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The Season of Gratitude

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VIEW ONLINE



December 15, 2017

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Last Saturday I spent several hours sorting cans of beans and jars of tomato sauce. It was the last drive of the year for <u>Ashland Food Project</u>, and those marvelous green bags produced over 30,000 pounds of beautiful, nutritious food for <u>Ashland Emergency</u> Food Bank.

It was a morning of deep gratitude and reflection, and a joyous beginning to my holiday season. Watching empty shelves fill to capacity cannot help but make your heart sing.

It was also a reminder of the power of community. The world we live in right now often seems intent on defining us by our differences, sowing fear and building barriers. But here in Ashland, and in every community across the state, folks are doing the best they can to take care of one another. They staff homeless shelters, drive field trips, tutor 3rd graders, repair trails, and tend frail elders. Every day, and over and over again, they step up to assist a neighbor, a friend, a stranger in need.

As 2017 sneaks to a close, I'm filled with appreciation for the kindness and support you've extended to me this past year. You've shared your knowledge, your perspective, and sometimes your criticism. I've had the opportunity to learn from you, and that has been a great gift.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday.



State Representative
Oregon House District 5 - Southern Jackson County

P.S. And because we know the holiday season only lasts for so long, we are already at work planning town halls for January, where we'll have a chance to discuss the issues that will be front and center when the legislature convenes in early February. Stay tuned for more details.



Need Help Finding Help?

Dial 2-1-1!

Oregon provides a wide range of services to help citizens with everything from foreclosure to health care, but sometimes it's hard to find what you need. <u>211info</u> is the resource center for anything from SNAP (food stamps) to mortgage counseling. The center is here to connect you to the resources you need! Please click <u>here</u> to find the Community Resource Directory.

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Call ADRC (Aging and Disabilities Resource Connection)

<u>The ADRC</u> is a welcoming place for individuals, concerned families or friends, or professionals working with issues related to aging or disabilities to come for information tailored to their situation. The ADRC provides information and assistance on a broad range of programs and services, including long term care options. You can reach <u>ADRC of Rogue Valley</u> at 541-618-7572.

Capitol Phone: 503-986-1405

District Phone: 541-282-4516

Capitol Address: 900 Court St. NE, H-375, Salem, Oregon 97301

Email: Rep.PamMarsh@oregonlegislature.gov
Website: http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/marsh



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