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Celebrating Sisters' roundabout

By Sue Stafford

Correspondent

At last week's official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Highway 20/Barclay roundabout, Tumalo artist and sculptor Danae Bennett-Miller told those assembled that it was "quite an honor" to have her design chosen for the artwork in the center of the roundabout.

She "felt a responsibility to adhere to the guidelines" for the project. The theme for the artwork is "a journey through the passes is a journey through a land of contrasts," which is beautifully illustrated with the two contrasting sides to the installation.

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Conditions were perfect for the annual Sisters Park & Recreation District Crest the Cascades ride on Saturday. Dozens of riders took Highway 242 up and over the summit. The highway opened on Monday.

Facing Sisters' growing pains

By Sue Stafford

Correspondent

Where does one start a conversation about growth in Sisters? That was the question last week when City Manager Cory Misley agreed to sit down with The Nugget and unpack the topic of local growth.

There are some in Sisters who would like to pull up the drawbridge and keep any more newcomers from settling here. Another element is aggressively seeking to bring more living-wage jobs to

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Long-time counselor retiring from schools

By Ceili Cornelius

Correspondent

Charlie Kanzig, counselor at Sisters High School, is retiring after this school year after nearly 35 years working with students. Kanzig has been in and out of Sisters in his career but was happy to have completed his career at Sisters High School as the counselor for the past four years after a brief interlude working in South Korea.

Kanzig began his career as a language arts teacher for seventh- and eighth-graders at St. Mary's grade school in Stayton, Oregon. He graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in English education, having originally entered U of O as a journalism major.

"I realized at that time it was really hard to be a family man and a journalist; it was a very different world then," said Kanzig.

So, he went the education route instead. He realized

going into teaching that he wanted more transferable skills, and a lot of his friends at the time were counselors.

"I always liked the idea of being a counselor and I felt like I would really fit that job," he said.

Kanzig attended Lewis and Clark College, received his basic counseling degree, and got a job right away at Colton Middle and High School, a combined seventh- through 12th-grade school, as the sole counselor. Counseling became his main focus versus teaching after he got his degree.

"I still love to lead and teach, but counseling was more of an interest and fit what I wanted to do," he said.

He worked from 1987 until 1994 at Colton, and then a job opening at Sisters schools became available. He then worked for Sisters schools from 1994 until

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Sisters celebrates Class of 2019

By Charlie Kanzig Correspondent

A rocking rendition of Queen's "We are the Champions" by members of the Sisters graduating

class of 2019 highlighted the commencement ceremony for Sisters High School on Friday, June 14, in the gymnasium packed with faculty, family, and friends.

Prior to the rocking performance led by graduating senior Tyrell Beatty, Principal Joe Hosang briefly welcomed everyone before turning the attention to the jazz choir, directed by Rick Johnson, in a moving national anthem.

All of the speeches for this year's ceremony came from students. Associated Student Body President Wyatt Hernandez started things off and spoke from the heart about how supported he felt by his classmates after suffering a significantly debilitating concussion during his freshman year.

"There were many days that I did not want to get out of bed, but I made it through



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Wyatt Hernandez described the support he received from his peers at Sisters High School during a commencement speech on Friday, June 14.

because of all of you," he said. "Whether it was Kendra (Sitz) being my voice when I was too embarrassed to speak or the Cook twins (Mia and Ellie) always checking in on me or even Luka Perle helping me with English when I couldn't even read. You guys showed me love and compassion when I needed it the most, and you taught me so much about caring and friendship."

Hernandez will attend Willamette University in

Delia Hoyt shared the next speech as one of four valedictorians and a salutatorian who chose to string together their messages, each with an individual theme.

Hoyt, who will attend

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