

**SHOOTERS:** Pit is close to a trail and to Crossroads

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Trail is only 168 yards from the pit. Bullets, of course, can travel for miles; and, without adequate backstop, they could do just that.

As a result, the Forest Service has closed the area to shooting. Signage posted at the site also points out other safer gravel pits in the area that are not closed. These include Zimmerman Cinder Pit, Fourmile Cinder Pit, Melvin Cinder Pit and Pole Creek Cinder Pit.

The Jimerson Trail is a relatively recent addition to the Sisters recreation scene. It was created in 2012 by combining old roads with single-track segments carved out by members of the Sisters Trails Alliance and members of Oregon Equestrian Trails. The trail is used by equestrians, cyclists, and hikers and was named for trail volunteers Don and Gerry Jimerson, Sisters-area equestrians who devoted many years to maintaining the Sisters Cow Camp and miles of local trails.

While safety to trail users and local residents is the biggest concern, noise affecting the Crossroads community and garbage accumulation

at the McKenzie Gravel Pit have also become issues in need of action, the Forest Service reports.

In addition to directing target shooters to safer sites, the Forest Service wants to emphasize how to become a responsible shooter by stressing some general guidelines that always apply to the sport:

- Know your target and what is beyond: Be absolutely sure you have identified your target beyond any doubt. Equally important, be aware of the area beyond your target. This means observing your prospective area of fire before you shoot. Never fire in a direction where there are people or any other potential for mishap. Think first, shoot second.

- Only shoot where there is a good backstop.

- Do not shoot across roads or trails.

- Pack out all trash, including shotgun shells, fragmented clay pigeons, and targets. These gravel pits are used for material on our roadways!

The Forest Service is hopeful that shooters will act responsibly to minimize conflict and danger to others. The agency would prefer that resolution of these issues come from public education and voluntary compliance rather than direct enforcement action.

**Sheriff's lieutenant placed on leave**

Deschutes county Sheriff's Office Lt. Robert Trono was placed on paid administrative leave on September 2, in connection with allegations of violating sheriff's office policies.

According to a sheriff's office press release, Lt. Trono was placed on leave after new information came to the attention of command staff from an investigation in June.

"Our office will review this through an administrative investigation," Sheriff Shane Nelson stated.

The sheriff noted that he is limited in what he will share as the investigation is ongoing.

"I originally became aware of alleged policy violations by Lt. Trono on June 3, 2016, when our office was notified by ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms) that they wanted to conduct an inquiry into an employee regarding potential violations of whether he needed to obtain a federal firearms license to build a firearm for a co-worker while off duty. We were informed that they received an anonymous complaint, as well as a named complaint in April 2016. On June 8, 2016, ATF came to our office and completed the

inquiry on Lt. Robert Trono and advised our office that this was 'not a prosecutable violation.' ATF did not open a case on this and will not be looking into this incident any further."

Nelson is running for the office to which he was appointed after the retirement of Larry Blanton. Since his tenure began, the office has seen several resignations and the criminal prosecution of Captain Scott Brown.

"As I have said in the past, as your sheriff, if there is an issue within this organization, I will take care of business and do the right thing," Nelson said. "We have faced challenging issues and, in response, we have added layers of oversight to help us identify, investigate and address issues within the sheriff's office."

**Agenda**

City Hall  
520 E. Cascade Ave.  
Thursday, September 15,  
5:30 p.m.

A. File SUB 16-02 and SP 16-07: Request for approval of a preliminary subdivision plat and site plan to develop an 11-lot subdivision to further enable the construction of 10 detached lodging units. The land-use application site is located at 704 W. Hood Ave. proposed by applicant and owner Steven and Terry McGhehey.

B. File # VR 16-02: Type III Review Process and Public Hearing on possible revocation of approved vacation rental permit. The subject property is located at 171 N. Maple Ln.

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