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Photo by Bob Clifton

Top of the Rockies Corvette Association Vice President Bruce Zuccaro looks on as Shannon, 16, shows her friends her sketch book and drawing pencils.

Corvette club makes Christmas special for local children's home

By Cheryl Clifton

Christmas came early this year at Mountain States Children's Home, thanks to the time and generosity of a local Corvette car club.

The Top of the Rockies Corvette Association is a social club for its 100 members. But because of their interest in giving back to the community, its members often include charitable fundraising as part of their car shows, races, rallies and other events.

For the past few years, the club has been raising money for Mountain States, a Christian-based residential facility for children in need of stable, nurturing homes.

At Mountain States, the children live with foster families and learn basic life skills on a 155-acre working farm a few miles north of Longmont.

Since TORCA's first donation two years ago, a close relationship has developed between the kids and the club members, said TORCA President Herman Schranz.

"It started out that we were just sending them a check after each of our events," Schranz said. "But the kids began coming to our car shows, and we were able to get to know them and to have fun with them. It made our fundraising efforts so much more meaningful."

In September, club members visited Mountain States for a barbecue and a tour of the facility,

which relies largely on private donations. After seeing how much the staff accomplishes with so little money, a few members thought it would be nice if TORCA could make this Christmas extra special for the children.

At their next club meeting, the members passed a hat to collect enough money to buy each child a movie ticket — just a small stocking stuffer. That worked so well that someone suggested that the club could select a few cookie recipes and buy all the ingredients so that the children could bake themselves treats during the holiday season. Before long, someone else suggested the club also could make sure each child received at least one special gift at Christmas.

After passing the hat again and raising nearly \$1,000, club members bought and wrapped gifts for all 17 children, using the modest wish lists collected by the Mountain States staff.

TORCA presented these gifts to the children during a Christmas party at Mountain States on Dec. 13. In addition, the club presented Mountain States with a \$400 check raised during a recent car rally.

Addressing the club at the end of the party, Mountain States development director Phil Crews said, "You have no idea how much your generosity means to these children. Believe me, these chil-



Photo by Jim Knappmiller

Becky Konshak helps 3-year-old Casea show off her new wand and ballerina outfit.

dren are going to remember this party for a long time."

For information about donating to Mountain States Children's

Home, see www.msch.org. For information about joining the Top of the Rockies Corvette Association, see www.torcavettes.com.

SVVSD schools celebrate successes

By Shari Wilson

LONGMONT — St. Vrain Valley School District has reason to celebrate the many accomplishments in fall fine arts programs and athletics. Students have found success in both visual and performing arts and athletic endeavors. School wide programs have also earned accolades.

St. Vrain fine arts and athletics highlights

Visual Arts

The district has been accepted by The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Partners in Education program. This prestigious partnership will offer training to art teachers and outstanding opportunities for students. Donna Goodwin, an art teacher at Sunset Middle, along with the support of the Art, Music & PE Interdisciplinary Design Team (AMP Team) played an integral part in securing this partnership. St. Vrain is the only district in Colorado accepted into this program.

Performing Arts

Theatre

Several high schools held successful performances this fall.

- Frederick High performed "Once Upon a Mattress."
 - Niwot High performed "The Wizard of Oz."
 - Skyline High performed "Heaven Can Wait."
 - Silver Creek High performed "Pride and Prejudice."
- Spring performances planned.
- Erie High will perform "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown."
 - Lyons Senior High will perform "Narnia."
 - Longmont High will perform "Bye Bye Birdie."

All State Choir

Niwot High

- Adrianna Adams
 - Becky Stischer
 - Katie Stenzel
 - Kristin Dahlem
 - Eric Moore
 - Victor Nguyen
- Erie High
- Grace Battista
 - Katie French
 - Victoria Pena

Longmont High

- Brandon Mosness
 - Taylor Hubert
- Silver Creek High
- Claire Koerner
 - Summer Sugg
 - Andrea Pares
 - Pete Stein
 - R.J. Cooper
 - Brandon Cabael

Skyline High

- Kyle Meinhart
 - David Jaynes
 - Jasper Vue
 - Patrick Coniway
 - Jesse Horner
 - Kate Robison
 - Sarah Cross
- All State Jazz

Lyons Senior High

- Andrew Forsberg (vibes)
 - Stirling Bowlick (baritone sax)
 - Nicholas Kalyan (guitar, alternate)
- Silver Creek High
- Ben Sarlo (alto sax)

All State Orchestra

- Longmont High
 - Alex Chavez (trumpet)
- Lyons Senior High
- Andrew Forsberg (percussion)
 - Stirling Bowlick (bass clarinet)

Niwot High

- Laura Chren (flute)
- Jonathan Lin (violin 2)
- Ying Ying Sun (violin 1)
- Tara Sugadhan (viola)

Marching Band

- Longmont High
- 4A State Marching Band, quarterfinalist

Please see **SCHOOLS** on E4

TOP STUDENTS

Twin Peaks Rotary Club recently named its Students of the Month for December. The winners are, from left, Stephanie Cary, Longmont High School; Emma Cavcey, Skyline High School; Jordana Grolnick, Silver Creek High School; John-Patrick Murray, Longmont Christian High School; and Katie Hirschfeld, Lyons High School. Morgan Vick with Niwot High School was also recognized.

Courtesy Aubrey Riggs

