

C O M M U N I T Y



Sisters youth helps keep up bird habitat

Jordan Oathes cleans out old bluebird nests to make them welcoming for bluebirds.

PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER

By Jodi Schneider
Correspondent

Henry David Thoreau wrote of the bird that “carries the sky on his back.” The Western bluebird has a sky-blue back and russet chest and flanks. They’re birds of open spaces, so look and listen for them year-round near fields, parks, pastures, and open woodlands — any place with junipers is a good bet.

You can find them in rural areas around Sisters in places like Camp Polk Meadow,

Camp Sherman — and in and around the open area where local quilter Diane Tolzman resides.

Tolzman’s grandson, 7-year-old Jordan Oathes, has been helping the bluebirds build their nests every spring by leaving out quilting thread and just recently was inspired to give them more assistance by cleaning out the old nests in the nesting boxes in the fall.

“Jordan has been cleaning out bluebird houses in our neighborhood as

a home-school project,” Tolzman said.

Oathes told *The Nugget*, “I saw the nesting box we have and asked my dad if I could look at the nest. I didn’t think the bird could make any more nests in there because the sticks that the birdhouse were made from looked so old.”

Tolzman added, “Since he already wanted to clean out the nest boxes, I thought it would be a good science-type home-school project.

See **BLUEBIRDS** on page 11

Outlaws athletes are back on track

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

Athletic contests, non-existent in the area for months due to COVID-19, are slowly returning, allowing Sisters High School track-and-field program to host an informal, abbreviated competition against Ridgeview High on Wednesday, September 30.

Events are being handled carefully. The non-scored meet featured just five running events, along with all the field events other than triple jump, in the first meet for most of the athletes since the spring of 2019.

Sisters, along with other regional schools, elected

to use the OSAA “Season One” to offer mini-seasons prior to the start of sanctioned seasons which begin in late December.

Hudson Jones had a banner day in the field with personal records on his way to victory in all three throwing events.

Jones put the shot 42 feet 9 inches, winged the discus 134 feet 11 inches, and chucked the javelin 145 feet 2 inches.

“Hudson made the most of getting back into competition,” said Coach Jeff Larson. “I’m not sure when the last time we had an Outlaw pull off that trifecta.”

See **TRACK** on page 23

Staying fire-safe in the kitchen

The fall ushers in the season of home-cooked meals with family — which means more time in the kitchen. And that’s the most vulnerable place in the house to fire.

“Nationally, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, with unattended cooking being the leading cause of fires in the kitchen,” said Assistant Chief Deputy Claire McGrew of the Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office. “In Oregon, cooking

was the leading known cause of residential structure fires over the past five years, through 2019.”

According to data collected from the Oregon fire service for the National Fire Reporting System, home fires caused 29 deaths in Oregon in 2019, and fire agencies in Oregon responded to 2,790 home fires; and cooking was the leading known cause of

See **FIRE SAFETY** on page 18

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to affect gatherings, please contact individual organizations for current meeting status

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

AI-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. / Thurs., 10 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-610-7383.

Alcoholics Anonymous Thurs. & Sun., 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Sat., 8 a.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Mon., 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Big Book study, Tues., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Gentlemen’s meeting, Wed., 7 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Sober Sisters Women’s meeting, Thurs., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Step & Tradition meeting, Fri., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia Caregiver Support Group 1st Tuesday, noon, SPRD bldg. 800-272-3900.

Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.

Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild For Saturday meeting dates and location, email: steelefly@msn.com.

Central OR Spinners and Weavers Guild One Saturday per month, Jan. thru Oct. For schedule: 541-639-3217.

Council on Aging of Central Oregon Senior Lunch Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-480-1843.

East of the Cascades Quilt Guild 4th Wednesday (September-June), Stitchin’ Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.

Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. www.sistersfol.com.

Go Fish Fishing Group 3rd Monday, 7 p.m. Sisters Community Church. All ages welcome. 541-711-2211.

Heartwarmers (fleece blanketmakers) 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.

Hero Quilters of Sisters Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-719-1230.

Citizens4Community, Let’s Talk 3rd Monday, 5:30 to 8 p.m. RSVP at citizens4community.com

Military Parents of Sisters Meetings are held quarterly; please call for details. 541-388-9013.

Oregon Band of Brothers – Sisters Chapter Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-549-6469.

SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment) Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sisters Park & Recreation District. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Aglow Lighthouse 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Ponderosa Lodge Meeting Room. 503-930-6158.

Sisters Area Photography Club 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., meeting by Zoom. 541-549-6157.

Sisters Area Woodworkers 1st Tuesday, 7 to 9 p.m. 541-639-6216.

Sisters Astronomy Club 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.

Sisters Bridge Club Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.

Sisters Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., The Lodge in Sisters. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.

Sisters Kiwanis Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson’s Support Group Meeting by Zoom. 541-668-6599.

Sisters Red Hats 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

Sisters Rotary 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Noon, Aspen Lakes. 541-760-5645.

Sisters Speak Life Cancer Support Group 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 1 p.m. Suttle Tea. 503-819-1723.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board 1st Monday, 5 p.m. Sisters Library. Public welcome. 808-281-2681.

Sisters Veterans Thursdays, noon, Takoda’s Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.

Three Sisters Lions Club 2nd Tuesday, noon, Ray’s Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

VFW Post 8138 and American Legion Post 86 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-903-1123.

Weight Watchers Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. weigh-in, Sisters Community Church. 541-602-2654.

SCHOOLS

Black Butte School Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 3:30 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

Sisters Middle School Parent Collaboration Team 1st Tuesday, 2 p.m., SMS. 541-610-9513.

CITY & PARKS

Sisters City Council 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m., SPRD bldg. 541-549-2091.

Sisters Planning Commission 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.

Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Wed., 7 p.m., 67433 Cloverdale Rd. 541-548-4815. cloverdalefire.com.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.

Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

This listing is for regular Sisters Country meetings; email information to lisa@nuggetnews.com