

**LETTERS**

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taken on the mantle of these values, Cliff has a proven record of unambiguous conservative leadership.

We need the honesty, integrity and work ethic Cliff has always demonstrated and he will take those values with him to Washington, D.C. as our congressional representative.

Cliff is an authentic person. He did not show up a few months ago presenting himself as an Eastern Oregonian. He didn't need to as he was born here. He does not stick his finger in the air to see which way the wind is blowing and then craft positions which would be most advantageous to winning a given election. Cliff's positions don't change for political expediency.

We need his wisdom and leadership in Washington, D.C. now more than ever. Please join me in voting Cliff Bentz for U.S. Representative, 2nd District.

Andy Sichler



To the Editor:

A quick shout out to 2020 graduating seniors — my daughter being one of them.

Yes, this kind of sucks. However, just a few quick thoughts:

You are a unique group in a very unique time. I can barely remember my high school graduation, though I am pretty sure I received a diploma. (Quick shout out to current and any possible future employers: I'm practically positive I graduated. Undoubtedly, with a bunch of Latin sounding condiments on my degree. No need to check.) Though the conclusion of your high school chapter probably feels very anticlimactic, you will never forget this surreal but very real, awful, bonding, screwed up period in time. This will definitely be one to bore the grandkids with.

Seniors, your final game was not rained out. Rather, you are part of that small group that happens to be in the stands to witness a rare no-hitter. Not to suggest that this horrible virus is anything to celebrate, but it is truly historic. And you were there.

As the great philosopher Mike Tyson once mused, "Everybody has a plan until they get punched in the mouth." We have all been punched in the mouth by this pandemic; some certainly have been hit harder than others. You have been smacked, but you are in the very early rounds. It is certainly better to have a plan than not, but you are all experiencing and living a plan that didn't go as planned. You are learning to positively adapt to the unexpected, which has to be one of life's biggest lessons.

Having to deal with the consequences of this historic pandemic now may very well put you in a better position to deal with the

inevitable challenges and letdowns that take a swing at you later on in your journey.

Go Get 'Em Outlaws.

Greg Werts



To the Editor:

My wife Carol and I moved to Sisters in June of 2019. Previously we lived in Paradise, California where they had the devastating fire. I had lived there for 39 years. Although many people suffered greatly and are still feeling the effects, the whole experience turned out to be a giant opportunity for us in many ways, for which we are grateful to God.

About a year before the fire we had determined that we wanted to relocate to Sisters, my family having most of their roots in Oregon and Washington. We subscribed to *The Nugget* and after the fire, when we called to update our mailing address with the newspaper, they upgraded our subscription to first class mailing at no additional cost to us, an early indication that we are moving to the right place! Reading *The Nugget* helped us to look forward to our relocation, and not look too much in the rear view mirror.

Regarding the Paradise fire my wife and I agreed that our worst loss was the loss of community. The familiar patterns of seeing friends at church, and visiting stores and restaurants, Les Schwab, etc., and being served by familiar faces that we had known for years.

Our sense of community was quickly restored when we moved to this unique and wonderful place and we have met so many friendly and helpful people (too many to mention) that have helped us feel right at home.

Of course, now we are all adjusting to the coronavirus and its effect on everyone in so many ways. We are again strengthened and encouraged by the inhabitants of this caring community and the unique role your newspaper plays in binding us together and preserving the important sense of community. Many thanks to you and your staff for all you do.

Grayson and Carol Sorrels



To the Editor:

Hikers and runners using the Sisters Trail from the town of Sisters north to Indian Ford Campground are leaving a trail of blue plastic flags, pink flagging ribbon, and cardboard signs. None of these are ever removed.

The result is a junky-looking trail.

The Sisters Trail is so well marked with the enameled metal signs on special posts or trees. I am thinking that the hikers and runners who cannot navigate with those should probably not be on the trail. It is a special privilege to have such a trail. I would hate to see us lose that opportunity.

Joan Wood



**BROWN:** Sisters writer is deeply grateful to be recipient of grant

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Community Labyrinth Committee, and the non-profit organization New Oregon Arts & Letters. Last year, she helped revitalize Sisters Farmers Market, rebrand the nonprofit Scalehouse, and teach local children through Kid Made Camp.

Known by many by her byline T. Lee Brown, she

said, "I'm also juggling what they call a PPD, permanent partial disability. Throw a pandemic on top of all that and things get pretty darned challenging. Thank you so very much, PEN America!"

The organization's members have included John Steinbeck, Maya Angelou, Sam Shepard, Susan Sontag, Toni Morrison, Barbara Kingsolver, James Baldwin, and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. A PEN membership will be awarded to Brown as part of her grant.

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