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School district continues to struggle with enrollment

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Sisters schools continue to struggle to build enrollment numbers — the most critical element affecting school funding.

As of April 10, enrollment across Sisters' three schools stood at 1,077.5 students. While that's up from the start of the school year (1,056), it's down by 41 students from the end of the 2015-16 school year, and 31.5 students off of the district's projections.

Since schools are funded on a weighted calculation

See ENROLLMENT on page 30

Raising walls...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

The Sisters High School construction class under the leadership of Tony Cosby has made a tradition of framing walls for Habitat for Humanity homes in Sisters. They raised the walls on a home last week (see story, page 3).

ODA reaffirms airport listing

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

The Oregon Department of Aviation on April 20 reaffirmed its March 7 decision to add Sisters Eagle Airport to Oregon's list of airports of state concern. The department had unwound the initial approval after discovering a substantial amount of written testimony had been left out of the record.

Listing in Appendix M, Exhibit 2, as a privately owned, public-use airport of State concern is based on a narrow set of criteria: Whether the airport provides important links in air traffic; provides essential safety or emergency services; and/or is of economic importance to the county where the airport is located.

See LISTING on page 30

Sheriff's office issues warning to dog owner

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office issued a warning to the owner of a dog that was involved in an incident that injured a Sisters woman on April 12.

The sheriff's office reported being contacted by a witness to the dog incident on Tye Dr. in Sisters. The sheriff's office contacted the witness and the woman who was identified as the owner of the three-year-old Labrador/Boxer dog.

Based on their statements it was determined the woman was visiting a residence on Tye Dr. She was getting ready to leave with the dog.

The homeowner was unaware the dog was not on a leash and opened the garage door. The dog then ran out into the road where Jodi Schneider McNamee was walking her dogs.

Schneider McNamee was knocked down in the encounter and suffered serious injuries to her leg, which required surgery to correct.

After discussing the incident with Schneider McNamee, the sheriff's office determined that the dog owner would not be issued a citation for the incident. She was given a written warning for animal nuisance.

Fire captain on other end of rescue

Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Captain Thornton Brown is used to helping others. Recently, he was on the other end of the equation as he was injured in a 40-foot fall and had to be pulled out of a deep California canyon by a rescue helicopter.

Three members of the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District — Captain Thornton Brown, Captain Jeff Liming, and Fire Medic Matt Millar — embarked on a technical canyoneering descent in Hades Canyon in Death Valley.

This is said to be perhaps the toughest adventure hike in Death Valley and one which is only for the most



PHOTO PROVIDED

Captain Thornton Brown, Fire Medic Matt Millar, and Captain Jeff Liming applied their professional knowledge when Brown was injured in a fall.

experienced and fit canyoneer. The trip was the second adventure the three firefighters had taken to the area.

Last year they successfully descended Bad Canyon.

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