

C O M M U N I T Y

City council struggles with bundled ordinance

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

With a fairly lengthy agenda, the Sisters City Council meeting last Thursday stretched over three hours, due mainly to a process issue.

In an effort to save staff time and City money, the community development director presented a single ordinance to the Council, bundling together five separate development code text amendments. The single ordinance saves preparation time for the staff and requires only one public notification in *The*

Nugget rather than five. Each notification results in a cost to the City. However, it presents Council members with a great deal of preparation and study to be done in a few short days prior to the meeting.

Council easily reached agreement on several of the changes, but struggled with those regarding proposed changes to residential garage setbacks and the definition of a formula food establishment.

Following a number of previous public hearings by both the Planning Commission and City Council, it was decided

See **ORDINANCE** on page 26



A new bike park is kicking Sisters into high gear as a cycling hot spot.

Foundation explores opportunities in Sisters

By Helen Schmidling
Correspondent

Two Ford Family Foundation (FFF) representatives visited Sisters last week to as part of Ford's new initiative to "Listen and Learn" what's happening across Oregon in rural communities like ours.

Rocque (pronounced "Rocky") Barros, director of FFF, and Carrie Thompson, a member of the foundation's board of directors, met dozens of people and talked

over needs, obstacles, and opportunities for growth and development.

"We call these visits Listen to Learn visits," Barros said.

He explained the Ford Institute has adopted a community-based-change approach "that is driven by communities creating and leading the change. This visit helps us learn more about what communities are working on and what changes they would like to see."

See **FOUNDATION** on page 31

New track, coach featured in program

Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD) has a new head coach for its mountain biking program — Thomas Wilkinson.

Coach Wilkinson has been working at Sisters Step & Spine this past year as a physical therapist and is taking on a program that was highly successful in its inception last season. Last season, the program had 10 riders riding trails around the Sisters area.

Coach Wilkinson brings a plethora of experience with him to the biking program.

Wilkinson says, "Mountain biking has been a big part of my life since sixth grade, when I was first

introduced to the sport. I have been fortunate enough to ride and race my bike all over the United States, but riding in Central Oregon is some of the best trails I have ridden. I am looking forward to helping each rider progress their skills and knowledge of the sport this season!"

With the addition of the pump track at SPRD, kids enrolled in the program will enjoy a new facility to test their skills this season. The pump track, installed last fall with the help of Noble 911 and Blazin Saddles, sees frequent use by youth riders in the Sisters community. As the weather warmed and the dirt

has dried, the Pump Track has reopened for the season just in time for the start of the mountain biking program.

This season riders will take to the trails on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 4 to 5 p.m. beginning on April 5. The primary goal of the program is to give youth the confidence to pursue this lifelong sport and to have fun. Techniques that will be covered in the program are braking, cornering, descending, climbing, and pressure control.

According to Coach Wilkinson, "I have talked

See **BIKING** on page 27

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.

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., 17549 Knight Rd., Bend (Plainview area). 541-388-9013.

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 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 3rd Wednesday, 3:15 p.m., Sisters Elementary C-wing. 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 2nd Wed., 5:30 to 7 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 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.

