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**For Immediate Release!**

## **Southern Oregon Historical Society's Museum Comes One Step Closer!**

**Medford, OR** – The Southern Oregon Historical Society is one step closer to a new museum with the February 1<sup>st</sup> opening of rotating exhibits in its History Center lobby and adjacent areas and a 24-hour window video platform displaying items from 100+ years of films and videos in its collection!

From 12n to 4pm every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday beginning February 1<sup>st</sup>, SOHS will be opening its downtown Medford History Center foyer for guests to explore Southern Oregon's rich regional history through exhibits from the Society's 1 million+ artifact collection and that of the Oregon Historical Society. Display windows will also feature exhibits and showcase daily round-the-clock films and videos that capture both the important events and the everyday life of the past century. The History Center is located at 106 N. Central in the historic J.C. Penney building, soon to become a much needed "streamline moderne" event center serving the Rogue Valley community.

Initial History Center lobby displays showcase Southern Oregon State Parks and Crater Lake. A special Oregon Historical Society traveling exhibit will highlight *A Century of Wonder: 100 Years of Oregon State Parks*. Interpretive panels featuring photographs by Peter Marbach document the beauty and geographic diversity that can be found throughout Oregon's natural spaces. An additional lobby exhibit focuses on "Fishing in Oregon State Parks" with a special "Crater Lake in Wintertime" exhibit in SOHS's adjacent research library. A "New in the Collections" exhibit will display recently acquired paintings by Bess Wire.

Lobby exhibits will change quarterly; library exhibits and "New in the Collection" exhibits will create a staggered rotation, providing a new display every month. They will be augmented by on-line monthly items "From the Collection" featured in SOHS's e-newsletter and periodic website exhibits.

Look forward to upcoming lobby displays highlighting the history of Southern Oregon wineries, school sports memorabilia, and Native American artifacts. Library exhibits include Peter Britt's role as agriculturist, horticulturist, and vintner; musical instruments; and Native American basketry. Visitors can see the General Electric Full-Body X-Ray machine used on Ginger Rogers' cow in "New in the Collection" exhibits along with objects from the old Woolworth's store. A website exhibit will focus on "Delicious Histories" sharing "Food and Culture in Southern Oregon." The SOHS monthly e-newsletter will highlight everything from the Mt. Ashland's Ski Patrol to a barbershop pole to swimming holes to holiday ornaments.

The Southern Oregon Historical Society invites you to join us in our next step in bringing Southern Oregon history to life and life to our region's history!

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