



Holiday Entertainment Guide ***





Holiday Stroll Down the Avenue

The holidays have arrived and what a perfect time to shop, dine and unwind during North Mississippi Avenue's Second Thursday great and diverse music and enjoy Music Walk on Dec. 8.

Shop the many merchants who tive night. will be opened late during the event and dine from the many restaurants will be holding their own events that line this historic district. Par- such as music, open houses, and ticipants can also unwind to some art exhibits.



the other activities during this fes-

Other participating merchants

Seasonal Gift that Grows

This holiday season honor plant the tree or grove at your friends and family with a gift Friends of Trees' annual comthat grows and plant a tree in their memorative planting on Sun-

Friends of Trees' Natural Area Commemorative Trees cost inspires community stewardship \$25 per seedling native tree or by bringing people in the Port-\$50 for a grove of six seedling land-Vancouver area together to native trees. When you purchase your gift tree, Friends of city trees. Trees will send an acknowledgment card to the person receiv- Friends of Trees at 503-282-8846, ing the gift. Both you and the extension 17 or visit gift recipient will be invited to www.friendsoftrees.org.

day, Feb. 12.

The non-profit organization plant, care for and learn about

For more information, call

Holiday Calendar

Portland Symphonic Choir --Wintersong, a festive holiday concert will usher in the holiday spirit. From traditional Christmas carols to sing along with, to diverse displays of Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Norse mythology, will be performed. Performance opens on Friday, Dec. 16 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral on Northwest 17th and Davis Street. For more information, call 503-223-1217.

The Nutcraker -- The Oregon Ballet presents The Nutcraker, already in its third year of its exclusive West Coast displays. Performances at Keller Auditorium are Friday, Dec. 9 through Sunday, Dec. 24. Times vary depending on the date. For more information, call 503-222-5538.

Zoo Lights -- The Oregon Zoo comes alive with its 18th annual Zoo Lights holiday festival from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. nightly during December, except Dec. 24 and Dec. 25. Nearly one million lights illuminate life-sized animal silhouettes, trees, buildings, walkways and the zoon train. For information, call 503-226-1561 or visit www.oregonzoo.org.

Bazaar and Bake Sale -- SCRAP



holds a holiday sale with homemade goodies on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at 3901A N. 503-294-0769.

Holiday Serenade -- The Portland Gay Men's Chorus presents Holi226-2588 or www.pdxgmc.org.

day Serenade that delivers classic Drive Through Light Show -- The

soul of various cultures and sounds, features the largest drive-through with special appearance by Diane light show "12 Days of Christmas" Williams Ave. Call Joanna or Teriat Syrcle in This Christmastide, as featuring 40 animated scenes. Each recorded on the Holiday Serenade car enjoys a special audio of holi-CD. For more information, call 503- day music and greetings while on tour. Showings are Sundays through Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

> Ornamental Affair -- Portland Art Center presents Ornamental Affair, a holiday fundraising party on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the center's new location, 32 N.W. Fifth Ave. Artists are donating handmade ornaments to be sold on the night of the party with proceeds benefiting the non-profit arts group. Admission is \$5 with ornament and \$7 without.

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Advice on Christmas Tree Buying, Upkeep

tree, the Oregon State University Extension Service recommends the cut tree is fresh.

hold it between your thumb and tree. forefinger, bend the needle. If the

Christmas tree is a safe Christmas fresh. If the needle is flexible, the bottom of the trunk to expose fresh tree. So when shopping for a cut tree is dry and may not last through tissue that will readily absorb wathe holidays.

following three methods to tell if a twigs. If the bark is wrinkled, the until it is time to bring it into the tree is dry. Shake the tree, if many house. Take a needle off the tree and needles fall out, look for another

After buying a tree and getting it keep it supplied with water," said hazard.

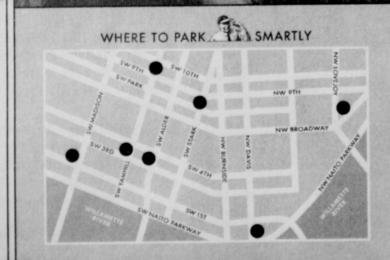
ter. Immerse the cut end in a bucket because in the first few days, the Take a look at the bark on the of water and keep the tree in water tree will take up quarts of water."

A freshly cut, well-watered needle snaps crisply, the tree is home, saw a quarter-inch off the Ross Penhallegon, a horticulturist with the OSU Extension Service. "Buy a stand with a large reservoir,

As long as the tree continues to take up water, it should look good "The most important thing you for three or four weeks. If it dries can do for your holiday tree is to out, it can be unsafe and a fire







The celebrating starts New Year's Eve amidst downtown Portland's 594 restaurants and bars (not to mention 72 hotels, many of which host parties). And the fun just keeps rolling through January as Chinatown celebrates the Chinese New Year. Find out how you can extend your holiday season at www.myportlandonline.com

A Truly Unique Experience

WHAT TO DO Christmas Ships Parade Willamette River Now through 12/21

Portland Spirit Cinnamon Bear Cruise Salmon Street Springs Tom McCall Waterfront Park Now through 12/24

Winter Solstice Market Portland Farmer's Market

15th Annual Champagne Ball Portland Hilton & Executive Tower

Chinese New Year Celebration Year of the Dog Portland Classical Chinese Garden 1/29 - 2/12