

# OPINION

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## READERS' OPEN FORUM

### We need to work together

This is in response to the speeding issue in Bay City. As a resident of Bay City, I find it offensive and irresponsible to invite speeders to Bay City. Because the author of a recent letter did not get the "problem" resolved to her satisfaction, she seems to feel that by inviting people to break the law, it will fix everything.

The speed bumps she refers to cannot be put in here. The fire chief and city engineer have determined that the speed bumps and or speed humps she refers to cannot be put on the incline because of the degree of the hill, as it would prolong emergency response time.

The citizens of Bay City have chosen not to have a police presence in our city, so we have to make do with what we have. We need to work together to get a viable plan to advance into the 21st century — which involves community involvement and commitment. What about a neighborhood watch again? We have a lot of "big city" issues for a small city. Let's get together and make it happen instead of being negative and nonproductive.

*Sharon Stafford  
Bay City*



flood-control stations without approval. We were left unprepared for floods that came, and have differed among ourselves for 11 years under commissioner takeover.

We create a dysfunctional government because we allow ourselves to report to our commissioners. When a tree blows into the river or it gets plugged, land, soil and water should be Johnny-on-the-spot. Not so; our commissioners form a committee. That is not their call.

Commissioner Mark Labhart needs to report the use of a herbicide so effective that it kills all vegetation for three years. Has this been approved by land, soil and water or Oregon Fish and Wildlife?

Commissioner Tim Josi needs to report why Tillamook is the only coastal county where the Corps of Engineers is not dredging the bays and ocean jetties.

We have elected Commissioner Charles Hurliman and the county's Planning Department is supporting the port's permit for a golf course without any wildlife impact study. Forced relocation and destruction of elk may be our worst investment, considering the chemicals required to maintain a golf course.

The responsibility for river maintenance and the use of chemical herbicides in our forests must be removed from the county Planning Department and given back to land, soil and water, where it belongs. Environmental regulations that apply to landowners must also apply to county management personnel.

The best investment for commissioners would be for them to bring before us a property tax of 10 cents per \$1,000 for three years to reorganize land, soil and water, as in all the other counties.

Let's look out for the grandchildren and give back what we have allowed commissioners to destroy.

*Richard Stanfill  
Tillamook*