

**LETTERS**

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sleeping quarters at our south station.

Even though our two primary engines are older, I take exception with comments that we have sub-standard or unsafe equipment.

The voters approved a bond of more than \$2.6 million. It is the board's duty to taxpayers to spend those funds in the most judicious way possible. As we start to spend that money, I am concerned with the lack of board oversight. I was criticized by the other board members when I chose to abstain in the vote to approve purchase two \$400,000 fire engines because we had not yet seen the specifications.

Unfortunately, that same lack of oversight is carrying over to the new fire stations. The south station is being designed with six bays in spite of our 20-year plan that calls for only five bays. At the north station, three small bays will be replaced with two larger bays, thus reducing the number of apparatus that can be housed in the north end of the district. After only a few minutes of review, the board approved the building plans for both stations, without taking time to thoroughly look at the plans. The board has yet to meet with the architect, and my requests for a community oversight committee have repeatedly fallen on deaf ears.

Keith Cyrus, Cloverdale  
RFPD Board Member



To the Editor:

My wife, Alycia Downs, is running for Cloverdale Fire Board Position #3. She is the volunteer secretary to the fire board for seven years but not a board member. She is a strong, independent-thinking woman, who will use her business background and years of experience working with the board to represent the interests of the Cloverdale community.

Alycia has lived in the Cloverdale District for 27 years. She is active in a number of charitable

organizations; she has a degree in business administration, is part of St. Charles Health Systems for seven years, including St. Charles Foundation and currently the Cancer Center.

Alycia helps the fire department with community events and supports my late-night fire calls for over eight years. She's a mother of two that she has raised here in the Sisters community; one is graduating this year and is going to George Fox University.

Alycia decided to run for the #3 position in February, after the current member announced resignation plans. Now her opponent is running again and planning to resign after the election; this allows the remaining members to circumvent the election process, and appoint their choice to fill the seat.

After much thought, Alycia decided to fight for the position and intends to fill out her term and work transparently representing the Cloverdale community.

My wife is not a firefighter, neither is a good portion of the Cloverdale community. Alycia views her concerns about the community the way the community views them. Many long-time "firefighters" forget and/or lose sight or address these. Good representatives of a team or administration will address ALL concern at all levels. Alycia will address those concerns and represent those that are not as knowledgeable.

Please vote for Alycia Downs for Cloverdale Fire District Board of Directors Position #3.

John Downs



To the Editor:

As members of the hiking community, we wish to add our support to the creation of the Black Butte Trail. We agree with the points made in *The Nugget* by Mike and Wendie Vermillion ("*Paved trail would connect communities*," *The Nugget*, April 22, page 2) and feel trails make for a vibrant community and provide access to our wonderful forests and wilderness experiences.

Jim and Judi Gilles

To the Editor:

As a Tollgate resident, I fully support the paved bike trail connecting Sisters to Black Butte. It provides a safe trail for road bikers, allowing us to avoid the highway.

This safe trail will be used by children, adults, seniors, veterans, wounded warriors, and anyone with impairments. The revised trail layout is unobtrusive and out of view to the homes in Tollgate.

Cycling and other outdoor activities are a valued culture of Sisters and Central Oregon. This paved bike trail is an attractive addition to Tollgate, Sisters, and Black Butte Ranch.

It further encourages our experiences of our remarkable Central Oregon vistas and enjoyment of outdoor areas. It proves a valuable asset to the business enterprises of Sisters.

Plus, it adds to the property value of our homes in Central Oregon. Overall, the bike trail is a benefit and bonus for Tollgate, Sisters, and Black Butte Ranch.

Dave Johnson



To the Editor:

As I read Rob Malone's letter to the editor (*The Nugget*, April 29), I was struck with the number of inaccuracies it contained.

Mr. Malone references the purchase and sale of a piece of surplus equipment. While it is true the cost of the equipment three years ago was \$100,000, and next year's budget shows a projected sale price of \$50,000 for this same piece of equipment, that, by no means, is the actual sale price. Any administrator worth his salt, such as Chief Olsen, "low-balls" the expected sale price for any surplus item for budgetary reasons.

A little about the facilities plan approval which occurred within 20 minutes — which is "unheard of" according to Mr. Malone. The truth is the board

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# VOTE ~ VOTE ~ VOTE ~ VOTE



Responsible Growth  
Appropriate Oversight  
Fiscal Accountability  
Transparency  
in Actions



**Alycia Downs**



**Rob Malone**

- Alycia has lived in the Cloverdale community for 29 years
- Her children are enrolled in Sisters School District
- She has been secretary for Cloverdale Fire for seven years
- She has over 10 years of fund management experience
- She has a degree in business

- Rob is a 15-year resident of the Sisters area
- He has 30 years of business and management experience
- He is retail and customer-service oriented
- He is board chair on Sisters Park & Recreation District Local Option Committee
- He has a bachelor of science degree in business administration and finance
- Rob has extensive construction experience

**WATCH THE MAIL  
FOR YOUR BALLOT.  
VOTE BY MAY 19!**

## CLOVERDALE FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

— Paid for by Friends of Cloverdale Fire District —