

on the cover
**Op in for a
bite to eat**

A hot Christmas dinner will be on offer to all this Thursday, Dec. 25, as Operation Christmas Spirit swings into action at the Lincoln City Community Center.

Staff from Chinook Winds Casino Resort are spearheading the event, supported by generous local volunteers and businesses.

Lincoln City resident Betty Fry founded the event several years ago to feed people that might otherwise have a bleak and hungry holiday, or simply be alone for their holiday meal. Operation Christmas Spirit is now sponsored by Chinook Winds Casino Resort, Lincoln City Community Center, The News Guard and North Lincoln Sanitary Service, which provides free garbage pick-up after the event.

Families and individuals are welcome at the heartwarming celebration, which includes Christmas music and a complete hot holiday meal, offered from 11 am to 2 pm at the center, 2150 NE Oar Place.

If you know someone in need of a meal who is unable to attend, feel free to stop by and pick up a meal to deliver. Meals can be picked up from 10 am to 2 pm on Christmas Day. North County School Families are encouraged to sign up for meal pickup at Taft High School with Sandie Tucker.

The program still needs desserts to round out the tasty holiday meal. Organizers said they have been able to depend on the community's generous bakers' contributions in years past.

Those who would like to contribute a dessert should drop it off at the Lincoln City Community Center between noon and 4 pm on Tuesday, Dec. 24, or 8 am and 11 am on Christmas Day.

Blankets or other new items that might keep people warm this winter, can be dropped off at the Little Antique Mall, Lincoln City Community Center or North Lincoln Sanitary through Monday, Dec. 23.

For further information or to volunteer your time on Christmas Day, contact Heather Hatton at 541-996-5766.



WASSAIL AWAY

**TAKE A VOYAGE
WITH VOLTAGE,
IN LINCOLN CITY**

With the Winter Solstice upon us, brighter evenings are on the way. But if you need more light in your life right away, there's only one place to go — 2642 NE Holmes Road in Lincoln City.

This is where "Christmas Lites Guy" Steve Prewitt and longtime collaborator Marc McPherson have, for an 18th year running, transformed Prewitt's driveway into the biggest light show in town.

Visitors can watch the show from the comfort of their car, accompanied by Christmas music courtesy of Prewitt's on-site radio station at 106.5 FM. But McPherson recommends people get out of the vehicle and stroll around the grounds if the weather is co-operative to better appreciate the detail in each of the models.

Venturing out on foot also gives guests the chance to drop by Santa's workshop, aka: the garage, which Prewitt and McPherson have transformed into a grotto straight out of a winter wonderland, decked out with 5,000 fairy lights. Santa will be making special appearances at the workshop from 5 to 9 pm on Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 23 and 24, listening to Christmas wishes and sending each kid home with a candy cane. Parents are also invited to bring their camera or phone to snap a souvenir



photo of their kids with Santa.

With more than 50,000 bulbs, Prewitt's festive show gobbles up huge amounts of electricity — even with increased use of LEDs, which now make up about 65 percent of the display.

But, despite the cost of staging such an extravaganza, Prewitt will not accept a cent from anyone who comes to view it. Each year, all donations received from visitors go to a worthy cause, with this year's beneficiary being the Lincoln City food Pantry @ Coast Vineyard Church.



If You Go

What: Christmas Lights Show

Where: 2642 NE Holmes Road, Lincoln City

When: 5-10 pm, every night until Tuesday, Dec. 31

Cost: Free, but donations accepted for the Lincoln City food Pantry @ Coast Vineyard Church