

# Library program takes on Constitution

Deschutes Public Library is offering a discussion series on the American Constitution.

“Let’s Talk About It: Making Sense of American Constitutionalism” is a four-part series of reading and discussions led by author, constitutional scholar and OSU-Cascades Professor James Foster. During the series, participants will explore how American constitutionalism, the activity by which we bring to life the principals of the Constitution, has shaped us and vice versa.

The program will be held at the Redmond Library.

Foster maintains that, “Our constitution is a verb — not a noun. It is what we the people make of it.” The series explores the nature and three illustrative aspects of American constitutionalism. Following the introductory session, the content of the readings and discussions turns to issues, including money, guns, and immigration that highlight the dynamic nature of the Constitution. Series participants will be provided articles for reading that represent the two sides of each issue. Following a brief explanation of the readings by Professor Foster participants will engage in group discussion of the issues raised by the assigned readings.

Foster believes that “civil discussion of hot-button issues” is an essential part of being citizens of our body politic and that

“interaction with a variety of ideas and opinions” is critical to our understanding of what American constitutionalism is.

Foster specializes in constitutional law. He earned his B.A. in political science from Lewis and Clark College, his master’s in political philosophy from UCLA and his Ph.D. in public law and judicial politics from the University of Washington. He has been widely published in a variety of legal journals, reviews and books. Foster regularly teaches classes on constitutional law, judicial politics, and gender and law. His book, “Bong Hits 4 Jesus: A Perfect Constitutional Storm in Alaska’s Capital,” published by the University of Alaska Press, explores free-speech issues. Foster says participants in the series can look forward to “engaging conversations about important matters with thoughtful people.”

The series is limited to 20 participants, and registration is required.

All discussions will be held in the meeting room of the Redmond Library. All sessions begin at 1 p.m. The series discussion topics and dates are:

- January 31: Constitution and series overview
- February 14: Money
- February 28: Immigration
- March 14: Guns

For more information about the series or to register, visit [www.deschuteslibrary.org](http://www.deschuteslibrary.org).

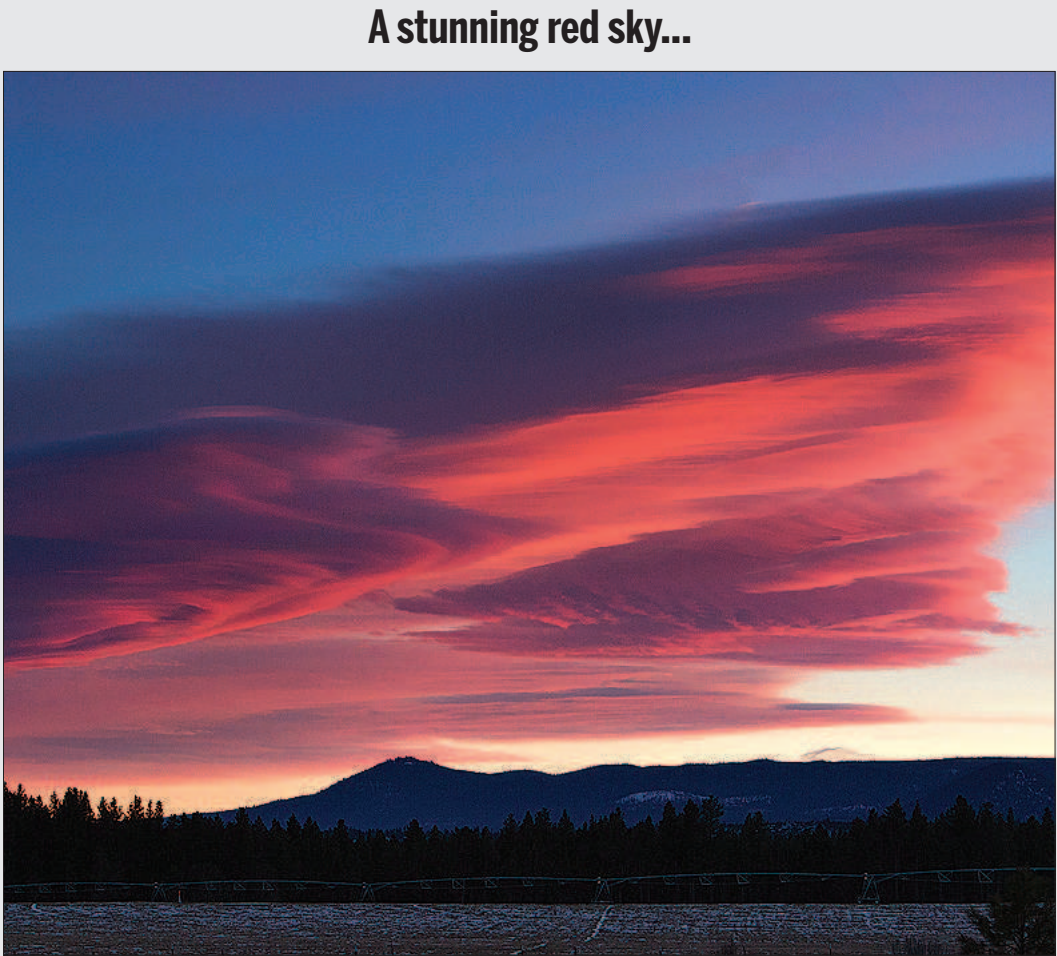


PHOTO BY JAY MATHER

The cloud formations above the Three Sisters drew out enthusiastic photographers.

*Salon Renaissance*

**R**

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## DARKNESS TO LIGHT “Stewards of Children” Help Prevent Child Abuse in Sisters

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**Monday, January 26, 2015 • 5:30-8 p.m.**  
**At Sisters Park & Recreation District**  
**1750 McKinney Butte Rd., Sisters**  
Free through a generous grant provided to KIDS Center. Food and childcare are also provided!

**RSVP by Monday, January 19 for this training and for childcare. Call Kim Bohme at 541-306-6062.**



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