

COMMUNITY

Caldera program honored at White House

The youth outreach program at Caldera, located at Blue Lake west of Sisters, is among 12 organizations that received the 2015 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award on Tuesday, November 17.

Caldera student Alena Nore, of Sisters, and Tricia Snell, Caldera's executive director, were at the White House on behalf of Caldera to accept the award from First Lady Michelle Obama.

"It is an honor to be the first

nonprofit in Oregon to receive this prestigious award," Snell said. "This award inspires all of us at Caldera — youth, staff, board, volunteers, supporters — to reach for new heights in our work. We are in this work for the long term, and we are excited to learn from the other awardees and continue to expand and improve our work!"

Obama invited the 12 winners of the 2015 National

See CALDERA on page 30



PHOTO BY RONGI YOST

Rachel Gonzalez of Camp Sherman assists her son Zion, 5, with his shoebox for Operation Christmas Child.

Starry Nights to host Karla Bonoff show

Starry Nights returns next spring with a performance by an artist considered one of the finest singer-songwriters of her generation — Karla Bonoff.

"Starry Nights Presents Karla Bonoff" will take place on Sunday, April 3, at The Belfry. The concert is a benefit for the Sisters Schools Foundation. Since its inception, Starry Nights has contributed more than \$1 million to the Sisters Schools Foundation to fund classroom and co-curricular programs and activities at Sisters schools.

Bonoff was the very first artist to perform at Starry

Nights when she appeared for the concert series' debut in February 1997. Known for writing such classic songs as "Someone To Lay Down Beside Me" and "All My Life" for Linda Ronstadt, "Home" for Bonnie Raitt and "Tell Me Why" for Wynonna, Bonoff continues to enjoy critical acclaim, enduring popularity and the unwavering respect of her peers. Most recently, Bonoff was featured alongside such artists as Bruce Springsteen, Keb' Mo, Lyle Lovett and Shawn Colvin on the 2014 release "Looking Into You: A Tribute

See STARRY NIGHTS on page 30

Sisters church offers gift of giving

By Rongi Yost
Correspondent

Vast Church held their annual packing party for Operation Christmas Child (OCC) on Sunday, November 15. In an hour-and-a-half just over 2,000 shoeboxes were packed full and stacked, ready to be taken to the processing center in Bend.

Operation Christmas Child is one arm of Samaritan's Purse, a humanitarian aid organization that

seeks to provide immediate, no-red-tape response to the physical and spiritual needs of individuals in crisis situations — victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine and persecution, especially in locations where few others are working. Operation Christmas Child started in 1993, and aims to collect and deliver shoebox gifts filled with hygiene items, school supplies, toys, and notes of encouragement to millions of needy children

around the world, in order to bring a message of hope and love to their desperate circumstances.

The packing party began 15 years ago, in the home of Blake and JamiLyn Weber and their two kids, Rylee and Nate. That first year they packed six shoeboxes. Since then, the church has gotten involved and it has become one of the most looked-forward-to events of the year.

See SHOEBOXES on page 30

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Monday, noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Wednesday, 6 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Thursday & Sunday, 7 p.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Saturday, 8 a.m., The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration • Monday, 5 p.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Tuesday, noon, Big Book study, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Thursday, noon, Sober Sisters Women Meeting, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-548-0440.

Authors Support Group 2nd Friday, 10 a.m., Sisters Area Chamber of Commerce. 541-588-0081.

Black Butte Macintosh Users Group 3rd Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 541-549-1471.

Black Butte Ranch Bridge Club Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., Black Butte Ranch community room. All welcome; partner required. 541-595-6236.

Celebrate Recovery Thursdays, 7 p.m., Westside Church-Sisters Campus. 541-389-6859.

Central Oregon Council on Aging Senior Lunch Tuesdays, noon, Sisters Community Church. 541-678-5483.

Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild 4th Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For location information: 541-549-2072.

Central Oregon Spinners and Weavers Guild 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library. 541-639-3217.

Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild 1st Monday. 541-610-9022.

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. 541-977-8285.

Heartwarmers (fleece blanketmakers) 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Just bring scissors! 503-880-5832.

Hero Quilters of Sisters Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. 541-549-1028 or 541-548-3304.

Military Parents of Sisters 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-647-7483.

Oregon Band of Brothers – Sisters Chapter Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m., Takoda's Restaurant. 541-408-5594.

SAGE (Senior Activities, Gatherings & Enrichment) Wednesdays, 1 to 4 p.m. at SPRD. 541-549-2091.

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

Sisters Area SketchUp Users Group 2nd Wednesday, 7 p.m., Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. 541-549-0924.

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 Cribbage Club Tuesdays, 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 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 3rd Wednesday, 11:30 a.m., Sisters Elementary School loft. 971-570-2405.

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

Sisters Rotary Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-977-6545.

Sisters Trails Alliance Board of Directors 2nd Wed., 5:30 to 7 p.m. The Pines Clubhouse. 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 2nd Tuesday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

VFW 8138 & American Legion 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. Service officer available. 541-903-1123 or 541-549-1132.

CITY & PARKS

Sisters City Council 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 541-549-6022.

Sisters Park & Recreation District Board of Directors 1st Tuesday, 6 p.m., SPRD building. 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 Wednesday, 7 p.m., Main Station, George Cyrus Rd. 541-548-4815. See the agenda at www.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 Mondays, 7 p.m., Sisters Fire Hall, 301 S. Elm St. 541-549-0771.

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 Revolution office at Outlaw Station. 541-549-4133.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wednesday per month, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule at www.sisters.k12.or.us. 541-549-8521 x4011.

