

# Ore. lawmakers attend inauguration

By Andrew Selsky  
Associated Press

SALEM (AP) — Neither snow, nor rain nor the gloom of a big budget shortfall kept lawmakers from travelling to the Oregon State Capitol to take their oath of office Monday, January 9, and attend the inauguration of Gov. Kate Brown.

"I was a little worried yesterday that we might have an empty chamber today," Brown remarked as she began her inaugural address.

A winter storm closed many schools and left the streets of Salem covered in slush.

But the House of Representatives was full for the special joint session. The Legislature returns on Feb. 1 for a five-month session.

In her inaugural address, Brown said the biggest obstacle to creating a better future for Oregon is a \$1.7 billion budget deficit. Her proposal to deal with the shortfall raises some taxes and cuts some spending, while aiming to maintain funding for education, health care and other critical needs.

Brown asked lawmakers to discard partisanship in favor of partnership in dealing with the issue.

House Republican Leader Mike McLane of Powell Butte, said in a statement that "shortsighted fiscal planning has left our state in a poor financial position." He said many residents are still struggling because of Oregon's

uneven economic recovery.

Brown described a "disturbing gap" between the unemployment rate in urban and rural Oregon.

To build the economies of rural communities, she said the state should improve bridges along the coast and U.S. Highway 97 down the middle of Oregon to make them earthquake-resistant. She said truck drivers are starting to use the highway, which offers only two lanes in many stretches, to avoid traffic jams in Portland.

At a news conference afterward, Brown was asked what type of improvements she envisioned for U.S. 97. She gave no details, saying only that it is the alternative route for Interstate 5 in the event of a major earthquake.

State Sen. Peter Courtney, who was chosen unanimously earlier Monday to be president of the chamber for an unprecedented eighth time, marveled that all 30 senators made it to the Capitol, despite weather that prevented the Portland State Chamber Choir from performing there.

In the House, Tina Kotek, a Democrat from Portland, was re-elected speaker. Kotek received 35 votes and McLane got 25, mirroring the number of seats held by each party.

Among the 14 new House

members is Teresa Alonso Leon, a Democrat from Woodburn. She came to the U.S. from the Mexican state of Michoacan with her family without travel documentation when she was 5. In the 1980s, the family applied for permanent residence and in 2012, Alonso Leon became a U.S. citizen.

Brown said America has just experienced "the most bitter and divisive national election in memory."

She cited Minoru Yasui as an inspiration. During World War II, the Hood River native challenged the constitutionality of a nighttime curfew imposed on citizens of Japanese ancestry. He was sent to a relocation center then practiced law and fought for civil rights after the war.

Brown's legislative agenda calls for improving high school graduation rates, improving the state transportation system and extending access to health care to all children.

She also wants to close loopholes in gun purchases by having no deadline for the Oregon State Police to determine if a person is eligible, expand the prohibited list to include those convicted of misdemeanor stalking, and update the definition of a domestic violence offender.

## Feed 'em in winter...

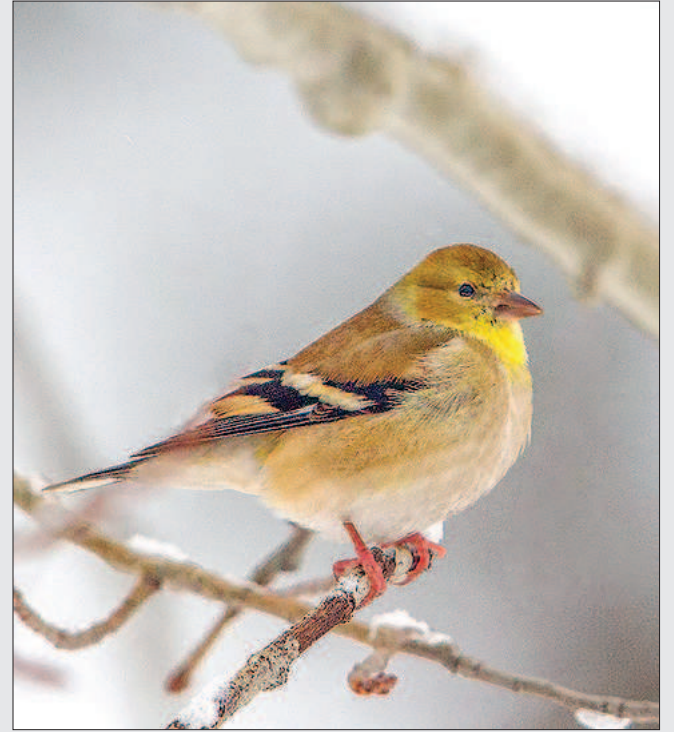


PHOTO BY DOUGLAS BEALL

This snow finch, along with other bird species, depends on food from Sisters residents in a harsh winter.

# SISTERS ENTERTAINMENT • EVENTS

Wed. ~ Jan. 18

**Sisters Saloon Texas Hold 'Em Tournament!** 7 p.m. Every Wednesday! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go online to sistersaloon.net.

**Cork Cellars Live Music with Jim Cornelius & Mike Biggers** 7 to 9 p.m. No cover! For more information call 541-549-2675 or go to corkcellars.com.

Saturday ~ Jan. 21

**Cork Cellars Live Music with Mark Conklin** 7 to 9 p.m. No cover! For more information call 541-549-2675 or go to corkcellars.com.

**Sisters Saloon Live Music with Honey Don't** 8 to 11 p.m. Americana, no cover! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go online to sistersaloon.net.

Monday ~ Jan. 23

**Sisters High School BINGO & Community Dinner** 5 to 6:30 p.m. for dinner, just \$2 per plate! 6:30 p.m. for BINGO, \$15 for 11 games with great prizes! Sponsored by Outlaws Together and SPRD. Fundraiser for SHS athletics. For more info call Tim Roth at 541-549-4050.

Wed. ~ Jan. 25

**Sisters High School Sisters Folk Festival Winter Concert: Martin Sexton** 7 p.m. Soulful singing and brilliant guitar playing! For more information or tickets call 541-549-4979 or go to sistersfolkfestival.org.

**Sisters Fire Hall "Soup & Civility" Event** 5:30 p.m. Enjoy a free light meal, then from 6 to 7:30 p.m. OSU Communications Professor Gregg Walker will speak on "constructive confrontation." For more info: citizens4community.com.

Subject to change. Submit by 5 p.m. Fridays to [teresa@nuggetnews.com](mailto:teresa@nuggetnews.com)

**Sisters Saloon Texas Hold 'Em Tournament!** 7 p.m. Every Wednesday! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go online to sistersaloon.net.

Friday ~ Jan. 27

**Sisters Library Annual Art Exhibit Reception & Silent Auction** 6 to 7:30 p.m. All are invited to meet the artists! Enjoy the art, refreshments, a silent auction, and hear the winner of the People's Choice award announced. For additional information go online to sistersfol.com.

**Downtown Sisters 4th Friday Art Stroll** 4 to 7 p.m. Many galleries and shops in Sisters have extended hours and feature live entertainment and refreshments! For more information go online to sistersartsassociation.org.

Saturday ~ Jan. 28

**Sisters Saloon Live Music with the Bobby Lindstrom Band** 8 p.m. Blues and rock, no cover! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go to sistersaloon.net.

**Cork Cellars Live Music with Cup of Joe (Joe Leonardi)** 7 to 9 p.m. No cover! For additional information call 541-549-2675 or go to corkcellars.com.

Wed. ~ Feb. 1

**Sisters Saloon Texas Hold 'Em Tournament!** 7 p.m. Every Wednesday! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go online to sistersaloon.net.

Saturday ~ Feb. 4

**Cork Cellars Live Music with Mike Biggers** 7 to 9 p.m. No cover! For more information call 541-549-2675 or go to corkcellars.com.

**Sisters Saloon Live Music with the Tommy Hogan Band** 8 to 11 p.m. Blue, R&B and rock, no cover! For additional information call 541-549-7427 or go online to sistersaloon.net.

**Rio**  
Distinctive Mexican Cuisine

**We are supporting the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter!**  
**We will donate 5% of your bill and 10% of your catering bill.**

Give us your e-mail, and the shelter will reply to you in appreciation of your support.

**Lunch Special \$5.95**  
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Every Tuesday  
**Fajita plate \$9.50**

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**Sisters MOVIE HOUSE**

**STARTS FRIDAY**  
FRI., JAN. 20 - THURS., JAN. 26

**Jackie (R)**  
Fri 5:00, 7:15  
Sat-Sun 2:45, 5:00, 7:15  
Mon-Thurs 5:00, 7:15

**La La Land (PG-13)**  
Fri 4:45, 7:30  
Sat-Sun 2:00, 4:45, 7:30  
Mon-Tues 4:45, 7:30  
Wed-Thurs 4:45

**Hidden Figures (PG)**  
Fri 4:00, 6:45  
Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:00, 6:45  
Mon-Thurs 4:00, 6:45

**Patriots Day (R)**  
Fri 4:15, 7:00  
Sat-Sun 1:30, 4:15, 7:00  
Mon-Tues 4:15, 7:00  
Wed-Thurs 4:15, 7:30

**Gold (R)**  
Thurs 7:30

Movie times and titles are subject to change. Visit website or call for latest information.

**WWW.SISTERSMOVIEHOUSE.COM**  
**541-549-8800**

**The Belfry**

Feb 11-12 / Sat 2&7 PM, Sun 4 PM  
**Spring Awakening**  
This Broadway musical is a raw, honest portrayal of youth in revolt

Feb 17 / Fri / 8-11 PM  
**Sassparilla!**  
They are pungent, not subtle. Dirty bluegrass band from Portland.

Mar 1 / Wed / 7-10:30 PM  
**Tommy Castro and the Painkillers**  
Playing music guaranteed to fire up fans and leave critics searching for new words of praise.

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