

**BBR BOARD:** Support of paved trail was affirmed at meeting

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opposed.

At the July meeting, proponents for the trail noted the strong survey support of homeowners, the additional recreational amenities the trail would provide the larger community, an example of a trail which currently terminates at the Ranch and alignment with the original Black Butte Ranch mission.

Mike Hollern, chairman of Brooks Resources Corporation and a homeowner at the Ranch, provided an historical perspective on the development of a trail between the Ranch and Sisters in a letter of support proponents shared with the board. "We considered it in the early 1970s when we developed the Ranch, but the Forest Service had no money for trails then and we didn't follow through. I wish we had," he wrote.

Homeowners who spoke in opposition voiced concerns about increased unauthorized access to the Ranch; jeopardized safety and security; increased costs to the Ranch; and unnecessary removal of trees and use of asphalt. Opponents recommend that an alternative trail location be explored on the north side of Highway 20.

Board members acknowledged the seriousness of the issues concerning unauthorized access to Ranch amenities raised by homeowners who oppose the trail. However, in their discussion members agreed that such concerns could be managed effectively.

Board member Jeff Curtis summarized rationale for the current letter of support: "I believe there is a majority of the homeowners on the Ranch who are in support of the path."

**TRAINER:** Maier got start with Knapp Friesians

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and the Queen. Maier counts this experience as the highlight of his career in equine entertainment.

These days he is retired from the entertainment side of things and is back to his first profession as carriage-horse trainer at a large facility in Lodi, California. Sargent Equestrian Center is unique on the West Coast in that the emphasis is on training horses and people in the driving disciplines. From miniature horses to thundering draft animals, from pleasure driving to highly competitive Combined Driving Event (CDE) horses, all are welcomed and cared for.

Maier conducts about 10 clinics each year, some at the facility and some at other locations. His calm and friendly demeanor and formidable skills have garnered a following all across the country. Godby, who sent her young mare, Freedom, to Maier for training, was thrilled to have him conduct the Oregon clinic at her property.

He acknowledges that the opportunities coming his way during his career began in Sisters with the Knapp Friesians.

"From driving carriages to Friesians Spectacular to Kentucky and the World Equestrian Games to the Diamond Jubilee – it was a chain of events that started in Sisters. It's been a wonderful thing and I recognize that," he said.

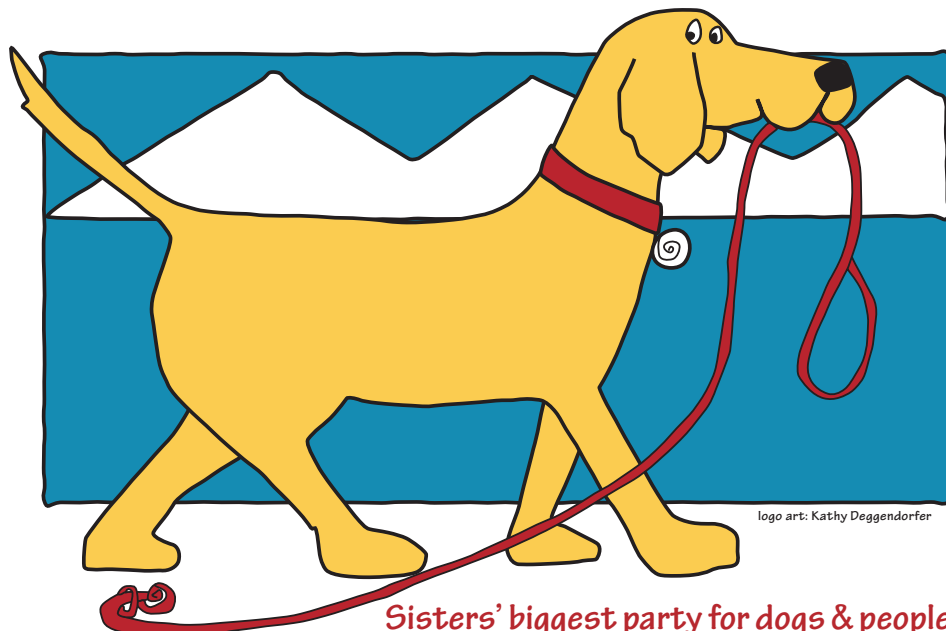
**Playing in the park...**



PHOTO BY ROGER DETWEILER

The 204th Army Band played at Fir Street Park last week. The audience enjoyed the free concert – and a moment of drama when the photographer tripped the water feature.

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logo art: Kathy Degendorfer

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