

C O M M U N I T Y

Support group helps those who face cancer

By **Katy Yoder**
Correspondent

When you hear you have cancer, it's a shock for everyone to absorb. There are treatment plans to figure out, doctors to see and big adjustments to make. After the initial shock has subsided, if you choose to reach out and join a support group most would prefer it to be optimistic, informative and relevant to your experience.

Support Our Sisters (SOS) was created to help women through their cancer ordeal and hopefully beyond. Some members dealt with cancer

many years ago but still come to meetings to be a resource and bring hope to women just beginning the process.

"Meeting someone who has survived and thrived after a cancer diagnosis makes survival seem more possible," said one new member.

"We can answer weird questions that you may feel uncomfortable asking anyone else. It's a safe place to ask anything — not just about cancer. We laugh a lot and sometimes we cry; the bottom line is that everything's OK and confidential at the

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Juntos is helping Latino students in Sisters realize their dreams.

City of Sisters has new finance officer

By **Sue Stafford**
Correspondent

The new guy on the block at City Hall is Joe O'Neill, who took over as the City's finance officer following the departure of Lynne Fujita-Conrads, who served in that position for eight years.

Fujita-Conrads worked with O'Neill for three weeks before leaving. He had many compliments for her dedication to her job.

"Lynne is a sharp, knowledgeable person who

obviously went above and beyond in performing her duties," he observed.

O'Neill is looking forward to working with Kim Keeton and Julie Pieper in the finance and administration department and with all the staff at City Hall.

"It feels great to be here," O'Neill shared. "I feel very welcome... It seems like everyone wants us to succeed, from top to bottom."

He has been especially

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Juntos program helps students

By **Erin Borla**
Correspondent

For the past few years Sisters students have had the opportunity to participate in the Juntos program run through Oregon State University's Open Campus.

The Juntos program, a free workshop series, is designed to support Latino students and parents with school success, career and college readiness. This program was adopted by Oregon State University from North Carolina State University in 2012.

This past fall, Ruth Jones, former Hispanic advocate for the Sisters School District, transitioned into a new, full-time position designed to

expand the Juntos program to all of rural Central Oregon.

According to Jones, Oregon has one of the lowest rates of Latinos attending college after high school — and an even lower percentage of Latino students finishing their degree. This program is designed to change that.

Jones began her work at Sisters Elementary School in the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year as a part-time Hispanic advocate and part-time secretary. During the first year, the Sisters School District received a grant to bring the Juntos program to the local community. Jones attended a Juntos facilitator training program provided by Oregon State University in Madras.

"At the time I didn't know anything about it," says Jones. "After attending the training I came back to Sisters and continued to serve as a Hispanic advocate until Oregon State called and asked 'so, are you ready to start your program this fall?'"

In the fall of 2013, Jones coordinated her first cohort. They started their six-week courses in August. All of the 45 people she invited came.

The course runs once a week for six weeks. Each of the sessions provide free child-care and a meal for participants. During each session there are opportunities for youth activities and parent break-out sessions.

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SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

- Al-Anon** Monday, noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Wednesday, 6 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.
- Alateen** Thursday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.
- Alcoholics Anonymous** Thursday & Sunday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Saturday, 8 a.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Monday, 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Tuesday, noon, Big Book study, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Thursday, noon, Sober Sisters Women Meeting, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.
- Authors Support Group** 2nd Friday, 10 a.m., Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. 541-588-0081.
- Black Butte Macintosh Users Group** 3rd Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-1471.
- Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., Black Butte Ranch community room. All welcome; partner required. 541-595-6236.
- Celebrate Recovery** Thursdays, 7 p.m., Westside Church-Sisters Campus. 541-389-6859.

- Central Oregon Council on Aging Senior Lunch** Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-678-5483.
- Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild** 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For location information: 541-549-2072.
- Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild** 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library. 541-639-3217.
- Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild** 1st Monday. 541-610-9022.
- East of the Cascades Quilt Guild** 4th Wednesday, September-June, Stitchin' Post. All are welcome. 541-549-6061.
- Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. 541-977-8285.
- Heartwarmers** (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Just bring scissors! 503-880-5832.
- Hero Quilters of Sisters** Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-548-3304.
- Military Parents of Sisters** 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., 17549 Knight Rd., Bend (Plainview area). 541-388-9013.
- Oregon Band of Brothers – Sisters Chapter** Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-408-5594.
- SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment)** Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m. at SPRD. 541-549-2091.

- Sisters Area Photography Club** 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.
- Sisters Area SketchUp Users Group** 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. 541-549-0924.
- Sisters Astronomy Club** 3rd Tuesday, 7 p.m., SPRD. 541-549-8846.
- Sisters Bridge Club** Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.
- Sisters Cribbage Club** Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-923-1632.
- Sisters Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors** 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. Location information: 541-549-1193.
- Sisters Kiwanis** Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.
- Sisters Parent Teacher Community** 3rd Wednesday, 3:15 p.m., Sisters Elementary C-wing. 971-570-2405.
- Sisters Red Hats** 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.
- Sisters Rotary** Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-977-6545.
- Sisters Trails Alliance Board of Directors** 2nd Wed., 5:30 to 7 p.m. The Pines Clubhouse. 541-719-8822.
- Sisters Veterans** Thursdays, noon, Takoda's Restaurant. 541-903-1123.

- Three Sisters Irrigation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 4 p.m., TSID Office. 541-549-8815.
- Three Sisters Lions Club** 2nd Tuesday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.
- VFW 8138 & American Legion** 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Service officer available. 541-903-1123 or 541-549-1132.

CITY & PARKS

- Sisters City Council** 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.
- Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors** 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., SPRD building. 541-549-2091.
- Sisters Planning Commission** 3rd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

FIRE & POLICE

- Black Butte Ranch Police Dept. Board of Directors** Meets monthly. 541-595-2191 for time & date.
- Black Butte Ranch RFPD Board of Directors** 4th Thursday, 9 a.m., Black Butte Ranch Fire Station. 541-595-2288.

- Cloverdale RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Main Station, George Cyrus Rd. 541-548-4815. See the agenda at www.cloverdalefire.com.
- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Board of Directors** 3rd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 541-549-0771.
- Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD Drills** Mondays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

SCHOOLS

- Black Butte School Board of Directors** 2nd Tuesday, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.
- Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors** 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX Revolution office at Outlaw Station. 541-549-4133.
- Sisters School District Board of Directors** One Wednesday per month, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule at www.sisters.k12.or.us. 541-549-8521 x4011.

