

Linchpins of school district retiring

By **Jim Cornelius**
News Editor

Sisters High School Principal Joe Hosang choked up a bit during graduation ceremonies earlier this month, contemplating the retirement of school secretaries Pinky Pagano and Suzanne Lind.

Well he might. Not only are Pagano and Lind beloved friends and mentors to staff and students, Hosang knows better than anyone how important those two women are to the smooth running of Sisters High School. In fact, they’ve been a major factor in the operations of the Sisters School District for three decades.

Both started humbly enough.

Lind and her husband, John, moved to Sisters from California to be closer to her parents in Redmond. Lind applied for a job as a special-education assistant — and didn’t get it. But she was soon tapped to become a PE/teacher’s aide at Sisters Middle School, and her career in the district was off and running.

Pagano’s start was similar. She was working as a dental assistant when her husband, John, was transferred by his company from Portland to Central Oregon — a transfer he had eagerly sought.

Friends Teri Ast and Peg Bermel advised her to put in for part-time work and soon the district started calling her for jobs at Sisters Elementary School.

“I started doing lunchroom detention and locker room shower duties and went from there,” she recalled.

Sisters School District was tiny then, and there was no high school. The school culture was very tight-knit.

“We were like family,” Lind recalled. “We spent every single Friday night at somebody’s house with

everybody’s kids. Every single Friday. We were a very close bunch.”

If closeness was an upside, the downside was a loss of connection with kids as they aged up. After middle school, they headed to Redmond for high school.

“When you graduated the eighth-graders, you just lost contact with them,” Lind said.

Both said that getting a high school back in 1992 “was the best.”

Both ended up working there as the district grew and the schools built a reputation for quality education and for turning out young adults of accomplishment and character.

Pagano notes that, while the culture has changed during her 27 years in Sisters, important things remain the same.

“I think there’s still tremendous pride our students have,” she said. “No other school can have art work, pictures (displayed and respected in the high school) the way we have.”

Both noted that the world of technology that has opened up for students carries pitfalls that concern them.

“I worry about social media,” said Lind. “I don’t think they realize that what’s on there can be on there for the rest of their lives.”

And the Internet allows for phenomenon that are new to the long-time school officials, who are parents themselves — like cyberbullying.

“These are worries I never had to worry about,” Pagano said.

Lind and Paganao are the event coordinators for graduation, making the ceremonies for the Class of 2015 a wistful occasion. There’s a lot that they’ll miss.

“Oh, the kids — all the kids,” says Pagano. “Every kid has a special need of some sort, and a story. That’s what I’ll miss.”

Pagano decided to retire



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Pinky Pagano and Suzanne Lind have been two key behind-the-scenes players in the success of Sisters School District.

because it was time for her to spend more time with her family. For Lind, “it was just time.”

Both women have daughters teaching elementary school in Madras, and they are looking forward to volunteering in their classrooms.

Lind plans to travel — and she’s making sure she’s out of town when school rolls around again next year.

“I don’t want to be here for September,” she said.

Both are grateful for the opportunities they’ve had in Sisters. Pagano noted that, with the exception of a couple of dental assistant gigs, working at Sisters School District has been her entire career.

And Lind noted, “I’m just proud and thankful for what this school district has done for me. They’ve let me be a real part of a lot of decision-making. This has been the best job I could have ever asked for.”

The departure of Pagano and Lind comes at a time of transition. A new schools superintendent is coming on board in July, and the district continues to adapt to a changing educational and funding landscape.

They appreciate that they’ll

HIKER: PCT trekker was suffering dehydration

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location to the SAR team and he was located approximately two miles from the trailhead. Chase was treated for dehydration by medics and was able to walk out to the trail head under his own power.

He was transported by Sisters-Camp Sherman medics to St. Charles Hospital in Bend for further treatment.

Jefferson County SAR Coordinator Dave Blann said Chase was very fortunate that paramedics were available to go in with the Hasty Team, as this is not the case on most incidents.

Hikers need to remember that help is not always quick to arrive in remote wilderness locations. Being prepared for any type of emergency while in the wilderness is advised.

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

FORM UR-1

A public meeting of the **Sisters Urban Renewal Agency** will be held on **June 25, 2015** at 7:00 pm in **Council Chambers, 520 E. Cascade Avenue, Sisters, Oregon**. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 as approved by the Sisters Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at City Hall, between the hours of 8:00 a. m. and 5:00 p. m. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year. If different, the major changes and their effect on the budget are:

Contact: Lynne Fujita-Contrads Telephone: (541) 323-5222 Email: lcontrads@ci.sisters.or.us

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
	Actual Amount 2013-14	Adopted Budget This Year 2014-15	Approved Budget Next Year 2015-16
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	447,280	521,330	638,914
Federal, State and All Other Grants	0	0	0
Revenue from Bonds and Other Debt	848,818	1,427,277	0
Interfund Transfers	0	0	0
All Other Resources Except Division of Tax & Special Levy	25,493	2,700	113,875
Revenue from Division of Tax	184,687	186,000	125,000
Revenue from Special Levy	0	0	0
Total Resources	1,506,258	2,137,307	877,789

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
	Actual Amount 2013-14	Adopted Budget This Year 2014-15	Approved Budget Next Year 2015-16
Personnel Services	0	0	0
Materials and Services	22,398	4,647	4,200
Capital Outlay	712,911	920,000	350,250
Debt Service	439,022	349,100	224,814
Interfund Transfers	0	0	0
Contingencies	0	4,281	141,152
All Other Expenditures and Requirements	0	0	0
Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance	331,587	259,279	157,035
Total Requirements	1,506,258	2,137,307	877,789

FINANCIAL SUMMARY-REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM *			
	Actual Amount 2013-14	Adopted Budget This Year 2014-15	Approved Budget Next Year 2015-16
Urban Renewal Agency	1,506,258	2,137,307	877,789
Total Requirements	1,506,258	2,137,307	877,789
Total FTE	0	0	0

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACTIVITIES and SOURCES OF FINANCING *

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS		
	Estimated Debt Outstanding July 1	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1
General Obligation Bonds	\$0	\$0
Other Bonds	\$0	\$0
Other Borrowings	\$1,231,340	\$0
Total	\$1,231,340	\$0

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

FORM LB-1

A public meeting of the **City of Sisters** will be held on **June 25, 2015** at 7:00pm at **Council Chambers, 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, Oregon**. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 as approved by the City of Sisters Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 520 E. Cascade Ave., Sisters, OR between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or online at www.ci.sisters.or.us. This budget is for an X annual biennial budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is X, the same as the preceding year. If different, the major changes and their effect on the budget are:

Contact: Lynne Fujita-Contrads Telephone: 541-323-5222 Email: lcontrads@ci.sisters.or.us

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
	Actual Amount 2013-2014	Adopted Budget This Year 2014-2015	Approved Budget Next Year 2015-2016
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	5,570,733	5,152,676	6,331,898
Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges	3,258,688	3,066,162	3,448,650
Federal, State and all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations and Donations	271,470	264,862	826,634
Revenue from Bonds and Other Debt	2,550,050	841,600	0
Interfund Transfers / Internal Service Reimbursements	1,822,207	65,000	55,800
All Other Resources Except Current Year Property Taxes	172,117	1,417	65,000
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	787,762	801,000	860,000
Total Resources	14,383,038	10,332,770	11,588,610

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
	Actual Amount 2013-2014	Adopted Budget This Year 2014-2015	Approved Budget Next Year 2015-2016
Personnel Services	1,283,181	1,403,478	1,399,874
Materials and Services	2,670,065	2,317,312	2,177,560
Capital Outlay	117,610	505,400	1,112,158
Debt Service	3,247,032	523,230	510,720
Interfund Transfers	1,822,206	65,000	55,800
Contingencies	92,194	255,750	571,238
Special Payments	0	0	0
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	5,150,750	5,262,600	5,761,260
Total Requirements	14,383,038	10,332,770	11,588,610

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM *			
Name of Organizational Unit or Program	FTE for that unit or program	2013-2014	2014-2015
Council Manager		281,014	293,720
FTE		1.60	1.60
Finance and Administration		194,575	234,873
FTE		1.63	1.71
Facility Maintenance		119,117	118,153
FTE		0.95	0.90
Parks		242,012	280,539
FTE		2.20	2.48
Police		486,678	523,010
FTE		3.90	4.17
Community Development		390,631	477,105
FTE		2.55	2.82
Water		828,559	944,462
FTE		2.84	2.76
Streets		1,146,031	1,218,283
FTE		2.93	3.06
Sewer		2,518,018	1,718,141
FTE		2.55	1.92
Streets SDC		605,321	618,801
Sewer SDC		1,584,083	487,453
Water SDC		1,002,934	1,185,898
Park SDC		148,304	161,524
Parking District		121,032	170,786
City Hall Debt Service		864,190	88,188
Not Allocated to Organizational Unit or Program		3,950,539	1,811,764
Total Requirements		14,383,038	10,332,770
Total FTE		17.25	17.25

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACTIVITIES and SOURCES OF FINANCING

PROPERTY TAX LEVIES			
	Rate or Amount Imposed 2013-2014	Rate or Amount Imposed This Year 2014-2015	Rate or Amount Approved Next Year 2015-2016
Permanent Rate Levy (rate limit \$2.6417 per \$1,000)	2.6417	2.6417	2.6417
Local Option Levy	0	0	0
Levy For General Obligation Bonds	0	0	0

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS		
	Estimated Debt Outstanding on July 1	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1
General Obligation Bonds	\$4,672,912	\$0
Other Bonds	\$0	\$0
Other Borrowings	\$2,521,631	\$0
Total	\$7,194,543	\$0



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