



Veterans Day

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

# The Nugget

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from Sisters, Oregon

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## Reckless drivers become a community concern

By Charlie Kanzig  
Correspondent

For the past seven months, complaints of roaring engines, squealing tires, and speeding on Highway 242, Edgington Road, McKinney Butte Road and in the Sisters High School parking lot, mainly by young drivers, have poured in to the Deschutes County Sheriff's dispatch center.

Along Highway 242,

See RECKLESS on page 31

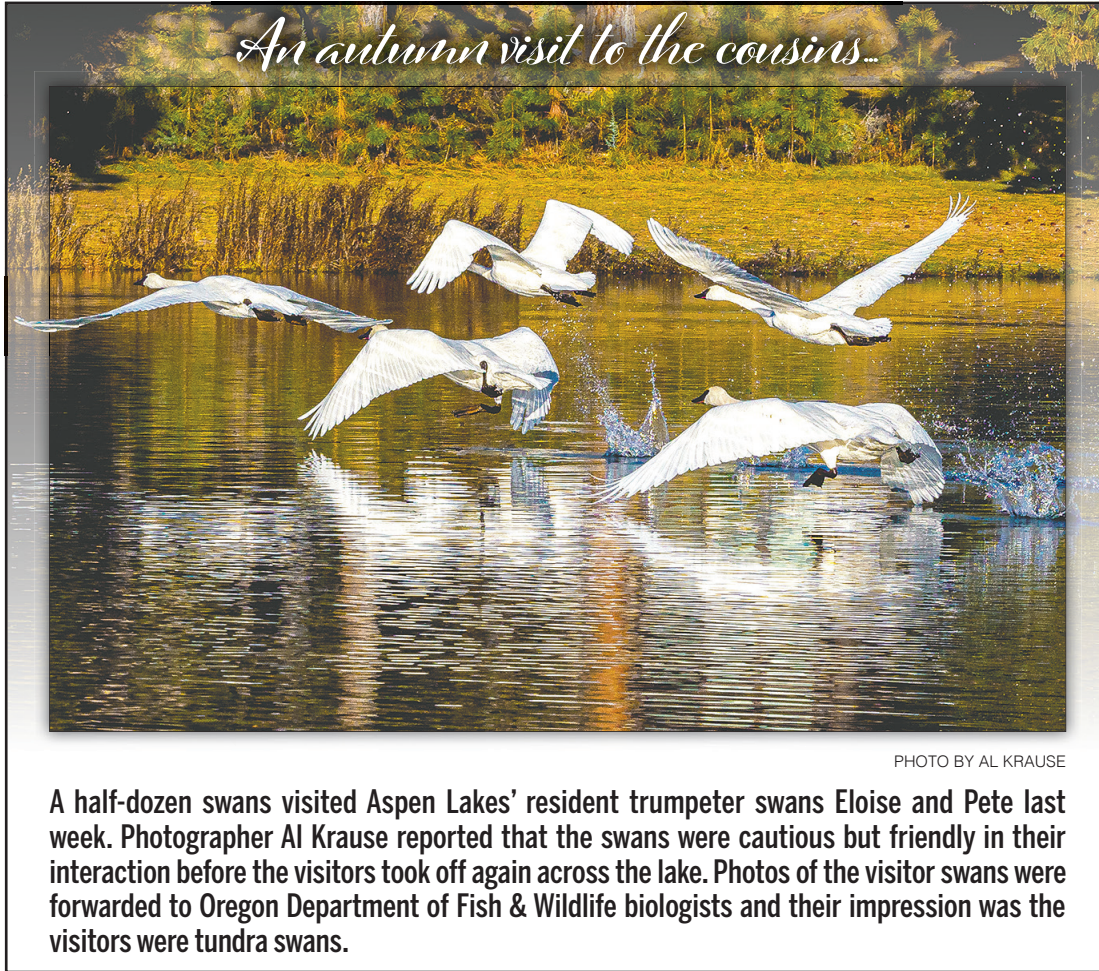


PHOTO BY AL KRAUSE

A half-dozen swans visited Aspen Lakes' resident trumpeter swans Eloise and Pete last week. Photographer Al Krause reported that the swans were cautious but friendly in their interaction before the visitors took off again across the lake. Photos of the visitor swans were forwarded to Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife biologists and their impression was the visitors were tundra swans.

## Protecting the health of those who protect Sisters

By Ceili Cornelius  
Correspondent

Firefighter and emergency responders see a lot of trauma — devastating fires, accidents, illness, injury and death. It takes a toll.

Over the past 25 years, there has been a shift in focus on firefighter and emergency responders' mental health as a more strongly emphasized part of training curriculum.

"There has really been an

See MENTAL HEALTH on page 24

## Sheriff's office adjusts personnel

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

"The only constant in life is change."  
— Heraculitus

That ancient adage is as true today as when it was first uttered. Here in Sisters, after three Deschutes County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) deputies were introduced to the public in the October 7 issue of *The Nugget*, there are already several temporary alterations in staffing and two new faces at the Sisters substation.

According to Lt. Chad Davis, the officer in charge of the Sisters unit, Dep. Allie DeMars went on light duty on October 9, which means she will not be patrolling in the city but working in the office. Her light duty is expected to last about a year. Covering her patrol duties for now is Dep. Donny Patterson, who began

his assignment in Sisters on October 16. His SUV is easily spotted because it says K-9 unit on it.

His partner, the other new face, is Copper the bloodhound, who likes meeting people.

Dep. Mike Hudson, who normally drives the black-and-white DCSO pickup, is a member of the Oregon Air National Guard and will be deployed for training beginning in late November through mid-March 2021. While he is gone, Dep. Josh Westfall will fill Hudson's position. Due to staffing issues, Westfall will not begin his Sisters assignment until the first of the year.

After Dep. Hudson returns in March, Dep. Westfall will likely stay in Sisters and fill Dep. DeMars patrol position, freeing Dep. Patterson and Copper to return to their regular patrol team.

See PERSONNEL on page 18

## Voters elect three councilors

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

Although the results of the race for Sisters City Council won't be certified until the end of November, the three highest vote-getters appear to be duly elected, with the following vote counts: Andrea Blum 1,087; Jennifer Letz 1,077; and Gary Ross 981.

Susan Cobb and Elizabeth Fisher, although not elected, both garnered significant numbers with votes at 701 and 647, respectively. The two highest vote counts will serve four-year terms, and the third serves two years.

Andrea Blum, the only incumbent running, "was overjoyed to win the election and appreciated getting the votes I did, because it confirmed that the hard work the Council has been putting in is appreciated by the community."

Fairly new to Sisters, Jennifer Letz is "excited and humbled to have been elected." She offered her



PHOTO COURTESY HARMONY THOMAS

A group of women gathered in Sisters on Election Day, November 3, to mark 100 years of voting rights for women.

"thanks to everyone that took the time to vote and I'm looking forward to serving my community."

Two-year councilor Gary Ross is "humbled by the trust this community has placed in me by my election to the Council. You had four other excellent candidates to choose from. I will work

hard for you and our community and will always be open to your comments and concerns."

Cobb and Fisher were both supportive of the voters' choices.

"...I am happy with who they picked. I think they

See ELECTION on page 30

## Inside...

Weather .....	2	Opinion / Letters .....	4	Announcements.....	12	Crossword .....	26	In the Pines.....	29
Meetings .....	3	Fit for Sisters.....	8	Events .....	13	Classifieds.....	27-29	Real Estate .....	29-32