

GREANEY: Civics education is important to teacher

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Greaney believes her nomination came from a former student, but award winners can be nominated also by administrators, colleagues, parents, or members of the community.

Criteria for selection for the award includes participation in CLP for at least five years, collaboration and training with other educators, active work with stakeholders to create a strong culture for civic education and engagement, and being one who inspires creativity, critical thinking, active learning, and civic participation.

When asked what it means to her to receive the award, Greaney said, "I have been to the CLP conference for many years where the award is presented and the winners are always incredibly impressive people who have done things like start nonprofits and organize huge community change projects, so to [be] chosen for what I do within my school and classroom felt very gratifying."

Greaney has been active in the push to weave a defined requirement for civic education into the state social studies standards, which was approved by the Oregon Legislature last year.

"Sisters High School has always had such standards for civic education within our curriculum, but now it is expected in all schools in the state," she said. "That change is a win for all students in Oregon."

ELECTRICITY: CEC prepared for more electric cars in Sisters

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to our members will power these future EVs (electric vehicles)."

Does CEC's strategic long-term planning further anticipate the increase in demand? Ten Pas said: "Yes. CEC is one of the fastest-growing cooperatives in the country and continues to meet the rapid current and future growth in its service territory, including electricity to charge electric vehicles. Not only have we been actively planning for EV growth, but we are also encouraging it."

CEC recently rolled out its EV rebate program, which incentivizes EV owners to register their vehicle with CEC by offering rebates for members to install Level 2 chargers. (See *The Nugget*, January 12, "Charging up in Sisters to get easier.")

LETTERS

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an assault on truth and a clever, devious attempt to project radical, leftist ideology as "a call to action."

As Russ said, be aware folks, they walk among us.
Scott Kinder

Public sector key to vaccines

To the Editor:

A recent article in *The New York Times* dealt in depth with the remarkable story of the development of the mRNA (Messenger RNA) technology. This is the medical advance that yielded highly effective COVID vaccines, in record time. I read the article in part to track through the series of breakthrough discoveries that enabled this success story, in particular to understand to what extent the discoveries were made by the pharmaceutical industry in their research efforts, and how important were government labs, or government funded research grants at independent labs or universities. To quote from the article, "The breakthroughs behind the vaccines unfolded over decades, little by little, as scientists across the world pursued research in disparate areas, never imagining their work would one day come together to tame the pandemic of the century."

The article mentions Dartmouth, Penn, Harvard, and U of Texas; Scripps Research Institute, a Hungarian immigrant researcher, and a Chinese post-doctoral researcher. Probably the most important institution mentioned is the Vaccine Research Center, part of National Institute of Health (NIH). Their role in coordinating research efforts, and then expediting testing and trials, was crucial. The only obvious private sector player in this 60-year development history, is a small firm in Vancouver, BC, and even there, the primary researcher was employed by University of British Columbia before starting the private research firm.

The private sector was instrumental in manufacturing; as the article describes their role: "The pharmaceutical companies harnessed these findings and engineered a consistent product that could be made at scale, partly with the help of Operation Warp Speed."

I find this article informs a few interesting aspects of our current political debates:

- Immigration, especially of highly educated researchers, is important, and should be encouraged.

- Government-sponsored, funded, and coordinated research is important, and something the private sector has little or no incentive to provide.

- The U.S. has the highest pharmaceutical prices in the world. One of the justifications often put forward is that we need profitable companies, to keep a steady stream of new drugs in the pipeline. In the development of mRNA vaccines, their role is very far downstream, with the research heavy-lifting done by others.

- International cooperation is vitally important, and is probably best performed by government.

- Dr. Fauci played an important role in the AIDS research that helped develop the mRNA process, and also in proposing the establishment of the Vaccine Research Center. He, along with several others, is an American hero.

John Adamson

People's Rights

To the Editor:

I wanted to thank you for your reporting on this recent Tuesday meeting ("Sheriff warns of effects of drug policy, *The Nugget*, January 26, page one; "Venue of Sheriff's presentation stirred controversy," *The Nugget*, January 26, page 7). I found it very accurate.

I was surprised when I had an email from *The Bend Bulletin* (that I get everyday) on an article by G. Andrews dated January 17, on Sheriff Nelson's acceptance of a meeting with People's Rights. I was shocked and extremely concerned at the quote from Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel. (*Editor's note: The quote in question is published below.*)

I admit I really didn't know much about our DA, but his comments inspired me to write to him. His response was very alarming.

I wasn't planning on going to this particular meeting until I got the response from John Hummel. I didn't understand all the commotion. I, like you, was in attendance because I wanted to record what took place for my own notes.

As I said before, your article was very accurate. The one thing I believed I missed was the loud applause and standing

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