

# The Nugget

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## Schools set plans for return to in-person learning

By Charlie Kanzig  
Correspondent

All students in the Sisters School District are scheduled to return to some level of in-person learning by February 1, according to a communication sent out January 6 by superintendent Curt Scholl.

Sisters Elementary School has been operating with in-person instruction under what

See **SCHOOL** on page 8



Sisters High School's equestrian team has launched into training, though their competition season will be somewhat restricted due to COVID-19.

PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

## Retiring mayor assesses Sisters

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

When Mayor Chuck Ryan took office, the City was just beginning to pull out of a very unsettled time for City government. In a fairly short period of time, the City had had three city managers, and hit a low point in citizen interest and involvement on City commissions and boards.

As Ryan retires from his mayoral duties this week, the City is running smoothly

See **RYAN** on page 9

## Broadband internet on tap for Camp Sherman

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

After more than a decade of false starts, broadband internet service is coming to Camp Sherman via Sureline Broadband in Madras.

Local realtor and Camp Sherman native Shane Lundgren has been heading up a group of Camp Sherman residents since 2009 to secure internet access for the community. According to Lundgren, the original impetus was the government's "No Child Left Behind" program in 2009-10, to bring internet learning opportunities to students at the Black Butte School in Camp Sherman.

Through the past decade, potential connection was discussed with BendBroadband, Century Link, and then Central Electric Cooperative to possibly run cable lines on their power poles. The negotiations with BendBroadband ended when they were sold to the national TDS corporation, who had no interest in extending service to Camp Sherman.

Due to its isolated location under the shadow of Green Ridge and Black Butte in the thick Deschutes National Forest, Camp Sherman presents a number of challenges to providing internet and cell service. Lundgren said that over the years they have tried hard to solve the problem. He and Lamont Boileau, senior account executive for Sureline, credit the hard work of Caprielle Foote-Lewis, Sisters Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO) manager, for helping bring Sureline to Camp Sherman by leveraging some of her contacts.

Sureline was able to secure a grant to help with the expense of equipment

See **INTERNET** on page 14

## SHE Project raises funds for victims of domestic violence

By Helen Schmidling  
Correspondent

The SHE Project, 52 pieces of art for sale, returns this month to the art wall at Good Day Café in Sisters to raise funds for Saving Grace, a Central Oregon organization that provides services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors.

Each of the artworks is designed along a theme of empowering women, with a theme or title that begins with the word "She." For instance, "She knows her greatest power is her own inner tranquility." Or, "She flies with her own wings," which happens to be the Oregon state motto, and "She let the moon restore her softly at night." Another says, "Take a chance; seize the moment. What are you waiting for?" Many are collages, and nearly every media is represented. Each piece is just \$35, all of which is donated to Saving Grace.

Kit Stafford, a textile artist and community activist, coordinates the SHE Project



PHOTO BY HELEN SCHMIDLING

Penelope Youngfeather, Kit Stafford, and Paul Bennett check out the SHE Project art on the wall at Good Day Café. All sales benefit Saving Grace, which provides services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors.

with the help of all the artists who've donated.

"The pieces reflect the many facets of what the artists are thinking about in these times, and it's especially poignant and heartfelt for people in positions of trauma and danger," Stafford said. "All of us who made something are sending out a lot of love to those women, because the process of making involves your heart and your hands."

The SHE Project is a significant fundraiser from Sisters. Last year's SHE Project included an artists' kickoff, where creators began making their work, and an opening reception for the show, both of which were missing this year. The 2020 event raised around \$2,000 for Saving Grace according to Harmony Thomas, owner of Bedouin

See **SHE PROJECT** on page 23

**"We are excited to be in Camp Sherman. This has been a long time coming and we are standing on the shoulders of others.**

**Now it's our job to get it done.**

**— Josh Richesin**

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