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City of Sisters bans feeding deer

By Jim Anderson
Correspondent

There are probably many people in Sisters who will not like the new deer-feeding ordinance passed last week, but those with gardens and landscaping they treasure may well be ecstatic.

Ordinance 457, addressing pestiferous dogs and reptiles, and given the identification codes 6.12.105 Feeding of Deer Prohibited reads:

(1) A person, who knowingly places, deposits, distributes, stores or scatters food, garbage or any other attractant as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement for deer, may be issued a written notification by an agent of the City of Sisters requiring the person to remove the food, garbage or other attractant within two days of notification.

(2) A person who receives a written notification under subsection (1) of this section shall remove the food, garbage or other attractant as directed.

City Recorder Kathy Nelson explained, "The



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Deer congregate in Sisters, but they can no longer be deliberately fed.

Council directed staff to craft the ordinance in response to concerns for safety (both for people and pets) and the unintended consequence of also inviting prey (coyotes and cougars) into our neighborhoods.

"The ordinance outlines specific concerns. With regard to enforcement, like much of it in Sisters, it will

be complaint-driven. The ordinance does indicate it is Class B violation which carries a \$250 fine. The City would first send notification to someone and attempt to get voluntary compliance prior to citing them."

Corey Heath, district wildlife biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Deschutes Wildlife

District said, "We are pleased with the passage of the new ordinance; feeding deer causes damage problems for neighbors, and creates human/dog safety issues by fostering 'aggressive' deer. Feeding unnaturally concentrates deer, making disease transmission easier, and it can focus predators in areas of unnatural deer concentrations."

Potential community projects to go on display

By Diane Goble
Correspondent

After months of work, a citizens' committee is ready to roll out its analysis of potential community projects.

As the result of a town hall meeting concerning the announcement from the City of Sisters about a proposed amphitheater project in February 2014, the Community Assets Committee (CAC) was charged with analyzing four potential projects that received the most votes from those in attendance at that meeting. The committee was asked to describe how each idea might look in Sisters, get feedback about

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Sisters to take on paved trail again

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

The Sisters community is poised to take on the touchy topic of a paved trail between Sisters and Black Butte Ranch again — this time through a collaborative consensus-building process.

Deschutes County Commissioner Alan Unger convened a meeting of community leaders with representatives of Oregon Solutions on Thursday, March 19, to explore a Collaborative Local Agreement-Seeking Process (CLASP).

Oregon Solutions is a

neutral entity operating out of the College of Urban and Public Affairs at Portland State University. The CLASP will bring together a small working group of eight to 10 people representing a variety of groups and interests in Sisters Country to work through the issues surrounding paved multi-use trails in Sisters Country. If the group can come up with a proposal, it will then go through a series of community meetings where the broader community can weigh in, and eventually on to the Forest Service, which has

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City recorder has a big job

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Kathy Nelson is one of the hardest-working people at the City of Sisters.

As city recorder, she is responsible for preparing information packets and agendas for city councilors and others for weekly workshops and meetings. She handles the recordings and minutes for those meetings. She serves as the administrative assistant for the city manager and the city council.

She's also the city's elections official and the officer responsible for providing ethics information and resources for councilors and other city officials. And all requests for



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Kathy Nelson headed into City Hall, where she spends a lot of her time.

public records of any kind go through her.

One Sisters resident opined that "Kathy may have the

hardest job in Sisters. Not in the City of Sisters but in (all

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