

C O M M U N I T Y

Fire training exercise set for January 5-6

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District plans to hold a “Burn to Learn” training exercise on Saturday, January 5 and Sunday, January 6 at the corner of Jefferson and Larch in Sisters.

“This exercise will provide invaluable training to our firefighters using live fire,” said Deputy Fire Chief Tim Craig.

The properties involved are at 413 S. Larch St. and 347 E. Jefferson Ave.

District firefighters will be practicing search and rescue

skills along with fire attack, ventilation and exposure protection activities.

“We wish to thank the community in advance for their support in this training exercise,” Craig said. “Without you we could not achieve the high quality of training that this event will bring. Smoke from the burn will be kept to a minimum when possible, but we ask that area residents keep their windows closed during the exercise.”

See **BURN TO LEARN** on page 23



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sisters area resident Susan Sandberg visits school children supported by Faith Seeds in Guatemala.

Shutdown felt on Sisters Ranger District

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

The shutdown of the federal government that went into effect December 22 is being felt on the Sisters Ranger District.

“We have a very limited number of employees working,” Sisters District Ranger Ian Reid told *The Nugget*.

Reid is one of them. They are not getting paid.

“There’s certainly work not getting done,” Reid said.

The ranger said that he is limited in what he is allowed to say about the matter.

“The longer it goes on, the more the impact will be,” he said.

Deschutes National Forest Supervisor John Allen told *The Nugget* that “the vast majority of our work is on hold.” The handful of employees who are working — unpaid — are managing activities or facilities that impact public health or safety — like maintaining the restrooms at popular snow-parks.

“Ninety-five percent of our employees are off work — furloughed full-time,”

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Local efforts help Guatemalan kids

By Craig F. Eisenbeis
Correspondent

The recent deaths of U.S.-bound Guatemalan children, while in U.S. custody, have thrust the plight of such children and their families into the spotlight. Even before these deaths, however, a local woman learned of a mission to support these poverty-stricken children in Guatemala. She didn’t just wish she could do something to help, she actually went to Guatemala to learn more about it first-hand and put her concern into action.

Susan Sandberg, a member of Sisters Community Church, was on a church-sponsored mission in Bolivia when she became friends

with their translator, Gaby Munoz, who, it turned out, was the director of Faith Seeds Guatemala, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing education to the poorest Guatemalan children.

Sandberg explained that Faith Seeds Guatemala “pays tuition for the children whose parents work at the dump scavenging garbage to survive. They also have a facility that provides an after-school program that gives the children help with homework and a meal. To understand how important this program is, you must know that Guatemala and all — or most — Central American countries have public schools, but they are not free. This means that the poorest of people and their

children have no opportunity to improve themselves.”

The “dump” she references is on the outskirts of the city of Quetzaltenango, where the poor live in makeshift hovels and wade through garbage to find anything salvageable to eke out an uncertain existence. Nearly half of the people of Guatemala are indigenous — of Mayan descent — and most are living in extreme poverty.

“Going to the dump in Quetzaltenango was an interesting experience, one I will never forget,” said Sandberg. “I think the most shocking thing was the number of people working there, and many with small children helping.

See **SANDBERG** on page 22

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), Stitches 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 3rd 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. 541-549-6469.

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

Sisters Family 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 Mondays, 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 4 p.m. 420 N Tamarack St. 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.

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