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999 Public Notice

Have you received someone else's mail in your PO Box or street address? Our letter carriers do their best, but sometimes mistakes are made. Our office represents some Sisters-area individuals who have lost important PERS benefits because notices from PERS never reached them. If you have received misdirected mail, please contact our office at kim@wiserlaw.com or 503-620-5577. Thank you.

NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETINGS

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Sisters and the Sisters Urban Renewal Agency, Deschutes County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, will be held at City Council Chambers, City Hall, 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, OR 97759.

The first meeting will take place on Monday June 1, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive public comment on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A copy of the document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 27, 2020 at City Hall, 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Listed below are times of scheduled Budget Committee Meetings.

DATES AND TIMES:

Mon., June 1, 2020 3:30 p.m.
Tues., June 2, 2020 3:30 p.m.
Wed., June 3, 2020 3:30 p.m.
A copy of this notice is available on the City of Sisters website, www.ci.sisters.or.us. For additional information, please contact: Joseph O'Neill, 541- 323-5222.

Construction Contractors' LICENSING

– Information for the Public – Oregon law requires those who work for compensation (except bona fide employees) in any construction activity involving improvements to real property to be licensed with Oregon CCB. (There are several exemptions.) An active license means the contractor is bonded and insured. Visit www.oregon.gov/CCB

LETTERS

Continued from page 8

and all that goes with it. I do not want to be restricted. I want my children to be able to find jobs. I hate the fear and the drumbeat of not-so-distant deaths and the specter of mass economic collapse.

Yes, the local community is where we can best help, and putting aside our political partisanship to care for ourselves and one another is essential. But does that mean we should zip it when it comes to what in God's name is going on in DC? We have an election coming up in six months.

If now is not the time to make the case for leadership that is even marginally competent and truthful, when is? Dealing with concurrent economic and health crises is not easy. It requires leadership, transparency, and a level of sacrifice from all of us, rather than following the siren song of simplistic solutions. I agree we should not politicize every facemask or lack of one, but that doesn't mean we should opt out of politics completely and leave the swamp a-festering.

Beware of false dichotomies. To see danger and say nothing risks complacency and lemmings-over-the-cliff blindness. We cannot be so afraid of political discourse, differences, and riling one another not to speak out with civility and clarity. A little riling gets people moving and voting — also known as democracy. Let's be involved citizens of the whole country as well as of Sisters country.

We are all in this leaky canoe together; it's a mistake to think that what

happens in DC doesn't affect us here.

Linda West

♦ ♦ ♦

To The Editor:

Responding to Richard Esterman, May 20 Letters to the Editor, and his frivolous push to bill Gov. Brown for lost income, I remind him that the constitution states our right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," with no mention of business profitability.

I am grateful to the Governor for her mandates that have kept our Oregon numbers much lower than many other states, precisely because she has focused on keeping as many as possible alive, as the first named "right" of everyone. Surely, as a city council member, Esterman could think of something positive and helpful to our citizens, and remember that in his zeal to blame the Governor, he seems to have forgotten the high percentage of our population who fit the "most vulnerable" category, and who are grateful to her for care and protection!

Similarly, in his April 22 editorial, Jim Cornelius chose rather callous language in his vehement demand to reopen the economy, describing victims who have died as having "shredded" lungs, a terrible image for those who grieve nearly 100,000 losses! He claimed that the economic fallout will claim as many lives as the COVID virus, which seems gravely overstated. Undoubtedly many already do and will continue to suffer tragic deprivation, hunger, depression and extreme financial loss and hardship,

but that does not equate to death.

Then when he said opening up would "entail risk and sacrifice," I guess he meant me, my neighbors, and friends throughout Sisters, as we most often die.

It is possible to address harsh realities with compassionate language and action for all concerned. Because we have thus far been spared any significant presence of the virus in Sisters Country, it is tempting to think we have escaped. However, the experts remind us that it will continue to move among us for months or years, that reopening is treacherous still and that continued precautions like masks and social distancing are vital.

How about you two prominent gentlemen taking a true leadership stance in wearing a mask anywhere in public, as a demonstration of caring about others, not just when asked! Think of the shopkeepers who are trapped with whatever folks bring in; wear one for them. Think about what you might be carrying, asymptotically, to spread; wear a mask. Just think of being caring of others, rather than being forced into some burdensome costume. It is such a small concession, friends! Forget the Western "rugged individualism" stance and think about how to slow this scourge, and maybe save some lives.

Kudos to the shopkeepers who ask for and wear masks, disinfect and request distancing! You are our lifeline to a thriving community and we need to care for you and each other!

Wendie Vermillion

♦ ♦ ♦

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**KEEP YER DISTANCE,
PILGRIM!**



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If an in-person meeting is required, call 541-549-9941 to schedule an appointment. For the well-being of our staff and clients we are heeding CDC guidelines for social distancing and masks.

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