

New stands are up...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A bond-funded upgrade to the spectator bleachers at Reed Stadium is complete.

SPRD luau tickets on sale now

Sisters Park & Recreation District is bidding the community E Komo Mai (please come) to SPRD's annual luau set for Thursday, August 10, at Village Green Park.

"Every year our luau has a special element to it that is not planned; it just evolves, and of course this year is no exception," said Shannon Mokuahi Rackowski. "We took a chance; the first year SPRD thought to present a luau to the Sisters Community, 322 people turned out!"

Year two featured Central Oregon's own Bill Keale, and a request from Kris Dalton, a 102-year-old Sisters resident, Hawaii born-and-raised, for her favorite lomi lomi salmon (brined salmon with onions, tomatoes and special seasonings).

Year three brought Mele'uhane, the father-and-son duo from Hilo, Hawaii, and saw Coach Steve Pearl, eight-time national basketball champion coach in England and his team visit for their first luau, with one of his players celebrating her 16th birthday with 16 fresh leis Rackowski ordered from Hawaii.

This year's luau will feature Michael Dane and Sherwood Philips from the Oregon Coast. Michael Dane has been a headliner for Salishan Resort and Gracie's Sea Hag in Depoe Bay for over 30 years.

"Michael and I have worked together for over 20 years, and when I asked him if he could come play at SPRD's luau, he replied 'of course,'" Mokuahi Rackowski said. "Sisters Park & Recreation is so grateful to once again have the Sisters ukulele players, DJ Chuck Boogie, Kurt Silva, Sisters hula dancers, and Halau Uhane from Redmond. I look forward to dancing with all the different entertainers, for dancing hula feeds my soul," said Mokuahi Rackowski.

Tickets are available now.

The event is a fundraiser for the SPRD senior scholarship program, which helps to subsidize or pay in full for exercise classes, evidence-based classes such as Matter of Balance, Walk with Ease, and Living with Chronic Conditions, excursions, and transportation to these programs.

This year's luau will run from 6 to 8 p.m.

To purchase tickets or for more information call 541-549-2091.

Search and Rescue responds to call

On June 7, at 4:15 p.m., Deschutes County 911 received a call from an employee of International Emergency Response Coordination, reporting one of their clients, Adam Redfield, had activated the "SOS" feature on his "SPOT" device in the area between South Sister and Broken Top, near Moraine Lake. Attempts were made to contact Redfield on his cell phone without success. There was no way to contact Redfield via his SPOT device to determine the nature of his current situation or problem.

A Deschutes County Sheriff's Office special services deputy responded to the area of the Devil's Lake Trailhead and located Redfield's vehicle. Contact was also made with Redfield's friends and family members, who confirmed he had set out that morning at about 4:30 a.m., intending to summit South Sister and then return home. Redfield was described as being very experienced in the backcountry and avalanche trained.

Seven DCSO search

and rescue volunteers responded to the trailhead and "skinned," skied and "booted" into the Moraine Lake area, and began their search in intermittent rainy conditions. At approximately 9:10 p.m., DCSO SAR teams established voice contact with Redfield, who had sought shelter in a snow cave. DCSO SAR teams physically located Redfield at approximately 9:30 p.m. and determined he had become lost, but was not injured. Redfield had submitted South Sister earlier in the day and his cell phone battery had died. Redfield had become disoriented during his descent, becoming lost, at which time he activated the SOS feature on his SPOT device.

Redfield was cold and tired, but otherwise was able to travel under his own power, following DCSO SAR teams back down to the Cascade Lakes Highway, arriving at about 12:32 a.m. Redfield had not known if his SPOT device worked and was preparing to spend the night, although he had not brought overnight supplies

with him. The DCSO deputy and DCSO SAR volunteers further assisted Redfield back to his home in Bend.

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office would like to remind those that recreate outdoors to prepare properly for their activity. Some considerations include proper clothing for day and night conditions in your environment, even if you do not expect to be out overnight. Ensure you have adequate water and food, topographical trail maps, extra batteries or charging options for phones or GPS units. Bring a light source and a signaling device. Seek out information regarding the area and what may be encountered, such as current and projected weather conditions as well as terrain in the area. Tell someone where you are going, what you will be taking with you and when you plan to return.

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office strongly encourages those recreating in the outdoors to do so with a partner(s) and not to separate.

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