

C O M M U N I T Y

Festival offers lottery for early tickets

Sisters Folk Festival is opening weekend pass sales for the 2019 festival on Monday, December 3. The festival is always on the weekend following Labor Day. Next year's Festival dates are September 6 through 8.

The organization is offering a limited number of

“Early Bird” discounted passes, distributed via lottery.

“Last year we switched to a lottery system to allocate the 500 passes for sale at a discount and got great feedback. Folks felt they had a fair shot at getting them, no

See **TICKETS** on page 36

Black Butte Ranch values its dark skies

By Ron Thorkildson
Correspondent

On the evening of Friday, November 9, four high school students of the Sisters Astronomy Club — Joelle Asson, Amy Hills, Paola Mendoza and Ramsey Schar — and educator Rima Givot ventured into the dark of night to measure, well... the dark of night.

Their work was requested by Jay Head and Joe McDermott, residents of Black Butte Ranch, as part of an effort by the community to gain certification from the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA).

Head and McDermott escorted the group to five locations throughout the Ranch in an effort to ascertain the degree of “darkness”

of the sky at each site. Using a set of star charts showing varying numbers of stars for a particular area of the sky, the students were to choose the chart that most accurately matched what they saw in the sky. Oliver McDermott, Joe’s son, operated a device called a Sky Quality Meter that measures darkness directly. It was used for purposes of comparison.

Head and McDermott are passionate about wanting to preserve dark skies here in Central Oregon and are reaching out to IDA for help. IDA’s mission is to “preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through environmentally responsible outdoor lighting.”

See **DARK SKIES** on page 36



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sisters graduate has gone on to create a writing career.

Internship inspired SHS grad to write

By Katy Yoder
Correspondent

By the time Molly Elwood graduated from Sisters High School in 2000, she’d spent her high school years working at OutlawNet and doing an internship at *The Nugget*. That experience set the stage for her pursuit of an education and eventual career in writing.

After graduation, she went to Linfield College and eventually chose a major. She considered teaching elementary school or choir. But then she

realized what she enjoyed the most were her English and creative writing classes.

“It seemed like that’s how I was following my dreams. I got a degree in creative writing, wrote for the college paper and got my master’s in writing,” she said.

Elwood (previously Johnson) attributes her decision to pursue a writing career to opportunities found in Sisters.

“I don’t think I would have gotten that degree if I hadn’t had the chance to write for *The Nugget*. It showed me

how I could apply the craft. I was a sports and tech reporter. Learning that you can have a voice and impact at 17 years old is pretty powerful,” she said.

Now an author and professional writer, Elwood sees the opportunities she had to explore different types of writing as the entrance into the writing world

“Professionally I’m a senior copywriter for KEEN, which is surprisingly fun. I’m not sure if I would have

See **ELWOOD** on page 30

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Wed., 6 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

Alateen Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.

Alcoholics Anonymous Thurs. & Sun., 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Sat., 8 a.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Mon., 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Big Book study, Tues., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Gentlemen’s meeting, Wed., 7 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Sober Sisters Women’s meeting, Thurs., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Step & Tradition meeting, Fri., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia Caregiver Support Group 1st Tuesday, 11 a.m., Sisters City Hall. 800-272-3900.

Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.

Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild For Saturday meeting dates and location, email: steelefly@msn.com.

Central OR Spinners and Weavers Guild One Saturday per month, Jan. thru Oct. For schedule: 541-639-3217.

Council on Aging of Central Oregon Senior Lunch Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-480-1843.

East of the Cascades Quilt Guild 4th Wednesday (September-June), Stitchin’ Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.

Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. www.sistersfol.com.

Go Fish Fishing Group 2nd Monday, 7 p.m. Sisters Community Church. All ages welcome. 541-771-2211.

Heartwarmers (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.

Hero Quilters of Sisters Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-719-1230.

Military Parents of Sisters Meetings are held quarterly; please call for details. 541-388-9013.

Oregon Band of Brothers – Sisters Chapter Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-549-6469.

SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment) Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sisters Park & Recreation District. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Family Aglow Lighthouse 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Ponderosa Lodge Meeting Room. 503-930-6158.

Sisters Area Photography Club 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.

Sisters Area Woodworkers 1st Tuesday, 7 to 9 p.m. 541-639-6216.

Sisters Astronomy Club 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.

Sisters Bridge Club Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.

Sisters Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Cribbage Club Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray’s Food Place community room. 541-923-1632.

Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.

Sisters Kiwanis Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Meditation Group Mondays, 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 4 p.m. 420 N Tamarack St. Text only (no voice) to 541-207-7266.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson’s Support Group 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m., Sisters Community Church. 907-687-8101 or 541-668-6599.

Sisters Red Hats 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

Sisters Rotary Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-760-5645.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 541-719-8822.

Sisters Veterans Thursdays, noon, Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.

Three Sisters Lions Club 1st Thursday, noon, Ray’s Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

VFW Post 8138 and American Legion Post 86 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-903-1123.

Weight Watchers Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. weigh-in, Sisters Community Church. 541-602-2654.

SCHOOLS

Black Butte School Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX office. 541-549-4133.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

CITY & PARKS

Sisters City Council 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., SPRD bldg. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Planning Commission 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.

Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Wed., 7 p.m., 67433 Cloverdale Rd. 541-548-4815. cloverdalefire.com.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

This listing is for regular Sisters Country meetings; email information to lisa@nuggetnews.com