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News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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Traffic leads local concerns about public safety

By Sue Stafford Correspondent

Traffic is the biggest public safety concern of local residents, and they're willing to pay more to enhance local law enforcement services. That's according to results of a survey conducted last summer by the City of Sisters.

City Manager Cory Misley recently released an executive summary, in which he

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A home in Sisters...



The Neal Family broke ground on their future Sisters Habitat for Humanity home on Desert Rose Loop.

Open houses focus on wilderness permits

The Deschutes National Forest will host two open houses in November for the public to learn more about the proposed special recreation permit fee structure for the limited-entry system, which will be implemented next year in the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, and Three Sisters wilderness areas.

The public comment period for the proposed special recreation permit fee began on October 9 and will end on November 25.

The first open house

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Sisters speaks out on First Amendment

By Sue Stafford

Correspondent

Over a hundred local citizens gathered last Thursday evening for a panel presentation and group discussion about the significance of the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution:

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

The moderator for the evening was Christopher Van Dyke, attorney, former assistant attorney general of Oregon, and the son of comedian and actor Dick Van Dyke. He told the audience his teachers had described him as "verbally energetic."

Van Dyke issued a call for civility in this age of "digital

amplification," where people's speech can become aggressive and threatening, and yet censorship runs the risk of controlling and marginalizing certain people or groups. He believes our democracy is at stake if we can't maintain civil discourse. He asked the audience to consider, "It's not what you can say, rather what you should say."

A four-member panel then dividually discussed the tenets of the First Amendment from their particular perspectives - legal, journalistic, religious, and literary.

Local retired attorney Pete Shepherd, who practiced law in Salem and Eugene, and as part of the Department of Environmental Quality, shared that he earned the name "Long Wind" in his work with the tribes. Despite the moniker, he provided a succinct and very understandable

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Volleyball squad crowned co-champs

By Rongi Yost

Correspondent

The Lady Outlaws battled Sweet Home, the No.1 team in the Oregon West League, in a grueling two-and-ahalf hour five-set match on Monday, October 21, and pulled off an extraordinary win to finish league as cochampions with the Lady Huskies.

Prior to the match, seniors Sam Silva, Addy Myhre, and Maddison Anderson were showered with flowers and gifts from friends and family.

Tension was high as Sisters (No. 4 in the state) and Sweet Home (No. 2 in state) prepared to battle one last time in league play. The first set was intense, and filled with long, hard-fought rallies, incredible digs, kills, and blocks at the net. It was close the entire way, with neither team able to gain more than a three-point advantage. With the Outlaws down 22-23, Greta Davis made a powerful kill that the Huskies didn't have a chance



The Outlaws celebrated an intense five-set victory over rival Sweet Home, which earned them co-champion status in league play.

to return, and the score was tied 23-23. It evened up again at 24-24, 25-25, and 26-26, as neither team was able to get the two-point spread for the win.

At that moment, and to everyone's surprise, Sophie Silva ran off the court and into the hallway. The referee had already whistled for the serve, so the Outlaws were out of rotation and the Huskies were awarded a point and took a one-point advantage, 26-27. Later, Coach Rory Rush explained to The Nugget what had happened.

"Sophie felt sick and rushed off and actually threw up. I told her later she should have just puked on the floor, and it would have saved us a point," Rush jokingly said with a smile.

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