

COMMUNITY

City looks at cost of public events in parks

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Sisters City Council is looking at how much it actually costs the City of Sisters when events use City parks.

At last week's workshop, Council revisited the fee schedule for public events held in Sisters parks. This is a discussion that has been ongoing as part of the review of licensing for public events and transient merchants.

Council had directed staff to analyze the actual costs to the City, compared to the existing fees being charged applicants who wish to hold a

public event, to be certain the taxpayers are not underwriting the costs of those events. Staff determined that the fees were not adequately covering the costs.

There are several different expenses connected to public events held in the City. The initial expense is for staff time to process the applications and conduct any follow-up inquiries. The largest and most evident actual cost is that of the labor performed by the public works staff as they do any necessary set-up, moving of existing City materials (benches,

See **EVENTS** on page 31



PHOTO PROVIDED

Hayden Jones, Casey Meudt, and Cody Manzi with some of the bikes donated, tuned up by Blazin Saddles, and given as gifts to members of the Sisters community.

Heavy precipitation is an El Niño surprise

By Ron Thorkildson
Correspondent

This winter's much-anticipated El Niño phenomenon has not been behaving exactly as anticipated.

As fall approached, atmospheric scientists were watching developments in the tropical Pacific Ocean. A large batch of unusually warm water had materialized that stretched from the International Date Line eastward to Peru.

It was a signal that the first El Niño in six years was on its

way. And if it merged with the warm blobs of water already in place in the eastern Pacific when it arrived, some forecasters warned this El Niño might be a whopper.

El Niño is the warm phase of the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) that alters weather patterns worldwide. It tends to produce warmer and drier winters in the Pacific Northwest, cooler and wetter conditions across the southern tier of states from southern

See **EL NIÑO** on page 28

Sisters bike drive rolls to success

The bike donation drive initiated by Blazin Saddles last month has succeeded beyond the expectations of organizer Casey Meudt.

"We have had an amazing response from our community with bikes, parts and a couple very generous cash donations," Meudt reported. "Through the Sisters schools, Sisters Fire Department, Habitat and a few personal recommendations we compiled a list of 30-plus people in Sisters that we could help by giving them a bike over the holidays. We are very excited to announce that not only were we able to provide each

and every one with a nicely tuned-up bike, with whatever new parts they needed, and a bow!"

Each person also received a new Giro helmet, thanks to cash and Blazin Saddles.

"It gets better," Meudt said. "We received so many bikes, we still have more bikes to donate and have several people lined up to donate for future years. With this we hope to expand next year to Camp Sherman and [the] McKenzie River area."

Meudt credited the giving nature of the community for the success of the drive.

"We truly do live in an

amazing community here in Sisters, and without everyone coming together, we could not have made this happen," he said.

“We truly do live in an amazing community here in Sisters, and without everyone coming together, we could not have made this happen. — Casey Meudt”

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.

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. 541-549-8521 x4011.

