



PHOTO PROVIDED

Students and teachers at Sisters Christian Academy raised funds with their annual walk/jog-a-thon last week.

SCA students hit the track in fundraiser

Sisters Christian Academy students took advantage of a weather window to get outdoors and hit the track in the school's annual walk/jog-a-thon fundraiser.

"Our tuition is purposely kept low so that every student essentially receives a scholarship," explained school Principal Cheryl Peterson. "Fundraising events that build community, partnerships with parents, friendships and fun are a key piece of our lower tuition."

Students solicit pledges (either a set amount or on a per-lap basis) and then they all run for an hour.

"Teachers do the same," Peterson said. "Then everyone is invited back to the school for a fun lunch of hot dogs or pulled-pork sandwiches."

The food is donated by

local stores and vendors.

"We were so blessed to have our window of good weather on Friday right during our WJAT," said Peterson. "Answered prayer."

Sisters Christian Academy is a Christian school serving students and their families from preschool through 8th grade. SCA teaches all subjects from a Biblical point of view, while following a classical model in the development of its program. A classical model teaches a core of knowledge in a way that challenges the student's thinking, going beyond the assimilation of facts to teach values, truth, decision-making, critical-thinking skills, and to impart wisdom.

For more information visit www.sisterschristianacademy.com or call 541-549-4133.

RENTALS: Many vacation rentals have come online in 2017

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Of those 41 vacation rentals, 14 permits have been issued in 2017, giving rise to the concern on the part of the City Council about addressing regulations for vacation rentals before a problem develops. A majority of the permits are for properties located in Pine Meadow Village and in the Davidson Addition south of Washington Avenue.

There was discussion as to why the increased number of vacation rentals is of concern, including the impact of the transient nature of vacation rentals on the character and quality of life in neighborhoods of full-time residents and the impact on available housing when rental units and single-family homes are converted to vacation rentals.

According to the transient room tax collected on vacation rentals, 46 percent of the nights units were made available to rent, they were occupied. There are currently 12 inactive TRT accounts. The number of nights rented

covers a spread from 25 percent to 75 percent of nights available.

The Planning Commission is considering various methods to address the quality-of-life concerns.

Caps on the number of vacation-rental units city-wide, or a certain percentage of all residential units is one option. The spacing between units is another method. In Bend, they have adopted 250 feet between rental units so that an entire street doesn't become dominated by vacation rentals.

There could be limits placed on the duration of vacation-rental permits.

There is also the question as to whether a permit runs with the owner or the land. The Planning Commission is inclined to favor the permit following the owner, meaning if the property is sold, the vacation-rental permit is no longer valid and the new owner would have to reapply.

Regulations on private property can be a difficult matter, and that is why the Planning Commission is being deliberate in its considerations before making recommendations to the City Council. There will be a public hearing on the matter before any regulations are adopted.

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