

C O M M U N I T Y

Danger: Thin ice and hypothermia

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Footprints in the snow were spotted crossing Whychus Creek near Creekside Park last Sunday.

As tempting as it is to venture out on frozen water when it's this cold, doing so can invite disaster. Parents should remind children of the dangers of venturing out on frozen water — and keep your pets off as well.

With all the freezing temperatures of late, there's likely to be bodies of water

in Sisters Country that appear to be frozen — ponds, lakes, pools, creeks, and rivers. Just because something looks frozen doesn't mean it's safe to walk upon. It likely won't support your weight regardless of how thick it looks. The farther from shore you are, the thinner the ice.

If it breaks and a human or animal falls through the ice, hypothermia sets in very rapidly. Hypothermia can also result from prolonged exposure to cold temperatures like

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PHOTO PROVIDED

STA volunteers Michael Grant, Mark Thompson, and Kris Calvin show off the snowplow "Big Red." The STA is seeking donations in exchange for free snowplow services.

Many hands have made Sisters shelter a reality

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

What began as several conversations last fall between Sisters residents concerned about the apparent growth of homelessness and lack of affordable housing in our community has materialized into a full-blown warming shelter that opened its doors on January 1, 2017 and has been open every night since.

"I don't think I realized just what this whole thing would become! I am so grateful we all pulled together to make it a reality! What a

dream come true!" said Jen Binks, one of the early organizers who serves as the volunteer coordinator at Habitat for Humanity.

Five Sisters residents provided the original spark that quickly grew into the actual shelter.

On their own, Binks and child and family advocate Betty Shuler had been actively helping the homeless, bringing them water, food, and supplies. Binks had been involved with local clothing and food drives for

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STA invites Sisters to 'Get Plowed'

By Craig F. Eisenbeis
Correspondent

Volunteers with the Sisters Trails Alliance (STA) have spent the past few weeks "Getting Plowed." Yes, it's true; and they are inviting others to "Get Plowed," too! For some time now, members of this community-centered organization have been volunteering their time — and a great big red snowplow — to help plow out people stranded by the huge dump of snow that has arrived in Sisters Country.

Kris Calvin, together with Michael Grant, Jardon Weems, and Mark Thompson, has spent many hours donating time to the community

by clearing snow from local neighborhoods. They have not been charging for their services; instead they have only asked for donations to STA.

Calvin found unique motivation to lead the volunteer effort. "I was highly motivated to do this after recently reading flagrantly false statements about STA in the letters to the editor, and other letters to former commissioner Unger," he said. "When I read such negative comments about an organization that is — in fact — a community gem, I get riled up to take actions to counter such hostile perceptions."

Plus he seems to be having a good time doing it! "It

can also be one heck of a lot of fun to push mountains of snow around in a big truck with a one-ton block of concrete in the bed for traction — just like we used to imagine ourselves doing as kids with our sandbox toys."

STA's "plow boys" have had so many calls that they can no longer respond to individual requests. Instead, they are now targeting pre-organized clusters of plowing jobs. Neighborhood groups that want to "get plowed" are invited to organize and contact STA through a single spokesperson for their area. STA requests at least four — and hopefully

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SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

- Al-Anon** Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Wed., 6 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.
- Alateen** Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.
- Alcoholics Anonymous** Thurs. & Sun., 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Sat., 8 a.m., Episcopal Church / Mon., 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Big Book study, Tues., noon, Shepherd of the Hills / Gentlemen's meeting, Wed., 7 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills / Sober Sisters Women's meeting, Thurs., noon, Shepherd of the Hills / Step & Tradition meeting, Fri., noon, Shepherd of the Hills. 541-548-0440.
- Authors Support Group** 2nd Friday, 10 a.m., Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. 541-588-0081.
- Black Butte Macintosh Users Group** 3rd Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-1471.
- Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.
- Central Oregon Council on Aging Senior Lunch** Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-678-5483.

- Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild** 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For location information: 541-549-2072.
- Central OR Spinners and Weavers Guild** 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library (Jan.-Oct.). 541-639-3217.
- Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild** 2nd Tuesday. 541-639-6216.
- East of the Cascades Quilt Guild** 4th Wednesday (September-June), Stitchin' Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.
- Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. 541-977-8285.
- Heartwarmers** (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.
- Hero Quilters of Sisters** Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-548-3304.
- Military Parents of Sisters** 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., 17549 Knight Rd., Bend (Plainview area). 541-388-9013.
- Oregon Band of Brothers — Sisters Chapter** Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-549-5594.
- SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment)** Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m. at SPRD. 541-549-2091.
- Sisters Area Photography Club** 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.

- Sisters Area SketchUp Users Group** 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. 541-549-0924.
- Sisters Astronomy Club** 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.
- Sisters Bridge Club** Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.
- Sisters Caregiver Support Group** 3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-771-3258.
- Sisters Cribbage Club** Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-923-1632.
- Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors** 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.
- Sisters Kiwanis** Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.
- Sisters Parent Teacher Community** 3rd Wednesday, 3 p.m., Sisters Elementary C-wing. 971-570-2405.
- Sisters Red Hats** 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.
- Sisters Rotary** Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-977-6545.
- Sisters Trails Alliance Board** 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 541-719-8822.

- Sisters Veterans** Thursdays, noon, Takoda's Restaurant. 541-903-1123.
- Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.
- Three Sisters Lions Club** 1st Thursday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.
- VFW 8138 & American Legion** 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-903-1123 or 541-549-1132.

CITY & PARKS

- Sisters City Council** 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.
- Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., SPRD building. 541-549-2091.
- Sisters Planning Commission** 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

- Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors** Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.
- Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors** 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

- Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Main Station, George Cyrus Rd. 541-548-4815. See the agenda at www.cloverdalefire.com.
- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.
- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills** Mondays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

SCHOOLS

- Black Butte School Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 0 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.
- Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors** 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX Out West Realty office at Outlaw Station. 541-549-4133.
- Sisters School District Board of Directors** One Wednesday per month, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule at www.sisters.k12.or.us. 541-549-8521 x4011.

