

Studying the health of Suttle Lake page 4



Cemetery selected for wreath program page 25



Sisters students visit medical school page 30



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Sisters honors its veterans

By Craig Rullman
Correspondent

Students at Sisters High School honored area veterans last Thursday in a moving school-wide assembly.

Veterans were treated to a warm breakfast and had the opportunity to visit, share stories, and not a few laughs. The veterans in attendance spanned the spectrum of our nation's conflicts, from World War II—including a Pearl Harbor survivor—to a young Marine private who had graduated boot camp only a few days prior.

After gathering for a group portrait, the veterans filed into the auditorium. Students Roy Gannon and Chayce Sproat led a large assembly of students and veterans in the Pledge of Allegiance. The SHS Jazz Choir then led the large and respectful crowd in singing the National Anthem.

After a brief introduction



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

The SHS Jazz Choir served up a repertoire of service hymns and patriotic songs to mark Veteran's Day.

from Principal Joe Hosang — himself a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and former heavy machine-gunner — the

Concert Choir sang a spirited rendition of "The Armed Forces Salute," in which veterans from each branch

of the armed forces were recognized.

See VETERANS on page 18

Votes tallied in city council race

Andrea Blum, Richard Esterman, and Chuck Ryan have been elected to serve on the Sisters City Council.

The November 8 election's vote tally showed incumbent City Councilor Andrea Blum with 796 votes and Chuck Ryan with 785. Richard Esterman tallied 551. The three candidates were on the ballot for three open seats on the Council.

Write-in candidate Kathryn Lindbloom secured 10 percent of the vote.

Questions about Esterman's residency inside the city limits — a requirement to serve on the Council,

See COUNCIL on page 23

Sheriff sees unity after victory

By Craig Rullman
Correspondent

After a contentious campaign that saw allegations of cronyism, workplace harassment and retaliation from the challenger — and counter-accusations of policy violations — newly elected Sheriff Shane Nelson is looking forward to his first full term as Deschutes County Sheriff.

"I am very happy, and thankful to my family, teammates, and the citizens of Deschutes County, who had confidence in me," Nelson told *The Nugget*. "We have a great team, great people, and we are proud to represent Deschutes County."

Nelson, formerly a captain with the sheriff's office, was

originally appointed to the position by retiring Sheriff Larry Blanton, and approved by a unanimous vote of the county commissioners in 2015.

Nelson's first months as an appointed sheriff did not lack for controversy. He inherited the high-profile investigation into former Sheriff's Captain Scott Beard, who was ultimately fired and sentenced to five years in federal prison for theft and money-laundering. Beard pleaded guilty to stealing investigative funds and lavishing gifts on his then-girlfriend.

A second DCSO captain, Erik Utter, resigned after being subject to an

See UNITY on page 22

Making Indian Ford Creek healthy

By Jim Anderson
Correspondent

"I'm glad to be out here, this is my favorite part of the program; a chance to give back to the community," Cadet Jason McCabe, 17, of Damascus, Oregon said as he dug up another shovelful of rock from an illegal dam on Indian Ford Creek.

The program of which McCabe is a part is the Oregon National Guard Youth Challenge Program (ONGYCP).

The Oregon National Guard Youth Challenge Program is an alternative residential high school, where cadets (students) live on-site just east of Bend for five months while attending the military-model school. This period is followed by a mandatory 12-month mentor



PHOTO BY JIM ANDERSON

Oregon National Guard Youth Challenge cadets doing what they love: learning new skills, having fun outdoors, and paying back the community.

phase back in the community, which can be extended for five years.

students is generally those who have dropped out of high

The target population of

See CHALLENGE on page 24

Inside...

Letters/Weather	2	Of a Certain Age	6	Bunkhouse Chronicle	11	Movies & Entertainment	13	Classifieds	28-30
Meetings	3	Obituaries	10	Announcements	12	Crossword	27	Real Estate	30-32