

Should the city disclose details of housing?

A city of Bend staff member said at a public meeting earlier this week that the city would not release the locations of two places where it had approved temporary transitional housing for the homeless.

We challenged that. And the city released the relevant documents. This issue, though, gets complicated quickly. The homeless have a right to safety and privacy, just as anyone else. Bend residents also have a right to know what their city is doing. Should Bend residents be able to know the addresses? Yes. But should the city make an effort to actively publicize the locations? Should the newspaper? Those aren't questions with easy answers. More snow is falling in Bend as we write this. It hasn't been as bad as winter as some, but for the homeless, yes, it has been bad. At least one homeless man, David Savory, died on the street in Bend. Homeless shelters were full. A good Samaritan tried to check him into a motel and offered to pay for it. Motels refused because he did not have identification. It has been encouraging to see a powerful shift in the city's commitment to do more to help the homeless. It has a new fee to raise money for such services. It is hoping to be able to purchase a hotel itself for temporary housing and to provide

services there. And there is more. One other thing the city is working on is a parking safe program. As we said, there are two locations approved in the city now. The new program would allow the city to continue to allow overnight camping and transitional overnight parking after the city's COVID-19 emergency order expires. There are proposed restrictions, such as there must be access to bathrooms, hand-washing and trash disposal. There are other requirements such as supervision. The Bend City Council is scheduled to discuss the proposal at its meeting on March 3. Should the city be required to notify people who live within a certain distance of such a location? Should the neighborhood association be notified? Should the city provide even more notice than that? When we spoke Friday morning to a person who runs one of the locations currently approved by the city, she told us she houses people who are victims of domestic violence. We can't imagine many people in Bend would want the city or the newspaper to broadcast such a location. Do you?

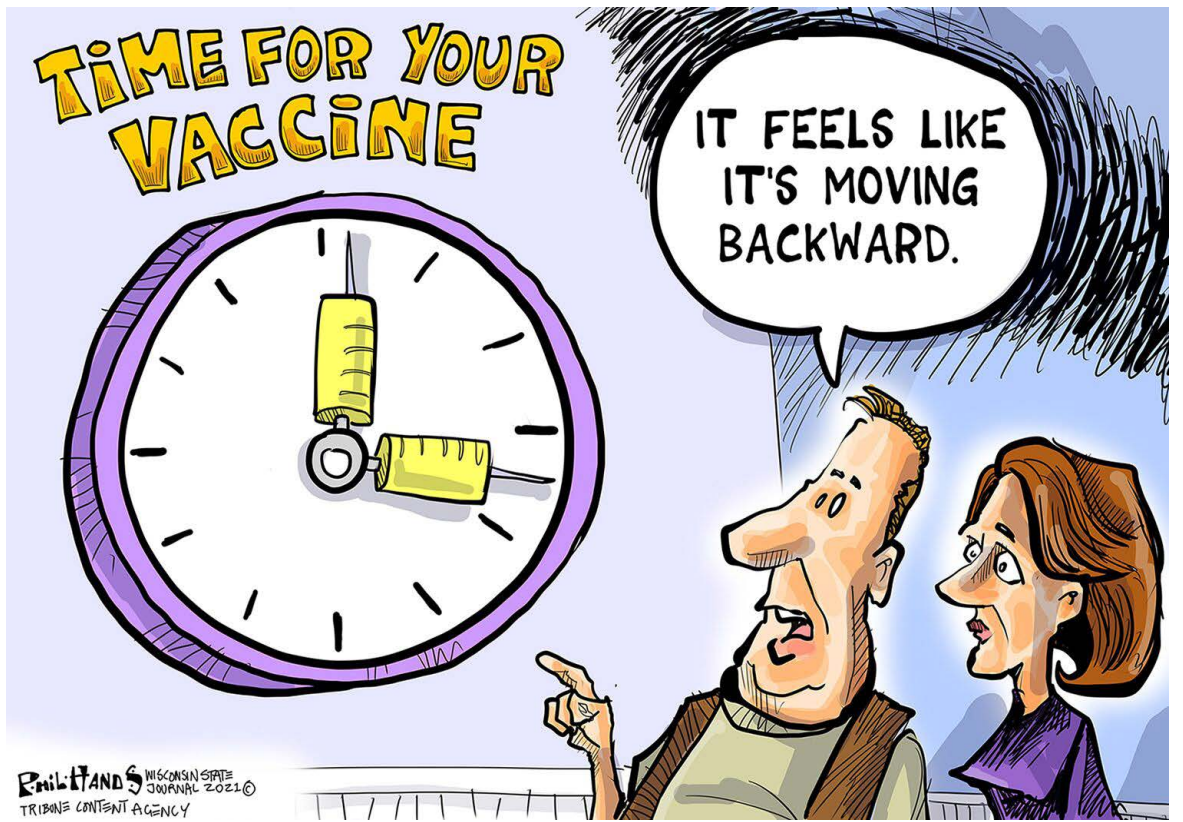
Historical editorials: Newspaper misleads

Editor's note: The following historical editorials originally appeared in what was then called *The Bend Bulletin* on Feb. 10, 1905. Bend is coming to be quite a distributing point for postal matter. In the past four months two post offices have been established that are served from here — Tumalo and Laidlaw — and there is proposed that another will be established about 16 miles southeasterly where quite a settlement is growing up on "ditch" lands. And Bend itself had no post office a year ago.

Mrs. Groesbeck. Her husband never in his most violent mood charged her with unfaithfulness. Nor was any such complaint made against him. When the Review intimates that it has a letter making such charges on either side of the Groesbeck difficulty "written by a man of good breeding and education" it simply lies. We imagine if Gerald Groesbeck were in the country the Review would soon have no cause to regret its slimy (word unreadable), for, erratic as he was, he had a sense of decency that would defend the fair name of his wife, though they could not agree on more important matters. In this wanton and pusillanimous attack upon an absent, innocent and defenseless woman, the Review is living up to its traditions. What a fine exhibition of large-minded manliness it is!

It has remained for the Prineville Review to cast a slur upon Mrs. Groesbeck — or attempt to do so. In all her unpleasant matrimonial experiences, with its many acts of foolishness on both sides, there has been no taint on the character of

Editorials reflect the views of The Bulletin's editorial board, Publisher Heidi Wright, Editor Gerry O'Brien and Editorial Page Editor Richard Coe. They are written by Richard Coe.



Rep. Nearman should acknowledge his duty and resign from office now

BY ANTHONY BROADMAN

As the nation watched the replay of the deadly Jan. 6 attack on our nation's Capitol, we cannot forget that, in December, events in Salem foreshadowed the attempted coup in Washington, D.C. During a special session of the state Legislature to deal with the pandemic, armed extremists assaulted journalists outside the state Capitol building and attacked law enforcement officers working to protect legislators and staff. Thankfully, the Oregon State Police were able to hold the line, and the attackers were unable to breach the Senate and House chambers. But police were injured and there were several arrests of the militants. It could have been far worse. In the aftermath of that attack, I was horrified to learn that after the attackers failed to break down a door into the Capitol — which was closed that day due to COVID-19 — security footage showed that state Rep. Mike Nearman, R-Independence, literally opened the door. Now, as reported by The Bulletin and other papers, Rep. Nearman is currently under criminal investigation for what could be felony charges. He is also under investigation by the House Conduct Committee. The reality is that while the breach of Oregon's state Capitol and the resulting injuries and arrests were

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Broadman

shocking, they weren't surprising. As Oregon Public Broadcasting has reported, we in Oregon have a long history of enabling far-right, anti-government extremism. Over the past few years, threatened and actual violence has become routine. It has to stop. We should all remember that last year the state Capitol had to be shut down due to credible threats of violence during the Republican walkout after a rally attended by violent militants and white supremacist groups. Our politicians gave speeches and courted these extremists. Rep. Nearman himself has a long history of anti-immigrant, anti-LGBTQ and anti-worker extremism.

I join more than 60 community organizations and elected officials who are calling on Rep. Nearman to save taxpayer money and trouble and resign immediately. If he will not, he should be removed from office. This is not a partisan issue. As a nonpartisan elected official I expect to be held accountable for my actions. I understand that part of my service to the people of Bend includes keeping staff

and other politicians safe — especially when I disagree with them. As public officials we must reject the growing extremism and violence in political rhetoric and actions. The Constitution is clear and gives lawmakers the authority to expel a member for disorderly conduct. Taking action to remove him from office is important to protect our democracy. I applaud Republicans who are starting to distance themselves from extremists. Now they must go further, and both parties in Salem must take action. We deserve leaders with the courage to uphold our freedoms and our rights — especially the right to a peaceful democracy. Lawmakers who cater to bullies and traffic in extremism simply do not deserve to be in office. Republicans and Democrats in Salem must come together to hold any elected leaders who have done us harm to account. We must move forward together, assured that our leaders govern in our name and deliver what our families need, from pandemic relief to vaccine distribution. Together we can make Oregon a state where liberty and justice are for all. Not only will political violence tear our state apart, but we do not have time for it. The challenges facing us demand our leaders' earnest attention, now. **Anthony Broadman is a Bend city councilor.**

Letters policy

We welcome your letters. Letters should be limited to one issue, contain no more than 250 words and include the writer's signature, phone number and address for verification. We edit letters for brevity, grammar, taste and legal reasons. We reject poetry, personal attacks, form letters, letters submitted elsewhere and those appropriate for other sections of The Bulletin. Writers are limited to one letter or guest column every 30 days.

Guest columns

Your submissions should be between 550 and 650 words; they must be signed; and they must include the writer's phone number and address for verification. We edit submissions for brevity, grammar, taste and legal reasons. We reject those submitted elsewhere. Locally submitted columns alternate with national columnists and commentaries. Writers are limited to one letter or guest column every 30 days.

How to submit

Please address your submission to either My Nickel's Worth or Guest Column and mail, fax or email it to The Bulletin. Email submissions are preferred. Email: letters@bendbulletin.com Write: My Nickel's Worth/Guest Column P.O. Box 6020 Bend, OR 97708 Fax: 541-385-5804

Climate is on the federal agenda; a carbon tax should be, too

BY MARK REYNOLDS and HELEN SEIDLER

Early into 2021, the federal government is off to a roaring start on climate change. Democrats have indicated climate change is a priority issue they intend to tackle. President Joe Biden signed a raft of executive orders related to climate change, elevating the issue across the federal government. The Senate majority leader directed all relevant Senate committees to begin holding hearings on climate. And the speaker of the house, no stranger to the fight for climate legislation, is ready for round two. Republicans, too, know their constituents are struggling with the impacts of climate change, and their younger voters in particular are eager for representation in this national discussion. Rep. Cliff Bentz, representing Oregon's Congressional District 2, clearly states that fire and water issues are top priority for him. There's no question of congressional climate action this year — it must happen. As Rep. Bentz and Sens. Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden evaluate policy options, they should consider the broadly popular carbon tax or fee. A carbon

tax can quickly slash our emissions and save lives — plus, when designed right, it can actually pay people and benefit American business. Endorsements from the scientific community, health organizations, economists, and businesses show that this is the consensus solution. Let's explore why. As we understand by now, it's imperative that the world reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. That target comes from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's game-changing 2018 report. In that report, the IPCC specified that "carbon pricing is a necessary condition of ambitious climate policies." A steadily rising carbon tax could slash emissions enough to reach the net-zero by 2050 target. The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine reinforced that message in a new report, naming a carbon tax as one of the solutions to reach net-zero. Scientists are committed to solving this problem, so they're throwing support behind the most effective solution available. Deep emissions cuts will not only help the climate, but will also be a huge boon to public health. We could

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With scientists, public health professionals, economists and businesses supporting a carbon tax, Congress should listen closely. Public polling shows 60% of people nationwide and 55% of people in Rep. Bentz's district want Congress to do more to address global warming.



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save 4.5 million American lives over the next 50 years by replacing pollution with clean air. That's why the Lancet Commission endorses carbon pricing, calling it "the single most powerful strategic instrument to inoculate human health against the risks of climate change." Health professionals in Bend and through Oregon have signed a declaration in support emission reductions via carbon pricing. In addition, a carbon tax can provide economic benefits to Americans. A fee and dividend structure, sometimes called a "carbon cashback," will put the

carbon fee revenue into people's pockets to spend as they see fit. If these payments are monthly, as in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, 85% of Americans come out ahead or essentially break even. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen is a longtime supporter of this approach. She affirmed in her January confirmation process that she is "fully supportive of effective carbon pricing," adding, "I know that the President is as well." Local economists from Central Oregon agree. A carbon tax is also better for business. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce

recently announced its support of a "market-based approach to accelerate emissions reductions." A carbon tax is considered a market-based approach, giving businesses the ultimate say on how they shift to clean energy. It is more predictable and durable than regulations, which can change with the stroke of a new president's pen. Sunlight Solar and Worthy Brewing have endorsed the legislation seeks to implement carbon tax policy. With scientists, public health professionals, economists and businesses supporting a carbon tax, Congress should listen closely. The American people themselves expect results. Public polling shows 60% of people nationwide and 55% of people in Rep. Bentz's district want Congress to do more to address global warming. That desire defies partisanship with majority support for climate action from Republican and Democratic voters. An effective carbon tax would put America on the fast track to a healthy, prosperous future. **Mark Reynolds is executive director of Citizens' Climate Lobby and Helen Seidler is co-lead of the Bend chapter of the group.**