

PARADE: Veterans groups led red, white and blue parade

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not with us for protecting our liberty.”

There was a big shout-out to Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD, that has served Sisters for six decades.

Directly following the fire district engines was Warfighter Outfitters, a non-profit guide and outfitter service that provides no-charge fishing and hunting trips for wounded veterans. It was founded by Brett Miller, a wounded combat veteran who nearly lost his life while serving in Iraq.

More than 450 disabled veterans have been in the Pavati drift boat on fishing trips this year alone. And Miller’s trucks and boats rolled down Main Avenue filled with disabled combat veterans from previous trips.

Warfighter Outfitters’ entry was in honor of PFC Thomas Tucker, who was a prisoner of war, missing in action and killed in action in Iraq 2006.

The celebration wouldn’t be the same without The Corgi Express, a crowd favorite. Folks had a howling good time clapping for Rio,



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Retro style made a splash during the Sisters Christmas Parade.

Tippet, Trystan and Bailey, as they raced down the Avenue pulling their sleigh of goodies followed by their pet parents, Ann Richardson and Clyde Dildine.

Circle of Friends, a non-profit one-on-one mentoring support for children in Sisters community, sported a trailer provided by the City of Sisters, decorated in the theme colors. The trailer was filled with the mentors’ “little friends” waving the flag.

It was a combination of floats, fire engines and some amazing animals. The Christmas Parade had hundreds of children and big

folks applauding, laughing and cheering, as each entry made its way past.

From little dogs to miniature horses to the big dogs from the Pacific Northwest Newfoundland Club, there were favorites for everyone.

It wouldn’t be a Christmas Parade without Santa Claus, and as an annual tradition, the Black Butte Ranch carriage held the season’s most popular fellow.

Immediately following the parade, Santa made a visit to the Sisters Chamber office on Main Avenue for delightful one-on-one visits with the little folks.

Canal-clogging weed spreads on river

SALEM (AP) — An aquatic weed capable of clogging irrigation canals and other waterways is spreading along the Columbia River while the federal government is grappling with regulatory hurdles to remove it.

The Capital Press reports that Flowering Rush was discovered along the Columbia River last year. The federal government removed some patches, but by the time the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had obtained approval

under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act to remove the weed it had spread to new sites, starting the approval process over again.

The rush is growing in portions of the river managed by different districts. Each district must obtain clearance before removal.

Flowering rush has also been found on the Yakima River in Washington.



PHOTO BY CONRAD WEILER

All charged up and ready to go on Camp Sherman’s snowy roads.

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