

# COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY HELEN SCHMIDLING

Paul Alan Bennett shows one of the monotype prints featured in his upcoming book.

## Sisters artist creates 'Pandemic Portraits'

By Helen Schmidling  
Correspondent

When the world went into lockdown in mid-March 2020, people — when they did venture out of their homes — could be seen wearing masks of various kinds. The masks caught the eye of Sisters artist Paul Alan Bennett.

“My eye was drawn to the variety of masks, and in as much as they were awkward, there was both a strangeness and a sense of humor about them,” he said.

After much careful thought, Paul, a painter and a printmaker, decided to create portraits of people wearing their masks. And though he’s traditionally been known for creating colorful gouache paintings using a “knit stitch,” starry night skies, and mythology (as in his 2018 book, “Night Skies”), and repurposing his art as clothing and Pendleton tapestries, this time Paul limited himself to one color, black, and one format: monotype.

He created all of the images on the presses at

Studio 6000, here in Sisters.

Bennett’s first portrait was of a clerk at Ray’s Food Place.

“When I posted it on Facebook, it got a lot of response, and I thought I’d do some more,” he said. “At first, I just did portraits of my fellow artists at Studio 6000 and then I expanded to the nearby coffeehouse, Fika, the employees there, and people who would stop there for coffee.”

Paul continued to make

See **BENNETT** on page 22

## Three school board positions up for election

Three positions on the Sisters School District board of directors will be up for election on the May 18 ballot. Positions 1, 2, and 5 will be elected for four-year terms.

Position 1 is currently held by Board Chair Jay Wilkins; Position 2 by David Thorsett; and Position 3 by Edie Jones.

The district notes that to be eligible, a candidate must live in the school district, not be an officer or employee of the district, and be a qualified voter in the district. The candidate should participate in

school activities, be active in the community, be a positive problem solver and commit time to review materials and attend board meetings.

The candidate filing period begins February 6, and ends March 18. Interested candidates must file with the Deschutes County Clerk no later than 5 p.m. on March 18.

Forms are available at the Sisters School District Administration Office, Deschutes County Clerk’s Office and online at <https://www.deschutes.org/clerk/page/candidate-measure-filing-forms>.

## St. Charles boosts C4C Latino outreach

Citizens4Community (C4C) has received a \$5,000 grant from the St. Charles Health System, helping the nonprofit organization to better connect with their Latino neighbors in Sisters Country. Grant funds are being used to pay for Spanish translation services in both digital platforms and in print, including the written translation of the newly launched community website, Sisters Country Community Connects, an online communication and resource hub.

Verbal interpretation will also be provided for community meetings and the very popular monthly “Let’s

Talk” series, featuring live community discussions geared to inspire and inform patrons on local topics of interest.

“C4C is thankful for St. Charles’ assistance as we ensure that all voices are heard, and community resources are available and understood by all Sisters Country community members,” said Robyn Holdman, C4C Board President.

Since 2015, C4C has been fostering a connected community by encouraging civility, collaboration and civic engagement. To further

See **GRANT** on page 23

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to affect gatherings, please contact individual organizations for current meeting status

### SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

#### BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

**AI-Anon** Mon., noon, by Zoom. / Thurs., 10 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-610-7383.

**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](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), Stitches 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) 2nd & 4th 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](http://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., meeting by Zoom. 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** In-person gathering suspended until further notice. For free online bridge info, call Barbara 541-914-6322.

**Sisters Caregiver Support Group** 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., The Lodge in Sisters. 541-771-3258.

**Sisters Cribbage Club** Please call for details. 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** Meeting by Zoom. 541-668-6599.

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

**Sisters Rotary** 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Noon, Aspen Lakes. 541-760-5645.

**Sisters Speak Life Cancer Support Group** 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 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, 3:45 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

**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.

**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](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)