

Shootouts a success for players, community page 10



Firefighters raise funds to fight cancer page 19



SPRD programs create a lively time for seniors page 21



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District, sheriff act on school security

The Sisters School District and the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office are acting to enhance security at the three local public schools.

Some of the funding from a bond that failed to pass in November was designated to improve entrance security in the schools, which have poor sight-lines and were not designed with security considerations at the forefront. While the current actions do not directly tackle those issues through remodeling, they would mitigate them.

Schools superintendent Jim

See SECURITY on page 28

Breaking ground...



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

David and Leah Tolle (with shovels) were joined by architect Chris Mayes (left), friend Terry Bliven, property owner Sam Blackwell and builder Doug Hull as they broke ground on a future adult foster care facility. (See story, page 13.)

Food cart battle intensifies

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

A group of local citizens wants to overturn a staff decision allowing food carts at a downtown Sisters business owned by former mayor Brad Boyd.

Critics say that the approval was flawed because former senior planner Eric Porter approved Boyd's application with no notification to the Sisters Planning Commission, which would have allowed them to call it up for review if they thought it necessary. It was supposed to be a standard practice to inform the planning

See FOOD CARTS on page 30

City and neighbors work on campground issue

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Lynn Baker, representing the residents of the Buck Run and Coyote Springs neighborhoods, closed his testimony at the February 12 joint workshop of the Parks Advisory Board (PAB) and the Sisters City Council with a reminder: "The character of a city is reflected by the ways in which the city protects the quality of life of its residents," he concluded.

The neighborhoods, adjacent to the Creekside Campground, have been actively involved in organizing, testifying, and petitioning the City regarding the impact of past decisions and actions regarding the campground and their concerns for proposed future changes.

The 104 petition-signers

living around the campground fear those impacts will continue to increase. They believe that previous processes allowing for expansion of the campground did not allow for prior public input, and they want to assure that won't happen again.

They are asking for a good-faith moratorium on the opening of the campground this spring until there is a resolution to their petition. They are insisting on representation of their neighborhoods in any future processes and decisions regarding the campground. They have not only identified the problems as they see them; they have suggested solutions to a number of their concerns.

Mayor Chris Frye and PAB chairman Liam Hughes

See CAMPGROUND on page 18

SPRD taps Borla for board slot

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Erin Borla is taking a chair on the Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) Board of Directors. The SPRD board appointed her to fill an interim position on an open seat until June 30. Election for the seat will take place in May, and Borla said she plans to run.

The lifelong Sisters resident served as executive director of the Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce 2009-2014. She has three children, ages 15, 5, and 3, and that led her to SPRD for the next phase of her community involvement.

"I think SPRD is a fantastic organization, and I'm just excited to be able to give back to the community," she said. "I think having kids in the programs opens a new perspective other than what's been on the board recently."



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Erin Borla will bring her marketing expertise to SPRD as an interim board member. She plans to run for the position.

In her role with the chamber, Borla worked hard to raise Sisters' regional profile as a tourist destination and to enhance the chamber's role in the community. She sees herself doing similar work as a SPRD board member.

"My skill set is certainly on the marketing side," she said.

She said that SPRD offers a wide variety of programs and serves a broad demographic — which is not necessarily common knowledge in Sisters.

"They provide this great service and I don't know if people know everything they do," she said. "And I'd like to help share that story."

Inside...

Letters/Weather	2	Business at Glance.....	4	Movies & Entertainment....	13	Sisters Naturalist.....	23	Classifieds.....	25-27
Meetings	3	Announcements.....	12	Obituaries	20	Crossword	24	Real Estate	27-32