Life *in the* Valley

PHOTOS BY DANIELLE PETERSON/STATESMAN JOURNAL

The Oregon Garden is aglow during the opening night of Christmas in the Garden on Friday, Nov. 25, in Silverton. The event features a lighting display, ice skating, snowless tubing, an artisan market and more.

Christmas in the Garden

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SILVERTON — On opening night of Christmas in the Garden, visitors followed a festive display of 500,000 twinkling lights into the forest, zigzagging their way up the hill to a traditional German Christmas Market.

Festivalgoers gathered around fire pits, sipping hot cocoa and spiced cider. They shopped for artisan gifts, waited in line to visit Santa Claus or strapped on a pair of skates and joined the crowd in the ice skating rink. The sounds of holiday music echoed through the towering trees atop The Oregon Garden's Rediscovery Forest.

If you go

When: Now through Jan. 1 (closed Dec. 24-25). Activities and times vary depending on the dates. Visit OregonGarden.org for a complete schedule.

Where: 879 W. Main St., Silverton

Cost: Event admission is in lieu of regular Garden admission. Advance tickets are $8 for adults; $5 for children 5-12; free for children 4 and younger. Tickets purchased at the door are $10 for adults; $7 for children 5-12 and free for children 4 and younger. Ice skating is not included with admission.

For more information, call 503-874-8100.

The Oregon Garden is aglow with 500,000 lights during the opening night of Christmas in the Garden.

Festivalgoers enter The Oregon Garden on opening night of Christmas in the Garden.

Festivalgoers ice skate during the opening night of Christmas in the Garden.