

Help Murphy's help Boys & Girls by selling Christmas trees

Murphy's Furniture is looking for volunteers to work the annual Christmas tree lot benefiting the Boys and Girls club. All shift times are available. Murphy's Furniture staffs the lot Monday – Thursday. Looking for volunteers for Friday through Sunday. Shifts are from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The lot will be open seven days a week, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the parking lot of Murphy's furniture in Cornelius on TV hwy. Tree sales will run November 26 through December 12. Douglas, Grand and

Noble Firs will start at \$20. Youth groups, Civic Clubs, Key Clubs, families and individuals – We need you all! Call Murphy's Furniture at (503) 640-1124 or Email us at info@murphysfurniture.net

All – 100 percent – of the proceeds go to the Inukai Family Boys and Girls Club, which serve hundreds of western Washington County youth, ages 6 thru 18. Last year over 300 trees were sold and it would be great to do even more this year! Even if you can only work one shift, your participation will make a difference!

Tips given to protect property in winter

If the last two years are any indication of what is in store for the upcoming season, this winter will be a serious threat to homes and businesses, according to the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS).

During both 2010 and 2011, the U.S. received near record amounts of snowfall, including 2011's Groundhog Day Blizzard, which caused \$1.1 billion in insured losses and more than \$2 billion in total losses, according to the National Climatic Data Center.

"Winter weather can inflict substantial damage to your home or business," said Julie Rochman, president & CEO of IBHS. "Preparing now, while cooler weather setting in reminds us that winter is coming, but before freezing temperatures arrive, will help you avoid

costly losses."

IBHS' Severe Winter Weather page on www.DisasterSafety.org provides guidance on how to protect your home or business against roof collapse and other winter weather-related perils.

Ice Dams – An ice dam is an accumulation of ice at the lower edge of a sloped roof, usually at the gutter. When interior heat melts the snow on the roof, the water will run down and refreeze at the roof's edge, where temperatures are much cooler. The ice builds up and blocks water from draining off of the roof, forcing the water under the roof covering and into the attic or down the inside walls of the house. Take the following steps to decrease the likelihood that ice dams will form:

- Keep the attic well-ventilated. The colder the attic, the less melting and refreezing on the roof.

- Keep the attic floor well-insulated to minimize the amount of heat rising through the attic from within the house.

- As an extra precaution against roof leaks in case ice dams do form, when re-roofing install an ice and water barrier under your roof covering that extends from the lowest edges of all roof surfaces to a point at least 24 inches inside the exterior wall line of the building.

Frozen Pipes – Frozen water in pipes can cause water pressure buildup between the

ice blockage and the closed faucet at the end of a pipe, which leads to pipes bursting at their weakest point. Pipes in attics, crawl spaces and outside walls are particularly vulnerable to freezing in extremely cold weather. Frozen pipes can also occur when pipes are near openings in the outside wall of a building, including where television, cable or telephone lines enter the structure. To keep water in pipes from freezing, take the following steps:

- Fit exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping to slow the heat transfer. The more insulation the better.

- Seal cracks and holes in outside walls and foundations near water pipes with caulking.

- Keep cabinet doors open during cold spells to allow warm air to circulate around pipes (particularly in the kitchen and bathroom).

- Keep a slow drip of water flowing through faucets connected to pipes that run through an unheated or unprotected space.

- Drain the water system, especially if your building will be unattended during cold periods.

Is Your Roof Strong Enough? Building age is a major factor in how much snow a roof can handle. Newer building codes provide much better guidance for estimating snow loads, particularly the increased loads near changes in roof elevations where snow drifts and snow falling from an upper roof can build up on the lower roof near the step. For flat roofs, the step-down area between roof sections is particularly susceptible to snow overload because of the tendency for ice and snow collection, especially during periods of windy weather.

Older roofs can suffer from corrosion of members and connections, which can reduce its ability to resist high snow loads. Buildings with lightweight roofs, such as metal buildings or built-up roofs on bar joists, generally provide less protection from overload than heavy roofs.

Rooftop equipment and roof projections, such as mechanical equipment that is over 2 feet tall, causes snow accumulation due to drift, creating the need for higher snow load con-

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70th Annual Banks Union Point Cemetery Dinner and Bazaar

Saturday, December 3rd

Holiday Bazaar 10 am to 7 pm

Turkey Dinner 12 pm to 7 pm

Adults \$12 Seniors (65) \$10

Children (5-12) \$8 4 & under free

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