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from Sisters, Oregon

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Irrigators celebrate collaborative efforts

By Cody Rheault
Correspondent

More than a dozen local agencies along with Oregon Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., gathered for a Celebration of Collaboration last Tuesday, March 19. Recognizing joint efforts between irrigation districts, land trusts, and energy corporations more than a hundred people gathered to express their appreciation in the midst of one of the largest modernization projects.

Held at the Three Sisters Irrigation District headquarters just east of Sisters, the event unveiled the new Watson Micro Hydro Demonstration Project Facility along with four new hydro turbines and a display of the new massive 84-inch piping used in local canals.

For years local irrigation districts have worked to replace centuries-old open-air canals with new, pressurized underground piping. Years



PHOTO BY CODY RHEAULT

Senator Jeff Merkley joined local irrigation districts and agencies in celebrating collaborative efforts to modernize and improve irrigation efficiency.

prior, the open canals presented an inefficient means of transporting water. The majority of water was lost

through evaporation and seepage into the porous Central Oregon earth, and exposed an uncontrollable vessel for

contamination.

With 59 of the 64 miles of

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Dog attacked and killed in Crossroads

The Deschutes County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's help in locating a dog that attacked and killed another dog in Crossroads on March 19.

The attack occurred at approximately 4:30 p.m. in the area of Bluegrass Loop and Crater Way in Crossroads.

According to DCSO, an investigation determined a family living near the intersection had been preparing to leave their residence and were going to tether their 12-year-old female Chihuahua/Beagle named Lexi outside. Lexi

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Planning commission approves Hayden plan

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

With a vote of six ayes and Commissioner Jack Nagel the sole nay vote, the Sisters Planning Commission approved Hayden Homes' Master Plan Development for McKenzie Meadows Village, the Comprehensive Plan Map and Zoning Map Amendment, a Tentative Subdivision, and Development Agreement, accepting all of the City staff recommendations, with one small change of wording.

The commission's recommendation for approval has been sent to the City Council. At their March 27 meeting at 6:30 p.m., the Council can review the decision or let it

stand. Two of the five councilors, Nancy Connolly and Michael Preedin, will be out of town and unable to weigh in. The decision will rest with Mayor Chuck Ryan and councilors Andrea Blum and Richard Esterman.

At the Planning Commission meeting on March 21, the City Hall chambers were full of mostly residents of Village at Cold Springs who had a strong interest in the outcome of the commission's deliberations. They have fought to stop the connection of Hill Street and Williamson Avenue between the Village at Cold Springs and the proposed neighboring

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Hotel and taproom planned for Ski Inn

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

At about 2:20 p.m. on a blustery day in early December 2013, a powerful gust of wind uprooted a massive ponderosa pine on Cascade Avenue, sending the trunk crashing through the front of the Ski Inn restaurant. No one was hurt, but the venerable

old Sisters institution was destroyed.

Now, it's being resurrected in a new form.

If permits are issued by mid-summer, construction on the new Ski Inn hotel and taproom will begin soon after. According to the projected timeline, the Ski Inn could be

operational by fall 2020.

Pacwest Builders have designed and will build the new hotel and taproom on the site of the original Ski Inn, where the building was removed in the wake of the 2013 tree incident.

Jim Yozamp and his family, Sisters residents for the past decade, will own the

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An artist's rendering of the once-and-future Ski Inn.

GRAPHIC PROVIDED

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