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 advantage of each day's special.
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Spirit of Giving program underway

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association and the Sisters Kiwanis Club are sponsoring the annual "Spirit of Christmas Giving Tree" to provide Christmas gifts to families in need in Sisters Country this holiday season. They expect to serve close to 250 families this year.

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association is collecting new unwrapped gifts at the main fire station at 301 S. Elm St. in Sisters. Gifts are available to children, age newborn to seniors in high school, of low-income families who live within the Sisters or Black Butte school districts. There are "Spirit of Christmas Giving Trees" at Sisters Ray's Food Place, Sisters Bi-Mart and at Black Butte Ranch Post Office and police department. You can pick a gift tag for a child from the tree and purchase specific gifts or bring new generic gifts to the fire station.

A new virtual "Spirit of Christmas Giving Tree" will go live this season. Patrons will be able to pick a tag and help make Christmas

a little more special for a Sisters family in need right from the comfort of their home or anywhere they have Internet access. Follow Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD on social media (Facebook and Twitter) for the go-live date, then access the virtual tree at www.sistersfire.com.

Tax-deductible cash donations are also accepted and will go toward gift buying. Cash donations can be made at the main fire station, by mail at P.O. Box 1509, Sisters, Oregon, 97759 or online at www.sistersfire.com. The deadline for gift donations is Wednesday, December 14. For more information call the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District at 541-549-0771.

The Sisters Kiwanis Club is collecting non-perishable food items and cash donations for distribution with the Christmas gifts. To donate to the Sisters Kiwanis Club, drop by the Kiwanis Food Bank at 225 W. Main Ave. Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call Naomi Rowe at 541-549-5694 for more information.

Wreath ceremony on tap at Camp Polk Cemetery

Since 1992 Wreaths Across America has placed holiday wreaths at veterans' graves at Arlington National Cemetery. This event began, not as a way to decorate the graves, but as a way to remember the lives of fallen soldiers.

Since '92 the event has grown to more than 1,100 locations across the country. This year, Camp Polk Cemetery, Sisters' own cemetery, has been added to the list.

The cemetery, in Whychus Creek Canyon next to the Camp Polk Meadow Preserve owned by the Deschutes Land Trust, has a unique history in and of itself. With graves dating back to the 1880s, names like Fryrear and Hindman, Allingham, Farthing and Wilson marking the stones — Sisters Country history begins to come into shape.

Camp Polk Cemetery was originally owned by four Sisters families including the

Hindmans. The remnants of their old barn can be seen on the Camp Polk Meadow Preserve property. In the early 1940s the property was entrusted to Thelma Roberts, and since then no additional ownership changes have taken place.

There is no clear ownership of the location, but this isn't an anomaly in older cemeteries across Oregon. What is unique is the fact that this location is still a working cemetery. In 1999, the Bend Genealogical Society received a grant to map and catalog all of the graves. They received a similar grant in 2014 from the Oregon State Parks & Recreation Department to again catalog additional graves and burials.

Over 200 burials have taken place at Camp Polk Cemetery, which include 34 veterans. The Wreaths Across America program is set

See **WREATHS** on page 30

Hope Aesthetics & Wellness

Turn heads this holiday season — with a little help from Hope Aesthetics. Starting December 5, they'll mark the 12 Days of Christmas with a different treatment special each day (get on the mailing list or follow their social media to keep up).

Hope Aesthetics offers skin tightening and resurfacing, wrinkle reduction, vein treatments, body sculpting and more — all geared toward helping folks in Sisters look their best during this season of parties and family gatherings.

Hope Aesthetics & Wellness is as much about feeling great as it is about looking great. They're moving into wellness coaching at the request of their clients, to help folks in Sisters to achieve well-being from the inside out. Look for more informational "learning-night" events, where you can socialize with friends and learn about new techniques to live a better life.

Hope Aesthetics will host an open house on Thursday, December 1, featuring door-prizes worth thousands of dollars and swag bags. Join them for the fun!

