

Cottage Grove Police Department earns high marks

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

It's been a banner year for the Cottage Grove Police Department's turnaround efforts.

The Cottage Grove Police Department (CGPD), which faced serious leadership failures three years ago, recently earned a near perfect score in its latest insurance risk assessment — a result that marks a significant shift in the department's operational culture and internal standards.

Earlier this year, CGPD earned its first accreditation from the Northwest Accreditation Alliance, meeting 110 professional standards in policy, training, supervision, physical security, and infrastructure. Accreditation is voluntary for small police departments, and Chief Cory Chase told the council his staff wanted to stretch themselves and pursue the recognition as part of their broader effort to strengthen the agency's professional culture.

Only a few years ago, Cottage Grove's police department was struggling under leadership described in media accounts as having a "total lack of control." Now, the agency has achieved outstanding evaluations, which Chase and city



Cottage Grove Police Chief Cory Chase, center, joins Officer Ryan Blalack, left, Officer Quentin Buckland, in front of riders before the Gran Fondo bike race at the Main Street Community Celebration May 16. CGPD launched its bicycle patrol during the event.

leaders describe as a remarkable transformation reflecting renewed standards, stronger oversight, and a commitment to rebuilding trust within the department and in the community.

Every three years, CIS — Oregon's municipal risk pool — conducts an assessment of police operations separate from other city departments. Evaluators use industry best practice standards to review policies, training, supervision, documentation, and risk reduction measures.

Chase told the council, "We came out with a 94 percent score which

See more MARKS
On Page 6

Cottage Grove Sentinel to cease publication Oct. 28

STAFF

The Wednesday, Oct. 28, issue of the Cottage Grove Sentinel, a weekly newspaper located in Southern Lane County, will be the newspaper's final edition.

In 2023, Country Media, Inc. purchased the Sentinel. It was a venture that included two other weekly papers on the Oregon Coast, the Newport News Times and the Florence Siuslaw News.

According to Country Media's Chief Executive, Joe Warren, In April of this year, the board of Country Media decided to close the Sentinel but held off due to a couple of community groups reaching out to see if anything could be done to keep the paper publishing every week.

"Earlier this year, Country Media's board of directors voted to discontinue publication of The Sentinel after two years of sharply declining advertising revenue," said Warren.

"But at the last minute, the board decided to make one more concerted effort to at least slow that revenue shortfall."

Warren said, during this time, we offered businesses and subscribers advertising specials, offered special niche sections and ran a couple of discounted subscription campaigns to drive more revenue toward the small weekly paper.

Community gears up for murals, music, and Animal House Mayhem

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Plans for next summer's combined Animal House 50th Anniversary Celebration and Walldogs Mural Festival are accelerating this month with two major community events.

Organizers of the August 26–29, 2027, weekend say they are preparing to welcome The Walldogs — an international guild of highly skilled sign painters and mural artists — who will fan out across Cottage Grove to complete 15 high quality murals in just three days.

On Saturday, Aug. 28, following a recreation of the film's iconic chaotic parade scene through the Historic District, thousands of white togas are expected to fill Bohemia Park as Cottage Grove attempts to reclaim the Guinness world record for the largest toga party.

A newly formed nonprofit, CG M.A.C., is spearheading the effort. Organizers hope the end of summer celebration will become an annual event highlighting local Music, Art, and Cinema, and anticipate welcoming 30,000–40,000 attendees from across the region and beyond.

Mayor Candace Solesbee, who leads the planning for the "two events in one weekend," said the festival will have a significant economic impact.

"The festival is projected to generate between \$4.2 and \$5.6 million in direct spending in our community and will support Cottage Grove's economic vitality and sustainability," Solesbee said. "It is a once in a generation opportunity that will leave a lasting legacy: 15 original historical murals celebrating the industries that shaped our town and the stories of the people who built it."

Since the April 2026 kickoff meeting, more than 200 volunteers



Organizers have produced this illustration as part of the community welcome.

have signed up and 23 committees have formed. Leads have been selected for nearly every committee and will soon begin regular meetings. Work is underway with local historians to identify mural subjects. Five pillars of Cottage Grove's history are expected to be represented: gold mining, timber, agriculture, tribal history, and Hollywood films made here.

MURAL SELECTION EVENT — Nov. 4

Organizers invite the community to help select the remaining 10 mural subjects at a public meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 4, from 4–7 p.m. at the Armory. Local historians will present 20 proposed topics, and attendees will vote to narrow the list to 10. The event also serves as a fundraiser, with Coast Fork Brewery

hosting bingo and serving drinks, and meals available from the El Rincon food truck.

"We welcome people to come and enjoy the evening, make a donation to support this grand endeavor, and vote for the mural ideas that speak to them," Solesbee said.

ANIMAL HOUSE 50TH CELEBRATION

Planning is also underway for the 50th anniversary celebration of National Lampoon's Animal House, which famously filmed its parade scene in Cottage Grove's Historic District. The event will include flash mobs, interactive art, and a mix of ticketed and free activities.

"The parade will begin with the firing of a cannon, the re creation of floats from the film, marching bands, and a sea of togas led by our

very own Death Mobile — along with many surprises," Solesbee said. "We are also aiming to break the Guinness world record for the largest toga party, and you can expect a food fight or two. This is truly shaping up to be an exciting community experience for all ages."

MAYOR'S MONSTER BALL — Oct. 24

The Mayor's Monster Ball returns to the Armory on Saturday, Oct. 24, following last year's successful event. "This year's ticket sales have been fantastic," Solesbee said. All proceeds support the 2027 festival. Tickets are available at cgchamber.com or at the Chamber office, 836 E. Main St.

Solesbee noted that individuals, businesses, and community partners have already contributed generous cash and in kind donations. The Woodard Family Foundation has committed up to \$115,000 in matching funds. To unlock the full amount, the community must raise \$4 for every \$1 the foundation contributes by Dec. 1.

"Raising \$20,000 adds \$5,000," Solesbee said. "Every contribution brings us closer. Please consider making a donation before Dec. 1 and help us unlock every dollar of the Woodard Family Foundation's gift to Cottage Grove."

FOLLOW THE PROJECT / HOW TO DONATE

Updates are posted on two local Facebook pages: CG MAC and Cottage Grove's Animal House 50 Year Reunion and Muralfest. To learn more about the mural project visit The Walldogs Facebook page.

To donate, visit the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce website and click the donation link: <https://www.cgchamber.com/cottage-grove-music-art-cinemat> Checks may also be dropped off at the Chamber office.

City offers local Voter Pamphlet

The City of Cottage Grove has created a Local Voters' Pamphlet for registered voters within the city limits.

"The pamphlet provides statements from the candidates who are seeking local election and important voter information," city officials state in a release.

To view the Local Voters' Pamphlet, visit the city's website at www.cottagegroveor.gov and select the quick link on the right side of the homepage.

You can also pick up a printed copy at Cottage Grove City Hall, located at 400 East Main Street, or request one mailed to you by calling 541-942-5501.

Closer Look

Crash into parked cars leads to arrest

Cottage Grove Sentinel

The following is from the Cottage Grove Police Weekly Update.

- This past Monday morning, we made an appearance at the Faithful Partners Preschool for our annual visit. Captain Branstetter read “If You Give a Pig A Pancake” to the children and we gifted each student with their own copy to take home. Providing children with their own copy of the book is made possible through our partnership with Books & Badges The Starfish Assignment.

- Officers responded to reports of a motor-vehicle crash involving multiple parked vehicles. The driver of the involved vehicle was initially suspected of Driving Under the Influence due to the presence of alcoholic containers inside the vehicle. Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were completed, and it was determined that the driver did not exhibit sufficient indicators of impairment. At the end of the investigation, the driver was issued Uniform

Traffic Citations for Careless Driving (Contributing to a Motor Vehicle Accident) (ORS 811.135), Violation of Open Container Law (ORS 811.170), and Operating a Vehicle Without Driving Privileges (ORS 807.010).

- During the above investigation, Dispatch advised officers that the involved driver was the suspect of an active attempt-to-locate request issued by an officer within our department. This was regarding an ongoing criminal investigation in which there was probable cause to arrest the male on charges of Assault in the Fourth Degree (ORS 163.160), Menacing (ORS 163.190), Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree (ORS 164.354), and Disorderly Conduct in the Second Degree (ORS 166.025). The male was transported and lodged at the Lane County Jail on the above-mentioned charges.

- Dispatch received a disturbance call and could hear yelling over the open phone line. Officers arrived and encountered a highly intoxicated and uncooperative

female at the scene. The male victim fled the scene on foot before officers could speak with him. The female was ultimately detained and transported to the Lane County Jail, where she was lodged on charges of Disorderly Conduct in the Second Degree (ORS 166.025).

- When officers arrived at the designated camp at 12th Street to unlock the gate, they located a known male subject who had an active warrant for his arrest for Failure to Appear on a Possession of Methamphetamine charge. The male was contacted and taken into custody without incident. He was transported to the Lane County Jail to be lodged on his warrant.

- Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident where a female driver struck a parked car. When officers began their investigation, the female driver was showing signs of intoxication. She was transported to the police department to perform Standardized Field Sobriety Tests and provided a breath sample of 0.23% (almost three times the legal limit).



She was issued Citations in Lieu of Custody for Driving Under the Influence of

Intoxicants (ORS 813.010) and Reckless Driving (ORS 811.140). She was released

into the custody of a family member.

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 5

00:46: Burglary, 900 block S Court
05:13: Alarm, 2700 block Row River Rd.
07:46: Trespass, 900 block S Court
08:01: Agency assist, 200 block N. 12th St.
08:12: Fraud, 1400 block Carobelle Ct.
08:13: Fire, Latham/London
08:49: Barking dog, 1200 block Bryant Ave.
09:08: Disturbance, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
09:55: Suspicious vehicle, 300 block S. River Rd.
10:22: Missing person, 200 block Sweet Ln.
11:01: Abandoned vehicle, 1600 block Clark Ave.
11:52: Disturbance, 78000 block Layng Rd.

12:17: Trespass, 1100 block Hwy 99
13:05: Hit and run, 900 block Ash Ave.
13:18: Abandoned vehicle, Harrison/10th
13:57: Disturbance, 200 block S. River Rd.
14:23: Vicious dog, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
16:06: Motor vehicle crash, 800 block Row River Rd.
16:27: Abandoned vehicle, 2600 block S. 6th St.
16:31: Abandoned vehicle, 100 block N. 16th St.
16:47: Suspicious subject, Gateway/Tyler
17:15: Suspicious subject, 1600 block Anthony Ct.
17:27: Alarm, 600 block E. Gibbs Ave.
17:35: Robbery, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
18:30: Animal info, 100 block Village Dr.
18:51: Warrant service, 900 block Row River Rd.
20:23: Fire, 500 block Grant Ave.
21:37: Assault, 500 block Grant Ave.
23:01: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
23:01: Suspicious vehicle, 900 block Row River Rd.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

00:51: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
03:29: Suspicious vehicle, Nichols/London

08:32: Suspicious condition, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
09:44: Theft, 1400 block E. Washington Ave.
10:06: Suicidal subject, 200 block Quincy Ave.
12:24: Overdose, 1300 block S. River Rd.
15:59: Hit and run, 900 block N. 9th St.
16:11: Abandoned vehicle, Pennoyer/99
18:06: Hit and run, 78000 block Mosby Crk Rd.
22:47: Warrant service, 1000 block E. Main St.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

02:30: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
05:19: Fraud, 100 block S. 16th St.
07:40: Intoxicated subject, 3200 block Row River Rd.
10:27: Theft, 1400 block Birch Ave.
11:37: Animal info, 1400 block E. Madison Ave.
12:38: Welfare check, 200 block N. 10th St.
14:06: Found dog, 400 block E. Main St.
14:28: Fraud, 400 block S. River Rd.
20:42: Theft, 1200 block Hwy 99
21:35: Disturbance, 1000 block E. Main St.
23:16: Drug activity, 1400 block Daugherty Ave.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

04:29: Alarm, 2700 block Row River Rd.
06:29: Criminal mischief, 100 block Village Dr.
08:56: Hit and run, 700 block Fairview Lp.
09:36: Missing person, 700 block E. Harrison Ave.
14:10: Missing person, 1100 block W. Main St.
15:39: Disturbance, 80000 block Hwy 99
23:02: Disturbance, 300 block N. 7th St.
23:47: Motor vehicle crash, 800 block S. 7th St.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
02:07: Nuisance, 200 block S. 11th St.
06:42: Motor vehicle crash, 10th/Taylor
11:36: Harassment, 4th/Fillmore
12:07: Motor vehicle crash, 1500 Hwy 99
12:47: Drug activity, 100 block S. 10th St.
12:56: Agency assist, 1500 block Village Dr.
13:31: Trespass, 100 block S. 3rd St.
15:20: Juvenile trouble, 700 block Hwy 99
15:31: Abandoned vehicle, 1000 block N. Douglas St.
16:16: Vicious dog, 100 block S. 10th St.
18:57: Missing person, 400 block E. Main St.

21:04: Disturbance, 200 block S. River Rd.
21:08: Motor vehicle crash, Hwy 99/Tate
22:13: Suspicious vehicle, N.River Rd/Grimes
22:42: Disturbance, 1600 block Gateway Blvd.
23:36: Barking dog, Chestnut/J

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

10:27: Fire, 400 block N. 14th St.
17:46: Found property, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
17:56: Wanted subject, 200 block N. 12th St.
18:00: Disturbance, 100 block N. 16th St.
18:07: Warrant service, 200 block N. 12th St.
18:10: Intoxicated subject, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
18:37: Theft, 600 block S. 5th St.
20:17: Disturbance, 1500 block E. Main St.
22:12: Barking dog, 1100 block S. 4th St.
23:52: Abandoned vehicle, 100 block N. 16th St.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

01:08: Suspicious condition, 180 block E. Main St.
01:24: Suspicious subject, 200 block Gateway Blvd.
02:11: Suspicious vehicle, 1700 block E. Main St.

02:41: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.
02:57: Disturbance, 1300 block E. Jefferson Ave.
07:19: Fire, 400 block N. 14th St.
08:54: Alarm, 100 block N. 6th St.
09:09: Found property, 1000 block E. Main St.
10:14: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
10:17: Agency assist, 100 block S. 11th St.
10:37: Agency assist, 77000 block Layng Rd.
12:25: Fire, 400 block E. Main St.
14:30: Theft, 200 block N. 12th St.
14:40: Found property, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
15:54: Disorderly subject, 800 block E. Whiteaker Ave.
16:02: Disorderly subject, 800 block E. Whiteaker Ave.
18:34: Reckless driving, 9th/Main
19:19: Barking dog, 1000 block Chestnut Ave.
19:41: Disorderly subject, 1800 block E. Main St.
20:48: Suspicious vehicle, Hwy 99/6th
22:16: Vicious dog, 10th/Thayer
22:27: Motor vehicle crash, 1800 block Harvey Rd.

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Investigators seek vehicle in fatal hit-and-run

STAFF REPORT

Cottage Grove Sentinel

Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) investigators are asking for public assistance in identifying the vehicle involved in a fatal hit-and-run crash that occurred October 9 near Creswell.

The suspect vehicle is described as a gray or silver small hatchback car. The vehicle is described to have round taillights. As a result of the crash the vehicle may have light damage to the front and or driver side, according LCSO Sgt. Levi McKenny.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is asking residents in the area for help. Residents are asked to review any external roadway facing security cameras around the time of the incident. Anyone with information on this



case is asked to contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150.

BACKGROUND
At approximately 8:27 p.m. October 9, LCSO deputies responded to a report of a

vehicle-versus-pedestrian crash on River Drive near East Cloverdale Road, outside of Creswell.

"It was reported the involved vehicle fled the scene after striking the pedestrian," McKenny

said. "LCSO deputies responded along with EMT's with South Lane Fire. Sadly, the individual struck by the vehicle did not survive. The deceased was identified as 49-year-old Justin Dewayne Jones."

LCSO Major Crash investigators were called out and assisted with the investigation. The involved vehicle may be a gray or silver hatchback style car or small SUV. The vehicle may have light damage to the front and or driver side.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is asking for the public's help in identifying the vehicle involved in the crash. Anyone with information about this case is asked to contact the Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4150.

See story updates online at cgsentinel.com.

Community Calendar

OCTOBER 21

- Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 3–5:30 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
- Senior Center Pinochle Games. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 700 E. Gibbs Ave.
- Acoustic Jam with Gregg Biller. 6–7:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
- Elks Lodge Bingo. Early Bird 6:30 p.m. Regular Games 7 p.m. Elks Lodge.
- Crashing Wayward (rock). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.

OCTOBER 22

- T.O.P.S. Club. 9:30–11 a.m. Delight Valley Church of Christ, Saginaw.
- Baby Laptime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.
- Bohemia Gold Mining Museum. 1–4 p.m. 308 S. 10th St.
- Community Center Table Tennis. 4–6 p.m. Community Center.
- Bread Club. 5–7 p.m. CG Public Market.
- Celebrate Recovery. 5:15 p.m. Calvary Chapel. 1447 Hwy 99N.
- Stone Hart (rock). 6–8 p.m. The Public (CG Public Market).
- Open Mic Night. 6:30–9:30 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Fall colors a blaze at Cottage Grove’s Coiner Park.

- Cottage Theatre Play: “The Addams Family Musical”. 7:30 p.m. Adults \$32/Students \$20
- Karaoke Night. 9 p.m.–Close. Bohemian Tavern. 48 N. Ninth St.

OCTOBER 23

- All Seasons Bazaar. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. OLPH Catholic Church. 1015 N. 19th St.
- Storytime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.
- Bohemia Gold Mining Museum. 1–4 p.m. 308 S. 10th St.
- American Legion Bingo. 5–7 p.m. American Legion Post 32. 826 W. Main St.
- Elks Lodge Fundraising Fish Fry Dinner. 5–6:30 p.m. A la carte menu prices vary

- Dear Mr. Henshaw (garage rock). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle

OCTOBER 24

- Share Fair. 9 a.m. 1133 E. Main St.
- All Seasons Bazaar. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. OLPH Catholic Church. 1015 N. 19th St.
- South Valley Farmers Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 7th and Main Street.
- Cottage Grove Museum. 1–4 p.m. Birch Avenue and H Street.
- Bohemia Gold Mining Museum. 1–4 p.m. 308 S. 10th St.
- Jazzcheesewine Fundraiser. 5 p.m. The Public (CG Public Market)
- Concrete Delta (blues). 6–9 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
- Mayor’s Monster Ball. 7 p.m. Cottage Grove Armory. \$35/person. Adults only.
- Cottage Theatre Play: “The Addams Family Musical”. 7:30 p.m. Adults \$32/Students \$20
- Brian James and The Revival (blues/rock). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle

OCTOBER 25

- Cottage Grove Museum. 1–4 p.m. Birch Avenue and H Street.
- Gus Russel (jazz piano). Saginaw Vineyard Friday Night Live. 6–9 p.m.
- Corwin Bolt (ragtime roots). 6–9 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
- Weekly Pool Tournament. 7 p.m. Bohemian Tavern. \$5 entry. BCA rules.
- Cottage Theatre Play: “The Addams Family Musical”. 7:30 p.m. Adults \$32/Students \$20

- The Regulars (Americana). 1–3 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing
- VFW Bingo. 2–4 p.m. VFW Post 3473. 3160 Hillside Dr.
- Cottage Theatre Play: “The Addams Family Musical”. 2:30 p.m. Adults \$32/Students \$20
- Tim McNary (cinematic folk artist). 6–8 p.m. Axe and Fiddle

OCTOBER 26

- Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 1–5:30 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
- Senior Center Bingo. 12:30 p.m. Cottage Grove Community Center.
- Hope & Safety Alliance Fundraiser. 6–8 p.m. Axe and Fiddle

OCTOBER 27

- Ukulele Club. (for adults) 9 a.m. CG Public Library.
- Bilingual Story Time. 5 p.m. CG Public Library.
- Trinity Lutheran Free TakeOut Dinner. 5:15–6:15 p.m. 675 S. 7th St.
- Trivia & Games with Gerald and Cribbage with Ted. 6–8 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
- Sabor Latino Dance Night. 6:30–9:30 p.m. \$6/ dancer

Mayor’s Monster Ball a ‘community connector’

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Cottage Grove Mayor’s Monster Ball is schedule for 7 p.m. Saturday, October 24, at the Cottage Grove Armory located at 628 E Washington Avenue.

“The Mayor’s Monster Ball began last year, making this year’s event only the second one.” Cottage Grove Mayor Candace Solesbeess said.

Cottage Grove’s Mayor’s Ball was a more formal affair, with invitations directed largely to organizations, business owners, community volunteers, philanthropists, board and committee members, and others involved in local service, according to Solesbee.

“I wanted to open the event to the whole community and keep tickets affordable, so more people

could take part in giving back while enjoying a fun evening together,” she said. “Holding it around Halloween seemed like a great way to bring some extra playfulness to the occasion.”

Last year’s Ball raised just under \$20,000 and like this year-all proceeds supported the 2027 Cottage Grove Music, Art, and Cinema (CG M.A.C.) Project, featuring the WallDogs MuralFest.

“We’re planning to welcome 200 to 300 artists to Cottage Grove to create 15 original historical murals in just four days- celebrating the people and industries that built our town,” Solesbee said. “The project will also include work on our two existing Coca-Cola murals and a community mural, alongside the 50th Anniversary celebration of

the filming of Animal House in Cottage Grove.”

“Our community has a rich creative history, and I’m passionate about supporting the arts,” she said. “The Art programs are often among the first cut when school budgets are tight, even though they play an important role in children’s development. Smaller communities can also face challenges securing grants and funding public art, so projects like this often depend on the community coming together.”

According to Solesbee, the Ball is a community connector.

“What I love most about the Ball is seeing people connect, have fun, and feel part of something meaningful,” she said. “Many local businesses and nonprofits donated last year, restaurants

contributed food, and time, coffee shops joined in, food trucks/carts offered treats. The entertainment included a surprise Thriller flash mob and performances by our very own Cottage Grove Witches group. People were dancing to the background music-before the live band even began playing, and guests were asking us to bring the

event back before the evening was over. Those smiles said everything.”

Solesbee said the 2026 Mayor’s Monster Ball process has been streamlined changes to not put the weight on the same volunteers as last year.

“However, we are looking forward to another memorable night,” she said.

Tickets are \$35 each and are available at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce office at 836 E Main Street. The ticket includes dinner, no-host bar, and entertainment.

“There will also be surprises, and silent auction items - everything you need for a festive night out with friends,” Solesbee said.



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee Photography
Participants enjoying the dancing at the 20-25 Mayor’s Monster Ball.



Courtesy photo from Greg Lee Photography
On the dance floor during the 2025 Mayor’s Monster Ball.

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Obituaries / News

Colleen Ann Otton

July 5, 1939 – October 3, 2026

Colleen Ann Otton, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and lifelong teacher, passed away on October 3, 2026, at the age of 87.

Born on July 5, 1939, in Wendell, Idaho, to Elmer Earl ("Bus") and Lovelle Parr, Colleen grew up in Wendell before attending the University of Idaho. It was there, on March 27, 1959, that she met Edward W. Otton, Jr., while painting Easter eggs and playing Pinochle. That meeting began a remarkable love story. Colleen and Ed married on August 16, 1959, and shared 67 years of marriage, building a life filled with family, faith, travel, and cherished memories.

Teaching was more than a profession for Colleen; it was a lifelong calling. She taught third grade at Wendell Elementary School and Drain Elementary School in Oregon and later served as a substitute teacher in Mt. Si and elementary schools throughout Vancouver, Washington. Her love of teaching also took her across the world, where she taught at Watsonia High School near Melbourne, Australia, for two years while living there with Ed and their two sons.

Although Colleen officially retired in 1999, her passion for helping others learn never ended. She continued substitute teaching for several years and, even in her later years, found joy in teaching her great-grandchildren to read over FaceTime. Her dedication to education remained part of who she was until the very end.

Colleen loved traveling and, above all, spending time with her family. Her five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren



brought her tremendous joy. She also found purpose and fellowship through her church community. As a member of Vancouver First Presbyterian Church, she served through the Food Bank Garden, FEAST, and Deacons ministries, generously giving her time to help others.

Colleen was preceded in death by her parents, Bus and Lovelle, and her sister Elaine (Dave). She is survived by her beloved husband of 67 years, Ed; brother Rollin; sister Pauline (Earl); sons Edward (Pam) and Steve; grandchildren Stephanie (Dan), Geoffrey, Jaimee (Chris), Linda, and Stacey (Ryan); and great-grandchildren Amy, Emma, Carter, Mia, Zoe, and Remi.

Colleen's legacy lives on through the countless lives she touched as a teacher, the family she loved so deeply, and the example she set through a lifetime of service. She will be remembered for her generous spirit, her dedication to helping others learn, and her steadfast love for those closest to her.

Her family will especially cherish the memory of a woman who never stopped teaching, never stopped caring, and continued sharing her gifts with the next generations.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Vancouver First Presbyterian Church (4300 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98663), designated for the "Breakfast with Neighbors" program.

A memorial service celebrating Colleen's life will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at Vancouver First Presbyterian Church.

New drop off boxes for county voters

The Lane County Elections Office is installing three new traditional ballot drop boxes and testing a new "smart" ballot drop box ahead of the November 3, 2026 election.

"Expanding access to convenient and secure ballot drop boxes is one of our longstanding goals at Lane County Elections," Lane County Clerk Tommy Gong. "Most voters in Lane County choose to use an official drop box to return their ballots and we want to continue building our network of locations as our communities grow and change."

The new ballot boxes are being funded with a combination of the emergency funding approved in September by the Joint Emergency Board of the Oregon Legislature and provided to the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for distribution and grant funding.

"This is a major win for Lane County voters. I want to thank Clerk Gong and his team for their tireless work to get these drop boxes placed during an election. Expanding access to these secure, official drop boxes will make it easier for more eligible Oregonians to vote in this year's election. That's good for democracy and good for Oregon," Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read said.

Site preparation is scheduled for this week with installation planned on October



14. All 25 Lane County ballot drop boxes will open to accept ballots on October 15 – the day ballots are mailed to Lane County voters.

The three new traditional ballot boxes will be located at:

- River Road Water & Fire Protection District (105 Oakleigh Lane, Eugene)
- Mapleton Fire District (10940 OR-36, Mapleton)
- McKenzie Fire & Rescue (42870 McKenzie Highway in Leaburg)

The new smart ballot drop box is the first of its kind in Oregon. It is able to scan the barcode on the outside of each return envelope to better track ballots returned at that location – increasing ballot security.

"We're excited to be the first jurisdiction in Oregon to test this new technology," Gong said. "One of the most compelling features is its ability to keep track of whose ballots were returned

at that location, which in turn improves our chain-of-custody process for ballots and makes it possible or us to communicate with voters if something were to happen to the box and its contents before ballots had been collected by election workers."

The smart ballot drop box will be located on the ground floor of the Lane County Public Service Building (125 E. 8th Avenue, Eugene). If the test is successful, the box will be moved to a different location before the next election.

The new ballot boxes will not appear on the list of official ballot drop boxes that accompany each ballot because the locations were confirmed too late in the ballot preparation process.

Ballots will be mailed to Lane County voters starting October 15. All returned ballots must be in drop boxes or postmarked by 8:00 p.m. on November 3. In response to service changes at the U.S. Postal Service delaying post-marking and delivery times for all mail, including ballots, voters are encouraged to use an official drop box or mail their ballots no later than October 27.

More information about the November 3, 2026 General Election, including election security, is available at www.LaneCountyOR.gov/elections.

Kotek, Drazan focus on development at final debate

SHAANTH NANGUNERI
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek and state Sen. Christine Drazan, R-Canby, spent their final televised debate for the 2026 Oregon gubernatorial race tussling over who could best spur economic growth, housing and development in the state with a focus on Oregonians outside of Portland.

Local news outlets KTVZ and The Source hosted the Bend debate, which coincided with the final day for Oregonians to register to vote. Election officials will begin mailing ballots to all registered voters Wednesday.

Drazan has spent much of the campaign hammering Kotek for increasing state spending while failing to improve outcomes on homelessness, housing and education. Kotek, meanwhile, has fired back that Drazan will roll over to enact the Trump administration's agenda on issues such as immigration, abortion and mail-in voting.

That translated on Tuesday to Drazan pointing to her roots as a Klamath Falls native who opposes excessive regulation and transportation taxes that hamper businesses in rural areas. She encouraged

supporters of the conservative-driven Greater Idaho movement to trust in her candidacy to turn the state around. The movement has support among some Oregonians in counties east of the Cascades who want to secede and join Oregon's eastern neighbor, a long shot that would require approval from both states and Congress.

"The governor's agenda is one I know you cannot afford. In rural Oregon, that gas tax fight, you were desperate to make sure that that tax did not actually pass because you couldn't afford it," Drazan said. "You drive further. The distances are more extensive. People don't get that in Portland where they can pop on a bus."

Kotek, in turn, repeatedly pointed out that the GOP's 2025 federal tax and spending law would harm rural communities and hospitals through cuts to Medicaid, which 1 in 3 Oregonians relies upon. Those are expected to cost Oregon more than \$400 million over the next two years that the state will need to account for to prevent loss of coverage and services.

"When I was speaker of the House, one of the things that was important

for me was for Republicans and Democrats to see each other's districts, and they would visit each other's districts to make sure they understood what was going on," she said. "We need to work as one state on the issues we all care about."

Recent polling from news outlets and campaigns has shown that the race has been competitive, with Kotek and Drazan in effectively a statistical tie. National political analysts have suggested that it's possible for Drazan to capitalize upon discontent with four decades of Democrats winning the governor's race, but political headwinds for Republicans remain nationwide given their current control of the White House and Congress.

Housing, homelessness, economy take center state in debate

Kotek took Tuesday to point to the state of Oregon's progress on two of her top issues, housing and homelessness. She touted data showing homelessness is on the decline in Central Oregon by 19.1% in 2026. Statewide, Oregon experienced a 19% increase in homelessness between 2025 and 2026, the annual federal report based on counting people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January showed.

"The bills that I have been successfully getting passed in the Legislature before I was even governor,

Senator Drazan voted against them, whether that was middle-housing and trying to have more options within our urban growth boundaries, or dollars to help build the housing that we need across our state," Kotek said. "And so, if it's really about who's done the work, I've done the work."

Drazan said Oregon needs to undergo a serious overhaul of the state's land use system and increase the number of housing units being built without hampering the culture of local communities. She also said the state needs to take a "tough line" with local governments in order to ensure permits are approved.

"What you didn't hear the governor say today is that she has achieved her own goals for housing across our state," Drazan said. "When she ran for governor four years ago, she told Oregonians that she was going to solve our housing crisis across our state. She was unable to rein in government."

The two also sparred over a tax credit legislative Democrats approved when they passed a law this year to prevent the state tax code from replicating some business-friendly tax breaks passed under the 2025 federal GOP tax and spending law. By blocking those tax exemptions, the law saved the state approximately \$300 million in revenue.

But some political observers noted at the time that another benefit within that law to offer businesses up to \$1,000 in a tax credit for each new job they create was significantly narrowed through the legislative process by the end of the session. Another law narrowed the credit to only apply to certain industries such as forestry, manufacturing, technology. The credit is capped at \$10,000 per employer.

Drazan called the final incentive "almost laughable." She said she would work across the aisle to reform the state's corporate activity tax, which pays for education, and the state's estate tax.

Businesses with more than \$1 million in sales or other business activity pay \$250 plus 0.57% on their commercial activity beyond the \$1 million threshold, and critics describe it as a hidden sales tax. Oregon's estate tax, meanwhile, has one of the lowest thresholds in the nation at \$1 million.

"I will work across the aisle to ensure that we can reduce the regulatory burden on businesses in our state so they stay. We don't want them to look to Arizona, to look to Nevada, to look to Montana for the growth of their company or to relocate there," Drazan said. "We have got to do everything we can to get them to stay here."

Kotek, meanwhile, pointed out that the state law passed by Democrats also included an expansion of the state's earned-income tax credit for low and moderate income Oregonians. She referred to her pledge to create a Department of Commerce next year to help businesses of all sizes start up in the state.

"When it comes to our small businesses, remember 9 out of 10 businesses in our state have 50 employees or less," she said. "We have to support our really small and mid-sized businesses to be successful. So it's more than that kind of 'If you add some employees, you're going to get a tax break.'"

Data centers Perhaps the other issue key to central and eastern Oregon addressed on Tuesday was data centers. Both Kotek and Drazan have called for moratoriums on further data center development statewide, and Kotek's recent directive to halt air and water pollution permits for the server farms is expected to pose barriers for a proposed Amazon hyperscale facility in Boardman.

In eastern and rural Oregon, the centers have some public support, and they have helped provide jobs and fund services such as education in places such

Debate
From Page 6

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Jobless Report

State jobless rate unchanged

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Oregon’s unemployment rate was little changed at 5.0% in September and 5.1% in August, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The rate is a key indicator of the state’s economy.

The jobless rate has held to a tight range between 5.0% and 5.3% for the past 19 months, since March 2025 when it was 5.0%.

In September, Oregon’s seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 5,800 jobs, following a revised gain of 2,600 jobs in August. September’s gains were largest in construction (+2,000 jobs); health care and social assistance (+1,700); and leisure and hospitality (+1,300). Losses were largest in retail trade (-1,500 jobs).

In the past 12 months, payroll employment rose by 2,600 jobs, or 0.1%. Health care and social assistance continued its rapid growth during the past four years by adding 12,100 jobs, or 3.8%, in the past 12 months. Other services (+1,600 jobs, or 2.4%) and private education (+1,300, or 3.6%) were the other major industries that added the most jobs since September 2025.

Manufacturing (-4,300 jobs, or -2.4%) cut the most jobs in that time, followed by government (-4,000 jobs, or -1.3%).

Construction employment drifted upward during April through August, then jumped higher by 2,000 jobs in September. In the past 12 months, each of the three component industries expanded: construction of buildings (+900 jobs); specialty trade contractors (+500); and heavy and civil engineering construction (+100).

Several industries rebounded over the most recent two months. Government added 1,300 jobs since July, following losses in prior months. Nonetheless, it has cut 4,000 jobs in the past 12 months. Manufacturing added 1,700 jobs since July, partially reversing steady declines during the past three years. Leisure and hospitality’s September gain reversed losses in June and July.

There were 2,135,475 employed and 94,836 unemployed in Oregon during September, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.2% in September and 4.1% in August.

Editorial Cartoon



Commentary

Oregon Achieves... Together!

DR. CHARLENE WILLIAMS

Improvement work rarely pauses, and that is exactly why we have to build in moments to stop, look at the evidence, and name what is working.

Celebrating progress is not the same as settling for it. I want to do both this month: recognize real gains, and be clear about how much distance remains.

Celebrating Teachers

It is fitting that just after we celebrated World Teachers Day (Oct. 5), we announced Oregon’s 2026-27 Teacher of the Year Nate Jackson (Oct. 6)! Congratulations to Mr. Jackson and the 16 additional Regional Teachers of the Year we announced in September. You can read more in the articles below, but I’m always inspired by the great work these educators are doing in all corners of the state, in schools of all sizes.

Great teaching is the most powerful lever we have for student outcomes, and our job at the state level is to build the conditions where more of it can happen for every child, in every classroom, every day. I thank them – and all teachers – for their continued dedication to Oregon’s scholars and encourage you to submit nominations for next year’s awards.

Assessment Gains

Last month’s Oregon Statewide Assessment results showed proficiency increases in nearly every grade level in Mathematics, English Language Arts, and science.

That is worth recognizing, because it reflects hard work in classrooms and districts. It is also not where we want to be. We know that meaningful improvement takes time, so we can’t take our foot off the gas. Our expectations for Oregon’s scholars have not changed and neither has our urgency.

Lasting improvement is built through sustained effort, aligned investment, and a willingness to learn from the data and adjust. Our job at ODE is to turn what the data tell us into clear priorities, stronger support for districts, and accountability that drives results rather than compliance alone.

It also matters how we talk about these summative test results. You may hear someone say the tests show a percentage of Oregon students “can’t read” or “can’t do math.” But that’s not true. Summative tests are a snapshot in time, designed to point out areas in our system that need improving and can indicate trends that help districts know if their efforts are paying off. Our teachers use several tools to determine what individual students know and can do. We need our summative tests to find achievement gaps so they can be addressed.

Tribal Conversation

I want to thank the Burns Paiute Tribe for recently inviting ODE to participate in a Community Conversation related to education. Participants identified significant strengths, including resilient families, strong cultural traditions, dedicated

community programs, and a deep commitment to education.

At the same time, community members highlighted ongoing needs related to language preservation, family engagement, early learning, attendance, student advocacy, and educational and disciplinary equity. The findings reinforce the importance of sustained collaboration among the Burns Paiute Tribe, local education partners, ODE, and state leadership.

The community’s vision is clear: an educational system that honors Tribal identity, strengthens language and culture, supports families, expands opportunities for youth, and ensures that every Burns Paiute student has the tools and support necessary to thrive. I look forward to continuing the conversation with the Burns Paiute Tribe and the other eight federally recognized tribes in Oregon to ensure Native students thrive in their educational opportunities.

Celebrations

Make sure you find time to celebrate this month! You can read about Farm to School Month (and National School Lunch Week) below, but October is also National Information Literacy Month. Every year brings new opportunities and challenges when it comes to technology, making it all the more critical for us to make sure we and Oregon’s students navigate this new era. To that end, ODE has updated our AI guidance. We all want to encourage curiosity and

creativity while also making sure there are boundaries that respect privacy and ensure security.

Plus, you still have a little more time to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. We included an article about it in last month’s Education Update, but it runs from September 15 through October 15, so there’s still time!

Dr. Williams Attendance Event 2026

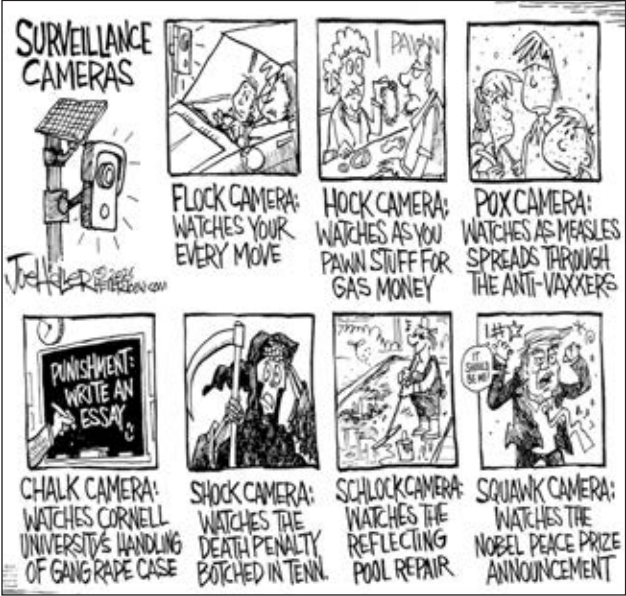
Attendance Matters

Finally, thank you to everyone who took time to celebrate Attendance Awareness Month in September. The work extends beyond just the first month of school, but I hope it strengthened some good habits around showing up every day.

Stay tuned for a big celebration coming up when we announce our first Attendance Impact Awards later this fall! It will be an honor to put the spotlight on individuals, schools, and districts that are going above and beyond when it comes to attendance. It’s a fitting legacy for State Representative Hòa Nguyễn, whose life’s work before she passed away last year centered on supporting Oregon students and strengthening the conditions that help them attend school regularly, feel connected, and thrive.

I hope you take the time to celebrate some accomplishments and recognize how your efforts are paying off.

Dr. Charlene Williams is th Director of the Oregon Department of Education.



Americanisms



New Poll

How do you gain information about local and state candidates and measures in elections?

Voter’s pamphlet

Social media

Newspapers, tv, and radio reports

Other

Last Week’s Poll Results

Overall, do you feel the State of Oregon is headed in the right direction or has gotten off on the wrong track?

7.7% Right

84.6% Wrong

7.7% Unsure

Quote of the Week

“Often when you think you’re at the end of something, you’re at the beginning of something else.”

Fred Rogers

THE COTTAGE GROVE
Sentinel

THE FIRST AMENDMENT
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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DEBATE
From page 4

as Crook County. Kotek said she is focused on data centers that are in the pipeline rather than existing ones and ensuring that they are held to fair environmental and labor standards.

“That means making sure that they’re paying their fair share in their energy costs, creating more renewable energy instead of taking it off the grid, making sure union jobs are building these places and that they are friendly to workers who maintain these buildings, and making sure our communities have those community benefits,” she said.

Drazan, however, tailored her response to be more localized to community responses to data centers. She noted that the district she represents, Oregon’s 26th Senate District, is home to Oregon’s first major data center campus, which was established by Google

in 2006. The data centers on the campus consumed nearly 40% of all of the city’s water supply last year, sparking outcry from some residents and local environmental advocates.

“That data center has arrangements and partnerships with that local community, which have been productive,” Drazan said. “But that’s not the case across all communities in our state. No community should have to have a data center shoved down its throat. We need to reset the table here.”

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/10/13/kotek-drazan-focus-on-development-at-final-debate-in-bend-for-oregon-governors-race/>

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Julia Shumway and Laura Tesler / Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek and now-state Sen. Christine Drazan, R-Canby, participated in a debate in Bend on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

MARKS
From page 1

they told me was exceptional. This is the first time I’ve gone through this process, and I felt pretty confident going into this assessment, coming off the heels of our Northwest Accreditation Alliance accreditation process. Both evaluations reaffirm we are doing things really well.”

One of the few areas flagged in the CIS review was the lack of a secured parking area for police vehicles, which increases

the risk of damage and vandalism — common claims CIS receives from police departments around the state. Chase said evaluators offered several recommendations for tightening security and reducing exposure.

“Overall, it was a very good score,” he said. “In the report’s conclusion it said the Cottage Grove Police Department is a well-managed and professionally operated law enforcement agency with strong leadership, effective policies, sound training practices and a demonstrated commitment to risk reduction and public service.”

Council President Greg Ervin commended the

department’s progress. “Some of us remember past problems and recognize these are big steps you brought to this department. We commend you and all the officers you’re bringing on and training up.”

Councilor Christine Hyink said she read the entire 44 page document and especially liked the conclusion. “I just want to say good job. I’m impressed but not surprised. Thank you.”

Chase thanked the councilors for their comments and emphasized the role of staff. “It is our staff that is doing all of this work. We can build a culture and put policies and practices into place, but it’s

really the officers, dispatchers, and support staff who are buying into this and following these procedures to create our professional workforce.”

The strong score also resulted in a 3 percent credit on the city’s insurance premium. “We’re seeing good results and we’re doing good things. When we maintain these high standards, we get financially rewarded for that from CIS,” Chase noted.

IN OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

Public Comment:
Riverwalk Traffic Concerns
During public comment, Riverwalk subdivision resident Dennis Boren told the council he is concerned about children’s safety and drivers cutting through the neighborhood to avoid the Harrison Avenue traffic light. He requested a four way stop at

Riverwalk Place and Second Street.

“Nobody’s paying attention when they go through that intersection,” Boren said. “I watched at least a half dozen cars go through. Nobody tapped their brakes. It’s like Russian roulette, and I fear some poor kid on a bike will get hit.”

Councilors asked public works staff to evaluate the intersection and return with a recommendation.

Building Use Code of Conduct: At CGPD’s request, the council adopted a code of conduct for city owned parks and buildings, allowing exclusion notices for individuals with repeated violations. The policy includes discretion for extenuating circumstances and will be posted in parks and city facilities.

Councilor Appointment Process: Following the

resignation of Councilor Randell Lammerman, staff presented a list of previously used interview questions for the upcoming Ward 2 appointment. Councilors each contributed two preferred questions, and staff will organize all of them into categories for further discussion at a future meeting.

Cell Phone Tower LUBA Appeal: City Attorney Carrie Connelly told the council she and planning staff have compiled all the required procedural information the Lane Use Appeals Board needs to consider two appeals to the city’s approval of a permit to place a 100-ft tower in the Cottage Grove Industrial Park.

Read previous coverage of the cell tower issue online at cgsentinel.com and in the Sept. 9 issue of The Sentinel.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING			
CGS26-159			
• For supplemental budgets proposing a change in any fund's expenditures by more than 10 percent			
A public hearing on a proposed supplemental budget for South Lane School District for the current fiscal year will be held at 455 Adams Ave. & virtually via Zoom (see District website for link). The hearing will take place on November 2 2026 at 5:30 pm. The purpose of the hearing is to discuss the supplemental budget with interested persons. A copy of the supplemental budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after November 6 2026 at 455 Adams Ave., between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:00 pm.			
SUMMARY OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET			
FUND: 219 OHA			
Resource	Amount	Expenditure	Amount
1 Grant	\$500,000	1 Personnel	\$401,626
		2 Contracted Services	95,000
		3 Supplies	1,000
		4 Communications	1,308
		4 Travel	1,066
Revised Total Resources	\$500,000	Revised Total Requirements	\$500,000
Explanation of change(s): We received an unanticipated grant after the budget was adopted			

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Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
6th and Quincy
541-942-2373
Pastor: John Westhafer
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 6:15 p.m.
TLC Groups tlccg.com

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
334 Washington 541-942-3033
Worship 10am umcgrove.org

CRESWELL:
CRESWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419
Rev. Seth Wheeler
Adult Sunday School 9:15am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
website www.creswellpres.org

WALKER UNION CHURCH & CEMETERY
32904 England Rd, Creswell, OR (541) 649-1800
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Sunday - 8 am & 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

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Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

DELIGHT VALLEY
Church of Christ
33087 Saginaw Rd. East
541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend
Two Services:
9am - Classic in the Chapel
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

COTTAGE GROVE:
COTTAGE GROVE FAITH CENTER
33761 Row River Rd.
541-942-4851
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Excludes: 10' lift, 12' lift, 14' lift, 16' lift, 18' lift, 20' lift, 22' lift, 24' lift, 26' lift, 28' lift, 30' lift, 32' lift, 34' lift, 36' lift, 38' lift, 40' lift, 42' lift, 44' lift, 46' lift, 48' lift, 50' lift, 52' lift, 54' lift, 56' lift, 58' lift, 60' lift, 62' lift, 64' lift, 66' lift, 68' lift, 70' lift, 72' lift, 74' lift, 76' lift, 78' lift, 80' lift, 82' lift, 84' lift, 86' lift, 88' lift, 90' lift, 92' lift, 94' lift, 96' lift, 98' lift, 100' lift, 102' lift, 104' lift, 106' lift, 108' lift, 110' lift, 112' lift, 114' lift, 116' lift, 118' lift, 120' lift, 122' lift, 124' lift, 126' lift, 128' lift, 130' lift, 132' lift, 134' lift, 136' lift, 138' lift, 140' lift, 142' lift, 144' lift, 146' lift, 148' lift, 150' lift, 152' lift, 154' lift, 156' lift, 158' lift, 160' lift, 162' lift, 164' lift, 166' lift, 168' lift, 170' lift, 172' lift, 174' lift, 176' lift, 178' lift, 180' lift, 182' lift, 184' lift, 186' lift, 188' lift, 190' lift, 192' lift, 194' lift, 196' lift, 198' lift, 200' lift, 202' lift, 204' lift, 206' lift, 208' lift, 210' lift, 212' lift, 214' lift, 216' lift, 218' lift, 220' lift, 222' lift, 224' lift, 226' lift, 228' lift, 230' lift, 232' lift, 234' lift, 236' lift, 238' lift, 240' lift, 242' lift, 244' lift, 246' lift, 248' lift, 250' lift, 252' lift, 254' lift, 256' lift, 258' lift, 260' lift, 262' lift, 264' lift, 266' lift, 268' lift, 270' lift, 272' lift, 274' lift, 276' lift, 278' lift, 280' lift, 282' lift, 284' lift, 286' lift, 288' lift, 290' lift, 292' lift, 294' lift, 296' lift, 298' lift, 300' lift, 302' lift, 304' lift, 306' lift, 308' lift, 310' lift, 312' lift, 314' lift, 316' lift, 318' lift, 320' lift, 322' lift, 324' lift, 326' lift, 328' lift, 330' lift, 332' lift, 334' lift, 336' lift, 338' lift, 340' lift, 342' lift, 344' lift, 346' lift, 348' lift, 350' lift, 352' lift, 354' lift, 356' lift, 358' lift, 360' lift, 362' lift, 364' lift, 366' lift, 368' lift, 370' lift, 372' lift, 374' lift, 376' lift, 378' lift, 380' lift, 382' lift, 384' lift, 386' lift, 388' lift, 390' lift, 392' lift, 394' lift, 396' lift, 398' lift, 400' lift, 402' lift, 404' lift, 406' lift, 408' lift, 410' lift, 412' lift, 414' lift, 416' lift, 418' lift, 420' lift, 422' lift, 424' lift, 426' lift, 428' lift, 430' lift, 432' lift, 434' lift, 436' lift, 438' lift, 440' lift, 442' lift, 444' lift, 446' lift, 448' lift, 450' lift, 452' lift, 454' lift, 456' lift, 458' lift, 460' lift, 462' lift, 464' lift, 466' lift, 468' lift, 470' lift, 472' lift, 474' lift, 476' lift, 478' lift, 480' lift, 482' lift, 484' lift, 486' lift, 488' lift, 490' lift, 492' lift, 494' lift, 496' lift, 498' lift, 500' lift, 502' lift, 504' lift, 506' lift, 508' lift, 510' lift, 512' lift, 514' lift, 516' lift, 518' lift, 520' lift, 522' lift, 524' lift, 526' lift, 528' lift, 530' lift, 532' lift, 534' lift, 536' lift, 538' lift, 540' lift, 542' lift, 544' lift, 546' lift, 548' lift, 550' lift, 552' lift, 554' lift, 556' lift, 558' lift, 560' lift, 562' lift, 564' lift, 566' lift, 568' lift, 570' lift, 572' lift, 574' lift, 576' lift, 578' lift, 580' lift, 582' lift, 584' lift, 586' lift, 588' lift, 590' lift, 592' lift, 594' lift, 596' lift, 598' lift, 600' lift, 602' lift, 604' lift, 606' lift, 608' lift, 610' lift, 612' lift, 614' lift, 616' lift, 618' lift, 620' lift, 622' lift, 624' lift, 626' lift, 628' lift, 630' lift, 632' lift, 634' lift, 636' lift, 638' lift, 640' lift, 642' lift, 644' lift, 646' lift, 648' lift, 650' lift, 652' lift, 654' lift, 656' lift, 658' lift, 660' lift, 662' lift, 664' lift, 666' lift, 668' lift, 670' lift, 672' lift, 674' lift, 676' lift, 678' lift, 680' lift, 682' lift, 684' lift, 686' lift, 688' lift, 690' lift, 692' lift, 694' lift, 696' lift, 698' lift, 700' lift, 702' lift, 704' lift, 706' lift, 708' lift, 710' lift, 712' lift, 714' lift, 716' lift, 718' lift, 720' lift, 722' lift, 724' lift, 726' lift, 728' lift, 730' lift, 732' lift, 734' lift, 736' lift, 738' lift, 740' lift, 742' lift, 744' lift, 746' lift, 748' lift, 750' lift, 752' lift, 754' lift, 756' lift, 758' lift, 760' lift, 762' lift, 764' lift, 766' lift, 768' lift, 770' lift, 772' lift, 774' lift, 776' lift, 778' lift, 780' lift, 782' lift, 784' lift, 786' lift, 788' lift, 790' lift, 792' lift, 794' lift, 796' lift, 798' lift, 800' lift, 802' lift, 804' lift, 806' lift, 808' lift, 810' lift, 812' lift, 814' lift, 816' lift, 818' lift, 820' lift, 822' lift, 824' lift, 826' lift, 828' lift, 830' lift, 832' lift, 834' lift, 836' lift, 838' lift, 840' lift, 842' lift, 844' lift, 846' lift, 848' lift, 850' lift, 852' lift, 854' lift, 856' lift, 858' lift, 860' lift, 862' lift, 864' lift, 866' lift, 868' lift, 870' lift, 872' lift, 874' lift, 876' lift, 878' lift, 880' lift, 882' lift, 884' lift, 886' lift, 888' lift, 890' lift, 892' lift, 894' lift, 896' lift, 898' lift, 900' lift, 902' lift, 904' lift, 906' lift, 908' lift, 910' lift, 912' lift, 914' lift, 916' lift, 918' lift, 920' lift, 922' lift, 924' lift, 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lift, 1100' lift, 1102' lift, 1104' lift, 1106' lift, 1108' lift, 1110' lift, 1112' lift, 1114' lift, 1116' lift, 1118' lift, 1120' lift, 1122' lift, 1124' lift, 1126' lift, 1128' lift, 1130' lift, 1132' lift, 1134' lift, 1136' lift, 1138' lift, 1140' lift, 1142' lift, 1144' lift, 1146' lift, 1148' lift, 1150' lift, 1152' lift, 1154' lift, 1156' lift, 1158' lift, 1160' lift, 1162' lift, 1164' lift, 1166' lift, 1168' lift, 1170' lift, 1172' lift, 1174' lift, 1176' lift, 1178' lift, 1180' lift, 1182' lift, 1184' lift, 1186' lift, 1188' lift, 1190' lift, 1192' lift, 1194' lift, 1196' lift, 1198' lift, 1200' lift, 1202' lift, 1204' lift, 1206' lift, 1208' lift, 1210' lift, 1212' lift, 1214' lift, 1216' lift, 1218' lift, 1220' lift, 1222' lift, 1224' lift, 1226' lift, 1228' lift, 1230' lift, 1232' lift, 1234' lift, 1236' lift, 1238' lift, 1240' lift, 1242' lift, 1244' lift, 1246' lift, 1248' lift, 1250' lift, 1252' lift, 1254' lift, 1256' lift, 1258' lift, 1260' lift, 1262' lift, 1264' lift, 1266' lift, 1268' lift, 1270' lift, 1272' lift, 1274' lift, 1276' lift, 1278' lift, 1280' lift, 1282' lift, 1284' lift, 1286' lift, 1288' lift, 1290' lift, 1292' lift, 1294' lift, 1296' lift, 1298' lift, 1300' lift, 1302' lift, 1304' lift, 1306' lift, 1308' lift, 1310' lift, 1312' lift, 1314' lift, 1316' lift, 1318' lift, 1320' lift, 1322' lift, 1324' lift, 1326' lift, 1328' lift, 1330' lift, 1332' lift, 1334' lift, 1336' lift, 1338' lift, 1340' lift, 1342' lift, 1344' lift, 1346' lift, 1348' lift, 1350' lift, 1352' lift, 1354' lift, 1356' lift, 1358' lift, 1360' lift, 1362' lift, 1364' lift, 1366' lift, 1368' lift, 1370' lift, 1372' lift, 1374' lift, 1376' lift, 1378' lift, 1380' lift, 1382' lift, 1384' lift, 1386' lift, 1388' lift, 1390' lift, 1392' lift, 1394' lift, 1396' lift, 1398' lift, 1400' lift, 1402' lift, 1404' lift, 1406' lift, 1408' lift, 1410' lift, 1412' lift, 1414' lift, 1416' lift, 1418' lift, 1420' lift, 1422' lift, 1424' lift, 1426' lift, 1428' lift, 1430' 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CGS26-158
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Brian E. Kraal has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Janice Arline Kraal, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB08905. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same within four months from the date of publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at 777 High St., #300, Eugene, OR 97401, or they may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the above-entitled Court or from the Personal Representative or from the Personal Representative's attorneys, Luvaas Cobb, P.C. DATED and first published: October 21, 2026. /s/ Brian E. Kraal Personal Representative 10/21/26

Reduce • Recycle • Reuse

Super Crossword

Answers

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Perp's excuse
6 Beer-related
11 Lipids
15 In addition
19 "Cheers!" in Spain
20 Cousin of lingo
21 Concept
22 Geometry, e.g.
23 Photo-sharing app, casually
24 Be finished by
25 "Shakespeare in Love" Oscar winner
27 "A Pocket Full of Rye" novelist
30 Device connecting to a computer port
31 "Alley-o!"
32 High mountain peaks, in Italy
33 "J to — L-O!" (2002 album)
34 Put on
35 Portrayer of Emma Peel on "The Avengers"
40 Longtime editor-in-chief of Vogue
44 Purported psychic gift
45 Reebok rival
46 One-called swimmer
47 — 500 (auto race)
48 Ren or Stimp, e.g.
50 "Peanuts" blanket toter
52 Cherry-hued
53 "Di" of rap
55 Gazes at creepily
57 "Rebecca" novelist
63 Fee-free, as a mutual fund
65 Come — halt
66 Succotash ingredient
67 Kung — chicken
68 12-month period, in Rio
69 Longtime Royal Ballet luminary
74 Sick-dog link
75 Levy
76 Conical-bore woodwind
77 Wed.-Fri. link
78 Kind of gas that's banned for autos
80 Best Actress winner for "Butterfield 8"
86 Large-eyed primate
87 — jiffy
88 Cattle call
89 Presley called "The King"
91 Morning TV's Kelly
92 Trotsky of Russia
95 Copier clogs
97 Free-for — (melees)
99 Eggy drink
100 "The Good Apprentice" novelist
103 1986 Grammy winner for Best Jazz Vocal Performance
105 La Paz's country, Abbr.
106 Tee precursor
107 See 53-Down
109 Cut the lawn
110 Old Jewish ascetic
112 With
119-Across, "South Pacific" song ... or a declaration about the nine women featured in this puzzle?
119 See
121 Mann of pop
122 Apple drink
123 Porcicious
124 British trolley
125 Atlantic, e.g.
126 Sir's cousin?
127 Bears' lairs
128 1980s Dodge
129 Quickness
130 Catnaps, e.g.
DOWN

1 China's home
2 Singer k.d. —
3 "Casablanca" woman
4 Part of a blouse or a blouse
5 Boise native
6 A Baldwin brother
7 Phenom —, Cambodia
8 How RufPaul performs
9 "Garfield: — of Two Kitties" (2006 film)
10 "Move to inbox" email phrase
11 Pacific island nation
12 In unison, in music
13 TV coach Lasso
14 Voiced a quick greeting
15 "That's for sure!"
16 "Arnie" actress Sue Ane —
17 City NW of Minneapolis
18 Classic chocolate candy bar
26 — about-face (flip-flop)
28 May predecessor
29 Unrefined source of elocution #50
33 Pan Am rival
35 Explode, as a bomb
36 Having equal angles
37 Moon-landing mission
38 "Just jokin' with you"
39 Actress Rowlands
41 Must-have perform illegally
43 Arena level
46 Take — at (try)
49 Prefix with colonial
51 As many as
53 With
107-Across, he had many hit songs with John Oates
54 Small stream
56 Apia native
58 Three-nation pact of '94
59 Skier Tommy from Apple
61 De-intensify
62 Driver's fit of anger
64 "Yabba — doo!"
70 Fish eggs
71 Become irate
72 "That's for sure!"
73 — and void
79 — Lingus
81 California wines, in brief
82 — sapiens
83 "Ooh, good comeback!"
84 Circle relative
85 Irritate
90 Replay mode, for short
92 Delamed in print
93 Causing to wear down
94 Raincoat fabric
95 Srs., last year
96 Ancient
98 Toy racer
101 Actress
102 In the habit of
103 Regions, weatherwise
104 For a bit
108 Camera brand
111 Morays, e.g.
112 IRS guy, e.g.
113 Half, Prefix
114 Chair part
115 Hawaiian goose
116 — of March
117 Following
118 Mardil —
120 Chair part

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Sports

Cottage Grove takes 1st and 2nd at the Paul Mariman Invitational

WILL LOHRE
Cottage Grove Sentinel
The Lions loped over to Philomath High School for the Paul Mariman Invitational cross country meet on Oct. 10 and showed off their speed, with the boys taking first and the girls team grabbing second.
The boys team defended their 2025 title, taking

- North Bend - 184
- Newport - 208
- Tillamook - 223
- Junction City - 232
- Elmira - 233
- Oakland - 234
- Scio - 281
- Toledo - 339
- Sutherlin - 357
- Girls results:**
- Philomath - 25
- Cottage Grove - 58

runners in the top 23 of the 93-person field.
Two Mollala seniors took first and second in the 5,000m race. Still, strong finishes by Jennings Albrecht (7th), Remington Sharkey (9th), Jose Calvario (11th), Braeden Bomar (18th), and Micah Henke (23rd) helped the team finish atop the podium. Julien Renault was



Courtesy photo from the CGHS Track and XC website

The girls ran their way to a second-place finish in Philomath on Oct. 10.

down 13 other teams to take the crown. The girls finished second behind the hosts but beat seven other squads to take silver.
Boys results:
• Cottage Grove - 63
• Molalla - 72
• Philomath - 100
• Sweet Home - 126
• Trinity Lutheran - 137

- Sweet Home - 80
 - Tillamook - 114
 - Molalla - 145
 - North Bend - 153
 - Scio - 184
 - Junction City - 186
 - Newport - 189
- The depth for the boys team was on full display during the meet, as they placed their five scoring

Cottage Grove’s final competitor, finishing 33rd in the meet.
The team posted a well-rounded effort, with all six varsity runners setting personal best times and finishing in the top third of racers. Bomar has continued to improve in recent weeks, posting his fourth consecutive



Courtesy photo from the CGHS Track and XC website

The Cottage Grove varsity boys took first-place at the Paul Mariman Invitational on Oct. 10.

personal best at the Mariman Invite. Notably, Calvario’s 16:32.1 was the fastest freshman time in at least 26 years.
The JV boys team also took first in their three-team meet, achieving the team goal of sweeping the top of the podium. Zeke Clark, Aiden Warren, Desmond Corley, Ethan Heegard, Sorin Sundsten, and Atlas Daves took the top six spots. The group pushed each other at the front of the pack, and there wasn’t much of a gap between Clark (18:45.3) in first and Sundsten (19:01.7) in sixth.
In an update on the Cottage Grove Cross Country and Track and Field website, Coach Ricky Knutson was thrilled to see Parker Evans and Brayden Wilson finish 9th and 12th, respectively, under the 20-minute mark. With those times, Cottage Grove’s boys now have 14

runners with sub-20 times, tying a school record.
On the girls’ side, the Lions earned a second-place finish behind Philomath, one of the state’s top cross country programs.
Speedy performances from Carly Knutson and Rowyn Earl helped earn the silver medal. Knutson finished 5th in 19:40.8, and Earl took 10th in 19:57.1. It was the first time in at least 26 years that two CGHS girls have finished sub-20 in the same season. Not only that, but they are now two of the six Lions’ athletes to ever break the 20-minute mark in more than two decades.
Hailey Ferguson (16th), Natalya Thompson (18th), and Rachael Kincaid (22nd) rounded out Cottage Grove’s scoring and helped deliver crucial places to get the team up the podium. Scarlett Garcia (34th) fought off illness to run a solid 23:02.9.

Even without Cally Bickford, the Lions delivered a strong team performance, building momentum heading into the final meets of the season.
The JV girls also won the JV meet, beating Philomath by 10 points. All five of Cottage Grove’s scoring runners finished inside the top 11, including three in the top five. Josie Scoggins led the way with a second-place finish, and Clara Pattison and Ava Gifford took third and fourth, respectively. Ally Wood earned top-10 hardware with a ninth-place finish, and Violet Bates (11th), Josephine Neil (13th), Dave Rowan (14th), Robin Anderson (15th), and Lark Roske (19th) gave Cottage Grove an outstanding nine runners in the top 20.
It was another successful step on the march toward the Sky Em League Championships on Oct. 29.

OSAA adds girls flag football as sanctioned activity

NATE LOWERY
OSAAtoday
The Delegate Assembly of the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) voted in girls flag football as an OSAA-sanctioned activity at the assembly’s Oct. 12 meeting, Monday.
Oregon is the 25th state to sanction girls flag football as an activity. Oregon joins fellow western states Arizona, California, Nevada and Washington to sanction girls flag football.
Girls flag football will begin its inaugural season as a sanctioned activity in Spring of 2027 following two years as an emerging activity. It is the second sport the OSAA has added through its emerging activity process – boys volleyball was added in 2025-26.
The OSAA has sanctioned two girls activities in the last four years after girls

wrestling was added by the Delegate Assembly ahead of the 2023-24 association year.
Girls flag football has seen a sharp rise in participation rates and will feature at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games. The National Football League (NFL), USA Football and Nike, among others, have been part of the effort to grow the activity across the country.
Locally in Oregon, the Seattle Seahawks have aided in the growth of girls flag football through providing support to the culminating event the last three seasons, donating \$30,000 to expand opportunities across the state, and provided equipment to help schools launch their flag football programs. The Seahawks also invested in youth development across Oregon.



“The Seahawks are proud to support the growth of girls flag football across our region and help create more opportunities for young women to compete and experience the game,” said Mario Bailey, Seattle Seahawks Vice President of Community Engagement and Legends. “We are thrilled to celebrate Oregon

as the latest state to sanction the sport, an important milestone that will build a stronger future for girls flag football throughout the Pacific Northwest.”
Nike has also pledged to provide a set of home and away jerseys for all Oregon varsity teams that compete in the inaugural season, as well as any school which adds girls flag football over the first three seasons as a sanctioned activity.
Fifty-seven varsity teams competed last spring with a participation total above 1,400. Liberty High School hosted the activity’s culminating event in which Tualatin defeated South Salem (32-26) to claim the culminating event title. David Douglas (third), Central Christian (fourth), Amity (fifth) and Gresham (sixth) also triumphed. Tualatin went on to win the 2026 Best of the PNW Tournament, hosted by the Seahawks, in June.

A plan book and dates for the 2027 season will be released at a later date.
The emerging activity process allows the growth of meaningful interscholastic participation opportunities for students in athletics and activities that have the potential to meet the required number of schools participating to be considered for official sanctioning by the OSAA.
About the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA)
The Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) is a private, non-profit board-governed association comprised of 299 member high schools. A member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, the OSAA annually sponsors 131 state championships in 28 sports and activities.
For more information, visit www.osaa.org or follow @OSAASports on social media.

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