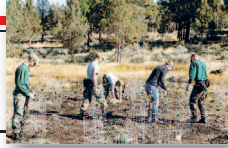


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The Nugget

News and Opinion
from Sisters, Oregon

POSTAL CUSTOMER
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ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Sisters, OR
Permit No. 15

Vol. XL No. 44

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, November 1, 2017

Watch out for deer on local highways

Sisters Country drivers should be especially alert for deer along local roadways — particularly early and late in the day.

Deer and elk are on the move this time of year, due to their annual migrations that see them crossing major Oregon highways to get from higher elevation summer habitats to lower elevation winter habitats. Deer are also on the move due to their annual "rut" or breeding season, which lasts from late October until mid-to-late November. Fewer daylight hours also contribute to higher incidences of collisions.

Wildlife-vehicle collisions peak this time of year. According to ODOT statistics, there were 1,160 such collisions in November of last year and 1,052 in October, compared to just 377 in December 2016.

"Be extra-careful driving this time of year, especially where there is a lot of vegetation next to a road, or when going around curves



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sisters' deer are out and about. Keep an eye out for them on the road.

as wildlife near the road might not be visible," said Oregon State Police Captain Bill Fugate. "Drivers who

see an animal near the roadway should try to reduce their speed and be aware that other animals will often be crossing,

too. Finally, if you can, stay in your lane because serious

See **DEER** on page 20

Rider lays down motorcycle on Hwy. 20

A 34-year-old man was forced to lay down his motorcycle on Highway 20 to avoid a rear-end collision last week.

On Saturday, October 28, Deschutes County Sheriff's Office deputies and Cloverdale Fire/EMS responded to a report of a motorcycle-versus-vehicle crash on Highway 20 near Gist Road. Information relayed to 911 dispatchers indicated that the motorcycle was on fire.

When emergency personnel arrived, they determined that a 2008 GMC Yukon had stopped behind a vehicle turning left into a driveway off Highway 20 near Gist Road.

See **WRECK** on page 31

Spirits of times past arise at cemetery

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Last Friday, October 27, on a perfect late-autumn afternoon, the spirits of early Sisters residents were up and roaming about at Camp Polk Meadow and the Camp Polk Cemetery.

As part of the Deschutes Land Trust annual Spirits of Camp Polk walk, visitors were treated to a living history event peopled by volunteers playing the roles of Samuel Hindman, his daughter-in-law Martha, and native women who visited the meadow long before any white settlers arrived, as well as numerous early Sisters

settlers up in the cemetery.

The Native Americans had camped in the meadow for centuries, where they found abundant food and water. The Wascos and Piauxes made seasonal migrations through this area that served as the hub of all the surrounding waterways — the Deschutes River, Whychus Creek, Indian Ford Creek, the Metolius River, and numerous other creeks and rivers.

In the early 1800s, European trappers and explorers entered the area. In 1843, Captain John C. Fremont crossed the meadow on his way to California.

See **CEMETERY** on page 30

Sisters firefighters aid California

By Jim Cornelius
News Editor

When the Milli Fire reared up and roared across the landscape, forcing hundreds to evacuate their homes, firefighters from around the state of Oregon converged on Sisters to provide depth to the firefighting response.

Last month, three Sisters firefighters undertook the same sort of mission, rolling south as part of a strike team requested to aid in the response to devastating wildfires in northern California.

The call came in at 10 p.m. on October 11, requesting a strike team from Deschutes and Klamath counties. Jeremy Ast, David Ward, and Travis Bootes saddled up in one of the Sisters-Camp



PHOTO PROVIDED

Three Sisters firefighters joined a strike team to assist the battle against massive California wildfires.

Sherman District's Type 3 heavy brush engines and rolled out at midnight. They returned 10 days later.

"I think they were impressed at the speed with

See **FIREFIGHTERS** on page 22

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