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# The Nugge

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News and Opinion

from Sisters, Oregon

# **Country Fair celebrates 20 years**

By Jodi Schneider McNamee

Correspondent

Every summer The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration hosts its traditional small-town country fair. It's a crowd favorite, and last weekend marked its 20th year. Folks from all around the region showed up for some good old-fashioned fun.

The cool sunny Saturday morning made it easy waiting at the Sweet Tooth Booth as folks lined up for a piece of Annie's delicious marionberry cobbler, while excited kids gathered around the petting zoo, where a menagerie of animals were just waiting for some attention. From horses and Holland lop bunnies to snakes and sheep, there were enough critters for everyone to pet or just get an eyeful.

Volunteer Christine Cole has been bringing her animals for five years.

"It's great fun, and everyone learns something about each animal," Cole said.

Bill and Linda Monahan have been coordinating the petting zoo for many years, and this time there were quite a few added attractions.

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Riley with Beauty the mini horse at the Country Fair Petting Zoo.

## Could an 'outsider' serve on city council?

By Jim Cornelius

News Editor

It's a question that arises frequently in Sisters: Why not open up city council eligibility to allow at least one councilor from outside the city limits?

The idea is attractive for a couple of reasons: It would allow the city to tap the talents and public-spiritedness of the multitude of capable folks who live in the country surrounding Sisters. And it would give "outsiders" - who are deeply invested in Sisters emotionally and financially a little more say in decisions that affect them.

As attractive as the idea may seem, it's not going to happen. The legal obstacles are too steep — indeed, probably insurmountable.

The charter of the City of Sisters defines who is eligible

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## City working on housing issue

By Sue Stafford Correspondent

There is no doubt that Sisters needs more "affordable" housing. Residents and potential residents are discussing the lack of it. At Sisters' recent Economic Vitality Summit the shortage of workforce housing was highlighted as one of the most pressing issues facing the City. Employers have identified affordable housing as an issue in hiring and

retaining employees.

The City of Sisters is doing considerable work behind the scenes to address the shortage. City Manager Andrew Gorayeb and Community Development Director Patrick Davenport are working with a task force of people from NeighborImpact, Habitat for Humanity, Housing Works, the low-income-housing builders community, and

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## **Keeping athletes safe on the gridiron**

By Rongi Yost

Over the last several years the safety of football has been highly scrutinized. We've all read reports of numerous former NFL players whose lives were changed by traumatic brain injuries suffered due multiple concussions. Those closely involved in the game have responded to the problems and concerns.

Those involved in the sport, and the medical field, have worked together in recent



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Learning tackling technique is key to safety. See SAFETY on page 24