

Sisters Rodeo poster is out

The 2016 Sisters Rodeo poster is now available at several locations in Sisters and Bend.

This year, the rodeo chose to highlight JJ Harrison, the extremely popular barrelman and clown, whose antics have entertained rodeo fans since 2007.

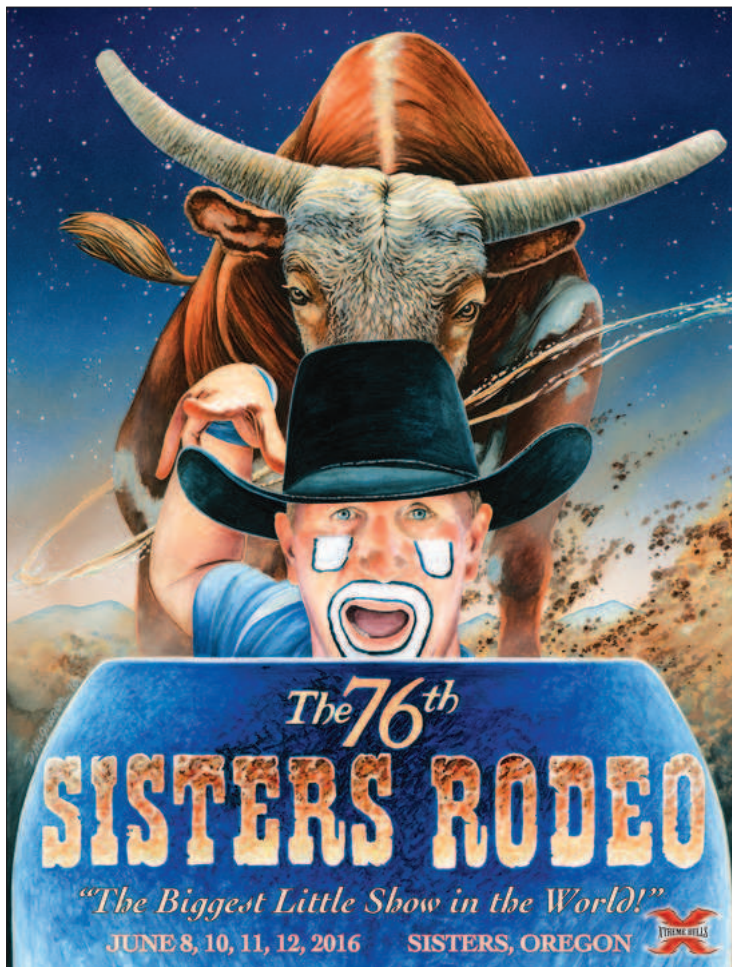
Dennis McGregor was commissioned for this painting. McGregor creatively added a bull charging toward Harrison, depicting the predicament of a rodeo barrelman when a bull wants more action after he has finished bucking. That is the serious side of the job, to get the attention of a bull so a cowboy is able to get safely out of the arena after a ride.

There is no mistaking the face of JJ Harrison, who has become an annual treat for Sisters Elementary School children, and at the rodeo where his PRCA career began. The depiction is photo-realistic, with JJ's mouth wide open to add to the thrill of the chase.

McGregor, a premier poster artist, has painted a dozen posters for Sisters Rodeo. He is also a very well-known artist whose use of vivid color mixes impressionism with reality.

The poster is available at the Sisters Rodeo ticket office, Open Range, and Dixie's in Sisters, and at The Boot Barn and High Desert Feed in Bend.

Sisters Rodeo will begin June 8 with Xtreme Bulls followed by four rodeo performances June 10-12. For tickets and information, call the ticket hotline at 541-549-0121 or 1-800-827-7522, or



Sister Rodeo's new poster features the legendary JJ Harrison.

visit the ticket office at 220 W. Cascade Ave. in Sisters.

For information visit www.sistersrodeo.com.

Irrigation manager to discuss Whychus Creek

By Craig F. Eisenbeis
Correspondent

"I think the Three Sisters Irrigation District work represents a fascinating story," says Bjarne Holm, coordinator of the Sisters Trails Alliance's (STA) ongoing lecture series in Sisters.

Next week, Marc Thalacker, manager of the Three Sisters Irrigation District (TSID) will give an overview of his organization's continuing modernization of their irrigation system and their role, with other partners, in the restoration of Whychus Creek.

Over the years, the health of Whychus Creek has been a major concern in Sisters Country. In the not-too-distant past, water use from the creek sometimes exceeded the stream's entire water flow, causing the creek to run completely dry in some areas. Recent years, however, have seen a concerted effort to restore a healthy stream-flow

throughout the drainage system. The cooperation among a multitude of private organizations and public agencies has become a successful model for stream and habitat restoration.

Thalacker has been the Manager of TSID since 1997 and has overseen multiple projects designed to enhance the irrigation water delivery system in the Sisters area. Eighty percent of TSID's open irrigation canals have been converted to closed piping, greatly reducing water loss within the system. As a result, and in partnership with other organizations and agencies, TSID has played a significant role in returning a healthy water-flow and improving the water quality and restoration of Whychus Creek and its riparian habitat.

As an additional innovation, TSID now uses its irrigation water-flow to power a 700kw hydroelectric plant; and their next project involves

See **WHYCHUS** on page 22

Salon Renaissance

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