

C O M M U N I T Y

Sisters artist takes a crack at 'The Voice'

Sisters resident and independent recording artist Rhonda Funk headed to Las Vegas last weekend for an open casting call for NBC's hit music show "The Voice."

Funk, who suffered a mini-stroke last fall which led to the discovery of a brain aneurysm that required surgery, said before leaving, "It's a long road to make the live shows on The Voice. And, I'm a little hung up on the fact that they probably are not looking for a 46-year-old grandmother! But, then I pause and think how much time I've spent imagining what it would be like to reach

for my dreams, and how I've never taken that last step to bring them to fruition. I've talked myself out of it because I'm afraid to fail, or I think it looks hard and maybe even impossible. But, when life hands you a second chance you have to ask yourself what you are waiting for. I have no excuses anymore, I have nothing to lose."

While she did not get selected for the show, Funk is continuing to pursue her passion for music. She had announced the desire to record her fourth

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PHOTO BY STEVE KADEL

David Novotny, who plays in the Sisters after-school jazz combos, performed on flute during a fundraiser for the arts at Sisters High School. Band member Oscar Rhett accompanied Novotny on bass.

2017-18 school schedule unveiled

Sisters School District's schedule for 2017-18 was approved by the School Board last Wednesday, except for a date for classes to start in the fall. That component is expected to be determined during the March 1 board meeting.

During last week's meeting, board member Stephen King proposed the potential of extending the school year by adding two days of student contact time to the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. However, the board would

like time to review the financial impact of adding the two days and discuss the issue further, Superintendent Curt Scholl said of the reason no start date for classes was voted upon.

Among the dates that have been set by the board's vote, Thanksgiving vacation will be from November 20-24; Christmas vacation will be from December 25 through January 5; and spring break will be from March 26 through April 6. Classes are scheduled through June 13.

Student musicians garner honors

By Steve Kadel
Correspondent

Five members of the jazz band from Sisters Middle School and Sisters High School received awards January 28 during the Oregon Jazz Festival at the University of Oregon School of Music and Dance in Eugene.

Recipients of Outstanding Musicianship Awards were Lydia Bartlett, freshman, alto sax; Oscar Rhett, seventh grade, bass; Simon Rhett, eighth grade, tenor sax; Max Springer, eighth grade, trumpet; and Jack Ogan, eighth grade, trombone/tuba.

"I wasn't surprised by how good they sounded because I know how far they have

come this year," said jazz band director Tyler Cranor. "However, I was pleasantly surprised at how much work they put in over winter break, and with all of the snow days.

"We performed 'A Night in Tunisia,' which is by far the most difficult tune we have tackled so far. I was stressed about it because I hadn't seen the whole band between December 15 and January 9. They came back ready to go, and really dug in the two weeks before the festival."

The event was educational, not competitive. Students performed for 30 minutes, then received a clinic by a professional jazz musician, followed by a 30-minute

sectional from graduate music students at the University of Oregon, Cranor said.

Members of the Sisters jazz band are Barlett, Conner Martin, Nancy Montecinos, Simon Rhett and Nathaniel Hicks, saxophone; Novotny, flute; Kaylee Huber and Ogan, trombone; Dalton Gonzalas, Springer, Hollie Lewis, Eli Johnson and Sydney Wilkins, trumpet.

The band's rhythm section includes Ben Hills, Judah Keeton, Sam Dierenger-Lukens, drums; Oscar Rhett, bass; Nick Manley, piano; and Johnny Burrer, guitar.

The band will take part in the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival on May 5-6, which will be a competitive event.

SISTERS AREA MEETING CALENDAR

BOARDS, GROUPS, CLUBS

Al-Anon Mon., noon, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church / Wed., 6 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 541-549-8737 or 541-549-1527.

Alateen Thursday, 7 p.m., Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration. 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.

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., BBR community room. Partner required. 541-595-6236.

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 OR Spinners and Weavers Guild 4th Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Sisters Library (Jan.-Oct.). 541-639-3217.

Central Oregon Woodworkers Guild 2nd Tuesday. 541-639-6216.

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. Materials provided. 541-408-8505.

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., 17549 Knight Rd., Bend (Plainview area). 541-388-9013.

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 Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tuesday, 10 a.m., Ray's Food Place community room. 541-771-3258.

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 to 8:30 a.m., Brand 33 Restaurant at Aspen Lakes. 541-410-2870.

Sisters Parent Teacher Community 3rd Wednesday, 3 p.m., Sisters Elementary C-wing. 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 1st Wednesday, 5 p.m. Sisters Art Works. Public welcome. 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 1st Thursday, noon, Ray's Food Place community room. 541-419-1279.

VFW 8138 & American Legion 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Sisters City Hall. 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, 0 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX Out West Realty 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.

