

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anonymous, libelous, argumentative, sarcastic or contain accusations that are unsourced or without documentation will not be published.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

dsherwood@cgsentinel.com

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR REPS

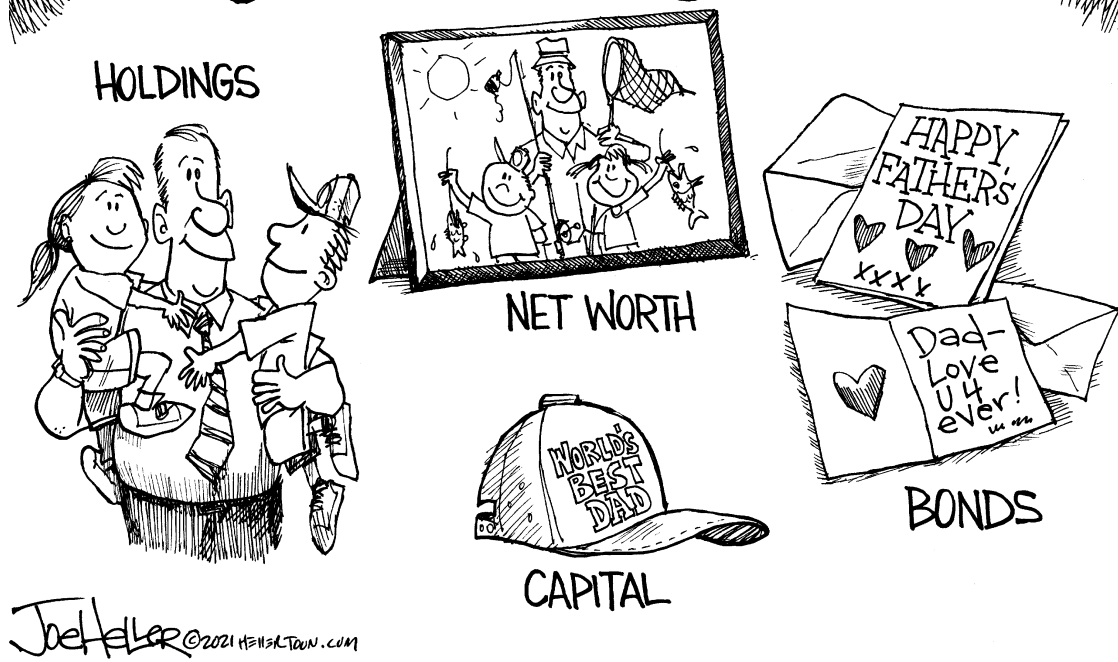
Oregon state representatives

- **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

Signs of a Wealthy man



Joe Heller © 2021 HEILBERTON.COM

Making safety a priority



effective July 4, 2021 through July 5, 2023.

The Safety Corridor program aligns with Lane County's commitment to work toward zero deaths.

In partnership with the Association of Oregon Counties, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and South Lane Fire and Rescue, Lane County will be guiding safety

sheriff's office will be working overtime to provide traffic enforcement on the corridor. The doubling of fines is intended to deter people from violating traffic laws.

Education: Public service announcements, press releases, and other public education campaigns will be provided throughout the two-year program.

transportation planner, becky.taylor@lanecounty.gov, 541-682-6932.

Postcards promoting the survey and providing more information about the London Road Safety Corridor are expected to be mailed to the entire Cottage Grove ZIP code in the coming weeks, thanks to postage and printing costs being covered by a safety grant provided by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

We need everyone to make safety a priority. To prevent speeding, please plan travel times realistically. Traveling at safer speeds make the roads safer for our friends and family. To prevent DUII, coordinate with friends and family to designate a driver so the person driving is sober.

We all want to get home safely. Together, we can prevent traffic crashes.

—Heather Buch
Lane County
Commissioner
District 5

From Your Commissioner's Desk

Heather Buch

actions on the London Road Safety Corridor. Safety actions include:

Engineering: To reduce head-on collisions, centerline rumble strips were installed in 2019. To increase visibility of the travel lanes, the pavement markings will be upgraded in summer 2021. To reduce roadway departure crashes, guardrails and curve warning signs will be installed in summer 2023.

Enforcement: The

The education campaigns will be focused on behavior change. People will be encouraged to avoid speeding and intoxication.

Lane County is asking the community what they would be willing to do to prevent DUII. An online survey is available at www.lanecounty.gov/LRSC. Paper copies and Spanish versions of the survey will be available. For more information, contact

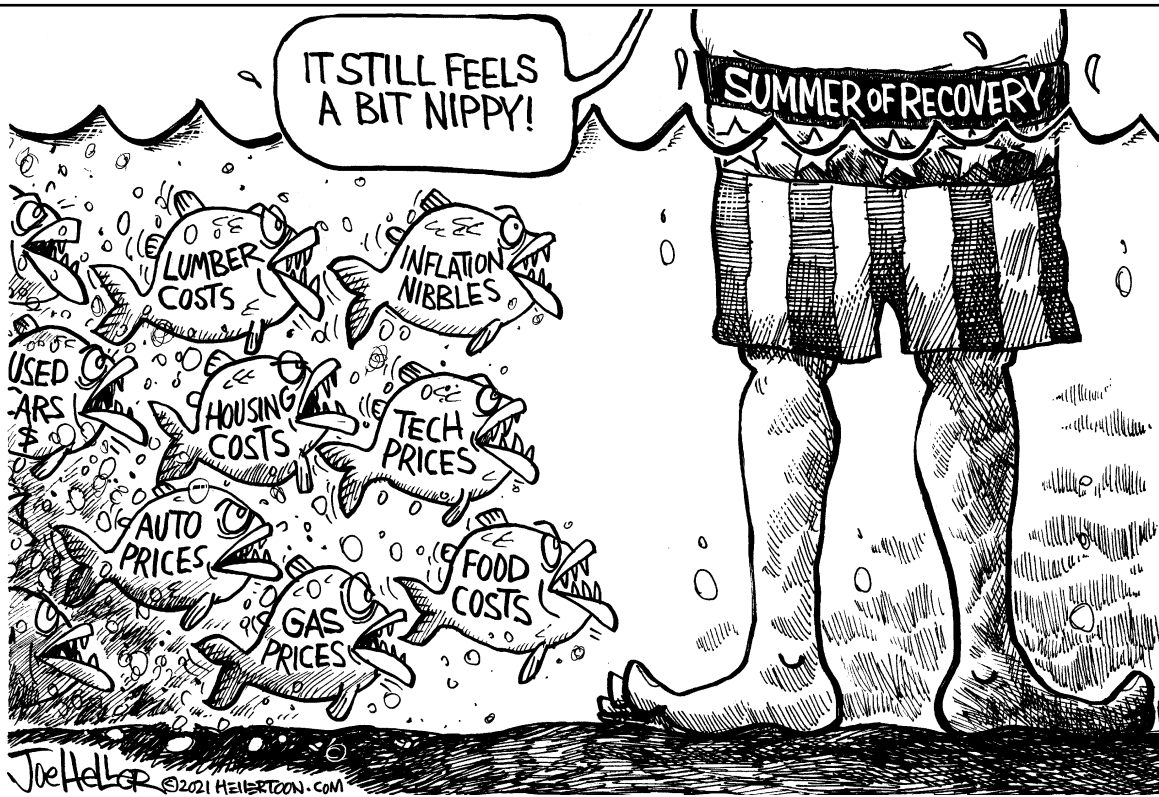
Becky Taylor, senior

In recent years, multiple people have been killed and seriously injured in traffic crashes on London Road. All of those crashes involved driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol (DUII) and most involved excessive speeds.

The most recent speed data collected in February 2021 identified 36 percent of people driving over the 55 mph speed limit with the greatest recorded speed at 90 mph.

To reduce DUII, speeding and the number of people killed and injured, Lane County has designated London Road as a Safety Corridor which doubles traffic fines.

The designation includes the first seven miles of London Road, from Latham Road to Cottage Grove Reservoir Road. The doubling of fees will be



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