



# The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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## Winter hits homes and businesses hard

By Steve Kadel  
Correspondent

Schools aren't alone in suffering harsh conditions this winter.

Homes and businesses throughout Sisters Country have experienced broken water pipes as temperatures plunged, according to Roxanne Grier, office manager for Sweeney Plumbing.

"That's all we've been doing for the past week," she said — thawing and repairing frozen pipes. "Exterior walls are usually the most vulnerable. We'll see another round of this when the part-time

See WINTER on page 15

A snow-covered village at sunrise...



PHOTO BY PETE RATHBUN

Sisters has lived under a blanket of heavy snow for several weeks now. The snow has put a chill on some businesses and stress on roofs and temperaments in Sisters Country, but all of us take a moment now and then to take in the chilly beauty winter creates.

## After the big snow, worries about flooding

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

With warmer temperatures and rain forecast for mid-week, the latest concern here in Sisters is for the water level and speed of Whychus Creek, which comes out of the Three Sisters and runs right through town, past many houses along its banks.

The City of Sisters Public Works Department is prepared for potential problems that could arise. Any citizens concerned about possible flooding

See FLOODING on page 24

## Hearing set on Sisters airport listing

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

The Oregon Department of Aviation will hold a public hearing regarding Sisters Eagle Airport's request to be added to the State of Oregon's listing of significant airports on Wednesday, February 8, at 6 p.m. in the Sisters High School Lecture Room. Sisters High School is located at 1700 McKinney Butte Rd.

ODA will add an airport to the State's Aviation Plan, Appendix M, Privately Owned Public-Use Airports if it meets the criteria described in the statute ORS 836.610(1b):

1. Provides important links in air traffic in the state;

- 2. Provides essential safety or emergency services; or
- 3. Are of economic importance to the county where the airport is located.

The airport apparently qualified for such listing years ago, but the original owners did not complete the process for listing.

The potential listing was an issue of interest to many in the community in large part due to questions as to whether the boundary of Sisters Eagle Airport could be expanded as part of the listing process. That question has already been put to rest.

Last month, the ODA, acting on an opinion from the Oregon Department of

See AIRPORT on page 26

## Chuck Ryan named Sisters Mayor

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

Chuck Ryan has been selected by his fellow councilors to serve as mayor of the City of Sisters.

By charter, voters don't vote directly for their mayor; he or she is elected by councilors to preside over meetings and to act as the direct liaison between the Council and city manager and to represent the City in ceremonial duties.

Three citizens were installed as members of the new Council at the first City Council meeting of 2017. Andrea Blum and Ryan will each serve four-year terms and Richard Esterman two years, based on the number of votes each received in the November election. Ryan will serve as mayor for the



PHOTO BY SUE STAFFORD

Andrea Blum, Richard Esterman, and Chuck Ryan were sworn in as city councilors last week.

next two years and Nancy Connolly will continue as Council President.

Council has decided to change the day and time of their meeting to the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month starting in March. Workshops will take place at 5:30 p.m. and Council meetings at 6:30 p.m. A resolution

formalizing the changes will be presented in February.

Councilors have accepted their appointments as representatives of Sisters on a variety of Central Oregon intergovernmental committees. Ryan will serve on the Central Oregon

See MAYOR on page 24

## Inside...

Letters/Weather .....	2	Fit for Sisters .....	10	Announcements .....	12	At Your Service .....	16-17	Classifieds .....	27-29
Meetings .....	3	Sisters Salutes .....	11	Movies & Entertainment .....	13	Crossword .....	26	Real Estate .....	29-32