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Sisters Outlaws step out into a new world

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

The theme of the Sisters High School Class of 2021 motto shone throughout commencement ceremonies held outdoors at Reed Stadium on a perfect late spring evening on Friday, June 4. The motto, a quote from Morgan Harper Nichols says, “Going through things you never thought you’d go through will only take you to places you never thought you’d get to.”

Principal Joe Hosang elicited applause as he welcomed everyone to the ceremony, saying enthusiastically, “We are together!”

He gave credit to the class for pushing to have commencement outdoors so that the number of family and



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sam May was one of the valedictorians who spoke on the resilience of the Class of 2021 during commencement on Friday night.

See GRADUATION on page 18

Sisters Folk Festival makes comeback

The Sisters Folk Festival (SFF) is coming back this fall.

SFF is moving forward with plans for a seven-venue festival scheduled for October 1-3. The annual festival of roots music held throughout the town represents a long-awaited return to live music, and a celebration of the Sisters community.

Seventeen artists are confirmed so far to perform multiple sets over the three-day

event, and plans are in the works to add a dozen more before the lineup is complete. All seven of the venues will be outdoors — most will be tented — so face masks will not be required, per current state and federal guidelines.

Sisters Folk Festival encourages people to get their shots before venturing into large crowd situations

See SFF on page 23

Reluctant Sisters: The City’s incorporation

By Emme Shoup
Sisters Assistant
Community Engagement Coordinator

In 1946, the year of Sisters’ incorporation, economic activity was booming, and with World War II ending in September 1945, soldiers began returning home to their community. It must have been at this point, when the Sisters community was coming back together and reevaluating its assets, that the subject of incorporation

became prevalent.

Yet, with Sisters being platted by Alex and Robert Smith in 1901, why did it take 45 years to incorporate?

The conversation around incorporation had been stirring in the Sisters community as far back as April 1912. In the Sisters Herald newspaper, a tag line read, “Sisters may incorporate: There is a movement afoot

See CITY on page 30

Small fires a warning to Sisters

Recent incidents remind Sisters residents and visitors that fire is an ever-present danger.

A fire broke out in the woods about five miles west of Sisters, about a quarter-mile northwest of Zimmerman Butte on Sunday. Firefighters from the Forest Service and Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District (SCSFD) responded quickly and kept it confined to 6/10 of an acre. Fire officials report that the fire was human-caused, but have not determined specifically what sparked the blaze.

On Wednesday, June 2, U.S. Forest Service firefighters knocked down the blaze that started from an unattended and escaped campfire about three miles west of Sisters off Highway 20. The fire was about 1.2 acres in size.

The previous week, on May 28, a trailer burned to the ground on the outskirts of town near the north end of Pine Street, with the fire spreading to adjacent trees and brush.

Crews arrived to find a small travel trailer fully involved, and mostly consumed by fire. The fire had extended to nearby trees and brush. The first engine crew



PHOTO PROVIDED

A trailer in the woods near Sisters caught fire and burned to the axles on May 28. On June 2, an unattended and escaped campfire caused a blaze that was stopped at 1.2 acres west of town.

to arrive on the scene was able to suppress the fire and keep it from extending any further.

According to SCSFD, an interview with the owner of the trailer indicated that the most likely cause of the fire was an unattended propane-fired heating unit that was left too close to combustibles inside the trailer.

“Never leave portable heating devices unattended, as they pose an increased risk of fire,” said Deputy Chief Tim Craig.

Drought conditions have made for an early and menacing fire season in Sisters Country. Extreme care should be exercised when camping or recreating in the woods around Sisters.

Inside...

Letters/Weather.....	2	Fit for Sisters.....	4	Announcements.....	12	Roundabout Sisters.....	14	Classifieds.....	26-28
Meetings.....	3	In the Pines.....	9	Events.....	13	Crossword.....	25	Real Estate.....	29-32