

since police are a definite deterrent to crime.

If you are so concerned about children's deaths, why didn't I see a comparison of children killed due to abortions? Babies killed in Oregon alone since 2013 have been more than 8,000 yearly. Why do you suppose California has never reported its abortion numbers?

Abortion is the real crime here, to which the liberal left wants to turn a blind eye. You are trying to scare us with a few thousand deaths when in reality millions of children are killed every year through abortion.

Across the U.S. the rate of abortion deaths is one every 37 seconds. In 2017 that added up to 862,320. But the liberal left says it is just tissue, except tissue doesn't contain a heart and all of the components to make a human being.

I believe in women's rights, but when she allows a man to have sex with her and she becomes pregnant, now another life has to be taken into consideration besides her own. It is life at conception. Are you glad your mom was pro-life?

There is a very simple solution: Have the baby and put it up for adoption. Many families in the U.S. desperately want to raise a child. Abortion is killing.

Arthur Allen
Lebanon

Reevaluate future of landfill site

I moved to Soap Creek Valley in 1979; it's been my home for 42 years. The Coffin Butte Landfill

is 4 miles north.

Soap Creek residents have had the landfill in our backyard for decades. We have cleaned up roadside trash and illegal dumps. We have lived with the smells, sights, sounds and opportunistic wildlife that go with that industry.

In 2020, Coffin Butte Landfill accepted waste from 22 Oregon counties and Washington State. The landfill is growing exponentially; at today's tip rate, the current cell will be filled in four years. Rather than moving operations to another permitted site, cell 6, the Coffin Butte quarry, Valley Landfills/Republic Services has applied for a conditional use permit to expand the landfill south of Coffin Butte Road.

The CUP application also calls for vacating Coffin Butte Road, a publicly owned and maintained road, and filling that access with waste. This raises safety concerns for local residents, as an evacuation route is permanently sealed off.

Benton County contributes about 12% of the total annual tonnage. How long would the current permitted site last if some of those loads were redirected to fill sites closer to where the trash originated?

As a community, it is time to reevaluate the future of this site and act. On Nov. 2, the Benton County Planning Commission will be meeting to review LU-21-047, Conditional Use Permit application for expansion of Coffin Butte Landfill. Anyone can write in, testify or contact your county commissioners.

Becky Merja
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