

LINEUP: All-event passes sold out; Sunday available

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finest artists on the acoustic music scene. We are thrilled with how the music represents a broad spectrum of Americana and roots music. There will be outstanding songwriters, exceptional guitar players, excellent string-band and Bluegrass music, and flat-out funk-rock. These artists make stops all along the way of the Americana music road, and there will be something for everyone that attends," said Creative Director Brad Tisdell.

The festival will also feature regional musicians and songwriters: the Nathaniel Talbot Band; Beth Wood;



PHOTO PROVIDED

Los Texmaniacs are on the bill at Sisters Folk Festival.

Jeffrey Martin; Anna Tivel; Dennis McGregor and the Spoilers; Portland-based gospel-soul singer Ara Lee; and Americana Project standout Megan Ellsworth.

Additionally, festival organizers are excited to present free music at the Americana Stage at Fir Street Park, with artists primarily from the educational outreach program, the Americana Project; as well as select festival artists. Artists performing at Fir Street park include: The Weather Machine, fronted by Slater Smith; Laura Curtis and Jack Martin; John Morton; Justin Little; and Jaimee Simundson.

Festival all-event passes are sold-out, but Sunday tickets are still available at \$65 for adults, \$50 youth 18 and under. For a complete lineup, ticket, artist and festival info visit sistersfolkfestival.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Nora Jane Struthers and the Party Line are coming to town.

New Jefferson County Courthouse open

BEND (AP) — Jefferson County opened its new courthouse in Madras on Monday.

The Bulletin reports the county took advantage of a state program offering financial assistance to counties needing to update or replace substandard court facilities.

The old courthouse was built in 1961, has just two courtrooms and is at risk of collapse in an earthquake.

The new building has three courtrooms and improved security. It sits just west of the Madras City Hall and Madras Police Department headquarters.

County Administrator Jeff Rasmussen said the project is on target to come in at around \$13.9 million, below the budgeted \$15 million. Construction began 16 months ago.

High school graduation proposal makes the cut

PORTLAND (AP) — State officials say a measure aimed at raising Oregon's high school graduation rate has qualified for the November ballot.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins announced Thursday that the proposal received more than the 88,000 signatures required to get it on the ballot.

If approved by voters,

Oregon high schools would get about \$800 a year for each student. Schools would be required to put the money toward more college-level or career-oriented courses, tutoring services and other programs intended to boost graduation rates.

Supporters are hoping it'll keep Oregon students from dropping out, as the state has one of the nation's worst high school graduation rates.

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