the post office in case he might be there.

May he rest gently in the sturdy arms of Love.

Mary Sharon Moore
Springfield

YES, WE NEED BETTER EMERGENCY VETERINARY CARE

Thanks for highlighting the difficulty of getting urgent vet care and the need for the emergency vet hospital in Springfield ("Doggone Vet Access," *EW* 8/25). Our vet refused to see our dog Blaise because what we described over the phone was disregarded as not urgent by our vet at a west Eugene animal hospital. Fortunately, doctor "B" at VCA Westmoreland Animal Hospital squeezed him in and then promptly sent us to the emergency vet hospital in Springfield. They quickly diagnosed that he was in an Addisonian crisis and saved our dog from certain death. Thanks again for your story.

Frank, Judy & Blaise Webster
Eugene

BETSY JOHNSON SHOULD SUPPORT OREGON VOTERS

I was considering supporting Betsy Johnson for governor. I couldn't support far left Tina Kotek and am not enamored with RINO Christine Drazan. But then Johnson announced that she would repeal Measure 110.

Measure 110, which decriminalized

possession of certain hard drugs, was a really bad idea that has caused much harm in our state. Sold to voters as an anti-racist measure (apparently making hard drugs illegal is racist), it has never accomplished its promised benefit.

Quite the opposite: It paved the way for increased drug trafficking and exacerbated homelessness and crime. Ask any district attorney.

Oregon's overdose deaths rose by 40 percent last year compared to 16 percent nationwide. Fewer than 1 percent of Measure 110 interactions have resulted in the apprehended person exploring recovery options, which was the prime directive of the measure. By any analysis, Measure 110 has been a costly abject failure and has left personal tragedy in its wake.

But Measure 110 was a voter mandate. To me, the most egregious sin an elected official can commit is supporting the repeal of a voter mandate. That's what Johnson says she'll do. It's what Kotek and every Lane County Democrat in the Legislature have done repeatedly. That's just another example of how they consistently demonstrate what the Bend *Bulletin* called "protracted contempt for the voters."

The only legitimate way to overturn a voter mandate is to put it back before the voters. Knowing what we now know, Measure 110 would be an excellent candidate.

Jerry Ritter
Springfield

'THEY SIMPLY DON'T LIKE SYRETT'

The Claire Syrett recall campaign is laced with hypocrisy and contradiction; it supposedly revolves around a planned bus lane along part of River Road. Those involved in the recall campaign have their own private transportation. At hand public transportation is frowned upon; it infringes upon their elitist fantasies. Carbon emissions might be of concern to others, but not to them.

The recall literature purports concern about homelessness and crime. Homelessness cannot be solved locally, or even regionally; it's a national issue. To expect any solution to homelessness, locally, is naive and not well researched. The recall campaign suggests hiring more cops as a way to stop crime. This is also naive and not well thought-out. Crime exists for many reasons; primarily, it exists because of the contradictions between the Haves and the Have-nots. This is also a national issue and cannot be solved locally. To even mention these issues in their recall literature indicates the hypocrisy of those involved in the recall campaign. "Hey! Claire! C'mon! Stop crime and solve the homelessness issue!" There's no magic wand for these issues; to lay them at Syrett's feet is absurd.

People such as those involved in the

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