

C O M M U N I T Y

Folk festival makes organizational changes

Sisters Folk Festival is making some changes in the way the organization is led.

For the past 18 months, the Sisters Folk Festival Board has pursued a strategic initiative, called “Build Organization for the Future” that includes organizational structure, staff alignment with key priorities, succession planning, and more.

According to SFF, the goal of this work is to address the internal and external challenges created by a co-director leadership model.

“This work led to a conclusion that an executive

director (ED) model would better serve our organization, community and mission,” SFF reported in a press release. “While creating an ED position will impact every staff position, it has a material cost and scope overlap with the current managing director position. After a considered decision by the board, Sisters Folk Festival has chosen to adopt the executive director model and eliminate the managing director position.”

The SFF board of directors statement noted that

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Kaenon Francis with his grandmother Laurie Francis and mother Ashlee Francis.

Caldera AiR welcomes visitors to meet artists

By **T. Lee Brown**
Correspondent

Once a month in the heart of winter, Sisters Country gets a special glimpse into arts and literature. This Saturday, the Artists in Residence program at Caldera, nicknamed “AiR,” welcomes locals to its first 2019 Open Studios.

Visitors gather in the Hearth Building, a soaring space of wood and natural light, to meet artists from around the country and tour studios. Artists share performances, readings, and

conversation. Young people from Caldera’s youth program join in, too.

Link Creek bubbles outside, carrying water from the volcanic caldera of nearby Blue Lake. Stands of burnt pine from the B&B Fire guard over the proceedings.

“It feels pretty amazing for me to be working in this place,” artist Anna Gray told *The Nugget*. “Blue Lake was where I came every summer as a child... I always felt there was a magic here, and I still

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Empty Bowls nourish local sparrow

By **Katy Yoder**
Correspondent

When Kaenon Francis enters a room, his smile and playful eyes light it up. As he rests happily on his mother Ashlee’s hip, his personality brings joy to everyone around him. It’s clear his birth has been a blessing for his family and the many old and new-found friends he’s met.

Life has been one challenge after another for Kaenon. In his seven months of life, he’s had seven surgeries. When his mother, Ashlee Francis, was visiting her family in Sisters she went into early labor and gave birth on March 21. Like so many new parents, they expected a healthy, robust little boy to raise and enjoy. Hours after

he was born, it became clear Kaenon needed specialized medical care — immediately.

Ashlee explained Kaenon’s evolving medical challenges.

“He was born with severe complications that weren’t discovered until his birth,” she said.

The celebration for this precious, new life became a race to save him. He was flown along with his father by Life Flight to Randall Children’s Hospital at Legacy Emanuel in Portland.

After Ashlee was released from the hospital she and her mom, Laurie, drove through a blizzard, arriving late that night.

“I was just visiting from Santa Barbara, where I’ve lived for the last 12 years,” said Ashlee. “My parents had

just left for Hawaii that morning and a friend had to take me to the hospital.”

Ashlee hasn’t left Central Oregon since Kaenon’s birth.

When Kaenon was two months old, the family was hit hard again.

“Then my dad passed away,” said Ashlee. “It helped my mom to have me here at that time. My mom and I have such an unshakable, special relationship. She’s been amazing through everything. I’m also lucky to have a sister in Bend as well.”

Ashlee has experienced the immensely helpful attitude the Sisters community is known for. Supporting those in need often starts at a young age. Through organizations like

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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.

Alzheimer’s & Dementia Caregiver Support Group 1st Tuesday, noon, Sisters City Hall. 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.

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.

Friends of the Sisters Library Board of Directors 2nd Tuesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sisters Library. www.sistersfol.com.

Go Fish Fishing Group 3rd Monday, 7 p.m. Sisters Community Church. All ages welcome. 541-771-2211.

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 541-719-1230.

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 Family Aglow Lighthouse 4th Saturday, 10 a.m., Ponderosa Lodge Meeting Room. 503-930-6158.

Sisters Area Photography Club 2nd Wednesday, 4 p.m., Sisters Library community room. 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 Thursdays, 12:30 p.m., The Pines Clubhouse. Novices welcomed. 541-549-9419.

Sisters Caregiver Support Group 3rd Tues., 10:30 a.m., Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. 541-771-3258.

Sisters Cribbage Club Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 2 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 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Sisters Saloon. 541-480-5994.

Sisters Parkinson’s Support Group 2nd Tuesday, 1 p.m., Sisters Community Church. 907-687-8101 or 541-668-6599.

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

Sisters Rotary Tuesdays, noon, Aspen Lakes Lodge. 541-760-5645.

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 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, 5 p.m., Black Butte School. 541-595-6203.

Sisters Christian Academy Board of Directors 2nd Thursday, 8 a.m., RE/MAX office. 541-549-4133.

Sisters School District Board of Directors One Wed. monthly, SSD Admin Bldg. See schedule online at www.ssd6.org. 541-549-8521 x5002.

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, 5:30 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.

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