



# The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Sisters, OR  
Permit No. 15

Vol. XXXX No. 19

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

## Hailstorm hammers Sisters Country

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Sisters Country was treated to a spectacular light show on Thursday night — but it came at a price, especially for those living in the Cloverdale area.

“It sounded like the whole rodeo stands was given rocks and (were) throwing them on the roof,” said Marcus Peck, who lives a few miles east of Sisters.

The sound of rocks on the roof came from golf-ball-sized hailstones that dropped from the clouds as a cold front moved in to replace the warm air that had graced the region for a couple of days.

When *The Nugget* contacted Peck, he was at Sisters Auto Body & Paint getting a repair estimate on a truck full of dents, with a damaged windshield and “every piece of plastic ... hammered.”

Peck noted that a plastic shed on his property got



PHOTO BY CAT CONNER

Sisters was treated to a spectacular light show on Thursday night. Unfortunately, it was accompanied by damaging hail.

hammered as well.

“It looked like Swiss cheese,” he said. “It looked like someone took a shotgun and shot holes in it. It was

quite a storm.”

Thunderstorm cells started rolling across Sisters at about 9:30 p.m., with sheet lightning flaring constantly and

illuminating the world in an eerie purple light as the thunder rolled, rumbled and

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## Sisters takes art celebration into own two hands

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Sisters will launch into its annual two-day celebration of the visual arts on Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13.

My Own Two Hands acts as a fundraiser for the programs of Sisters Folk Festival (SFF) — but it has become a significant community event in its own right, featuring a parade, an art stroll, a free community gathering at The Belfry on Friday evening and an art party on Saturday night.

Each year, the celebration has a theme, which artists

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## Tollgate will undertake major water project

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

Residents of the Tollgate subdivision will have to go for about four days without running water while isolation valves are replaced on the water system that serves the nearly 400 homes in the development west of Sisters.

In a letter sent to homeowners, the Tollgate Property Owners Association said, “This project is being done because approximately 50 years ago, the contractor for Brooks Resources did not install the underground power lines to code as they placed them in conflict with our water lines. Their improper installation has caused a life-threatening hazard for our

utility workers.”

The project will begin Monday, May 15 at 1 a.m. and is expected run through Thursday, May 18. Water supply is expected to be shut off for approximately four days and the electricity will be shut off sporadically during those working hours.

Residents are advised to turn off the circuit breaker on their house main panel for their water heater.

According to the Tollgate board of directors, a potable water truck will be placed in the lot adjacent to the tennis court to serve residents. Tollgate management also recommends that residents draw water for hand-washing,

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## Students launch weather balloon

By Ceili Cornelius  
Correspondent

Sisters High School chemistry classes launched a weather balloon last week in what has become an annual experiment.

Two classes of chemistry students, teachers and volunteers came out to the Sisters Airport Wednesday morning to launch the weather balloon. They started by attaching their payloads and blowing up the balloon. Students put together a “payload” (attached to the bottom of the balloon with a parachute) with various experiments and items on it — things such as moldy bread, fruit, fabric, sea monkey eggs, pond water with algae and various other items in petri dishes on one surface that was then weighted down on the balloon.



PHOTO BY CEILI CORNELIUS

Balloon expert Steven Peterzen helps students get their weather balloon ready for launch.

The point of creating a payload is to see how all of these various items react to sunlight and altitude in the atmosphere.

Each class did their own

weather balloon launch, so there were two separate launches.

Student teacher Jackson

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