

CANDIDATES:
Candidate meet-and-greet set at FivePine

Continued from page 1

The Nugget was able to conduct telephone interviews with each of the candidates.

Bruce St. Dennis

Bruce St. Dennis, former town manager of Longboat Key, Florida, for 11 years, is familiar with the issues inherent in a small tourist town. Longboat has a full-time population of about 7,000 but swells to 22,000-25,000 during their high season of January to Easter. There is one road at either end of town that served three times the number of cars during high season.

St. Dennis predicted that as Sisters grows, parking and traffic will be issues to be addressed. He believes in looking to the future and making provisions for possible problems rather than waiting until they develop.

Currently St. Dennis is working in the private sector for an organization that provides municipal-type services for financing construction and long-term maintenance of the infrastructure of residential and commercial communities.

Music is a big part of St. Dennis’s life. He plays the banjo, guitar, and mandolin,

sings and does a little song-writing. He is a past member of a blues band. When he was in Sisters for the semi-final interviews, he stopped by Preston Thompson’s shop to see his guitars.

St. Dennis remarked that Sisters was even better than he had expected. He loves small towns where it is easy to know the people and the issues.

A native of upstate New York, St. Dennis earned a Bachelor of Professional Studies in Architecture from the University of Buffalo, where the winter saw 14 feet of snow. He later earned his masters in management from the University of South Florida.

He mentioned that after 35 years in Florida, he and his family would “be delighted to leave the heat, the palm trees, and the hurricanes” for the dry air of the Central Oregon high desert. He believes that “the climate and people of Sisters would be a good match” for his family.

When asked what he is most proud of in his work history, St. Dennis talked about his relationships with the town boards, the staff, and the public. That is the part of the job he enjoys the most — the people.

St. Dennis described his style of management as one of support and encouragement. He likes to rely

on department heads to be experts in their fields. He believes the city manager is there to direct and offer resources to his staff.

“I am genuinely interested in my employees and the Council ... I like a collegial atmosphere. I like to find opportunities for people to help,” he said. “I don’t get excited when something goes wrong,” he added. “I like to fix the problem, with the person still coming out whole.”

He sees the job of the Council to be working on policy, designing for the future and the ambiance of the town, and says that is hard work.

Martha Meeker

Local resident Martha Meeker is a relative newcomer to Sisters. When Meeker retired from the U.S. Air Force as a brigadier general, she and her spouse wanted to find a high desert location in the West to call home. After exploring a number of locations, almost settling in Spokane, they found Sisters, where they purchased 99 acres to call their own.

“This is what we were going for,” said Meeker about Sisters. “It’s the perfect place.”

After a distinguished career in the military, Meeker said she is returning to her rural roots. She grew up driving a tractor in Illinois farm country on 3,000 acres of

soybeans and corn. Her small town had a population of 100 and the entire county had one high school.

Meeker graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a double degree in math and computational science with plans to be a high school math teacher. A summer internship at NASA Langley changed the course of her life. When she walked on the base and saw the wind tunnel and the parts being manufactured for the space station, this Star Trek fan was captivated. Realizing it would take her six more years to earn her Ph.D. to work in the aerospace field, she opted instead to join the Air Force.

Meeker’s last assignment, before retiring, was serving as the vice commander

of the USAF Expeditionary Center where, for a year, she was the second in charge of a 14,000-person organization supporting air forces around the world. Another yearlong position was as the senior special assistant to the commander of NATO and the European Command.

Her first job after retiring from the military was almost two years as city manager in McMinnville, a position from which she resigned in October 2016. She described the Sisters city manager position as her “dream job.”

Meeker said, “Because Sisters is an incredibly attractive place, growth is unavoidable. You can’t stop it.”

She compared growth and

See CANDIDATES on page 31

**OUR DRINKING WATER QUALITY
TOLLGATE WATER COMPANY 2016**

Federal and state agencies require each community water system to provide an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to each customer. This is Tollgate Water Company’s (TWC) 2016 report.

Where does my water come from?

TGW’s water is derived from two wells, which pump from a ground water aquifer. One well is located at the east end of Wagon Wheel in section 5. The other is located just north of the fire substation.

Source water assessment and its availability

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require all states to conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies water to our wells, (2) identification of the potential sources of pollution within the Drinking Water Protection Area, and (3) determination of the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those pollution sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with the information needed to develop a strategy to protect the drinking water resource. The respective Drinking Water Programs of the Department of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed the assessment for Tollgate’s wells. A copy of the report is on file at the water system’s office.

Why are there contaminants in drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)

Is my water safe?

Last year, 2016, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state drinking water health standards. Tollgate Water Company is proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contamination level or any other water quality standard. Not all contaminants are tested annually. For those, which are not tested annually, the most recent sampling results occurring in the last five years must be reported, if the contaminant was present.

To help you understand terms and abbreviations found in **Table One** the following definitions are provided:

Parts per million (PPM) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000..

Maximum Contamination Level – the “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contamination Level Goal – the “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l) – a measure of radioactivity.

Table One						
CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES NO	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MENTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Lead 8/13/15	No	0.002	PPM	0	0.0155	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper 8/13/15	No	0.1450	PPM	1.3	1.35	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha 11/20/12 Well #1	No	2,400	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha 11/20/12 Well #2	No	2,800	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 11/20/12 Well #1	No	2,200	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 11/20/12 Well #2	No	2,800	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Health effects

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level (Action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water company must follow. Action level for lead and copper are the same as their respective MCLs) could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s disease should consult their personal doctor.

Some people who consume water containing alpha emitters or radium in excess of the MCLs over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/Aids or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved?

Your continued cooperation in such programs as the cross connection program helps insure the quality of our water. If you have questions about the water system or the quality of your water, call Betty Fadley at 541-549-7962 or Lynn Lounsbury at 541-419-9593, or attend water board meetings, which are held the fourth Tuesday of January, April, July, and October in the Tollgate Recreation Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Malcolm Murphy Lynn Lounsbury
Board Chair Distribution Manager

*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!

SISTERS COFFEE
OPEN 6AM-6PM COFFEE ROASTED DAILY
541.549.0527 273 W HOOD AVE. SISTERS, OR



**WE ARE
HIRING!** OUR KITCHEN CREW IS LOOKING FOR FULL
AND PART-TIME POSITIONS TO JOIN OUR
TEAM. EMAIL LANA@SISTERSCOFFEE.COM
OR DROP BY THE CAFE FOR MORE INFO.

MY NEIGHBORHOOD CARE



**Offering Family Medicine in Sisters
Urgent Care 7 days a week in Redmond**

Sisters Clinic | 231 East Cascades Ave
Redmond Clinic | 865 SW Veteran’s Way
Appointments: 541-382-4900

