



The Nugget

News and Opinion
from Sisters, Oregon

POSTAL CUSTOMER
PRE-SORTED STANDARD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Sisters, OR
Permit No. 15

Vol. XXXIX No. 47

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, November 23, 2016

Sisters-tagged Monarch made epic journey

By Erin Borla
Correspondent

Susie Werts and her reading class at Sisters Middle School couldn't believe it when one of two butterflies they had tagged in September made it 700 miles to north of Ventura, California, last week (see related column by Jim Anderson on page 8).

See MONARCHS on page 9

Is winter on its way?



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

The Three Sisters have put on their winter blanket, and there has been a hint of snow in town – but we're still waiting for the white stuff to arrive for real.

School district studies enrollment decline

By Steve Kadel
Correspondent

Sisters School District officials are beginning to investigate why enrollment has declined in recent years and what steps can be taken to stop the trend.

Enrollment was 1,211 as of 2011-12 but has slipped to 1,066 by this year, according

See ENROLLMENT on page 36

Assessing public safety in Sisters

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

At last week's DeschutesSafe public meeting in Sisters, Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel shared the initial results of the online survey recently conducted in an effort to assess what citizens see as the biggest threats to public safety in the county. The presentation was full of interesting information, but only two Sisters residents attended.

The Sisters meeting was one of six being held throughout the county during the month of November. There is one more meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 6 p.m., at the downtown Bend library, 601 N.W. Wall St., which is open to any citizen.

The purpose of these public meetings is to share with the community the work that the DeschutesSafe team is

doing, to provide a forum for the community to share their thoughts on safety and crime prevention, as well as share the survey results. The meetings are part of the 18-month-long DeschutesSafe initiative that Hummel launched in June 2015 to analyze, evaluate, and supplement current crime-prevention programs in the county.

Deschutes County has joined communities across the country that are developing and implementing data-driven processes and evidence-based strategies that reduce crime and save money. The county already has numerous innovative crime-prevention programs such as the jail's G.E.D. program, specialty courts, and the crisis-intervention team. As good as the county is at creating programs, Hummel thinks the county can be better at coordinating efforts and using data

See SAFETY on page 37

Residents safe after garage fire

By Steve Kadel
Correspondent

A garage fire in Sisters Wednesday morning, November 16, resulted in fire and smoke damage to the home.

The fire occurred in a single-family residence located at 115 N. Maple St. in Sisters. The home is owned by William and Pat Faris of Sisters. The fire started near a workbench in the rear of the garage. The homeowners noticed smoke in the garage and called 911 at 9:37 a.m. to report the fire. The owners then filled buckets with water and threw water on the flames from the back door of the garage. Firefighters arrived in less than five minutes and extinguished the fire.

Most of the contents of the garage were damaged by the fire or smoke. The living area of the home also suffered smoke damage as a result of the fire. The home electrical wiring was damaged in the fire and Central Electric Cooperative responded to the



PHOTO PROVIDED

A fire that started near a work bench damaged a garage on Maple Street in Sisters last week.

scene to disconnect the power to the home.

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District responded to the fire with two fire engines, one ambulance and three other units. Black Butte Ranch Fire District and Cloverdale Fire District also responded to the fire. The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District was holding its monthly staff meeting

for career firefighters when the fire was dispatched. Cloverdale Fire Chief Thad Olsen was also less than a mile away at the time of the fire and responded directly to the scene.

Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Chief Roger Johnson said, "We were fortunate to have the station full of

See FIRE on page 38

Inside...

Letters/Weather	2	Announcements.....	10	Obituaries	12	Holidays	17-25	Classifieds.....	33-35
Meetings	3	Movies & Entertainment....	11	Paw Prints	16	Crossword	32	Real Estate	35-40