



PHOTO PROVIDED

The Anvil Blasters will play to benefit Circle of Friends.

The Anvil Blasters play for Circle of Friends

The Anvil Blasters will play at Hood Avenue Art on Thursday, April 21, in the second of the gallery's Salon Series of fundraising events for Circle of Friends.

The music runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the intimate gallery setting. A \$10 suggested donation will benefit Circle of Friends, Sisters' local youth mentoring program.

Circle of Friends uplifts young folks in need of a hand by providing mentors with a long-term commitment to provide positive experiences for youth in the Sisters community. Mentors meet with their child on a weekly basis, spending quality time and creating a bond to support the child moving toward success.

"This is a wonderful program that has a huge impact

locally, and we're proud to pitch in to help out," says Jim Cornelius of The Anvil Blasters. "And we're looking forward to playing in this beautiful gallery, surrounded by the work of local artists. This is the kind of event that really speaks to Sisters' character, and it's going to be a lot of fun."

The songs of The Anvil Blasters are peopled with border renegades and desert dreamers, poets and pirates and ghosts of the old, weird America. It's a rollicking recipe of gunpowder, twang and tequila that has earned The Anvil Blasters a loyal following across Central Oregon.

Hood Avenue Art gallery is located at 357 W. Hood Ave. in Sisters. Refreshments will be available.

LETTERS

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Over the past several years we have noticed many of the facilities beginning to show signs of wear-and-tear, and frankly some things cannot be overlooked any longer. Last fall, I attended the boys soccer playoff game and I have to say I was quite disappointed and a little embarrassed that our soccer field was little more than grass fields with some make-shift "bleachers" on the hill for spectating.

This year our daughter began high school track, and because our track has been "condemned" we are not allowed to have any home track meets. This is a loss to our athletes as it requires them to travel away to every single track meet, and a loss in revenue for our community when we can no longer host meets including the Rotary Invitational which brought in teams from all over, staying in our hotels and eating in our restaurants. With the passage of this bond there will be upgrades to our current track and football facility, which will allow it to accommodate soccer, lacrosse and most importantly improve accessibility.

Along with a long list of deferred maintenance projects there are two other important things that the bond will fund. First and foremost are improvements in safety and security. Unfortunately, in the world we live in today we need to have the ability to safely, quickly and effectively lock down our schools. Finally, refinancing existing debt to allow additional funds to go back into the school's base operating budget.

Please consider voting yes on Measure 9-108. Visit www.ourschoolsourcommunity.org to find complete details on what the bond will fund and how these improvements will make our schools a safer and more inviting place!

Angela & Olin Sitz



To the Editor:

I'm voting in favor of the proposed Bond Measure 9-108 and I urge everyone who values

this community to do so.

Our family moved to Sisters nine years ago specifically because of the quality of the public schools, and because of the connectedness of the community that supports it. In the wake of the past recession we have experienced even more the determination of this community to support our schools because without the ability to offer a quality education in Sisters, this community could not prosper.

Many people move here directly for the schools or because their children and/or grandchildren are here and with each move, new families means new businesses are developed, existing businesses are more prosperous and the local economy is strengthened — serving all of us.

Sisters schools are the heart of our community, directly or indirectly they unite all of us — those with children and those without — it's the nuclear foundation that generates new development, new vision, and a new economic future. Our schools provide incredible learning opportunities thru the diversity of their unique programs, but these programs cost money, and they are based on enrollment.

This District is served by dedicated staff, which is asked to make compromises and adjustments to best provide for its' students' needs and to keep enrollment viable and growing. However, without much-needed improvements we cannot be competitive with other districts when it comes to the overwhelming core issues of safety — personal safety, building safety, safety in athletic use and safe accessibility for those that need it.

Why would we ever put at risk what we treasure the most?

We live in one of the most ideal communities, but we must — as a community — support that which makes us strong, our schools.

Please help support our schools to make them a safe and productive place to teach and learn in by voting in favor of Bond Measure 9-108.

Wendy von Kalinowski

Parent, school volunteer, Sisters business owner

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