

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 Unpublished items are not acknowledged or returned.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:

A nice Sunday to be in the garden. But there is constant aircraft noise. Five miles from town by the Rodeo grounds. Get a muffler, fly over unoccupied territory. There are people living in the houses you are flying over. Over and over. This is just common courtesy. If you fly a really loud plane, don't fly it low over people's houses. Take it to Burns at 10,000 feet. The whole having someone ride a Harley with a leaf blower through my living room thing is getting really old.

Bruce Berryhill

♦ ♦ ♦

To the Editor:

Residents of Sisters Country from Crossroads to Aspen Lakes, while sitting in their homes and on their front porches, and tending to their yards and gardens, have expressed concerns with the noise of planes flying low over their homes and circling for hours overhead. They have lost the freedom to live in their homes in peace and quiet.

And in response to appeals to the Sisters airport, pilots, and the skydiving company to modify their behavior and plans in ways that would reduce their negative impact on the community, a guest column titled "The sound of freedom" is published in the July 13, 2016, edition of *The Nugget*, implying that, draped in the American flag with an electric guitar version of the National Anthem blaring, making noise and flying planes anywhere and anytime, disrupting the private lives of people in their homes, is a freedom that American soldiers have fought and died to protect.

In another article of the same edition of *The Nugget*, an author laments the "I wanna do my thing" attitude of ATV operators who entertained themselves by destroying the Prairie Farm Meadow, doing donuts and creating deep ruts, abandoning a still-smoldering fire, and leaving trash strewn about.

These things destroy community. God help America and Sisters if "doing my thing"

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### Sisters Weather Forecast

Courtesy of the National Weather Service, Pendleton, Oregon

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Sunny 80/46	Slt. chance T-storms 80/45	Sunny 79/45	Sunny 81/46	Sunny 83/47	Mostly sunny 84/na

# The Nugget Newspaper, Inc.

Website: [www.nuggetnews.com](http://www.nuggetnews.com)

442 E. Main Ave., P.O. Box 698, Sisters, Oregon 97759

Tel: 541-549-9941 | Fax: 541-549-9940 | [editor@nuggetnews.com](mailto:editor@nuggetnews.com)



Member

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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## Rachel Marsden

American Voices

Just when I was starting to wonder if I was spending too much time writing about terrorism in France, Mohamed Lahouaiej Bouhlej of Tunisia climbed into a cargo truck and mowed down a crowd during Bastille Day fireworks in the French city of Nice, killing 84 people and injuring at least 303 more.

The attack came at a particularly poor time for French President Francois Hollande's Socialist government. A parliamentary commission report examining the "means used by the (French) state to fight terrorism since January 2015" had just been published. The inquiry ultimately blamed multiple attacks in Paris on the French bureaucracy, to which not even the intelligence services are immune, and which is easily bamboozled by nimble terrorists determined to slip through the cracks.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve noted that even though the attackers had crossed many European borders, no other intelligence services flagged them, and "not even the American services identified them when they crossed Central Europe."

So there you go: It's the CIA's fault for failing to identify terrorists of French citizenship running amok in Europe.

French Prime Minister Manuel Valls painted a bleak picture in an interview with the newspaper *Journal Du Dimanche* following the Nice attack.

"The terrorist threat is now a central, durable issue," Valls said. "We could refuse to see the reality in front of us, forget, move on, but I need to tell the truth to the French: Terrorism will be part of everyday life for a long time."

Sorry, but the ruling class that created this mess with poor immigration and security policies has no moral authority to download that failure onto the public and kindly request that French citizens resign themselves to a potentially violent demise.

Valls also warned against the "Trumpisation" of mindsets in response to the Islamic State, which has

laid claim to all the attacks. Again, sorry, but Valls has no right to tell us not to be fed up with mass murder, either.

There's still a way for Valls and other French officials to make themselves useful even after turning the country into a ticking demographic time bomb.

Bouhlej, who had been granted a 10-year residency card had been unemployed for some time, yet the *Daily Mail* reported that he sent 240,000 Tunisian dinars — about \$108,000 in U.S. dollars — to his family in Tunisia in the days before the attack. Investigators reportedly found links to known jihadists while examining Bouhlej's phone records, including a local imam with suspected ties to the jihadist group Nusra Front, which, like the Islamic State, is funded by wealthy benefactors in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait — all so-called allies and trade partners with France.

Here's an idea: Sanction the heck out of those countries. Freeze and seize their assets to the extent that you're able. Who's going to violate sanctions to do business with them? There an entire radical jihadist system that's being funded from the top down. You have to turn off the tap before you can start draining the swamp.

Meanwhile, stop trying to tell the public how to react to very real threats to their lives. Valls looked foolish when he said that former center-right Nice Mayor Christian Estrosi's reaction to the attacks on his city wasn't as dignified as that of left-leaning Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo. This is war, not a martyrdom contest to see who can offer the most virtuous quotes in the face of a murderous rampage.

The head of France's domestic intelligence service, Patrick Calvar, told the parliamentary commission, "We are on the brink of civil war." Calvar evoked the possibility of the "far right" setting it off. That seems like a very real possibility if the French government doesn't do more to protect fed-up citizens.

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