

Buddy Walk raises \$200 for Down syndrome support...



PHOTO PROVIDED

Saturday morning was crisp and sunny, perfect for a community event. Twenty-eight people met at the Sisters High School track to participate in Central Oregon's Buddy Walk. With the support of ALSO (Advocates for Life Skills and Opportunity), Sisters Opportunities for Unified Living, and The Roundhouse Foundation, they walked the track and raised \$200 for the cause. Masks, hand sanitizer, and a few puppies were present to keep everyone safe and happy.

Road work will continue for months on highways

Damage from wildfires and danger from falling trees and rocks will make reopening Highways 22 and 126 between Sisters and the Willamette Valley a slow and arduous process.

ODOT reported last week on work on Highway 126 to Eugene.

"Once initial tree and rock removal and stabilization is done, ODOT crews will be repairing burned pavement, replacing destroyed guardrail and signs, and clearing culverts and ditches. Travelers should expect multiple work zones with lengthy delays for months to come."

ODOT opened Highway 242, the Old McKenzie Highway, up to the McKenzie summit on Friday, September 25. Access is allowed ONLY from the gate west of Sisters to the summit at about Dee Wright Observatory. No access will be allowed on the western portion of the highway until additional firefighting and danger-tree removal has been completed, ODOT reports.

Highway 22 remains closed indefinitely from Gates Hill Road (milepost 33) in Gates to the Highway 22/20 intersection at Santiam Junction.

"The wildfires damaged or destroyed tens of thousands

of trees along (Highway 22)," ODOT reported. "These hazard trees are a threat to the road and to the travelers that use it. Crews have been working hard to remove them so we can open up other sections of the highway. Also, miles of guardrail and hundreds of signs have been damaged or destroyed and will eventually need to be repaired or replaced.

"ODOT's immediate goal is to get the hazard trees cleared, and then use pilot cars from the east and west to open these communities while we work on the other repairs. ODOT continues to work closely with the Oregon State Police, and the Marion and Linn County Sheriff's departments on a daily basis and will continue to coordinate our efforts with them to open up the communities of Detroit and Idanha."

Other highways in the state are also closed because of wildfire damage to the roads. ODOT is working to open these highways as quickly and safely as possible to allow access for property owners and the communities that were impacted.

Highway 22 and Highway 126 are major commercial routes across the Cascades and primary routes for travelers.

Future of marijuana growing on November ballot

Right now, there is a moratorium on new marijuana growing operations in Deschutes County. In the November election, residents of Deschutes County can decide whether to make that ban on new grows permanent.

Measure 9-134 asks voters whether additional marijuana producers, processors, and processing sites should be allowed in Deschutes County going forward. A "yes" vote would overturn the moratorium established by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners in August 2019 and allow additional growing operations to be established in the county; a "no" vote would keep the current ban on new operations in place.

The ban does not affect operations that were in place before the moratorium took effect, and the vote will not impact them either. Retail marijuana businesses and recreational or medical use of marijuana will not be impacted by the vote.

EDCO announces BVC finalists for investment

Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO) has announced the top five Early Stage finalists advancing to the 17th Annual Bend Venture Conference (BVC) on October 15 and 16. These companies will compete for an investment of \$30,000 from Portland Seed Fund.

The Early Stage competition includes companies that have a great idea and are close to "proof of concept." They are pre-revenue (or very early) and are in the process of testing their product in the market.

Ten companies took the stage both virtually and in person to pitch during the September 24 Central Oregon PubTalk. Masa won the audience vote and received a \$3,000 cash award, courtesy of Portland Seed Fund and Elevate Capital.

The five finalists that will compete at BVC are:

1. ADHERE GEAR Tech Corp. (Portland): Deploying

shared-use luggage and travel gear for passengers to create a safer and cleaner environment for their personal items.

2. Cozera (Portland): Creating verified digital identities for remote and in-person identity verification to increase customer satisfaction and deter identity fraud.

3. Masa (Portland): The first online farmers market, bringing farmers markets to people via an online marketplace (think Etsy for farmers).

4. MustDeliver (Portland): A digital marketplace delivering industry-leading clarity, control, and communication between shippers and drivers in the trucking business.

5. YesOMS (Bend): A platform for merchants and brand owners to offer a superior user experience to their customers through their own branded mobile application.

Tickets to BVC are on sale: www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-bend-venture-conference-tickets-107892112212.



The City of Sisters is accepting applications for volunteers to serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Three openings. All positions will be appointed to 4-year terms.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Four openings. All positions will be appointed to 3-year terms.

HOUSING POLICY ADVISORY BOARD: Two openings. Both positions will be appointed to a 3-year term.

URBAN FORESTRY BOARD: One opening. This position will be appointed to a 3-year term.

CITY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD: Two openings. One position is for a 3-year term, and one position is for a 1-year term.

PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY: Five positions. Three positions will be appointed to a 3-year term, and two positions will be appointed to a 2-year term.

Applicants for open positions must live within the City limits with the exception of two members of the Public Works Board. Two of these board members can live outside of the City limits, but must live within the School District Boundaries.

Applications can be found at www.ci.sisters.or.us/bc and will be accepted until 5 p.m. on November 6, 2020. Applications can be emailed to kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us or sent to Kerry Prosser, City Recorder/City Hall, P.O. Box 39, Sisters, Oregon 97759

Interviews will occur in late November, appointments will happen in December, with terms beginning with the first meeting of the Board, Committee or Commission in early 2021.

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