

Youth Center honors community members



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BANDON — The Bandon Community Youth Center honored the "unsung heroes" in the community during its annual Bite of Bandon fundraiser with "You Take the Cake" awards.

The Youth Center board sought nominations from the community for the awards and many were received, according to Angie Gonzales-Smith, board chairwoman. Smith made several of the awards herself from fused glass, with the help of Anne Sobotta of Sage Place.

Six finalists were selected, and from those, three were selected for the "You Take the Cake" award.

"Selecting three for our award was a daunting task," Smith said. "We wish to thank all Bandon volunteers and all those who answered our call for nominations. Our community is rich in generosity, talent and spirit!"

Winners of the "You Take the Cake" awards:

Elaine Beausoeil, who volunteers as a SHEBA counselor at Coast Community Health Center.

Beausoeil assists seniors to help them understand and select Medicare and Medicare Supplemental insurances. (Beausoeil was unable to attend the awards, so no photo is available.)

Allison Hundley, who has managed the Bandon Everyone At Table program for many years, which provides a hot, home-cooked meal every Tuesday for those on limited incomes. Hundley also is a volunteer with the Bandon Feeds the Hungry fundraiser and at her church, Holy Trinity.

Cathy Schneider, and her dogs volunteer many hours for the local and regional Search and Rescue and provide junior ranger survival education to youth at Bullards Beach State Park.

Finalists for "You Take the Cake" awards:

Harv Schubothe, who serves on a number of boards, including the Bandon Parks and Recreation Commission, the Bandon Planning Commission, Southern Coos Hospital budget committee, Greater Bandon Association and as a liaison for the Citizens for Community Involvement committee. Schubothe also is a Ford Family Foundation Leadership Fellow.

Elaine Caldwell, who has organized, managed and been involved with the local Toys for Tots and the Tree of Giving during the holidays, volunteers for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, is an active volunteer at her church, Holy Trinity Catholic and volunteers backstage for MarLo Dance Studio recitals.

Claire and Ort Dross, who together volunteer many hours, from weeding to coordinating permits, vendors, work parties and auctions to help the Bandon Community Garden flourish.

Smith also thanked the nine Youth Center volunteers who gave their time to teach classes this winter at the center. Those volunteers include Mike Dempsey, who taught basic theater skills"; Neil Davis, who taught "Comedy is Cool"; Anna Bell, who taught conversational Spanish; Bob Grizzle and Larry Langenberg of Edgewater's Restaurant, who taught "Cooking with Chef Bob"; Nicole Malloy of Coastal Mist Fine Chocolates, who taught a chocolatier session; Karen Luther and Chris Schneider, who taught golf; Kelly Oney of The Wool Company, who taught "I Can Knit," Tom Drakes, who taught model airplane building; and AnnaMarie Chatman, who taught self defense.