

O P I N I O N



Letters to the Editor...

The Nugget welcomes contributions from its readers, which must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Letters to the Editor is an open forum for the community and contains unsolicited opinions not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Nugget reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted to the Editor. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned. The deadline for all letters is noon Monday.

To the Editor:
Just trust us?!

I read and re-read all the articles in the May 4 issue of *The Nugget* and here's what I learned. We are told "some" people (do we even get to know how many?) were not happy with our city manager because they felt he was "harassing and bullying" them (to do their jobs, maybe?) and we got so riled up about this that we formed committees, put him on leave, hired an impartial investigator who found the offenses to be inconclusive (a report the public can't see because it would be EMBARRASSING to the remaining employees) and then regardless the "conflicting evidence" in the findings, we now have the resignation of the best city manager this town has had in a very long time.

Sisters has never looked better and, to get great things done in a timely manner, sometimes feelings get hurt or some people get jealous. But most towns get beyond that because their officers, leaders and staff are adults. It is no surprise then that the

City of Sisters had to accept Mr. Gorayeb's conditions of resignation (and give him a reasonable severance) because obviously the efforts to fire him were wrong-headed and we paid for it.

To say that the meeting which should have been public was not because it was so stressful council forgot to make it public makes one want to know how dumb council thinks we are. And lastly, to say that the public will know that the council only has the best interest of Sisters at heart is the worst joke of all.

And now we should trust council to be reasonable? The way I read it, the city manager was not the problem.

S. G. Cobb

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To the Editor:

What a shame that it appears the city council has allowed Sisters to be the latest victim of Gorayeb's bullying.

Judy Bull

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Sisters Weather Forecast

Courtesy of the National Weather Service, Pendleton, Oregon

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Mostly sunny 71/38	Chance showers 51/37	Chance showers 55/38	Chance showers 57/39	Chance showers 60/39	Chance showers 60/na

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Website: www.nuggetnews.com

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Postmaster: Send address changes to
The Nugget Newspaper,
P.O. Box 698, Sisters, OR 97759.
Third Class Postage Paid at Sisters, Oregon.

Publisher - Editor: Kiki Dolson
News Editor: Jim Cornelius
Production Manager: Leith Williver
Classifieds & Circulation: Teresa Mahnken
Advertising: Karen Kassy
Graphic Design: Jess Draper
Proofreader: Pete Rathbun
Accounting: Erin Bordonaro

The Nugget is mailed to residents within the Sisters School District; subscriptions are available outside delivery area.
Third-class postage: one year, \$45; six months (or less), \$25. First-class postage: one year, \$85; six months, \$55.

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Local donations go a long way in helping

By Craig Rullman
Correspondent

The people who inhabit Sisters Country are generous. There are any number of projects in the community that simply would not survive without the financial contributions of our friends, neighbors, and local businesses. Whether it's a My Own Two Hands fundraiser for Sisters Folk Festival programs — enormously successful this year — donations of food to the food bank, cut-rate catering services, or hours of unpaid volunteer work, Sisters folk keep giving.

In a small town like Sisters, the hat gets passed frequently, and repeatedly, and miraculously, people keep giving of money, or time, or both. No one could blame the fine folks of our community if a measure of donor fatigue were setting in. Here's hoping it won't.

If you are looking for a worthy cause to contribute too, please consider a financial contribution to Sisters based Warfighter Outfitters, a 501(c)(3) founded by Brett Miller, who was severely wounded in the Iraq war. The mission of Warfighter Outfitters is to get combat wounded veterans out on the land hunting, or on the waters fishing, or out into our nation's National Parks for engagement missions, where veterans from around the country assemble to assist local officials in understaffed improvement projects.

Last year, Warfighter Outfitters served over 1,000 combat disabled veterans, more than two large offices of the Wounded Warrior Project combined. They have a goal to serve 2,000 this year.

Sadly, there are more veterans than money to serve them.

100 percent of donations to Warfighter Outfitters go directly to fund the veteran outings. When the donations come in, the trips go out. There is no reserve,

no account held back "for a rainy day." Grants from larger foundations are used to pay for the equipment to support these missions, such as fishing rods and reels, boats, trailers, and the trucks to haul them.

A relatively small donation of a couple hundred dollars can have a big impact. It only takes \$150 to get four veterans out on the water for a fly fishing trip.

Warfighter Outfitters is providing a tremendous service, and quite likely saving lives. The hunting, fishing, and engagement trips serve as therapy on the water, or in the woods, where those who have been wounded in combat can re-integrate into civilian life, learn a new hobby, or

simply get out of the house with people who have similar experiences. It would be difficult to overstate

“No one leaves a Warfighter Outfitters event as a stranger...”

how important that can be to veterans who might find themselves feeling cut off, or shelved, after being wounded in combat.

This simple, direct approach to helping disabled veterans is working, as the long list of applicants waiting for trips shows. In the veteran community, the word is out: a single fishing trip with fellow veterans can often do more good than an entire of year of counseling at the VA. No one leaves a Warfighter Outfitters event as a stranger, and at a time when veteran suicides are escalating exponentially, the cause could not be more prescient, or pressing.

It is an adage of military service to leave no one behind. Warfighter Outfitters is striving to accomplish precisely that, and to turn no one away. Please consider a donation, with the confidence that it will be spent wisely and on a worthy mission.

Learn more at www.facebook.com/warfighteroutfitters/. Tax deductible donations can be made directly at: www.warfighteroutfitters.org.

Craig Rullman serves on the board of directors of Warfighter Outfitters.

Opinions expressed in this column are solely those of the writer and are not necessarily shared by the Editor or The Nugget Newspaper.