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Sound of French Canada to ring in Sisters page 15



Sisters student's art celebrated at State Fair page 17



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Fire season is not over in Sisters Country

Despite cooler temperatures and recent moisture in Sisters Country, fire officials are reminding residents and visitors of Sisters that fire season is not over.

"While we haven't seen the wildfire activity in Central Oregon like we have in recent years, we need everyone to remember it's still August and there is significant warm dry weather ahead of us," said Gordon Foster, Prineville-Sisters Unit Forester for

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Summer's last stand...

PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

The summer season is serving up some real summer weather this week, with temperatures climbing into the 90s. Officials warn that it's still fire season out there, and fire danger will be high through the Labor Day holiday. Then Sisters Country will slide into one of its finest times of year – the fall.

Citizens weigh in on public safety

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Citizens are letting their local government know their outlook on public safety through a 21-question survey that went out last week.

The survey was sent to city of Sisters residents in their utility bill. The City of Sisters contracts with the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services and it is city property owners who

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Buckmann marks 20 years promoting Sisters

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

As Labor Day rolls around to celebrate those whose work builds our country and communities, Jeri Buckmann is marking two decades of putting Sisters on the map.

Buckmann has been a fixture at the Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce for 20 years — years in which Sisters and the Chamber both have changed dramatically.

Like so many folks who now call Sisters home, Buckmann and her husband, Bob, who were living in Grafton, Oregon, started out as visitors.

"We'd visited here a few times and we always called the Chamber for what to do," she recalled.

Again, like many others, the quality and intimacy of the local schools offered a strong incentive to relocate. The Buckmanns moved here

and enrolled Adam and Sara in Sisters schools.

Jeri almost immediately called the Chamber and offered to volunteer.

"A few months later, the events coordinator position came open and they said, 'Would you like to do this?'" she recalled. "I said sure. I had no experience other than organizing kids' parties."

In the 1990s and early 2000s, the Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce was a major player in creating and managing the events that helped establish the community as a destination and a hub of arts and entertainment. At various times, the Chamber hosted an antique fair, Saturday markets, a car show, a Western and Native American Arts Festival and its signature event, the Sisters Harvest Faire.

In those early days, Bend

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Volunteers conduct stewardship

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

About 20 sport-shooters, along with Forest Service personnel and local law enforcement officers, gathered on Saturday morning to conduct a stewardship cleanup at the popular Zimmerman Butte shooting area.

The event was conducted under the auspices of the group Trash No Land out of Washington, with the support of the U.S. Forest Service and sponsorship from a variety of outdoor-oriented businesses. The Forest Service provided a Dumpster for the cleanup, and Sisters Ranger District personnel pitched in to pick up and haul trash.

Sisters Ranger District law enforcement officer Fred Perl thanked the volunteers, noting that the work fits in with the USFS motto of "safe forest, healthy forest."

"Thank you for promoting the vitality of the forest, as well," he said.

Trash No Land coordinator



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

About 20 volunteers did yeoman's work in sprucing up the popular Zimmerman Butte recreational shooting area last weekend.

Bill Cogley emphasized the importance of responsible shooters taking care of the areas where they shoot — because if they become unsafe or detrimental to forest health, they could be shut down. Keeping and bearing arms is a right enshrined in the U.S. Constitution — but the ability to go out shooting on public lands is a privilege.

"We have a right to own firearms, but we don't have a

right to shoot on public land," Cogley told the assembled volunteers. "It's a privilege. We'd hate to see it go away because people abuse the privilege."

Responsible shooting means observing safety precautions and using appropriate targets — not junk and trash. And targets should be removed after a shooting

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