

Habitat for Humanity changes Cottage Grove, Springfield unite



PHOTO BY GREG LEE

Habitat for Humanity in Cottage Grove will be merging with the Springfield operation. Above, the latest house groundbreaking for the Parsons earlier this year.

In a statement released by the executive directors of the Springfield/Eugene and Cottage Grove Area Habitat for Humanity, the organizations announced they would be merging.

"We have been looking at ways to collaborate with the Springfield/Eugene Habitat for Humanity affiliate to better meet the growing need for affordable homeownership and home repair op-

portunities in Lane County," the release read.

Habitat for Humanity currently serves Cottage Grove with its latest project, a home for the Parsons family breaking ground earlier this year. It marked the 13th home in the area.

"The cost of rent is increasing faster than wages, housing stock is scarce and homeownership is increasingly out of reach for local families," the release read. "We believe that by combining our administrative costs and deploying our resources more effectively to where they are needed, we will provide safe, decent, affordable homes for more families and complete more repair projects on a local level."

According to Habitat for Humanity, the Cottage Grove office will remain open and Linda Oxley will remain on site as office manager, coordinating local volunteer scheduling, local construction and repair project support as well as donor development, fundraising and event planning.

The merger is planned for completion by the end of 2017 with corporate offices headquartered in Eugene.

VFW celebrates teachers



PHOTO BY CAROLIN PETTIT

VFW Commander Dennis Twite awards Amy Swearingin the teacher of the year award on Nov. 21. The award recognizes exceptional teachers for their outstanding commitment to teaching Americanism and patriotism to their students.

Schedule for city Christmas celebration Dec. 2

7 a.m.-11 a.m. Breakfast with Santa. South Lane County Fire Station will provide a pancake breakfast, selfies with Santa, collection for Toys for Tots and fire engine tours.

8:30 a.m. Jingle Bell Run/Walk. Free for kids 12 and under, registration begins at 8:30, race starts at 9 a.m. Check-in at the high school track. Register online at runcgrun.com or in person at Coast Fork Feed and Scarpelli's.

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Bohemia Gold Mining Museum will be open for visitors to see equipment used for mining and experience panning for gold.

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Scavenger Hunt. Find items at participating businesses and have the store owner or clerk initial that you've found the item. Submit your form to the Main St. coordinator in city hall by 8 p.m. to be entered into the drawing. Winners notified Dec. 5.

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Holiday Bazaar. Dr. Snapp's House at 360 S. River Rd. will host a holiday bazaar.

2 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Holiday Market. The South Valley Holiday Market will have local vendors with food and craft items.

5 p.m. Christmas Tree lighting in All-America Park at the corner of 7th St. and Main St.

5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Christmas block party in Shampoo Dolls Salon parking lot with music, soup, Christmas goodies, fire pits and Christmas trees

5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Visit Santa at city hall. Free candy canes, cider, cookies and pictures with Santa featuring Brad, the "World's Largest Elf."

Misc. events

Christmas lights at the Village Green through Dec. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., charges apply.

Santa visit at Cascade Home Center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 2 with a variety of specials throughout the day.

Annual Rotary Children's Christmas Party Thursday, Dec. 7th, 6pm Bohemia Elementary School Games • Prizes • Refreshments • Santa COLORING CONTEST



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••• NOTE: Final Saturday 12/23 is a matinee at 2:30 pm •••

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