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Sisters author brings the past to life

By Katy Yoder
Correspondent

Fernando Aleu is living a fascinating, richly diverse life. A vibrant, handsome man of 92, he has stories, and now a book, that reflect his sense of style, education, and experiences spanning the globe.

He's a retired neurologist — businessman and patriarch. His charming personality is magnetic, drawing in friends and admirers as effectively as an alluring fragrance. He's also proud to call himself a Sisters resident.

Growing up in Spain, prior to and during World War II, he witnessed events that shaped history and the man he would become. Enduring three years of the Spanish Civil War, and

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Song and dance...
Black Butte School children sang and danced their way through Camp Sherman in a unique and joyful version of their annual Winter Performance on Friday, December 10. See story, page 4.

PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Mule deer in steep decline in Sisters Country

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

The numbers of deer wandering through town, lounging beneath juniper trees, grazing on lawns, and crossing Cascade Avenue in the crosswalks may give a deceptive picture of the health of mule deer populations in Sisters Country.

While there are lots of healthy "town deer," populations across the Deschutes National Forest as a whole have declined 56 percent from 2004 to 2021. In the Metolius Basin, the surveyed population of 3,359 mule deer is 46 percent short

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City may make drivers slow down in neighborhoods

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Drivers may soon head a 20 mph speed limit in all of Sisters' neighborhoods. That's one of the recommendations from a recently conducted traffic safety audit.

At their December 8 meeting, City Council approved Ordinance 519, making amendments to the City's Transportation System Plan (TSP). The primary focus of the 2021 amendments to the 2018 TSP includes extending the Sisters planning horizon from 2030 to 2040 to be consistent with the City's newly adopted Comprehensive Plan, and codifying solutions to safety issues raised in the recently completed traffic safety audit.

Recommendations from the safety audit include:

- Pursue a citywide speed reduction to 20 mph in all

residential zones.

- Incorporate multiuse pathway standards into the public works standards and specifications.

- Standardize school zone treatments.

- Ask ODOT to measure how fast drivers are entering Sisters from county roads. Many people in the city would like to see speed zones extended farther out from the city limits.

- Make an all-way stop on Main Avenue at North Larch Street and evaluate potential all-way stops at North Fir and North Elm streets.

- Speed bumps or other devices to make drivers slow down along Jefferson Avenue, Elm Street, Fir Street, Adams Avenue, and Pine Street.

- Installation of digital driver feedback signs on US 20/126 on both the east and

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Construction class has new project

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

Jason Chinchin needed a new project for his Sisters High School (SHS) construction class this term when the traditional job of creating walls for a Habitat for Humanity house had to be put on hold until new construction begins on the next house.

Chinchin wanted the students to have a similar learning experience in wall-building so the idea of creating sturdy 8-by-10-foot storage/garden sheds took hold.

"While we were waiting to price out and arrange for delivery of the materials from Hoyt's Building Supply I did instruction on building principles and technique, but the kids were chomping at the bit to get going on something," said Chinchin.

And once the materials arrived the 20 students fell into work at such a pace the first shed will likely be finished within a week from the start. After just one day of the



PHOTO BY CHARLIE KANZIG

Sisters High School teacher Jason Chinchin instructs a group of students from the construction class on the how-tos of wall construction.

class some walls were framed up and sheeting applied.

That's not to say things have gone perfectly.

One student said he'd learned the old adage "measure twice and cut once" in the project. Two of the teams building walls had to

backtrack — pulling nails and rechecking measurements — to make things line up square.

The shed had a buyer before the first hammer hit a nail. Thomas Arends, a Sisters High School alum

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