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The Nugget

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Citizens can apply for council seat

The Sisters City Council will have a vacant Council seat beginning April 30, due to the upcoming resignation of Councilor McKibben Womack. Interested citizens can apply for the vacated seat by submitting an application to City Recorder Kathy Nelson by April 20.

Candidates must be a qualified elector within the meaning of the state constitution and have resided within city limits during the preceding 12 months. Applications may be found on the home page in the announcements section of the City's website at www.ci.sisters.or.us or at the reception desk in City Hall, located at 520 E. Cascade Ave.

Regular City Council meetings are held the second

See **CITY COUNCIL** on page 31

Mush Without Slush...



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Mushers ran their dog teams on cinder roads near Zimmerman Butte west of Sisters last weekend in an annual dry land event. Teams varied in size from nine dogs to a couple, pulling wheeled sleds and ATVs.

City awards reduced urban renewal grants

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Sixteen of the 19 applications for urban-renewal "small-project" grants were approved at last Thursday's Urban Renewal Agency Board meeting — but at half of the amount sought by applicants. Three projects were deemed to not meet the criteria set forth in the grant guidelines.

Prior to the awarding of the grants, there was discussion by the board (composed of the city council) regarding the \$1.25-million loan the City of Sisters secured from Bank of the Cascades to fund

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Sisters man dies in motorcycle wreck

A 29-year-old Sisters man is dead after he crashed his motorcycle in Redmond Sunday evening.

According to Deschutes County Sheriff's Office reports, Shemaiah Gillan died at the scene of the accident on Helmholtz Way near La Mesa Lane.

The sheriff's office reports that Gillan was riding a dark-colored 2006 Yamaha R-6, 600cc sport-bike. He was south-bound on Helmholtz and failed to negotiate a corner on Helmholtz between El Camino Lane and La Mesa Lane. Gillan was traveling around a right-hand curve and left the roadway on the left-hand side, striking a tree and

fence.

There were no other vehicles involved. The weather was clear and the pavement was dry. Alcohol or drugs are not believed to be a factor in the accident. According to the sheriff's office, it appears that excessive speed is a factor in the fatal crash.

Gabriel Gillan remembered his brother's spirit: "He loved adventures. He loved Sisters," Gabe said.

Shemaiah leaves a 3-year-old child. A fund has been set up through U.S. Bank under the name Aubrey Pepperling to help Shemaiah's young family. This is the Gillan family's preferred avenue for assistance.

DLT acquires Whychus Creek property

The Deschutes Land Trust has purchased 58 acres of land along Whychus Creek near Sisters.

The new Aspen Hollow Preserve includes a half-mile of creek frontage, unique columnar cliffs, and pine and aspen stands. The property is home to a variety of wildlife species including salmon and steelhead, mule deer, rocky mountain elk, golden eagles, spotted bat and numerous songbirds. The acquisition was made possible by the Land Trust's Campaign for Whychus Creek.

"Our purchase of Aspen Hollow Preserve is a great example of how the Campaign for Whychus Creek can help conserve the best of Whychus Creek," said Executive Director Brad



PHOTO BY XXX

Deschutes Land Trust acquired more critical creekside habitat in Sisters Country this month.

Chalfant. "Early donors to the campaign provided bridge funding for the project while we worked with other funders to secure final purchase funds. The availability of this bridge funding

allowed us to move quickly to secure the property when the opportunity presented itself. Going forward, we expect the Campaign will

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