

Garden tour to raise funds for homeless family shelter

NEWPORT — The 13th annual Secret Garden Tour sponsored by the Samaritan House Homeless Family Shelter in Newport is set for Sunday, June 26, from noon to 5 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and include visits to the gardens, plus light snacks and wine, as well as musical entertainment. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water.

Shuttles will be provided to access some of the gardens. This year, the gardens are in the unique coastal community of Otter Rock, just north of Newport. The gardens have many special features, including ocean views, natural grasses, garden art, rock walls, and a piece of a McCullough bridge.

The garden tour provides an opportunity to see lovely gardens that are normally

only enjoyed by the owners and their families and friends.

It is a wonderful way to see the many flowers, grasses and plants that can be grown at the coast, as well as how to use the natural beauty of the area to enhance your own garden and yard.

The money raised from this event benefits the Samaritan House Homeless Family Shelter, the only family shelter on

the coast between Coos Bay and Tillamook. Its mission is to shelter, educate and guide homeless families with children towards independent living.

Tickets are available at JC Thriftway Market in Newport, Toledo Feed and Seed, Bear Valley Nursery and Landscaping in Lincoln City, and at the Samaritan House office, 715 NW Bay St., in Newport.

Coos Art Museum to participate in veterans 'Blue Star' program

COOS BAY — The Coos Art Museum announced the launch of Blue Star Museums, a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel, including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Leadership support for Blue Star Families programming and promotional materials has been provided by MetLife

Foundation.

The program also provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move.

The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

"The Blue Star Museums program is a fun, free activity for military families to enjoy during the summer months," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "The program is also a great way for service member families to connect to their new communi-

ties, and it can provide a meaningful way for families to reconnect after deployment.

"The Blue Star Museums program is also a perfect way for the arts community to say 'thank you' to our service members and their families for the sacrifices they make on our behalf, every day."

Current exhibitions at Coos Art Museum include: Expressions West 2016, Leslie Kenneth Price: Garden Conversation, Jesse Reno: Before Time Began, and 50th Anniversary Exhibition of Coos Art Museum.

Coos Art Museum has been a cultural focal point of Oregon's scenic Southern Coast since 1966. It occupies the historic 1936 Art Deco US Federal Building in downtown Coos Bay.

The museum offers a wide range of arts activities including exhibitions, art classes and lectures.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Museum admission: \$5 general, \$2 students, veterans and seniors, and free to museum members.

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