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Citizens disturbed by man filming

A man who goes by the YouTube handle of "Fedsmoker" has caused a high level of discomfort and concern among a number of Sisters citizens as he filmed and narrated encounters in town then posted them to the internet video sharing site.

He visited City Hall last week and also filmed at Bi-Mart, Les Schwab and at the sheriff's office, among other places.

He consistently refers to people he is filming as "baby rapers" and seems to have a particular beef with police officers. He has done the same thing in numerous places in Oregon and other states.

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Volunteer work crews set trusses at a new Habitat for Humanity home in Sisters.

PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Roundabout starting to take shape for Sisters

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The roundabout at the west end of town is starting to take a more concrete shape.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) representatives provided Sisters City Council with an update on plans for the roundabout, slated for the intersection of Highway 20 and McKinney Butte and Barclay Drive.

The right-of-way acquisition process involving adjacent property will be ongoing until fall of this year. The overall footprint for the project has been determined, so now the engineers are able to start work on determining the

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John Morris is Rodeo grand marshal

By Bonnie Malone
Correspondent

Sisters Rodeo has selected John Morris as grand marshal of the 2016 Sisters Rodeo Parade.

Morris was the president of the association in years of dramatic changes, 1992 through 1994. He has never stopped being one of the most dedicated members of the rodeo, receiving praise for his willingness and time commitment.

"He is always out here working," said Tom Crowder, in a statement supported by the rodeo members. "He is nice, polite and offers to help anywhere," Bonnie Knox said. Other members added, "He remembers everyone's

name, plus he is always smiling, no matter what the circumstances."

Morris even wore a smile in 1992, after he was crushed by a Brahma bull named Cuddles, who bolted through an exit gate before the area was cleared, smashing Morris behind the weight of the gate and bull. Even though his injuries weren't serious, the accident remains a local rodeo legend.

After Cuddles died in 1994, Beard Rodeo donated the bull to Sisters Rodeo, where his mounted head hangs in the clubhouse, the catalyst for the story of Morris and Cuddles being retold year after year.

When he became a Sisters

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Trees on Highway 20 are in trouble

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

Anyone who has driven between Sisters and Black Butte Ranch has noticed it: The trees along Highway 20 are in trouble. Some of these damaged and potentially dying trees have been recognized as a public safety hazard and must be removed.

It's a roadside phenomenon; just a few yards back from the highway, the trees are healthy.

As the trees began showing distress and started dying the Forest Service and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) conducted a joint analysis to determine the cause. The analysis indicated that the manufacturer of the herbicide Perspective®, which ODOT applied to the



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Pesticide use has killed or damaged trees on the Highway 20 corridor.

road shoulders within the highway corridor, originally stated it may harm susceptible trees, but the label did not say it specifically it would harm ponderosa pine trees. However, in 2012, additional language on the manufacturer's label was added specifically stating it would

damage ponderosa pine trees. ODOT has discontinued use of Perspective® where trees are growing. In addition, the analysis of the trees indicated that, though the herbicide was likely the key cause of distress, other environmental factors like recent drought also contributed to tree

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