

Electricians help habitat with grant

Last weekend, Brian Samp and other members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) local 280 presented Sisters Habitat Executive Director Sharlene Weed with \$1,500 from its members. The timing couldn't have been better as Habitat is in the final stretch of meeting its \$100,000 matching challenge that will cover the costs of building two more Habitat homes in Sisters.

Habitat's matching grant challenge will end January 31. So far, over \$90,000 has been raised and Weed is confident the remaining donations will come in before the end of the month. The funds will be used to construct the first two homes in ClearPine, she said. Letters about the matching challenge were mailed in December to community

members who live in the Sisters School District. Plans are to break ground on the lots this summer, she added.

"As a member of IBEW Local 280 I have the privilege of working with many wonderful people that share a common interest. One of the many things we are able to do as a trade union is to give back to the community; our time, our skills and talents. We also are able to access a fund (that we pay into through our working dues) that allows us to support the community in the way of grants to help support organizations such as Habitat for Humanity," Samp said. "Since Habitat is allowing us to use the house as a classroom it just makes sense that we help support the Habitat mission."

The IBEW members donated the labor to wire

one home last year. They are currently working on a second in Village Meadows for the Islas family. This year, they hope to wire three Sisters Habitat houses; one in Village Meadows and two in ClearPine, Samp said.

"Habitat is blessed to have the support of major donors and organizations like IBEW. We could not fulfill our mission of building homes, community and hope without them," Weed said.

To help Habitat meet their matching challenge by January 31, Sisters citizens can donate online at www.sistershabitat.org/giving/; by mailing in a check to Sisters Habitat, PO Box 238, Sisters 97759; or by dropping off your donation at the office located above the Thrift Store located at 141 W. Main Ave.

Art event celebrates galleries, library exhibit

The Fourth Friday Art Stroll takes place on January 25. On the same evening, Sisters Arts Association and a number of member galleries will be supporting the annual art show at Sisters Library.

Organizers recommend patrons visit galleries before 5:30 p.m. and head to the library by 6 p.m. to vote for their favorite art. People's Choice Awards will be announced that evening.

The Sisters Library reception is from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This is the 12th annual art exhibit sponsored by the Friends of Sisters Library and features 148 items submitted by 51 local artists.

Galleries that will be open as usual for Art Stroll include

Ken Scott's Imagination Gallery, Dyrk Godby Gallery, Hood Avenue Art, Gary Cooley's Collection Gallery and Jill's Wild (but tasteful) Women.

Galleries that are *not open* Friday evening include: Clearwater Gallery; Sisters Gallery & Frame Shop; Beacham's Clock Company; Raven Makes; The Jewel; Stitchin' Post Fabric Art; and Wildflower Studio.

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Thursday, February 7 ~ FivePine Lodge & Conference Center
5:30-6:30pm Social Hour ~ 6:30pm Awards Ceremony

Heavy hors d'oeuvres and no host drinks
\$40/per person • \$320/reserved table for 8

RSVP by February 1 to jeri@sisterscountry.com or 541-549-0251



The Sisters Country

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