



PHOTO BY CEILI CORNELIUS

Steven Peterzen worked with students on their project to launch a weather balloon over Sisters Country.

Sisters students launch weather balloon

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

The science process classes at Sisters High School capped their spring trimester studies with the launch of a weather balloon on Friday, June 5.

The students assembled a payload of experiments designed by multiple separate teams, advised by science teacher Rima Givot, student teacher Heidi Gillespie and balloon expert Steven Peterzen. As president of ISTAR Group, Peterzen has international experience in sending up balloons, sometimes with massive payloads. (See www.theistargroup.com.)

According to Givot, student experiments included weather monitoring and trajectory tracking; a test of atmospheric pressure change on algae photosynthesis; effects of intense high-altitude light on inks; a test of earthworm survival at altitude; and an investigation of cellular change in flower petals.

Givot said that there was an immediately obvious result to the last experiment.

“There definitely was a change in the cells,” she said.

Not all the experiments panned out. The weather monitoring equipment either failed or was not set up correctly; it returned no data. And the balloon — a 600-gram latex unit with a burst altitude of 100,000 feet — did not fly as high as anticipated. It topped out somewhere around 85,000 feet before bursting, due to a heavier payload.

That’s all part of the deal though, and a valuable part of the educational experience, allowing students

to “recognize the nature of science and design,” as Givot put it. Sometimes things fail and you have to go back and tweak the design — sometimes more than once.

The overall mission was a success. Students were able to use GPS to locate the balloon’s landing site off Century Drive in the Mt. Bachelor area, and they hiked out to retrieve it.

Givot hopes to repeat the project next year, citing the educational benefits not only of the fundamental scientific processes involved, but also the hands-on team-building that went into the project.

“I will do it again in a second if it works out,” she said.



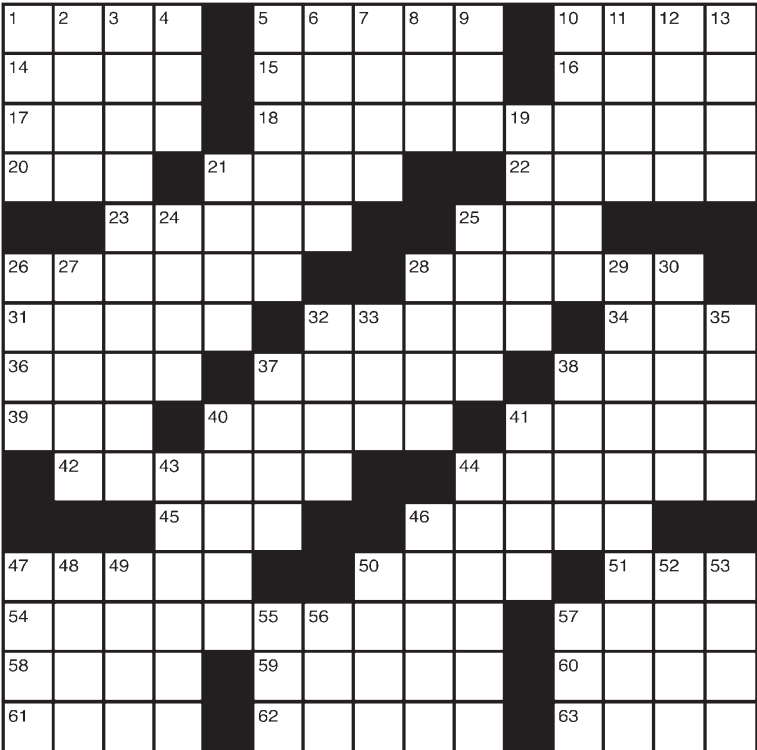
PHOTO BY CEILI CORNELIUS

Up, up and away! The Sisters weather balloon soared to over 80,000 feet and landed near Century Drive outside Bend.

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 Thailand, once
 - 5 Concur
 - 10 Uncertain
 - 14 Sharpen
 - 15 “___ yours”; letter closing
 - 16 Internal spy
 - 17 “___ tough job, but...”
 - 18 Piece of silverware
 - 20 Fido’s foot
 - 21 Largest digit
 - 22 Boys and men
 - 23 Vote into office
 - 25 Late Bernie ___
 - 26 Threaded metal fasteners
 - 28 Sea bordering Helsinki
 - 31 Tree or flower
 - 32 Weak
 - 34 Capture
 - 36 Lowe & Reiner
 - 37 ___ on; trample
 - 38 Actress Lange
 - 39 Mr. Brynner
 - 40 Daytime serials
 - 41 ___ firma; land
 - 42 Very small
 - 44 Filthy; sleazy
 - 45 “___ Miserables”
 - 46 Capital of Vietnam
 - 47 Window cover
 - 50 Tools with teeth
 - 51 Oct.’s follower
 - 54 With all one’s might and main
 - 57 Hawaiian island
 - 58 “___ well that ends well”
 - 59 Courageous
 - 60 Ending for Barb or Ann
 - 61 Cozy home
 - 62 Bury
 - 63 Not as much
- DOWN**
- 1 Niña, Pinta or Santa Maria
 - 2 Greek letter
 - 3 ___ to no one; not obligated to explain one’s actions
 - 4 ___ culpa; guilty one’s phrase
 - 5 Upper rooms
 - 6 Cary or Hugh
 - 7 Simpleton
 - 8 Building wing
 - 9 Storm center
 - 10 Has an ___ on; affects
 - 11 Nitwit
 - 12 Ice mass afloat
 - 13 Strong desires
 - 19 Wee
 - 21 Mr. Gingrich
 - 24 Part of the eye
 - 25 Housekeeper
 - 26 Lively
 - 27 Power; influence
 - 28 Cries from the flock
 - 29 Excessive
 - 30 Isle of ___; Italian resort
 - 32 Ravel; wear
 - 33 Boehner’s title: abbr.
 - 35 Rosary piece
 - 37 Throw



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/10/15

— Last Week’s Puzzle Solved —

L	A	B	O	R		F	G	H	I		A	N	T	S
E	L	O	P	E		R	E	I	N		T	A	U	T
S	L	O	P	S		A	L	M	S		T	O	N	Y
S	Y	N	O	P	S	I	S		E	N	A	M	E	L
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T	I	L	E			H	A	U	L		R	E	T	I
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R	E	S	T			D	E	E	D		E	P	E	E

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6/4/15

- 38 Long sandwich
- 40 Derisive smile
- 41 Heavy weights
- 43 Firstborn of several
- 44 Twain’s Tom
- 46 Bisect
- 47 Bridge
- 48 Gap
- 49 Piercing tools
- 50 Bench board
- 52 Pitcher’s goals
- 53 Competes
- 55 J. Edgar Hoover’s agcy.
- 56 “Ode on a Grecian ___”
- 57 Singer Tillis

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