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The Nugget

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from Sisters, Oregon

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Airport fly-in celebrates America

By Jodi Schneider
Correspondent

A helicopter, a gyrocopter and many planes buzzed overhead and the engines of vintage hot rods and drag racers roared at Sisters Eagle Airport on Thursday, July 4, as hundreds of Sisters residents and visitors showed up to celebrate a power-packed Independence Day for the 7th annual Wings & Wheels Fly-in & Car Show.

The weather was perfect — blue skies without a hint of wind as people of all ages lined up for pancakes that Sisters Rotary Club provided for those early risers attending the event.

Sisters Eagle Airport is celebrating 83 years this year — originally built and opened by George Wakefield in 1936.

The morning kicked off with a heartwarming flag drop brought in by Skydive Awesome, coupled with the playing of the National



PHOTO BY CODY RHEAULT

Drivers brought cars of every stripe out to test their mettle in drag races at Sisters Airport.

Anthem.

More than a dozen small aircraft were on display, along with over 40 vintage cars of every description, with helicopter rides by Leading Edge Aviation.

Many were there to admire flying machines that went back to the 1930s. Others

took a trip down memory lane browsing through vintage vehicles.

Bill Hall stood proudly next to his black 1932 Ford 3-Window Coupe equipped with suicide doors and a running board that his grandfather built over 65 years ago (see related story, page 7).

“He made really unique hot rods out of quality cars,” Hall said.

Right next to the 1932 Ford Coupe was Bill Leininger’s, 1933 Chevy Coupe, also built by Hall’s grandfather. Hall and Leininger met

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Hiker rescued after bad tumble on PCT

A hiker traveling alone on the Pacific Crest Trail about two miles north of the Rockpile Lake area tumbled about 50 feet while crossing a steep snow-covered section of the trail on Sunday, June 30, at about 6 p.m.

Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office Search and Rescue Coordinator Sgt. Dave Pond reported that, “the subject lost footing and tumbled about 50 feet until he hit a tree, stopping his descent. He was located by two other hikers who were able to get him back on the trail and call 911.”

The Jefferson County

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Airport hosts university science project

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

A test flight for a project measuring electrical conductivity in connection with thunderstorms was to launch via balloon from Sisters Airport early this week.

The joint effort of the University of Washington Earth and Space Sciences program and DigiPen Institute of Technology tapped the expertise of Sisters resident Steven Peterzen, who has conducted balloon launches for science-related projects all over the world.

“It’s in his back yard; that’s why we’re here,” said University of Washington Professor Michael McCarthy,

who was leading students in the project.

The 80-by-90-foot balloon will carry a 72-pound payload of atmospheric measuring instruments to an altitude of 130,000 feet over the Pacific Ocean. The instruments set up by University of Washington students will measure electrical conductivity. The crew from DigiPen is responsible for the telemetry and data transmission.

“We’re using basically a satellite phone link,” Jeremy Thomas explained. “We’re sending the data basically as text messages.”

Those messages will come at a rate of one per minute.

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Quilters rise to challenge in Sisters

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Among the more than one thousand quilts that will be on display on downtown shops at the Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show on Saturday, July 13, will be a set of quilts designed around the theme of “Bountiful Life.”

Volunteer firefighters from the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District will turn out at 7:30 a.m. on Quilt Show Day to hang the 29 quilts of the 2019 Stitchin’ Post Quilt Challenge.

At the top of the array will be a quilt crafted by Fern Inman, who works four days a week at Stitchin’ Post.

“It’s called Patriotic Rose, and I think it’s indicative of

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BY JIM CORNELIUS

First-time quilter Wendy Bachmeier depicted the Parable of the Sower in her quilt-challenge entry.

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