

DENTAL VAN: Referrals come from Sisters FAN

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“The people we serve in the dental van are very appreciative of this service,” says Failing. “They have a better track record for keeping appointments than patients in our private practice did. Also, there are so many community members in need that they are often scheduled two to three months in advance. Missing an appointment makes for a very long wait to be rescheduled.”

In 2014, 108 patients were seen at the Sisters clinic and the value of services provided was \$42,619.00 utilizing 240 volunteer hours. It costs \$300 to bring the van to a location.

Kiwanis is a sponsor of the Sisters dental van and has worked with The Roundhouse Foundation to provide grant funding to cover the costs, and personal donations have been invaluable to sustaining the program. To make a tax-deductible donation to help keep the program running, make checks payable to Sisters Kiwanis with a note on the memo line, “dental van.” Patients are also asked to invest \$10 or whatever they can afford for cleanings,

fillings, X-rays, and preventive dental care.

The Failings say they were fortunate to have had fulfilling and rewarding careers that now allow them to give back to the community.

“I have always enjoyed dentistry and am thankful I can still provide the service to those in need,” Dr. Failing says. “But at some point I will retire from the dental van and I hope there will be someone to carry it on, because the need is certainly there.”

“The people we serve in the dental van are very appreciative of this service.”
— Dr. Hank Failing

“Sisters means the world to me,” Jan says. “I love the people I’ve met through the clinic and am passionate about working on Kiwanis service projects for the community.”

Most referrals for the dental van come from Family Access Network (FAN), local dentists, and by word of mouth. For information, contact FAN at 541-549-0155 or Jan Failing at 503-866-8063.

PARAMEDICS: Life Flight landed at Sisters Fire Hall

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said, “Most paramedics will work their entire career without having to perform these procedures, but it is important to be prepared and well-trained in case they do.” Paramedics also practiced inserting IVs into bones using an interosseous needle and drill and practiced placing

advanced airways using a video laryngoscope.

Paramedics are required to complete at least 48 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain state licensure.

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District provides ambulance service to more than 2,000 square miles of area using a combination of career and volunteer paramedics and EMTs. The district has three ambulances and responded to 753 medical calls in 2014.

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I have been regularly attending board meetings for the last three to four years. I have watched these three gentlemen help guide the direction of the board directly toward improving the safety of our volunteers, and the services that the district offers.

These board members have operated transparently at all board meetings that I have attended. They welcome public attendance at board meetings to ensure that they are spending public funds wisely and making the best decisions for the district’s residents and visitors.

A fine example would be that the bond monies are being used to build pole barns that will serve the volunteers’ and community’s needs into the future, rather than expensive concrete block buildings that look good, but provide little functional improvement.

The incumbents are long-time residents of the district, with over 20 years of experience each in the fire service.

It is apparent to me as I watch these board meetings that Tom, Jerry, and John have the community’s and volunteers’ best interest at heart and make all of their decisions with this at the forefront of their minds.

I urge you to vote to re-elect Tom, Jerry and John.

Clinton Weaver

To the Editor:

As a resident of the Cloverdale Fire District for the past three years, I would like to voice support for re-electing Jerry Johnson, Tom Barrier, and John Thomas to their current positions as directors of the fire district.

As the 2014 president of the Cloverdale Volunteer Fire Fighter’s Association, I worked with these men as we served the Cloverdale community to bring the best level of protection we could while highly valuing responder safety and fiscal responsibility. They have never failed to scrutinize every dollar spent to assure it is used wisely and responsibly.

They have a proven history of working in harmony with the fire chief to establish a

budget which maximizes the benefits to the taxpayers while providing for efficiency and effectiveness. The plan they have developed will provide for the necessities of the fire district without frivolous spending. They all have long histories of serving this community with honor and distinction. I trust their leadership and I ask you to do the same.

Damon E. Frutos

To the Editor:

We are a community.

Sisters has long prided itself on being a “community.” But over the last several months, debates in the Letters to the Editor section of *The Nugget Newspaper* have grown more corrosive, with name-calling and unsubstantiated accusations of criminality or immorality or malfeasance.

These comments do nothing but damage our community. The “shoot the messenger” attacks are not justified. They shine a brighter light on those engaging in this behavior than they do on the accused. They show the author to be angry and lacking in self-control, and unable to make a smart argument about law and policy.

There are mechanisms available to deal with actual disagreements — elections, recalls, public hearings — and letters written to the editor for public discussion. There are no mechanisms to deal with bad manners, incivility, rudeness, and anger. These lessons were supposed to have been learned in kindergarten.

To keep these toxins from damaging our community, like poison in a commonly shared well, I urge the editor to review the policy about what gets printed each week in *The Nugget*. A “free press” is not a “free pass” for anyone to spread ugliness and hate. With the essential and constitutional right to inform and discuss, the newspaper has the ability, if not the responsibility, to manage the forum in which discussion takes place.

I urge the editor, and those who would write letters to the editor, to stick to issues and to show respect for neighbors who have opinions that are sometimes different than our own.

Erik Dolson

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