

# Sisters Horizon survey wraps up August 17

A Sisters Country Horizons online survey asking residents to choose top strategies to ensure the region's future livability will end on Friday, August 17.

As of August 9, more than 400 people had completed the survey since it went live on July 23.

It can be found at [www.sistershorizons.org](http://www.sistershorizons.org).

The more than 50 strategies listed in the survey were developed over the past several months through community leader interviews, an initial survey of residents and visitors, community meetings and forums, presentations and events. The strategies are organized into four focus areas: Prosperous Sisters, Livable Sisters, Resilient Sisters, and Connected Sisters. As of last week, approximately 1,600 participants have been involved in this community visioning phase since it kicked off in February.

"The response to this second survey has been excellent and shows residents are dialed in and eager to help shape the community's future," says Ruth Williamson, part of the consulting team advising the process. "The survey results will be analyzed and utilized this fall by a new citizen Vision Action Team whose charge will be to develop an action plan for the community in partnership with the City, County, other public agencies, community organizations, and local businesses."

The first Sisters Country Horizons survey — completed by nearly 500 Sisters-area residents between March and May — found residents treasuring the community's

natural environment and small-town feel, and citing growth, traffic and housing as major challenges to the community's quality of life.

Sisters Country Horizons is a visioning project sponsored by the City of Sisters. Deschutes County and the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council are project partners. The Horizons project will run through December 2018 and result in a long-range vision for Sisters Country and a plan to achieve it. It will be carried out by local government, public agencies, community organizations, and the business community.

**“The response to this second survey has been excellent and shows residents are dialed in and eager to help shape the community's future.”**  
— Ruth Williamson

Sisters Country is that part of Deschutes County served by the Sisters School District 006, including the city of Sisters, surrounding smaller unincorporated communities and residential areas, ranches and farms, as well Camp Sherman.

For more information, visit the Sisters Country Horizons website at [www.sistershorizons.org](http://www.sistershorizons.org) or email [info@sistershorizons.org](mailto:info@sistershorizons.org). You can also like the project at [www.facebook.com/sistershorizons/](http://www.facebook.com/sistershorizons/).

## LETTERS

*Continued from page 2*

child who was killed defending our country had no right to be here; doing so would certainly create mean-spiritedness and further break the hearts of those who lost loved ones.

Political correctness would not lump an entire ethnic group into a class of rapists and murderers, while doing so has clearly created mean-spiritedness and promoted violence against that ethnicity.

I could go on (God knows there's a plethora of examples) but hopefully the point has been made: "Political correctness" is basically another term for respect, consideration, kindness, and generosity towards others despite their race, ethnicity, gender, or disability.

Interestingly, it is a term rarely used by people who espouse those values; on the other hand, I hear it often used by those who say it with a derisive sneer, denigrating the very ideal which would prevent the mean-spiritedness that Mr. Wright eschews.

Really can't have it both ways.  
Michelle Tormey

To the Editor:

Once again we would like to say a big thank-you to the first responders who tackled the fire that started on Rabbitbrush Road on Saturday, August 11. Without them we and a lot of our neighbors might not have our homes.

We have had two fires close by in the last 2-1/2 weeks. The fire on Saturday called for Level 3 evacuation (GO NOW!) in which we had to go. The problem we have seen with both fires is people coming into the area who have no business there other than to try and get a better look at what the emergency is. This not only puts them in danger, they could be hampering the efforts of the first responders plus the people needing to evacuate.

I understand the curiosity factor, but for all you "Lookie Loos," if you don't live in an area where there is an emergency, please stay

away. You would probably see more on social media anyway.

Jo Kilmer

To the Editor:

Three-hundred-and-fifty fabulous meals, 12 vendors, four presentations, and two musical groups all packed into two hours of non-stop fun. On behalf of the Sisters Park and Recreation District board of directors, I would like to thank the entire Sisters community for making the inaugural D-ATE (Appreci-ATE, Congreg-ATE, Particip-ATE, Recre-ATE & Grab a PI-ATE) Night community dinner a huge success.

When the board decided at its July 24 meeting to hold a recreation-focused community dinner in place of the cancelled August 9 Hawaiian luau, I knew we had our work cut out for us. We had just 15 days to organize a major public event from scratch. Was that even possible?

Not to worry. When word got out that SPRD needed help, the community stepped up. Old friends of SPRD said, "Whatever you need." Folks who had not volunteered for SPRD before asked how they could help. Eight sponsors, both long-standing and new, said, "Of course, we'll contribute to support this event." Vendors, invited with little advance notice, altered busy summer schedules to participate. And city public works staff could not have been more helpful.

In the midst of this outpouring of help, two people deserve special shout-outs. Without event coordinator Jodi Winnwalker, an organizer extraordinaire, the event would have been far less successful. And board member Peggy Tehan went above and beyond when she and her crew of volunteers prepared those 350 delicious rice bowl meals.

Not only was it good for the community, the event was good for the organization. Every SPRD staff and board member, including our wonderful cadre of teachers, enthusiastically pitched in to get us across the finish line. It was truly a team effort.

Jeff Tryens  
Board President



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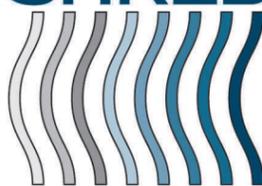
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