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Young Outlaw lives a football dream *page 15*



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Skydive landing zone requires permit

Skydivers in Sisters have been landing on a field on the west side of Camp Polk Road across from Sisters Eagle Airport this summer — an activity that requires a land-use permit that the City does not have in hand.

City Community Development Director Patrick Davenport sent a letter to the owner of the North Sisters Business Park (NSBP)

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Grinding it out...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Local cyclists tested themselves in a climbing event on Three Creek Road last Sunday.

Mayor to step down from post

Mayor Chris Frye and his family are moving outside the city limits, and he will therefore resign from his post next month.

In a note to city councilors, Frye wrote: "Peggy and I just purchased a house in Crossroads and will be moving at the end of the month. This obviously means I will no longer be able to serve on council. My last meeting will be the last meeting in August. It will be bittersweet."

Sisters' city charter requires that all city councilors reside within the city

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City planning staff short-handed

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The City of Sisters Community Development Department (CDD) at City Hall has been a beehive of activity this summer. CDD Director Patrick Davenport and planning technician Carol Jenkins are carrying the load without the aid of a senior planner.

Earlier this summer, planner Darcy Reed was married and moved to California to accept a job closer to family. The City has posted the vacant position in all the usual places, but the current surge in building makes it a planner's market.

"Yes, we are busy. The market for planners is very tight. As the economy grows, cities and counties hire up more staff and we are competing with the private sector as well. A few years ago, we had the opposite. It's a cycle

based on the economy," said interim City Manager Rick Allen.

Davenport added, "It's tough to compete with the bigger local governments in the region that can pay more than Sisters can."

Temporary help has come in the form of a summer intern, who Davenport said is helping with some daily tasks.

Both Davenport and Allen are asking for the public's patience as CDD staff perform their tasks with fewer employees.

"As for workload, we are getting things done and meeting our statutory timelines; however, some issues like code violations and other long-range planning projects must take a back seat," said Allen.

Those statutory timelines relate to permits and

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Enjoying the new Overlook Trail

By Craig F. Eisenbeis
Correspondent

It didn't take long for word to get out about the new accessible trail south of town on the Three Creek Road. Just a few weeks after the formal dedication of the Whychus Overlook, the new feature was already seeing new users for whom the project was intended.

John Schubert, a former Forest Service employee, was one of those involved in the planning and construction of the project; and he mentioned the new trail to his neighbor, Nancy Stevens, who is blind.

"I was so intrigued with (John Schubert's) stories of what goes into planning and developing a trail that I wanted him to share the story with others," Stevens said.

"I thought this would be really cool to bring some of us from the accessibility community to enjoy something we didn't have to go out and fight for. So, I had this idea to get some folks from the



PHOTO BY JOHN SCHUBERT

Volunteers and members of the Central Oregon Accessibility Committee enjoy an outing at the new Whychus Overlook.

Central Oregon accessibility group together; and I sent out an email and asked who wanted to do this."

As it turned out, she had several replies; and it was also a perfect opportunity for the group to use the brand-new accessible bus purchased through a grant from Oregon Adaptive Sports.

"So, for one of its first outings we had 11 people on the bus, three in wheelchairs, four of us who are blind, and four

volunteers." Schubert, of course, was among those volunteers; and he served as a nature interpreter and guide for the group.

"It was very gratifying to see the visitors enjoy and appreciate all the work that went into the trail," he said. "They seemed eager to bring others to the trail."

"It was wonderful to enjoy a trail that is accessible," said

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