

Search and rescue seeks volunteers

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is accepting applications from members of the community who are interested in becoming a search and rescue volunteer.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue (DCSOSAR) is one of the busiest search and rescue units in the state of Oregon. In 2014, DCSOSAR completed 244 missions, which included medical-related missions, training missions, public events and assists to other counties. Volunteers are highly skilled and range from general searchers to those capable of highly technical missions such as mountain rescue, swift-water rescue, diving operations and more.

Selected applicants, who must be at least 21 years of age, are required to complete the DCSOSAR program, which consists of 120 hours of

training. This year's academy runs March 30 through May 2.

Generally, training occurs on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. with classroom exercises and is followed up with a day of training on Saturday or Sunday for outdoor practical exercises.

Academy attendees will receive instruction in several areas including but not limited to: navigation, tracking, wilderness survival, search tactics, first aid/CPR and how DCSOSAR operates. Included in the academy is a "pack test," which consists of a five-mile hike (2.5 miles uphill and 2.5 miles downhill) carrying a 25-pound backpack. The time limit for this test is 100 minutes. Each academy attendee will be assigned a mentor to assist with the successful completion of the academy.

Applications can be found at www.sheriff.deschutes.org

or www.deschutessearchandrescue.org. Application deadline is 5 p.m. January 30.

Once applications are reviewed, applicants that meet minimum qualifications will be contacted and will attend an informational session and be required to attend an oral board interview. A background investigation will be completed for all applicants selected after the oral board interview.

Some qualities necessary include the ability to fit in with current volunteers, a good attitude and the ability to function as a team player. There is a \$100 entry fee for those selected, which covers initial search and rescue volunteer clothing issued upon graduation from the academy.

For more information call Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Special Services, 541-388-6501.

Taking the shot...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sisters eighth-grader Brad Eagan goes up for two against Mountain View.

SPRD unveils ideas for bike park

The Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) will be holding a community meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, January 30, at The Belfry to unveil ideas for building a bike park in Sisters.

The evening will feature a presentation by Woody Keen, who in his professional role has built bike parks all over the world. He will cover topics such as: What is a bike park? What is a pump track? Who uses a bike park? What do bike parks do for a community?

This project, tentatively titled Bike Park 242, is a grassroots effort driven by community volunteers including Joel Palanuk from the Sisters Stampede, and Casey Meudt from Blazin Saddles, who are working with SPRD staff.

"Our hope is to provide an amenity for locals and visitors of all ages and ability levels," Meudt said. "Our vision would include a perimeter trail, pump track, mountain bike skill features, jumps and more."

SPRD Executive Director

Liam Hughes said, "Many of our best projects are driven by the community. Our role is to be receptive to these ideas and provide the structure and support that allows the community volunteers to lead the charge. I am really excited with the passion and expertise we have assembled in this group."

For more information contact Hughes at 541-549-2091.



COMMUNITY DINNER
Mon., Jan. 26, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Location: SHS | Cost: \$2!

HULA WORKSHOP
Sat., Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Location: SPRD | \$44 ID/\$54 OD

DRAWING
Grades: 1-4 | February 3-March 19
Tues./Thurs., 3:15-4:30 p.m.
Reg. Deadline: Jan. 19 | \$100
Location: SPRD or SES

SistersRecreation.com
View activities & classes and register online!

1750 W. McKinney Butte Rd. | 541-549-2091



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LEARN MORE... January 28, 5-7 PM
Circle of Friends Clubhouse
353 W. Hood Ave., Sisters



Circle of Friends

acircleoffriendsoregon.com
541-588-6445

Circle of Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization