

# COMMUNITY

## Pot of gold at end of Gingerbread Trail

The Sisters Habitat for Humanity's 12th annual Gingerbread Trail raised more than \$1,750 for its building program.

"We are so appreciative how supportive the community, visitors and business owners are of Sisters Habitat during this fun holiday event. This year 17 businesses participated and we hope more will join us next year," Habitat's volunteer and family services manager Marie Clasen said.

Businesses display the gingerbread houses after Thanksgiving and keep them up through New Year's Day.

Visitors are encouraged to donate money into the wooden Habitat house. Each year, awards are presented to the Best In Show for creativity. Independent judges visit each location and cast their vote.

This year, Best In Show for first place went to First Interstate Bank for its elaborate ski village. Second place for Best In Show was given to Best Western Ponderosa Lodge for its rendition of the lodge.

The people's choice award is given to the business with the most donations. Cascade

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Benji Nagel and Carys Wilkins are hoping to get a grant for a farm stand.

## Circle of Friends hosts open house

By **Jodi Schneider**  
Correspondent

Circle of Friends had a full clubhouse for their first open house at the corner of Main Avenue and Elm Street on Sunday. Everyone in the community was invited to attend to check out their new location and learn about the revolutionary mentoring program.

Circle of Friends was founded by Duncan Campbell in 2011 with seven youth, and now the organization is mentoring 40 kids, with a waiting

list.

The heartbeat of this organization is to make a difference in the lives of kids, and the best asset to make that happen is people.

The large two-story clubhouse that became the organization's new residence last summer opened unlimited possibilities for the nonprofit mentoring program.

"Our dream for this place is that youth will feel safe and welcomed. That they can

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## Sisters farm competes for grant

Local farmers Benji Nagel and Carys Wilkins of Mahonia Gardens have entered a national farm grant competition. The couple hopes to earn funding to build a farm stand at their downtown Sisters property, and in turn offer direct sales of their Sisters-grown produce. This would be the first business of its kind in Sisters.

Nagel told *The Nugget* that the farm stand would be on Adams Avenue and be open May-October on a temporary-use permit from the City of Sisters.

"We still have to figure out exactly what we can do with the City," he said.

The grants, administered

by Cultivating Change, are awarded by popular votes made online by supporters of the farm. Individuals can vote daily, which adds intensity to the competition. Voting spans the entire month of January. Out of 144 farms in the running, Mahonia Gardens has thus far been hovering between second and fourth place, Nagel reports. Each of the top five winners will be awarded funding; from \$10,000 for first place down to \$2,000 for fifth place.

Wilkins and Nagel hope to engage supporters to vote daily and secure funding.

The business would make available the produce of

Mahonia Gardens on a daily basis through the season — from greens to carrots and beets and radishes to tomatoes, peppers and eggplant to garlic and onions.

Those interested in voting can do so at [cultivatingchange.org](http://cultivatingchange.org); a direct link can be found through Mahonia Gardens' Facebook or Instagram or by following this link: <http://wshe.es/LcH6SVjF>.

"Mahonia Gardens is a one-acre market garden in Sisters, dedicated to growing exceptional-quality produce without compromising our ecological ethics," Nagel noted. "We use no chemicals in our production."

## SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

### BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

**Al-Anon** Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Wed., 6 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

**Alateen** Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-1527.

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Thurs. & Sun., 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Sat., 8 a.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration / Mon., 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Big Book study, Tues., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Gentlemen's meeting, Wed., 7 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Sober Sisters Women's meeting, Thurs., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Step & Tradition meeting, Fri., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

**Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregiver Support Group** 1st Tuesday, noon, Sisters City Hall. 800-272-3900.

**Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club** Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.

**Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild** For Saturday meeting dates and location, email: [steelefly@msn.com](mailto:steelefly@msn.com).

**Central OR Spinners and Weavers Guild** One Saturday per month, Jan. thru Oct. For schedule: 541-639-3217.

**Council on Aging of Central Oregon Senior Lunch** Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-480-1843.

**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. [www.sistersfol.com](http://www.sistersfol.com).

**Go Fish Fishing Group** 3rd Monday, 7 p.m. Sisters Community Church. All ages welcome. 541-771-2211.

**Heartwarmers** (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.

**Hero Quilters of Sisters** Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-719-1230.

**Military Parents of Sisters** Meetings are held quarterly; please call for details. 541-388-9013.

**Oregon Band of Brothers - Sisters Chapter** Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-549-6469.

**SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment)** Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sisters Park & Recreation District. 541-549-2091.

**Sisters Family Aglow Lighthouse** 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Ponderosa Lodge Meeting Room. 503-930-6158.

**Sisters Area Photography Club** 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-6157.

**Sisters Area Woodworkers** 1st Tuesday, 7 to 9 p.m. 541-639-6216.

**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 Caregiver Support Group** 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-771-3258.

**Sisters Cribbage Club** Wednesdays, 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 Meditation Group** Mondays, 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 4 p.m. 420 N Tamarack St. Text only (no voice) to 541-207-7266.

**Sisters Parent Teacher Community** 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

**Sisters Parkinson's Support Group** 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m., Sisters Community Church. 907-687-8101 or 541-668-6599.

**Sisters Red Hats** 1st Friday. Location information: 541-279-1977.

**Sisters Rotary** Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-760-5645.

**Sisters Trails Alliance Board** 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 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** 1st Thursday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

**VFW Post 8138 and American Legion Post 86** 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-903-1123.

**Weight Watchers** Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. weigh-in, Sisters Community Church. 541-602-2654.

### 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 office. 541-549-4133.

**Sisters School District Board of Directors** One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at [www.ssd6.org](http://www.ssd6.org). 541-549-8521 x5002.

### CITY & PARKS

**Sisters City Council** 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

**Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors** 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., SPRD bldg. 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 Wed., 7 p.m., 67433 Cloverdale Rd. 541-548-4815. [cloverdalefire.com](http://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** Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

This listing is for regular Sisters Country meetings; email information to [lisa@nuggetnews.com](mailto:lisa@nuggetnews.com)