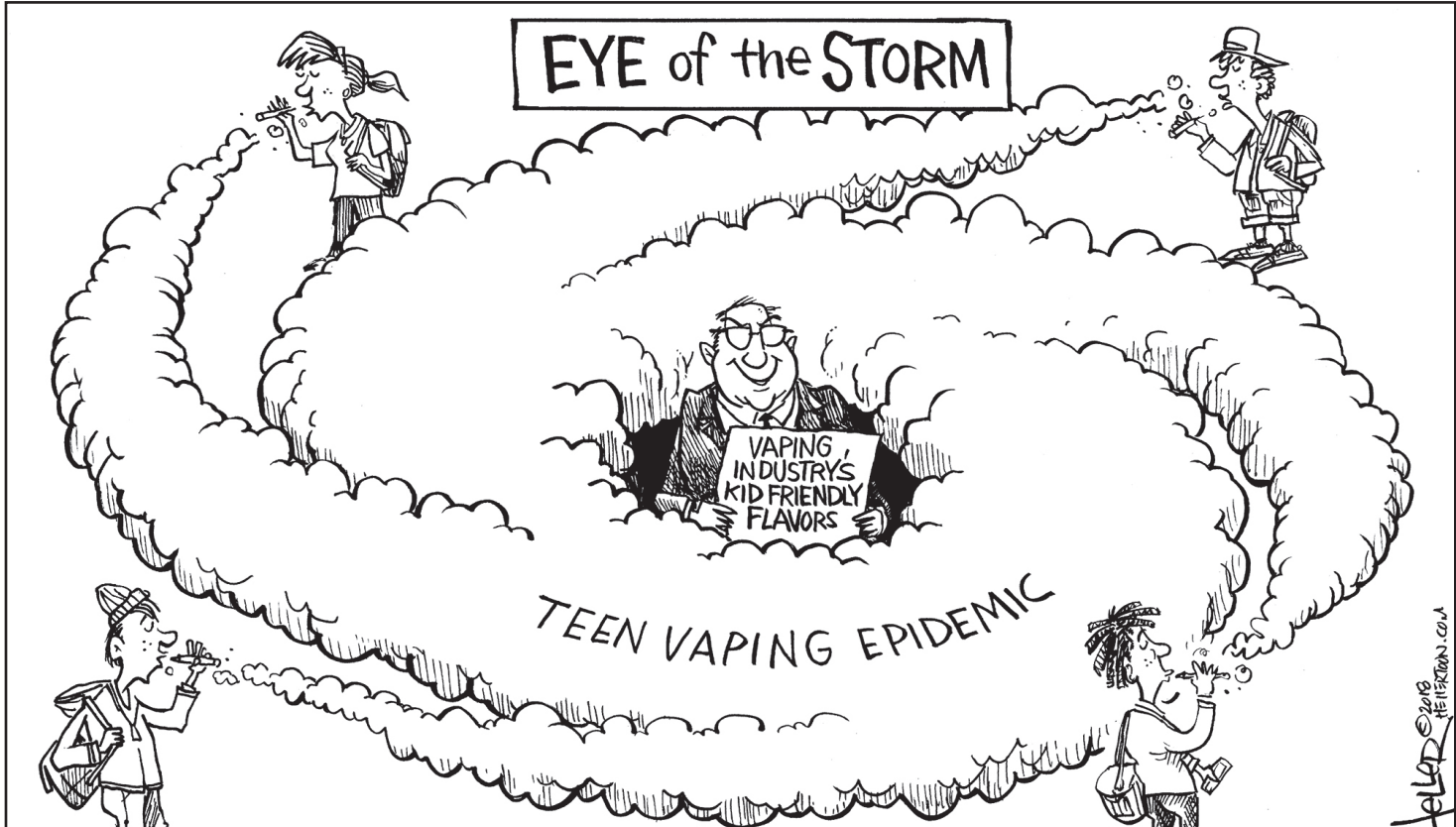


OPINION

The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition their Government for a redress of grievances.



LETTER

ACLU vs The City of Cottage Grove? Bring it on

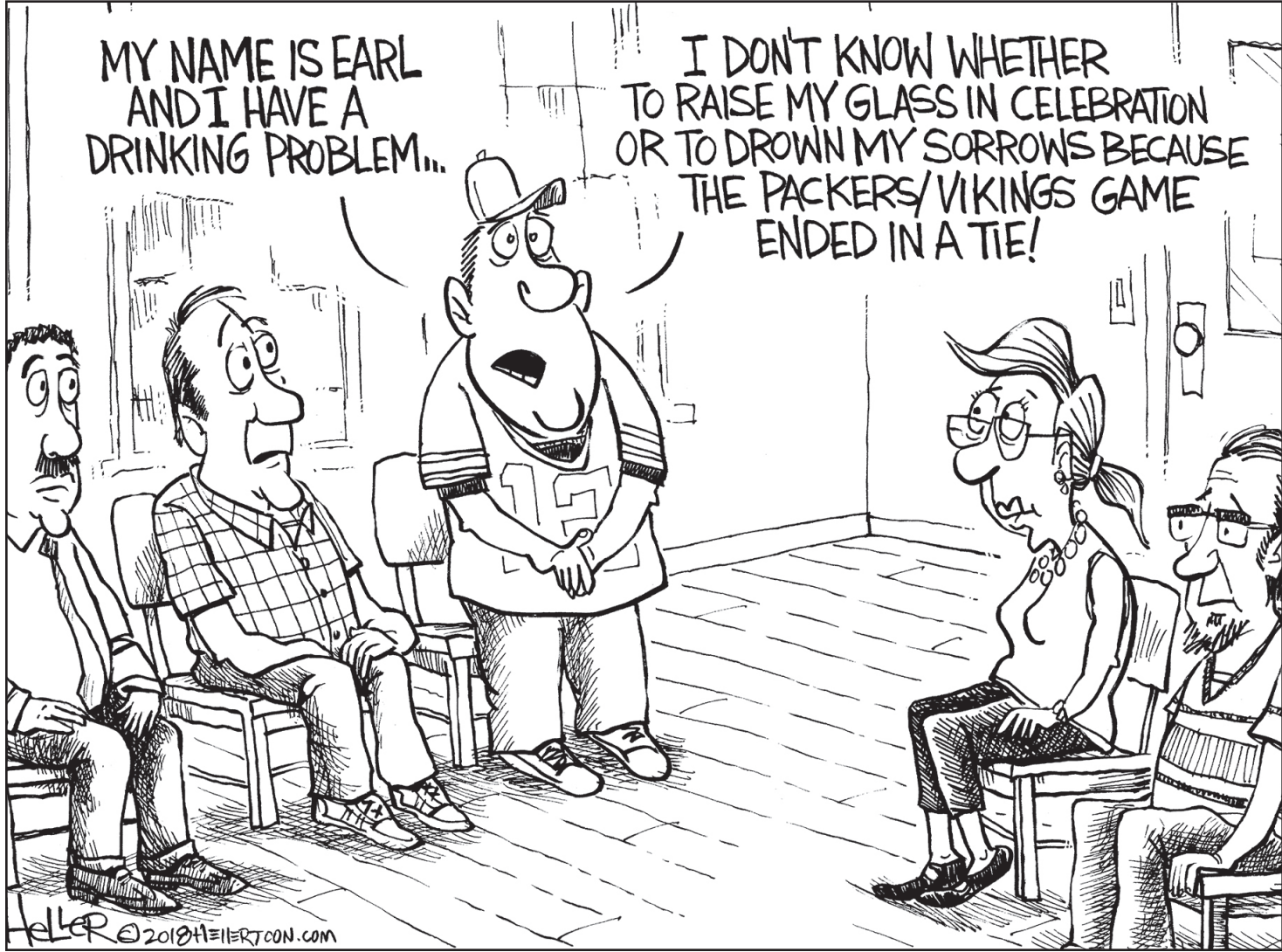
A few years back, the City of Cottage Grove approved a new “No Panhandling” ordinance within the city limits. I applauded that decision. Unfortunately, according to *The Sentinel’s* report (“ACLU Prompts Repeal of C. Grove Ordinance,” Sept. 12), the ACLU is now threatening the City to “back off, or else.”

I say, bring it on. City Manager Richard Meyers seems to have caved in to the ACLU’s shameless shakedown without a fight. In my view, as well as the view of many others I know, the ACLU is well-known as an extreme left-wing, radical organization. I suggest that the City Manager should direct our city attorney to stand up to them and not go quietly without a fight. Our community deserves better than that and should

not be bullied; it is time to challenge the the ACLU and its tactics, and any good city attorney should give it a try. Thanks to President Trump’s leadership, the U.S. economy is humming on all cylinders, unemployment is the lowest it has been in the past 50 years, more jobs are available — and yet these panhandlers can’t find a job to be productive members of our society?’ It’s hard to believe. What’s worse, some of

community members, day in and day out. For example, in the Aug. 28 police log entry: “Transient aggressively panhandling on Gateway Blvd.” Any able-bodied adult these days can find a job, no excuses. Problem is, some of these folks don’t want to. Enough is enough.

— George Zajic
Cottage Grove



Letters to the Editor Policy

The Sentinel welcomes letters to the editor as part of a community discussion of issues on the local, state and national level.

Emailed letters are preferred. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed. All letters need to include full name, address and phone number; only name and city will be printed. Letters should be limited to about 300 words. Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and clarity. Publication of any letter is not guaranteed and depends on space available and the volume of letters received.

Letters that are anonymous, libelous, argumentative, sarcastic or contain accusations that are unsourced or without documentation will not be published.

Letters containing poetry or from outside The Sentinel readership area will only be published at the discretion of the editor.

Political/Election Letters:

Election-related letters must address pertinent or timely issues of interest to our readers at-large.

Letters must 1) Not be a part of letter-writing campaigns on behalf of (or by) candidates; 2) Ensure any information about a candidate is accurate, fair and not from second-hand knowledge or hearsay; and 3) explain the reasons to support candidates based on personal experience and perspective rather than partisanship and campaign-style rhetoric.

Candidates themselves may not use the letters to the editor column to outline their views and platforms or to ask for votes; this constitutes paid political advertising.

As with all letters and advertising content, the newspaper, at the sole discretion of the publisher, general manager and editor, reserves the right to reject any letter that doesn’t follow the above criteria.

Send letters to:

nhickson@cgsentinel.com or cmay@cgsentinel.com

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR REPS

Oregon state representatives

• **Sen. Floyd Prozanski**
District 4 State Senator
PO Box 11511
Eugene, Ore. 97440
Phone: 541-342-2447
Email : sen.floydprozanski@state.or.us

• **Rep. Cedric Hayden**
Republican District 7 State Representative
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Ore. 97301
Phone: 503-986-1407
Website: www.leg.state.or.us/hayden
Email: rep.cedrichayden@state.or.us

Oregon federal representatives

• **Rep. Peter DeFazio**
(House of Representatives)
405 East 8th Ave.
#2030
Eugene, Ore. 97401
Email: defazio.house.gov/contact/email-peter
Phone: 541-465-6732

• **Sen. Ron Wyden**
405 East 8th Ave., Suite 2020
Eugene, Ore. 97401
Email: wyden.senate.gov
Phone: (541) 431-0229

• **Sen. Jeff Merkley**
Email: merkley.senate.gov
Phone: 541-465-6750

Cottage Grove
Sentinel
(541) 942-3325

Administration

Jenna Bartlett, Group Publisher
Gary Manly, General Manager Ext. 1207
gmanly@cgsentinel.com
Allison Miller, Multimedia Marketing Specialist..... Ext. 1213
amiller@cgsentinel.com

Editorial

Ned Hickson, Managing Editor.....541-902-3520
nhickson@cgsentinel.com
Caitlyn May, Editor Ext. 1212
cmay@cgsentinel.com
Zach Silva, Sport Editor..... Ext. 1204
zsilva@cgsentinel.com

Customer Service

Mandi Jacobs, Office Manager..... Ext. 1200
Legals, Classifieds Ext. 1200
mjacobs@cgsentinel.com

Production

Ron Annis, Production Supervisor Ext.1215
graphics@cgsentinel.com

(USP 133880)

Subscription Mail Rates in Lane and Portions of Douglas Counties:
10 Weeks.....\$11
One year.....\$41
e-Edition year\$35
Rates in all other areas of United States: 10 weeks, \$15; 1 year, \$53; e-Edition \$35.

In foreign countries, postage extra.
No subscription for less than 10 weeks. Subscription rates are subject to change upon 30 days’ notice. All subscriptions must be paid prior to beginning the subscription and are non-refundable.
Periodicals postage paid at Cottage Grove, Oregon.
Postmaster: Send address changes to P.O. Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

Local Mail Service:

If you don’t receive your Cottage Grove Sentinel on the Wednesday of publication, please let us know.
Call 942-3325 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Advertising Ownership:

All advertising copy and illustrations prepared by the Cottage Grove Sentinel become the property of the Cottage Grove Sentinel and may not be reproduced for any other use without explicit written prior approval.

Copyright Notice: Entire contents ©2017 Cottage Grove Sentinel