

# Giveaway turnout light, but future bright for Parent Partnership

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

For some families in Cottage Grove, the upcoming start of the new school year means a trip to Al Kennedy Alternative High School, where Parent Partnership — which offers programs to aid parenting and childhood development in the community — offers donated school supplies and clothing to help get the year started right.

Parent Partnership hosted its annual event on Thursday morning, and while turnout was lighter than expected, organizers say

the event also has objectives beyond the supply giveaway.

"It's been a little slow today," said second-year director Karol Kuhn Simons. "But we heard that the Party in the Park (run by Living Faith Assembly, which also distributes free school supplies) was huge this year, so that might have had something to do with it."

Simons said the school supply giveaway is provided by the McKinney Vento program, one aspect of Parent Partnership that works to aid homeless students in South Lane School District.

"The aim is to provide supplies to help ensure kids' success,"

Simons said. "It also helps us be able to find out which students we may need to connect with again during the school year to provide services or referrals to other agencies, etc."

Homeless students often find themselves living with other families, Simons said, or bouncing around between different local living situations.

"This event helps us find out who our families are," she said.

Donations from the Cottage Grove Community Foundation, the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians, First Presbyterian and Trinity Lutheran churches helped make

the giveaway possible.

And there are many new developments on the horizon for Parent Partnership. Its family resource center, A Primary Connection, will be relocating from Bohemia Elementary to the Lane Community College campus in Cottage Grove, and more infants and toddlers are expected to be served by its First Steps childcare service, which serves teen moms and the children of South Lane School District staff. Simons said the organization has a "robust teen connection" and will soon start offering parenting classes.



photo by Jon Stinnett

Sarah White checks the fit of a jacket for her son, Justin, during Parent Partnership's school supply giveaway.

## GARLIC

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know is to pull one up and cut it open crosswise. Start checking for mature cloves about late June. Harvest garlic when the head is divided into plump cloves and the skin covering the outside of the bulbs is thick, dry and papery. If left in the ground too long, the bulbs sometimes split apart. The skin may also split, exposing the cloves and causing them not to store well.

Dig, and then dry the mature bulbs in a shady, warm, dry and well-ventilated area for a few

days. Then remove the tops and roots. Brush dirt off the bulbs. To braid garlic together, harvest it a bit earlier while leaves are green and supple.

Avoid bruising the garlic, as it will not store well. Store bulbs in a dark, dry and well-ventilated place. Protect from high humidity and freezing. Do not store garlic in the refrigerator because cool temperatures combined with moisture stimulate sprouting. Properly stored garlic should last until the next crop is harvested the following

## JOYCE

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You know, sometimes we hide things in our heart that are hard to face or deal with. And when we don't deal with them, they cause problems in our relationships and steal the joy from our daily lives. But God wants us to invite Him—the Spirit of Truth—into our hearts to deal with us...to reveal the truth so we can be set free.

Psalm 51:6 says, "Behold, You desire truth in the inner being; make me therefore to know wisdom in my inmost heart" (AMP). And Psalm 26:2 says, "Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; test my heart and my mind."

I want to encourage you not to settle for anything less than the best life Christ has for you.

If you're ready to do that, then pray this with me: "Lord, in Jesus' name, I pray that You would examine me, prove me and test me, so that Your Spirit can lead me into all truth." Now get ready, because God wants to reveal Truth to you and make you everything He's created you to be!

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She has authored 100 books, including *Battlefield of the Mind* and *Get Your Hopes Up!* (Hachette). She hosts the *Enjoying Everyday Life* radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit [www.joycemeyer.org](http://www.joycemeyer.org).


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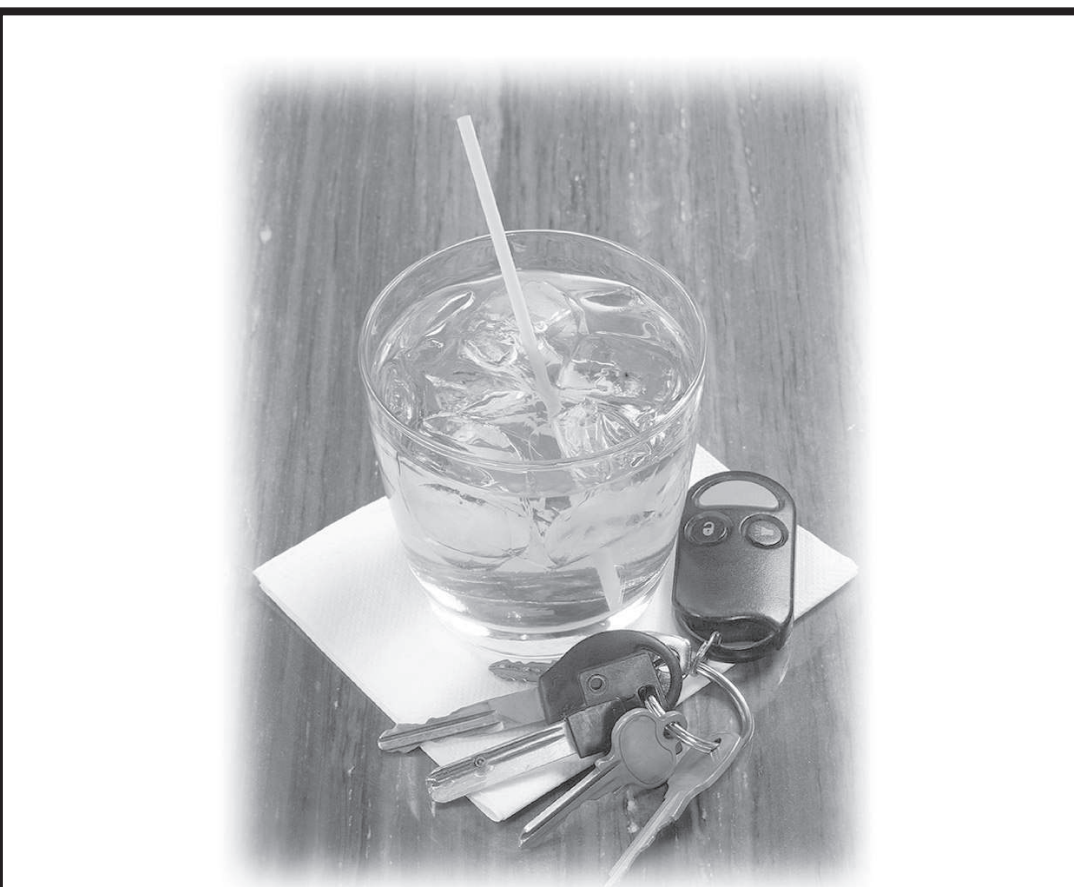
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... this is a bad combination.

Labor Day is a well-deserved holiday for everyone. And like most holidays, it's a day to relax and celebrate with family and friends. These sponsors would like to remind you that if you celebrate this weekend, please do so responsibly. That means not drinking and driving, using a designated driver, or best of all, being one for those you care about. With your help, everyone can have an enjoyable Labor Day weekend.

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