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News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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Cloverdale FD honors volunteers

The volunteer members of the Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District are a dedicated group of individuals who are true volunteers. They receive no monetary reimbursement for their time and service to the constituents of the District. The District does cover all the cost of their training, personal protective equipment and all related costs of their accreditation as firefighters and EMS first responders.

On Sunday, March 17, the Cloverdale RFPD held its annual awards banquet for recognition of the District's volunteer members — and noted that numbers of those volunteers are dwindling.

As Fire Chief Thad Olsen conveyed in his State of the District speech, the pool of volunteers in the District has been slowly eroding. While many members have been with the district for over 10 years, recruitment of new



Marcus Peck, Turner Stutzman, Joel Stutzman and Kyle Wattenburg were each honored for their service to the **Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District.**

volunteers has been a challenge. Cloverdale RFPD is looking to bolster its ranks.

New volunteers will serve alongside some stalwart members of the District.

Joel Stutzman was awarded Rookie of the Year. In his first year, Joel stepped up as the

Cloverdale Volunteer Fire Fighters Association president. Stutzman has been

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Foster on patrol in Camp Sherman

By Jim Cornelius

Editor in Chief

As Camp Sherman slowly adjusts to life without their resident deputy Dave Blann, a familiar face is on the road, making sure that the community continues to have lawenforcement coverage.

Jefferson County Deputy Mark Foster has been working as a reserve for years, covering Blann's days off and sometimes responding to nighttime calls. When Blann died suddenly on February 15 at the age of 63, Foster stepped up to cover his shifts.

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Festival will bring blues to Sisters again

By Jim Cornelius

Editor in Chief

Sisters Rhythm and Brews Festival will return to Sisters for its second year on July

Sisters residents Jennifer and Joe Rambo are back for another round after last year's successful event.

"We had hopeful expectations for the first year, but we knew it was going to be a process to build," Joe told The Nugget. "We got a kind of master class on what not to do, what to do and where to spend the money."

The result is a streamlined festival in a single open-air venue at the Sisters Village Green. The date has moved

forward a bit and there are a few other changes (see sidebar story, page 15).

What hasn't changed is a commitment to bringing outstanding blues music to town, stimulating the local economy, and supporting a couple of cherished local non-profits.

The music roster casts a wide net, reflecting the Rambos' taste for music that ventures out beyond 12-bar Chicago Blues.

"Blues is a really wide spectrum," Joe notes.

That spectrum takes the lineup into edgy, rootsy territory that will likely appeal to an eclectic audience.

"We wanted diversity and

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Bend man killed in rollover wreck

A 25-year-old Bend man was killed in a single-vehicle rollover wreck on Highway 20 east of Sisters on Thursday evening, March 28.

Oregon State Police reported that emergency personnel responded to the report of a single vehicle rollover crash on Highway 20 near Fryrear Road between Sisters and Bend at about 8 p.m.

Cloverdale Engine 622 personnel found a single vehicle crashed into a power pole, cutting it in two, dangling live wires and three transformers across the vehicle.

Preliminary investigation revealed that a black 2001 Nissan Pathfinder, operated by 25-year-old Bend resident Tyler Wright, was traveling eastbound on Highway 20 near Fryrear Road. For



It is not clear why a Bend driver crossed over the oncoming traffic lane and crashed into a power pole.

unknown reasons, Wright crossed over the oncoming lane and impacted a power pole, the vehicle coming to a rest on its top.

Wright sustained fatal injuries and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Highway 20 was closed for approximately five hours and power and utilities were knocked out to over 500 local households.

Captain Michael Valoppi of the Cloverdale Fire District reminds motorists that, "extra caution and vigilance while driving on the highway is needed when the weather continues to change throughout the day. This can create hazardous conditions on road surfaces, especially in curves at highway speed."

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