

HousingWorks delivers report to city council

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

HousingWorks, the Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority, is celebrating “40 years of fostering dignity through housing.” Executive Director Tom Kemper presented the HousingWorks annual report to the Sisters City Council at their May 10 workshop.

Kemper reported that HousingWorks currently has 100 housing units (apartments, multi- and single-family) under construction throughout Central Oregon. In January/February 2018, construction will begin on 48 affordable apartment units in Sisters consisting of 32 one-bedroom, eight two-bedroom, and eight three-bedroom units.

Of 949 total Sisters households identified in the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimate, three percent have a household income under \$10,000 a year, 26 percent earn \$10,000 to \$25,000, 21 percent have \$25,000 to \$50,000, 34 percent earn \$50,000 to \$100,000 and 16 percent have a household income more than \$100,000.

Median Family Income (MFI) for a family of four in Deschutes County is \$63,800. To qualify to live in one of the new apartments slated to open in Spring 2018 or the current Tamarack Village apartments, a household of four would have an income of 60 percent of the MRI, or \$38,280.

An affordable rent is considered to be 30% of income. Working at minimum wage of \$9.25 (\$19,240/year) a household could afford \$481

a month in rent. Twenty-nine percent of Sisters households make less than \$25,000 a year, according to the American Community survey. Rent burden is when over 30 percent of income is spent on housing costs. Extreme rent burden is over 50 percent. In Sisters, 49 percent of households are rent burdened or extreme rent burdened.

There are currently 488 renter-occupied housing units in Sisters with 268 one-unit detached, 43 accessory dwelling units, 73 two-to-four unit structures, 46 five-to-nine units, and 51 mobile homes. The 48 new apartment units will provide a welcome addition to the housing market in Sisters.

In Sisters, there are a total of 18 Housing Choice vouchers that serve 34 people. Seventy-two percent of all voucher holders are elderly and/or disabled. The average household size is 1.9. These vouchers help pay monthly housing costs. The average annual income of voucher households is \$13,744. The housing assistance payment is \$492 a month and the tenant portion is \$250. HousingWorks pays out \$8,861 in housing assistance payments each month to landlords in Sisters.

FINE FURNITURE
HALL TABLES



Adam Bronstein
Craftsman
By Commission
541-410-1309
SpringCreekWoodworking.com

New shop opens the door to adventure

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Sisters is a town for outdoor adventure. The trails into the wilderness are all around us, and it’s even taught in the classroom through the IEE (Interdisciplinary Environmental Expedition) class at Sisters High School. Enter Sharri Bertagna and her new outdoor gear emporium, Hike-N-Peaks.

“When our kids went into IEE last year, I saw a true need for some outdoor gear (in Sisters),” Bertagna told *The Nugget*.

Bertagna is an avid hiker herself, and with her son Jonathan graduating this year, she now has time to devote to an enterprise of her own that fits her passions.

“Jonathan is the climber,” she noted. “He’s the reason the climbing section came to be.”

Hike-N-Peaks features Metolius climbing gear, and hiking equipment from backpacks to water filters to headlamps to trail shoes and sleeping bags — all top-quality brand names like Osprey, Salomon, Black Diamond and Katadyn.

Bertagna has made an effort to develop her own niche rather than duplicating



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Sharri Bertagna carries top-quality gear at a fair price at her new Hike-N-Peaks shop on Hood Avenue.

offerings from other stores in Sisters. For example, regarding shoes and boots, “I had to figure out what was not being sold in town,” she said.

Her mission is simple: Just help outdoor adventurers have good, quality products.

That’s everybody from Pacific Crest Trail hikers to weekenders looking to summit Black Butte. She’ll be working with the schools’ IEE and Eco programs, and

will offer group hikes with local leaders who know Sisters’ backcountry well.

“I’ve hired a couple of IEE interns for the summer,” she said.

Students will be constructing a Leave No Trace display in the store.

Hike-N-Peaks is located at 103-A E. Hood Ave. in Sisters. For more information call 541-904-0778 or find them on Facebook.

R
Rendezvous Salon
welcomes
BILLIE SUE BAKER
Our new Nail Technician specializing in
Manicures, Pedicures, and Gel Nails!
New client Pedis start at \$25/Manis at \$15!
Call for your appointment
541-280-3379
Above Cascade
Fitness

Cork Cellars
Wine & Bistro



DINNER SPECIALS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
LILIKOI BABY BACK RIBS,
TASTY THURSDAY
FREE WINE TASTING, 5-7 P.M.
LIVE MUSIC
FRI., MAY. 19, 6-8 PM;
RHONDA FUNK & FRIENDS
SAT., MAY. 20, 7-9 PM; BILL KEALE

OPEN TUESDAY-SATURDAY 12-8 PM
391 W. CASCADE AVE. | 541-549-2675
CORKCELLARSWINEBISTRO.COM

the Jewel
Gallery

ROCKS SISTERS!

ANNUAL IN-STORE ROCK, GEM & FOSSIL SHOW!

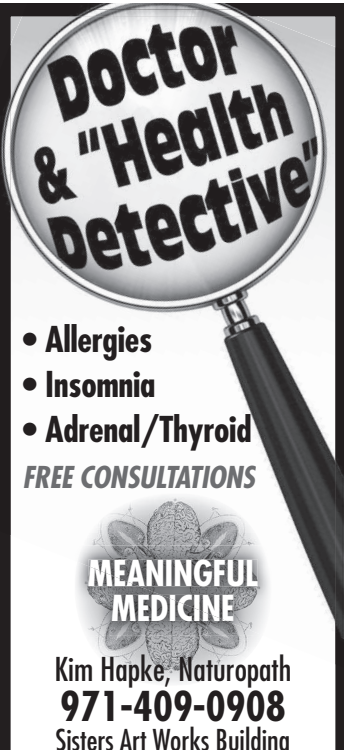
Sat., May 27, 5-7 pm
Sun., May 28, 11 am-4 pm

Unveiling **NEW, RARE & EXOTIC** finds from Indonesia, Russia, Greece, Morocco, China and more!

KIDS! Join our experts for **A SPECIAL TOUR**
Sun., May 28, 10 am
JURASSIC JOURNEYS!

541-549-9388
221 W. Cascade Ave., Sisters

Doctor & "Health Detective"



- Allergies
- Insomnia
- Adrenal/Thyroid

FREE CONSULTATIONS

MEANINGFUL MEDICINE

Kim Hapke, Naturopath
971-409-0908
Sisters Art Works Building

Your Favorite Place to Play...
...Your Favorite Place to Work



Flexible Schedule
Competitive Pay Plus Great Tips
Sign-On Bonus • Free Golf • Free Pool Use
Free SUP/Kayak/Canoe Rentals

VIEW AVAILABLE POSITIONS AND APPLY ONLINE AT
BLACKBUTTERANCH.COM OR CALL 541-595-1523



Black Butte Ranch
THERE IS A PLACE