

Cottage Grove Sentinel

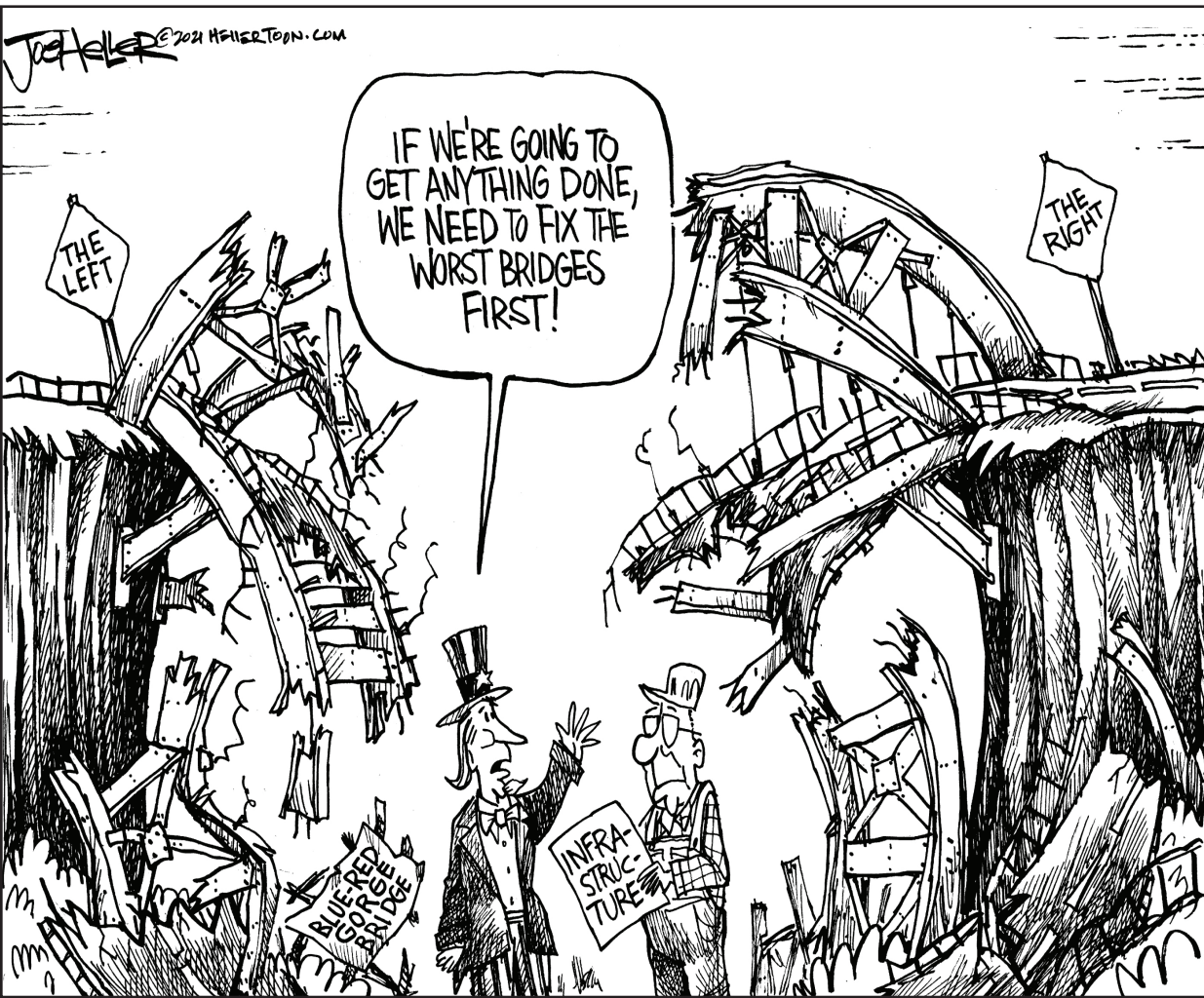
116 N. Sixth St.
Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424

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)



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anonymous, libelous, argumentative, sarcastic or contain accusations that are unsourced or without documentation will not be published.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

nhickson@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
Email: rep.cedrichayden@state.or.us
- **Rep. Peter DeFazio**
(House of Representatives)
405 East 8th Ave.
#2030
Eugene, Ore. 97401

Oregon federal representatives

- 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
- **Heather Buch**
Lane County Commissioner - District 5
Email: Heather.Buch@lane-county.org
125 E. Eighth Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401
Or call 541-682-4203

New location, same commitment to you

rities.

If these walls could talk, well... let's just say they'd speak volumes.

But recently, those walls have needed repair as time and aging struc-

Ultimately, wherever we hang our *Sentinel* hats, the end result is the same: a commitment to bring you the news, information and stories you need to know, and

(Don't worry, SLCFR, nothing combustible) once we are settled in.

But there's still work to do. For example, Damien Sherwood and I will be removing a partial (non-bearing!) wall this weekend to make more space for the newsroom.

There's also still some painting and reorganizing to do.

But when you call, you'll still hear Meg Fringer's cheerful voice. General Manager Gary Manly, and marketing consultants Gerald Santana and Carla Skeel, are still manning the sales office.

And each Thursday, you'll find *The Sentinel* in news stands, in your mail box and at stores around town because, well — some things *don't* change.

From the Editor's Desk

Ned Hickson

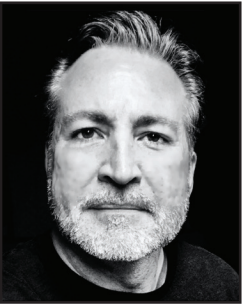
tural issues prompted us to begin looking at a new beginning in a location more suited to our needs in the modern era.

One thing we've learned over the past year, as we have primarily operated from our homes, has been how four walls isn't nearly as important as the fortitude of those with them regardless of where those walls might be.

to provide a place for community conversation.

With that in mind, we are happy to announce our new home at 1498 E. Main St., Ste 104, in the Safeway shopping center, next to the UPS Store (and, for us, dangerously close to the Safeway bakery section.)

We hope you'll come see us and visit our new office. We're planning an official newspaper-warming party



Change is hard.

Even when it's for the better.

In the case of our recent move from our building in the historic district that was home to *The Sentinel* for decades, it's hard leaving a place that has had so many conversations, laughs, arguments, tears, bleary-eyed deadline nights and mornings, sighs of relief and wistful whistles when everything came together.

It's a building that has heard the footfalls of different editors, reporters, office and sales people, visiting dignitaries from state representatives to mayors and a few celeb-



Cottage Grove Sentinel

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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.

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