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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Silverton Christmas Market Unveils Hand Painted Mural by Local Artist Lori Rodrigues

Forty-foot Mural Pays Homage to Silverton and German Christmas Market History at Oregon Garden Resort

Silverton Christmas Market - Silverton, Ore. -- The Silverton Christmas Market, presented by Power Kia, at the Oregon Garden Resort plans to unveil their new Christmas mural on opening day of the event, Nov 26th! The magical mural highlights both Silverton's history and German Christmas Market traditions. Designed by local muralist Lori Rodrigues, the mural pays homage to Bobbie the Wonder Dog, the Wolf Building and the covered footbridge in town. The Silverton Christmas Market mural also hopes to become part of the Silverton Mural tour.

"I was on my last day of another painting project on a scaffolding south of Albany when I got an email from Silverton Christmas Market's event manager Brooke Dickenson," said muralist Rodrigues. "So, timing and inertia were on my side. As for what invoked my inspiration; I read the request for proposal carefully and suddenly I could see the snowy village reminiscent of Germany!"

"Then, Bobbie the Wonder Dog was added to their concept and it took off in my mind. 20 years ago, I painted the Bobbie mural in town, so the fantasy of Bobbie going somewhere magical came to me. That inspired me to 'blend in' Silverton's downtown with the Wolf Building and the covered footbridge to develop the image that I have depicted on the nearly 40' wall leading to the new Christmas Market. I like the idea of wondering 'Where DID Bobbie go?'"

Along with the new Silverton Christmas Market mural, Rodrigues has also painted the Davenport Arabian Quest, The Old Oak, June Drake, Gallon House Bridge, and Silverton City of the Falls murals. In other nearby towns you'll

find her mural work done at the Vista House at Crown Point on the Gorge, Saint Paul, the Oregon State Fair, LL Stub Stewart State Park and Thompson's Mills State Heritage Site.

The Silverton Christmas Market invites you to see the festive mural in person during the event, November 26, 2021 - January 9, 2022. The light experience begins beside the Oregon Garden Resort, with more than one million lights winding around the main lodge and along the entire length of the Resort property, with the German vendor market and snowless tubing hill in the center, before winding back across the property along intimate trails, draped in lights. The mural will be located along the path to the vendor market. <u>Tickets</u> and <u>overnight packages</u> are on sale now, and local Silverton residents receive a discount with proof of residency.

This event has become a beloved family tradition over the past decade, but it was not always called the Silverton Christmas Market. Last winter, the event was Lights at the Oregon Garden Resort and prior to that, the event was held in The Oregon Garden's Rediscovery Forest as Christmas in the Garden. Since the Resort's parent company, Moonstone Hotel Properties, no longer manages The Oregon Garden, the event now resides on the grounds of the Oregon Garden Resort. This has been a positive change for the event, bringing a longer and more intimate walking path, a one-way path to ease the flow of traffic and varied landscaping to make one million lights even more spectacular. The new Silverton Christmas Market aims to focus on its German heritage and gathers inspiration from authentic German Christmas Markets, with collectible mugs; traditional lebkuchen (gingerbread hearts) and gluhwein (mulled wine); artisan vendors; a booth selling imported handcrafted German nutcrackers, smokers and ornaments; and a light section dedicated to Krampus - the wicked German counterpart to St. Nicholas.

"If you have attended Christmas in the Garden in the past and loved it, you are going to be mesmerized by the Silverton Christmas Market," said Dickenson. "Although there will not be an ice rink, we will have exciting activities like the snowless tubing hill, the Biergarten, live bands and carolers, and many of the displays you know and love, along with some new ones. Overall, it will be a better layout and guest experience. Also, we're really excited to show off the gorgeous Silverton Christmas Market mural!"

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About Moonstone Hotel Properties: Moonstone Hotel Properties started in 1983 with the building of the Sea Otter Inn in Cambria, Calif. From there, the family-owned company went on to open garden-themed properties in Oregon and California. Today, Moonstone Hotel Properties owns the Sea Otter Inn, Cambria Pines Lodge, the J. Patrick House & Inn, Cambria Nursery and Florist, The Monterey Hotel, and Oregon Garden Resort. Moonstone Hotel Properties remains committed to retaining a reputation for exquisite boutique hotels with beautiful grounds in West Coast destinations.