Movies in the park?

By Sue Stafford Correspondent

The City of Sisters would like to know what the public thinks about a proposal from Mayor Chris Frye to show movies in a City park during the summer.

Potential locations for the movies would be in Clemens and Village Green parks. The proposal may be sponsored by Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) with support from City public works staff.

The City Parks Advisory Board (CPAB), in its June 10 meeting, determined that before any recommendations can be made to the City Council regarding showing movies in the parks, there needs to be more investigation on the matter, including facts and figures to see if it will pencil out financially.

One specific question involved how the costs of the program would be offset and who would bear the responsibility for those costs. There must also be consideration given to the noise, parking and lights from the movies and their impact on neighborhoods surrounding the parks.

In a letter to SPRD, City Council, and City staff, Sisters Movie House owner Lisa Clausen pointed out several considerations regarding showing films in public.

"My assumption is that by undertaking this endeavor that there has been the necessary research and due diligence done around copyrighted law and intellectual property rights that protect the public display of film without the proper financial and written consideration from the owner of the property and understanding the legal ramifications by using the property without permission and financial consideration to the owners of the property," the letter said.

Clausen went on to question the advisability of the City and SPRD taking on such an endeavor given the myriad of other more important projects that lie within the duties of both entities.

To offer opinions regarding movies in the parks known to the City, emails may be sent to pdavenport@ci.sisters.or.us or any of the City Council members whose emails are available on the City website.

Another program proposed by Mayor Frye is the Adopt-a-Park Program in which local groups, individuals, and organizations can get involved in helping keep the City's parks safe and clean. This can be done through individual park patrols, work parties, or large community events. Upon review of the proposal, the CPAB agreed the program would be a good way to get the public engaged in the city's public spaces and take some pride of ownership of those spaces. The proposal and CPAB recommendations will be forwarded to the Council for their review.





PHOTO BY KATIE CAVANAUGH

Doug and Katie Cavanaugh's granddaughter K'Allana Arnold – a 5-year-old explorer – found what is believed to be a sawtooth mushroom at Harmony House.

