

The Season of Giving

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year to Give Back!



5 FUN WAYS to Give Back This Season

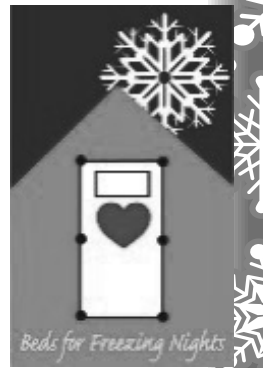
- 1. Alleviate loneliness.** Contact a nursing home, hospital or local community center about visiting or organizing a craft activity, game or entertainment.
- 2. Connect with a pet.** Many pet rescues and shelters rely on volunteers to help walk dogs, socialize them, keep habitats clean and provide fosters homes – and furever homes, of course!
- 3. Help end hunger.** Volunteer,

- donate or collect donations for a local food bank, or help out at a local soup kitchen.
- 4. Organize a fundraiser.** Host a holiday activity or event (ugly sweater party, Santa fun run, bake sale, pet photos with Santa) to raise money for the nonprofit of your choice.
- 5. Pack a "gift bag."** Fill a new or gently used purse or backpack with items to help someone who is home-

less, or for a child in need. Make this a group activity by hosting a packing party at your home, asking each participant to bring a bag and items to share.



Since 2009, the non-profit **BEDS FOR FREEZING NIGHTS** has provided a warming center in cottage grove for those who wish to come inside on nights when the temperature averages 29 degrees farenheit or below and we have enough volunteers for the shifts.



When the warming center is activated between november 15th and march 31st at Our Lady of Perpetual Help or First Presbyterian Church, volunteers staff the center to provide compassionate care throughout the night.

Last season **BEDS FOR FREEZING NIGHTS** activated 11 nights and served 75 individuals and a few pets.

This holiday season, please help us continue to provide "warm hearts, warm beds on freezing nights" by donating online at freezingnights.com or call (541) 658-9254. You will be blessed to be a blessing!

"WARM HEARTS, WARM BEDS ON FREEZING NIGHTS"

Follow Charity Navigator's Tips to Make Donations Count

- 1. Be proactive in your giving.** Consider the causes that are important to you, and figure out the specific impact you would like to make, so you can create a list of charities that match your priorities.
- 2. Do your research.** Confirm the charity is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) public charity, examine the organization's finances, and make sure the charity is accountable and transparent.
- 3. Discuss results and impact.** Asking about accomplishments, goals and challenges for insight into the organization's current standing and future direction will help ensure meaningful and long-lasting impact.
- 4. Consider your method of giving.** Unrestricted donations to a charity you trust give them the flexibility to meet changing demands for services. Also, creating a budget, understanding the tax benefits of giving, and spacing out gifts during the year may help expand your ability to give.
- 5. Follow your investment.** Follow up within a year to see how your donation is being spent. This will help you make an informed decision about continuing to support a charity's work or selecting a new one.

Source: 5 Steps to Informed Giving, charitynavigator.org
Charity Navigator was founded in 2001 to assist donors by using an unbiased, objective, numbers-based rating system to assess over 9,000 charities. For more information, go to charitynavigator.org.



Here are a week's worth of suggestions to get you started from Random Acts of Kindness:

1. Send an uplifting text message to someone you know.
2. Let a fellow motorist merge into traffic with a wave and a smile.
3. Include intentional moments of kindness, laughter and delight in your daily routine.
4. Go slightly outside of your comfort zone each day to make someone smile.
5. Give a sincere compliment to a coworker or friend.
6. Reach out to a friend or family member with whom you haven't spoken in a while.
7. Treat somebody to a cup of coffee.

Source: 7 Ways to Start Making Kindness the Norm in Your Daily Life, randomactsofkindness.org



Our deepest thanks to the festivalgoers, businesses, organizations, sponsors, vendors, performers and volunteers for the role you played in the tremendous success of our 60th "Diamond Jubilee" Anniversary!

Highlights of this year's celebration...

We estimate 12,000+ people participated in the three-day celebration that featured the most cultural offerings we've organized one celebration since BMD's "Golden Era" in the 1960s. We brought back some events from past celebrations this year: Art Show, Bingo, Airy Leg Contest, Native American Storytelling, and the Ugly Dog Contest. We gathered all of Cottage Grove's mayors to re-introduce the once popular Community Spirit Award among local businesses. These resurrected events were well-received by those who participated in them.



From L to R: Event Coordinator Cindy Slaymaker, Bohemia City Marshal Bob Ehler, Mayor Jim Gilroy, Mayor Jeff Gowing, Mayor Hal McCall, Mayor Darrel Williams, Mayor Gary Williams, Mayor Tom Munroe & Festival Coordinator

Parades: For the first time, our Ladies-Only Bloomers Parade had marshals: Liz & Reilly of Mix 94 FM and a title sponsor: Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors. We had 100+ participants in the Kiddie Parade. Former Mayor Jim Gilroy, who was this year's Grand Marshal, led the 61 entries in Saturday's Grand Miners Parade. The legendary Lemati Gang reunited and won the parade's People's Voice Award. The rumors flying around Bohemia City indicate they had such a blast and were so blown away by their many fans that they plan to be back next year!



Production Team: We had a 35-person production team and 100 volunteer who worked long and hard to ensure the success of our 60th Anniversary. We spent many hours in "the war room" as we organized the event. In a unprecedented achievement, we sold 900 advance Carnival discount bracelet coupons. We had 126 sponsors this year that provided funding or in-kind service to cover our production expenses, which blessed us with a larger cash carryover for next year. **We are looking for new board members! Please consider joining our BMD 2020 Planning Team for the rewarding satisfaction of using your talents & love for our community's festival to help us create thousands of smiles and lifelong memories for three days next summer, July 16-18, 2020!** Interested? Call Cindy at 541-942-5064 for more information.

Looking to the future...

Stage Replacement Capital Campaign donation request... We're submitting two statewide grants next year to raise \$14,500 needed to replace the aging 30+-year-old stage we borrow from the City of Cottage Grove. We've vested \$1,000 of our cash carryover and have budgeted \$1000 more for 2020 to create a Stage Replacement Fund. We invite you to match our contribution with a donation of any amount, which demonstrates strong local support and strengthens our application in the highly competitive grant selection processes. The Bohemia Heritage Association (BHA) 501c3 organization created to receive grant money for BMD. **To donate please make your check payable to BHA, indicate it is for the Stage Replacement Fund, and mail it to P.O. Box 1297, Cottage Grove, OR 97424. All funds will be held in a dedicated fund until the full amount is raised.**