

# COMMUNITY

## Sisters ‘flattening the curve’ of virus spread

The painful measures undertaken in Sisters and across the globe during the past week — school closures, event cancellations and “social distancing” measures — are part of an effort to “flatten the curve” in the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

While cases of COVID-19 remain few in Deschutes County, the aim of active measures is to prevent an explosion of cases such as what occurred in Italy.

As NPR reported last week, “The idea is to increase social distancing in order to slow the spread of the virus, so that you don’t get a huge spike in the number of people getting sick all at once.

If that were to happen, there wouldn’t be enough hospital beds or mechanical ventilators for everyone who needs them, and the U.S. hospital system would be overwhelmed.”

On Sunday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) called for the cancellation of in-person events of 50 or more people for the next eight weeks to try to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

As of Monday afternoon, Governor Kate Brown mandated that restaurants be restricted to take out and delivery only. She also banned gatherings of more than 25 people, though encouraging no more than 10.



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Transactions can be conducted at the sheriff’s office where cameras will record activity.

## SOAR Foundation relaunched programs

The SOAR Foundation has relaunched to support the programs of Sisters Park & Recreation District.

The SOAR Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation based in Sisters, has relaunched with the appointment of three new board members and a revised mission statement. Its updated mission is to help secure funding for designated programs and projects benefiting the Sisters community, primarily through the Sisters Park & Recreation District (SPRD).

New board members

Tom Bracken, Rosemary Vasquez and Karinda Boone join member-at-large Darren Layne as the nucleus of the revitalized organization. All are residents of the Sisters community and have volunteered to continue to support the growth and demand for programs offered through SPRD. Bracken was appointed president, Vasquez vice president, and Boone serves as secretary and treasurer. Each new member was appointed to a three-year term.

See SOAR on page 18

## Blue Line Safety Zone now in Sisters

Need to make a legal exchange of goods with a stranger, or exchange child custody in a tense relationship? There’s now a safe place in Sisters to conduct that kind of business.

The Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office has established a Blue Line Safety Zone in Sisters. This clearly marked and well-lit location is for the Sisters community to use for the various kinds of exchanges that occur every day in Central Oregon. By providing a location in the parking lot of the sheriff’s office substation in Sisters, the sheriff’s office hopes to deter those that would take advantage of or do harm to those in our community.

Sheriff Shane Nelson said, “Law enforcement is

known as the Thin Blue Line, protecting our community by delivering superior public safety and service. Our office strives to be as proactive as we can be in delivering this service. The Sheriff’s Blue Line Safety Zone provides a safer, video-recorded public area for parent exchanges of children as well as in-person transactions following online sales.”

Deputies will not get involved in or directly monitor transactions; however, they will have video surveillance available to refer back to in the event of need. Community members should call 911 from this location should an emergency arise.

Meeting a person unknown to you to complete an online transaction

comes with inherent risk. Community members should always use caution and choose a public location to complete any online transaction, the sheriff’s office notes.

“ The Sheriff’s Blue Line Safety Zone provides a safer, video-recorded public area for parent exchanges of children as well as in-person transactions following online sales. — Sheriff Shane Nelson ”

## SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

### BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

**Al-Anon** Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. / Thurs., 10 a.m., 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, SPRD bldg. 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) 2nd & 4th 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** 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., Takoda’s. 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 Monday, 5 p.m. Sisters Library. Public welcome. 808-281-2681.

**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** 2nd Tuesday, 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, 3:30 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, 4:30 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