



# The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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## Firefighters quell fire along Fryrear Rd.

Quick and intense attack by aircraft and ground crews quelled a fire off Fryrear Road east of Sisters on Monday evening — a blaze that could have been a real problem.

The fire blew up quickly, though the official acreage estimate in the light of day on Tuesday ended up being 7.5 acres, down from the rough estimate of 20 acres Monday night. The fire threatened homes in the vicinity of Cascades Estates Drive.

Two tanker planes and two helicopters pounded the fire from the air as bulldozer crews cut a fire line around the blaze. As of Tuesday morning, it was 70 percent contained, with crews continuing to work to keep it corralled.

Firefighters protected the point of origin of the fire and the cause is under investigation.

Quick action was facilitated by prompt reporting. Local resident Stephanie O'Neill was returning from a youth camp with seven 14-year-old girls when they spotted the fire. It was about



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A tanker goes in for a retardant drop as firefighters quelled a small but threatening blaze on Monday.

10 feet by 10 feet at the time and they called 911 immediately, which enabled responders to start hitting the fire right away.

This was the second fire near populated areas in

Sisters Country in just a few days.

Sisters and Cloverdale firefighters, along with wild-land firefighting personnel quickly mopped up a small brush fire in the vicinity of

Wilt Road and Big Buck Lane north of Sisters on Friday. According to Central Oregon Interagency Dispatch, the fire was kept to around an acre in

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## High interest in marijuana in Sisters

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

Over a dozen marijuana-related permit applications have been received by the City of Sisters — mostly regarding retail sales establishments — despite the current temporary moratorium in effect in Sisters regarding the production, processing, and sales of marijuana within the city limits.

“I lost count of the denials,” reported Patrick Davenport, community development director, “and I’m not keeping formal records of numbers of inquiries.”

The moratorium was adopted by the previous city council because the City charter currently states that

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## Forest Service plans to sell admin property

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

The Forest Service wants to sell a 66-acre portion of its 80-acre administrative site in downtown Sisters.

The Forest Service was to hold a pre-bid meeting on Tuesday, August 2, for real estate brokers who are interested in bidding on the opportunity to market and sell approximately 66 acres of the current Sisters Ranger District administrative site.

The land is currently zoned for public facilities, urban area reserve and open space and would require rezoning

for commercial and/or residential purposes.

Sisters District Ranger Kristie Miller told *The Nugget* that the Forest Service is hoping to build a new \$12 million facility on Barclay Drive near Ponderosa Lodge Best Western.

“We’re hoping as soon as possible,” she said. “It’s going to be dependent on whether we can get enough value to build new.”

According to a Forest Service press release, “the current Sisters Ranger District facilities do not adequately

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## Hoedown entertains community

By Jodi Schneider McNamee  
Correspondent

What happens when Sisters Rotary Club partners up with four nonprofits for a country-western dance as a fundraiser? One of the hottest events of the season.

Hundreds of folks came to enjoy the live entertainment, great food, a silent auction, live auction and a raffle draw on Saturday evening at a huge indoor horse arena on Cloverdale Road for the very first Sisters Rotary Hoedown.

Hal Darcy, Rotarian and event coordinator for the event, has been Sisters Rotary’s fundraising chairman for two years.

“This year we decided



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Dry Canyon Stampede served up great tunes for the Rotary Hoedown.

we would do something different. We wanted a bigger fundraising venue,” Darcy told *The Nugget*. “And we liked the idea of a hoedown as a fundraiser. So that

became our focus. “But one of the issues was where could we have such a big venue in Sisters?”

That’s when Julie and  
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