

Sisters salutes...

The Sisters High School chemistry classes would like to thank all those who made their balloon project possible.

Sisters Eagle Airport gave the SHS chemistry classes so much support through the entire process of their balloon project this month! Thank you to the Bensons and David Campbell for graciously providing the students and mentors space to construct the payload for their experiments and tarmac space to launch the balloon on May 7. Even in these times of distance learning and social distancing, your support has provided a means for our students to continue inquiry-based hands-on investigations and interactions with professionals in this field. Thank you!

Steven Peterzen of ISTAR provided leadership, mentorship, and lots of time and energy working to make the preparation, launch and recovery a fantastic success. Thank you!

Ron Thorkildson taught and mentored the weather and trajectory team.

Rod Moorehead mentored the experiment teams, helped build the payloads, and supported during the launch and recovery.

Thank you!

LETTERS

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To the Editor:

Any one who's paid any attention to what is going on politically is very worried about November 3 election and the god-awful campaign that we are all beginning to watch.

Did you see Biden on the news the other night? Of course not, because the TV vacuum that is President Trump sucks it all up. I thought the media learned a lesson in 2016 but here we go — no coverage for his opponent. I doubt there will even be a debate. Hopefully, Biden will debate an empty chair to push the point.

Sadly, the Republican Party is truly bleeding membership. *The Huffington Post* report in February 2020 noted that national counts of Independent registered voters outnumber Republican registered voters for the first time! It is so: Democrats, 39.66 percent of total registered voters, Independents 29.9 percent and Republicans are 27.87 percent.

Yup, Democrats are fewer than they were in 2016 at 46 percent or 2018 at 44 percent, but the GOP remained a few fewer than Democrats in the same timeframes. However, now, the GOP needs a tourniquet. This means the GOP is no longer one part of a major-two-party system but a bystander.

This is huge news that the media is not really that excited about — who knows why not. These numbers scream

that this nation needs to adjust its campaign and elections systems to accommodate at least three political parties rather than two having all the power/attention.

Time for huge campaign reforms and I am for removing advertising out of the campaign business forever — but the latter is a whole other can of worms.

I share this because we are in for a very, very bumpy campaign. We need to bond rather than fight with each other. I want to encourage you to not be afraid to talk it out with family and friends, to listen to each others' concerns and hear one another out, even if you do not agree. There will be all kinds of political fights on the news and social media and it will be crazy, but do not give up your right to vote out of frustration or anxiety or both. This election is critical to the survival of this Republic — no exaggeration.

Please, remain informed and vote.
Susan Cobb

To the Editor:

One reads with consternation a letter in *The Nugget* (May 20, 2020), by the Sisters City Councilor no less, demanding an end to Governor Brown's quarantine because, he claims, it is unconstitutional.

Said councilor has a right to attempt suicide by exposing himself to a lethal disease, but he has no right to threaten the rest of us with death by demanding an end to the quarantine before it is safe to do so.

He is morally wrong, dead wrong.
Gary Leiser

To the Editor:

I loved the column in *The Nugget* "A time for good neighbors," (May 20, page 2).

I personally choose to wear a mask inside a business. Sometimes I want to wear a mask and sometimes I feel it's silly. Maybe face coverings aren't as efficient or full proof as I want to believe they are. I know they aren't comfortable...but I do feel that wearing one is the least I can do for myself and my neighbors!

Kathleen Blesius

To the Editor:

Reading Jim Cornelius' editorial of May 20 ("A time for good neighbors," pg. 2), I found myself agreeing with every word.

But at the same time a part of me was screaming inside with anger and frustration at what seems to be the worst national response to a major crisis in living memory. As was pointed out, in this kind of complex situation there are no absolute right answers for everyone. But is it untoward and overly partisan to point out incompetence and obfuscation on an unheard-of level? Ignoring science (including the "science" of economics) helps no one. No one likes the shutdown

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Our showroom reopens June 1 for walk-in customers!

We will limit the number of people at a time and a mask will be mandatory.



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Portraits OF SISTERS



PHOTO AND STORY BY *Cody Rheault*

A 12-year stint as a middle school teacher was enough to convince *Renee Reitmeier* to switch careers. Now owner of Fika Sisters Coffeeshop for the last year, she finds her joy and passion more in the gathering of people and less in the craft of coffee. Fostering an environment for people to commune and find each other is the foundation at which Fika was founded. The young coffee shop has seen a brief downturn during the pandemic, but a loyal following and determined patrons waited through rain and shine to support the little coffee shop. "I had my nights of tears," Renee said. "But the people are what I'm here for. I'll keep working for them."

This week's "Portraits of Sisters" presented by **The Nugget Newspaper.**

Future portraits are available for sponsorship, call 541-549-9941 or email ads@nuggetnews.com for information.