

A little boost from Santa Claus...



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Kelly Newcombe (center) of FivePine Lodge & Conference Center presented Dawn Cooper and Theresa Slavkovsky of Sisters FAN with a check for \$2,774, proceeds of Breakfast With Santa in December. The funds will go to Deschutes County Family Access Network to help fund programs that support families in need.

STEM NIGHT: Hands-on learning was the order of the day

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apart.) Parents were also interested in knowing more about the scientific ‘why’ of the experiment as much as enjoying their children’s excitement.”

One of the favorite exhibits of the night was the great horned owl brought by Jim Anderson, a local naturalist.

“The owl was so cool!” said one wide-eyed kindergarten student. “I’ve never been able to see an owl that close before!”

The Sisters High School Astronomy Club showcased their telescopes and discussed the night sky to wondering youngsters and Sisters Middle School teacher Susie Werts and her class brought a creative game for families to enjoy about the migratory pattern of monarch butterflies.

SPTC also had opportunities for science art. Students learned about reactions within watercolor painting and all about bubbles while creating bubble art prints. Local teacher and volunteer Shawn Steele also created several math games for students to learn new techniques with numbers.

Throughout the evening students had a chance to try different experiments and learn new and exciting ways to ignite their interest in the sciences. Many students learned more about how to



PHOTO BY ERIN BORLA

Jim Anderson was a hit with his great horned owl.

participate in the upcoming science fair and even signed up to participate in the SciArt contest as well as make a mousetrap car to showcase at the event next month.

Jodi Winnwalker, a volunteer for the Sisters Science Club, hosted the worm-composting station — and loved it.

“It was a delightful wiggly, squiggly evening with precious children, parents, grandparents and worms,”

she said. “One of my favorite quotes from an eight-year-old at the event, ‘What do worms eat? I only like one green vegetable, but I can’t remember what it’s called.’”

Overall STEM Night proved to be an example of community collaboration and fun.

Families can look forward to attending the next Family Night, Reading & Literacy Night, hosted by the SPTC on Friday, April 21.

Judge: Climate change kids should simplify case

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — A federal judge says lawyers representing a group of youths arguing over climate policy should simplify their case if they want to make it to trial later this year in Eugene.

The *Register-Guard* reports that during a U.S. District Court hearing on Tuesday, Magistrate Judge Tom Coffin told the plaintiffs they should narrow the scope of the case, which seeks a court order requiring the government to quickly reduce

carbon dioxide emissions, which many scientists have linked to global warming.

Coffin says the case could be headed for trial later this year.

Attorneys for the government and trade groups representing energy companies, which are named as defendants in the case, say the plaintiffs’ request for all climate change-related documents will take too long to collect and are asking to delay the trial.

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