



PHOTO COURTESY DCSO

A search and rescue team wheeled an injured hiker out of the woods to Pole Creek Trailhead last Sunday.

## Rescuers aid hiker near Pole Creek Trailhead

A sheriff's search and rescue team came to the aid of an injured hiker near the Pole Creek Trailhead southwest of Sisters last weekend.

Deputy Shane Zook, assistant search and rescue coordinator, reported that Deschutes County Dispatch received a report of an injured hiker near the Pole Creek Trailhead at about 2:33 p.m. on Sunday, August 29. The reporting person said that a male in her hiking party had fallen and injured himself. The caller said that the hiker could not walk out and would need assistance to get back to the Pole Creek Trailhead. According to the coordinates that dispatch

received from the caller's phone, the injured hiker was located about 3.5 miles from the trailhead.

Ten Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue volunteers responded to the call. The volunteers parked at the Pole Creek Trailhead and hiked in with a wheeled litter. Members of the medical team evaluated the hiker's condition and prepared him to be transported in the wheeled litter. The hiker was then loaded into the wheeled litter and carried back out to the trailhead.

The hiker chose to seek further medical treatment on his own and did not want the assistance of an ambulance.

## City snapshot – funds boost investment

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

- Sisters City Council received good news from City Finance Manager Joe O'Neill at last week's meeting. The City received \$308,677.15 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the first of two tranches or installments. The second, equal amount will be awarded in a year, bringing the total awarded to \$617,000.

One of the eligible uses for these funds is for investment in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. The City will use part of the \$308,000 to cover the overage on the contract for the Locust Street sewer line relocation. The other part is scheduled to go toward the installation of solar panels on the public works headquarters building to help power the sewage treatment plant more economically.

- Sisters Habitat for Humanity received a \$50,000 affordable housing grant from the City to be evenly dispersed among the development of nine lots in the Village Meadows South development. According to Community Development Director Scott Woodford, Habitat met all the requirements for the grant. They do need to update their exhibits for the property to reflect the increase from six to 10 lots total (one is already built on). Another stipulation for the grant is to formally record the plat. City staff all agreed that no further requests will be granted for this particular development.

- The Locust Street sewer

line relocation project is now underway, with surveying being conducted. The contractors will begin their work after Labor Day, with the project wrapping up by the end of September. The process will begin with fish salvage in Whychus Creek near the Locust Street bridge. Then the creek will be diverted, and excavation will begin in the streambed. The new sewer line will be installed under the creek bed on the downstream side and the current line that is attached to the bridge on the upstream side will be decommissioned. The bike lane on the west side of Locust will be closed for the month of September as work progresses.

Public Works Director Paul Bertagna indicated this is a very technical project and will probably garner much public interest. The upstream line has been a longtime concern with the possibility for damage to the exposed pipe from debris coming down the creek during high water times.

- City Recorder Kerry Prosser announced that 734 responses have been received so far for the destination tourism survey that is currently underway, being completed by tourists visiting Sisters. She hopes to have 1,250 responses by the time the survey activity is completed. The information gathered will help inform decisions made regarding possible tourist attractions, activities, and facilities.

- A public hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 8 before the City Council on an amendment to update the City's Comprehensive Plan, which has been under review for the past year. The plan has had public input by two committees, a number of online surveys, tabling events around town, and presentations to all of the City committees, boards, and commissions. The public is invited to make comments during next week's hearing, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in Council chambers at City Hall.

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