

# Concerning Creswell

News and notes from our neighbor to the north

## Tree farm hosts a collection of carvers

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The sounds and smells of a chorus of chainsaws filled the air at Twin Timbers Tree Farm just south of Creswell this weekend, and if owner Tom Salamun has his way, it's an atmosphere that will become common on his farm this time of year.

"We're trying something new," Salamun said. "We've added pumpkins, and we hope this can be the first year of an annual event."

A display featuring the farm's new pumpkins draws the eye upon approach to the farm on Highway 99, and on Friday and Saturday, about a dozen chainsaw carvers came to Twin Timbers to show off their handiwork in progress in an event that also featured pumpkin carving demonstrations. An auction of carvings created at the farm was held late Saturday afternoon.

The gathering took place at

the end of the season that typically features chainsaw carving demonstrations, according to Steve Backus, the leader of the Cascade Chainsaw Sculptors Guild. And according to Backus, the Twin Timbers show could be a highlight of the season for years to come.

"You could easily have 30 or 40 carvers here," he said. "There's great access to I-5 and not a lot of these types of events from Portland to San Francisco. It has all the potential to be a big event."

Backus, who's been carving with a chainsaw for decades and is part of a family that loves the art form, said the practice seems to appeal to a specific lifestyle.

"We're kind of the 'biker Vikings' of the art world," he said. "People say, 'they're artists, but man are they noisy!'"

While using a chainsaw to make often spectacularly detailed carvings is an outgrowth of the timber industry, Backus said the stereotype of ex-log-



photo by Jon Stinnett

One of Steve Backus' "Twelfth Man" Seahawks carvings shows its spirit while Backus coaxes an eagle into shape.

gers who also carve isn't always accurate.

"We've got a ton of college degrees in this profession," he said, adding that it's a profession that has gained a following in Japan and Russia in addition to the United States. Backus, who is from the Seattle area, said he

does brisk business in that city selling his "Twelfth Man" Seahawks carvings, though there are two animals that are the most sought-after for buyers of wood carvings.

"Bears and eagles feed the kids and pay the power bill," he said with a chuckle.

## Creswell's Cobalt Bldg. hosts haunt

A new haunted attraction got its start recently at Creswell's Cobalt Building, located at 364 Cobalt Lane. Charity Haunts presents the 9000-square foot "Tomb of Anubis" and "Crypts of Horror" haunted house from 7:30-11 p.m. each night this week and from 7:30-midnight on Saturday (Halloween.)

## LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON  
For the Sentinel

Tonight, Wednesday, Oct. 28, the Siuslaw Watershed Council will hold its general meeting from 6:30-8 p.m. at Lorane Grange, and the meeting is open to the public.

It is time for Lorane Trunk and Treat! The fun starts this Saturday, Oct. 31 at 5 p.m. in the Rebekah Lodge and church parking lot. Participants are asked to decorate their car trunks or pickup beds and bring treats for the kids. There will be hot spiced apple cider and soup for all. Parents — this is a safe stop for children.

On Sunday, Nov. 1, Daylight Savings Time ends as we fall back. Be sure to change your clocks!

Those attending the spaghetti dinner and bingo evening at Lorane Grange last Friday had a great time. Their next dinner and bingo is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 20 at 5:30 p.m.

Lorane Grange meets on Nov. 5 to plan for the holidays.

Any middle school boy planning to play basketball must come to the office to sign up; the first practice is Nov. 2. Winter sports sign-up night at Crow Middle/High School is Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m. Check with the school for further information.

For all juniors and seniors, there will be a presentation from Gary Campbell of ASPIRE, also on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m. He will review scholarship information. This is very important for all those planning on attending college or a trade school. Senior students, the deadline for senior pictures is Jan. 8.

All Loranians are asked to be aware of cars driving too slowly past their houses. It is also the time of year to think of others. Very soon, boxes will go up in all the organizations to gather non-perishable canned goods and other necessities for the Christmas food baskets. Those who know of any family in need are asked to contact Sandi Maxwell or Jim Baylor.

# \$500 SHOPPING SPREE

at any of the following businesses.

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## Contest Runs October 7 - October 28

Winner will be announced in the November 4 Cottage Grove Sentinel

To enter cut out the entry form and drop them off at the businesses for the drawing.

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**One Entry per family per business per week. Must be 18 years old to play.**

**No purchase necessary. No copies of the entry form will be accepted.**

**Cottage Grove Sentinel Employees and their families are not eligible to enter.**