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The Nugget

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Open house on roundabout set

The Oregon Department of Transportation and the City of Sisters will host an informational open house regarding the proposed roundabout at the intersection of Highway 20 and Barclay Drive on Tuesday, April 14, at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

The design for a roundabout at the west end of Sisters passed a pair of live-fire tests by the trucking industry with flying colors. That moves the long-contemplated project a significant step closer to reality. A link to video from that test is available with the online version of this story at www.nuggetnews.com.

As ODOT discusses the project with representatives of the freight industry, it is seeking the concurrence of the Sisters City Council in

See **ROUNDAABOUT** on page 31

An Easter tradition in Sisters...



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Baby Brooklyn Kelly meets the Easter Bunny at Creekside Park with mom Jessica and dad Bryan.

Urban renewal is now a flashpoint for council

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Emotions ran high last Thursday at the Urban Renewal Agency board (URA)/City Council workshop when Councilor David Asson voiced his disappointment regarding what he called lack of due diligence by the board on the latest round of urban renewal grants.

(The City Council acts as the directors of the City's Urban Renewal Agency — see related story, page 24.)

Asson contended that the board had not been given adequate time to review the 19 applications passed on by staff for approval.

See **URBAN RENEWAL** on page 25

City gives nod to streetlight fix

Sisters' Cascade Avenue streetlights will spill less light into the dark nighttime sky.

The City of Sisters, in consultation with members of the Sisters Astronomy Club, has given the nod to a fix to the streetlights installed during the recent Cascade Avenue renovation. The fixtures will have a glazed glass finish and a dimmer that will limit the amount of light that spills out, bringing the installations into conformance with the City's dark skies ordinance.

The fix allows people to see the decorative features of

the light fixtures without seeing the light source.

The Oregon Department of Transportation, which conducted the rehabilitation project on the highway through town, has agreed to pick up the tab for the parts to implement the fix; the City is still discussing labor cost reimbursement.

City staff says the installation should be complete by June and possibly sooner, depending on when parts arrive and when public works crews can perform the necessary work.

Womack to step down from city council

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Sisters City Council President McKibben Womack is stepping down from his seat effective April 30. The mayor and City Council will appoint a replacement to serve out his term.

Womack told *The Nugget* that he is resigning to focus on the needs of his young family and his landscape maintenance business. Womack has three children; ages 6, 4 and 2, with another on the way.

"Our new addition is supposed to be born somewhere around the end of April, so it kind of made sense," Womack said. "Also, it gives the council plenty of time to find a

replacement."

Womack is leaving his post on the council with mixed feelings. He's happy with the direction City government has taken, feeling that there is "more of a sense of pride" in City operations and across Sisters at large, and that City staff has a high level of morale. He believes that City Manager Andrew Gorayeb has established strong inter-agency relationships that benefit the City of Sisters.

"We brought the right person in, being Andrew, who knows how to build relationships and get us what we want," he said.

He likes that Gorayeb "wasn't looking to make a name and go someplace



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

McKibben Womack.

(else). He doesn't see the bureaucracy as an excuse not

See **WOMACK** on page 18

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