

Infusing holiday charm into downtown

The Columbia Press

Spruce Up Warrenton is taking to the streets to put some holly jolly frosting on what could be a sad season for those in isolation or otherwise dealing with the pandemic.

“If all this comes together, we’ll be able to be seen from space,” said Brenda Hoxsey, chair of the non-profit group that’s dedicated to improving downtown Warrenton.

Last weekend, volunteers included Tommy and Jeanne Smith, Ken Davis, Mike Moha, Brenda and Norm Hoxsey, and Pacific Power employees.

This weekend, the group plans to decorate light poles, add lights to downtown businesses, install decorations at the Lighthouse Park and put something special in the vacant lot across from City Hall.

How to help

Contact the group through its Facebook page, send a message to spruceupwarrenton@gmail.com, or send a check to Spruce Up Warrenton, PO Box 97, Warrenton OR 97146.



Above: Volunteers use bucket trucks to put up the Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays banners near the four-way stop.

Right: Mike Moha carries letters that will be hung overhead.

Photos by Jeanne Smith and courtesy Spruce Up Warrenton



County, seafood processor reach virus accord

The Columbia Press

A standoff between Clatsop County and Pacific Seafood over handling of COVID-19 cases has been settled with an agreement reached Monday between the two.

The agreement details how the two will work together to protect the health and safety of company employees and the rest of the community during the pandemic.

Last month, the state stepped in to facilitate an hourlong virtual town hall meeting for elected officials and the public meant to shed light on how the plant was dealing with pandemic requirements.

Nearly 100 employees at the Warrenton fish-processing plant tested positive in September after many attended an off-premises Labor Day gathering.

In May, an outbreak at the Warrenton plant was linked to 15 cases and another worker there tested positive in June. Also that month, Pacific Seafood had one of the largest workplace outbreaks in the state with 187 cases

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UO chemist’s research getting to bottom of top cup of coffee

BY JIM BARLOW

University of Oregon

The future of good espresso will be brewed with the help of University of Oregon chemist Christopher Hendon, known widely as Dr. Coffee.

The Specialty Coffee Association, after months of grinding through proposals from universities around the world, announced that the UO will be a research partner for a four-year espresso ex-

traction research project.

“Toward a Deeper Understanding of Espresso Extraction” was announced Nov. 12. The project will spark the development of formal guidelines on processing parameters and an espresso-brewing control chart.

Hendon’s main collaborators are Oregon State University professors Michael Qian, Elizabeth Tomasino and Jung Kwon, and Jamie Foster of the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom.

“This is a landmark moment for both coffee and education, as we are going to try and tackle the fundamental challenge of creating a predictive tool to assess espresso quality,” said Hendon, an assistant professor and computational chemist in the UO’s Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

“In addition to the technological advances in the coffee industry, this funding will ultimately be used to develop a

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Christopher Hendon