LETTERS

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these toys than it is to take them out of the hands of an unbalanced person?

I agree that legislation won't work. But we can affect the sea change in our culture necessary to address this problem. We have made great progress against drunk driving and smoking. We realized that the pleasure derived from these actions was not worth the cost.

We are facing a daunting issue. We won't solve it by screaming, preaching with moral indignation or digging our heels in and refusing to face the facts. It is going to require civil conversations between responsible people with differing points of view who realize that we must come together to solve a terrible problem. Let us begin.

Al James

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To the Editor:

I was just reading an article in another newspaper about the City of Sisters nearing an agreement about a low-cost housing project in the Sisters area. As I recall the project happens to be in the approach path to the Sisters Airport.

The City has a letter on file from the State of Oregon's Board of Aeronautics stating that they think this is a BAD idea. So why is the City of Sisters proceeding with this project?

Remember all the complaints regarding the skydiving operations at the airport? Does the City think that the low-cost housing residents will not complain about the airport noise? Why create another problem?

In my opinion this proposed project does a disservice to the low cost housing residents and also disrespects the airport users. Seems like another unfriendly attitude toward the public.

I am also puzzled as to why one state agency would proceed with a project over the objections of another state agency. Do they not realize they are wasting taxpayer resources.

This proposal seems to reinforce the City's history of making bad decisions.

Dave Marlow

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To the Editor:

Kudos to Craig Rullman, once again.

His column is the first thing I read in *The Nugget*, every week. He hit the nail squarely on the head with his column this week (*The Nugget, February 8, page 7*), citing the role of violent video games in shaping the characters of the children who are exposed to them day in and day out.

I went a long time not wanting to believe video games could be such a factor in creating the sociopathic culture that seems to be spreading in our society, but I finally convinced myself that indeed they could. Mr.

Rullman summarized my thoughts on the subject better than I could have, at least not without many hours' labor, and he did it eloquently.

We are indeed creating predators among us that previous generations didn't have to cope with, and until we recognize the problem that glorifying anti-social behavior produces we will continue to create these predators while the hand-wringers will continue to wonder where they came from.

Thanks, Mr. Rullman, for such a pertinent column. Keep up the good work!

Jerry Wright

To the Editor:

A January 8, 2017 article in *The Bulletin* referred to the roundabout in Sisters as "being viewed as a grand entrance to Central Oregon."

The art in the roundabout in Sisters should reflect Central Oregon's natural environment, not man-made objects like "high tech bikes, skis and outdoor clothing" as alluded to in Joellyn Loehr's February 28 letter to the editor.

The only roundabout choice that reflects Central Oregon's natural beauty and wildlife is "Land of Contrasts." Ms. Loehr referred to "Gateway" as "the expected choice, which is a strong reason to look deeply at who we are and whether the expected solution still works." (I'm not aware of an entry titled "Gateway," so I assume she is referring to the entry titled "Land of Contrasts.") A roundabout at the entrance to Central Oregon should not compel us to "look deeply at who we are"; rather it should mirror Central Oregon's natural beauty.

To borrow Ms. Loehr's word "contemporary": If residents and visitors seek "contemporary" they would probably be more fulfilled visiting or living in Portland or Eugene.

"Mountain Helix," created by an individual from California, and "Butte," created by an individual from Seattle, Washington with the collaboration of Jeff Wester of Sisters' Ponderosa Forge and Ironworks, are works more suited to industrial parks or college campuses. "Land of Contrasts," a work of art created exclusively by a local artist should be the roundabout choice. We have had too many people moving to our area from large urban sprawls, implementing changes to our region that reflect the populous areas they left.

Glenda Leutwyler

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To the Editor:

Rullmam always has a column I look forward to read. "Our predator problem" is sooo right on. Mr. Cornelius, you're producing a great product; your "Warriors of the Wildlands" is my Christmas gift to friends next year.

Jim Anderson is a treasure. Leigh Copley





Two die in tree wells on Mt. Bachelor

BEND (AP) — A snowboarder and skier died on Mt. Bachelor in separate incidents on the same day; each fell into holes at the base of trees and were covered by snow, Central Oregon authorities said.

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office identified the victims on Friday as snowboarder Alfonso Braun, 24, of Bend, and skier Nicole Panet-Raymond, 19, of Eugene.

"Our entire mountain community is shocked and saddened," John McLeod, Mt. Bachelor's president and general manager, said in a statement. "We are heartbroken, and our deepest condolences go out to the affected families and friends."

Authorities told KTVZ-TV in Bend that skiers and snowboarders found Braun buried in snow at about noon and dug him out. Life-saving efforts failed, and he was pronounced dead about an hour later.

Officials say a few hours after that they received a report of a missing skier, and that evening found Panet-Raymond dead in a tree well. Sheriff's Lt. Bryan Husband said authorities used cellphone location technology to find her.

Braun was found in terrain reserved for experts, and Panet-Raymond in intermediate terrain.

Detectives said the accidents are being investigated and Panet-Raymond's prior movements are also being analyzed.

Late-season snowstorms in recent days have drawn thousands to Mt. Bachelor, a popular ski destination with 11 lifts and access to all levels of terrain. The company warned on its website for "current conditions" of the dangers of falling into the concave areas called tree wells often found at the base of trees.

"With all this new low-density snow comes a reminder about tree well and snow immersion hazards," the company wrote. "A good time to get caught up on good safety practices and always ski or ride with a buddy in eyesight if you're headed off-trail."



Mark your calendar for... Author Presentations

Sat. • 3/17 • 6 PM Jacqueline Keeler EDGE OF MORNING: Native Voices Speak for

the Bears Ears 15 multi-generational Native American writers have written in support of the tribal efforts to protect the Bears Ears National Monument in southeastern Utah. Through poetry, personal essays and interviews the writers bear testimony to the fragile and essential nature of this sacred landscape. Jaqueline Keeler is a Yankton Sioux/Navajo writer who lives in Portland.

Friday • 3/30 • 6 PM

JA Jance

DUEL TO THE DEATH Paulina Springs and Roundabout Bookshop are co-hosting NY Times bestselling author JA Jance at the Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Community Hall (301 S. Elm St.) In Duel to the Death Ali Reynolds is on the case with her colleagues at High Noon Enterprises. They find themselves dealing with a drug cartel and a Bitcoin caper. Besides the Ali Reynolds series, Jance has written two other series, one featuring Detective Beaumont and another with Joanna Brady solving crimes.

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Paulina Springs Books

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