



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The man Biden was and is

Most of the time the opinion page editor chooses cartoons that are funny and/or mildly informative through humor, but on Sunday, July 12, the choice was deceitful, insulting and misinforming.

Even a cursory look at Joe Biden's biography (try Wikipedia) proves how wrong cartoonist Lisa Benson is.

This cartoon implied Joe Biden slept during his 44 years in politics. "Time to go to work, Joe."

Really?

Joe Biden served the people of Delaware and America for 44 years and was known as one of the hardest working senators in U.S. history. He became known as "the dean of the Senate in foreign relations," one of the reasons he was selected by Obama to be his V.P.

He was Obama's friend, mentor and confidant thru some of America's hardest financial and international relations events.

He commuted to work, 90 minutes, each way on Amtrak, so he could "parent" his two sons. That's the kind of man Biden was and is.

Say what you will about Biden, "gaffes" and missteps notwithstanding, but imply he is/was a lazy, do-nothing typical politician is a slanderous disservice to our community, just as our political future is getting deadly serious.

Ed Reiman, Cottage Grove

A stellar bunch of hippies

We greatly enjoyed reading the front-page article in the July 5 R-G written by Tatiana Parafinink-Talesnick about the success of the CAHOOTS program, guided by the cooperative, clear vision of White Bird and the Eugene Police Department and the long support of the Eugene City Council.

Our community is helping to lead the way in this extraordinary time of criminal justice reform, inspired by the moment of moral reckoning brought on by the Black Lives Matter movement.

It made us feel proud that this successful program has brought such welcome attention to our fair community. We hope, and we expect, that CAHOOTS will be able to navigate the burden of expectation resulting from this newfound fame, and that the continued success — and wise path of growth — while in the national spotlight will remain a beacon to the entire country.

What a stellar bunch of hippies!

Deborah McDaniel and Ronald Blanton, Eugene

Deep gratitude to the perpetually masked

Many of us put on a face covering to run a quick errand or two but have the luxury of removing it when back in the car or at home.

Thank you to those individuals who wear one every day for the duration of their work hours. Thank you to essential front-line workers and all retail, grocery, salon and customer-facing professionals, among others, who are there to assist us and wear their face coverings for hours on end. A special heartwarming thank you to summercamp staff who wear one all day, every day, in the hot summer sun, to protect our children, while giving them an opportunity to socialize that has been missing for so long. Your hard work and dedication is recognized and much appreciated during these difficult times. Regardless of your opinion on the directive to wear a face covering, these wonderful individuals have earned our gratitude.

Libby Steffen-Schafermeyer, Eugene

They say it's sustainable

I was surprised when Seneca Sawmill Company's senior vice president for public relations, Casey Roscoe, invited me to a Zoom call hours prior to an informational webinar about the Thurston Hills Peddle Power timber sale.

She said, "I'd like the opportunity to walk you through the facts so you have true, accurate and clear information for tonight's presentation."

I wonder what surveillance was used to know I was registered for this webinar? I found this disturbing. I volunteer with 350 Eugene, a grassroots group taking action to mitigate the worst effects of the climate crisis. Recent studies show that logging is by far the No. 1 source of greenhouse gas emissions in Oregon. The dangers and economic costs of droughts and heatwaves, made worse by the industry's emissions, are already being felt. Scientists are sounding the alarm about our unwise logging practices, like clear-cutting and mono-cropping, which make wildland fires burn more intensely, threatening communities like Thurston Hills.

These practices also degrade salmon habitat, impoverish rural communities and imperil watersheds. They say it's sustainable. It certainly sustains the profits of timber barons. Maybe these were the facts Roscoe intended to walk me through.

Patricia Hine, Eugene

Nothing civil about war