

# Cold weather shelter set for season

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

As winter draws closer, preparations are underway for the third season of the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter, which opens its doors in November at the Sisters Community Church Hangar annex.

Sisters Cold Weather Shelter will be holding an open house and volunteer monitor training on Thursday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m., at The Hangar. There will be information about the shelter, training for new and returning volunteers, and a tour of The Hangar, which will be hosting the shelter in November and December.

During the months of November and March the shelter will be open when night-time temperatures are predicted to be below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. For December, January, and February the shelter is open every night at 6 p.m.

Services provided to shelter guests include sleeping mats and bedding, storage bins, hot dinners and light breakfasts with snacks to go, hygiene items, donated clothing, and access to employment support and community services. Activities offered at the shelter include meals, movies, puzzles, cards, conversation, and community. The shelter capacity is determined by the fire marshal, with most locations able to house 25 guests.

Volunteer monitors greet the guests, serve dinner, and see to the guests' needs until lights out at 10 p.m. Volunteers work in pairs to help create a secure, safe, and non-judgmental environment for guests. Paid monitors cover the overnight period. Monitors are currently being hired for the late shift.

Those wishing to volunteer are invited to attend the October 18 training. Background checks are performed on all volunteers who serve as monitors. Those providing meals don't need a background check.

There are many ways to help support the shelter. Organizations with a facility can be a host site for a month. Individuals or groups can sign up to bring dinner or breakfast. Individuals can sign up to serve as a shelter monitor for the 5 to 10 p.m. shift. The steering committee can always use people willing to volunteer for a variety of duties besides monitoring or providing meals.

Westside Church will be hosting the shelter in January, the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in February, with the month of March to be determined. Sisters Park & Recreation District is generously offering their showers during specified times to shelter guests as they have previously. Local Girl Scouts have again agreed to collect donations.

The shelter always

welcomes donations of money and items the guests and the shelter can use. From now until the opening of the shelter, Habitat for Humanity will receive donations of clothing, non-perishable food, and paper products for the shelter. The donations can be taken to the Habitat office above their Thrift Store at 141 W. Main Ave. between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The shelter operates under the guidance and fiscal agency of Shepherd's House Ministries in Bend. They handle the financial aspects of all donations, grants received, expenditures, reimbursements, and payroll. The Sisters Cold Weather Shelter Steering Committee manages ongoing operations of the shelter.

Monetary donations may be sent to Shepherd's House Ministries at P.O. Box 5484, Bend, OR, 97708, with notation that it is for the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter.

To make a donation online, visit [www.shepherdshouseministries.org/donate-scws](http://www.shepherdshouseministries.org/donate-scws).

The shelter has a Facebook page at: [facebook.com/sisterscoldweathershelter/](https://facebook.com/sisterscoldweathershelter/).

For more information email [loiskaping@bendbroadband.com](mailto:loiskaping@bendbroadband.com).

# Preedin is ready to serve on city council

By Jim Cornelius  
Editor in Chief

Michael Preedin will take a seat on the Sisters City Council after the November election — one of three candidates who are each running unopposed. He'll be ready.

The Sisters designer has been attending city council meetings since January to prepare for the job, missing only one during that time — on his birthday.

Preedin, who previously served on the Sisters Planning Commission in 2009, recognizes that the Council's primary mission in coming years will be to manage the impacts of growth, making sure the City has the infrastructure in place to accommodate the people who wish to live, work and play here.

"We, as a city council, have to manage that," he said. "It's a management position. It's not a pulpit."

Preedin believes that the city has done a good job in managing its infrastructure to this point. Continuing growth will bring continuing pressure — especially on housing and traffic.

Housing affordability is a



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Michael Preedin will take a seat on Sisters City Council.

challenge, and Preedin thinks the City should plan on some careful expansion to cope with it.

"One of the ways we can make housing more affordable is to have more inventory," he said.

He said he would like to look at the possibility of Urban Growth Boundary expansion, perhaps to the north and east, to bring more buildable land into the inventory. He emphasized that he is talking about hundreds,

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