

C O M M U N I T Y



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Sisters man recounts love affair with Oregon

Jack McGowan spoke at Paulina Springs Books last Friday. The Sisters man's story is featured in Marcy Cottrell Houle's book, "A Generous Nature: Lives Transformed by Oregon."

By Jim Cornelius
Editor in Chief

Jack McGowan's deep love for his adopted state is worn on his sleeve — and it was on full display at Paulina Springs Books last week.

Deeply dissatisfied with his life on Wall Street in his native New York, McGowan headed west to the Pacific Northwest in the early 1970s — and he fell in love. A career that zig-zagged through the arts, journalism and politics reached its pinnacle when McGowan became co-director with his wife, Jan, of SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism), one of the premier conservation organizations in the nation.

McGowan's story forms chapter 1 of Marcy Cottrell Houle's book, "A Generous Nature: Lives Transformed

by Oregon." Houle presented the book in an author event at Sisters' independent bookstore on Thursday evening, February 20. The book offers profiles of 21 conservationists and activists who have made enduring contributions to the preservation of Oregon's wild and natural places and its high quality of life.

Houle notes that the many people who are drawn to Oregon by that natural beauty and quality of life are unaware of the work that has gone into creating a structure of land-use planning and conservation to make Oregon what it is.

"They don't have a clue all the gifts they have been given," she said. "All of these (elements) created the Oregon we know and cherish, and they will be critical to its future."

McGowan described a hardscrabble upbringing as the grandson of an Irish barkeep who was murdered in his New York City speakeasy in 1932. It was a significant accomplishment for him to land a spot on the stock exchange — but the work conflicted with his values and he had a deep-seated yearning for... something else.

A chance meeting with the legendary singer-songwriter Paul Simon on a New York street corner set him on the path to Oregon, where he migrated with little savings, no job and no clear path ahead. His doubts about his leap into the unknown were countered by the natural magnificence of Oregon, which he set out to explore from the sagebrush sea in the east to

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Grants promote arts and culture in county

By Helen Schmidling
Correspondent

When it comes to daily operation of a nonprofit, a little goes a long way, enabling small organizations to grow, and larger ones to undertake special projects and programs.

In addition to presenting the Ben Westlund Memorial Award to Jean Wells Keenan, the Deschutes Cultural Coalition distributed around \$20,000 in grants Wednesday evening to a dozen qualifying cultural nonprofit organizations in Deschutes County (see related story, page 1). Two organizations from Sisters are among them.

The Sisters Arts Association received a grant to be used toward the Fourth Annual Artist Studio Tour, on the last weekend in June. SAA President Bob Burgess accepted the check, and proudly noted that this event has grown from 10 to more than 40 artists who will demonstrate and meet the public in their home studios. Two of the artists participating in the tour this year are Jean Wells Keenan and her sister, June Jaeger.

T. Lee Brown accepted a grant for New Oregon Arts and Letters, which will go

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Local filmmakers win movie awards

By Jodi Schneider
Correspondent

In 2019 Nathan and Emily Woodworth, both award-winning actors and writers, finished crafting a short film that honored absurd ideas and themes that were hugely influenced by Monty Python. The brother-sister team from Sisters recently won three awards for their surreal comedy, "The Purse: A Dream In Two Acts," from Maverick Movie Awards, one of the

most widely respected film competitions in the world.

Nathan said, "We are incredibly honored to have had our film win Best Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Supporting Actress in addition to the Best Picture nomination."

The anonymous judges of the Maverick Movie Awards must have either made a feature film that had a theatrical release and was accepted

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SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. / Thurs., 10 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-549-8737 or 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, SPRD bldg. 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.

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.

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.

Citizens4Community, Let's Talk 3rd Monday, 5:30 to 8 p.m. RSVP at citizens4community.com

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 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., The Lodge in Sisters. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Cribbage Club Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 2 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 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson's Support Group 2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m., The Lodge. 541-668-6599.

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

Sisters Rotary 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., Takoda's. 541-760-5645.

Sisters Speak Life Cancer Support Group 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1 p.m. Suttle Tea. 503-819-1723.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board 1st Monday, 5 p.m. Sisters Library. Public welcome. 808-281-2681.

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 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, 3:30 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors Monthly on a Friday. Call 541-549-4133 for date & time.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

Sisters Middle School Parent Collaboration Team 1st Tuesday, 2 p.m., SMS. 541-610-9513.

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, 4:30 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.

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