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Hwy. 20 logging operation gets underway Four vie for two seats on Sisters School Board

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

The roar of chainsaws split the chilly morning air in Sisters on Monday, April 29, as the long-awaited Highway 20 hazard tree logging project got underway. Towering ponderosa pines, brown and brittle, wavered then came crashing to the ground along the roadway, one after another after another.

The project, expected to be completed May 22, will ultimately remove 2,100 trees — mostly ponderosa pines — that were killed due to the application of an herbicide along the highway.

Sisters Ranger District Project Manager Steve Orange described some challenges as loggers started work close to the edge of Sisters. There was a high concentration of trees to be cut, and traffic control managers tried



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

See TREES on page 32 The falling of 2,100 trees is underway on the Highway 20 corridor. Work is expected to be completed by May 22.

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Four candidates are contending for the two open seats on the Sisters School Board. Current board members Stephen King and Jeff Smith are facing off in a contest for Position 3, while former board member Don Hedrick and local resident and volunteer Mandee Seeley are running for Position 4.

In the Position 3 race, King left his incumbent position to run against Smith. King told *The Nugget* that he

See CANDIDATES on page 37

Forest Service sells 18-acre parcel in Sisters

An 18.11-acre parcel of Forest Service land located at Highway and West Barclay Drive in Sisters has been sold.

Compass Commercial Real Estate Services announced the sale on Monday, April 29.

Brokers Robert Raimondi, CCIM and Graham Dent represented the Forest Service, and principal broker Bruce Churchill represented the buyer, Three Sisters Holdings, LLC in the transaction valued at \$1.5 million.

The property is one of three parcels of the Forest Service's approximately 80-acre administrative site, located along Pine Street in Sisters. The two remaining

parcels consist of 14.61 and 47.06 acres, and those parcels remain available for sale.

The Forest Service will use the funding from this sale and the sale of the other two parcels to build more accessible and energy-efficient facilities. The agency has long had plans to build a new headquarters facility in Sisters.

"This sale moves us forward toward our goal of providing better services for visitors and improving employee safety while reducing our operating costs," said John Allen, forest supervisor, Deschutes National Forest.

See LAND SALE on page 38

Planting for the future in Sisters

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Under a cloudless blue sky and tender spring sun, 10 middle school leadership students, all seventh-grade girls, put their backs into planting four deciduous trees in Fir Street Park in celebration of Arbor Day on April 26.

Accompanied by leadership teacher Becky Aylor, the girls walked from the middle school to the park and back. Sisters Mayor Chuck Ryan greeted them and read the Arbor Day proclamation prior to the girls picking up their shovels and getting to work.

Four trees from the City's own nursery were chosen to replace a pine tree that had to be removed. As the trees grow, they will provide a bit of shade and some screening



PHOTO BY SUE STAFFORD

Sisters Middle School students celebrated the planting of four deciduous trees in town, assisted by the City of Sisters Public Works Department.

of the alley that runs between the park and the Sinclair gas station.

After digging the holes, with the help of public works staff the girls planted two crabapple trees, one linden

tree, and one serviceberry. The trees will provide springtime blossoms, and leaves that will provide some fall color.

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