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Market's unique gift ideas draw shoppers

By Rebecca Merritt
Oregon Daily Emerald

Looking for that unique holiday gift?

Try tie-dyed underwear (for him or her), earrings made with Oregon Trail dust, logs that grow mushrooms, mystery boxes with hidden drawers and gourmet playdough. Or, treat those hard-to-shop-for friends and relatives to an afternoon with a fortuneteller or a glittery face-painting.

More than 400 local artists and crafters offer thousands of unusual gift ideas at Lane County's Holiday Market. The market, organized by Saturday Market, is open every Saturday and Sunday until Christmas at the Lane County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building.

About 5,000 shoppers visit the market each day, said Jim Goldsmith, general manager of the market. Saturdays are busiest, and Sunday is the best day for serious shoppers to escape crowds and grab bargains. The market is also open four weekdays — Dec. 20-23 — for last-minute shoppers.

Everything at Holiday Market is handcrafted by local vendors, said Kim Schramm, assistant manager of the market. All crafters are members of Saturday Market and usually sell their goods downtown every Saturday.

Dean Still, who sells a Rotegri toy sphere at both Holiday Market and Saturday Market, said he enjoys the holiday atmosphere at the fairgrounds.

"The Holiday Market is great because people visiting are in a holiday mood," Still said. "It allows people to have a more homemade Christmas."

Still said his toy, a sphere



Children performers entertain Sunday's market crowd with songs from composer Rich Glauber.

made with wood and rubber bands in a rotegrity design, teaches children about design techniques through a game.

Market booths sell items ranging from handcrafted jewelry to homegrown spices. But, Holiday Market also offers something for those not in the shopping mood.

Six local entertainment acts perform at the market each day. An Elf Plaza for children is also open, featuring entertainment performances and craft workshops

Rich Glauber, a composer of contemporary Jewish music, entertained Sunday's market crowd with Soul Parade, his group of children performers. Soul Parade is comprised of Eugene children ages eight to 11 who sing and dance to Glauber's songs.

For those looking for relaxation at the market, the Center for Body, Mind and Spirit offers massages, fortunetelling and astrology readings to market visitors. Reiki, the Japanese art of chan-

neling healing energy through the hands, is offered by David Thompson and Mahrie Youngdale of Eugene.

Another popular attraction of this year's market is the International Food Court. Tofu, cheesecake, tamales, Chinese herbal tonic drinks and Indian noodles are just a few of the items offered through the food booths.

Holiday Market is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 20-23.

Patrol dogs in K-9 unit are integral part of Eugene police

By Tiffany Woods
For the Oregon Daily Emerald

During a typical Friday night, police officer Tom Schulke and his partner, Hans, patrol the streets of Eugene.

Schulke, a University graduate, drives while his partner watches alertly out the window. Hans is more anxious than Schulke, and often Schulke has to tell his partner to calm down and to be quiet.

Hans weighs 85 pounds, is almost six years old and doesn't carry a gun. He is a German shepherd on the Eugene Office of Public Safety K-9 unit.

The dogs in the K-9 unit, which started 10 years ago, are an integral part of the police force, Schulke said.

"We could do our job without them, but it would be a lot more dangerous," he said. "They were a luxury 10 years ago. Now they're a necessity."



Officer Tom Schulke taking a break with Hans, his partner from the Eugene Public Safety K-9 unit, after a three-hour patrol in Eugene.

Schulke said the dogs are an enormous timesaver because they can track suspects faster than the officers can. He points to an example last month when in less than an hour, a dog tracked a sus-

pect in the kidnapping of a two-year-old girl.

In addition, they also protect the officers. Schulke said his dog has prevented him from being shot and stabbed. He referred to

the time when his dog tracked two robbery suspects in a heavily wooded area west of Junction City.

"The terrain was such that without the dog's nose, I would have been walking around blindly," Schulke said. "If the dog had gone by them, I would have been dead."

The officers use the dogs to track criminals and to search buildings. But the dogs must undergo intensive training beforehand. They can be trained in Germany, Czechoslovakia or Holland, where they learn commands in either German or Czechoslovakian.

Schulke said he had difficulty mastering the Czechoslovakian accent and received many bewildered looks from Hans at first. But gradually, Hans adjusted to his American accent, and the two reached a "compromise."

Turn to K-9, Page 19

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