News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PRE-SORTED STANDARD **ECRWSS** U.S. POSTAGE PAID Sisters, OR Permit No. 15

Vol. XLIII No. 45 Wednesday, November 4, 2020 www.NuggetNews.com

Sisters students in grades 4-6 may return to school soon

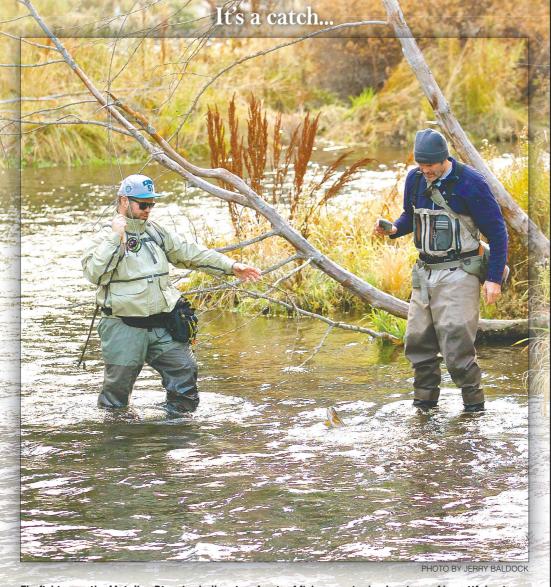
By Charlie Kanzig Correspondent

Sisters students in grades 4-6 may be returning to inperson learning as early as November 10, joining grades K-3 which have been in school for five weeks.

That possibility arises in the wake of Governor Kate Brown's October 30 press conference regarding adjustments to health metrics in Oregon.

Sisters students would still be considered to be following a "hybrid" model, since students will attend Monday-Thursday and take part in online learning on Fridays.

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Fly-fishing on the Metolius River is challenging. A pair of fishermen took advantage of beautiful autumn conditions for a successful day of catch-and-release.

School grapples with online behavior

By Charlie Kanzig

Correspondent

The challenge of distance learning took an ugly twist as some seventh- and eighthgraders at Sisters Middle School recently experienced three separate incidents of students using racially and sexually charged language during classes being conducted through Zoom.

Families first heard of the incidents through an email letter from principal Alison Haney that was followed later by a second letter that clarified, to some extent, what had taken place.

The initial letter focused on the acts being racist in nature and was strongly worded, including referring to the incident as an "assault." The second letter

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in the arm in Sisters

By Jodi Schneider

Correspondent

Sisters arts organizations got a significant financial shot in the arm from the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Coronavirus Relief Fund Cultural Support (CRFCS) grant awards totaling \$25.7 million are being distributed to 621 organizations across Oregon. These funds, approved by the Emergency Board of the Oregon Legislature in July, were allocated to the Oregon Cultural Trust to support cultural organizations facing losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last Wednesday Cate O'Hagan, co-chair of the

Deschutes Cultural Coalition, a program in partnership with Oregon Cultural Trust, distributed relief fund checks for the arts in Sisters outside on the steps of Sisters Art

Funding went to the Sisters Folk Festival (\$194,998), Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show (\$10,205), Sisters Rodeo Association (\$32,798) and Silent Echo Theater Company (\$4,630).

O'Hagan, known for serving over two decades as executive director for Arts Central in Bend, helped decide how to allocate the funds that recently flowed into the

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Arts get a financial shot Volunteers install kiosk at trailhead

By Sue Stafford

Correspondent

In last Saturday morning's chilly temperatures and bright sunshine, eight local Sisters men — all members of both Sisters Area Woodworkers (SAW) and Sisters Trails Alliance (STA) — gathered at the Peterson Ridge (PRT) trailhead to install a handsome new informational kiosk they constructed last week.

Kris Calvin, owner of Earthwood Timber Frame Homes, was the foreman on the project and provided his homebuilding workshop and equipment for construction and installation of the kiosk. Calvin designed it last

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Local woodworkers have built a kiosk to grace the new trailhead opened several months ago for the Peterson Ridge Trail.