



Model hobby club seeks new members (A6)

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## A White Christmas ín The Grove

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

Snow blanketed the region jus

reporting anywhere from a few inches to a foot of snow in Cottage Grove and the surrounding areas.

Kenneth Roberts (right)

Photos by Damien Sherwood (center),

Kendrick Murphy (left) and

able to make it to work. Some residents in the Dorena and London areas reported losing electricity this week as well, though no prolonged outages have been public to always treat downed powreported as of *The Sentinel's* press er lines as live and dangerous. deadline on Tuesday (Dec. 28).

Lane County families surprised

with holiday gift cards

Electricity company Pacific Power has stated it is aware of scattered outages around the state caused by the winter storms and reminds the

Bulldog girls BB bowl over Toledo **B1** 

in time to frost the southern Willamette Valley in a "White Christmas" last weekend, with residents

Roads began accumulating snow on Christmas Day and by Monday several area businesses had temporarily closed due to employees un-

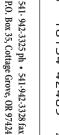
See GROVE A7

## RECORDS **Obituaries** Official releases A2

 LORANE NEWS A5

 CLASSIFIEDS Listings and public notices B5-B6







## Nonprofit looks to home sharing for housing solution

**By Damien Sherwood** DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

While Oregon faces a housing shortage ranked among the worst in the nation, nonprofit Home Share Oregon is trying to empower homeowners to be part of the solution.

Judy Smith, Lane County area representative for the nonprofit, is working to get the word out about the service, which pairs homeowners with potential tenants.

"It's all about compatibility," she said. "What we're hoping to do is to facilitate home sharing with compatible, stable, safe people."

Home Share Oregon has been around for just over two years, originally under the umbrella of Harbor of Hope, a Portland-based nonprofit which seeks to address the diverse needs of Portland area's homeless population.

See HOUSING A3



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNITED WAY

Gift cards good for \$50 were distributed to families throughout the county last week, many of which made their way into Cottage Grove and the surrounding communities.

**By DAMIEN SHERWOOD** DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

For the second year in a row, many Lane County families received a small, unexpected gift in time for the holidays.

In a collaboration between the Lane Community Health Council and United Way of Lane County, 1,700 families across Lane County received \$50 gift cards for their holiday celebrations and day-to-day needs.

"We are excited to partner with United Way again to relieve a little bit of pressure during this busy time of year for families throughout Lane County," said Tony Scurto, community impact committee chair for the Lane Community Health Council.

See GIFT A8



