



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Norma Holmes will describe the 13-year evolution of her book "Land Escapes: A Painted Journey On Oregon's East Side" on September 20.

Holmes to describe painting project at talk

Noted Sisters-area artist Norma Holmes will describe the creation of her book "Land Escapes: A Painted Journey On Oregon's East Side" in a presentation at Paulina Springs Books on Friday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m.

The creation of the book evolved over a period of 13 years, Holmes told *The Nugget*.

"I was doing a lot of painting and traveling on the east side," she told *The Nugget*. "I was sitting on Steens Mountain looking at Basque Meadow and this idea came to me: People need to see this."

The display-quality book is perfect for the coffeetable — but Holmes hopes it gets more direct use.

"My idea was that people would take this and travel with it."

Land Escapes is conceived to be an exquisite travel guide to the natural and cultural landmarks of Oregon's eastern regions. Many of the sites will be familiar to folks in Central Oregon.

Holmes paints on-site.

"Every painting starts with a pencil rendering and notes," she said.

In her presentation at Paulina Springs Books, she will offer insight into her work process and how the book came to be. She'll also read from the book and offer some stories about the landscapes depicted and answer questions from attendees.

Body of missing hiker found after three years

SALEM (AP) — Authorities say the body of a 21-year-old man has been recovered on Mount Jefferson more than three years after he was reported missing.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday that Riley Zickel was reported missing on July 30, 2016, after not returning from the Mount Jefferson Wilderness Area where he had been on an overnight hike.

At the time, the sheriff's office says hundreds of people covered over 350 miles (560 kilometers) searching for him.

About three weeks ago the sheriff's office was contacted by climbers who believed they had located Zickel's body in a glacial area above Jefferson Park.

The sheriff's office says the area is extremely steep with loose rocks and rock avalanches.

County Search and Rescue, Corvallis Mountain Rescue, the Civil Air Patrol, and the United States Forest Service planned the recovery mission, which happened Tuesday.

TRAIL: September 21 event celebrates trail expansion

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turned a passion for mountain-biking loose on what would eventually become a major expansion of the trail.

"I just got really excited about mountain-biking," Rahm said. "Once I got a really good bike, I was out there all the time. The trail-head is 300 yards from my house and I just noticed that there were some problems."

Portions of the trail got very sandy and difficult to navigate, especially in the dry summer months. Rahm found a solution in bentonite clay, which firms the soil, and he and other cyclists added the clay to the trail.

Rahm and other riders saw greater potential in the trail.

"What we really need is a trail going out and a trail going back," he thought. "I eventually put in a proposal to the Forest Service — really just kind of an informal thing."

It took a few years to gain traction, but then-Sisters Ranger District Ranger Bill Anthony, himself an avid cyclist, got behind the project. The community raised the thousands of dollars

required to do an environmental analysis, flagged the proposed route and organized to get the work on the ground done.

In a remarkable community effort, community members from across Central Oregon built and improved 20 miles of trail in 20 months, completing a major expansion in December 2009.

The trail is regarded as "fast and flowy," and a fun ride for a wide range of cyclists. A beginner can have a good time and want to come back. An expert can have a good time and want to come back.

The accessibility of the trail from downtown Sisters and the views from the top add to the attraction.

"It's a destination trail," Rahm said. "People come here just for that. I think it's the primary recreational amenity that the city has."

Sisters Trails Alliance (STA), which coalesced in part around the creation of the trail, maintains the trail and has created maps for riding, hiking, and equestrian users.

STA has planned a series of hikes, rides and other activities to celebrate the trail on September 21. Registration is open until the activities are filled. For more information, visit <http://www.sisterstrails.org>.

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