

CONCERT: Seating will be limited and set up in ‘pods’

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contractors, vendors, and volunteers.

There will only be 190 admissions available to the public, and seating will be sold in “pods” for two- or four-person social groups. Attendees will need to bring their own low back festival chairs and/or blankets for seating.

The venue opens at 4 p.m.; music will take place from 5 to 10 p.m. There will be one or two food vendors, on-site beer and cider sales, plus bike valet parking hosted by Blazin Saddles. Attendees are encouraged to bike to the concert if possible.

The organization has put a lot of thought into incorporating best practices to keep this gathering as safe as possible during COVID-19. The venue will be configured as a one way in (west entrance) and one way out (east exit) venue. Wearing of masks or face coverings (properly, over the nose and mouth) will be required and enforced when patrons are outside of their reserved, socially distanced seating zones.

Concert-goers will be able to purchase food and beverages and then take them back to their seating area to enjoy.

“Organizers ask that all attendees comply voluntarily with mask wearing to help keep yourself and others safe,” SFF staff stated in a prepared release. “If for any reason that is either a hardship, or you anticipate having difficulty complying for any reason, please stay home.”

Physical distancing will also be implemented as shown by markings on the ground identifying six-foot spacing for all areas where



PHOTO BY TIM LABARGE

Ron Artis will headline the Sisters Folk Festival’s Close to Home Concert on August 1.

organizers anticipate lines forming. Seating pods for social groups will be spaced at least six feet from each other and there will be 15 feet of room between the stage and the first row of seating. Public health guidance signage such as physical distancing reminders, hand washing/sanitizing prompts, etc. will be posted throughout the entire outdoor venue as a reminder to follow guidelines.

“Organizers ask that all attendees comply voluntarily with mask wearing to help keep yourself and others safe.”
— SFF Staff

“The staff at Sisters Folk Festival is thrilled to be able to plan this concert and—if all goes well – is looking to do something similar but with additional venues over the regular festival weekend, SFF staff stated. “These events can only be successful if all participants follow the rules.”

Tiered pricing for all tickets will be offered starting Monday, July 13, and Sisters Folk Festival will announce final lineup for the day on or before that date.

For tickets, artist information, and a complete listing of the lineup, visit www.sistersfolkfestival.org.

New City personnel on the horizon

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The City will soon have the services of an AmeriCorps intern for 11 months, starting in September. The person filling the position will be part of the Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) federal program administered through the University of Oregon.

According to City Manager Cory Misley, who served as a RARE intern while in school, they will be interviewing possible candidates to find the person who best fits the areas in which they will be working — community engagement and project management, mainly around the Sisters Vision Project. Some non-profit experience would be a plus, or other municipal experience.

To participate in the program, the City pays the U of O \$23,500 to help cover expenses to place, train, and support the intern. The City is able to recoup \$10,000 of that amount with a grant from the Ford Family Foundation.

The mission of the RARE Program is to increase the capacity of rural communities to improve their economic, social, and environmental conditions, through the assistance of trained graduate-level members who

live and work in communities for 11 months. Members assist communities and agencies in the development and implementation of plans for achieving a sustainable natural resource base and improving rural economic conditions while gaining community-building and leadership skills.

Through the service-learning program, RARE AmeriCorps members gain important service and professional experience by helping to solve community and regional development issues.

The posting for the City’s Community Development Director position is now open. Misley hopes to have the position filled by fall. Check the City website for the posting or contact City Recorder Kerry Prosser for information on the position, 541-323-5213.

A new City position, Parks Planning and Public Events Coordinator, has been created to assist with the workload in both the Public Works Department and the Community Development Department. The new employee will oversee the City Parks Advisory Board, handle the planning for new parks, and will manage the applications and arrangements for all public events in the City. Watch for the job posting on the City website.

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