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Families celebrate Screen-Free Week

By T. Lee Brown
Correspondent

Sisters Elementary School invited students and their families to put down their digital devices and turn off the TV for a week. Screen-free bingo cards went home, offering a plethora of activity ideas: hiking, baking, and playing board games among them. To cap it off, Hoodoo Ski Bowl gave families a coupon for steeply discounted lift tickets and rentals for Friday-night fun.

Classrooms with good success on their bingo cards could collectively earn rewards.

"I'm doing it for the extra recess," explained fourth-grader Bennitt Hayes, five days into the experiment.

He found it difficult to step away from his X-Box video gaming console.

See **SCREEN FREE** on page 16

Heavy lifting...



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Construction is well underway on a project on Cascade Avenue. Pacwest Builders have designed the new hotel and taproom on the site of the original Ski Inn, where the building was removed after a giant ponderosa pine fell on it in a windstorm in 2013.

Contract will give Sisters more deputies

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

More deputies will patrol Sisters in coming years under a contract that is currently awaiting approval by the Sisters City Council.

In a workshop on Wednesday evening, February 26, council members weighed two contract options — one that would provide for a dedicated Sisters lieutenant and four deputies and one that would provide for a lieutenant and three deputies. The consensus was to go with the three-deputy option for a total annual contract cost of \$771,200. The current contract costs the City of Sisters \$661,000. Going with four deputies would boost the cost to \$852,300.

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Artist reveals 2020 Quilt Show poster

By Jodi Schneider
Correspondent

Local artist Dan Rickards knows there's something magical about Sisters. This year's poster, "My Kind of Town," created by Rickards for the 45th Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show (SOQS) captures the essence of this charming town.

"There are quite a few elements that need to come through in every poster," Rickards told *The Nugget*. "The Sisters mountains, a quilt, and the theme involved that needs to be threaded in."

Rickards painted the majestic Three Sisters Mountains under a bright sun as the backdrop, included the town of Sisters, along with

one anonymous woman wearing a sun bonnet.

"At first, I wasn't sure if I should have someone in the painting. But I realized it's the people in the town during the quilt show that are such a huge part of the show, not just the quilts going up," Rickards said. "It's the way the town transforms with all the people here. All the reunions that happen, the families, mothers, daughters and grandparents, the sisters, and friends that get together once a year."

"I have filtered through one person in a way that represents all the people. I almost painted a town of people, but that element remains for a

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Durham named Woman of the Year

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Jesse Durham, co-owner of Sisters Coffee Co., has earned recognition as Woman of the Year from the Bend Chamber of Commerce.

The annual award ceremony was held Friday evening at the Eagle Mountain Event Center in Bend.

Durham described the award as "a huge honor," placing her among women who have a major impact in the life of Central Oregon.

"I think the spirit of the award is just to recognize women who are advancing in leadership and have achievements and are contributing to the Central Oregon community," she told *The Nugget*.

She said she was taken by surprise by actually winning



PHOTO PROVIDED

Jesse Durham has been honored as Woman of the Year by Bend Chamber. She is pictured with her husband, Michael Kirsch, and mother, Joy Durham.

the award.

"They started introducing (the award) bio and I thought, 'That sounds like me. That's me!'"

It's the second significant award Durham has received in recent months.

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