Five charged in Sisters vandalism spree

by Cheryl McDermott

Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s deputies announced Thursday that five young people had been charged in connection with dozens of acts of vandalism and damage that have plagued Sistersâ€™ businesses and public facilities for almost four months.

Between October 8, 2006 and January 17 of this year, more than 20 different businesses, signs, and public facilities were vandalized -- physically damaged and/or marred by graffiti, in some cases multiple times -- said Sgt. Gary Decker and Deputy Don Pray. Losses could reach into the thousands of dollars for repair and repainting.

Deputies had been conducting an ongoing investigation, said the deputies, which culminated in the arrests and citations of the five individuals.

Austin Mogan, 13, was lodged in the Deschutes County Juvenile Correctional Facility and is charged with 16 counts of second-degree criminal mischief, 14 counts of unlawful application of graffiti, and one count of second-degree theft.

Daniel Root, 16, is charged with 22 counts of second-degree criminal mischief and 22 counts of unlawful application of graffiti. He is also lodged in the juvenile correctional facility.

Kathleen Robertson, 15, was cited and released for four counts each of second-degree criminal mischief and unlawful application of graffiti.

Two adults were also charged, the deputies reported.

20-year old Travis L. Scissons of Bend and 19-year old Patrick S. Christensen of Sisters were both cited and released for four counts each of second-degree criminal mischief and unlawful application of graffiti.

The vandalsâ€™ victims included the City of Sisters Public Library and Parks, Sno Cap Drive Inn, The Stitchin Post, Doc Holidays, Gallery Restaurant & Lounge, Leavittâ€™s Western Wear, Wild Dusty Rose, Tramondos Trattoria Italian Restaurant, Village Interiors, Eurosports, Martolliâ€™s Pizza Inc., Willows Clothing, Luttonâ€™s Ace Hardware, Sisters Market, Remax Town and Country Realty, and the Rainbow Connection.

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