St. Charles Foundationâ€™s 10th Annual Saints Benefit Honors Local Rotary Clubs, Community Healthca

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Two prestigious awards will be presented at the St. Charles Foundationâ€™s 10th Annual Saints Benefit on Saturday, November 11, honoring community healthcare leaders. The Central Oregon Area Rotary Clubs are the inaugural honorees of the St. Charles Foundationâ€™s Spirit of Community Health Award, and Richard and Mary Groves, co-founders of the Sacred Art of Living Center, will receive the Cascade Healthcare Communityâ€™s 2006 North Star Award for Leadership in Healthcare.Spirit of Community Health AwardThe St. Charles Foundation has established the Spirit of Community Health Award to honor organizations whose work in the community complements and supports our mission: â€œTo improve the health of those we serve in a spirit of love and compassion.â€• Because of the devotion and dedication exhibited by all area Rotary Clubs to the health and well-being of our community, the St. Charles Board of Directors has selected the Central Oregon Area Rotary Clubs as the inaugural honorees.â€œThe local Rotary clubs have such an influential presence in our community,â€• said Danny Duggan, Chair of the St. Charles Foundation Board of Directors. â€œAs a board, we felt that the impact that this group of dedicated individuals continues to have on the health of our community deserved our recognition and thanks. There are many outstanding projects that the Rotarians have been involved in that have impressed us, from their Shots for Tots inoculation program to building accessible playgrounds to their support of the Kids CenterSthis is simply an outstanding group of individuals working hard to improve the health of our community. We are proud to present them with our inaugural Spirit of Community Health Award.â€•Tom Collier, Assistant District Governor for Rotary District 5110, which includes all of the Central Oregon Rotary Clubs, expressed gratitude on behalf of the Central Oregon Area Rotary Clubs for the award. â€œRotarians donâ€™t ever set out looking for recognition, and consequently we donâ€™t receive much of it,â€• said Collier. â€œTherefore, to receive this award from St. Charles -- a highly respected part of our healthcare community -- is very important and meaningful to us.â€•There are approximately 550 Rotarians in Central Oregon, representing nine clubs and a combined club service record of 232 years. â€œWe have served our community in many ways over the years,â€• said Collier. â€œBut the bottom line and major thrust of our efforts has always been health-related in one way or another. We appreciate being recognized by St. Charles for our work to augment their mission â€œâ€œIâ€™d like to express my personal gratitude and appreciation to all of our local Rotarians,â€• said Jim Diegel, President/CEO of Cascade Healthcare Community. â€œThis award is our opportunity to recognize the Central Oregon Area Rotary Clubs as an outstanding group that shares our mission of working towards a healthy community.â€• Jim Diegel also commended Richard and Mary Groves, recipients of the 2006 North Star Award. â€œRichard and Mary are well known to the community, and I am impressed by their commitment to the sacredness of the healing arts. The are truly leaders in our healthcare community.â€•
North Star Award for Leadership in HealthcareThe Cascade Healthcare Communityâ€™s North Star Award for Leadership in Healthcare is given each year to an outstanding individual(s) whose commitment and tireless work, whether through volunteering, legislative advocacy, program development, financial generosity, or their willingness to reach out and lend a hand, have improved the lives of others. The award is inscribed with the following: â€œPioneers before us looked at the North Star for guidance as they explored uncharted frontiers. Today we use the North Star as a symbol to honor exceptional leadership in healthcare for thepeople of central and eastern Oregon.â€•The Groves are the co-founders of the Sacred Art of Living Center, a not-for-profit education and retreat center with programs that encourage people to trust and deepen their spiritual experience, and to challenge and transform lifeâ€™s priorities. For those who work in healthcare, the Groves bring a lifetime of international study, their own healing journeys and a unique and inclusive perspective on finding the sacred in life.Event Details and BeneficiariesThe 10th Annual Saints Benefit will be held on Saturday, November 11, from 5:30 Â-to 11 p.m. at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center, Middle Sister Building. The Presenting Sponsor for the evening is Skanska USA Building, and event hosts are Doug Downer and Jerry Andres. A reception and silent auction will be followed by dinner and evening program with dancing to music by High Street Combo and a live auction featuring items such as a fighter pilot jet flight, vacation packages to destinations around the world, and one-of-a-kind artwork. Proceeds from this yearâ€™s gala event will benefit Project Stepping Stones, helping newborns get a healthy start in life, and the â€œExpanding the Visionâ€• capital campaign for Cascade Healthcare Community. Project Stepping Stones

provides a continuum of prenatal to well-baby care, and includes HealthyStart Prenatal Service for uninsured, low-income women; hearing screenings for newborns; follow-up visits for new mothers and their babies and a post-partum depression support group. Now in its 15th year of operations, HealthyStart is a nationally-recognized partnership between St. Charles, Deschutes County Health Department, local physicians and the St. Charles Foundation. By improving the health of babies born at St. Charles, Project Stepping Stones seeks to reduce their need for expensive healthcare and social programs later in life.The â€œExpanding the Visionâ€• capital campaign for Cascade Healthcare Community -- led by community volunteers Jerry and Jinny Andres, Honorary Chairs; and Doug and Amy Downer, General Chairs -- is helping to support a record $128 million investment in facilities, technology and equipment at St. Charles Medical Centers in Bend and Redmond to help keep pace with exploding growth in the region. To make a pledge to the â€œExpanding the Visionâ€• capital campaign, contact the St. Charles Foundation at (541) 383-6996 or visit www.scmc.org/foundation.Reservation InformationTickets to the St. Charles Foundationâ€™s 10th Annual Saints Benefit are $130 per person; $1500 to host a table of eight. Table hosts receive recognition at the event, in post-event media materials and through the St. Charles Foundation Donor Society. If you would like to make reservations to attend or host a table, please contact the Foundation at: (541) 383-6996.

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