

HOMELESS from A1

city constructing a homeless camp at Trailhead Park.

"They're sadly mistaken of what's going on," City Manager Richard Meyers said of the rumors. "Nothing is set up and we're pursuing options on how we're going to address the court ruling. We have to do something otherwise they can set up camp and there's nothing we can do about it."

The ruling was handed down on Sept. 4 after two individuals in Idaho challenged existing city ordinances that prohibited sleeping overnight in city parks. Their argument noted that, with nowhere else

cuit would make it illegal for the local police department to issue a citation to individuals sleeping in the park after 10 p.m. because the city

"The benefit is that we keep them moving. They're not setting up camp with extra propane tanks and stuff, it's staying clean and if it doesn't then we can cite them for littering."

—Richard Meyers, City Manager

long as they're doing that, it's fine." The same premise, Mey-

ers, said, would work for any solution the city institutes. People could sleep in the parks until they closed and would

then have to move to a location set up by the city — taking their tents and other belongings with them. "The benefit is that

we keep them moving," Meyers said. "They're not setting up camp with extra propane tanks and stuff, it's staying clean and if it doesn't then we can cite them for litter-

The yet-to-be-determined location would not rise to the level of camps in Eugene. According to Meyers, it wouldn't even qualify as a

ing."

"We want it in a location where we won't be creating easy cover for nefarious activities," he said. "We want it somewhere we can watch them and see what's going on because, sorry - the court doesn't say you get to go do this and do whatever you want."

No decision has been made about what a location would look like or where it would be situated. According to Meyers, the city planned to meet with several community stakeholders to discuss the available options.

"That's the key," he said. "We want to get them to another place and then in that place, that's where we're meeting with other groups saying, 'Ok, who can help us with this and as you're helping can we find those other services they



North Pole to cook you breakfast and he wants to know what is on your Christmas List!

Saturday **December 1** 7AM - 11AM

at South Lane Fire & Rescue 233 Harrison Avenue **Cottage Grove**

We will be taking donations of unwrapped new toys for "Toys for Tots"

to go, receiving a citation from the city was cruel and unusual punishment — a constitutional violation. According to the ruling, citations can still be distributed if the city has an alternative location for individuals to sleep, such as a shelter.

Cottage Grove does not have a shelter within city limits. Under the new court ruling, individuals are permitted to sleep on public property, despite existing city ordinances that set rules to the contrary.

"We're trying to protect our parks," Meyers said. Currently, parks within the city close at 10 p.m. and all residents are barred from entering them. However, the ruling from the Ninth Cirlacks an alternative location for the individual to go.

And while there is no plan to set up a homeless camp at Trailhead Park, according to Meyers, the city is looking at its options and actively working on an alternative. "It's kind of how we're al-

ready doing it with the RVs,"

he said. "We have about eight RV homeless people, they're not homeless because their homes are on wheels but they're parking in our lots at the parks or streets. They can park there until the park closes at 10 and then they have to go somewhere. So, what's happening is around 9:30 they move out onto the street and stay there for a day, move to a park or move to another location and as



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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

South Lane County Fire Station 233 Harrison Ave 7:00-11:00am

JINGLE BELL RUN/WALK

CGHS Track FREE for kids 12 and under. www.runcgrun.com 7:30am

Registration & Packet Pick-up

BAZAAR BABES HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Shady Oaks - 77380 Hwy 99 10:00am-3:00pm

DR. SNAPP'S HOUSE HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Victorian Christmas Bazaar 360 S. River Road 10:00am-8:00pm

Community Scavenger Hunt Submission Box - All America Square

SUBMISSIONS DUE BY 7:00PM







5:00pm BLOCK PARTY, HAYRIDES & CAROLING provided by CG Faith Center Shampoo Dolls Salon Parking

SOUTH VALLEY

FARMERS HOLIDAY MARKET

Armory, 628 E. Washington

1:00-4:00pm

TREE LIGHTING

CEREMONY

All America Square

7th & Main Street

VISIT WITH SANTA City Hall - 400. Main St. 5:30-8:00pm

5:30-8:00pm

THE COTTAGE GROVE MUSEUM STAINED GLASS DISPLAY 142 H St. 6:00-8:00pm



The People's Power



