

Sisters Folk Festival to unveil 2015 poster

Dennis McGregor's annual poster for the Sisters Folk Festival has become an artistic focal point as compelling as any song. McGregor will unveil his 2015 poster image at a special event at Clearwater Gallery/The Open Door on Tuesday, March 3.

The event is part of The Open Door wine bar and bistro's Dine for a Cause program. Each month a different nonprofit organization is featured and receives 10 percent of the gross receipts for every Tuesday of the month. The Sisters Folk Festival is the featured nonprofit for March. The event runs from 4 to 6 p.m. at the gallery located at 303 W. Hood Ave.

McGregor and festival Creative Director Brad Tisdell will also provide some live music for the event.

McGregor described the poster that will first be seen at the gallery event: "It features songbirds from all around the country," he said. "Which is what happens with the Sisters Folk Festival: For 20 years, songbirds from all around the country have migrated to Sisters."

This is the second festival poster to feature wildlife. Last

year's poster, featuring a hipster mule deer buck, was a big hit.

"I was a little apprehensive about what other folks might think of it, because we'd done people up to that point," McGregor acknowledged. "To my surprise, people were delighted by it."

Creating a very popular iconic image like "Buck" is a two-edged sword. It's gratifying of course — but it puts pressure on the artist.

"The challenge is — and it drives me crazy — is that I want every one to be better than the year before."

The best route to get there is to do something different.

"Don't expect anything based on what you've seen so far," the artist said.

The official event poster won't be available for a while yet, as the festival is still booking acts, all of which will be listed on the poster. Patrons won't go home empty handed though. There will be a small flyer with the new image available at the unveiling.

"People will walk away with a little handbill that looks like the poster with the acts so far," McGregor said.

Riders shine in first competition

By Kathryn Godsiff
Correspondent

Sisters High School equestrians competed well at their first Oregon High School Equestrian Team (OHSET) on the weekend.

Sisters veteran OHSET members, Cammi Benson and Ellie Chandler, shone in the performance events, taking first-places in seven different classes. First-timer Libby Harig helped the points total with a third-place in saddleseat equitation.

Rylee Hurtley continued a family tradition with a good showing in barrels, with other Sisters athletes finishing in the top 10 in several other events.

The meets are an exercise in stamina for athletes and parents — competition begins at 8 a.m. on Friday and concludes sometime Sunday afternoon. Parents are expected to help run the events, and they do so cheerfully.

There are three arenas seeing action at the Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center,

where the meets are held. Only one of them is indoors, and the weekend's cold temperatures and biting wind tested the athletes and their mounts.

One of the hallmarks of OHSET is the spirit of cooperation and encouragement seen in each arena. Those with more experience help those who have never had to wait with nervous stomachs

for their turn to execute a performance pattern or make a run in a gaming event.

Sisters advisor Yvette Chandler and Coach Lisa Allenbach were very pleased with their team.

"The kids have done an awesome job," said Chandler, standing in the icy wind on Saturday afternoon. "We're very pleased."

OHSET Meet results, Feb. 20-22

Performance classes

Hunt Seat over Fences: Ellie Chandler 1st
Saddle Seat Equitation: Ellie Chandler 1st
Libby Harig 3rd
Hunt Seat Equitation: Cammi Benson 1st
Dressage: Ellie Chandler 1st
Showmanship: Cammi Benson 1st
Working Rancher: Cammi Benson 1st
Western Horsemanship: Cammi Benson 1st
In Hand Trail: Rebecca

Rubbert 10th
In Hand Obstacle Relay: Ellie Chandler, Emma Nicklous, Rebecca Rubbert, Rylee Hurtley 8th
Games
Barrels: Rylee Hurtley 5th
Keyhole: Ellie Chandler 6th
Individual Flags: Ellie Chandler 9th
Canadian Flags: Ellie Chandler, Rylee Hurtley, Chawndra Craig, Tessa Georges 5th
Team results were unavailable at press time.

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LETTER FROM SISTERS CITY HALL

In an effort to better engage the public and keep the public informed, every two weeks in this space you will find information about what is happening in Sisters from the City's perspective — projects that are underway, how they are progressing, ideas the Council is considering and general updates. We want to do our very best to keep you informed.

At the February 19 workshop Council discussed updates to the Business License, Transient Merchant, and Public Event ordinances. Here is a summary of their discussions.

Temporary Business License: Allowed for a minimum of 4 and maximum 45 consecutive-day period. Issued for a single period per calendar year, no renewals or extensions. \$100 application fee plus \$10 per day.

Transient Merchant License: Licenses are limited to 3 consecutive days, 6 times per calendar year on the same property. The fee is \$100 per day. The fee for non-profit organizations will be reduced from \$25 to zero.

Public Events: Public Events on private property will be added to the ordinance. These will be events with more than 10 Transient Merchants taking place in the Downtown Commercial District. Fees for all events will be restructured to account for staff time and impact on City infrastructure. Included will be an application and park fee depending on size of event and \$10 per day fee for each Transient Merchant. Non-profit organizations will have reduced fees.

Council will have additional workshops to discuss these changes, and all interested parties are encouraged to attend.

A crowded agenda precluded setting a time and procedure to address public reaction to the "food cart issue." It will be brought up soon, and notice will be provided.

As always, if you have questions or concerns about anything going on in the City of Sisters, please contact one of your City Councilors (their contact information is available on the City website, www.ci.sisters.or.us) or City Hall at 541-549-6022.

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