

City snapshot

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

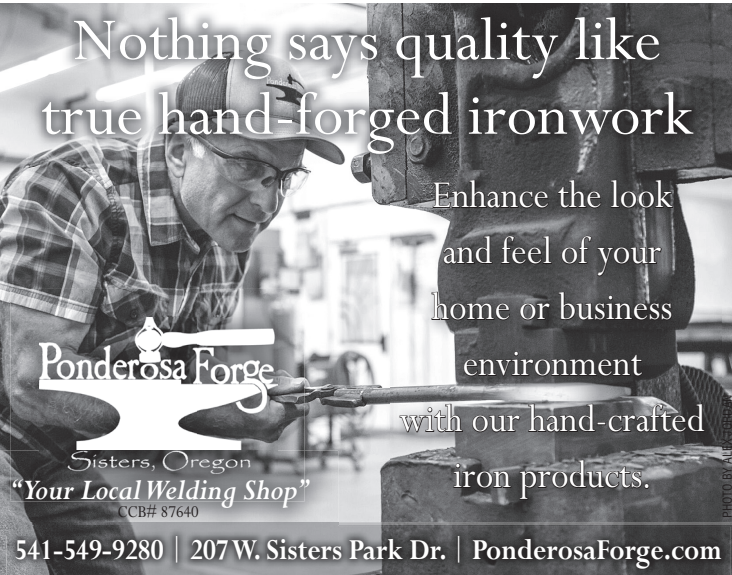
- Public Works Director Paul Bertagna reported that 13 trees in Village Green Park had damage and lost limbs or full trees due to the heavy late snowfall in March. A 60-foot manlift was brought in to remove “widowmakers.”
- Sisters City Council goals for 2019-20 will be discussed and approved by resolution at the April 10 Council meeting.
- City Manager Cory Misley reported that staff are in the home stretch preparing the 2019-20 City budget. The Budget Committee, which consists of volunteers appointed by the mayor, will meet in May to review and approve the budget, which will be in affect July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020, the City’s fiscal year.
- Vandals destroyed a door on the Fir Street Park restroom. It was bent in half and delaminated, destruction that would have been difficult to accomplish.
- Sign-ups for the Sisters Earth Day cleanup on Saturday, April 20, are being taken by phone, online, and in person at Sisters Park & Recreation District. Get a group together and join the fun from 8 a.m. to noon, meeting at SPRD to receive assignments, vests, trash bags and other supplies. Cleanup can also be organized at businesses, schools, and in neighborhoods. Trash bags can be dropped of that day at dumpsters located at the Sisters Ranger District office on the corner of North Pine Street and Cascade Avenue.
- The Creekside Campground opened on April 1 for the 2019 season, and the first RV arrived that evening. Reservations for camping spaces have been coming in nonstop. Camp hosts arrive on May 1. Five new walk-in camping sites will be developed this spring on the east side of the campground.

- Gravel parking will be provided away from the sites and campers will walk in. The sites will include picnic tables and a nearby faucet.
- The modification work on the bridge over Whychus Creek between Creekside Park and the campground will take place next fall to make the bridge fully ADA compliant.
- The annual Arbor Day celebration will occur on April 26. School students are always engaged in the City’s observance of planting trees somewhere in Sisters. This year, high school students will be participating.
- The City has applied for a grant for new playground equipment to replace that currently located in Village Green Park. Notification about whether or not the City has been awarded the grant will come in October.
- April 13 is the day for the Community Garden cleanup in preparation for this year’s growing season. Everyone with a plot at the garden is encouraged to come for the day to help ready the garden.
- Planning is underway for a Noxious Weed Pull event in Sisters on June 22. Sisters resident Matt Flautt, ecologist, and Beth Johnson, botanist with the USFS, are spearheading a Weed Eradication Day. They are hoping to engage a large number of Sisters residents, businesses, and organizations. More information will be coming later this spring.

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Man files suit against restaurant owners

BEND (AP) — A man is suing the owners of Bend’s Hong Kong Restaurant claiming an employee over-served two men who brutally beat him in 2017.

The *Bulletin* reports Paul Thompson Jr. filed a \$4 million negligence and personal injury complaint last week in Deschutes County Circuit Court alleging a bartender — Thompson’s on-again, off-again girlfriend — served the men past the point of intoxication and riled them up enough that they attacked Thompson that day.

According to Thompson’s complaint, on April 2, 2017, Katrina Hamilton was the only server on duty when Earl “Buzzy” Shone Jr. and Jason LaPollo drank for hours while Hamilton complained about Thompson.

After Thompson showed up, the complaint says the men beat him causing skull fractures and other serious injuries.

Both men pleaded guilty to criminal charges.

A message left for restaurant management wasn’t returned.

BURN PERMITS: System will allow fire district to stay aware of fires

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district reports.

From the fire district’s standpoint, safety during open-burn season, which typically runs from November 1 to May 31 each year, is of the utmost importance. The online reporting system allows staff the ability to see who is burning on a daily basis, immediately notify users of changing conditions, message important fire safety information and ensure that those planning to burn are aware of the City of Sisters outdoor burn ban, and that the right jurisdiction is being notified of the planned burn.

You will be required to check-in each day you wish to burn and specify that you are burning for the day. Open burning can only be conducted with a permit issued by the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District. The requirement to check-in each day is based on changing atmospheric and weather conditions such as wind or air dryness. The fire district’s on-duty shift commanders will make a determination before 8 a.m. each day whether burning will be allowed within the district.

The district is also using a small group of locals to

test an app, in development locally, which will allow users to sign in once on their phone and schedule burn days.

“The app will hopefully offer an even easier experience than what the website will be capable of,” district spokesperson Julie Spor reported. “We are in the process of gathering feedback on the app, and will announce when that is available on the app store. The developers want to make sure the app is easy to use, and really effective for collaborative fire safety.”

Chief Johnson said, “We appreciate residents’ patience during the transition to the new online system, and we hope that they find the process more efficient and user-friendly than methods used in the past.”

For more information about burn permits, visit the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District’s website at <https://www.sistersfire.com> or call the administration office at 541-549-0771.

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