



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sisters businesses stepped up in a big way for Women Build week for Habitat for Humanity.

Women Build for Sisters Habitat

Last week more than 50 local women, including teams from Washington Federal Bank and Heart of Oregon Corps YouthBuild, worked on four homes in Sisters Habitat's Village Meadows neighborhood as part of Sisters Habitat for Humanity's Women Build Week.

"Sisters Habitat has hosted a Women Build for eight years, and this is the first year that we have sought local sponsorship to help fund the event, as Lowe's discontinued its sponsorship of events in small towns," Habitat's Family Services Manager Marie Clasen said. "We had such a great response from businesses supporting our event."

The sponsors made it possible to purchase T-shirts and building supplies. Sponsors were Washington Federal Bank, Zosel-Harper Realtors, Sisters Ace Hardware, Hoyt's Hardware, Gmars Consulting, Metabolic Maintenance, Sisters Saloon and Premier Mortgage Resources.

Each day, 10 women and two leads worked at different homes painting, landscaping, building heat pump enclosures and deconstructing foundation forms. Habitat

families worked alongside the teams during the week.

"This is always a great week for local women from our community to come together with purpose; helping families achieve stability and independence through safe, decent and affordable housing. There's a lot of laughter and camaraderie throughout each day as new friends work together addressing our local housing challenge in a concrete way," volunteer and Women Build team lead Toni Landis said.

Women can help build year-round at the job site. Anyone interested in volunteering can call the office to sign up for a volunteer orientation. The next orientation is scheduled for June 5 at noon at the Habitat offices at 141 W. Main Ave. More information is available by calling 541-549-1193. Sisters Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions.

Rides take cyclists out on the gravel

Cyclists in Sisters are getting off the pavement and onto the gravel as part of a growing national trend. Gravel-riding — aka gravel-grinding or adventure-riding — is the fastest-growing aspect of the sport and Sisters is uniquely poised to take advantage of that.

Brad Boyd of Eurosports reported that, as he has a new gravel bike, the shop's free public rides on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays will be mixed-surface; some road, some gravel and dirt roads, and a little easy single-track.

Cyclists are invited to bring a gravel or mountain bike and meet at Eurosports on the corner of Hood Avenue and North Fir Street at 10 a.m. ride days. Rides will be in the 2- to 2.5-hour range to start. For more information call 541-549-2471.



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