BOCC meeting was a sad experience

I went to the Clark County
Board of Councilors meeting on
Jan 12. What a sad experience
that was. Hearing what the vari-
ous Clark County elected officials
had to say about the proposal to
reduce the taxes was sad, very sad
to say the least.

I know now that not one of
them will ever get my vote. The
public testimony for and against
the tax reduction was 10 to 0 for
the reduction, 9 to 0 to repeal.
While giving testimony I asked
if any member of the board had
kept a record of the vote. No one
kept a record and not one of them
told me enough to ask the results.

Dave Alt
Vancouver

Green Mountain School
District is small, yet unique

I would like to encourage the
citizens of the Green Mountain
School District to remember on
Jan 13 to vote for the school mainte-
nance and operations levy by Feb 9.

The levy replaces an expiring
levy. It is vital to maintaining the
beautiful, but aging campus and
providing our children the quality
educations they now receive.

This small district’s uniqueness
in its ability to give each learner
the attention and help they need
to meet his or her potential.

The people voted to change
Clark County government

I was surprised by editor Ken
Vance’s Jan 13 editorial about
the latest Board of Clark Coun-
ty Commissioners decision to
remove the property tax cut that
councilors David Madore and
Tom Mielke made with Jeanne
Stewart dissenting.

Vance said “they should be voting
on the merits of the issues and not
politics involved” and it “smells of an
agenda” — they being the new
members of the council. Marc
Boldt and Julie Olson. The front
page of the very same paper lays out

Community is a critical part of the success of Ridgefield schools

As an educator, I have the
opportunity to be amazed every
day. My 6th grade students are
regularly asked to do work at a
level I doubt I did in high school
or college, and they succeed.

The federal and state govern-
ments constantly change the
rules and expectations, and my
colleagues adapt quickly.

Finding ways to make the
changes, required, while still
keeping the spirit and heart of
our community first and foremost.

Our administrators respond to
new challenges with tact, inclusi-

City planner, manager, and attorneys are venturing outside of their legally prescribed duties as fact-finders

In a breathtaking maneuver
Jan 13, county staff declared
the Preferred Alternative Plan, “invalid.” This bra-
zen move is indicative of the staff’s true colors. The
declaration is a symptom of something much larger
— their anti-growth agenda.

The day was cast over 21 years
ago, and continues to influence
today’s plan. The 2016 Compre-
prehensive Plan update is a mass
of confusion.

Whether you agree with the
Preferred Alternative Plan
or not, the episode displayed
Jan 13 about staff’s crazy-

making tactics, unreliable
fact-based data, and over-
stepping their positions of
authority. The planners, man-
ger, and the county attorneys
are venturing outside of their
legally prescribed duties as
fact-finders. They are directly
leading policy.

The planners are moving
forward, absent one major
detail. Citizens of Clark County are able
to empower the planners, via the
legislators. That legislative au-
ority is strictly reserved for the
lawfully elected Clark County
Board of Councilors. They build
the policies and assumptions the
planning staff must work with.

A democratic society functions
in this manner to ensure checks
and balances.

This process advances the
citizens’ views. Planning staff
ducts meetings on their own.

I believe citizens are entitled
to be heard. The City Council
should follow the law.

Sandra Fernding
Woodland

Ridgefield schools are impressively keeping up with growth

I moved to Ridgefield with my
the belt in the state.