



AVIVA HEALTH

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NEWS RELEASE

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Aviva Health Offering Veterans Free Flu Shots at 2020 Veterans' Day Parade

ROSEBURG, Ore. – Aviva Health is providing area veterans free flu shots at this year's Douglas County Veterans' Day Parade Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m.

Organizers of this year's event are planning a reverse parade, where floats and other elements of the parade will remain stationary while visitors to the event drive by them in their cars. Proper social distancing and masking guidelines will be followed to protect people from COVID-19.

Aviva Health typically hosts a Veterans' Day event at its Roseburg campus called Vets and Their Pets, but the pandemic forced the organization to cancel this year's festivities. Still, Aviva Health intends to honor and assist those who have served in a meaningful way.

"While we cannot host our annual event this year, we remain committed to honoring and supporting women and men in Douglas County who bravely and selflessly served our country," says Aviva Health CEO KC Bolton, himself a retired U.S. Army colonel. "We're very pleased to partner with other community organizations and participate in this safe alternative to traditional Veterans' Day celebrations."

There are many reasons to get a flu vaccine, and with the COVID-19 pandemic still impacting communities across the globe, it's especially important this year.

"The flu is most dangerous for older adults and young children," says Shanthi Kappagoda, MD, clinical associate professor of infectious diseases at Stanford Medicine. "In addition, every fall and winter hospitals see an increase in patients because of the flu, and there's concern they will become overwhelmed with COVID-19 and flu patients."

Flu vaccine prevents millions of illnesses and flu-related doctor's visits annually and can reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization for children, working-age adults, and senior citizens, according to the Centers for Disease Control.

ABOUT AVIVA HEALTH

Founded in 1991, Aviva Health is an independent, board-governed, not-for-profit organization that cares for the people of Douglas County by providing high-quality, patient-centered, accessible and affordable medical, dental and behavioral healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay. Aviva Health offers integrated services from eight clinic sites in Roseburg, Myrtle Creek, Sutherlin, Glide and North Douglas County (Drain), including a Teen Health Center located on the campus of Roseburg High School.