



PHOTO PROVIDED

A woodstove chimney is believed to be the culprit in a fire in Tollgate on Sunday.

FIRES: No injuries were sustained in weekend blazes

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Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District responded with four emergency vehicles and eight personnel. Additional units from Black Butte Ranch and Cloverdale Fire Districts also responded to the fire but were canceled prior to arrival.

A renter inside a home in Tollgate early Sunday morning smelled smoke and noticed the roof was glowing inside the home. The occupants of the home evacuated and called 911.

Fire units were dispatched to a chimney fire, but during their initial response received additional information that the fire was coming out of the roof. When firefighters arrived on scene flames were visible on the roof surrounding the chimney. Inside the home, the ceiling had visible

fire in the area surrounding the chimney.

The fire was quickly knocked down from both the interior and exterior of the home but firefighters had to work with chain saws to extinguish the fire still smoldering in the void spaces in the rafters.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but is believed to be related to the woodstove, which was in use at the time of the fire.

Captain Jeremy Ast said, "The renters had only been living in the house for a couple months, but their landlord advised the chimney had just been cleaned prior to their moving in."

Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District responded with 10 personnel and four emergency response vehicles. Black Butte Ranch and Cloverdale Fire Districts also responded with units and personnel assisting at the scene. The damage to the home was estimated at \$26,000.

LETTERS

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To the Editor:

I'm confused but perhaps that is a result of having read Jim Cornelius's opinion piece about Russian interference in our 2016 election. The best I can figure out is that Mr. Cornelius wishes to remain agnostic about the investigation and its outcome. But along the way, he characterizes this as a "farical scandal" and labels Trump and his team's statements about it as "obfuscations" rather than what they are: lies. He then concludes that as a matter of "absolute certainty" the investigation would further divide us Americans.

So, Mueller and his team should just pack their bags and close up shop? I guess we shouldn't know how Russia managed this inference and whether the current occupant of the White House was involved in it. Maybe we shouldn't worry about Russia (or some other foreign power) attempting this in the future.

As to divisions, I recall candidate Trump beginning his campaign by insulting "Mexicans" by calling them criminals and rapists and promising a ban on any Muslim coming into this country under his theory that they are all terrorists or terrorist wannabes. He then called for his political opponent to be jailed and until the very end of the campaign insisted that our first black president was illegitimate because he wasn't born in this country. (The cartoon next to this column included a reference to Trump using a racial slur against Senator Elizabeth Warren at an event held to honor Navajo WWII soldiers.)

I belong to a tribe. It's called American citizens wanting to protect their democracy.

Michael Wells



To the Editor:

Thank you Craig Rullman for "The Mill Party" in the November 29 edition of *The Nugget*. Memories came flooding back, some buried for decades.

The noon mill whistle, the smell of fresh-cut lumber, and the mill worker dressed up in a well-worn Santa suit — all a part of growing up.

My dad was an edgerman at the Harris/Woolly Mill on Smith River, some 10 to 12 miles west of Drain, Oregon. Occasionally, my dad would bring home a cookie or an orange (as a treat) in his well-worn black lunch pail.

I'm 80 now, and this article brought tears of wonderful memories flooding back as far as 77 years ago.

Evelyn Frost
Tualatin, Oregon



To the Editor:

Just a reminder that Saturday, December 16, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. we will be distributing the certificates for the Kiwanis Food Share, the fire department's gifts for children and the Furry Friends pet food.

Please, if you filled out an application, remember to come and pick up your gift from the community. Every year, we start about 4 p.m. calling to remind people who haven't been there yet to come in, and sometimes we end up with toys, certificates, and dog food for those who didn't come that we struggle to get to them.

We want everyone, volunteers included, to have a Merry Christmas and joyful holiday! See you at the Fire Hall Saturday, December 16!

Shirley Miller



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The Nugget Newspaper

The Nugget will be closed on Monday, December 25, and Monday, January 1

Early deadlines for the issues of December 27 and January 3 are...

Display Ads: Thursday at 5 p.m.
Classifieds, Events, Announcements: Friday at 12 p.m.
Letters to the Editor: Friday at 5 p.m.

Happy Holidays!