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Secondary students return to school

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

“Snow on the ground, sun is out, kids are coming back — life is good!” said Sisters Middle School (SMS) Counselor Brook Jackson on Monday, January 25, as students returned to classrooms for the first time in months.

After nearly 11 months of receiving instruction through Comprehensive Distance Learning, secondary students in Sisters School District returned to the classroom this week under the “Hybrid Model,” which allows them to be in school part of the week, while continuing distance learning in the remainder.

Grades five and six at SMS and nine and 10 at Sisters High School (SHS) stepped through the doors of their respective schools Monday, January 25, to a much-changed environment, with strict protocols in place ensuring social distancing,



PHOTO BY JACK TURPEN

Some Sisters Middle School students returned to school Monday as part of the district’s “Hybrid Model.”

including specific entry and exit points, the establishment of cohorts, and extra spacing in hallways, commons, and classrooms.

For ninth graders at SHS, this week represents their first on-site experience as a group of high schoolers.

Principal Joe Hosang, along with other staff members and some senior student

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Hospice seeking local help in building challenge

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The starting gun has sounded and the race is underway here in Sisters to raise \$100,000 toward an overall goal of \$6 million donated for construction of a new 12-bed Hospice House on the Partners In Care campus in Bend to serve all of Central Oregon.

The project already has local donations of \$10,500 and they hope to have the total amount by June 30, 2021. Six million dollars will come from donations and \$6

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Sheriff’s office investigates shooting

The Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office is seeking the public’s help in investigating a shooting incident that occurred earlier this month west of Sisters.

Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office received a report on January 17, at approximately 3:40 p.m., of a vehicle being shot at a long-term camp in the area of USFS Road 1510 near the 450 spur, approximately five miles west of Sisters. A green mid-1990s Chevrolet Tahoe had been shot multiple times by an unknown subject near the camp.

The vehicle was in very close proximity to a tent that was being used for housing.

The occupants of the camp called 911 and

deputies responded to the area, assisted by a U.S. Forest Service law enforcement officer. Additionally, a USFS Law Enforcement K-9 responded to search the area extensively. DCSO reports that no suspects were located.

Over the past week, deputies have conducted multiple interviews and have searched the area for additional evidence. The investigation is active and ongoing.

The Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office is encouraging the public to contact the Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office at 541-693-6911 if they have any further information on this case.

Winter finally shows up in Sisters

Sisters got its first decent winter snowfall last week as a storm that was supposed to provide just a dusting proved considerably more robust and blanketed town with better than four inches of the white stuff.

Friday’s snowfall snarled traffic on local highways, with different crashes throughout the day periodically closing Highway 20 both west and east of town and blocking traffic on Highway 126 toward Redmond. With a little more snow in the forecast, Oregon State Police reminded drivers of the importance of some basic safety tips:

- Check your route and the weather. Use www.tripcheck.com for updated road closures and chain requirements.
- Drive slowly. Always



PHOTO BY BILL BARTLETT

The first real snowfall of the winter brought out the young folks in Sisters — for a little bit of play and a little bit of work.

adjust your speed down to account for lower traction when driving on snow or ice.

- Accelerate and decelerate slowly. Apply the gas slowly to regain traction

and avoid skids. Don’t try to get moving in a hurry and take time to slow down for a stoplight.

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