

A pioneering Sisters **businesswoman** page 9



Trail advocates warn of muddy conditions page 24

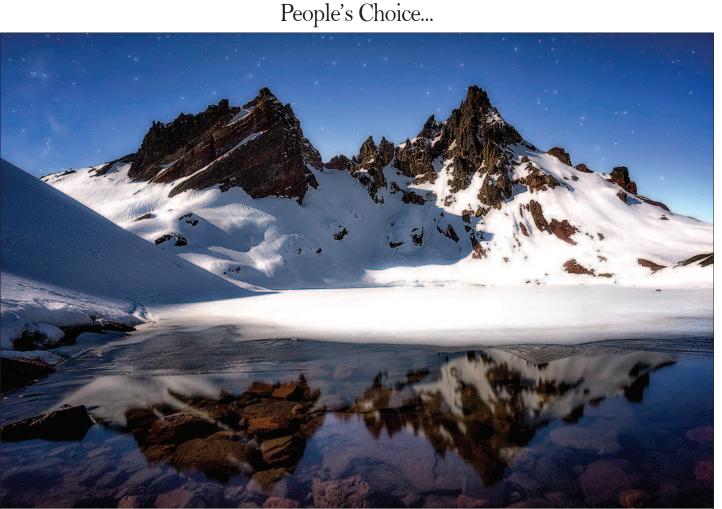


News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

POSTAL CUSTOMER

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"Blue Hour Reflection at Broken Top" by Austin James Jackson earned People's Choice honors at the Sisters Library's annual exhibit last week.

Sisters looks to craft a vision of the future

By Sue Stafford

Correspondent

Sisters is getting set to embark on a project to envision its future.

Steven Ames and Ruth Williamson of NXT Consulting Group of Bend made their initial presentation to City Council outlining a "visioning" process.

Ames likened the visioning exercise to "fixing the roof while the sun is shining." It's better to look at where we currently are as a city and where we would like to go when things are going well,

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Sisters takes on suicide prevention

By Charlie Kanzig

Correspondent

A distressed family member takes her own life, leaving the survivors to grapple with tormenting what-ifs, horrible guilt, paralyzing helplessness and incomprehensible grief.

Family and friends ask, "Could I have done more? Did I miss some warning signs? Did they try to tell me and I dismissed their comments? Did they tell anyone their plans and no one spoke

Suicide, long an almost taboo subject, is the cause of death for approximately 38,000 Americans in a given

year and rates among minors continues to grow, according to the Center for Disease Control. The rate of suicide among teenagers has more than doubled since 2007, according to the same source.

The time has come to address the topic head-on, says Sisters Middle School counselor Brook Jackson. That is why he and other staff members from the Sisters School District are working to do everything possible to help prevent suicide locally, including the hosting of a community presentation, as well as assemblies at Sisters Middle School and Sisters

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Students to go to Belgium for science

By Jim Anderson

Correspondent

Three Sisters High School chemistry students — seniors Ethan Ferwalt, Ashonte Hull, and junior Amy Hills — have been selected, through a competitive process from worldwide applicants, to join a group of students in Brussels, Belgium, to send near-space experiments up in an atmospheric balloon.

The three students designed their experiment during chemistry classes this last fall, and then chose the option to enter it in the Asgard Balloon Project. They were selected. The students plan to travel to Belgium (assuming they can raise the appropriate funds) with one or two of their parents to attend this science



SHS seniors Ethan Ferwalt, Ashonte Hull and junior Amy Hills working on their high-altitude electronic experiment they will take to Belgium.

event in late April, 2018.

Last spring, the SHS chemistry classes were conducting near space atmospheric balloon experiments, mentored by Sisters resident Steven Peterzën of the ISTAR Group - a firm that offers a multitude of support for science and technological research in

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