



The Nugget

News and Opinion from Sisters, Oregon

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

Vol. XLIV No. 43

www.NuggetNews.com

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Supply chain woes hit Sisters businesses

By Bill Bartlett
Correspondent

If you own a business in Sisters that sells “stuff,” it’s a particularly frustrating time. Merchant after merchant told *The Nugget* how much they envy their colleagues who sell services, like insurance. None has likely been more affected than LakeView Millworks in Sun Ranch Business Park, a fixture in Sisters for years selling custom doors, windows, trims, and window coverings.

They have been living with the problem for the better part of a year while Sisters

See SUPPLY CHAIN on page 14



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Moms and dads may have had just as much fun as the kids when they all hit the streets on Friday, October 29, for the Sisters Rotary Club-sponsored Halloween parade. Everyone was delighted to have the officially-sanctioned community event back.

Emergency preparedness gets real in Sisters

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Bare shelves due to staffing shortages and the slow or nonexistent delivery of goods due to a frayed supply chain are just a foretaste of what might befall Sisters Country in the event of a major disaster (see related story above).

Residents who have been

caught short on everything from toilet paper to prescriptions are getting a sharp reminder of just how vulnerable our just-in-time-oriented society can be.

Sisters Country is vulnerable to wildfire and severe winter storms that can cut power and isolate

See PREPAREDNESS on page 15

Insurance open enrollment underway

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Good health — and good health coverage — have never been more at the forefront of people’s minds than now. For those who are not covered by Medicare or an employer-based plan, the time is here to get or renew coverage through

the Affordable Care Act marketplace. The 2022 open enrollment period started November 1 and runs through January 15, 2022.

The open enrollment period is for individuals and families only, both through the health insurance

See INSURANCE on page 8

Spotted owls in focus on Green Ridge

By Bill Bartlett
Correspondent

In August of 2020, 4,338 acres 12 miles north-northwest of Sisters burned in the lightning-sparked Green Ridge fire. The ensuing smoke drove folks in Sisters to the Coast and farther. It made for a few depressing weeks in town, stunting tourism, and limiting outdoor enjoyment.

Green Ridge, perched above Camp Sherman and looking down upon the Metolius River, is popular with bikers and hikers.

It is also home to a unique government-owned facility. Green Ridge Lookout is set on a ridge more than 2,000 feet above the Metolius River. It offers guests a unique lodging experience in Deschutes National Forest. The lookout, a 20-foot-tall fire lookout with stunning views of Mt. Jefferson and the Metolius River basin, was built in the 1960s. Green Ridge Lookout is available for rent early May - June and mid-September to mid-November. During the summer months, the lookout



PHOTO BY BILL BARTLETT

A chopper gulping water from Metolius River during the 2020 Green Ridge fire fight.

is staffed with Forest Service volunteers who help with forest fire detection.

Green Ridge, parts of which provide habitat for the federally protected northern spotted owl, which is somewhat of a rarity in this locale, is being noticed. The Forest Service says years of clear-cutting, heavy logging, and fire exclusion and suppression have left the forest at Green Ridge overly dense and at high risk of fire that could obliterate tree stands

the owl relies on and threaten nearby communities.

“A lot of it was previously either high-grade logged, where some of the largest, most fire-resistant trees were logged, or it was clear-cut and then replanted in pretty dense plantations,” said Sisters District Ranger Ian Reid.

The agency is proposing a large-scale restoration that would halve the amount of forested area at

See GREEN RIDGE on page 22

Inside...

Letters/Weather.....	2	Obituaries	5	Entertainment	11	Fun & Games.....	18	Classifieds.....	20-21
Meetings	3	Announcements.....	10	Stars over Sisters	17	Crossword	19	Real Estate	21-24