

Buy a tree, sell a tree to help kids

Western Washington County Boys And Girls Club and Murphy's Furniture are looking for volunteers to work the annual Christmas tree lot benefiting the Boys and Girls club. Douglas, Grand and Noble Firs will be sold, starting at \$20. All of the proceeds will go to the Inukai Family Boys and Girls Club in Hillsboro, which serves hundreds of western Washington County youth, ages 6 thru 18.

The Christmas tree lot will be open for three weeks, 7 days a week beginning the weekend after Thanksgiving, from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., in the parking lot of Murphy's furniture on TV Hwy. in Cornelius.

Volunteers are needed to work 3-hour shifts Friday thru Sunday. Murphy Furniture employees staff the lot during the rest of the open hours. Youth groups, civic clubs, key clubs, families and individuals are encouraged to volunteer. Call Murphy's Furniture at 503-640-1124 or email Murphy.Furniture@verizon.net. Murphy's asks everyone who can to please help support this very good cause. Every year over 400 trees are sold and this year's goal is to sell even more! Even if you can only work one shift your participation will make a difference! If you can't work a shift, buy a tree!

Council approves lighting contest

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System Plan (TSP).

- The Oak Way overlay project may not be completed until early Spring, due to inclement weather. The project is progressing well, however, and has been expanded to include refurbishment of the driveway and curbing at the rear entrance to the Oak Way Shopping Center. It now meets ADA specifications and has been reinforced to handle heavier truck traffic.

- The PGE franchise negotiation is in hiatus while PGE finishes working with the cities of Tualatin and Beaverton. In anticipation of the expiration of Bank's current franchise agreement with PGE, an extension of

services document is being drafted; it will be presented to council for approval at the December 8 meeting.

- The urban and rural reserves process at Metro is proceeding well despite controversy. The Banks Urban Reserves process (that the council has designated in a potential candidate study area) will be accomplished when the Banks UGB expansion process is complete.

- The City of Banks will soon be certified by Washington County as a Recycle at Work business. It is anticipated that the city will receive the award at the December 3 meeting of the Banks Chamber of Commerce.

- The Energy Trust of Oregon energy audit of city buildings has been received and will be forwarded to council after it has been reviewed.

- Four of the seven "Entering Banks" signs have been installed by ODOT on Highway 47 and Highway 6. An application is pending with the county to install the remaining three signs on Banks, Sellers, and

Cedar Canyon roads.

- City staff is continuing work on the H1N1 Flu Pandemic Operating Plan. Policies have been determined, but the plan itself has not been documented. Hough said that if anyone wants more information on the flu, he recommends reading the "good article from *The Independent*."

Council approved the joint

City/Chamber lighting decoration contest project, and authorized a donation of \$300 to the Banks Chamber to supplement expanded prize categories.

Council President Pete Edison was appointed to the Internal Audit Subcommittee.

The next city council meeting will be held on December 8, at 7:30 p.m.

Volunteer and help bring the holidays to Banks

From page 13

Church, they decided to create this community outreach in Banks. While this meal started at BCUMC, other area churches and individuals also participate. The unique thing about the event is that it is meant for anyone who wants to have Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings.

People are invited to help in the planning and preparations, and assistance has been received from individuals attending other area churches. Many people bring their favorite Thanksgiving dish to share. Some special dietary items are also offered because some people are lactose intolerant and others have diabetes.

This special meal is a blessing for all who participate. Everyone is welcome; no one is turned away. Last year over 40 people were served.

This year you are invited to the Fourth Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner. The meal will be served from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at the Banks Community United Methodist Church, 151 Depot St.

If you would like to be involved but cannot help on November 26, Thanksgiving Day, there are many, many ways to participate:

1. Sign up to bring something, prepare it in advance and drop it by the Banks UMC during the week prior to the event, or bring it on the day of the event between 10 a.m. and 12

noon.

2. Sign up to buy the ingredients for a dish and bring them to the church by Wednesday, November 25.

3. Make a monetary donation toward the purchase of food for the event by writing a check to BCUMC with Thanksgiving Day Dinner in the memo line, and these funds will be used 100% toward the costs associated with this meal.

If you are available to help on Thanksgiving Day, you can sign up for a 10 a.m. slot to help with set up and decorations, a 12 noon slot to help with serving the meal and to sit and eat with folks who attend, or sign up for a 2 p.m. slot to help with clean up. Children are welcome to join you in coming to eat or to help; we just ask that they be invited to work with you as you help.

In all this, we promise that you will go away from this day having had the most memorable Thanksgiving Day ever, as you meet new people, share stories and delight in a time of sharing love with those who otherwise would have been alone on a special day.

If you need more information contact Trisch Wentz at tomtenbouv@earthlink.net or at 503-324-3610.

For the past 20+ years the BCUMC Family, other churches, organizations, businesses and families in the Banks community have reached out to less fortunate families in the

Banks School District, by providing a "Christmas Box" with all the ingredients for a nice Christmas dinner, extra food to last about a week and gifts for each member of the family. In 2008, 236 people received "Christmas Boxes". Banks Community United Methodist Church provided turkeys for all of the families, and donated canned food. A local quilt maker, Carol Randle, spends her free time making quilts that she donates for the "Christmas Boxes" each year. Curves at Banks will again put up a "Giving Tree" to provide gifts for the families, and if you join Curves at Banks on November 19 or 20, Curves will waive the \$99 service fee for those who bring in a turkey for the Sunrise Shelter Food Bank. Banks Trail Café will also have a "Giving Tree" this year.

If you would like to sponsor a family, forms are available at Banks Elementary School and the Banks Library. Those who could use a helping hand this holiday season, will find applications for a "Christmas Box" at the same locations. Please return the completed forms by December 5 to the P.O. Box indicated on the application.

As planning starts for this year's "Christmas Box" program please be thinking about ways you can participate. You could purchase a turkey, buy some canned goods, purchase a gift, donate some money to buy a devotional to put in the box, help with packing and wrapping, and of course pray for the families about to receive our love.

The boxes will be packed on Monday, December 21st at the church. Please consider helping with this rewarding task.

If you have questions or would like to participate, call Kathy Douglas at 503-324-5531 or Leslee Sipp at 503-324-6934.



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