

Sisters celebrates literary culture with festival

Sisters' strong lineup of festivals is one stronger — with the addition of the Sisters Festival of Books set for this October.

Sisters Festival of Books is a three-day celebration of the literary culture of Central Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. The festival features more than 40 local, regional, and national authors and takes place across multiple venues in Sisters. Books featured at the festival will cover a wide range of subjects, including politics, Western historical fiction, Vikings, motherhood, romance, Arctic exploration, Central Oregon recreational activities, and more.

The idea for the festival was sparked by local resident Mac Hay, who travels annually to the Edinburgh International Book Festival in Scotland. Hay's reports on the festival have been featured in *The Nugget*. While the Edinburgh festival is huge in scope, Hay was convinced that Sisters could adapt the model and provide a perfect venue for a festival of its own.

"This started with Mac coming to me and talking about his love for the Edinburgh Book Festival and his feeling that Sisters needs one," said Lane Jacobson, owner of Paulina Springs Books in Sisters. "It just seemed like a no-brainer. It made a lot of sense."

Jacobson, assisted by Ann Richardson, began shaping an inaugural festival that fits Sisters.

He told *The Nugget* that the festival offers "a high concentration of authors in a short period of time at a reasonable cost — and also (the opportunity) to mingle with like-minded book lovers, which is also a big part of it."

The Festival begins Friday, October 18, at FivePine Lodge and Conference Center with a catered reception featuring some favorite Central Oregon authors including Paul Alan Bennett, Jill Stanford, Craig Rullman, Jim Barnett, Joshua Savage, Jim Cornelius and more.

The Festival continues on Saturday with a full lineup of author events, a pop-up bookstore at the festival venue, and author dinners. Some of Saturday's featured authors include the renowned North Carolina author David Joy, whose novels "Where All Light Tends To Go," "The Weight Of This World," and "The Line That Held Us" have won critical acclaim and a fiercely loyal readership. Joy is a native of the North Carolina mountains, as familiar with the fly rod as he is with his pen. He is also the author of the memoir "Growing Gills: A Fly Fisherman's Journey," was a finalist for the Reed Environmental Writing Award and the Ragan Old North State Award.

Other featured authors include Oregon Poet Laureate Kim Stafford, former congressman Les AuCoin, *NYT* Bestselling Author Jane Kirkpatrick ("One More River to Cross"), Bill Sullivan (author of the "100 Hikes" series of guidebooks, "Listening for Coyote," and "The Ship in the Hill"), Debra Gwartney ("I Am a Stranger Here Myself"), Molly Gloss ("Unforeseen: Stories, The Hearts of Horses, Falling from Horses"), and Meaghan O'Connell ("And Now We Have Everything: On Motherhood Before I Was Ready").

Sunday will feature primarily kid- and family-focused events in-store at Paulina Springs Books. Programming includes story times, sing-alongs, coloring and more.

Proceeds from the festival will be used to establish a scholarship fund for Sisters High School students through the Sisters Graduate Resource Organization (Sisters GRO).

Like other festivals in Sisters, the Sisters Festival of Books aims to support the local economy.

"From a business perspective, the timing is great because it helps extend the shoulder season just a little bit

longer," Jacobson said.

There will be a couple of workshops associated with this inaugural event, an aspect of the festival Jacobson expects to see expand in subsequent years. Eventually, Jacobson sees the Sisters Festival of Books following

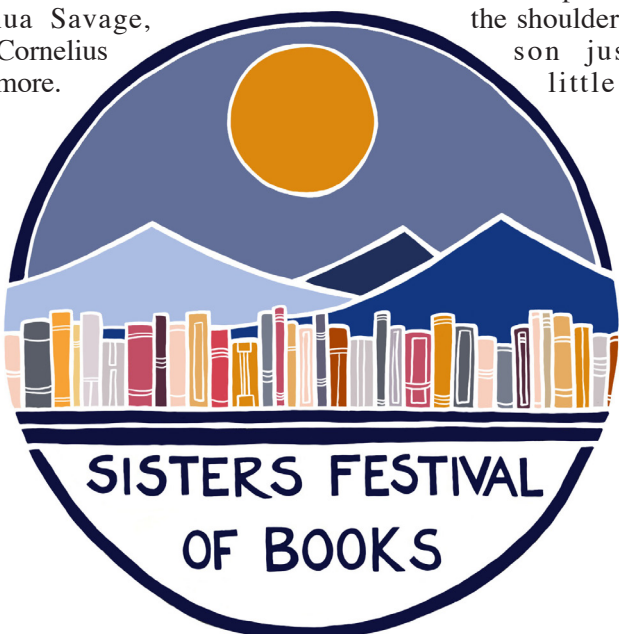
in the footsteps of other successful Sisters events.

"In the future we want it to be inspired by the Sisters Folk Festival where the whole town is a venue," Jacobson said.

For information and tickets visit www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4276088.

SISTERS SALOON
— & RANCH GRILL —

DINING & TAKE-OUT
until midnight every night
Menu at SistersSaloon.net
541-549-RIBS
★ 190 E. Cascade Ave. ★



WILSON'S

57th

ANNIVERSARY

Sale

Special Anniversary Prices!

Thanks Central Oregon



We Appreciate Your Business!

FREE DELIVERY!*
Special Financing Available**

Wilson's MATTRESS Gallery-Bend

63485 N. Hwy 97 • 541-330-5084

Since 1962

WILSONS of Redmond

Still The Oldest & Largest Furniture Store in Central Oregon!

2071 S. Hwy 97, Redmond • 541-548-2066

*See store for details. **Subject to credit approval.