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Going low^{at} Hole-in-the-Ground



BY DAVID JASPER • The Bulletin

ABOVE: Kaloo the dog heads down the steep path directly below the west rim of Hole-in-the-Ground, a maar crater southeast of La Pine.

David Jasper/
The Bulletin

After I told my editor I was planning to make the just-over-an-hour drive from Bend to Hole-in-the-Ground last Friday, she mentioned that “these names crack me up.”

With good reason. The day before, we’d been discussing some of these out-east names, which taken together are, well, very literal. Descriptive, yes, but literal: Whoever named Hole-in-the-Ground, a maar crater formed during the Pleistocene epoch, probably didn’t win a ribbon for creativity on the last day of Place-Naming Camp.

Less than 10 miles away is Fort Rock, which is a rock formation that resembles, yes, a fort, towering above the High Desert floor less than 10 miles away. There’s another maar crater across state Highway 31 named Big Hole, which is larger but more eroded than Hole-in-the-Ground. About 32 miles to the east of Fort Rock is Crack in the Ground, a volcanic fissure that resembles a — well, we’ll give you three guesses.

See **Ground** / B10

Smaller sno-parks can be just as good

BY BRIAN RATHBONE
The Bulletin

Less than a mile apart, Kapka Sno-park and Vista Butte Sno-park are two of the smaller, lesser known sno-parks in the Deschutes National Forest.

The two parks serve as gateways to fun east of Mount Bachelor. Kapka has access to the snowmobiling trails, while Vista Butte has cross-country skiing and snowshoeing trails.

The recent snow dump in Central Oregon had Chris Clute of Sunriver itching to fire up his snowmobile and cruise along atop the freshly fallen powder — his go-to spot is Kapka.

We just like to get out, get some exercise and get out in the snow and have fun,” Clute said.

Standing at 5,900 feet in elevation, Kapka is the second-highest sno-park along the Cascade Lakes Highway corridor, which means it can stay open longer for snow activities, said Jean Nelson-Dean of the Deschutes National Forest. It stays open almost as long as the popular Dutchman Sno-Park.



TRAILS

See **Kapka** / B9



Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin

The sun begins to set Jan. 23 as a snowmobiler rides back to the Kapka Butte Sno-park.

Central Oregon Sportsman Show is a go this year

BY MICHAEL KOHN
The Bulletin

The annual Central Oregon Sportsman Show, which last year was canceled at the last minute due to the sudden closures of the first wave of COVID-19, is scheduled to operate March 11-14.

In order to comply with COVID-19 guidelines on limiting the number of people indoors, the show is planned to have different time slots for entry, according to Joe Brennan, sales associate for O’Loughlin Trade Shows, which is organizing the event.

The Sportsman Show is a family-friendly event that features boats, RVs, camping and hunting equipment, and fishing gear. Activities include a fishing pool where kids can cast a line.

Tickets for the show will be sold online only, said Brennan, in order to limit contact between individuals.

“It has been a long summer and fall working with the authorities but we are persevering and as a result, we are doing our shows,” said Brennan.

The Sportsman Show is held at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds in Redmond. Tickets are available at: thesportshows.com/shows/central-oregon.

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