

LEARNING



Union Hill School's E-waste drive | C4



Bob Wyckoff's TimeLines! | C4

■ SINGING

Music in The Mountains collaborates with local school choirs for Holiday concerts

BY JENNIFER DAHLGREN
Special to The Union

Once again this year, Music in the Mountains has invited area school choirs to sing along with its Festival Chorale for a few numbers during the annual Holiday Choral Concerts.

Three schools accepted the invitation, and each choir will sing two pieces with the MIM Festival Chorale and one of their own songs.

"Collaborating with the local schools is an ideal way to follow through on our commitments to education and to the community," said MIM producer Terry Brown. "We invited eight schools, but only three were able to work it into their busy schedules."

The three participating choirs all are led by directors who also sing in the Music in the Mountains Festival Chorale. Bear River High School and Magnolia and Lyman Gilmore middle schools will send choirs this year.

"The Lyman Gilmore choir students love singing with the MIM chorus because they get to be a part of something bigger than themselves, and they particularly enjoy singing under Ryan Murray's direction because of his talent," said Ginny Trapani, choral director at Lyman Gilmore in Grass Valley. "They appreciate the way they are treated by the choir and are made to feel like part of the group. It's also exciting to perform for such a large audience — and one with such high expectations."

Each chorus will sing in one of the three concerts, with Lyman Gilmore on Dec. 3, Magnolia on Dec. 11 and Bear River on Dec. 12.

The Chorale is an 85-voice, auditioned group dating back to the 1960s. The concerts, which will include



Photo by The Union by John Hart

Music in the Mountains Festival Chorale director Ryan Murray directs during a recent rehearsal at Peace Lutheran Church in Grass Valley. The group has invited school choirs to sing along with a few numbers during the annual Holiday Choral Concerts

many holiday favorites plus the masterpiece, John Rutter's "Gloria," will be held at the Amaral Family Festival Center at the Nevada County Fairgrounds, Gate 1.

Tickets can be purchased at

www.MusicintheMountains.org or by calling (530) 265-6124.

Jennifer Dahlgren is a member of the Festival Chorale and operates Dahlgren Communications, 228 Commercial St. No. 215, Nevada City. She can be reached at (530) 265-0538.

■ SCHOLARSHIPS



Submitted photo

Afton Neufeld, left, is the 2010 winner of the Violet Richardson Award. She is shown with her parents and Fran Freedle, the 2010 Youth Outreach Committee chairwoman of Soroptimist International of Grass Valley.

\$1,000 scholarship offered to girls with volunteer spirit

SPECIAL TO THE UNION

Afton Neufeld is the 2010 winner of the Violet Richardson Award, given by Soroptimist International of Grass Valley.

"Afton says that volunteering is something very dear to her heart as a young teen in America. After she helped build houses in Mexico, she found herself grabbing any opportunity to volunteer," said Fran Freedle, the club's 2010 Youth Outreach Committee chairwoman. "Here is Afton's advice: 'Just one person can make a difference.'"

The Violet Richardson Award recognizes young women ages 14 to 17 engaged in volunteer action within their communities or schools.

Deadline to apply for the 2011 award is Dec. 1. Club-level winners become eligible to compete for a \$1,000 prize; the winner's volunteer organization also receives \$1,000.

The Violet Richardson Award is given to young women whose volunteer activities make the community and world a better place. The award is in honor of the president of the first Soroptimist Club, Violet Richardson, a woman of action, whose indomitable spirit and sense of personal

responsibility were demonstrated by her lifelong commitment to volunteering in her community.

All awards are given for activities conducted on a volunteer basis. Projects that benefit women or girls are especially valued.

Volunteer projects can include, but are not limited to, projects that address social problems such as homelessness, violence, drug abuse, unemployment, illiteracy, sexual harassment, sexual decision-making, teen parenting, careers, finances — anything that specifically benefits women or girls.

This award is based solely on the applicant's volunteer work. It is an opportunity to honor a girl who might not otherwise receive recognition, given because she is committed to making the world a better place.

Applicants must be girls 14 to 17 years of age as of Dec. 1, 2010.

The online application can be found at www.njuhsd.com; under "Scholarships," click "District Scholarships Requiring Additional Forms," and scroll down to "Soroptimist International Violet Richardson Award."

For questions, contact 2011 Youth Outreach Committee Chair Sharon O'Hara at oharashar10@gmail.com

School Days award to Chicago Park from Amerigas

BY AIMEE STANLEY
Special to The Union

AmeriGas Propane of Grass Valley delivers more than just gas.

During the 2009-10 school year, Chicago Park School participated in the School Days program sponsored by the AmeriGas Propane office in Grass Valley.

Local Manager John Murphy and customer relations representatives Aimee Stanley and Monica Milanese presented school Principal Dan Zeisler with a check for \$693.91 at Chicago Park School's Friday

flag ceremony on Oct. 15.

To participate in future fundraising efforts, customers need to detach the School Days receipt message printed on all invoices within the Grass Valley delivery area and mail them to the local office.

Schools also can collect those original receipts from AmeriGas customers and forward them to the AmeriGas office in Grass Valley, where they will be totaled.

The amount of the check is calculated by multiplying the total gallons purchased by customers by \$.02. A school can earn up to \$2,000 per check.



Submitted photo

From left are Amerigas Customer Relations Representative Aimee Stanley, Chicago Park School Principal Dan Zeisler, Amerigas Grass Valley Manager John Murphy and Customer Relations Representative Monica Milanese.

For more information about the program, contact me at AmeriGas in Grass Valley at (530) 273-7968. The local office is at 13045 Grass Valley Ave., Grass Valley CA 95945 — in the

Loma Rica industrial area.

Amerigas Customer Relations Representative Aimee Stanley can be reached at (530) 273-7968.

Free intro dance, exercise classes in Penn Valley

The Alternative Fitness Center and the Penn Valley Academy of Dance are offering free introductory classes for children and adults in a variety of new dance and exercise methods.



Grass Valley School District expansion

BY LINDA FISHER
Special to The Union

Our Kids' Place, a pre-school offered through the Grass Valley School District, has expanded.

The program has opened a second room to accommodate a class of 18 children. It is a fee base class with openings for families from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Families can choose a full-day program, half-days or any combination of days

caring staff. They provide a play-oriented curriculum based on an integrated philosophy where respect for each other, positive guidance, and the development of self-esteem are important values.

Children can choose independent activities and participate in teacher-directed activities.

Teachers encourage children to solve problems, ask questions, find answers, explore interesting materials