

C O M M U N I T Y

Sisters woman battles kidney disease

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Jamie Audrain of Sisters is facing a sudden, dangerous health crisis.

The mother of two was diagnosed with an aggressive form of kidney disease connected with diabetes and has seen her kidney function fall from 60 percent this summer to 28 percent currently.

Audrain has had “brittle” Type 1 diabetes for about 15 years. This type of diabetes is difficult to treat and control, and it can trigger secondary

health problems.

“It’s very touchy,” she said. “Anything I can catch, I probably will.”

And anything she catches often progresses into pneumonia.

Troubling issues arose this summer, with protein showing up in her urine and new problems cropping up with blood pressure, high cholesterol and deteriorating eyesight. Then, over Thanksgiving, she got sick again. Again, she had

See AUDRAIN on page 23



PHOTO PROVIDED

Outlaws students trek in the Cascade high country as part of the IEE program at Sisters High School.

Supporting youth mental health in Sisters

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

A heavy emphasis has been placed on mental health among youth nationally, and Sisters School District continues to focus on ways to support students from kindergarten through graduation.

In order to best serve students and families, the district’s counselors are working to help define their roles as compared to other counseling-related resources — including professional therapists, psychologists, and mental-health support

programs.

Sisters School District employs a total of four school counselors. Kate Kuitert serves grades K-4 at Sisters Elementary, where she is in her first year after 14 years in Sherwood. Brook Jackson works at Sisters Middle School, where he has been employed since 2012. Sisters High School has two counselors, Lindy Weddel, in her first year; and Rick Kroytz, who has worked for the district as the ASPIRE coordinator since 2015 and moved into

See YOUTH on page 22

IEE fundamental to Outlaws culture

By Ceili Cornelius
Correspondent

IEE (Interdisciplinary Environmental Expedition) has been a fundamental part of the culture of Sisters High School for almost 20 years, starting in 2000. It is one of the unique offerings that makes Sisters High School stand out among its peers — even among larger schools.

And it has shaped the lives of many an Outlaw (*see related story, page 17*).

Boyd Keyser, then-principal of SHS, believed in integrative programming and assigned three teachers to create an interdisciplinary class. Those teachers are still teachers in the classes today: Glen Herron, Rand Runco,

and Samra Spear.

Rand Runco created co-op PE classes, integrating outdoor recreation. Samra Spear taught English and literature; Glen Herron taught geology and science. Rob Phelps brought in social studies. The interdisciplinary class was created around Sisters’ long history of kids being outdoors and learning outside.

“I think seeing the program through the lens of learning about a sense of place and the importance of that is why we do it,” said Runco.

“I love to see kids develop a love and respect for the world around them,” said Spear.

The instructors emphasize the importance of having

a sense of place, not just in Sisters, but wherever they are. Spear loves seeing how kids make the connection between English and the outdoors.

“With this integrative teaching, nothing was bigger than something else or more important,” said Runco.

“I like seeing how it all ties together for kids. I think they retain more material during the integration aspect and realize the connection between the classroom and the outdoors,” Spear said.

Spear does a lot of themed and place-based education and projects in her classes. Students read and focus on things that have to do with

See IEE on page 16

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-549-8737 or 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, noon, 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), Stitchin’ 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.

Citizens4Community, Let’s Talk 3rd Monday, 5:30 to 8 p.m. RSVP at citizens4community.com

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 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., The Lodge in Sisters. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Cribbage Club Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 2 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 Parent Teacher Community 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson’s Support Group 2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m., The Lodge. 541-668-6599.

Sisters Red Hats 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

Sisters Rotary Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-760-5645.

Sisters Speak Life Cancer Support Group 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 1 p.m. Suttle Tea. 503-819-1723.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Library. 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 Monthly on a Friday. Call 541-549-4133 for date & time.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

Sisters Middle School Parent Collaboration Team 1st Tuesday, 2 p.m., SMS. 541-610-9513.

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