

Community showed collective heart at gala

The citizens of Sandpoint and surrounding communities showed their collective heart again last Sunday evening, Dec. 6, when more than 300 braved the cold and wind to attend the second Christmas for Africa gala.

To each one, young and some quite elderly, who supported The Luke Commission with his or her presence, we say thank you!

Some may think that it's difficult to care about people we do not know who live 10,000 miles away, especially when times are tough at home. But the residents of northern Idaho demonstrated, once again, that we are our brothers' keeper as soon as we become aware of their need.

When we first traveled to Swaziland, southern Africa, in 2004, we found a tiny country devastated with the effects of

HIV/AIDS. Our desire since our youths has been to take medical help and the Gospel to those with little or no health care.

Since that time, folks throughout the U.S. and Canada have opened their hearts to embrace the mobile clinics and free medical treatment we offer in the "bush" of Swaziland. We return to North America a couple of months a year to raise funds for the next year.

We're proud to say that Sagle is our home in the States. We thank our neighbors, friends, acquaintances, and those who are just learning about The Luke Commission. We invite readers to check our Web site at www.lukecommission.org.

Christmas for Africa at the Sandpoint Events Center was a delight. The gala commit-

tee especially thanks Karen Forsythe and the DiLuna's staff, Kathy Andruzak and other event center workers, and Kinderhaven leaders for sharing their time and expertise.

We are grateful to more the more than 30 volunteers who worked at the dinner/auction, particularly the teenagers who waited tables and washed dishes. We thank all those who bought auction items, donated auction items, generously gave, or just left their warm homes to hear what God is doing in Swaziland.

Gratefully in Jesus,

**DR. HARRY &
ECHO (TUINSTR)**
VANDERWAL,
Sagle
**and THE LUKE
COMMISSION
gala committee**

What do you think?

Share your views on community issues. Send your letters to bcdailybee@bonnercountydailybee.com; or Box 159, Sandpoint, ID, 83864.

Contact us

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