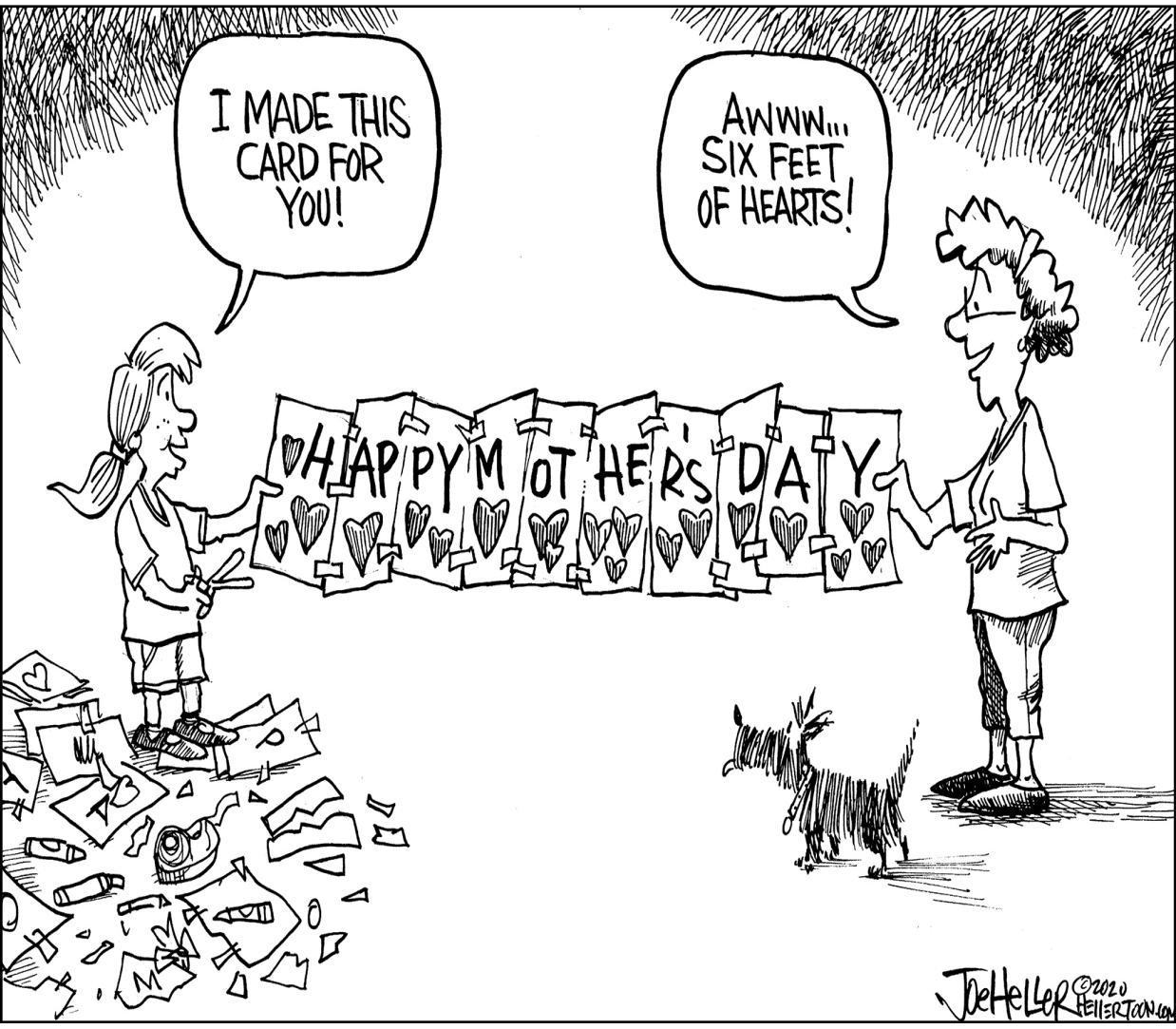


**Cottage Grove Sentinel**  
 116 N. Sixth St.  
 Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424

# 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)



## LETTER

### PERLOW STILL RIGHT CHOICE FOR OUR DA

I would like to take a moment to endorse the re-election of Patty Perlow to the office of Lane County District Attorney. As a layman in the community, I've been associated with Lane County's criminal corrections programs for nearly 40 years. I've served three sheriffs as an advisor. I also spent many years as a member and chairman of the Lane County Community Corrections Advisory Committee working closing with law enforcement officers, corrections officers, judges and prosecutors. The job of the district attorney is demanding both physically and mentally. My observation is the present District Attorney is handling the job well and deserves to be re-elected. Throughout my life I've been fortunate enough to supervise wage earners of many different crafts and skills. I've always been very supportive of those people who do their job well and who

bring integrity to the workplace. I believe the present District Attorney fits this criteria. Please join the Lane County Sheriff, a retired Lane County District Attorney, myself, and many others from the corrections and law enforcement field and re-elect Patty Perlow to another term as our District Attorney.  
 —Don Williams  
 Cottage Grove

### RAISE A RED FLAG

I have never been more grateful for a red flag than I am today. Not the kind of red flag that says "danger ahead," but the red flag that rests comfortably on the the side of my mailbox waiting patiently to be called into action. Today was the day I chose not to drive to the post office to mail a bill but, instead, raised the red flag to inform my postal carrier (the woman who faithfully drives through my neighborhood to deliver letters, bills, periodicals and junk mail as well and who stops to chat when possible) that I needed her sup-

port. After about an hour, I looked outside and, low and behold, the red flag was resting comfortably again on its side having done its job. It was a sign that my mail was now in the safe hands of this extraordinary and essential person in my life. I just can't imagine life without our USPS. During this time of isolation, I have written more cards and letters than any 6 week period in the past. It's been fun to connect via "snail mail." Speaking of snail mail ... don't you just love getting your ballot in the mailbox? I am so blessed to live in Oregon where voting by mail is not only easy, it's safe and efficient. I get to sit in the living room — in my pajamas if I want — and review the ballot with my spouse and then we get put our ballots back in the mailbox and raise the red flag once again. Thank you USPS for all you provide us.  
 —Sally Wentz  
 Cottage Grove



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### 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:**  
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