

**Cottage Grove Sentinel**  
 116 N. Sixth St.  
 Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424

# 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 the Government for a redress of grievances.

"I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend." —Thomas Jefferson (1800)



## LETTERS

**THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY FOR SUPPORT**  
 The Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel wishes everyone in our community a happy New Year. We also wish to thank *The Sentinel* for the superb coverage of the carousel for the last few years. Positive press means so much to a volunteer organization that is working towards the good of the community. As most in our community know, the carousel project is an all-volunteer organization, and it needs

extra volunteer help from time to time. For example, the carousel committee has a booth around town at different events, such as the Pancake Breakfast with Santa at the Fire Department, the Art Walk in downtown, Bohemia Mining Days, and many more throughout the year. To the casual viewer, these are small events. But in the big picture of promoting the carousel before the community, it is necessary for the carousel to be present in the public as much as possible. Parades are another necessary

event requiring two to three hours to help us create a parade entry. I'm not asking for a person to dedicate all their spare time to a worthy cause. But anyone who has a desire to help the carousel project can feel free to call me at 541-942-4752. An hour or two a month would be helpful. Thank you to our community for all its support.  
 — Don Williams  
*Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel*

USPS#133880 Copyright 2019 © COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

### 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

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR REPS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Oregon state representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sen. Floyd Prozanski</b><br/>                     District 4 State Senator<br/>                     PO Box 11511<br/>                     Eugene, Ore. 97440<br/>                     Phone: 541-342-2447<br/>                     Email: sen.floydprozanski@state.or.us</li> <li>• <b>Rep. Cedric Hayden</b><br/>                     Republican District 7 State Representative<br/>                     900 Court St. NE<br/>                     Salem, Ore. 97301<br/>                     Phone: 503-986-1407<br/>                     Website: www.leg.state.or.us/hayden<br/>                     Email: rep.cedrichayden@state.or.us</li> </ul> | <p><b>Oregon federal representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rep. Peter DeFazio</b><br/>                     (House of Representatives)<br/>                     405 East 8th Ave.<br/>                     #2030<br/>                     Eugene, Ore. 97401<br/>                     Email: defazio.house.gov/contact/email-peter<br/>                     Phone: 541-465-6732</li> <li>• <b>Sen. Ron Wyden</b><br/>                     405 East 8th Ave., Suite 2020<br/>                     Eugene, Ore. 97401<br/>                     Email: wyden.senate.gov<br/>                     Phone: (541) 431-0229</li> <li>• <b>Sen. Jeff Merkley</b><br/>                     Email: merkley.senate.gov<br/>                     Phone: 541-465-6750</li> </ul> |
|---|---|



## Moving into 2020 after a year of positive changes

into the New Year without any concrete resolutions aside from the usual — and ongoing — intentions of eating healthier, exercising more and procrastinating less (something I invariably keep putting off). However, a trip through

striving for your trust and partnership on these pages each week. "Integrity" is a term that has come into question within the realm of journalism far too often over the last few years, particularly at the national level where the need to be first

visits here in the office or while waiting for a cup of coffee. It's these conversations that build the trust and partnership I spoke about earlier, and the integrity I hope you will feel is reflected on these pages with each issue.

**From the Managing Editor's Desk**  
 Ned Hickson

the past serves to reinforce the unique responsibility and privilege we have, as a newspaper, to be the keepers of the past, chroniclers of the present and spark conversation for the future — all while serving as a reflection of our community's hopes, challenges and particular moment in time. That being said, I'm not making a resolution as much as offering you our resolve, as your community newspaper, to continue

is sometimes more important than the responsibility of being factual. And while we aren't perfect, we certainly try — even if it means holding a breaking news story to make sure the information is complete and not based on speculation or assumption. As we head into 2020 and the 131st year of *The Sentinel*, I look forward to the conversations we'll have together on the phone, through emails,

Over the course of the past year, we've seen some changes here at *The Sentinel*, including a new page design and, as of Dec. 5, a new publication day of Thursdays instead of Wednesdays. All of these changes were made to improve what we do as your community newspaper. Hopefully, someday when another editor for *The Sentinel* is reading and organizing the archives of our history, like me they will be moved by the same sense of responsibility and privilege that now rests easily in our past archives as well as the archives yet to be written.



# Cottage Grove Sentinel

541-942-3325

### Administration

- Jenna Bartlett**, Group Publisher
- Gary Manly**, General Manager... Ext. 1207  
 gmanly@cgsentinel.com
- Gerald Santana**, Multi-Media Sales Consultant... Ext. 1216  
 gsantana@cgsentinel.com
- Veronica Brinkley**, Multi-Media Sales Consultant... Ext. 1205  
 vbrinkley@cgsentinel.com
- Carla Skeel**, Inside Multi-Media Sales Consultant... Ext. 1203  
 csommers@cgsentinel.com

### Editorial

- Ned Hickson**, Managing Editor... 541-902-3520  
 nhickson@cgsentinel.com
- Damien Sherwood**, Lead Reporter... Ext. 1212  
 dsherwood@cgsentinel.com
- Nick Snyder**, Sports/Community News Reporter... Ext. 1204  
 nsnyder@cgsentinel.com

### Customer Service

**Meg Fringer**, Office Manager, Legals, Classifieds... Ext. 1200  
 mfringer@cgsentinel.com

### Production

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

### Subscription Mail Rates in Lane and Portions of Douglas Counties:

10 Weeks .....	\$11.50
One year .....	\$43.50
Senior 62+ .....	\$33.00
e-Edition year .....	\$35.00

Rates in all other areas of United States: 10 weeks, \$16; 1 year, \$56.50; 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 THURSDAY of publication, please let us know. Call 541-942-3325 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 ©2019 Cottage Grove Sentinel