

City snapshot

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

• The Highway 20/Barclay roundabout opened last Friday. Watch for publication of Rules of the Roundabout to be distributed at the high school, City Hall, to civic groups, at the post office, in *The Nugget*, in utility bills, and other venues throughout the city.

• The splash pad at Fir Street Park is open for the summer and the Friday Farmers Markets will be held at Fir Street this summer.

• City Council approved a new three-year contract with the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office for policing services for the City. The contract is for \$565,000 a year. Sheriff Shane Nelson told the Council, "We enjoy the relationship we have with Sisters. You have a beautiful city."

When asked if he has seen changes in the crime in Sisters over the last 10 years, Nelson replied that the department has not seen an increase in threats to public safety and no increase in serious crime. What has increased is the amount of time that calls take. With more people in town, there are more calls.

Mental-health calls have increased and require more time. They are seeing more heroin in the area, with heroin being a cheap alternative to prescription pain medications. Narcan, a nasal spray to counteract confirmed or suspected opioid overdoses, is carried in all patrol cars and at the jail.

• Council approved the appointment of Sisters resident Paul Ryan to a one-year term on the Urban Forestry Board, giving the board its full five-person membership.

• Finance officer Joe O'Neill announced that City business license renewals have been sent out for the 2017/18 fiscal year. He also reported that the City has already received a \$112,000 reimbursement for the new campground restroom, part of the 50 percent match that was granted by the Oregon Parks

and Recreation Department.

• Council approved a first-ever three-year services contract with the Chamber of Commerce formalizing the relationship between the City and the Chamber. The contract spells out the services the Chamber provides to the City, the amount the City will pay for those services (\$250,000), and the rent the Chamber will pay the City for their building on Main Avenue.

Besides providing services for the town businesses that belong to the Chamber, they also serve as a visitors bureau for the City, maintaining a separate budget for tourist activities. The Chamber manages the downtown banner program.

They reach 100,000 people a month through social media. There is now a mobile app that can be downloaded to a visitor's cell phone providing maps and information on Sisters. Last year they had 12,560 walk-ins to the Chamber, fielded 6,000 phone calls, produced and distributed 46,000 maps, aired 400 commercials in Portland and Eugene and 8,760 commercials in Central Oregon on COTV, the visitors channel. They assisted in the production of four Sisters magazines that appear in the *Bend Bulletin*. They produce print, digital, television, and radio ads. The Chamber produces the Christmas tree lighting and parade, and the Harvest Faire. Tourism provides the second largest revenue stream to the City after taxes.

• Public Works Director Paul Bertagna offered his thanks to the Council for taking time in the selection process of the new City Manager to solicit community and staff input, something that had not been done before.

• Community Development Director Patrick Davenport reported that the Rural Development Initiative has agreed to help get design assistance and possible funding for the upcoming City visioning project.

BASEBALL: Loss in quarterfinals was a tough one

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players, and made Cascade swing the bat.

Hodges commented on Morgan's command of the mound.

"Zach basically challenged hitters and didn't get himself in trouble with walks, and that was the key to the game. He pitched ahead most of the game. He got ahead in the count and was able to use the strike zone to his advantage."

In the first inning, Morgan scored Sisters' first RBI, when he hit a ground ball to second and scored Christopher Luz.

Sisters tacked on two more runs in the third. Luz started the inning with a bunt single, and Gannon took first when he was hit by a pitch. Morgan drew a walk and the bases were loaded. Ryan Funk hit the ball to the pitcher, but he bobbled the ball, and Luz scored.

Mingus bunted down the first-base line and scored Gannon on a designed safety-squeeze play, and the Outlaws went up 3-0.

In the fifth, Gannon reached first base on an error, and then stole second. Funk drove him in with a hard line drive to right center.

"It was a great hit," said Hodges. "Ryan was looking to hit behind the runner, and he sat on the pitch. It was a great approach and swing, and really smart hitting."

The Outlaws scored their final run of the contest in the sixth. Austin Morss reached first on an infield hit, and Turner Stutzman bunted him to second. Luz ripped a great two-out line drive to right center to bring Morss home.

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