

KNOW wraps up giving baskets

By CRAIG MURPHY
Of the Keizertimes

Looking for a new way to support a popular longtime holiday program?

Ham it up this year.

Per usual, the Keizer Network of Women (KNOW) Giving Basket program is taking place this holiday season in Keizer. The program helps children who could use some gifts during the holidays.

More than 100 local families and about 350 children are helped by the program each year.

In addition to gifts, boxes of fresh food are also put together for the families.

Along those lines, Audrey Butler, who has led the Keizer Chamber of Commerce program the past eight years, noted hams are a new part of the food boxes this year.

"McNary Golf Club is hosting our 'pig' tree with tags at \$10 to raise additional money for our hams," Butler said. "They wanted to do something in their building, so we came up with this. We

think it's going to work out great."

Early returns would seem to indicate so, as Butler noted Loren's Sanitation had donated \$600 for the ham. McNary Golf Club is located at 155 McNary Estates Drive North.

While the gifts and food boxes are handed out in December, the process starts each June, when school counselors in Keizer are notified and asked to start thinking of students who could use some gifts during the holidays.

By late October, Butler and the KNOW members are sorting through the requests and figuring out who gets what gifts. For a family with multiple children, care is taken to make sure each child gets an equal number of gifts.

Group members got together the evening of Nov. 5 and completed gift tags. The tags went out a few days later and are on Giving Trees at five Keizer locations: St. Edward Catholic Church, Schoolhouse Square Starbucks, Mommy and Mad-

di's, Big Town Hero and the Courthouse Athletic Club. Gifts need to be dropped off by Dec. 4.

Gifts will be picked up Monday, Dec. 7, with straggler gifts and last-minute shopping being picked up the following evening. Sorting and boxing of food is being done Dec. 9 and 10.

A big gift wrapping party takes place on Thursday, Dec. 10, with the goal being to have the process completed that evening. Boxes will be rechecked Dec. 11, with any necessary last minute purchases being done that day as well. Fresh food will be picked up at 8 a.m. Dec. 12, with delivery beginning that day at 9 a.m.

A dozen regulars help with the program, with 30 to 50 additional people usually coming to help during the busy week.

Butler is always pleased with how things come together each year.

"It always works," she said. "It is 100 percent because we're doing the right thing."

Snowman's Dance at MHS



File
City Dance Theatre returns its annual Snowman's Dance to McNary High School Saturday, Dec. 5. Showtimes are noon and 4 p.m. Admission is \$10.

Christmas show at Dayspring

Dayspring Fellowship is putting on *Big Band Christmas: Because a Babe was Born Free* this weekend.

The shows started Thursday night and continue Friday and Saturday nights, Dec. 4 and 5. Shows go from 7 to 8:15 p.m. at Dayspring Fellowship 1755 Lockhaven Drive NE. Admission is free.

For more information, visit www.dayspringfellowship.com or e-mail Janet Orlob at janet@dayspringfellowship.com.



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