

C O M M U N I T Y

Fire district awarded \$823,500 grant

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District (District) has received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to enhance volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention.

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program provides funding to public agencies to protect the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards.

The grant was awarded to the District after an exhaustive review and analysis of applicants from across the United States. The grant was written in cooperation with Black Butte Ranch Fire District and Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District. Funds from the grant will enhance volunteer recruitment and retention for all three agencies. The grant provides funding for a period of four years and does not require any matching funds to be

See **GRANT** on page 24



PHOTO BY D. SHARP

Lightly used gear helps students in Sisters enjoy – and learn in – the region’s vast outdoor classroom.

Cornett selected as Sisters Rodeo Queen

By **Bonnie Malone**
Correspondent

The 2019 Sisters Rodeo Queen is Riann Cornett of Bend. She was selected on Sunday, September 23, from six highly qualified candidates to represent Sisters Rodeo in the Columbia River Circuit Rodeos and other rodeos.

Riann is a Bend native, a 2016 graduate of Bend High School. She is the current Crooked River Roundup Queen and a 2016 Jefferson County Fair and Rodeo Princess.

The active equestrian was dual enrolled at Mountain View High School to qualify for membership in Bend FFA (Future Farmers of America). She was a four-year member of 4H until she became a member of Oregon High School Equestrian Team (OHSET), competing successfully as a four-year varsity athlete. She qualified for both state and regional competitions.

Cornett is the daughter of Jenny and Jeff Cornett of Bend. Her sister, Jenna,

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Gear swap to raise funds for schools

By **T. Lee Brown**
Correspondent

This Saturday, Hike-N-Peaks hosts the first Sisters community Gear Swap, benefiting local schools. Used outdoor equipment and clothing in good shape will be for sale 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Local folks have three ways to help kids connect with nature and learn in the great outdoors: Donate used outdoor equipment and clothing, sell it on consignment, or buy gear at the swap itself.

All the public schools in Sisters and Camp Sherman attract enrollment with programs for outdoor, hands-on education, with the exception of Sisters Elementary. The Gear Swap will benefit ECoS

(“Earth, Community, Self” program) at Sisters Middle School, IEE at Sisters High School, and Black Butte School’s integrated outdoor programming. (See related story, page 29.)

“We raised our children outside, but a real change came when my son and his friends went through the IEE program,” explained Sharry Bertagna, co-owner of Hike-N-Peaks and a primary organizer of the swap. “Seeing how it has impacted their lives is truly amazing! They have a passion for recreating outdoors and are great stewards of the land we are fortunate enough to call home.”

Mike Geisen is a teacher in the ECoS program at Sisters Middle School. “ECoS has a

profound effect on kids here in Sisters, not just in terms of critical thinking and academics,” he said. “It gives them a sense of place, a sense of community, and a sense of what they can do.

“It’s incredible how their confidence levels rise throughout the year after stepping out of their comfort zones and pushing themselves to try new things,” Geisen said. “I’m so proud of these kids for conquering fears and taking on new adventures. They’re building life-long skills, friendships and memories.”

One parent whose children went through the program praised IEE, but said

See **GEAR SWAP** on page 29

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Wed., 6 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

Alateen Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.

Alcoholics Anonymous Thurs. & Sun., 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Sat., 8 a.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Mon., 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Big Book study, Tues., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Gentlemen’s meeting, Wed., 7 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Sober Sisters Women’s meeting, Thurs., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Step & Tradition meeting, Fri., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia Caregiver Support Group 1st Tuesday, 11 a.m., Sisters City Hall. 800-272-3900.

Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.

Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild For Saturday meeting dates and location, email: steelefly@msn.com.

Central OR Spinners and Weavers Guild One Saturday per month, Jan. thru Oct. For schedule: 541-639-3217.

Council on Aging of Central Oregon Senior Lunch Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-480-1843.

East of the Cascades Quilt Guild 4th Wednesday (September-June), Stitchin’ Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.

Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. www.sistersfol.com.

Go Fish Fishing Group 2nd Monday, 7 p.m. Sisters Community Church. All ages welcome. 541-771-2211.

Heartwarmers (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.

Hero Quilters of Sisters Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-719-1230.

Military Parents of Sisters Meetings are held quarterly; please call for details. 541-388-9013.

Oregon Band of Brothers – Sisters Chapter Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-408-5594.

SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment) Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sisters Park & Recreation District. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Aglow Lighthouse 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Ponderosa Lodge Meeting Room. 503-930-6158.

Sisters Area Photography Club 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.

Sisters Area Woodworkers 1st Tuesday, 7 to 9 p.m. 541-639-6216.

Sisters Astronomy Club 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.

Sisters Bridge Club Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.

Sisters Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Cribbage Club Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray’s Food Place community room. 541-923-1632.

Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.

Sisters Kiwanis Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Meditation Group Sundays, 6 p.m., 484 W. Washington Ave. #A. Text only (no voice) to 541-207-7266.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson’s Support Group 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m., Sisters Community Church. 907-687-8101 or 541-668-6599.

Sisters Red Hats 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

Sisters Rotary Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-760-5645.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 541-719-8822.

Sisters Veterans Thursdays, noon, Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.

Three Sisters Lions Club 1st Thursday, noon, Ray’s Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

VFW Post 8138 and American Legion Post 86 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-903-1123.

Weight Watchers Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. weigh-in, Sisters Community Church. 541-602-2654.

SCHOOLS

Black Butte School Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX office. 541-549-4133.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

CITY & PARKS

Sisters City Council 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., SPRD bldg. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Planning Commission 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.

Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Wed., 7 p.m., 67433 Cloverdale Rd. 541-548-4815. cloverdalefire.com.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

Sisters City Council 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

Sisters Planning Commission 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

This listing is for regular Sisters Country meetings; email information to lisa@nuggetnews.com