

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

CHALICE BEST CHOICE FOR AT-LARGE POSITION

I support Chalice Savage's challenge for the "at-large" councilor position against incumbent Kenneth Roberts.

Here we have two charming people who are willing to make a sacrifice of their time and energies to serve the community.

The only issue is who is best qualified.

Kenneth has well-known face recognition and has earned a reputation for his efforts in keeping the town looking nice.

Chalice's work obligations in a well-known Main Street business have not given her the same freedom to wander as disc jockey Kenneth has had for the duration of his incumbency.

The most important considerations at this time are experience and the ability to make a significant difference when the city council needs to tackle real and serious problems and build for the future.

The physical and mental health of the community, particularly the welfare of the new generation, is of great concern. Chalice's achievements as a mother of three and a career of increasing responsibility in the health industry make her well qualified.

But her special qualification in this contest is that, as a woman in a male-dominated setting, she can make a measurable difference.

The proof that this can hap-

pen is constantly demonstrated at the highest levels of national government and business.

She needs the support she deserves, especially from women.

—Alan Jackson
Cottage Grove

I'LL STICK WITH DEFazio

Alek Scarlatos seems like a nice young man. But he has no qualifications to represent Oregon in Washington, D.C.

He graduated from high school, attended community college, served in the national Guard, was in a movie about his heroic deed and performed on Dancing with the Stars.

He ran for city commissioner and lost. He never served on a school board, city council or county or state government.

No experience in government.

He received many deserved awards and praise for his brave actions.

Peter DeFazio has served Oregon well. He heads an important committee, lives on a 1987 house boat and doesn't use his ads to create or tell lies and half-truths about his opponent.

Peter DeFazio has voted against the president on things he believes in; will Alek Scarlatos do the same?

I can't see anything that Alek has done to deserve our vote.

I'll stick with Peter DeFazio.

—Pat Couturier
Cottage Grove

TRUMP'S PRE-EXISTING CONDITION GENIUS

Trump is steadfast. As virus deaths rise, he continues his historic Supreme Court suit to eliminate health coverage for pre-existing conditions and other "socialist" aspects of the Affordable Care Act.

A sensitive public can appreciate his insight: Rebuilding the old "wall" of health insurance exclusions for pre-existing conditions offers a truly great, great outcome: Insurance will be cheaper for those folks who have not had such conditions.

At the same time, the Trump administration is saying death counts associated with the coronavirus now can be trimmed back by over 90 percent, since the majority of those dying also have some element of a "pre-existing condition," voted by mail in the last election or wanted the president's tax returns produced.

If only American media could properly understand Trump's genius. He will indeed make America first in the world — in coronavirus deaths, while eliminating health care for millions who, should they contract the virus, would likely be considered to have a pre-existing condition

And while Mexico won't pay for this "wall," those with "pre-existing conditions" most surely will.

—Randall Dobbins
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.

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