

Crews to remove 107-year-old dam on Deschutes

REDMOND (AP) — Crews have begun to tear down the 107-year-old Cline Falls Dam on the Deschutes River.

The Bulletin reports the dam was built in 1910 to provide water and energy to a proposed community in Central Oregon and later generated hydroelectric power to the Redmond Airport during World War II. The wood-and-concrete dam is owned by Central Oregon Irrigation District and is nonoperational.

Workers have placed excavators and sandbags on the river to temporarily alter the flow while they work to remove the dam this week. Officials expect the work to be completed by the end of August.

District Manager Craig Horrell says after the dam is removed, trout and other fish species will be able to swim downriver more freely.

Dairy Queen is family business in Sisters

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Dairy Queen is the family business for Tom Landon and his son Christian.

Tom's parents owned a Dairy Queen in Coos Bay back in the 1960s, when the franchise involved little more than a walk-up stand. Deciding after college that he'd do best in self-employment, Tom stepped into his own Dairy Queen franchise. So did his brothers. Tom owns two Dairy Queens in Bend. He says the franchise arrangement is a good one for the franchise owner.

Tom's son Christian says, "I grew up in Dairy Queen. We've all worked Dairy Queen at some point or another."

"I started all the kids putting away freight with me," Tom recalled.

Now that family heritage has come to Sisters, at a new site on Highway 20 at the west end of town, between Bi-Mart and Ray's Food Place.

"Everybody likes Sisters," Tom says. "We've thought about it for years, but we thought it was too small."

Tom had looked at a previous site in Sisters, but passed; the current site was a more attractive proposition.

So far, the traffic has been strong at the new Sisters store — about what they expected for this time of year — but the test of a restaurant in a tourist town always comes in winter.

"I don't know what to expect this winter," Tom said.

Despite growing up in DQ franchises, Christian was, until recently, on a different path entirely.

"I always wanted to fly," he said, "so I spent the last 12 years flying for the Air Force."

It was that strong sense of family that brought him into the Sisters business.

"That's really why I'm here," he said. "I left my aviation career to come help family."

DQ offers burgers and other food choices like chicken strips — and it's famous for its ice cream.

Christian acknowledges that Sisters has some resistance to "fast food," but



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

The Landon family has deep roots with Dairy Queen. They recently opened a franchise in Sisters.

he says that "for the most part, it's been a pretty warm welcome."

The Landons note that they are native Oregonians and committed to supporting

their local community.

"We'll try to be as friendly and local as we can be," Christian said.

Because that's they way they run a family business.

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