

What makes us Oregonians?

In 2015, Oregon's population exceeded 4 million people. Not only are we growing in number, we're also changing demographically. Considering that Oregon has a history of racial exclusion, these changes prompt questions about Oregonian identity and values. How do we build communities that welcome people of all backgrounds? How are minority and under-represented populations included and treated today?

This is the focus of "Where Are You From? Exploring What Makes Us Oregonians," a free conversation with Kerani Mitchell on Tuesday, May 2, at 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Library, 110 N. Cedar St. The program is hosted by the Sisters Women's Huddle and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

As an East Indian adoptee who has spent most of her life in small Oregon towns, Mitchell is accustomed to questions about her citizenship and lineage. The constant questioning of her identity inspired Mitchell to obtain a BA in International Studies from Seattle University, where she focused on multicultural and social justice issues. She's since held numerous positions coordinating people and programs in nonprofit settings, working with immigrant, student, and volunteer populations. She currently works as a coordinator at the year-round arts and cultural nonprofit Sisters Folk Festival



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kerani Mitchell.

and serves on the Bend International School Board of Directors.

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future. To RSVP for this event or learn more, visit: www.eventbright.com and search for events in Sisters, or contact SistersHuddle@icloud.com.

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Café has established itself in Sisters

By Erin Borla
Correspondent

La Magie celebrated the first anniversary of their Sisters location on April 1.

The French-inspired café located on the corner of Hood Avenue and Cedar Street in downtown Sisters, has plenty of options for breakfast and lunch served all day.

"We knew Sisters would be a good place for our second restaurant," Clarissa Parker, restaurant manager, said of La Magie's expansion from their Bend store last spring. "It's a small town. We're already looking forward to the rodeo."

In addition to a full breakfast and lunch menu, La Magie also hosts a full pastry case in their entry where customers can choose to take items to-go or grab a seat in their comfortable living-room-style café. There is no table service in this portion of the restaurant, but that shouldn't stop guests from enjoying their wide variety of treats including fresh baked pastries, croissants, savory snacks like chicken-pot-pie and quiche Lorraine, as well as their specialty coffees.

Parker has been restaurant manager since October. In her short tenure she has made



PHOTO BY ERIN BORLA

Clarissa Parker shows off La Magie's selection of pastries.

customer service a priority. Every diner has comment cards that she requires her staff to use. Her employees also chimed in on her leadership style.

"Her smile alone brightens up the place," one said. "People know she's here — it's a better place."

Parker is currently updating their menu as well. House favorites including

hamburgers and stuffed French toast (stuffed with marionberries and mascarpone) will remain on the menu.

As the restaurant heads into a second Central Oregon spring they will have their outdoor seating area open and expanded hours. Beginning May 1, La Magie will be serving breakfast and lunch all day from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Contractors continue construction of the roundabout at the intersection of US 20 and Barclay Drive/McKinney Butte Road.

In order to complete the McKinney Butte side of the roundabout, McKinney Butte Road will be closed through Memorial Day, beginning the end of April.

The majority of work will occur Monday through Saturday during daytime hours. Traffic on US 20 will remain open, and work will not provide significant delays for traffic except for the detour of McKinney Butte Road. **Travelers trying to access McKinney Butte should follow signed detour routes using Hood Avenue.**

Additional information about closures and detours will be posted when applicable.

Oregon Department of Transportation