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Local sisters succeeding with Western shoe line *page 25*



# The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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## New city council is sworn in

By John Griffith  
Correspondent

On a quick 4-1 vote, his fellow city councilors selected Chris Frye to serve as mayor of Sisters for the next two years. McKibben Womack was voted in on a 3-2 vote to remain council president.

Incumbent David Asson posted the “no” vote for Frye, while Asson and incoming councilor Nancy Connolly voted “no” on Womack.

Per the City of Sisters charter, the position of mayor is chosen by the city council members, not the popular vote. In this form of city government, the city staff reports to the city manager, and the city manager in turn reports to the city council. The mayor has no formal authority outside of the council; the mayor cannot appoint or remove officials, and lacks veto power over council votes.

Many smaller cities have adopted this form of “weak mayor” all-volunteer city government. In most larger cities, the mayor is elected by popular vote, paid a salary, and



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Sisters City Council re-elected incumbents Wendy Holzman (left) and David Asson. They were sworn in along with new councilor Nancy Connolly on Thursday, January 8.

serves as the chief executive of the city, presiding over the city staff.

For those that have not

attended this every-two-year ritual in Sisters, the process can be surprisingly quick and without drama. The whole

process from nomination to selection of mayor this year

See **COUNCIL** on page 22

## Food carts raise a lively debate

By John Griffith  
Correspondent

A new city council plunged right into Sisters latest contretemps — this one over a planning decision allowing food carts at a downtown business.

Thursday’s city council meeting included testimony from more than 10 citizens during “visitor communications” concerning the city’s granting approval for food carts on the Eurosports property located at the southeast corner of Fir and Hood. The property and bicycle business is owned and operated by now ex-mayor Brad Boyd.

The food cart issue was not part of the regular council agenda.

Included in the citizen

See **FOOD CARTS** on page 24

## Campground neighbors meet with parks board

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

Local resident Tay Robertson presented a draft petition on behalf of the residents of the Buck Run and Coyote Springs neighborhoods at the January 7 Parks Advisory Board meeting regarding the Creekside Campground (CCG).

Robertson highlighted three main issues: lack of trust in the City, visibility of the campground, and traffic in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Roberts reported that in an informal random neighborhood survey of a dozen

residents, “95 percent had a low level of trust that the City would do the right thing with CCG if there was no public input.”

The petition states that, “While most agree that the campground is a positive asset to the community and its visitors, impacts to the surrounding neighborhoods continue to increase and we have concerns and solutions...”

The petition goes on to outline the neighbors’ concerns, including: visual impact of the campground on the neighborhood; traffic

See **CAMPGROUND** on page 30

## Veterans appreciate students

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Sisters schools go out of their way to show their appreciation for the service of the community’s veterans. Each November, the schools host assemblies in recognition of Veterans Day.

Last week, local veterans organizations returned the appreciation, recognizing students and teachers for exceptional efforts on behalf of the local veteran community.

Sisters’ American Legion Post served up a letter of appreciation to students Brandon Borders; Cheyenne Sprout; Julie Klemz; Zidane Galant-LaPorte; Seth Roy; Georgia Rollins; and



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Local veterans awarded sixth-grader Tatum Sitz \$100 for her “Patriots Pen” essay on the topic “Why I Appreciate America’s Veterans.”

leadership counselor Michele Hammer for their efforts.

VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars) Post 8138 presented

high school history teacher Gail Greaney with a Teacher

See **VETERANS** on page 31

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