Star-watchers RECON Sisters skies

By Ron Thorkildson

Correspondent

All are invited to attend the next Stars over Sisters star watch to be held at the Sisters Park and Recreation District building and the Sisters High School parking lot on Saturday, July 18, beginning at 9:30 p.m.

The event features a presentation that will describe the RECON project and explain how citizens of Sisters can participate.

RECON stands for Research and Education Collaborative Occultation Network, and is a citizen science project in which the community of Sisters is privileged to play a role. Citizen science is scientific research conducted, in whole or in part, by amateur or nonprofessional scientists.

The goal of RECON is

to investigate objects at the outer regions of our solar system beyond the orbit of Neptune. Specifically, the effort is to measure the size of these distant bodies using the method of stellar occultation. An occultation occurs when one celestial object moves in front of another, temporarily hiding it from view. In this case, a small, far-off world moves in front of a known star. The length of time between when the star winks out and when it becomes visible again is proportional to the size of the obscuring body.

Following the presentation, the telescope and other equipment used for the project will be set up outside and available for viewing planets, stars and other goodies in the summer sky. Other telescopes will also be set up to observe the heavens.

Sisters salutes...

• Hats off to the horde of volunteers who make the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show such a unique and successful event. This celebration of the arts has put Sisters on the map in many ways — not least as a community that can pull together and make spectacular things happen.

Way to go, 40-year-old!
• Steve & Patti Janego

We would like to share a sincere and heartfelt thankyou to our neighbors Scott, Dina, Serena, Rheana and Savannah Salisbury for their time and caring in keeping our gardens and plants watered and green during the extreme heatwave, while we were away. With our home being part of the "Home and Garden Tour" this year and our vacation to Alaska planned the week before the event, the Salisbury family went to extreme care to be sure our plantings survived! We are blessed to have such great neighbors in our community, thanks so much.

We also would like to extend our deep gratitude to the Sisters Garden Club and volunteers for taking such good care of overseeing our home and gardens with the guests that poured through our place the day of the tour.

• Ian Baldessari of Sisters made the dean's list at University of Montana.



Something really extraordinary happened to Furry Friends at the Sisters Quilt Show this year. 2013 winner Sandie Lane from Tillamook, Oregon donated her winning quilt back to Furry Friends. A favorite of all, this Amy Bradley patterned quilt pieced by Valerie Fercho-Tillery will be up for auction again in 2016.

Vandals strike Pine Meadow Village

Vandals "tagged" Pine Meadow Village with graffiti last week.

Captain Erik Utter of the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office reports that deputies pulled four case numbers involving incidents of graffiti on a home, a couple of cars, and "other property" in the residential area at the west end of Sisters.

At this time, the sheriff's office does not have suspect information regarding the incident.

"We are going to put a request out for Crimestoppers for the community to hopefully give us some tips," Captain Utter said.

The tip line is 1-877-876-TIPS or you can call the sheriff's office at 541-388-6655.

Free self-defense class for college-bound

Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) is once again offering a free self-defense class — this one specifically geared toward college students.

College Prep Class on Self Defense & Safety – 101 is built on the principles of "how not to be a target."

The first principle of self-defense is to avoid making yourself a target, because predators are always looking for "easy prey."

are on an attacker, quick and effective techniques that can extricate a person from a dangerous position, and strategies on how to avoid being in a position of being attacked.

The class will be led by Charles Quandt, better known as Coach Q, Sherri Hermens, Kim Manley, and Deschutes County Sheriff Lt. Scott Shelton (Retired). The class will be offered at SPRD on Saturday, July 25 from noon to 2 p.m. Class size is limited; call early to reserve your spot, 541-549-2091.





