

# COMMUNITY

## Wind storm closes Three Creek Road

Due to a recent wind storm, the Sisters Ranger District closed Forest Road 16 — commonly called Three Creek Road — at Upper Three Creek Sno-Park last week.

The wind storm blew down numerous trees south of the gate at the sno-park, making the area unsafe for motorized travel. This closure is gated,

and the gate will remain closed through the winter season.

The public is reminded to be cautious when driving on forest roads where recent wind events might have blown down trees. Forest Service personnel will assess clean-up needs on roads when resources become available.

## Winter sports on tap at SPRD

Snow falling in Sisters is a sure sign that winter is right around the corner. Keeping the community's youth active this winter, Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) is offering a variety of indoor and outdoor activities from the pre-K ages through high school. Snow sports, basketball, and wrestling head the leader board for SPRD's winter lineup this year.

Winter sports enthusiasts around Central Oregon typically think of snow sports during the winter, and SPRD can assuage that winter recreation craving. SPRD is partnering with Hoodoo Ski and Recreation to bring alpine skiing and snowboarding to middle school and high school kids. The snow years have been tough these last two

years, but this year storms have been lining up over the Cascades to bring in snow and Hoodoo is planning on being open for skiing this winter.

Beginning Friday nights on January 8, kids will be able to ride a bus up to Hoodoo after school. Lessons, lift tickets, rental equipment, transportation, and chaperones are all provided to students wishing to learn how to ski or snowboard. This is a legacy program that has been in Sisters for many years and has been kept alive in large part through the efforts of middle school teacher and avid skier Midge Rose. Be sure to express interest by contacting SPRD and attending the parent meeting on December 16, at 6:30 p.m.

See SPRD on page 28



PHOTO BY ERIN BORLA

Student projects help animals at Chimps, Inc.

## Students hone skills, help animals

By Erin Borla  
Correspondent

Sisters Middle School students had the opportunity to hone their engineering skills in a unique way this past month. Every fall for the past five years Carol Packard's sixth-grade science class has a chance to build an enrichment project for the animals of Chimps, Inc. to interact with.

"The biggest challenge for the student groups is to come up with something that can entertain an animal with the mind of a 4-year-old and the

strength that is eight times stronger than a grown man," says Packard. "The students first must engineer and design the project and then construct the final product."

Every fall Chimps, Inc., a Tumalo-based nonprofit sanctuary for seven chimpanzees, a Siberian lynx, and a Canadian lynx joins Packard's classroom at Sisters Middle School. Staff and volunteers discuss how their facility provides lifetime care to captive chimpanzees rescued or retired from the pet and entertainment industries.

Students learn about the chimps' likes and dislikes as well as types of enrichment projects the nonprofit can and cannot accept.

"It is a challenge to keep the chimps occupied throughout the day," says Chimps, Inc. Executive Director Marla O'Donnell. "The enrichment projects the students make are so helpful."

This year students have been extremely creative in their projects. Many have used different herbs and nuts

See CHIMPS on page 30

## SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

### BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

**Al-Anon** Monday, noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Wednesday, 6 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

**Alateen** Thursday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Thursday & Sunday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Saturday, 8 a.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Monday, 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Tuesday, noon, Big Book study, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Thursday, noon, Sober Sisters Women Meeting, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

**Authors Support Group** 2nd Friday, 10 a.m., Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. 541-588-0081.

**Black Butte Macintosh Users Group** 3rd Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-1471.

**Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., Black Butte Ranch community room. All welcome; partner required. 541-595-6236.

**Celebrate Recovery** Thursdays, 7 p.m., Westside Church-Sisters Campus. 541-389-6859.

**Central Oregon Council on Aging Senior Lunch** Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-678-5483.

**Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild** 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For location information: 541-549-2072.

**Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild** 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library. 541-639-3217.

**Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild** 1st Monday. 541-610-9022.

**East of the Cascades Quilt Guild** 4th Wednesday, September-June, Stitchin' Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.

**Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. 541-977-8285.

**Heartwarmers** (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Just bring scissors! 503-880-5832.

**Hero Quilters of Sisters** Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-548-3304.

**Military Parents of Sisters** 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-647-7483.

**Oregon Band of Brothers - Sisters Chapter** Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-408-5594.

**SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment)** Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m. at SPRD. 541-549-2091.

**Sisters Area Photography Club** 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.

**Sisters Area SketchUp Users Group** 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. 541-549-0924.

**Sisters Astronomy Club** 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.

**Sisters Bridge Club** Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.

**Sisters Cribbage Club** Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-923-1632.

**Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors** 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.

**Sisters Kiwanis** Thursdays, 7 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

**Sisters Parent Teacher Community** 3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Sisters Elementary School loft. 971-570-2405.

**Sisters Red Hats** 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

**Sisters Rotary** Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-977-6545.

**Sisters Trails Alliance Board of Directors** 2nd Wed., 5:30 to 7 p.m. The Pines Clubhouse. 541-719-8822.

**Sisters Veterans** Thursdays, noon, Takoda's Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

**Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.

**Three Sisters Lions Club** 2nd Tuesday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

**VFW 8138 & American Legion** 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Service officer available. 541-903-1123 or 541-549-1132.

### CITY & PARKS

**Sisters City Council** 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

**Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., SPRD building. 541-549-2091.

**Sisters Planning Commission** 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

### FIRE & POLICE

**Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors** Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.

**Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors** 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

**Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Main Station, George Cyrus Rd. 541-548-4815. See the agenda at [www.cloverdalefire.com](http://www.cloverdalefire.com).

**Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.

**Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills** Mondays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

### SCHOOLS

**Black Butte School Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

**Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors** 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX Revolution office at Outlaw Station. 541-549-4133.

**Sisters School District Board of Directors** One Wednesday per month, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule at [www.sisters.k12.or.us](http://www.sisters.k12.or.us). 541-549-8521 x4011.

