

Schools take on human trafficking

Human trafficking — defined as illegally transporting people from one country or area to another for the purposes of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation — operates under the radar of most of society.

Sisters School District hopes to raise awareness of the scourge of human trafficking with a presentation by Nita Belles on Wednesday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sisters High School Auditorium. Belles is an author and speaker who has presented to community groups, government and faith-based groups nationwide. She details the nature of human trafficking, while inspiring others to find ways to help fight against it. From many years experience in anti-domestic-violence work, she brings a deep understanding of both victims and perpetrators.

She is the founder of the advocacy group In Our Back Yard and is the author of a book by the same title.

“Human trafficking has become a huge business and is incredibly prevalent across our state,” said Mark Stewart, director of special programs and student services for SSD. “The Sisters community can be sheltered at times and not realize what is going on around it. This is great if Sisters is the only place you are going to live, but understanding that there are people out there that do not have your best interests in mind is important, especially for young girls, who are typically the target for trafficking.”

Belles will discuss the nature of human trafficking; how traffickers operate; the victims’ mind-set; links between pornography and sex-trafficking and more, along with discussing how individuals can help combat trafficking.

For more information visit www.inourbackyard.org or contact the Sisters School District at 541-549-8521.

**Bike Sales,
Rental, Repair**
30+ Craft Beers
- FOOD CARTS -



EUROSPORTS
Open 7 days a week
Corner of Hood & Fir Sisters
541-549-2471

New spa takes care of Sisters’ nails

By **Bethany Freudenthal**
Correspondent

Residents of Sisters who historically have travelled to Bend or Redmond for manicures and pedicures now have premiere services available closer to home, with the opening of Sisters Nails & Spa located in the Three Wind Shopping Center adjacent to Bi-Mart.

With the salon’s official grand opening on Tuesday, April 25, customers were delighted to participate in a relaxing afternoon filled with music, wine, and great service.

One customer, Kirsten Ward, said her experience was amazing.

“I’ve been waiting for this. I work at Bi-Mart so every day waiting to see if they were open,” she said.

Owning and operating nail salons for the past 15 years in Bend, Kevin Nguyen said he wanted to bring something local to those who live in Sisters, so he sold his business and began construction on his new store that offers something different to customers in Sisters.

“Because I know in the Sisters they have the nail salon in Sisters, but they don’t have the kind of spa chair,” said Nguyen, “We heard about that. That’s why we come to here and open a nail salon so the customer can enjoy.”

After selling his business in Bend, Nguyen said it took four months to finish building

his new business because he wanted to ensure a clean, relaxing, and beautiful experience for his customers.

“Everything is brand-new; we want for the customer when they come to my business they feel more fresh air, they feel more comfortable, more relaxing. We take a long time decorating and we do a lot,” Nguyen said.

The spa currently offers several different treatments — from the basic pedicure to the VIP pedicure, with options in-between. In the future, Nguyen said they plan on expanding services, depending on the demand.

The basic pedicure includes cutting and reshaping the toenail, cleaning the cuticle, buffing, an oil and massage and color, all for a minimal price.

On Tuesday, Nguyen said his customers were happy with his new spa because of the spa chairs and price-point for services.

Relaxing with a glass of red wine, Susie Harms, who lives just outside of Sisters, said she’s been waiting to get into one of the salon’s spa chairs.

“This is the only way to get a pedicure,” she said. “All I can tell my friends is, ‘I’m going to get my feet done. Yahoo, Sisters!’”

For those who frequent the new business, Nguyen said there’s a reward card they can sign up for. “They spend any dollar for one point and when



PHOTO BY BETHANY FREUDENTHAL

Kevin Nguyen at work in his new spa in Sisters.

they get 250 points and then they have \$10 off on that,” he said.

Kim Leese of Sisters said her experience at the salon was wonderful, fun, and relaxing and she will definitely be returning.

“It’s very upscale,” she said, “the atmosphere is very upscale. The girls are very nice. Very sweet.”

Nguyen said he was very happy that he made the decision to open a new business in Sisters.

“I can say very happy when we come to Sisters all the customers in here very nice and very beautiful too, very beautiful, Sisters,” he said.

The spa is currently open six days a week, Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. with the possibility of being open seven days per week in the future depending on demand.

Appointments are not required, but appreciated for groups at 541-904-0979. Payment is by cash only.

*Great hair
doesn't happen
by chance.
It happens
by appointment.*

R
Salon Renaissance
Tim & Ronnica Westcott
Jenny Duey
541-588-6611
220 W. Cascade Ave.
Come in, Relax, Enjoy!



BEAT THE HEAT!
*Make this the year you
install an energy efficient
AC unit or heat pump.*
Call us today!

CCB# 14008

541.549.1605
www.ponderosaheating.com
PONDEROSA
HEATING & COOLING

Grand Opening!



Sisters Nails & Spa
The Royal Experience

PEDICURES • MANICURES • WAXING • FOOT MASSAGE • SHELLAC
541-904-0979 | Next to Bi-Mart | Open Mon.-Sat., 10 am. to 6 p.m.