

LETTERS

Continued from page 2

newspaper and read the “Letters to the Editor” due to what’s happening across the nation. However, I was pleasantly surprised to read Mr. Valoppi’s letter sharing his son’s Facebook post ... that “now is a time for love” and that we should “love our neighbor.” Excellent words! Kudos!

Next I read an article of a young man who bought and delivered pies to our Sisters veterans, thanking them for their service. And several weeks ago, two entire football teams did something really special for a young man who is graduating this year. And on that same Homecoming Friday, several of those football players came with their coach to unload a truck for our food distribution.

My daughter teaches many of these young people, and she often tells me how great her students are. In light of all of this, I find that I must agree with her. If this is the character of young people here in Sisters, I say: parents, nice job. I am proud of you and your kids. It is good to know that so many good people live in our community.

Thank you to all of you for reminding me of the more important things ... to help out, to care for others, and to love our neighbor. Many blessings and Happy Thanksgiving.

Paula Lovegren

♦ ♦ ♦

To the Editor:

For many years when I opened the curtains of my bedroom window in Camp Sherman I could look out on a water meadow, empty except for an occasional deer or coyote. Now I find the view includes a backhoe, ready mix

and other large trucks. By next summer the view will be augmented by a youth fishing pond, picnic tables, a parking lot, a toilet and probably other amenities.

It seems that the Department of Fish and Wildlife found a way to secure funds from a grant rather than tap their own budget and off they went. It did hold several meetings with the public, which I was unable to attend. I am sure its representatives listened attentively to anyone with a commercial interest in anything that would bring more visitors to Camp Sherman, but paid little attention to any mere resident who objected to the whole idea of the project.

I have nothing against our youths learning to fish; I caught my first fish in the mid-1920s and became an ardent fisherman thereafter. I have a flock of children and grandchildren and some of them learned to fish. None of us learned the joy and frustrations of the sport by catching tame fish in a bathtub.

When I retired some 35 years ago and subsequently moved to Camp Sherman it was largely because of the trout in the Metolius. When the infirmities of age forced me to give up fishing, my late wife and I continued to enjoy the peace and quiet of forest, river and their inhabitants. I doubt if this new development will improve this ambience.

As I said in a letter to Fish & Wildlife in Salem, this is probably a more desirable boondoggle than putting up a Ferris Wheel. I will probably adjust to this development and I hope the deer and the coyotes do the same. I am sure the rattlesnakes will have no problem now that I have systematically stopped killing them on sight.

Bob Sweet

♦ ♦ ♦

Young barrel racer competes in Las Vegas

By Kathy Aney
East Oregonian

PENDLETON (AP) — Barrel racer Lilly Picard is a pretty low-key individual, not given to being chatty or effusive.

The 14-year-old freshman at Nixyaawii Community High School doesn’t need to talk much, though, to make a bold statement. She just gets on her horse and rides.

Lilly and her aunt Ashley Picard headed to the Indian National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas on November 5, reported the *East Oregonian*. The pair spent the summer traveling the Pacific Northwest and Canada, spending almost every week-end competing at Indian and jackpot rodeos. Lilly entered both junior and ladies barrel racing events and performed well.

The pair, along with Lilly’s grandmother Sarah Picard, racked up the miles. When they headed out from their Pendleton home in May for the first rodeo of the season, their Dodge 3500 pickup

truck still had that new-truck smell.

“The truck had eight miles when we started,” Ashley said. “It has 17,000 on it now.”

When they headed to Vegas, only Lilly’s two horses were loaded into the trailer. Ashley and Sarah would share driving duties and support their girl.

Lilly and her chestnut quarter horse, Claire, proved a formidable duo this season as they topped standings in junior barrel racing for two regions — the King Mountain Indian Rodeo Association and the Western State Indian Rodeo Association — and climbed to second nationally among junior barrel racers.

Lilly doesn’t recall a time horses weren’t a part of her life.

“I really loved horses,” she said. “I just wanted to ride.”

“From when she was a baby who could barely walk, I put her on the horse with me,” Ashley said. “She’s always been drawn to them.”

Raise a Paw for Furry Friends!

Pet Photos with Santa!
Saturday, Dec. 3 • 11 am to 2 pm
Inside at the Sisters Art Works Open House

Holiday Pet Food Drive

Furry Friends Foundation, 501(c)(3), needs your support to feed Sisters-area pets this holiday! Please consider a donation of dry pet-food (dog or cat). Dog biscuits and cat treats are also needed.

Cash donations welcome! Make checks payable to Furry Friends Foundation.

The pet-food will be distributed in conjunction with the Sisters Kiwanis Holiday Food Share program to help Sisters-area families.

Drop off your donation at...
The Nugget Newspaper,
442 E. Main Ave.
or mail a check to
Furry Friends Foundation
P.O. Box 698, Sisters, OR 97759
DONATE ONLINE at
FurryFriendsFoundation.org

