

C O M M U N I T Y

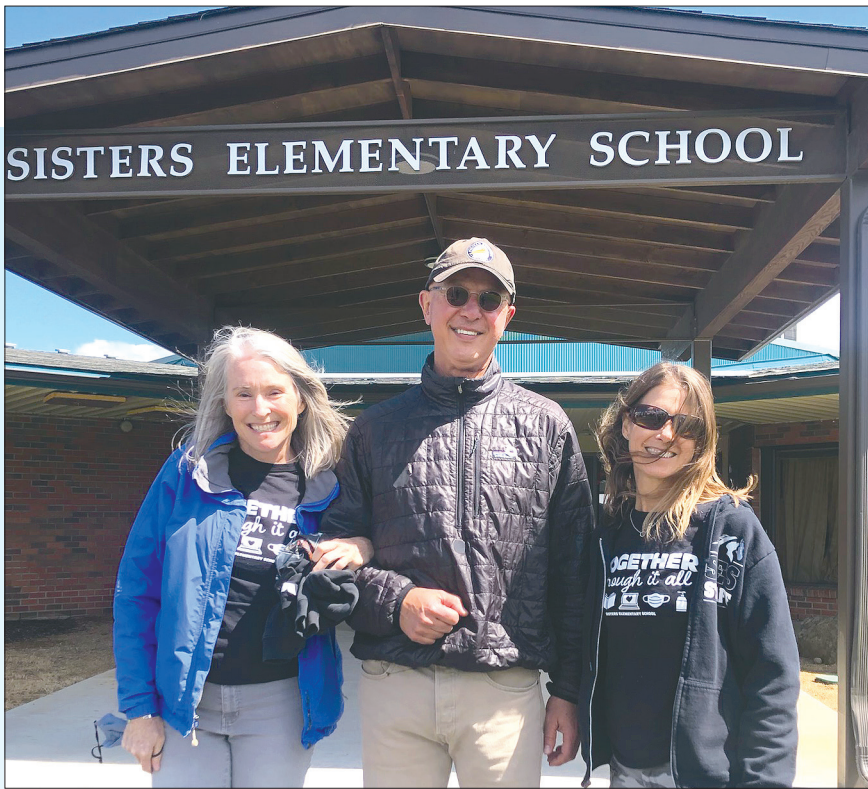


PHOTO PROVIDED

Kirk Albertson, flanked by his third-grade teaching colleagues, Deirdre Kanzig and Julie Holden, on his last day of a 38-year career in teaching.

‘Mr. A’ ends long teaching career

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

A lot has changed in Sisters since 1983, but there has been one constant in town, a man who impacted the lives of hundreds of school-aged kids: Sisters Elementary School (SES) teacher Kirk Albertson, or “Mr. A,” as he is affectionately known.

Albertson has decided to retire, ending a teaching career spanning 38 years, 36 of which were in Sisters.

Albertson was a 25-year-old, who was just about to enter finals week at Oregon College of Education (OCE), now Western Oregon

University, when principal Earl Armbruster contacted OCE out of the blue looking for a male instructor for an assignment of teaching first grade. After an initial conversation with Armbruster, Albertson was invited to Sisters for a full interview.

Concerned that he would miss finals to go for an interview, he went to his professors, who told him not to worry about it. “You are going to have the ultimate final exam, so skip the paperwork and go do the interview,” they said.

He was hired, and, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

When he arrived on the

scene in the fall of 1983, Sisters had a population of around 500, and the school district served grades kindergarten through eighth grade. High school students were bussed to Redmond for classes.

Teaching was not Albertson’s initial career aspiration. After graduating from Willamette High School in 1977, Albertson enrolled in what is now Southern Oregon University to study law enforcement.

“I found criminology endlessly fascinating, but at some point I finally had an epiphany, realizing that

See ALBERTSON on page 22

Sisters Garden Club
creates quilt puzzle

By Sue Stafford
Correspondent

The Quilts in the Garden Home and Garden Tour organized and conducted by the Sisters Garden Club has been a highlight of Quilt Show Week for the past 20-plus years — that is, until the COVID-19 pandemic required cancellation of the tour in 2020 and 2021.

The tour has offered a diversion from the week of quilt classes and an opportunity for all to experience the homes and gardens in the Sisters area. With no garden tour for two years, and the waiving of annual

membership dues because of COVID, the club’s ability to provide funding in support of needs in the community received a devastating blow.

Not a group to be deterred for long, the group put together months of research, design work, and planning, and unveiled a 504-piece puzzle at the club’s first in-person meeting in over 14 months, held on June 12.

The membership had the first opportunity to purchase the first-edition “Quilts in the Garden” puzzle.

The puzzle is a reproduction of the tour raffle quilt

See QUILT PUZZLE on page 30

Plein Air painting
featured at BBR

Plein Air Painters of Oregon will work their magic with watercolor, pastel, and oils at Art at the Ranch at Black Butte Ranch (BBR) on Friday, July 9.

They will be painting all day on the lawn in front of the Lodge, and then selling their works at the art show, which begins at 4 p.m. on the deck at the Lodge.

There will a silent auction with no-host beverages and appetizers at 5:30. The proceeds from the silent auction benefit the BBR Art Guild

which gives scholarships to Sisters High School students continuing in art education, as well as donating to the art departments of the Sisters Schools.

Plein air painting comes from the word “open air” in French, meaning the entire painting is conceived and executed on location. For centuries artists have been painting en plein air primarily using this method as a source for larger

See PLEIN AIR on page 31

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

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-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.

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.

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. 541-668-1755.

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.

Prayer Shawl Group 2nd & 4th Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Call for location: 503-819-1723.

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., meeting by Zoom. 503-930-6158.

Sisters Area Photography Club 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., meeting at Sisters Community Church. 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., Village Green Park. 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 Tues, 1-2:30 p.m. Call for location: 541-410-9716.

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. 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., 5:30 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