

Sheriff warns on effects of drug policy

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Deschutes County Sheriff Shane Nelson thinks that Ballot Measure 110 — the Drug Decriminalization and Addiction Treatment Initiative passed by voters in 2020 — sounded good in theory, but brings negative unintended consequences.

Measure 110 makes personal possession of a controlled substance a violation subject only to a maximum fine of \$100, and established a drug addiction treatment and recovery program funded in part by the state’s marijuana tax revenue and state prison savings.

“I was not in favor of Measure 110; I was supportive of the idea behind Measure 110,” Nelson told a large gathering at Aspen Lakes Golf Course restaurant on Tuesday, January 18.

The setting of Sheriff Nelson’s presentation on Measure 110 stirred controversy, because it was

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PHOTO BY JACK TURPEN

Corbin Fredland makes a run for the Outlaws, who won both the boys and girls ski races last weekend. See story, page 4.

Water is a complex matter in Sisters Country

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Note: When it comes to the discussion of water, or lack thereof, in Central Oregon there is a wide range of opinion, depending on who is talking. Not all those opinions are based on facts. Over the next several weeks, The Nugget will be presenting articles addressing the many factors related to the supply of water in the Deschutes River Basin, and particularly within Sisters Country. This week we’ll look at some basics of water (hydrology) to provide a basic understanding for future articles.

Residents within the City of Sisters receive their domestic water from the municipal water system, which has four wells from which they access their water. The Public Works Department is responsible for that system. Residents

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Wildfire, traffic top citizen concerns

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

Residents generally feel very safe in Sisters both during the day and at night and are not worried about being a victim of crime. Those sentiments were revealed in the results of a public safety survey conducted by the City at the end of 2021.

The two most important issues for those responding to the survey were wildfire prevention (28.8 percent) and traffic safety (28 percent). The other issues ranked as follows: preserving livability — 19 percent; houseless/homeless support — 10 percent;

environmental sustainability — 6.4 percent; code enforcement — 2.9 percent; noise enforcement — 2.9 percent; and “other” — 2 percent.

Most of the survey results were similar to those from the survey conducted in 2019. The biggest threat at that time (53.3 percent) was reported to be traffic safety. At 16.1 percent, the next largest threat to public safety was viewed as property crimes.

A total of 1,800 surveys were distributed to residents and businesses with City utility accounts. The City received 662 completed

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Habitat dedicates two new homes

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Ryan Mantell and Joyce Johns can now lay their heads in new homes of their very own, thanks to the work of Sisters Habitat for Humanity and Heart of Oregon’s Youth Build program.

Members of both organizations and a variety of community members braved a biting wind last Thursday, January 20, to mark the dedication of the two new homes, located in the ClearPine subdivision at the northwest corner of Sisters.

The location represents a dream and a prayer fulfilled for Joyce Johns. She recalled that she had moved from Alaska and, “I was living in



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Joyce Johns cuts the ribbon on her new Habitat for Humanity Home in the ClearPine subdivision.

a Jeep and completely hobobing it.” She frequently walked through ClearPine from the Sisters Tie Trailhead to Fika Sisters Coffeehouse, and she dreamed of someday having

a home in the neighborhood. She told the assemblage that she talked to God about it — and on Thursday she

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