

Lecture targets forest management practices

By Jodi Schneider McNamee
Correspondent

Dealing with fire in the forest is a hot topic in Sisters.

On Tuesday evening at The Belfry, Sisters Science Club hosted the last Frontiers in Science lecture series of the year: "Sustainable Forest Management Practices, or... Why is there Smoke in My Blue Sky?"

The 7 p.m. symposium was free to the public and every seat in The Belfry was taken.

John Bailey, associate professor of silviculture at the Oregon State University College of Forestry, began with a focus on fire history and fire ecology during the past century and how that affects the restoration treatment practices in our forests today.

"Fire is a natural and integral part of our forests in this part of the world, there was a lot of fire for centuries. Fire was all over the place, all of the time. Fire scars are undeniable evidence," said Bailey.

After 1900 though, fire suppression was the order of the day.

"There was a lot of natural historic fire in this area on a regular basis before the times of fire exclusion, and we are now paying the price.

Climate change will only make it worse," Bailey said.

Bailey discussed the new research behind ways to manage Pacific Northwest forests.

"There is emerging scientific consensus that fuels management and restoration treatments in second growth, old clearcuts (also known as plantations) and other younger forests can be done in a manner that will reduce fire hazard as well as landscape-level fire risk, and which accelerates the development of old forest habitat. Such conditions reflect the evolutionary history and ecology of frequent low- and mixed-intensity fire in dry conifer forests and allow us to restore fire as a fundamental process in sustaining a resilient forested landscape in Central Oregon."

The Sisters Ranger District is in the planning stages to restore 25,000 acres on Green Ridge, north of Sisters. Will Brendeke, a silviculturist at Sisters Ranger District, discussed the forestry aspect of the Green Ridge Landscape Restoration Project.

"In the past 100 years, the forests of Green Ridge have been altered by timber harvest, livestock grazing, fire suppression, and fire exclusion," Brendeke said. "These activities have changed the

patterns of vegetation, fuels, and disturbed regimes to the degree that the landscape can no longer function as it did historically. To restore structure and function of these dynamic, disturbance-prone forests we propose to conserve habitats and restore the ecological structure, composition, and processes of the eastside forests, including fire by thinning prescribed fire, road closures, weed prevention and other restoration activities."

Many folks were engaged in discussion directly following the lecture on how they felt about what Bailey and Brendeke had to say in relation to sustainable forest management in the Sisters area.

"The message for me by the Forest Service was that some level of forest fire is good for the overall health of the forest," said Sisters resident Doug Smith, owner of Central Oregon Timber Frame. "Man does not have the budget or physical resources to extinguish all fires in the forest. Therefore, we as the public users of forest lands need to understand and support a forest management approach that establishes a balance of effort to fight some fires and coexist with others."

Sisters High School teacher Jon Renner said, "I think it's really great that these foresters attend town meetings like this and try to explain some of the

complicated issues that they face every day, especially in a community like ours that (is) so close to the forests. We

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– Doug Smith

have people living in the forest and it's important for people to know this information. And to have these guys come in here and have a question-and-answer period is terrific."

SISTERS ENTERTAINMENT > ARTS > SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday ~ April 30

Paulina Springs Books Author Reading & Slideshow with William Sullivan, "100 Hikes in Eastern Oregon" 6:30 p.m. With refreshments. \$5 entry refunded upon purchase of the featured book. For more information call 541-549-0866 or go to paulinasprings.com.

Faith Hope & Charity Vineyards Live Music with Lindy Gravelle 6 to 9 p.m. \$5 cover. For additional information go to online to faithhopeandcharityevents.com or call 541-526-5075.

Friday ~ May 1

A Home to Share "Mary Ellen's Place" Grand Opening Celebration! 4 to 7 p.m. at 506 S. Spruce St. Come see this new housing opportunity! For additional information call Sandy at 541-420-0641 or email info@ahometoshare.com.

Saturday ~ May 2

The Belfry Live Music with Taarka and The Rainbow Girls 8 to 11:30 p.m. \$12 online at bendticket.com and \$15 at the door day of show. For more info call 541-815-9122 or go online to belfryevents.com.

Sisters Fire Hall Wildfire Preparedness Event 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free to all. Learn about defending your property from wildfire. For more information call 541-549-0771 or go to sistersfire.com.

Sunday ~ May 3

Melvin's Fir Street Market Live Music Jam! 5 to 6 p.m. All acoustic; bring your stringed instrument and join, or just come listen & enjoy, free! For more info call 541-388-3987.

Sisters Library Taking Flight with Jim Anderson 1:30 p.m. Free! All are invited to learn about radio-controlled vehicles and watch Jim A. and friends maneuver them outside the library as part of the Diane Jacobsen Speaker Series. For more info call 541-549-5582.

FivePine Conference Center Cinco de Mayo Fiesta 2 to 5 p.m. Benefit for Sisters Park & Recreation District youth sports. 21-and-over only. \$18 per person; tickets must be purchased in advance by calling 541-549-2091 or email sprd@sistersrecreation.com.

Wed. ~ May 6

The Belfry Live Music with Ellis 7 p.m. Presented by the Sisters Folk Festival. \$15 for adults and \$10 youth in advance. For tickets and more info go to sistersfolkfestival.org or call 541-549-4979. Listen online at ellis-music.com.

Thursday ~ May 7

Sisters Community Church National Day of Prayer Breakfast 7 to 8:45 a.m. With Oregon Sports Hall of Fame Olympian Dave Johnson. Sponsored by Sisters Christian Academy. \$45 per person. For more information contact the academy at 541-549-4133.

Friday ~ May 8

Sisters High School Sisters Annual Lacrosse Invitational (SALI 2015) 11th annual event! Register through Sisters Park & Recreation District at 541-549-2091. For additional information go to salilax.com or sistersrecreation.com.

Downtown Sisters "My Own Two Hands" Art Stroll, Parade & Performances 4 to 7 p.m. Live music, art demonstrations, goodies and more! For additional information call 541-549-4979 or go to sistersfolk.org.

Saturday ~ May 9

Sisters High School Sisters Annual Lacrosse Invitational (SALI 2015) 11th annual event! Register through Sisters Park & Recreation District at 541-549-2091. For additional information go to salilax.com or sistersrecreation.com.

Deadline to submit items for the Events & Entertainment Calendar is no later than 5 p.m. Fridays to Teresa@NuggetNews.com

Hardtails Bar & Grill Live Music Fundraiser with Liam Kyle Cahill & The Manic Mechanics 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. for Cahill, and 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. for the Mechanics. Fundraiser for the family of Shemiah Gillan, killed in an accident. Includes raffle with great prizes. For more info call 541-549-6114 or go online to hardtailsoregon.com.

St. Edward the Martyr Catholic Church 15th Annual Tea & Fashion Show 11 a.m. \$20 fundraiser for church ministries and St. Winefride's public meditative garden. Lunch, dessert and raffle. For more info or tickets call 541-549-9391 or 541-548-5416.

Ponderosa Forge "My Own Two Hands" Art Auction & Party Must purchase tickets in advance for the party of the year! Live music, dancing & food. Proceeds benefit the Americana Project. For tickets call 541-549-4979 or go to sistersfolk.org.

Sunday ~ May 10

Sisters High School Sisters Annual Lacrosse Invitational (SALI 2015) 11th annual event! Register through Sisters Park & Recreation District at 541-549-2091. For additional information go to salilax.com or sistersrecreation.com.

Thursday ~ May 14

Hood Avenue Art One-Act Plays with The Patchwork Players 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$10 donation for Circle of Friends. Beverages for purchase from Bend Distillery. Info: 541-719-1800 or hoodavenueart.com.

Saturday ~ May 16

The Belfry Live Music with Steve Poltz & Grant Lee Phillips 7 to 10 p.m. Presented by the Sisters Folk Festival. \$20 for adults and \$15 youth. For tickets and more information go to sistersfolkfestival.org or call 541-549-4979.

The Belfry

May 2nd/Sat.
Taarka with The Rainbow Girls
New acoustic super group. Presenting masterfully deep Americana and gypsy jazz string band music.
8 PM • \$12 online

May 6th / Wed.
Sisters Folk Festival Presents
Ellis
An engaging and wholehearted writer, singer, and performer who is full of light and spirit. • 7 PM

May 16th / Sat.
Sisters Folk Festival Presents
Steve Poltz & Grant Lee Phillips
7 PM

PUB OPENS 1-1/2 HOURS PRIOR TO SHOWS
BelfryEvents.com
Call for Details
541-815-9122

Sisters MOVIE HOUSE

STARTS FRIDAY
FRI., MAY 1 - THURS., MAY 7

The Avengers (PG-13)
Fri 4:30, 7:30
Sat 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
Sun 1:00, 4:00, 7:00
Mon-Thurs 6:00

Age of Adaline (PG-13)
Fri 4:45, 7:00
Sat 2:15, 4:45, 7:00
Sun 2:00, 4:15, 6:30
Mon-Thurs 6:15

True Story (R)
Fri 7:00
Sat 4:45, 7:00
Sun 4:00, 6:15
Mon-Thurs 6:30

Woman in Gold (PG-13)
Fri 4:45, 7:00
Sat 2:00, 4:15, 6:30
Sun 1:30, 3:45, 6:00
Mon-Thurs 6:15

The Wrecking Crew (PG)
Fri 5:00
Sat 2:30
Sun 2:00

Movie times and titles are subject to change. Visit website or call for latest information.

WWW.SISTERSMOVIEHOUSE.COM
541-549-8800