

FAMILIES: It can be a struggle to afford to live here

Continued from page 1

provides for kids is amazing,” she said. “I feel blessed that my kids get to live in Sisters and attend one of the best school districts in Central Oregon. My husband and I were paying for private school in California because the public system wasn’t good. I love the elementary school. The faculty is great, the programs are great and the class sizes are small (which is something every parent dreams of)! ”

Brang and her family were fortunate to find a home that worked for their family in town.

Mallory Corcoran and her husband, Chris, moved last year to a rental in Sisters from Bend with their three kids, ages 7, 5, and 1. Chris has worked with Jeff Wester at Ponderosa Forge for the last 10 years, and they finally had the opportunity to move in July 2016.

“When we had the opportunity to move our family we were excited to finally have us all in one place,” says Corcoran. “We’ve talked about a move to Sisters for years, we love the small-town feel — living in Bend most of our lives, it’s just not the same any more.”

Other families are having a difficult time finding work and housing. Another family moved to town this past spring. The mother, who wishes to remain anonymous, along with her husband, their two children ages 5 and 7 and their dog have been living in a four-person tent in the National Forest for the past several months.

“We moved from Florida last April when my husband

lost his job,” she said. “We started in Bend, but there were so many people it reminded us of where we were. Someone told us about Sisters, and we came here and never left.”

Working through the Family Access Network and NeighborImpact, they are currently looking for a place to stay at least through the winter to get out of the elements. Median rent in Sisters, according to the real estate website Trulia, is close to \$1,500 a month.

“We can afford about \$500 a month in rent, but it’s hard to find a place for that amount,” the woman said. “NeighborImpact has a program but we aren’t sure how much they’ll be able to support us — and the program is for a year; we’re fine camping in the summer. We just need to get out of the elements now.”

“We don’t want to move. We fell in love with Sisters,” she said. “It’s a great community — everyone is so nice and helpful.”

Clare and Andy Neito moved from Black Forest, Colorado, in October of 2015. With two small kids in elementary school, they had driven through Sisters and fell in love. Andy works from home in the tech industry and travels on occasion.

“We looked in Corvallis, Washington state, Salem and Eugene where you can get a lot more house for your money,” said Clare. “Honestly, the deal-breaker for us was the schools. I did a ton of research and Sisters came to the top in all my lists.”

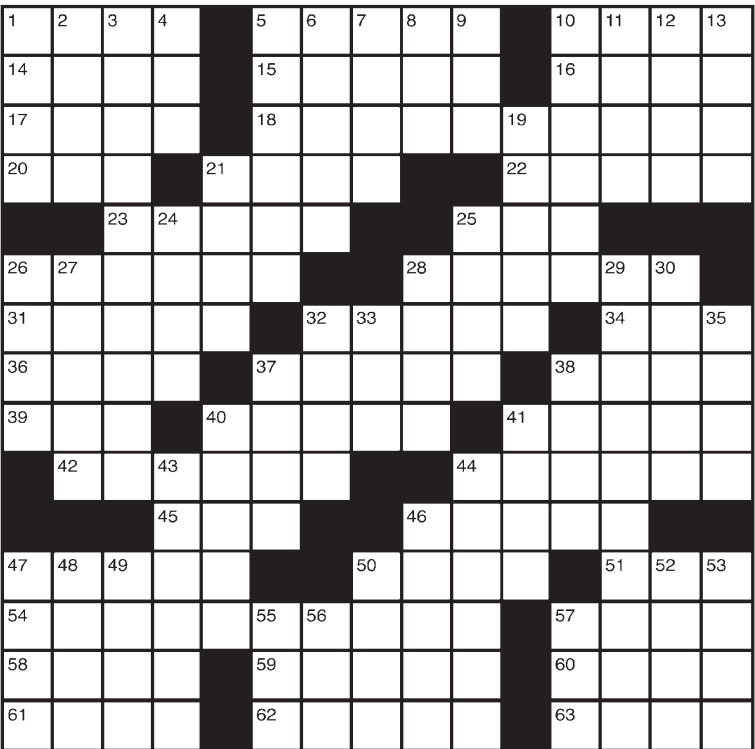
Andy spent much of his life in the military; because of that his family has moved quite a bit.

“I’m a mover,” said Clare. “I don’t ever want to move from Sisters; I love it here.”

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 ___ to; increases
 - 5 ___ crow flies; in a straight line
 - 10 Baby’s first word, perhaps
 - 14 Swerve
 - 15 Sand ridge under the water
 - 16 Takes advantage of
 - 17 Misfortunes
 - 18 Sewer alternative
 - 20 Pass away
 - 21 Actor’s signals
 - 22 ___ over; delivers
 - 23 Vise
 - 25 Relatives
 - 26 Get older
 - 28 Fireplace shelf
 - 31 Proverb
 - 32 Greek letter
 - 34 Corn on the ___
 - 36 Inner ___; pool toy
 - 37 Moby-Dick, e.g.
 - 38 ___ Scotia
 - 39 Building annex
 - 40 Bosom
 - 41 Window pieces
 - 42 Giggler’s noise
 - 44 Zsa Zsa & Eva
 - 45 Dyer’s tub
 - 46 Reflective crystal
 - 47 Iron alloy
 - 50 Frog’s cousin
 - 51 Like frozen winter roads
 - 54 Folks who play practical jokes
 - 57 Prolonged pain
 - 58 Smallest continent: abbr.
 - 59 Years
 - 60 Downtown street name
 - 61 New York team
 - 62 Nervous
 - 63 “Heidi” setting
- DOWN**
- 1 Gung ho
 - 2 Sandwich shop
 - 3 Yummy
 - 4 Those about to graduate: abbr.
 - 5 Take for granted
 - 6 Flock members
 - 7 Lids
 - 8 Sombrero
 - 9 Actor Wallach
 - 10 “Teenage ___ Ninja Turtles”
 - 11 As wise ___ owl
 - 12 Repair
 - 13 Invites
 - 19 Fine dishes
 - 21 Give a hoot
 - 24 Racing sled
 - 25 Ms. Mulgrew
 - 26 Spouse
 - 27 Grown-up
 - 28 Dissolve
 - 29 Cost-effective
 - 30 Sweetheart
 - 32 “Nearer, My God, to ___”
 - 33 “Elvis ___ left the building”
 - 35 Lowest male singing voice
 - 37 Sharpen



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/9/16

— Last Week’s Puzzle Solved —



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- 38 Captures
- 40 Hopscotch grid
- 41 ___ in full; no longer owing
- 43 Big ___; happy occasions
- 44 Like a meadow
- 46 Skin openings
- 47 Inbox junk mail
- 48 Accurate
- 49 Vane direction
- 50 Camp shelter
- 52 Poker token
- 53 Strong urges
- 55 Jacuzzi
- 56 Cheap metal
- 57 Doctors’ org.

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6,000 students statewide use Oregon Promise grants

PORTLAND (AP) — Thousands of Oregon students are taking advantage of a new state grant that waives community college tuition for low-income students.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports that according to preliminary enrollment figures from state education officials, about 6,000 students statewide are taking community college classes through Oregon Promise.

Officials say that figure is about what was expected for the first-year program.

The Oregon Promise program subsidizes community college tuition for students who graduated from an Oregon high school in the spring or summer with at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA, or have completed their GED this year.

The largest number of Oregon Promise students attend Portland Community College, the state’s largest post-secondary institution. Chemeketa Community College in Salem had the second most enrollees.

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