

Sisters Elementary School students are excited to share the produce from their greenhouse.

# School set to host garden fair

Join the Sisters Elementary School Garden Club at their 13th annual Garden Fair on Saturday, June 4 at Sisters Elementary School (SES). From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. community members can peruse and purchase hanging baskets, vegetable starts and more, all planted and tended by the kids of Sisters Elementary School.

"This is our biggest fundraiser of the year," says club coordinator and lead volunteer Shannon Pollard. "It's going to be great." Garden fair attendees will also have an opportunity to participate in a cakewalk, face painting, entertainment provided by Sisters Dance Academy, arts and crafts and a silent auction. A barbeque lunch will also be available for purchase.

The Sisters Elementary School Garden Club is committed to helping students use plants and gardens as a source for developing a deeper, richer awareness of the world around them. At the beginning of every school year all students at Sisters Elementary School are given an opportunity to participate in Garden Club for \$5 for the year. Students meet weekly in small groups — either during their lunch recess or after school — with a volunteer and learn about plants, composting and more.

All proceeds from the Garden Fair benefit the SES Garden Club. For more information contact Shannon Pollard at 541-549-7805.

# **Sisters Country birds**

**By Douglas Beall**Correspondent

The red-naped sapsucker [Sphyrapicus nuchalis] feeds on the sap and insects drawn to the sap after drilling small holes in mostly deciduous trees; birch, willow and especially aspen. Hummingbirds may follow these sapsuckers and feed on the sweet sap.

Nests are excavated within diseased trees and 3-7 white eggs are laid directly on the nest bottom resting on wood chips with no soft nesting material used. Both

parents incubate the eggs for 10-13 days, with the male sapsucker performing the night-time duties. After spending 25-29 noisy days being fed by both parents, the red-naped sapsucker fledglings leave the nest and are taught to feed the sapsucking habit for 10 days.

The red-naped sapsucker actually slurps the sap with a tongue that is equipped with short hair-like fuzz. A group of sapsuckers are known as a "slurp." For more red-naped sapsucker photos visit http://abirdsingsbecauseithasa song.com/recent-journeys.



Red-naped sapsucker.

PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BEALI

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# Bear Mountain Fire

Your trees are a precious resource and a big part of your quality of life in Sisters Country. Yet they face many threats. This is likely to be a dangerous wildfire season, and you'll want to make sure you have created your defensible space — thinning stands, eliminating ladder fuels.

Bear Mountain Fire has been helping Sisters Country property owners large and small for many, many years. From creating fuel- and land-management plans for larger properties, and securing grant funds for projects, to taking out hazard trees, Bear Mountain Fire has the experience and expertise to help you maintain a healthy landscape on your property.



Beware of insect infestation. Once a tree has beetles, it must be taken care of quickly — taken down and removed — to protect your other trees.

Have Bear Mountain Fire do an assessment and know that your beautiful trees are in good hands.



### Oregon Hot Tub

The ACE™ Salt Water System is now being offered free with select hot tub purchases. This means a couple things for you. You save money on maintenance. The ACE™ System generates chlorine automatically, eliminating the need for daily and/or weekly sanitizers. It makes the water feel softer on the skin and is more enjoyable. It requires very little salt to be added. This saves you money on cost and is easy to maintain!

Oregon Hot Tub also has local technicians in the Sisters area who are trained and certified to service and repair ALL BRANDS of hot tubs. A professional spa technician knows what to look for and how to keep your spa in its correct balance. Whether you live locally or own



a second home, our team is equipped to get your hot tub ready for you to enjoy. The largest hot tub, swim spa and sauna dealer in Oregon and SW Washington, Oregon Hot Tub has been helping customers heal and relax since 1979.