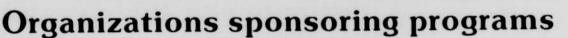
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#### By Daralyn Trappe Emerald Contributor

For those who would like to donate money, food, clothing or toys to the needy in Lane County, there are several organizations in the community and on campus sponsoring benefit programs.

The Department of Human Resources is sponsoring the Tree of Joy, located at the Valley River Center. The program involves buying a gift for a child or senior citizen.

The tree is decorated with ornaments and each one has the name of a different person on it, along with their age, sex and gift choice. Anyone interested in the program can choose an ornament, purchase a gift, wrap it, and bring it back to the tree.

The local YMCA is providing volunteers to distribute the presents. Those who will benefit from the Tree of Joy are clients of the Children's Services Division, Adult and Family Services, the Lane Council Senior and Disabled Services or the Lane Council Mental Health and Developmentally Disabled Services.

To make distribution less hectic, the sponsors are requesting that gift donations be made by Dec. 17, according to Kathy Ask of the YMCA. But gifts will be accepted and distributed as late as Christ-

For the fifth year, Swingers Nightclub, located at 535 Main St. in Springfield, will auction off various items donated by local merchants on Sunday at 8 p.m.

The proceeds will be donated to Toys For Tots, a program that benefits children whose families can't afford Christmas gifts.

The Eugene and Springfield Fire Departments are sponsoring Toys For Tots. Toy and cash donations can be made at either fire department.

Any parent who is experiencing financial difficulties can pick up a gift donated through Toys For Tots at the Ida Patterson school, at 1310 W. 15th St. Distribution dates are Dec. 19, 20, 21 and 22 from 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

The Eugene Mission will be having a Christmas dinner and giving out gift packs for those staying at the shelter over the holiday. They can use donations of both food and gift pack items. Food and gift donations can be made at the Eugene Mission, located at 1542 W. 1st St.

On campus, both the ASUO and the Foreign Student Or-

ganization are sponsoring benefits.

The FSO is having a clothing drive for the homeless. Anyone who wants to donate clothes can bring them by the FSO office at Room 206 in the FMU.

The ASUO is holding a food drive that will run through Friday. Dec. 15. Canned and packaged goods can be dropped at the ASUO office in Suite 4 of the EMU. The food will go to the Morgan Nickolai strikers and their families.

"The workers have been on strike for 16 months. We supported them last year with a toy drive, and we're supporting them again this year" with a food drive, said Angela Muniz, ASUO state affairs coordinator. GOLDWORKS



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