

**COUNTRY FAIR:**  
Proceeds go to church outreach programs

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her cheek.

At 11:30 a.m. a group of square dancers from the Central Oregon Round-up added to the festivities at the fair while spectators clapped along.

Every August more than a hundred square dancers from all over the Pacific Northwest head into Sisters for the Central Oregon Round-up festival. Regional caller Kippin Parret from Bend enjoys being a caller for the round-up during the weekend festival. And this year Parret asked for volunteers from the crowd to come up and join the fun.

“The first year here at the Country Fair we did a flash mob dance, and everyone



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Charlotte Donaldson enjoyed hula hooping around the country fair.

liked the dancing so much that they invite us back every year as volunteer entertainment,” Parret said.

Ten-year-old Lily Smith from Grants Pass has been square dancing since she was five. Lily’s grandmother, Lorri Macintosh, is the recording secretary for the Oregon Federation of Square and Round Dance Clubs.

“This is a lot of fun, and I am enjoying square dancing here in Sisters,” Smith said.

Parret is trying to get more youth involved, so he’s blending in contemporary music.

“If square dancing is to survive, some of us old callers are going to have to change it up and use some more modern music,” Parret said. “We need some new music to get younger kids involved and keep them entertained. The kids like some of the old melodies, too, but we are now bringing in more contemporary music that’s out on the radio.”

Young Charlotte Donaldson from Berkeley, California, enjoyed herself as she hula hooped her way around the country fair with her face painted like a tiger cub.

“We’ve been coming here for years, and we love Sisters Country Fair,” said her mother, Sarah Donaldson. “Charlotte even won the 11 a.m. cake walk.”

Donaldson won a chocolate cake from Sisters Bakery and shared it with the firefighters and some of the volunteers at the fair.



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Square dancers entertained at the Country Fair.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD had one fire engine, an ambulance, and a brush truck on display for folks to see, and they got a chance to climb on board.

Firefighter Damon Frutos was on hand to educate children and adults about fire safety.

“We are educating people about what is on our trucks to protect them,” Frutos said.

At noon firefighter Hayden Jones demonstrated how fast firefighters can change into their protective gear.

Over at The Country Store you could find the best goodies from homemade walnut fudge to Nana’s Coffee Cake, a packet of ingredients from a secret recipe that volunteer and church member Adrienne Brown puts together every year.

Brown grew up enjoying her grandmother’s (Nana’s) delicious homemade coffee cake.

“After my grandmother died she took the recipe with

her. And it took me three years to resurrect the recipe by experimenting,” Brown said. “But I came up with it again and I sell Nana’s coffee cake here at the church and the Sisters fire station.”

Lots of hungry folks waited in line for the smoked St. Louis spareribs or a variety of hotdogs that Café Transfig offered.

Little folks were able to express their creative side at Craft Corner and the Kid Zone area, where anything was possible with chalk drawing, a bubble machine, a bouncy castle and other games with prizes.

**FIREWISE:** Defensible space is key to fire protection

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the water supply to assist firefighters in the event of a blaze.

Such a scenario is not theoretical. In 1992, the Squaw Flat fire swept across the hills nearby, burning 1,000 acres and taking five homes, and in 2013 the community had a close call with the Mustang Flat fire, which was suppressed by quick action by firefighters, including several tanker runs just over the rooftops of local homes.

“That was a scary moment for our community,” said Sisters Fire Chief Roger Johnson.

By becoming “Firewise,” Squaw Creek Canyon Estates — along with other residential areas in Sisters Country — do not assure that they will never have such a scary moment again, but they do give themselves a much higher probability of surviving the storm that is always on the horizon in a fire-adapted landscape.

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