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# The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

Vol. XXXIX No. 44

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

## Bottle causes bomb scare

A bottle wrapped in black duct tape, left behind by 12-year-olds "bottle-flipping" at Fir Street Park, led to a call-out of the Oregon State Police Bomb Squad on Friday, October 28.

According to the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, at about 8:43 a.m., a City of Sisters employee noticed a suspicious item at the Fir Street Park and called 911. Deputies from the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office arrived, located the item, and cordoned off the area with the assistance of Black Butte Ranch Police officers and Sisters Public Works employees.

After the deputies on scene consulted with the Oregon

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## Trick or treat!



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Children in Sisters put on their Halloween costumes and toured downtown businesses in the annual Sisters Rotary-sponsored Halloween Parade. Reports indicate that the trick-or-treating was good.

## Hemp harvest underway east of Sisters

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

The folks who are waiting for the noise to die down from the agricultural fans fighting off frost on 30 acres of industrial hemp east of Sisters will have to wait a bit for quiet nights.

Matt Cyrus told *The Nugget* last week that the harvest on a couple of parcels in the Cloverdale Road area will wrap up "in a week or two."

"This stuff is all one plant at a time," he said. "It's all hand-harvesting."

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## Candidate pushes back on residency questions

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Richard Esterman asserts that he is, in fact, a resident of the City of Sisters, and a qualified candidate for Sisters City Council.

Esterman is one of three candidates for three open council seats on the November ballot. The others are Chuck Ryan and Andrea Blum. A fourth candidate, Kathryn Lindbloom, has been conducting a write-in campaign.

Sisters City Attorney Jeremy Green called Esterman's residency into question last week in a letter citing minimal water use and lack of garbage service at Esterman's declared

residence at 153 N. Oak St. as items of concern. Queries have come in to the City regarding Esterman's residence within the city limits; the candidate has owned a residence in Tollgate for many years.

Esterman put the Tollgate house on the market in September and says that he has been using it as an office.

"City is concerned that your actual place of residence is in Tollgate," Green wrote.

In a letter to Green (provided to *The Nugget* by Esterman's attorney), Esterman asserts, "I do reside at 153 North Oak Street. I attach a copy of the Oak Street lease I signed in

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## Residents honored for land trust work

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

The Deschutes Land Trust presented three Central Oregonians with Volunteers of the Year Awards at DLT's annual Open House on October 27. Stella Dean, Kris Kristovich, and Daniele McKay were honored for their dedication to conserving land in Central Oregon.

Stella Dean told *The Nugget* that she started going on DLT's guided hikes when she and her husband moved here a couple of years ago after 40 years in Eugene.

"I attended so many of them they decided they might as well put me to work," she said.

That work, known as "shepherding," involves keeping the group together and on track on DLT's



PHOTO BY KRIS KRISTOVICH

Deschutes Land Trust volunteer Kris Kristovich surveys and photographs birds like this red-winged blackbird, at Camp Polk Preserve.

interpretive hikes, where guides explain the natural and human history of the area. It's only a part of what Dean does, however.

DLT noted that Dean "has been a member of the Land

Trust since 2014 and has volunteered for just about every project the Land Trust has offered. From office and stewardship work, to events,

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