



PHOTOS COURTESY SEASIDE MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A pleasantly decorated arch leads visitors into the dining area at the Butterfield Cottage.

**'WE LIKE
TO SPREAD
JOY AND
GOODWILL.'**

— KIM REEF
2018 ORGANIZER

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Butterfield Cottage dates back to about 1893 and the Victorian-era building is decorated for the season with trees, wreaths and pine garlands. Tables feature cloth napkins, antique utensils, and china cups and plates.

Tita Montero, vice-president of the museum board, will greet visitors on all four Saturdays. Although it began more than 30 years ago as a fundraiser, it has morphed into a seasonal get-together, she said. One couple attended the tea years ago on their honeymoon and, like many, just keep coming back; others make it an annual tradition to attend.

"It is really a community service kind of event," Montero said. "It has become a way for people to know there's a museum here, have some fun, and see an original cottage. The Butterfield Cottage is one of the few remaining cottages from the beginning of Seaside."

The opening weekend will feature music from the North Coast Ukulele Strummers; on Dec. 15, Shirley Yates will sing and play piano.

Door prizes will be drawn every hour, and those attending may purchase raffle tickets for a drawing to be held at the end of the final tea Dec. 15. Winners need not be present. Donated prizes include a handmade quilt, a hand-crocheted holiday-themed afghan, a large decorated poinsettia from Mimi's Florist and a Candy Cottage gingerbread house kit. **CW**



Tables for Seaside's Gingerbread Tea are set with festive linens, cloth napkins, antique utensils and china. A candy cane completes each place setting.



This colorful quilt is one of the raffle prizes offered by the Seaside Museum & Historical Society.

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