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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release #: 116 Date: January 19, 2012

The Eagle's Nest Helps You Save!

Weed / COS - The College of the Siskiyous Eagle's Nest Shop answers many questions to why you should shop at your local thrift or resale shop.

Q. Why is resale gaining such popularity?

There are many reasons for the increased popularity of resale. One is the increased awareness by the public of recycling. People would rather consign, sell or donate their unwanted or unneeded items than just add to the waste stream. "Donors and sellers make money by selling 'under-loved' items at thrift shops, without the expense, work, and bother of a tag or garage sale," says Angel Fisher, Shop Manager at the Eagle's Nest.

Eco-aware consumers would also rather purchase recycled items in order to minimize their impact on our limited resources. **Of course, one of the foremost reasons for increased popularity of resale is very simple . . . People LOVE a BARGAIN!** Today's consumer is more economical and would rather buy clothing, accessories and furniture for a third to fourth of the original price, leaving money for other things in life such as vacations, education, investments and hobbies. The public is also keenly aware that resale shopping means more quality for less money.

Q. What's the difference between thrift and resale?

A resale shop is the phrase most often used for stores that buy their merchandise outright from individual owners. A consignment or thrift shop can also be called a resale shop, but **ONLY** a store that actually consigns their inventory can be called a consignment store, and **ONLY** a store run by a *not for profit* organization is considered a thrift shop.

A thrift shop is run by a *not for profit* organization to raise money to fund their charitable causes. These range from the large Salvation Army / Goodwill chains to individual school, church or hospital thrift shops. *Not for profits* can obtain goods through donations or they could operate on a consignment basis—some do both.

Q. What should a consumer look for when shopping resale?

- Look for quality of workmanship and materials. A quality item might cost more at resale than an inferior item does new; but the workmanship, style, and value of any well-made item, from a sofa to a designer outfit, provides more value at resale.
- Know the retail prices of items you are shopping for to appreciate how much money you will save by shopping resale.
- Get to know the staff, sign their mailing list to receive sale notices, customer only premiums, and valuable information sent out in their flyers or newsletters.
- Check all items carefully and know the store's return policies before purchasing.
- Look for the NARTS (National Association of Retail and Thrift Shop) decal when shopping resale. NARTS member stores also display a [Code of Ethics](#) certificate as "Your Assurance of Professionalism."
- Explore a variety of resale shops to find several that will become your favorites. Each NARTS shop is unique, and so is their merchandise.

Q. Does it matter which charity I donate items to?

Most people donate items to one of their favorite charities. We usually like to see the money or items we donate go to a cause which is dear to our hearts.

Q. How do I determine the value of donated items for tax purposes?

The "fair market value" of goods donated to a thrift store is deductible as long as the store is operated by a charity. A deduction is not allowed if the goods are sold on a consignment basis whereby the original owner gets a percentage of the final sales price. Most *not for profit* thrift shops give donors a blank receipt at the time a donation is dropped off. They do not itemize the receipt because they generally cannot process the items until a later date. It is up to you to itemize your donation and determine a value for the goods. Get a copy of [IRS Publication 561](#), "Determining the Value of Donated Property," this information will help you determine the value of your donations and also outlines how to support the deduction on your tax return. The publication states, "If you give used clothing to a resale store, the FMV (Fair Market Value) would be the price that typical buyers actually pay for the clothing. Give items to a qualified charity that has tax-exempt status from the IRS. Check charities out through the alliance's website or through IRS Publication 78, "Cumulative List of Organizations."

What do you finally end up deciding to do with your possessions is up to you and hopefully the Eagle's Nest is the choice you make. Before you get your items ready for resale, contact us at (530) 938-4663. We can give you a good idea of the items we have the most demand for and what type and age of merchandise we accept. "All items need to be in good repair and working condition. It costs a lot of money to discard unusable items," says Fisher. "By donating your gently used items you will help students and local families furnish their living area, dress inexpensively, decorate the homes, and much, much more! All proceeds are used to help fund student scholarships and student support service," she continued.

The Eagle's Nest is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Shop is located at 123 Main Street in Weed. For more information about the Shop or how you can become a Volunteer, or donate items contact Angel Fisher at (530) 938-4663.