

News

Area landslide danger increases

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Lifestyle

The spirit of Halloween at Cottage Grove

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5345

Cottage Grove

Wednesday, Nov 13

Rain



# The champions of Cottage Grove

The Cottage Grove Lions powered their way to a 42-17 win against Elmira in the final regular season game Nov. 1. The Lions have qualified for the first round in the 3A State Football Championships.

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

After an amazing turn-around season, the Cottage Grove High School (CGHS) Lions powered through their nine-game regular

season posting a 9-0 record and qualifying for the first round of the 2024 OSAA / OnPoint Community Credit Union 3A Football State Championship. Cottage Grove was scheduled to hosts Burns at 1 p.m. Satur-

day, Nov. 9. See game results at osaa.org and at cgsentinel.com. If the Lions win, they'll move to Round 2 to face the winner of the Kennedy - Santiam Christian game. That competition is set for Nov. 15. Location

to be announced. CGHS Head Football Coach Steve Turner said they don't know too much about the Burns High School football team. "They don't share any statistics," he said. "All we know is

what's on the roster. When you are playing an unknown opponent and you don't know much about 'em, it makes it pretty difficult."

See **SPORTS**, Page 8

## Fall bear eat-a-thon is back

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

As fall sets in, bears are beginning their annual fall eat-a-thon, known as hyperphagia, as they prepare for winter. This intense feeding period begins in late summer when berries and fruits ripen and peaks when fruits like pears, apples, and plums become available. During this time, bears spend up to 20 hours a day foraging for food, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

**DIRTY DIAPERS**

ODFW is urging Oregon residents, vacation rental managers, and visitors to secure attractants and prevent bears from accessing trash, bird seed, pet food, livestock and poultry feed and other tempting food sources – including dirty diapers. If these types of food are easily accessible, bears won't turn down an easy meal. Bears that become used to "people food" can pose a serious safety risk to people, the ODFW states in a release.

Oregon is bear country and coastal residents and visitors need to be especially vigilant as bears are common along the Oregon Coast. However, the responsibility also falls on vacation rental managers and guests to contribute to responsible coexistence with bears. ODFW strongly encourages property managers to provide bear-resistant trash cans and educate guests about BearWise tips to minimize the risk of bear encounters or issues. "One of the primary attractants for bears is unsecured trash," said Skyler Gerrity, ODFW Assistant Wildlife Biologist. "Bears have an exceptional



This black bear was put down by state agents after it was found to be making dangerous encounters in the Cottage Grove area in April.

sense of smell and can detect food from miles away. Leaving trash cans unsecured or accessible can lead to bears rummaging through garbage, creating a dangerous situation for both parties involved."

**BEARS REMEMBER**

Bears not only remember where they have found food before, but female bears pass this knowledge down to their young. Feeding bears, whether intentional or accidental, can have long-lasting negative effects on multiple generations of bears. "Most conflict between humans and bears is preventable," the ODFW states. Bears don't want to be around humans, but the prospect of an easy meal is often too good to resist. Removing things that attract them to the area is the most important thing you can do to protect people and ensure bears stay healthy and wild."

**TAKE PRECAUTIONS**

- Never feed or approach bears. Feeding bears, whether you mean to or not, will cause them to associate humans with food. It is also against the law in Oregon (ORS 496.730).
- Secure food, garbage and recycling. Ensure trash, compost bins and dumpsters are secure by using locking or screw-on lids, metal bars over dumpsters, or fully enclosed trash storage. Take trash out immediately before pickup, not the night before pickup.
- Remove bird feeders. Birds have plenty of naturally available food sources.
- Feed pets inside and store food indoors. Pet food attracts bears and other wildlife, putting your pets and wildlife at risk.
- Clean and store grills after each use.
- Alert neighbors to unusual

See **BEARS**, Page 6

### ELECTION 2024

## Cottage Grove unofficial results, reaction

**CINDY WEELDREYER**  
**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Cottage Grove voters spoke decisively on election night, defeating two road maintenance funding measures, retaining Candace Solesbee as Mayor, and electing three new city councilors, according to the unofficial Nov. 5 General Election results.

**MAYOR**

In the mayoral contest, Mayor Candace Solesbee defeated her challenger City Councilor Dana Merryday 58-percent to 41-percent.

"I truly believe in the power of community, and it is my goal to make an impactful difference in Cottage Grove," Solesbee said. "Our town has faced challenges recently, and while those moments are difficult, they serve as a catalyst for us to move forward in a more positive direction." Solesbee said as mayor for another two years her primary objectives will be to establish a safe and clean city, ensure the maintenance of driveable roads and enhance public safety. She said she is dedicated to addressing the housing shortage and promoting a viable and prosperous business community. She believes it is essential that every citizen experience a sense of belonging and feel supported by their leadership. "I am excited about our future," she added. "I have confidence we can ignite a renewed sense of energy built on collaboration and putting egos aside for the betterment of Cottage Grove. We can achieve



Candace Solesbee has been reelected at Cottage Grove Mayor, according to the Nov. 5 unofficial General Election results.

meaningful progress and positively impact our community." Solesbee was first elected as Mayor in the November 2022 General Election. Previously, served as City Councilor in Ward 3 from 2018 to 2022. Solesbee is the business owner of 5 Flying Monkeys Antique, Vintage & Gifts and Shampoo Dolls, both of which are (remove located?) in Historic Downtown Cottage Grove. Over the past nine years, Solesbee (has?) served on various boards and committees including Chamber of Commerce, Economic Business Improvement District, Budget Committee, Mural Committee and the Artwalk Committee. Solesbee's term as Mayor is for two years.

See **ELECTION**, Page 6

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# Area landslide danger increases

JEREMY C. RUARK  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Two remote areas of Lane County have been closed due to landslides. A landslide on Windy Peak Road is encroaching on the road, which is also known as BLM Road 17-8-3.1. The slide has deposited sediment on the road, eroded the road’s surface, and scoured a channel to Greenleaf Creek, according to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). BLM officials have placed warning signs blocking vehicle traffic where pavement ends at the Deadwood Creek entrance, and hazard flagging is posted around the slide. BLM engineers were exploring options for road repair and slope stabilization. The BLM will close the road for the next two years to protect public safety and protect the fragile slope. While Windy Peak Road is unpassable, alternate routes are accessible. BLM officials first identified the slide while assessing the area following the January 2024 ice storm. While the exact cause for the slide is unknown, it is likely that a shallow, fast-moving debris flow was triggered by ice-tipped trees. Ongoing erosion is occurring in the upper reaches of the slide near the damaged road. Landslides are common throughout the Coast Range due to the underlying geology. In this location, shallow soils overlay hard, fractured sandstone. The difference in permeability

makes the surface susceptible to slides. Similar geologic processes occurred in the past, such as the landslides that created Triangle Lake, and in the surrounding area, such as the ongoing slow-moving landslide at Lamb creek. Once the weather dries out, the soil is expected to stabilize for the season, but movement may be triggered over the coming years during prolonged wet conditions. The BLM also closed Little Elk Mountain Road due to a landslide in that area.

**LANDSLIDE DANGER**

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) urge travelers and residents to be aware of the potential flood and landslide dangers during and after heavy rain events. Landslides are caused by a combination of factors, including the type of geology, the slope, and usually water, according to the DOGAMI, repeating rainstorms saturate soils, which do not have enough time to drain. The water builds up in the soil and leads to failure or a landslide. People, structures and roads located below steep slopes in canyons and near the mouths of canyons may be at serious risk. Dangerous places can include:

- Canyon bottoms, stream channels and areas of rock and soil accumulation at the



Courtesy photo

**State geologists, the Oregon Department of Transportation and law enforcement agencies, are urging drivers to be aware of the increasing landslide risks following heavy rain events. This photo is from a previous slide in Oregon following a heavy rain event.**

outlets of canyons.

- Bases of steep hillsides.
- Road cuts or other areas where slopes of hills have been excavated or oversteepened.
- Places where slides or debris flows have occurred in the past.
- Debris flows are rapidly moving, extremely destructive landslides. They can contain boulders and logs transported in a fast-moving soil and water slurry down steep hillsides and through narrow canyons.
- Debris flows can easily travel a mile or more and can often move faster than a person can run. People, structures, and roads located below steep slopes in canyons and near the mouths of canyons may be at serious risk.

If your home, work, or route is in a watch area:

- Stay alert. Track the

flood watch by radio, TV, weather radio or online. If told to evacuate, do so immediately.

- Listen. Unusual sounds might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together. A trickle of falling mud or debris may precede larger landslides. If you think there is danger of a landslide, leave immediately.
- Watch the water. If water in a stream or creek suddenly turns muddy or the amount of water flowing suddenly decreases or increases, this is a warning that the flow has been affected upstream. You should immediately leave the area because a debris flow may soon be coming downstream.
- Travel with extreme caution. Assume roads are not safe. Be alert when driving, especially at night. Embankments along road-



Courtesy photo from the BLM

**The slide has deposited sediment on the road, eroded the road’s surface, and scoured a channel to Greenleaf Creek, according to the Bureau of Land Management.**

sides may fail, sending rock and debris onto the road.

According to DOGAMI’s A Homeowners Guide to Landslides, landslides can take human life. However, even a few inches of slope movement can disrupt septic, sewer and water lines and crack foundations severely damaging or destroying your home, according to the guide. If you live on or near a steep slope, the guide encourages you to look for warning signs of landslides by evaluating your property for signs of landslide movement. The guide also recommends actions property owners can take to reduce the chances of landslides. Average annual repair costs for landslides in Oregon exceed \$10 million, and severe winter storm losses can exceed \$100 million, according to DOGMI. As population growth continues and development into landslide susceptible terrain occurs, damage and

loss from this natural hazard will continue to grow.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is also keeping a close watch on the landslide potential.

During periods of heavy rainfall, travelers should recognize that there is a higher likelihood that slides can happen, according to ODOT officials, who said drivers need to slow down, drive carefully, pay attention to their driving, avoid distractions, and watch for hazards.

**RESOURCES**

Visit <https://www.oregon-geology.org/Landslide/landslidehome.htm>

View the DOGAMI web map to see landslide areas <https://gis.dogami.oregon.gov/maps/slido/>

View the homeowner’s guide to landslides at [https://www.oregongeology.org/Landslide/ger\\_homeowners\\_guide\\_landslides.pdf](https://www.oregongeology.org/Landslide/ger_homeowners_guide_landslides.pdf)

## POLICE BLOTTER

The police blotter relates to the public record of incidents as reported by law enforcement agencies.

All individuals arrested or charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty. Information printed is preliminary and subject to change.

For specific details about cases listed, contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.

**Cottage Grove Police**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 28**

03:18: Suspicious subject, E Main/99

04:09: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

08:50: Suspicious vehicle, Hwy 99/ River Rd.

09:27: Agency assist, 400 block E. Main St.

09:35: Found property, 1200 block E. Main St.

10:12: Abandoned vehicle, 3rd/Adams

12:17: Disorderly subject, 100 block N. 14th St.

12:33: Order violation, 1300 block E. Quincy Ave.

14:26: Fire, 200 block Hayes Ave.

15:03: Welfare check, 800 block N. 16th St.

17:15: Business check, 1600 block E. Main St.

19:01: Citizen assist, N 9th/Main

19:04: Disorderly subject, 1100 block Pennoyer Ave.

19:12: Disturbance, 1700 block S. 5th St.

20:30: Shots fired, Row River/Currin

20:38: Business check, 600 block S. 5th St.

21:43: Suspicious vehicle, Hwy99/River Rd.

23:36: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block Hwy 99

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29**

01:06: Disorderly subject, 300 block Hwy 99

02:30: Hit and run, E. Chamberlain/N. Douglas St.

03:51: Suspicious vehicle, 3100 block Hwy 99

04:17: Firearm purchase denial, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

06:37: Nuisance, Harvey/14th

07:33: Illegal camping, 200 block N. 12th St.

08:19: Info, 300 block E. Main St.

08:51: Abandoned vehicle, Hwy 99/ River Rd.

08:56: Citizen assist, 700 block Row River Rd.

09:51: Trespass, 800 block E. Main St.

10:00: Citizen assist, 800 block E. Main St.

10:49: Suspicious subject, 100 block North M St.

10:54: Suspicious condition, 2200 block Cemetery Rd.

11:48: Abandoned vehicle, 5th/Jefferson

13:43: Alarm, 1300 block S. 8th St.

13:59: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

15:29: Order violation, 100 block E. Jefferson Ave.

15:50: Welfare check, 100 block Crestview Terrace

15:53: Trespass, 100 block S. 6th St.

17:45: Abandoned vehicle, 100 block N. 16th St.

17:51: Business check, 1200 block Hwy 99

19:39: Sex crime, 1900 block Harvey Rd.

21:10: Motor vehicle crash, Row River Rd. / Gateway Blvd.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**

00:17: Burglary, 500 block E. Main St.

04:41: Disorderly subject, 800 block E. Main St.

07:10: Trespass, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

10:22: Child abuse, 1000 block Douglas St.

10:38: Stolen vehicle, 200 block Buttercup Lp.

11:47: Illegal camping, 900 block Row River Rd.

13:08: Welfare check, 1600 block Clark Ave.

13:22: Nuisance, 1100 block E. Chamberlain Ave.

16:05: Suspicious condi-

tion, 900 block S. 8th St.

16:13: Dog at large, Harrison/99

17:02: Info, 700 block Hwy 99

17:20: Child abuse, 900 block Arthur Ave.

18:24: Illegal camping, River Rd/99

18:25: Suspicious vehicle, 400 block N. 16th St.

18:38: Bike stop, 900 block E. Main St.

19:41: Disturbance, 78000 block Airport Rd.

19:51: Juvenile, 3rd/Harrison

20:28: Fire, 35000 block Row River Rd.

21:23: Suspicious condition, 400 block E. Main St.

21:54: Criminal mischief, 400 block E. Main St.

22:36: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31**

00:53: Motor vehicle crash, 600 block S. River Rd.

04:45: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

07:09: Warrant service, 700 block Hwy 99

07:52: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

09:39: Abandoned vehicle, 1100 block N. 16th St.

10:14: Suspicious condition, 1000 block Taylor Ave.

10:37: Suspicious ve-

hicle, 1000 block Taylor Ave.

15:45: Suspicious condition, 28000 block Gowdville Rd.

16:17: Suspicious condition, 300 block S. River Rd.

17:18: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.

18:09: Burglary, 1100 block S. 2nd St.

18:57: Business check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

19:05: Agency assist, 900 block Row River Rd.

19:07: Missing person, 1000 block Riverfront Way

21:15: Business check, 1500 block E. Main St.

21:39: Welfare check, 1200 block E. Main St.

21:42: Unlawful entry into motor vehicle, S. 6th/ Grant

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

00:13: Disturbance, 100 block S. 21st St.

02:03: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

04:59: Fraud, 900 block W. Main St.

09:51: Fire, London Rd/ Weyerhauser Rd.

10:36: Abandoned vehicle, 22nd/Whiteaker

11:06: Illegal parking, 1100 block Villard Ave.

11:44: Illegal camping, 700 block E. Main St.

12:11: Theft, 100 block South S St.

14:38: Theft, 600 block N. 9th St.

17:48: Suspicious condition, 1300 block S. 4th St.

17:50: Alarm, 100 block N. Gateway Blvd.

18:44: Assault, 100 block S. 21st St.

19:52: Welfare check, 200 block N. 9th St.

20:56: Info, 100 block S. 12th St.

22:37: Welfare check, Chamberlain/11th

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

01:32: Disturbance, 1100 block E. Harrison Ave.

04:37: Suspicious vehicle, 500 block Grant Ave.

05:24: Disturbance, 800 block Gateway Blvd.

10:11: Abandoned vehicle, Quincy/6th

11:52: Found property, N. River Rd/Main St.

12:09: Citizen assist, 800 block S. 1st St.

15:20: Vicious dog, 1400 block Madison Ave.

17:50: Business check, 1700 block Main St.

17:51: Firearm purchase denial, 1100 block N. 16th St.

18:03: Business check, Chevron

20:01: Business check, 1500 block E. Main St.

21:37: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

22:03: Disturbance, 77000 block Mosby Creek Rd.

23:41: Trespass, 600 block Wood Ave.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

00:46: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

01:45: Business check, Chevron

02:44: Welfare check, 1100 block Chestnut Ave.

03:13: Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block S. River Rd.

03:16: Disorderly subject, 1500 block Village Dr.

04:59: Agency assist, Sears/Molitor Ranch

08:16: Info, 1300 block Dogwood Ave.

10:50: Found dog, 200 block Adams Ave.

12:37: Found dog, 1400 block Parks Rd.

15:34: Abandoned vehicle, 300 block North J St.

15:38: Suspicious condition, 1600 block Bohemia Pl.

16:52: Warrant service, 1200 block E. Main St.

17:05: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

18:02: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

18:04: Business check, 600 block Row River Rd.

18:56: Dog at large, 1300 block S. 6th St.

19:36: Business check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

23:04: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

23:08: Suspicious vehicle, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

23:25: Alarm, 600 block Benjamin Ave.

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## The spirit of Halloween at Cottage Grove



JEREMY C. RUARK  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The little ghost and goblins have left downtown Cottage Grove, but the Sentinel captured the memories of the spirit of Halloween from the Oct. 31 annual city tradition.

Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel



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# School Board selects three superintendent search firm finalists

**CINDY WEELDRYER**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

The South Lane School District (SLSD) Board will interview three search firms as it moves forward in the search for a permanent district superintendent.

Brian McCasline, a 25-year veteran in the district, currently serves as its interim superintendent.

On Oct. 1, the District issued a Request for Proposals to solicit candidates for a permanent superintendent.

During its regular monthly meeting Nov. 4, the SLSD Board Nov. reviewed and discussed the seven proposals submitted

by search firms in six states from across the country, the board settled on three to interview.

Board members prioritized firms with experience in school superintendent searches, familiarity with Oregon’s educational policy and laws, and a firm that offers a price that provides the best value to conduct the search.

Prior to the Nov. 4 meeting, board members reviewed and scored each lengthy proposal on a 700-point scale. The top three are: Human Capital Enterprises, based in California with a local office in Portland. (610 points), Oregon School Boards Association Executive Search Services (587 points), and Ray and Associates of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, that has an Oregon-based search consultant (525 points).

“I think we had a very thorough discussion,” Board Member Sherry Duerst-Higgins said. “It showed we read (the proposals) and did our homework.”

The next step in the process will be interviewing the selected finalists between Nov 14-21. The goal is to have a search firm selected later this month and begin accepting superintendent applications before winter break in December.

**IN OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS:**

- Student Investment Account Annual Report

The board voted to accept the district’s annual state report on its use of Student Investment Account (SIA) funds in the 2023-24 School Year. The SIA combined several state programmatic grants into one designated account that supports Elementary School Literacy Coaches, English Language Learners (ELL) Support, High School Teacher Coaches, Equity Training for Administrators, Continuous support for Early Learning Center Families, Community Care Specialists, Social/Emotional Learning (SEL) Specialists, New Teacher Support and Summer School.

McCasline shared the district’s 2023-24 accomplishments with its Integrated Guidance goals that include SIA, high school success, early literacy, and career and technical education (CTE).

He pointed out to the board that at the end of last school year the 9th Grade on Track to Graduate Goal was 93-percent, which is 10 points above the stretch goal and higher than the five-year goal. The Integrated English Language Arts Proficiency Goal’s stretch target of 37-percent at 3rd Grade was achieved. The Regular Attenders Goal stretch target of 67-percent was achieved. The Graduation Rate & Five Year Completed Rate won’t be determined until January for the 2023-24 school year.

“We are making progress and stretch progress toward our five-year goals,” McCasline said. “It’s



Courtesy photo

**Three firms will be interviewed to determine which will be used to make the search for a new SLSD superintendent.**

positive data to look at and reflects the good things our administrators and teachers are doing throughout the district.”

- Superintendent’s Report

**School visits:** McCasline said visiting schools is a top priority for him. He has visited 30 classrooms since the beginning of the year. At the elementary level he observes reading and math classes. At the secondary level he attends primarily Language Arts, Math and CTE classes.

“It’s neat to see what we’re working on as a district come to fruition in those classes,” he said. “We are focused on reading and math, social and emotional learning and career and technical education and to go into the classroom and see that in action is cool.”

He has also attended weekly Professional Learning Team meetings on Wednesday afternoons. In these meetings, teachers discuss the competency of specific students in their grade level in reading and math and determine what the students need to achieve proficiency.

**Equity Committee:**

At the October meeting, McCasline updated the board on how the district is implementing Senate Bill 732 that mandates a “District Equity Committee” be established in every school by Sept. 2025. The committee will advise the School Board and the Superintendent about the impact of policy decisions and issues regarding equity in instruction.

It will be composed of 8-10 community members, students and staff. He said he has appointed four people to a steering committee that will meet this month to finalize the process that will select 8-12 Equity Committee members who will be solicited from community members, students and staff between November through April for board appointment to the committee. The first meeting will be in September.

**Middle School Board Visit:** The board is scheduled to visit Lincoln Middle School to observe aspects of the school’s behavioral learning strategy. Incidents of bullying there raised concerns in several board meetings last spring.

## OBITUARIES & DEATH NOTICES

### Lawrence William Bailey

April 12, 1931 - October 24, 2024

Lawrence William Bailey, known affectionately as “Bill” to his friends and family, passed away peacefully on October 24, 2024, in Cottage Grove, Oregon surrounded by his loved ones. Born on April 12, 1931 in Los Angeles, California to Joy and Dorene (Hatfield) Bailey; Bill’s warm spirit and creative energy were apparent from an early age.

In high school, Bill excelled on the wrestling team. During his senior year, he won state and regional AAU championships. As a result, he went on to wrestle in the National AAU tournament in New York placing 5th in the nation.

Bill served his country with honor as a Sergeant in the Army during the Korean War where he was a keen and alert forward observer. He carried the disciplines and values learned in his military service throughout his life. Following his service, he furthered his education earning a master’s in industrial arts from Western State College in 1961. He went on to inspire the minds of young people as a beloved woodshop teacher imparting not only his knowledge of craft but also the values of patience and precision. Bill was also instrumental in getting a wrestling program started at Lincoln Junior High School in Cottage Grove, OR.

On June 27, 1954, Bill married the love of his life, Ramona “Jane” Pollard in Montrose, Colorado, with whom he built a beautiful



family including their son Bill Bailey of Cottage Grove, Oregon, and daughters Kathy Zemke of Madras, Oregon, Sandra (Timothy) Barlow of Vancouver, Washington, and Sharon (Grant) Brown of Cottage Grove, Oregon. His legacy continues through his seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, who will forever cherish his memory.

Bill’s interests and hobbies were as rich and diverse as his personality. An outdoorsman at heart, he relished hunting, fishing, and landscaping. Bill found great joy in music and karaoke. An artist with his camera and in his woodshop, he was also a cornerstone member of the Emerald Photographic Society, the Oregon Hunter’s Association, and the local Koi Club. He was a passionate supporter of Duck football & an avid golf fan. Bill was known for sparking lively debates and making up his own words in a language the grandkids dubbed “Baileyes” that endeared him to his family.

To describe Bill as loving, creative, intentional, and meticulous is to capture just a glimpse of his generous spirit. He made an indelible impression on everyone he met with a life lived to the fullest and a heart persistently aimed at giving to others. Lawrence “Bill” Bailey’s memory will be treasured as a guiding light to all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel.

#### Jacob Miles Grzelak

Jacob Miles Grzelak, 47 of Creswell, Oregon died October 28, 2024. Arrangements are in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel and Crematorium.

## Fatal crash at Cottage Grove

**JEREMY C. RUARK**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

One person has died following a traffic crash in the 34500 block of Row River Road in Cottage Grove.

At approximately 9 p.m. Nov. 5, Lane County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) deputies

and fire personnel responded to a single vehicle crash in the 34500 block of Row River Road.

The vehicle, a 1992 Toyota pickup, had left the roadway, overturned, and came to rest on top of the driver in a field. The driver appeared to have been

ejected and died at the scene of the crash, according to a release from the LCSO.

The identity of the involved was being withheld as of Nov. 6, until next of kin are notified, according to the LCSO, which added that the cause of the crash was under investigation.

# Worship Guide

## COTTAGE GROVE:

**6th & Gibbs Church of Christ**  
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822  
10:00am  
Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th  
Tim Baker, Senior Minister  
www.6thandgibbs.com

**Cottage Grove Bible Church**  
1200 East Quincy Avenue  
541-942-4771  
Pastor: Ron Harris  
Worship 11am  
Sunday School: 9:45am  
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,  
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm  
www.cgbible.org

**Cottage Grove Faith Center**  
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541-942-4851  
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www.cg4.tv  
Full Children’s Ministry available  
Services: 10:00am

**Delight Valley Church of Christ**  
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541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend  
Two Services:  
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10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

**Hope Fellowship United Pentecostal Church**  
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541-942-2061  
Pastor: Dave Bragg  
Worship: 11:00am Sunday  
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday  
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Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)  
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

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541-942-3420  
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Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm  
Sunday – 10:30 am  
For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCG.net  
Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM Saturdays or by appointment  
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell  
552 Holbrook Lane  
Sunday 8 am

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**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
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541-942-5213  
Pastor: James D. Boram  
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am  
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40  
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
6th and Quincy  
541-942-2373  
Vacancy Pastor: Herb Percy  
Sunday School and Adult Education 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Comm. Kitchen Free Meal  
Tuesday 5:15 p.m. to 6:5 p.m.  
TLC Groups  
tlccg.com

**United Methodist Church**  
334 Washington 541-942-3033  
Worship 10am  
umcgrrove.org

**CRESWELL:**

**Creswell Presbyterian Church**  
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Rev. Seth Wheeler  
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Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am  
website www.creswellpres.org

**Walker Union Church & Cemetery**  
32904 England Rd, Creswell, OR (541) 649-1800  
Pastor: Randy Wood  
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## Our Worship Directory is a weekly feature.

## If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory, contact us today!

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**Metro Creative Connection**  
**Sen. Merkley's office staff has teamed up with the Veterans History Project, which collects unique, firsthand stories – and original memoirs, letters, and photos – of Oregon veterans from all walks of life to be preserved in the Library of Congress for future generations.**

**JEFF MERKLEY**  
*Sentinel Guest Column*

For nearly fifty years, Oregon veteran Tracy thought he had earned honors from his two tours of service in Vietnam with the U.S. Navy, but he never received them. He had been unable to find those records until my team cut through the red tape and tracked down all five of his medals. Last November, I had the honor of presenting Tracy with his ribbons, and it was a powerful moment to demonstrate in person how much our country appreciates his service.

**Respect and care**  
Each of Oregon's 284,000 veterans deserve the same respect and care. Veterans live in every community across Oregon. At least one-in-ten folks in Curry, Coos, Douglas, Lincoln, and Clatsop counties is a veteran, and Lane and Tillamook counties are close behind. During my town halls each year in all 36 Oregon counties, veterans share their stories of service, of struggles with suicide and mental health, and of the challenges in accessing health care and affordable housing in their communities.

Oregon's veterans should be able to take full advantage of the benefits they earned serving our country. Here's how I'm fighting to help. As Oregon's representative on the committee that funds the federal government, I helped pass a funding bill in March that increased funding for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which is providing more than \$121 billion for medical care for the 9.1 million veterans across our country. We know, though, there is much more work to do as Oregon has among the highest rates of veteran suicide in the nation. So, I secured \$3 million specifically for the Oregon Health Authority to increase statewide awareness of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline with veterans, underserved communities, and communities of color. And I helped secure \$1.84 million for three Oregon community organizations – including the Permission to Start Dreaming Foundation, which serves folks in Tillamook, Lake, and Marion counties – to provide suicide prevention programs for veterans and support services for families.

Housing is another major challenge for veterans. Veterans can use U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers to help attain permanent housing and other services – but housing vouchers are only useful if affordable housing is available in their communities, so we need to build many more homes for families across Oregon, including homes for veterans.

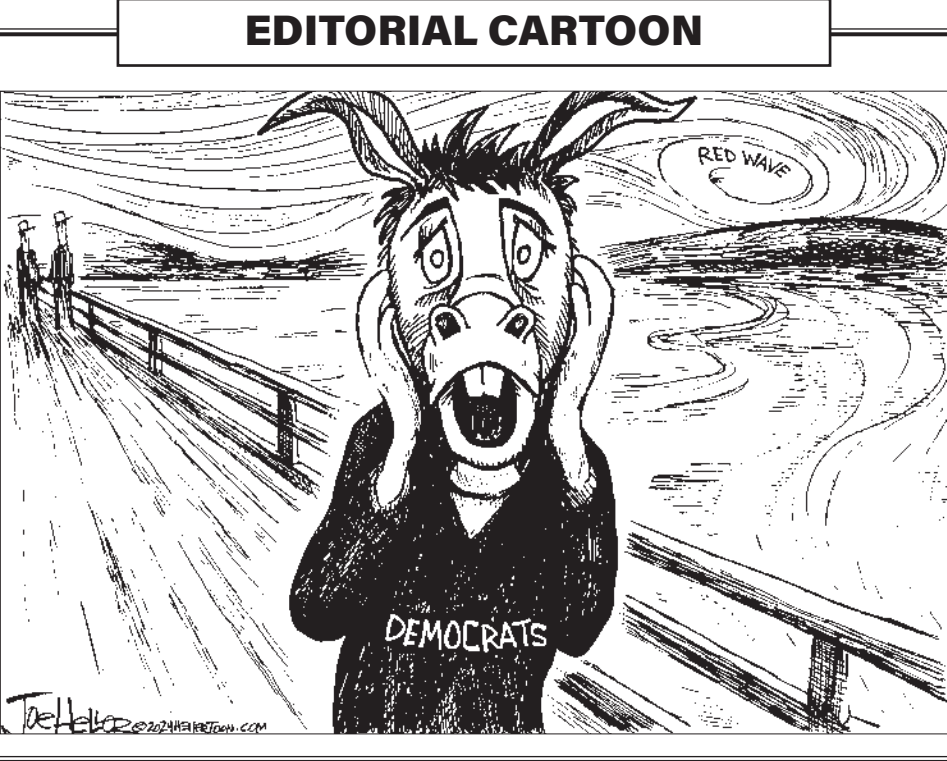
“**OUR VETERANS TOOK CARE OF US, NOW WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.”**

Jeff Merkley represents Oregon in the U.S. Senate.

**Access to services**  
And we need to make sure that veterans have access to services near where they live. In June, I joined with Senator Wyden and Representative Hoyle to urge the VA to prioritize funding for the Roseburg Veterans Home. Douglas County is home to an estimated 10,000 veterans, many of whom served in the Vietnam War or earlier. Oregon is fortunate to have two high-quality, award-winning state veterans' homes in The Dalles and in Lebanon, and I'll keep fighting to provide the same affordable, long-term care for veterans who live far from these facilities. In addition, I've led the fight in the Senate against U.S. Postal Service downgrades in Oregon because mail delays hurt veterans. The VA fills about 80 percent of its prescriptions through the mail primarily using the Postal Service, so late deliveries mean late medications for veterans. We also need to preserve our veterans' stories of service and heroism for future generations. My office has teamed up with the Veterans History Project, which collects unique, firsthand stories – and original memoirs, letters, and photos – of Oregon veterans from all walks of life to be preserved in the Library of Congress for future generations. I encourage all Oregon veterans to participate in this special project and share your stories. If you have questions about the project, or if you'd like to volunteer to capture veterans' stories, please reach out to my office.

**Connections for veterans**  
Please also reach out if you need assistance accessing vital benefits you earned. My team works closely with the VA and the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs, and we can connect you with a Veterans Service Officer in your community who can provide free, high-quality assistance when filing benefits claims. Our veterans took care of us, now we need to take care of them. I'll keep fighting to make sure Oregon's veterans get the benefits they have earned.

*Jeff Merkley represents Oregon in the U.S. Senate.*



## Oregon Health Authority to launch new rental assistance program in November



Courtesy of Oregon Health Authority  
**Farmworkers live in this affordable housing project in Lebanon. A new housing program will help Oregonians on Medicaid receive up to six months in rental assistance.**

**BEN BOTKIN**  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle*

The Oregon Health Authority is launching a new rental assistance program through its Medicaid plan that serves low-income Oregonians when medical crises impact their ability to pay rent. The health authority's plans are intended to keep people housed who need a short-term bridge to make ends meet and pay rent. Its goal is to help people maintain their health and their housing, which can lead to better long-term outcomes. People who face homelessness or the threat of eviction are 35% more likely to delay preventative health care, according to one national study. The program, which starts in November, will make Oregon the first state in the nation to offer a statewide rental assistance program through Medicaid. The Oregon Health Plan, the state's Medicaid program, provides more than 1.4 million Oregonians with health care, dental care and behavioral health care services. "It really is focusing on trying to keep those most at risk still housed, hopefully leading to them being able to have some short-term help," said Dave Baden, the authority's deputy director for policy and programs, in a recent press call with reporters. The Oregon Health Authority is providing the program through its Medicaid waiver, which is a five-year plan that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid approved. States can receive waivers as a tool to try new programs or approaches to Medicaid. Oregon's current Medicaid waiver is in effect from Oct. 1, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2027. During this period, Oregon has nearly \$1 billion available for the rental assistance programs and other new programs within the Medicaid plan for air conditioners, air filters and food benefits. Most of the money — \$904 million — is federal funding, with a state match of \$71 million. The program can cover rental and utility costs for up to six months, including past-due amounts. People also can receive medically necessary home improvements, including wheelchair ramps, pest control and heavy-duty cleaning. The program covers rental assistance, but not new housing placements for people who are homeless. "The goal of the housing benefit is really around keeping people housed and preventing homelessness," said Steph Jarem, the authority's waiver policy director. Not everyone on Medicaid is eligible. To qualify, an Oregonian enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan would need to have a qualifying risk factor, such as complex medical condition, behavioral health condition, pregnancy or repeated emergency department trips. The program can cover people who fall behind on rent because of a chronic condition or an injury that prevents them from working. They also would need an income that is 30% or less than the median income of their region. For a family of four in Portland or Hillsboro, the cutoff is \$35,400. State officials estimate 22% of Oregon's 618,278 households that rent have incomes that fall below the threshold and are potentially eligible. In one example, a person who lives alone in Hood River and makes \$18,000 a year could get help for missing work with a broken leg while also living with chronic heart disease. The authority reached the eligibility determinations after negotiations with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2024/10/28/oregon-health-authority-to-launch-new-rental-assistance-program-in-november/>  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity. Oregon Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Lynne Terry for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com.*

## VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY

### Moving Forward

The following expresses my own views and does not represent the City Council or official position of the City of Cottage Grove. While the results were predictable given the aversion to increasing taxation, the margin of rejection certainly was surprising. I want to make clear that this sentiment of we can't raise our income through taxation will very much affect our ability as a municipality to fund essential services. There is no magic bullet or source of free money out there to match the cost increases that have hit the city across the board. You can only trim so much

from the budget until it starts a downward spiral of being able to attract and retain the essential workers required to deliver the services that are in fact the function of local government. While respecting the right of the voters to express their opinion I do want to ask our citizens how they manage their households in light of the cost increases we all face and apply that to our current city budget situation. Lastly, I want to express my personal thanks to all the citizens who answered the call to address the road conditions and put a lot of work and time into coming up with solutions for improving street conditions. I am hopeful that as we work towards solving our other large budget and social issues that we can tap

into the wisdom and dedication of citizen committee members to help provide input and solutions for the City Council to consider.

*Dana Merryday  
Cottage Grove*

### Happy Wish

My happy wish 4 Trump's 2nd Term in Office: It is my fervent wish that the 2nd presidential administration of Donald Trump will serve as a successful vaccination against autocracy for America in a way that his 1st did not.

*Leo Rivers  
Cottage Grove*

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Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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# Bears

## Fall bear eat-a-thon is back

From Page 1

bear activity (continued sightings during daylight hours, lack of wariness around humans or pets, etc.). Share these tips with your neighbors!

“These simple yet effective steps will go a long way to avoid conflict and keep bears and people safe,” the ODFW release states.

Contact your local district ODFW office if you need assistance with a bear-human conflict or observe unusual or aggressive behavior from a bear. Report human safety concerns to Oregon State Police.

### Dangerous local history

A black bear that officials said was intentionally fed by people in Cottage Grove, a small rural community near Eugene, was been put down by the Oregon State Police after it lost its wariness and began approaching people, according to a published report in the Cottage Grove Sentinel in April of this year.

ODFW agents attempted to capture the bear over the last three weeks.

“During the first week of April, the bear cornered a woman as she attempted to enter her house and subsequently went to sleep on a neighbor’s front porch,” ODFW District Wildlife Biologist Chris Yee said. “These are not normal behaviors for a wild black bear, and wildlife biologists considered the bear to be habituated to the extent that

it would become aggressive towards people.”

At the request of ODFW, the bear was killed by Oregon State Police Monday night, April 1.

“This is not the outcome anyone wanted,” Yee said. “The actions we had to take were a direct result of people intentionally feeding this bear.”

The two-year-old male bear was first seen in the city on March 5 and was spotted repeatedly near people or dwellings over the last several weeks.

### THE WARNING

ODFW and Cottage Grove Police Department provided information to residents and warned people not to feed the bear.

“Bears that are fed by people lose their wariness and can become aggres-

sive and pose a threat to human safety,” Yee said, “In this case, the bear was being intentionally fed, had become food-conditioned, showed no fear of people when approached, and eventually began approaching people, presumably for food handouts.”

In March, ODFW and Oregon State Police served a local car dealership and employee with a warning to cease feeding the black bear. Under Oregon law, (ORS 496.730 and 496.731), it is illegal to either directly or indirectly feed bears and can result in a criminal citation, a Class A misdemeanor, by Oregon State Police.

### STRONG TENDENCY TO RETURN

Relocation is not an option for bears that are habituated to food provided

by people, according to the ODFW. Bears have a very strong tendency to return to the place they were captured – some traveling up to 50 miles or more to return. Bears that have become habituated to “human food” tend to repeat the same bad behaviors in their new location.

Relocating bears results in exporting the problem to another community if the bear does not return to the site of capture. Most habituated bears that are captured have to be humanely killed to protect human safety.

Habituated bears past the age of cub are rarely considered candidates for placement in an accredited facility or zoo. A bear’s age, behavior, and circumstances plus facility availability and space are all factors when considering

the possibility of placement. The average home range for a male black bear can exceed 50 square miles and placement in a confined facility is often not considered a viable or humane solution.

Twenty-four fatal black bear attacks that have occurred in North America between 2003 and 2023, according to an article by Justin Hoffman and Alyssa Whoaa on wideopenspaces.com.

“The youngest person killed was a child six years of age; the oldest, an 85-year-old female who had been illegally feeding bears on her property. The average age of these victims is 46,” the article states.

Learn more at <https://myodfw.com/articles/help-keep-bears-wild>

# Election

## Voters reelect Solesbee as mayor, add 3 new councilors

From Page A1

### CITY COUNCIL

Christine Hyink will represent Ward 1 citizens. Darrell Wilson decisively won the At-Large seat for the next four years. Jim Settlemeyer will serve as the At-Large Councilor for the next two years. Recently appointed Ward 2 Councilor Randell Lammerman was unopposed as was Ward 4 Councilor Greg Ervin.

### WARD 1

Christine Hyink, an ODOT Regional Manager, will be the new Ward 1 councilor. She won 53-percent of the vote over Kevin Adamski, a retired forestry technician with the Umpqua National Forest.

“I’m incredibly grateful for the support I received throughout this campaign and I’m excited, optimistic, and hopeful for what lies ahead,” Hyink said. “This is an incredible opportunity to represent our community and make meaningful contributions. I’m honored by the trust our residents have placed in me, and I’m eager to get to work with a positive approach and a commitment to transparency and accountability.”

Hyink said her priorities are public safety, infrastructure improvements, and support for local businesses. She also recognizes the importance of building trust within the community. She believes by fostering open communication and transparency in city business, it can create a foundation that strengthens the council’s efforts and builds long-lasting support for our initiatives.

She said it was disappointing to see the road measures defeated and the council needs to work on building confidence in its approach. Moving forward, she wants the city to actively seek out grant opportunities and other funding sources to address its infrastructure needs.

She believes rebuilding trust with the community is essential so that residents feel confident in supporting future proposals.

“Being elected is just

the beginning. I’m committed to working hard for every resident and ensuring everyone’s voice is heard,” she added. I look forward to making a positive impact, fostering collaboration, and building a stronger, more connected Cottage Grove. I can’t wait to see what we accomplish together.”

### AT-LARGE SEAT

Darrell Wilson, semi-retired former Lane County Corrections Deputy, armored car driver, and community volunteer easily won the At-Large Seat. This At Large Council position is for four years. Other candidates in the three-way race were businessmen Richard Andrew and Patrick Cartwright. Bernie Donner withdrew from the race too late to be removed from the ballot.

“I’m looking forward to working with the other councilors,” Wilson said. “We need to take a hard look at the budget with the failure of the two road funding measures and see where there is money that can be redirected and look for other revenue sources.”

Wilson said the upcoming Downtown Revitalization Project in early 2025 is essential to attract new businesses to the Historic District to increase the city’s revenue. He wants the city to do more public outreach with residents in the assisted living centers who have valuable life experiences that the city could benefit from.

He said there are people in the community who have fallen upon hard times, and he wants to help the unhoused people who want to be helped. He hopes the city can partner with nonprofit organizations in the metro area that have expertise in addressing addictions, mental health and job training and offer those resources here.

“I would absolutely love for St. Vinnie’s to reconsider its decision and partner with the city to provide much needed services here to address our homeless population,” Wilson said. “I’d like to reopen the lines of communication with them and see what we can revisit.”

### AT LARGE SEAT

In a tighter race, Jim Settlemeyer, a retired South Lane School District educa-

tor, won the vote in a race with businessman Chris Hollo-

man. The term as councilor for this At Large position is for two years. “I am grateful to the voters who trust me to represent them and for advice from wise community members with experience making positive impacts during their time working on the City Council,” Settlemeyer said.

He said as a new city councilor his number one objective is to address how the Council does business. He hopes the new council in January will develop and agree on ways to efficiently and positively work together to help Cottage Grove.

In light of the failure of the two money measures to maintain city streets, Settlemeyer said he wants to be collaborative in seeking solutions.

“As a rookie to the City Council, I will work with the veterans and glean input from the community to help find the best way forward,” he said. “I must say that what little I do know, everything that costs money will be problematic to fund without new revenue sources.”

### BALLOT MEASURE 20-365

City officials asked voters for the authority to issue up to \$2.5M in general obligation bonds to finance street repairs to Row River Road, Taylor Avenue, and Harrison Avenue. The measure was defeated with 64-percent of voters saying no.

### BALLOT MEASURE 20-366

This measure would have increased the City of Cottage Grove’s Gas Tax from \$0.03 to \$0.09 per gallon for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair, maintenance, operation, and use of public highways, roads and streets within the city. Despite the poor condition of local streets, voters defeated the

tax by 72-percent.

Both measures were recommended by a citizen Ad-Hoc Street Improvement and Funding Committee, after nearly a year of reviewing needed improvements to city streets and researching a variety of potential funding sources. After considering all recommendations, the City Council decided to allow voter consideration of the proposed gas tax increase.

Councilor Greg Ervin responded to the Sentinel’s question for a comment about the road funding measures defeat.

“I speak only for myself, not on behalf of the council, when I say this: The recent vote clearly indicates that the residents of Cottage Grove do not support increasing gas or property taxes to fund street maintenance and improvements. My takeaway from this outcome is that our community

expects its representatives to make financial decisions that reflect the trade-offs they encounter in their own lives. I believe the voters have challenged the council to demonstrate that we can be trusted to manage the tax revenue we currently receive before they are willing to part with more of their hard-earned wages. I am hopeful that we will rise to this challenge,” Erin said.

### AREA RACES

City of Creswell voters elected Nicholas Smith over Kevin Nicholas Prow, and Clark Kent, Mark Kremer, and Joan G. Morris, as city councilors, according to the unofficial results.

In the contest for 12th District State Representative, Republican Darin Harbick, a McKenzie Valley resident and business owner, garnered 57-percent of the vote in the race with local business owner and

nonprofit director, Democrat Michelle Emmons.

With 56-percent of the vote in the Emerald PUD Subdistrict 1 race, Dale Olson, a retired EPUD employee and owner of the Vintage Inn Restaurant, defeated longtime incumbent board member Ron Davis. Both are Cottage Grove residents.

Overall, Lane County voters selected Democrats Kamala D. Harris / Tim Waltz over Republicans Donald J. Trump / JD Vance in the race for President of the United States, according to the 11 p.m. Nov. 5 unofficial results.

Results of the Lane County Nov. 5 General Election are expected to be certified on Dec. 2, according to Lane County Election officials.

See more election results at [www.LaneCountyOR.gov/Elections](http://www.LaneCountyOR.gov/Elections).

## City of Cottage Grove

### Annual Leaf Pick-Up

October 28th, November 18th, & December 2nd, 2024


The City of Cottage Grove Public Works Department will be conducting the annual Leaf Pick-Up the weeks of October 28th, November 18th, & December 2nd, 2024. *Property owners will be responsible for removing any leaves placed in the street after December 2, 2024.*

All leaves must be put out **BEFORE** October 28, 2024 for the first pick up, **BEFORE** November 18, 2024 for the second pick up, and **BEFORE** December 2, 2024 for the third and **FINAL** pick up.

Residents can **NOT** place leaves in the street where curbside parking does not exist or in bike lanes.

This is strictly a leaf pick up; nothing other than loose leaves will be picked up. There will be a community drop-off site at the Row River Water Treatment Plant, located at 3300 Row River Road. Please look for signs pointing to the designated area. This will only be available through the end of the leaf pick up, on December 6, 2024. Please do not place any debris in this location after December 6, 2024.

If you have questions regarding the Leaf Pick-Up Program, please call the Public Works Department, at (541) 767-4100 or see our Leaf Pick-Up Brochure, located at City Hall, at 400 East Main Street, or on our website, at <https://www.cottagegroveor.gov/publicworks/page/leaf-pickup-program> for additional information.



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## Lions prepare for 2024 season on the court

JEREMY C. RUARK  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

As the fall sports season wraps up, Cottage Grove High School student athletes and coaches are preparing for the new winter sports season.

The Sentinel has reached out to CGHS Headn Boys Basketball Coach Seth Hutchison for insight into what we can expect.

**The Sentinel:** At this early point, what will be your main focus during practices?

**Seth Hutchison:** Early on our focus is continuing to establish a winning culture and continue to build off what we have been doing in previous years. This is building chemistry, reinforcing expectations both on and off the court and establish the team that we want to be which is physical, hardworking, committed to competitive greatness.

**The Sentinel:** It looks

like 22 schedule games this season. Lots of court time. How will you and you coaching team keep the players focused and positive?

**Hutchison:** We just added a 23 game against a great Cascade team, and we are looking to add maybe one more to complete our schedule. The great thing about this team is that they are committed to each other, the coaches and the game and love to play.

We will do things to mix up the flow of practice so it's not so predictable and do some team building activities along the course of the season. As far as keeping the team focused, we will determine our goals and what we want to accomplish this season, and those goals will be decided by our players but guided by the coaching staff.

**The Sentinel:** Of the schools your team is scheduled to face, which do you see as the most competitive this season and why?



Courtesy photo

The Cottage Grove High School boys basketball season opens Dec. 4.

**Hutchison:** Our schedule is loaded with great competition all throughout

the season. We can't focus on who we are playing but more importantly focus on what we want to do

and how we want to play. I always tell the team we need to focus on what we can control and that's ef-

fort and toughness and the outcomes will take care of themselves. Cascade, Newport, Stayton are all good pre-season teams. I. League Marist and Marshfield are going to be tough competition.

**The Sentinel:** Overall, what do you hope the players take away from their experience this season that will help build their on-court skills and also give them a good path for their lives?

**Hutchison:** Overall, the take away I would like my players to get from the season is that, whatever you want whether sports or life you have to put in the work to get great things out. Great things don't come easy.

The Lions open their 2024 season Dec. 4 with non-league play at Molalla.

Follow game results at [osha.org](https://osha.org) and see team features at [cgsentinel.com](https://cgsentinel.com) and in the Wednesday print editions of the Sentinel.

## SPORTS

The champions of Cottage Grove

From Page 1

The Lions played full force during each of their nine regular season games. Observers call it an amazing come-back season and a complete reversal of a few years with losing seasons.

"We've had to come from behind in five of those games, so it may have looked like the season was easy, but it really wasn't," Turner said, adding that the challenge is keeping his players focus.

"It's always difficult to keep 15, 16, and 17-year-olds focused each week, so that's always been the challenge, and it is still the challenge," he said. "We are just focusing on the next game."

That's been Turner's basic philosophy. One game at a time.

"We can look back on what we've done later," he said. "Now is not the time to be looking at what



Courtesy photo from CGHS

The 2024 Cottage Grove High School Football Team and Coaches.

we've done or what we've accomplished. That's not where my mind is and that's not where I want my kids minds to be. We can sit back and read the articles when the season is over. We need to focus and take care of what's next."

### SOCCER, CROSS COUNTRY, VOLLEYBALL

The CGHS boys soccer team beat Hidden Valley 2-0 Nov. 5 in the first

round of the 2024 OSAA / OnPoint Community Credit Union 4A Boys Soccer State Championship. The CGHS Lions are scheduled to face Crook County Nov. 9 in second round action. See game results at [osaa.org](https://osaa.org).

The CGHS Cross Country teams are slated to compete at the 2024 OSAA / OnPoint Community Credit Union Cross Country State Championships Saturday, Nov. 9, at Lane Community College

in Eugene. See results at [osaa.org](https://osaa.org).

The CGHS Volleyball team qualified for State but lost to Henley 1-3 in first round competition of the 2024 OSAA / OnPoint Community Credit Union 4A Volleyball State Championship on Nov. 2.

Follow Cottage Grove winter sports game results at [osaa.org](https://osaa.org) and look for team features online at [cgsentinel.com](https://cgsentinel.com) and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.



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