



## Letters to the editor

**Methane madness** Climate change impacts are painful. Let's help each other work for policy change as we take personal steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It's time to pressure the city of Eugene to place a moratorium on all new natural gas (methane) infrastructures.

In 2018, Colorado State University research showed that methane leakage from producing, gathering, processing, transmitting and storing natural gas was 60% higher than had been reported by EPA. Those updated measurements put the climate impact of natural gas very close to coal. Over a 20-year period methane traps 80 times more atmospheric heat than CO2. Natural gas utilization will not help us reach our GHG goals. Eugene, do the right thing!

Those of us who are economically comfortable can learn to base our decisions on greenhouse gas pollution, rather than the dollar alone. This year I finally managed to completely unplug from natural gas. For years many of you have worked steadily to develop climate supportive policies and have reduced your individual pollution. Thank you!

**Pamela Fitzpatrick, Eugene Where's the missed rent coming from?** I am a 75-year-old who skimmed and saved and dealt with renters for over 50 years so that in addition to Social Security I would have money to live on in my retirement years.

When the governor and the state Legislature set up blanket regulations that took away landlords' ability to evict tenants that do not pay rent, or have other good reasons for evictions, they forget that sometimes evictions are the only process we have left to deal with a problem tenant!

Landlords are trying to run a business, and we need rents to pay for bank loans, repairs, property taxes, insurance, income taxes, and if there is any money left, profits that we can use to live on!

I know the Legislature thinks it has found a solution, but it still requires that missed rent must be repaid by July 1, 2021.

How many delinquent renters do you think are going to be financially able to pay back past rent? Instead, they will end up getting a black mark on their rental history and no future landlord will rent to them! Are we really ready to put this stigma on the future lives of tenants?

**Lawrence Norris, Eugene Leave it to the Danish** Rather than wasting print space on tendentious Democrat/Republican comparisons, Jonathon Levy (Letters, Dec. 14) would better serve public policy by reporting

valid research on mask effectiveness. The only well-designed, randomized controlled

studies of masking effectiveness to prevent viral transmission across a variety of settings with a range of mask designs have uniformly found masks unable to prevent transmission of previous influenza and coronaviruses.

The only randomized controlled mask effectiveness study specific to SARS-Cov 2 was conducted in Denmark using a sample of almost 6,000 — half randomly assigned to wear masks and half to remain unmasked in a country where masking was optional and infrequent. With a stratified random sampling design controlling