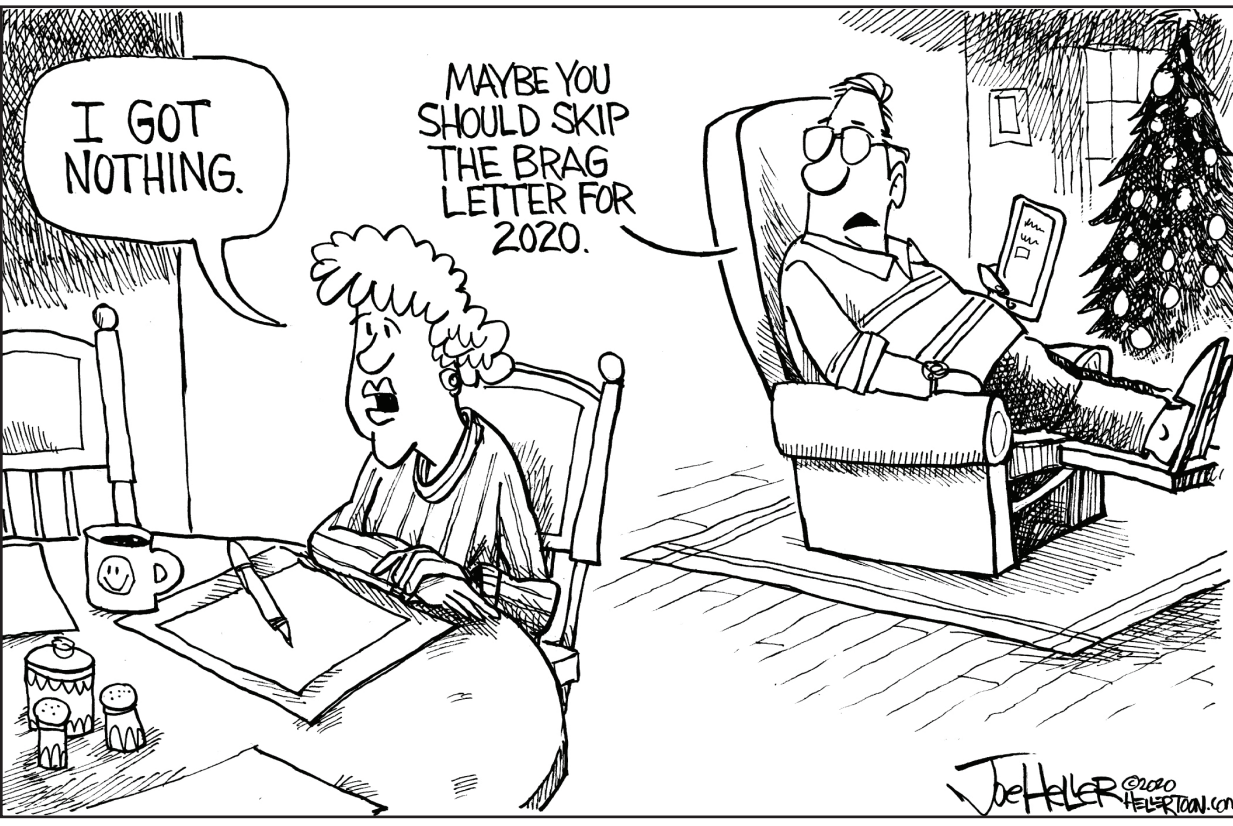


Cottage Grove Sentinel
116 N. Sixth St.
Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424

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

'I SAW ELVIS'

And the conspiracy theories are flying. I would venture to bet that I could walk into downtown or the Historic District and come back an hour later with at least three signed affidavits from citizens attesting that they saw Elvis within the last week.

—Bob Rickard
Cottage Grove

and to see how much we all love our communities. Right now, there are many great restaurants and bars that we all go to regularly. Some are now back to doing take-out or pick-up service only due to the rise in COVID-19 cases.

That means they are all not doing so well financially. Their staffs have been cut back very severely.

Well, here is my wish: Please donate whatever you can to your favorite restaurant and/or favorite bar to help them get

through these tough times.

Also, try to get the name of your favorite server, bartender or local musician(s) and give what you can.

Many are my friends and are losing their cars, homes, apartments, etc., because of being out of work.

Thank you all in advance for your kindness and concern.

—Paul J. Biondi
Lane County musician

DONATE WHAT YOU CAN
TO OUR LOCAL RESTAURANTS
I'm very proud to live here

When is enough going to be enough?

(Editor's Note: Viewpoint submissions on this and other topics are always welcome as part of our goal to encourage community discussion and exchange of perspectives.)

"The greater the power, the more dangerous the abuse."
— Edmund Burke

land. Rather, people should gather peacefully to make their voices heard.

GUEST VIEWPOINT
By Chad Morely
Cottage Grove

If you agree, you should be flooding the state and federal representatives with letters, emails and phone calls expressing your displeasure. Let them know that elections are coming again in a couple of years and we are not going to forget.

When is enough, enough? How many more families and lives must be damaged? We are in real danger of losing many if our local small businesses.

It seems our governor is punishing the citizenry with more mandated closures in the name of COVID-19.

We now know a tremendous amount more about this disease

and the research around the world suggests that lockdowns can do more harm than good.

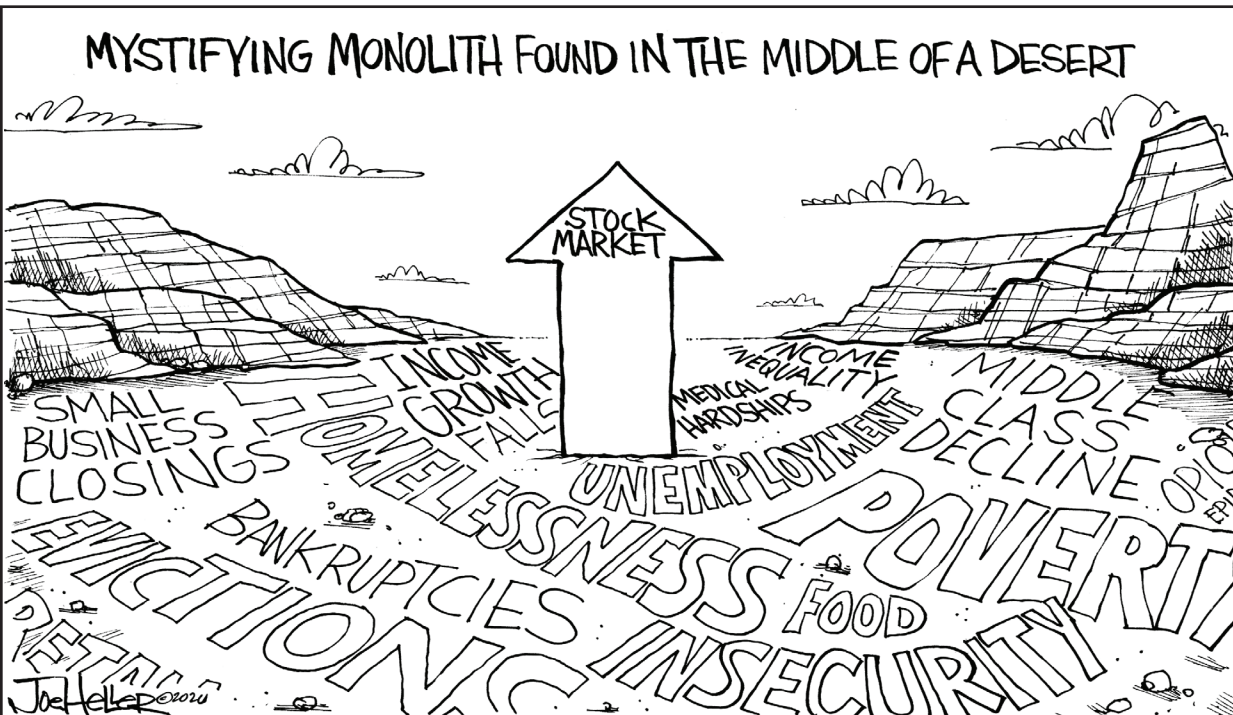
But, for this governor, it all seems to be about power.

In 1933, the National Socialist German Worker Party issued a decree that basically stated you can't make or circulate any statement — factual or not — that may seriously harm the state, the party, a person, or any organization that supports the government.

You were required to explicatively follow the directives of the government.

In 1934, the Nazis criminalized the directive and added additional laws that specified imprisonment and heavy fines for failure to comply. They also told the population it was their duty to report violations to the authorities; be it family, friends, or neighbors — it did not matter.

Sound familiar? So, again I ask: When is enough, enough?



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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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Periodicals postage paid at Cottage Grove, Oregon. Postmaster: Send address changes to P.O. Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

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