

LETTERS

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There is considerable criticism of Dollar Stores online. See for example, “The Dollar Store Backlash has Begun” at City Lab. It states, “While Dollar Stores sometimes fill a need in cash-strapped communities, growing evidence suggests these stores are not merely a byproduct of economic distress,” the authors write. “They’re a cause of it.”

The article goes on to point out the negative effect of Dollar Stores on other stores nearby. When a Dollar Store opened in Haven, Kansas — subsidized through tax breaks by the local government—sales at the nearby Foodliner grocery dropped by 30 percent.

In Chester, Vermont residents argued that allowing Dollar Stores to come to town “will be the beginning of the end for what might best be described as Chester’s Vermontiness,” per *The New York Times*.

In Buhler, Kansas, the mayor saw what had happened to surrounding grocery stores in neighboring Haven and rejected the Dollar Store chain, also citing a threat to the town’s character. And so goes the backlash. In my view a Dollar Store will be a blight on Sisters. Bringing it here is not a good idea.

Gary Leiser

♦ ♦ ♦

To the Editor:

50 million Chinese locked down! 15 countries affected! Three confirmed cases in the U.S.! These dramatic headlines announce one more pandemic caused by our abuse of animals.

Indeed, 61 percent of the 1,415 pathogens known to infect humans originate with animals. These so-called zoonotic diseases, claiming millions of human lives, include Asian flu, Hong Kong flu, West Nile virus, bird flu, swine flu, dengue fever, ebola, HIV, SARS, and yellow fever. The pandemic “Spanish” flu of 1918 may have killed as many as 50 million people worldwide.

Western factory farms and Asian street markets are virtual breeding grounds for infectious diseases. Sick, crowded, highly stressed animals in close contact with raw flesh, feces, and urine provide ideal incubation media for viruses. As these microbes reach humans, they mutate to defeat the new host’s immune system, then propagate on contact.

Each of us can help end these deadly pandemics by replacing animal products in our diet with vegetables, fruits, and whole grains. These foods don’t carry flu viruses, or government warning labels, are touted by every major health-advocacy organization, and were the recommended fare in the Garden of Eden. The Internet offers ample recipes and transition hints.

Siegfried Neufhaus

WILLS: Investigation continues

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evidence located on his electronic devices. Detectives reportedly learned during the investigation that Wills possessed and distributed sexually explicit images of children. Wills was arrested and lodged in the Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office adult jail on 11 counts each of Encouraging Child Sex Abuse in the first and second degree.

This investigation is ongoing and more charges are possible, DCSO reports.



PHOTO COURTESY DCSO
Michael Wills was arrested on child pornography-related charges.

SCOUTING: Pack has revived Scouting in Sisters

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Scout Andrew Stevens led the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance and the reciting of the oath and law. Long-time Boy Scout leader Cory Stengel handed out awards to each Cub Scout, along with a handshake.

The leadership of Pack 139 is working hard to develop activities and experiences that will make scouting a meaningful experience for young people in Sisters. For more information on the pack, email cubscouts139@gmail.com.



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS
Cory Stengel handed out patches for completion of Scouting projects at last week’s meeting.

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Scout Oath

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

SCOUT LAW

The Scout Law has 12 points. Each is a goal for every Scout. A Scout tries to live up to the Law every day. It is not always easy to do, but a Scout always tries.

A Scout is:

TRUSTWORTHY. Tell the truth and keep promises. People can depend on you.

LOYAL. Show that you care about your family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and country.

HELPFUL. Volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.

FRIENDLY. Be a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from you.

COURTEOUS. Be polite to everyone and always use good manners.

KIND. Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

OBEDIENT. Follow the rules of your family, school, and pack. Obey the laws of your community and country.

CHEERFUL. Look for the bright side of life. Cheerfully do tasks that come your way. Try to help others be happy.

THRIFTY. Work to pay your own way. Try not to be wasteful. Use time, food, supplies, and natural resources wisely.

BRAVE. Face difficult situations even when you feel afraid. Do what you think is right despite what others might be doing or saying.

CLEAN. Keep your body and mind fit. Help keep your home and community clean.

REVERENT. Be reverent toward God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.

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Phil Arends
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phil.arends@cascadesir.com
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Chris Scott
Broker
541-588-6614
chris.scott@cascadesir.com
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