

PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

An honor guard of Rich Riddle, Pat Bowe, Dave Culver and Wendall Halterman offered a rifle salute at Monday's Memorial Day observances.

MEMORIAL DAY:

Event drew a large audience in Sisters

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important. They remind us of the sacrifices of the small percentage of American citizens who serve in the military, and remind us to keep in mind the ongoing pain of those who are left behind when a service member is killed.

"I am very happy to see everybody here today," she said, "remembering those who did give all."

Sisters American Legion Commander Lance Trowbridge served as Master of Ceremonies. He introduced Chelsea Anttila, who offered up a beautiful a cappella rendition of the National Anthem. Each act of the ceremony, from the placing of a wreath to a description of a table set for the absent POW/ MIA was imbued with symbolic meaning.

The event also honored the veterans who populate Sisters and continue to serve their community, as members of each branch of service came to their feet as their service branch anthem was played.

The solemnity of the memorial blended seamlessly into a festive afternoon as those in attendance adjourned to the Village Green's picnic structure to enjoy burgers and the fellowship of their fellow citizens.

ROUNDABOUT:

Art and landscaping are still to come

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roundabout layout earned that buy-in.

Some local residents preferred a signal, after one was installed for temporary use during the Cascade Avenue Improvement Project in 2014.

However, ODOT and the City of Sisters pursued the roundabout as the preferred option. Construction began in February and was completed on schedule for the Memorial Day weekend opening.

While the roundabout will act as traffic control at the intersection, it has no effect on the volume of traffic, which has often backed up as far as Tollgate on the Friday of holiday weekends. Last weekend was no exception, and traffic clogged the roundabout during much of the afternoon.

Some basic driving protocols apply at roundabouts:

• Slow down as you approach the roundabout.

• Watch for bicycles, they will either merge into traffic or use the sidewalk.

• Stop for pedestrians using the crosswalk in your lane.

• Yield to traffic entering the roundabout from your right or circling around from your left.



The Highway 20/Barclay Drive roundabout is open to traffic.

• You don't need to signal entering the roundabout, since turns are all to the right, but you must signal as you exit.

• If you miss your exit, keep circling around; don't stop or back up.

• Traffic moves smoother if everyone is courteous and allows entry to vehicles.

• Do not enter a roundabout when emergency vehicles are approaching. Pull over to the right. Allow other vehicles to clear the intersection so the emergency vehicles can move through the roundabout.

Roundabouts are increasingly being installed across the U.S., as noted in a story in *The New York Times* on July 30, 2016.

"Once seen only in countries like France and Britain, the roundabout, favored by traffic engineers because it cuts congestion and reduces collisions and deaths, is experiencing rapid growth in the United States," the story notes.

The key element is safety. National and international statistics show fewer accidents at roundabouts and a significantly lower level of severity due to slower speeds and eliminating head-on collisions and T-bone accidents. And that goes for pedestrians and cyclists as well as autos.

According to ODOT's research, "When signalized intersections are converted to roundabouts, there is a 48 percent reduction in crashes, and 78 percent reduction in crashes resulting in at least an injury. This is because overall speeds are drastically reduced, and there are many less 'conflict points' (for all modes), with roundabouts."







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