In Our View

CHEERS & JEERS
County planning commission advocates sensible course; mentally still languish

CHEERS: The Clark County Planning Commission has taken a sensible approach to long-term land-use planning. The commission this week declined to support alternatives that would reduce the minimum lot size for subdivisions of rural land parcels, a change that would make it difficult to defend such plans in court because of state guidelines. That rejection includes Alternative 4, which was developed unilaterally by county Councilor David Madore without input from professionals who understand land-use and planning.

Proposals of the plans that allow for smaller lots argue that they would restore the rights of landowners and the commission’s responsibilities to provide guidance that would provide consideration for landowners in a case-by-case basis. But allowing the creation of thousands of small parcels in rural Clark County would lead to sprawl that requires increased infrastructure, while providing little relief for the region’s housing crunch. The Clark County council — including Madore — should employ similar diligence in considering the suggestions of the planning commission and adopting a final plan.

JEERS: The Washington Department of Social and Health Services is working hard to improve mental health care — including one near Tacoma — to continue to cope with a very troubled order. And if there are any mental health facilities in the state, they are struggling with a lack of funding. In April, a U.S. District Court judge issued a preliminary injunction against the state’s mental-health care facilities, saying that patients with mental illnesses can’t be kept in custody if the state doesn’t provide mental health treatments.

The judge found that the state wasn’t properly evaluating and treating patients with mental illness. The state has until early October to comply with the judge’s order. The judge also ordered the state to provide more mental health care facilities in the state. The state has agreed to comply with the order.

Room to add bridges

Recent articles about regional traffic congestion have focused on the potential for a new bridge over the Columbia River. The mayor of Pasco, Ken Bechtel, has expressed support for a new bridge over the Columbia River.

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Efficiency approved


In other news, the state has approved a plan for a new bridge over the Columbia River.

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Voters verbalized choice at primary

Fresh from elections in states that allow for their own elections, the GOP is discovering that its new national strategy is a one-party system, with a two-party primary run by a one-party system.

On a split ticket, John Cary, a law professor at the University of Oregon, was re-elected to the Senate from the 5th District. Cary, a former state senator, received 52 percent of the vote.

Jeffers, Inc.

Lettets to the editor

Readers are encouraged to send their letters to the editor. Letters should be no more than 200 words and should be submitted to the editor via email at editor@thespokesmanreview.com. Letters should be signed and include the writer’s name, address and telephone number for verification, only the name and hometown will be published, if preferred. Letters should be submitted to the editor via email at editor@thespokesmanreview.com.

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A reader writes: The guidelines will likely increase the number of applications for the HELP program. This will help alleviate many of the issues that are currently facing the community.

Under the agreement, property owners in the county will be required to ensure that their properties are free of hazardous materials before they can be sold. This will help prevent future problems and ensure that the sale of properties in the county is safe for future homeowners.

Agreement short of goal

When I lived in Ankara, Turkey, I recall the day U.S. President Ronald Reagan was inaugurated in 1981. On that same day, the Iranian government was established. It was a day of great importance for the country and its people.

In 2012, the mullahs brought to light the illegal activities of the Iranian government in the country. This led to the U.S. imposing sanctions on the Iranian government.

To prevent the spread of terrorism, the U.S. government imposed sanctions on the Iranian government.

Terrance Papworth's cry in his Sept. 11 letter, "How can I appear just short by any factor of principle and legal (legally) abortion?" and the notion that he has an equal right to a tree, a pulsed work or step on land is the same as the man of nature and his harmony with all life. Does really think the rest of us want to follow him back to the jungle, where living becomes a main tool of existence? Don't get me wrong. I am not a proponent of abortion. But that is easy for me to say. I'm a male.