

C O M M U N I T Y

Forestry board gets down to work

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The Urban Forestry Board (UFB) began their work of caring for Sisters trees in earnest at their March 11 meeting, reviewing tree-removal requests, approving the document advertising for a city forester, and getting updates

on current projects. They reviewed the Request for Proposal (RFP) drawn up by City staff for contracting a city forester to provide urban forestry advisory services for staff and the UFB. RFP proposals are due April 1, 2015, interviews and the

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Sheriff's office takes on panhandler complaints

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office and the City of Sisters received a spate of complaints recently about the aggressive behavior of a homeless man who was apparently panhandling along McKinney Butte Road where it runs between the Bi-Mart and the Ray's Food Place shopping centers.

Captain Erik Utter of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office told *The Nugget* that law enforcement has limited options in dealing with such complaints.

If a person is on private property, "it's kind of incumbent on the property owner to draw the line" regarding the behavior of a person occupying their property.

A deputy can contact a person and advise them that they are being disruptive and ask them to move on, but that tends to just relocate a problem.

"You end up following a bouncing ball," Capt. Utter said.

One of the citizens who lodged a complaint told *The Nugget* that she has seen a number of homeless men in that vicinity and never had any issues, but felt intimidated when the man located there now approached her car aggressively with a sign.

"We understand that it's a quality-of-life issue," Capt. Utter said.

Actually coming out into traffic or acting in a threatening matter are actionable violations, Utter noted. If a citizen feels concerned or threatened, it is helpful if they are willing to be a named complainant, which will allow the sheriff's office more leeway to take substantive action.

"It puts people out of their comfort zone, but that's very helpful to us," Capt. Utter said.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Local firefighters battled cancer through a grueling fitness test in Seattle.

Firefighters conquer tower climb

You may have noticed firefighters out in the community over the last couple of weeks soliciting donations for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Firefighters sang at Sisters Coffee, ran on a stairclimber at Ray's Food Place, and threw an open house at Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Station No. 701.

All of these events led up to the assault on the Columbia Center Tower in Seattle by five local firefighters, in an effort to raise funds for research into leukemia and lymphoma.

On Sunday, March 8, two Sisters firefighters, Dave Keller and Travis Bootes, and three Cloverdale firefighters, Damon Frutos, Spencer Cashwell, and Clinton Weaver, joined over 1,700 other firefighters who completed the stairway climb at

the Columbia Center Tower wearing their fire gear.

At the event, firefighters line up outside the building starting at 8 a.m. A firefighter enters the stairwell every 12 seconds. The grueling climb is a test of endurance and mental toughness. The stairwell is hot and unventilated. Firefighters are wearing about 60 pounds of gear as they make their way up 69 floors, 1,311 steps, more than 700 feet into the sky. Air tanks, which hold a limited amount of air, connect to masks strapped to their faces. Controlling their breathing is a must. There is a single opportunity on the 40th floor to pause and change air tanks if the need arises. There are pictures at every turn of cancer survivors and those who lost their battle with the disease.

All five local firefighters

completed the climb in less than 30 minutes. The fastest, Dave Keller (winner of this year's Sisters Fire District Fire Fitness Award), finished in just over 16 minutes.

The firefighters would like to thank all of the people who have donated to this fundraising effort this year. Cloverdale firefighters are currently about \$600 short of their \$7,500 fundraising goal for this year. Sisters firefighters are approximately \$1,500 short of their goal. Donations are being accepted until March 31.

To donate visit www.lisw.org/goto/sistersfire or www.lisw.org/goto/cloverdalefire. Checks or cash donations can be dropped off at the Sisters-Camp Sherman main fire station on S. Elm St., or at the new Cloverdale fire administrative offices on Cloverdale Road.

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

- ALANON** Monday, noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Wednesday, 6 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.
- Alcoholics Anonymous** Thursday & Sunday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Saturday, 8 a.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Monday, 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Tuesday, noon, Big Book study, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Thursday, noon, Sober Sisters Women Meeting, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.
- Authors Support Group** 2nd Friday, 10 a.m., Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. 541-588-0081.
- Black Butte Macintosh Users Group** 3rd Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-1471.
- Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., Black Butte Ranch community room. All welcome; partner required. 541-595-6236.
- Central Oregon Council on Aging Senior Lunch** Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-678-5483.

- Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild** 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For location information: 541-549-2072.
- Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild** 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library. 541-639-3217.
- Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild** 1st Monday. 541-610-9022.
- East of the Cascades Quilt Guild** 4th Wednesday, September-June, Stitchin' Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.
- Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. Public is welcome. 541-977-8285.
- Heartwarmers** (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Just bring scissors! 503-880-5832.
- Hero Quilters of Sisters** Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-548-3304.
- Military Parents of Sisters** 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-647-7483.
- Oregon Band of Brothers - Sisters Chapter** Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-408-5594.
- SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment)** Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m. at SPRD. 541-549-2091.

- Sisters Area Photography Club** 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.
- Sisters Area SketchUp Users Group** 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. 541-549-0924.
- Sisters Astronomy Club** 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.
- Sisters Bridge Club** Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.
- Sisters Cribbage Club** Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. All are welcome. 541-923-1632.
- Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors** 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.
- Sisters Kiwanis** Thursdays, 7 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.
- Sisters Red Hats** 1st Friday. Location information: 541-389-9554.
- Sisters Rotary** Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-977-6545.
- Sisters Trails Alliance Board Meeting** 2nd Thursday, 8 to 9:30 a.m., The Pines Clubhouse. 541-719-8822.
- Sisters Veterans** Thursdays, noon, Takoda's Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

- Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.
- Three Sisters Lions Club** 2nd Tuesday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-595-6967.
- VFW 8138 & American Legion** 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Service officer available. 541-903-1123 or 541-549-1132.

CITY & PARKS

- Sisters City Council** 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.
- Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 5:30 p.m., SPRD building. The public is welcome. 541-549-2091.
- Sisters Planning Commission** 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

- Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors** Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.
- Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors** 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

- Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Main Station, George Cyrus Rd. 541-548-4815. See the agenda at www.cloverdalefire.com.
- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills** Mondays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

SCHOOLS

- Black Butte School Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.
- Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors** 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX Revolution office at Outlaw Station. 541-549-4133.
- Sisters School District Board of Directors** One Wednesday per month, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule at www.sisters.k12.or.us. 541-549-8521 x4011.

