

FIRE: Quick action spared cabin and surrounding area

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the two women on their bikes. Fearing the animal might be harmed by arriving emergency vehicles, she abandoned the bike and proceeded to tug the dog along with her on foot.

Eventually, she got to the phone and was able to reach the 911 operator who assured her help was on the way.

Meanwhile, her sister, Priscilla, had followed a garden hose around the house in search of a faucet, only to discover it was not hooked up. She proceeded another 50 yards to Metke's pump house where she found a longer hose which was connected, turned the water on, and dragged it back to the fire which was now leaping up into the eaves of the two-story structure and threatening a large, wood-burning cedar sauna built into the porch.

Fortunately, the hose was equipped with a spray nozzle and plenty of water pressure so she was able to extinguish the flames in a matter of minutes.

The structure is one of several in the area built by the late legendary Camp Sherman



PHOTO PROVIDED

Priscilla Wilt, left, and sister Robbie Beistel look at cabin they saved from fire in Camp Sherman on Saturday.

log cabin builder Luther Metke, Brian's grandfather. He was one of Oregon's last surviving veterans of the Spanish-American War when he died at age 100 in 1985. The cabin is located on a portion of Metke Lane that has recently been designated the "Luther Metke Corridor."

Neighbors were relieved that the fire was detected early enough to be extinguished as the aged, two-story structure might easily have ignited nearby timber and other cabins had it reached its potential.

Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff David Blann, who arrived on the scene just as the flames were being quenched, said, "These ladies

arrived just in the nick of time. There is just one word to describe them, and that word is 'hero'."

The Wilts and Metkes have been neighbors since 1985 when the Wilts built the cabin they now call home. Shortly after they retired there in 2011, another fire broke out on the Metke property when a power line blew down in a windstorm and ignited a garage which was also built from logs. The Wilts were also the first to detect and report that fire, but not before the building was destroyed. It has since been replaced by a second log structure which was completed just this year.

The cause of Saturday's blaze is under investigation.

Lifters set more records

Five weightlifters from Level 5 Fitness in Sisters headed south to California last month for Masters Nationals competition. They returned with some heavy metal to put on the shelf.

Keith Banning won a bronze medal, Jason Rybka silvered, and Jennifer Banning and Coach Ryan Hudson each took gold in their weight class. Hudson noted that Teri Sharp competed in a "loaded" weight class, turning in a performance that would have placed her third in any other class.

"We chose the wrong weight class for her," Hudson said.

Jennifer Banning cleaned and jerked 66 kilograms (145.5 lbs.). Hudson broke two of his own state records with a 110k (242.5 lbs.) snatch and a 250k (551 lbs.) total in



PHOTO PROVIDED

Level 5 lifters medaled in masters' competition.

snatch and clean and jerk.

In separate action, Level 5 qualified two young lifters, Jamesyn Mendez and Brady Wessel, for youth nationals in Bloomington, Indiana, June 26-28. The gym has hosted a fundraiser to help get the young men there. To donate, visit Level 5, located just east of Sisters Elementary School.

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