

## Commentary... Celebrate dad of today

By Edie Jones  
Columnist

In years past, a father's purpose was to establish the lineage and wealth of the family. That wealth often determined prestige, opening up pathways for advancement into society. Everything else, the nurturing, loving, teaching, discipline, feeding and clothing were left to the mothers.

In more recent years, fathers have been much more involved. However, they were still usually considered the breadwinner and were often stern disciplinarians. Today, neither of those pictures may be accurate.

As I look around Sisters, I see involved, loving dads that can be found any place moms are found. There is no certainty they will be the primary breadwinner, as that role is often shared with mom. Dads now nurture, love, teach, discipline, do laundry, change diapers, stay home, transport, bathe, feed, encourage, play, and do anything and which is fine. This, however, is Today's Dad — a wonderful, welcome change. In many families, parenting has truly become a partnership.

Since this is the new model, it may sometimes be difficult for Today's Dad to know how to navigate, if he hasn't had role models to follow. If a man grew up feeling, "Dad goes to work and Mom stays home," it may be difficult to adjust to this new way of being. If his memory is of a dad that always "meant business" he may not know how to get down on the

floor and play. If his dad was stern and autocratic ("Do it because I said so!") he may not know how to discipline in a positive way, building character instead of tearing it down.

If this is the case, both moms and dads need to be patient and look for avenues that can help dads develop and evolve.

Here in Sisters there are programs and people to help. SPRD often offers classes to help develop skills. The same happens in programs provided by the Central Oregon Family Resource Center, Healthy Families of the High Desert, Healthy Beginnings, the Mountain Star Relief Center, the Kids Center and Together For Children.

There are also books that teach specific skills or provide general information that will help make the job of being a dad easier. A few of these are "Positive Discipline" by Jane Nelsen; "The Whole Brain Child," by Daniel J. Siegel; "Mind in the Making," by Ellen Galinsky; "Active Parenting," by Michael Popkin; "Raising Kids With Love and Logic," by Faye and Cline; and my own, "Raising Kids With Love, Honor and Respect, Recipes for Success." Check out what's available at Paulina Springs Books and ask what they recommend. In addition, much can be found on the web.

All of these are available to help dads learn. Seek them out and discover the wealth of information they provide. And then celebrate. The next generation of dads will have role models to follow.

## Ore. reacts to concealed gun ruling

By Kristena Hansen  
Associated Press

PORTLAND (AP) — Some Oregon political leaders had strong reactions to a federal appeals court finding that carrying a concealed weapon in public is not a constitutional right.

Thursday's ruling upheld neighboring California's requirement that applicants show "good cause" for getting a permit.

It might not have an immediate impact in Oregon. Concealed-carry licenses are much easier to obtain in Oregon than California, and local governments and authorities can't make that process any harder without lawmakers' permission.

But gun control has been a high-profile topic at the Capitol in Salem in recent years — largely stemming from last year's background-check law that Democrats failed to tighten in February and the Umpqua Community College shooting last fall. Some say the ruling could fuel the reform efforts that Democrats have vowed to raise again during the 2017 Legislative session.

Democratic Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum and her staff were still reviewing the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling and weren't ready to comment, according to spokeswoman Kristina Edmunson.

Rep. Sal Esquivel, a

Republican and staunch gun rights advocate, said it punishes the law-abiding majority for the mistakes of a few.

"It's thoroughly disgusting to me the judicial system is attacking the Second Amendment like they are, trying to chip away at it. It's beneath contempt," Esquivel said. "How many people doing these shootings are concealed licensees? My understanding, not one of them."

Kevin Starrett, executive director of the Oregon Firearms Federation, said he wouldn't be surprised if Thursday's ruling will embolden some of the Oregon Statehouse's "anti-gun legislators to start trying to restrict the concealed handgun licenses, which they have done in the past."

But Sen. Ginny Burdick, the chamber's Democratic majority leader and a strong gun control advocate, said that's unlikely. But she thinks current concealed-carry laws could be tougher, such as tightening license application's "ridiculously small training requirement," Burdick said.

"The Supreme Court has sent strong signals that reasonable regulation on the possession and carrying of a lethal weapon is very appropriate," Burdick said. "It's a constitutional right, but with those rights come responsibilities and the states have the right to regulate their

public safety."

The ruling ultimately could be challenged in the U.S. Supreme Court. It was consistent with rulings since 2012 in three other circuits upholding similar restrictions in New York, Maryland and New Jersey. However, the high court did not take up the issue after those rulings.

Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin said he thinks the entire concept of a concealed handgun license should be done away with.

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— Ginny Burdick

"It's absolutely ludicrous," said Bergin, who's also an executive committee member of the Oregon State Sheriff's Association. "I really can't even fathom that the 9th Circuit would do something like this because basically, the way I understand it, they're making you show a need to have a license. I mean, what's next? Are they going to make you show a need to have a gun?"

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