

WEATHER: December outlook is pretty wet and chilly

Continued from page 1

degrees. Precipitation totaled 0.29 inches during November, which was 1.57 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation — at least .01 inch — was received on five days with the heaviest, 0.20 inches reported, on the November 15.

Precipitation this year has reached 7.87 inches, which is 3.69 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Sisters has been 2.51 inches, which is 0.40 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 47 mph, which occurred on November 27.

The outlook for December from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for near-to-below-normal temperatures and near-to-above-normal precipitation. Normal highs for Sisters fall from 41.0 degrees at the start of December to 39.0 degrees at the end of December. Normal lows fall from 23.0 degrees to 22.0 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 1.97 inches.

This was the third warmest November on record. The warmest was 42.0 degrees in 1999.

SHELTER: Variety of volunteers and services needed

Continued from page 3

is serving as the group's secretary.

If you are interested in helping out with logistics or materials, or are drawn to actually staffing the shelter with other volunteers, there will be a training on Monday, December 12, 4 to 6 p.m. at Westside Church, 442 Trinity Way in Sisters. Staff from The Shepherd's House in Bend will be conducting the training. It is estimated there will be a need for four overnight volunteers each night the shelter is open.

Earlier this fall there was concern for the families with children who were forced to camp in the woods due to

lack of housing. The Family Action Network has been successful in finding lodging for all of the families.

For January, the focus will be on a number of homeless men camping or living in vehicles in and around Sisters. Some of these men may have addiction or mental health issues and some are simply down on their luck.

Westside Church is hoping to be able to provide the space and coordination to set up the shelter. They hope to start the shelter and run it through the month of January. In February, after all the kinks are hopefully worked out, it is hoped that another church or community space will be willing to host the shelter. The hope is that all churches in town will join the effort in some way.

In Redmond, there is a successful shelter program like the one proposed for

Sisters. In that program, four churches each host the shelter for one month every winter.

Target date for opening the shelter is January 1, 2017. There is a need for shelter volunteers who will be welcoming to those coming through the door and of assistance as needed through the night. Also needed are people to make and pour coffee, help provide breakfast, and setup and cleanup. Background checks will be conducted on volunteers.

The group is looking for a place or people willing to take in animals belonging to those who come to the shelter for the night.

Kaping is beginning to gather supplies needed for the shelter, and she has a list of needed items. If you are interested in donating, she can be contacted at loiskaping@bendbroadband.com.

Jen Binks is working on materials to advertise the shelter, including a call-in number that people seeking shelter can call. She has also established a Facebook page for the shelter. On Facebook just type "Sisters Cold Weather Shelter" in the search box.

Items yet to be addressed include solutions for storing personal items (storage units, lockers, etc.), identifying other needs that the homeless population may have (clothes, showers), possible fundraising ventures, and deciding whether Sisters will participate in the Point in Time homeless count in January.

"All the people involved so far have their hearts in the right place," said Pastor Gregg. "Currently I am the only clergy in the group, but many of the churches have laity involved."

TIME TO PUT ON WINTER TIRES
 Call and make your appointment now for **NO-WAIT SERVICE**
DAVIS TIRE 541-549-1026
Saving Sisters Since 1962
 188 W. Sisters Park Dr. In Sisters Industrial Park across from SnoCap Mini Storage

Our agents are ready to meet your insurance needs
As life changes, so should your policy
 Call or come in today for a *free Farmers Friendly Review*
FARMERS INSURANCE 541-588-6245 • 257 S. Pine St., #101
www.farmersagent.com/jrybka
 AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS

Raise a Paw for Furry Friends!

Holiday Pet Food Drive



Furry Friends Foundation, 501(c)(3), needs your support to feed Sisters-area pets this holiday! Please consider a donation of dry pet-food (dog or cat). We especially need cat food this year. Cash donations welcome! The pet-food is distributed in conjunction with the Sisters Kiwanis and Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD's Spirit of Giving programs to help Sisters-area families.

Drop off your donation at The Nugget Newspaper, 442 E. Main Ave. or mail a check to Furry Friends Foundation P.O. Box 698, Sisters, OR 97759 **DONATE ONLINE at FurryFriendsFoundation.org**

