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Community Calendar
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85
53

Cottage Grove
Wednesday, July 29, 2026
Partly Cloudy



Wednesday July 29, 2026 | 137 years

www.cgsentinel.com

\$2.00

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Grand Miners Parade back after over quarter of a century absence

CINDY WEELDREUER
JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Bohemia Mining Days (BMD) Grand Miners Parade returned to Cottage Grove’s Historic Downtown District for the first time in more than a quarter century.

An estimated 2,000 spectators lined the new route along Main Street from 5th Street to Gateway Boulevard during the July 18 celebration.

City officials and festival organizers worked with the Oregon Department of Transportation to close Highway 99 so the parade could move through the newly redesigned Main Street.

Empty folding chairs appeared along the route long before the 10 a.m. start time were later filled with parents, grandparents, friends and relatives, with excited kids holding their candy bags and waiting for the Cottage Grove Police cruiser to signal the start of the 67th annual parade.

Former Cottage Grove Mayor and Army veteran Jeff Gowing coordinated the Veterans float that followed the police vehicle lead in the parade.

“I was born and raised in Cottage Grove, so this is part of my heritage,” he said. “This is to show respect to our country. All of us served to protect our country and we just want to pay back now.”

Cottage Grove resident Al Pendleton watched from the sidewalk as the parade passed along Main Street. His wife was one of the parade participants.



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Local teens and children marching in the parade wave to the spectators. See more photos with this story at cgsentinel.com.

“I don’t usually like crowds, but this and birthdays are my exception,” he said. “So, this parade is a special moment.”

Garland Burbuck, owner of Cottage Grove Garbage Service, was the Parade Grand Marshal. Burbuck waved to the crowd as he rode in a convertible Jaguar along the parade route.

The BMD Leadership Team had selected Burbuck, a former school board member, city councilor, community volunteer, and longtime

festival sponsor. Douglas Fast Net sponsored the parade.

The July 18 parade featured 54 entries, including nonprofit organizations, churches, businesses, rodeo princesses, classic cars, and race cars that later competed at Cottage Grove Speedway’s quarter mile dirt track.

The Bohemia Mine Owners Association partnered with members of the “infamous” Lemati Gang for staged robbery and shoot out performances along the route.

For nearly 50 years, the Old West troupe entertained crowds during BMD and around town before disbanding in the mid-2000s due to insurance costs and aging membership. Longtime member Tim Schweitzer revived part of the group for this year’s parade and hopes to recruit younger Grovers to join.

INNING PARADE ENTRIES

Best theme representation: First Place Bohemia Mine Owners Association and Lemati Gang, Second Place Oddfellows of Cottage Grove, Third Place Lil Miss Rodeo and Eugene ProRodeo Queens.

Judges Awards: First Place Cottage Grove Speedway, Second Place Cottage Grove High School and South Lane Youth Football and Cheer, Third Place Trail Riding Cowgirls.

Organizers estimate attendance for the BMD three days was approximately 30,000 people.

POPULAR FEATURES

RETURNED

Kiddie and Pet Parade

The traditional Friday morning Kiddie and Pet Parade returned in a new venue. For decades it was held in the historic district, but city officials with limited police coverage moved it to Bohemia Park for safety reasons. Among the 75 participants were members of the South Valley Athletics Cheer Camp, who used the parade as a dress rehearsal before their appearance in the Grand Miners Parade. Children’s entertainer Cowboy Buck led the parade and then performed a high energy show in the amphitheater.

Ore Cart Races

Following Saturday’s parade, ore cart teams gathered on South 10th Street in front of the Bohemia Gold Mining Museum for the return of this signature event, first introduced in 2021 and back after a two year hiatus.

Each team, two cart pushers and one rider, raced down the course to reach sacks of gold stacked at the far end of the raceway. The rider jumped out, loaded the bags into the

See PARADE Page 6



Courtesy photo

The WallDogs ‘teaser’ mural is located on the back wall of the Little Caesars Pizza Restaurant at 24 N 9th Street in Cottage Grove.

WallDogs ‘teaser mural’ in Cottage Grove

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The community gathered July 17, for the unveiling of Cottage Grove’s new WallDogs Teaser Mural, described by city officials as a vibrant preview of the excitement to come in August.

“This incredible mural was generously gifted and hand-delivered by a talented group of Portland artists who have already committed to volunteering during Cottage Grove’s 2027 WallDogs event,” city officials said in a release. “The mural celebrates our community’s rich film history while building excitement for the international gathering of mural artists who will transform walls throughout Cottage Grove.”

City officials encourage residents and visitors to visit the new mural on the back of Little Caesars, which is viewable from the Cottage Grove Public Market parking lot, to see this new and exciting addition to the community and get a glimpse of what’s in store for 2027.

In a Sentinel Guest Column published in February of this year, Cottage Grove Mayor Candace Solesbee said the internationally respected WallDogs mural artists would be in Cottage Grove this coming August.

“Bringing with them nearly 300 volunteer artists who will spend four days transforming our downtown walls into a living storybook of our heritage,” Solesbee wrote.

Cottage Grove will be the third West Coast town the international acclaimed artists have chosen.

“We hope Cottage Grove will be the first of many communities in the future to join an Oregon Mural Trail, celebrating public art, boosting tourism, and helping sustain local economies,” she stated.

According to Solesbee, the WallDogs are known not only for their talent, but for how they work.

“They don’t arrive with a script. They listen first. They work shoulder-to-shoulder with local volunteers, historians, students, and neighbors. Ladders are held by locals. Stories are shared on sidewalks. By the end



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

A participant carrying small American flags walks the parade route. See more photos with this story at cgsentinel.com.

Wildfire season brings unpredictable travel conditions across Oregon

As wildfire activity in Oregon grows, travelers are encouraged to carefully plan their routes. Fires are burning near several highways, requiring crews to close and reopen roads, and change traffic patterns with little notice, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

With hot, dry conditions expected to continue, wildfire-related travel disruptions will persist throughout the summer. ODOT urges anyone traveling this summer to check smoke, fire and travel conditions



Courtesy photo

Wildfires across Oregon have made travel challenging.

before leaving home, stay alert for changing conditions and slow down near wildfire activity.

“Wildfires can affect travel with very little warning,” said ODOT Public Information Officer Kacey Davey. “A highway that’s open when you leave home could close an hour later as fire behavior changes. If possible, choose a route that avoids active wildfires and be prepared to adjust your plans as conditions change.”

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A CLOSER LOOK

Plume of dust leads to multiple charges, arrest

The following is from the Cottage Grove Police Department's Weekly Update.

- It was certainly a busy and eventful week in the Cottage Grove community! We hope everyone enjoyed the many festivities that took place throughout the weekend.

- Thank you, CG Life Flight, for welcoming a small group of us for a tour of your facility. We truly enjoyed learning more about your operation, visiting with your team, and getting an up-close look at the helicopter. Thank you for everything you do to provide lifesaving care to our community and far beyond.

- On Friday afternoon, July 17, members of the Cottage Grove Police Department attended the Wall Dogs Mural Unveiling at Little Caesars.

- Officers responded to a motor vehicle crash in which the driver was reported to be trapped inside the vehicle. Both the northbound and southbound lanes of Highway 99 were temporarily closed while crews removed the truck and cleaned up a diesel spill on the roadway. Fortunately, the driver was able to exit the vehicle and declined medical transport.

- Officers, Reserve Officers, Detectives, Command Staff, and Dispatch personnel worked together to provide security and traffic control for the Bohemia Mining Days Parade and the Bohemia Mining Days festivities throughout the weekend. Personnel were assigned to patrol in marked vehicles, on foot, and on bicycles to ensure a visible law enforcement presence and respond quickly to any issues.

- While working parade traffic control, officers received multiple reports of a blue Chevrolet pickup driving recklessly and exhibiting dangerous driving behavior. A Cottage Grove officer observed the vehicle and broadcast its description and direction of travel. A Lane County Sheriff's Office Reserve Deputy, who was positioned ahead to assist with parade traffic control, safely directed the vehicle off the roadway until Cottage Grove officers arrived. Following the investigation, the driver was cited for Speed Racing.

- An officer attempted to stop a vehicle traveling 51 mph in a posted 25 mph zone. The driver failed to stop and continued driving away. After briefly losing sight of the vehicle, the

officer discontinued the traffic stop.

Moments later, officers observed a large plume of dust nearby, consistent with a vehicle traveling over a gravel surface. As the officer attempted to examine the dust plume, the vehicle was located parked in the driveway of a nearby residence.

Officers contacted the three occupants and determined the residence was not associated with any of them. A resident confirmed they did not know the individuals.

During the investigation, the officer detected signs of alcohol impairment from the driver. The driver was transported to the Police Department, where Standardized Field Sobriety Tests were conducted and a breath sample revealed a blood alcohol content of 0.15%, nearly twice the legal limit.

The driver was transported and lodged at the Lane County Jail on charges of Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer (ORS 811.540), Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (Alcohol) (ORS 813.010), Reckless Driving (ORS 811.140), and two counts of Recklessly Endangering Another Person (ORS 163.195). He was additionally issued Uniform Citations for Speeding (ORS



811.111), Open Container (OR 811.170), Failure to Carry Proof of Financial Responsibility (ORS 806.012), and Minor in Possession of Alcohol (ORS 163.195).

- Officers responded to Dairy Queen to locate a suspect from a suspected hit and run accident on Interstate 5,

wherein the driver wrecked his vehicle on I5 and got a ride to Dairy Queen in town by a passerby. Officers assisted by searching for the suspect as OSP responded to our area.

- Officers responded to a report of an illegal campsite behind the Crestview

Apartments near the Interstate 5 bridge. Two individuals were contacted, and one was found to have two valid warrants through the Cottage Grove Municipal Court. That individual was issued citations in lieu of custody. Both subjects were advised of the illegal camping violation and left the area.

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, JULY 13

03:30: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block South R St.

04:37: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.

05:34: Alarm, 200 block Hwy 99

08:16: Disturbance, 1200 block Ostrander Ln.

08:52: Criminal mischief, Taylor/8th

11:00: Assault, 800 block Gateway Blvd.

11:37: Agency assist, 1100 block W. Main St.

12:14: Trespass, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.

15:00: Warrant service, 100 block S. 21st St.

15:08: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

15:31: Animal info, 400 block North J St.

18:23: Warrant service, 700 block Hwy 99

18:50: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.

19:31: Burglary, 1300 block Quincy Ave.

21:44: Theft, 1500 block E. Main St.

TUESDAY, JULY 14

01:59: Nuisance, 800 block South R St.

08:58: Criminal mischief, 2800 block Row River Rd.

11:24: Trespass, 900 block W. Main St.

13:19: Fire, 1200 block S. River Rd.

14:03: Suspicious subject, 100 block S. 10th St.

16:16: Animal info, 200 block N. 16th St.

17:29: Welfare check, 100 block S. River Rd.

22:43: Juvenile trouble, 2000 block Carver St.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

00:26: Suspicious vehicle, 3200 block Row River Rd.

01:05: Alarm, 100 block N. 6th St.

08:27: Illegal camping, 600 block S. 7th St.

10:14: Criminal mischief, 100 block S. 17th St.

10:29: Fraud, 600 block Wilson Ave.

11:58: Illegal dumping, 1500 block Hwy 99

13:39: Motor vehicle theft, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

14:11: Abandoned vehicle, 4th/Grant

14:16: Unlawful entry into motor vehicle, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

15:03: Suicidal subject, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

15:55: Theft, 1300 block Quincy Ave.

17:11: Theft, 600 block S. 5th St.

18:15: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

THURSDAY, JULY 16

00:17: Disturbance, 300 block Gateway Blvd.

08:29: Illegal camping, 100 block Crestview Terrace

09:56: Found property, 1000 block S. 6th St.

10:24: Assault, 200 block N. 10th St.

10:35: Motor vehicle crash, 15 SB MP 170

11:18: Agency assist, Dairy Queen

18:57: Disturbance, 1000 block E. Main St.

21:36: Disorderly subject, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.

23:52: DUIII, 700 block Grover Ave.

13:23: Suspicious condition, Clark/R

14:14: Abandoned vehicle, 1600 block Clark Ave.

16:02: Abandoned vehicle, 2nd/Harrison

18:59: Agency assist, 400 block Holly Ave.

19:31: Harassment, 900 block Chestnut Ave.

20:57: Juvenile trouble, 100 block S. 17th St.

11:41: Abandoned vehicle, 600 block N. 11th St.

13:12: Fire, Main/S. River Rd.

14:03: Suspicious vehicle, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

14:19: Fire, 34000 block Shoreview Dr.

15:48: Theft, 100 block Village Dr.

16:04: Motor vehicle crash, Hwy 99/Abbott Ln.

18:18: Hit and run, Adams/12th

19:24: Welfare check, 1000 block Villard Ave.

20:21: Disorderly subject, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

23:01: Disturbance, 1000 block S. 10th St.

23:47: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.

SATURDAY, JULY 18

01:02: Suspicious vehicle, 1200 block E. Main St.

01:16: Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block S. River Rd.

01:22: Suspicious vehicle, 800 block Row River Rd.

03:04: Warrant service, 78000 block Hwy 99

03:29: Abandoned vehicle, Haarding Pl/6th

07:46: Fire, 37000 block Row River Rd.

11:15: Trespass, 1500 block E. Main St.

11:31: Disturbance, 300 block N. 7th St.

12:19: Motor vehicle crash, 37000 block Row River Rd.

12:49: Trespass, 900 block Row River Rd.

12:53: Disturbance, 200 block S. River Rd.

13:13: Abandoned vehicle, Harrison/3rd

13:26: Disturbance, 1300 block E. Main St.

13:50: Fire, 1000 block Quincy Ave.

14:27: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

15:03: Disturbance, 73000 block London Rd.

15:21: Theft, 700 block Row River Rd.

16:29: Juvenile trouble, 200 block S. 22nd St.

17:01: Suspicious subject, 1500 block E. Main St.

18:14: Motor vehicle crash, 800 block W. Main St.

18:39: Suspicious vehicle, 800 block Row River Rd.

20:21: Suspicious vehicle, 1100 block E. Main St.

23:14: Nuisance, N. Douglas/Pennoyer

23:22: Hit and run, 100 block North H St.

SUNDAY, JULY 19

00:33: Nuisance, Anthony Ct/Anthony Ave.

12:06: Juvenile trouble, S/ Main

13:10: Agency assist, Row River Rd/Jim Wright Way

18:30: Mental subject, 900 block Row River Rd.

18:34: Animal info, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

19:36: Mental subject, 900 block Row River Rd.

19:47: Suicidal subject, 1700 block Hwy 99

22:38: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

23:20: Suspicious vehicle, 1100 block E. Main St.

23:44: Suspicious vehicle, 500 block S. River Rd.

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (866) 695-9265.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JULY 29

- Escape Room. 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Library.
- 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.
- Chamber Concerts in the Park: The Huckleberrys (folk/bluegrass/Americana) Bohemia Park Amphitheater. Vendors 5:30 p.m. Concert 6:30–8 p.m.
- Acoustic Jam with Gregg Biller. 6–7:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
- How to Paint Watercolor Workshop. 6–9 p.m. Fee: \$25. CG Public Market.
- Axe and Fiddle Game Night. 6:30–9:30 p.m. Free 657 E. Main St.
- Concerts in the Park After Party 8–9 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Market.
- Elks Lodge Bingo. Early Bird 6:30 p.m. Regular Games 7 p.m. Elks Lodge.

JULY 30

- T.O.P.S. Club. 9:30–11 a.m. Delight Valley Church of Christ, Saginaw.



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

A large colorful butterfly mural graces this building in Cottage Grove.

- Escape Room, 11am–3pm, Cottage Grove Public Library
- Baby Laptime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.
- Teen Gaming. 4 p.m. CG Public Library.
- 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. CG Public Market.
- Moon Music (space rock). 8:30–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.

JULY 31

- Storytime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.

- CG Library Free Family Movie. 3–5 p.m. “The Odd Life of Timothy Green” 2012/PG.
- American Legion Bingo. 5–7 p.m. American Legion Post 32. 826 W. Main St.
- Elks Lodge Pulled Pork Dinner. 5:30–7 p.m. 775 N. River Rd. \$12

- Saginaw Vineyard Friday Night Live. 6–9 p.m. 80247 Delight Valley School Rd.
- Last Friday Art Walk. 6–8 p.m. Historic Downtown District and 6th Street Businesses.
- Cottage Grove Speedway Kart Night. 6 p.m. 1250 Douglas Ave.
- Jackson’s Pub Karaoke Night with Jesse Hart. 6:30 p.m. CG Public Market. 912 E. Main St.
- The Huckleberrys. (Americana/Country). 6:30–9:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
- Weekly Pool Tournament. 7 p.m. Bohemian Tavern. \$5 entry. BCA rules.
- Gabriel Cox Band (rock/blues). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.

AUG 1

- Share Fair, 9 a.m. 1133 E. Main 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.
- Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 4–10 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.

- Bekkah McAlvage (bluegrass). 6:30–9:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
- AlAnon “Courage to Change.” 7 p.m. Sinclair Room. City Hall.

AUG 2

- Cottage Grove Museum, 1–4 p.m. Birch Avenue and H Street.
- VFW Bingo. 2–4 p.m. VFW Post 3473. 3160 Hillside Dr.

AUG 3

- Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 1–5:30 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
- Senior Center Bingo. 12:30 p.m. Cottage Grove Community Center.

AUG 4

- Ukulele Club. (for adults) 9 a.m. CG Public Library.
- Bilingual Story Time. 5 p.m. CG Public Library.
- Trinity Lutheran Free Take-Out 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.



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

(Top) Various booths, including one for face painting, were set up at the park for the 2025 Fair. (Bottom) Children and adults got hand-son CPR training at last year’s Fair.

Preparedness Fair partners with Party in the Park

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The City of Cottage Grove is celebrating its 10th Emergency Preparedness Fair, scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. August 1 at Coiner Park.

“This marks a decade of efforts to educate the community of how to effectively prepare, react and recover from any potential disasters in our area,” Cottage Grove Associate Planner Jeremy Means said. “The Fair is an occasion to engage with the community, provide the public with opportunities to connect with vital service providers, and offer prizes that help them prepare for a multitude of disasters that may occur.”

The Emergency Preparedness Fair began in 2015 with the goal of equipping the

community to effectively react to and recover from potential disasters. Various organizations from around the area have booths and demonstrations, and the city hosts raffles and prize giveaways during the event.

This year also marks the 7th year of collaboration with Party in the Park. The partnership regularly draws over 2,000 individuals to this event and is educational and fun for all ages, according to Means. The participating organizations and agencies provide free food and a children’s entertainment area that includes additional games, prizes, free backpacks, and a bounce house.

The Preparedness Fair and party in the Park are scheduled at Coiner Park along Main Street in Cottage Grove August 1.

City announces Election

Three seats on the Cottage Grove City Council and the office of Mayor will be filled by voters in the November 3, 2026, General Election.

The Mayor’s position is a two-year term, and the Councilor positions are four-year terms. The Mayor’s position is currently held by Candace Solesbee, the Councilor at Large position is currently held by Jim Settlemeyer, Ward 1 is held by Christine Hyink and Ward 3 is held by Dana Merryday.

To qualify as a candidate, a person must be a resident of Cottage Grove during the 12 months immediately preceding the election

and a qualified elector within the meaning of the Constitution. Candidates filing for Ward positions must reside in the ward represented at the time of their nomination and election.

Persons interested in filing for one of these positions should contact Cottage Grove Elections Official Mindy Roberts, at 541-767-4112 to schedule an appointment to go over the Candidate Information Packet.

The deadline to file is August 18, 2026, for incumbents and August 25, 2026, for non-incumbents.

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OBITUARY

Linda Egbert

07/05/1949 - 07/04/2026

Linda Lee Egbert passed away peacefully at her home in Cottage Grove, Oregon, on July 4, 2026, just one day before her 77th birthday, due to complications from pneumonia.

Born on July 5, 1949, in San Bernardino California, Linda lived a life marked by compassion, faith, and love for others. Her family moved to Cottage Grove, OR, where she attended Cottage Grove High School and earned her nursing degree at Lane Community College.

As a devoted third-generation nurse, she dedicated her career to caring for those in need, offering comfort, kindness, and healing to countless patients and their families. She worked for over 35 years at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Eugene, before working as a travel nurse, which included a year long engagement at North Bend Medical Center, and at local nursing homes until she retired to care for her husband. Her nurturing spirit extended far beyond her profession and touched everyone fortunate enough to know her.

A woman of strong Christian faith, Linda found strength and purpose in her relationship with God. She shared her faith through the way she lived—showing kindness, generosity, and unwavering love to family and friends. Music was one of her greatest joys, and she loved to sing in the church choir. She also enjoyed collecting figurines, dolls, and anything Elvis-related. She made friends with strangers wherever she went, even with those reluctant to do so. She enjoyed attending theater, particularly musicals, with her son Jeffery at both the Cottage Theatre and The Hult Center. She was particularly



fond of her grandchildren and was proud to see each of them share her kind and caring spirit with others.

Linda was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Robert Egbert, with whom she shared many years of love and partnership. Together they built a family that became the center of her life.

She is survived by her four children: David, Donna, Jeffery, and Melissa (Peters). She also leaves behind five treasured grandchildren: Isaac Egbert, Sydney Crosley, Savannah Hawes, Violet Peters, and Adelynn Peters, each of whom brought her immense joy. Her love, wisdom, and gentle presence will continue to live on through them and through all who knew her.

Though she will be deeply missed, her family finds comfort in the belief that she is now at peace and free from back and knee pain. She has been reunited with Robert, her mom Mae Beth Brightwell, and her brother Eric, all of whom she missed deeply.

Linda will be lovingly remembered by her family, friends, and the Cottage Grove community she proudly called home. Her legacy of love, compassion, faith, and service will never be forgotten by all who met her.

A memorial service will be held at Cottage Grove Bible Church, 1200 E Quincy Avenue, Cottage Grove, on August 1st at 2:00 PM. In honor of Linda's love of roses the family encourages colorful attire. A reception with tea, coffee, punch, and light dessert will follow. A private interment service will be held on August 19th.

Margarite “Maggie” Bonnicksen

April 21, 1932 - July 19, 2026

Margarite “Maggie” Bonnicksen, age 94, of Cottage Grove, Oregon, passed away on July 19, 2026, surrounded by her family, due to age-related causes. She was born on April 21, 1932, in Los Angeles, California, to Walter and Freida (Wolf) Gehrig.

Maggie lived a life defined by love, faith, and generosity. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend whose gentle spirit touched the lives of everyone who knew her. On January 20, 1951, she married the love of her life, James “Jim” C. Bonnicksen, in Vancouver, Washington. Together they shared 75 and a half years of marriage, building a life centered on faith, family, and unwavering devotion to one another. Their enduring partnership was a beautiful example of lasting love and commitment.

Maggie was a faithful member of Delight Valley Church of Christ. Her Christian faith was an important part of her life, and she lived with a spirit of kindness, generosity, and trust in God. She also worked for the SLSD school lunch program, where she contributed her time and efforts in service to children and families. Those who knew her will remember her as loving, faith-filled, and generous.

Among Maggie's cherished memories was a childhood highlight of attending Shirley



Temple's birthday celebration, a story that remained a bright and joyful part of her life. Throughout her life, she enjoyed crocheting, feeding birds, cake decorating, baking and cooking, crafting, and listening to Swiss music. She loved animals and took great delight in the beauty of everyday life. Above all, she was known as a wonderful grandma whose love and encouragement left a lasting impression on her family.

She is survived by her husband, Jim Bonnicksen; her son, Greg Bonnicksen and his wife Trudi of Cottage Grove, Oregon; her daughter, Teresa Stewart and her husband Sean of Cottage Grove, Oregon; seven grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her brother, Otto Gehrig, and her grandson, Vance Strebe. Her family was the center of her life, and she treasured every opportunity to gather, encourage, and care for those she loved.

A private family graveside service will be held at Sears Cemetery in Cottage Grove. Maggie will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her, but her family takes comfort in the many memories she leaves behind and in the enduring example of a life lived with love, faith, and grace.

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

Isaac Aanrud

September 6, 1976 - May 21, 2026

Isaac Aanrud passed away May 21, 2026, due to an automobile accident. Isaac was born September 6, 1976, in Albany OR to Lewis Benjamin and Theresa Aanrud (Shipp). He was a hard worker and devoted to his wife and children and was a huge Oregon Duck fan. He is survived by his wife Dawn and sons and his sister Inga and his father Lewis

Aanrud (Cindy). He is also survived by his aunts Sherry Stalder (Dave) and Rickie Dickinson (Dennis) and uncles William Aanrud (Bonnie) and Owen Aanrud. Isaac is also survived by numerous cousins. Isaac was proceeded in death by his mother, grandparents Richard and Eileen Aanrud, aunts Arleen Funai and Alice Kennedy.

DEATH NOTICE

On June 22, 2026, Marjorie Ann Gray of Lorane, Oregon passed away. She was 88 years old. She is survived by two children and three grandchildren.

Per Marjorie's wishes, there will be no memorial service. Please instead consider a donation to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Cottage Grove Online go to... cgsentinel.com See all obituaries news Sports

Barbara “Barb” Jean Schmitt

December 7, 1935 - July 9, 2026

Barbara “Barb” Jean Schmitt, age 90, of Cottage Grove, Oregon, passed away on July 9, 2026 with her family by her side. She was born on December 7, 1935, in Ochelata, Oklahoma, to Henry and Mabel (Scatterfield) Marsh. Barb will be remembered by all who knew her as a loving, selfless, and friendly woman whose presence brought warmth to her family and friends.

After high school, Barb married the love of her life, Wayne Schmitt, on February 15, 1952, in Cottage Grove, Oregon. Together they built a life centered on family, hard work, and continued companionship. Their marriage was a remarkable 64 years. Wayne passed away in 2016, and their reunion is now a cherished comfort to those who loved them both.

Barb and Wayne made their home in Cottage Grove, where she became a familiar and trusted face in the community through her long career at Safeway. She worked there for 30 years before retiring, and she took pride in her work and in the relationships, she formed along the way. Her steady presence, kind manner, and dependable nature reflected the same qualities she carried into every part of her life.

Outside of work, Barb found great happiness in the simple and meaningful



things that made a house feel like home. She enjoyed gardening with Wayne and caring for her flowers, and she took pleasure in baking, traveling to flea markets, and collecting glassware. These interests brought her joy, but what mattered most to her was the life she built around her family. She loved being a devoted wife to Wayne and a caring mother to her children,

and she treasured every opportunity to be surrounded by those she loved.

Barb glowed when she was with her family. She especially cherished time spent with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all of her nieces and nephews. Her love for them was evident in the way she listened, encouraged, and welcomed each one with kindness.

She is survived by her daughter, Jan and Butch Wicks of Corvallis, Oregon, and her son, Douglas and Becky Schmitt. Her family was the center of her world, and she leaves behind a legacy of love that will continue through the generations she helped shape.

Her memory will be held close by all who were fortunate enough to share in her life. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered always.

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

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JOBS REPORT

County employment ‘flat’ in June

STAFF REPORT
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Lane County’s seasonally adjusted pay-roll employment was flat in June, after an estimated decline of 600 jobs in May and an increase of 100 in April, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

In the newest monthly estimates of private industry employment, which are not seasonally adjusted, leisure and hospitality posted the largest gains (400 jobs, +2%) and declines were estimated in manufacturing (100 jobs, -1%), professional and businesses services (100, -1%), and education and health services (100, -0%).

Over the year, seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment declined by 1,200, or 0.7%. Private education and health services was the only major industry to have an estimated employment gain, at 1,900 jobs (6%). Industries posting the largest losses were professional and business services (1,300 jobs, -8%), manufacturing (600 jobs, -4%), and government (500 jobs, -2%).

Lane County’s unemployment rate was little changed over the month. The seasonally adjusted rate was 5.2% in June, little changed from the revised May rate of 5.1% and the June 2025 rate of 5.1%.

The Oregon seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June was 5.2% and the U.S. rate was 4.2%.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



COMMENTARY

No, Oregon elections are plenty secure

RANDY STAPILUS
Oregon Capital Chronicle

When Dennis Richardson was elected Oregon secretary of state, on the same day and party ticket as Donald Trump first was elected president, he moved quickly to look into a subject Trump talked about then and ever since: Voter fraud and election corruption.

The following February, Richardson reported what he found in the Oregon voting system: Some areas for improvement, but generally a system that works well and cleanly. Once a skeptic of the Motor Voter registration system, he had revised his view, saying it “actually has strengthened us in some ways.”

He warned against unfounded claims of voting problems because “it causes greater distrust of the government. ... I want to make sure that the citizens of the state can trust their (voting) system.”

Richardson did not stop looking for bugs in the system, however, and he found some. In September 2017, he reported his office had found 54 possible instances of voter fraud, across Oregon, in the previous year’s general election — in an election where 2,051,448 ballots were cast, or about 0.002%. And those were simply questionable votes. Upon investigation, nearly all cases were found not to merit criminal charges.

In 2020, the Legislative Fiscal Office reviewed vote by mail in Oregon and found the state attorney general’s office (which handles cases of voter fraud) “obtained 38 criminal convictions for voter fraud out of the 60.9 million ballots in Oregon elections cast over a 19-year period. That amounts to a rate of .00006%. These figures demonstrate that voter fraud is exceedingly rare in Oregon, and is no more widespread in

vote by mail elections than it is in polling place elections.”

For some Oregonians — and other people around the country — all this still doesn’t feel quite right. Getting ballots through the mail, and sending them out that way (though many people, myself included, prefer to use one of the state’s ballot boxes) somehow intuitively doesn’t seem very secure, not in the same visible way filled-out ballots are when quickly dropped in a locked box at a polling place in front of poll workers.

The Trump administration has piled on, implicitly accusing many states, Oregon among them, of failing to keep people who shouldn’t be voting from casting ballots.

Across the border in Idaho, state officials like those in Oregon have declined to provide to federal officials some sensitive voter information. That has led to federal legal action, and as in Oregon threatening letters were sent from the Trump Department of Justice. In Trump-supportive Idaho the attorney general’s office replied with the rebuke, “Stop threatening your friends in Idaho.”

Evidently, threatening states which voted against Trump would be less objectionable, although Oregon (like many other states) has also objected strongly.

Intuitive or not, the Oregon voting process is secure.

Bear in mind that most election administration happens at the county level. Clerks in Oregon’s 36 counties are most directly responsible for distributing ballots and counting those returned, and the process is handled by local people. The secretary of state, who does have responsibility for overseeing election processes, is mainly concerned with ensuring the counties are acting properly. That’s worth remembering:

Any claim that elections have been corrupted is really an accusation that all our county clerks have been — and there’s no evidence of that.

The statewide system seems robust. Each ballot has a unique bar code, and they are tracked through the system. (During election periods, voters can obtain notices from the state about when their ballot was received by county officials, and where it is in the system.)

The 2020 legislative audit said “There are numerous processes built into Oregon’s vote by mail system to ensure integrity, including unique barcodes to track ballots, signature verification to prove voters’ identities, and election security plans filed by county elections offices. Vote by mail also leaves a paper trail that can be audited. In fact, two academic studies have concluded that the election results in vote by mail elections are generally more accurate than the election results in polling place elections.”

Cyberattacks are always a threat, but so far the system seems well protected (and regularly reviewed), and the core counting and related processes aren’t linked to the internet.

On the back end, the initially-reported election results are rechecked in several ways. Since 2008 the state has overseen after-election audits which include human hand counts to verify the accuracy of the machine counts. Many other states take similar steps, and around the nation the results have been generally the same: Mistakes are rare.

To be human-made and human-operated is to be less than perfect. But the babble from the beltway

See **STAPILUS** Page 8



Americanisms

“Today’s headlines and history’s judgment are rarely the same.”
— Condoleezza Rice

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Do you believe Oregon’s Vote by Mail system is secure?

Yes

No

Cottage Grove needs more of which amenities and services?

- 40% Nightlife, live music, comedy and entertainment
- 40% Housing, jobs, economic development,
- 0% Childcare, workforce support and youth programs
- 20% Infrastructure, roads, redevelopment

Quote of the Week

“Journalism largely consists in saying ‘Lord Jones is dead’ to people who never knew Lord Jones was alive.”

G.K. Chesterton

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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How to Reach Us

Joe Warren | Chief Executive

jwarren@countrymedia.net

Newsroom

Jeremy C. Ruark | News Editor

jruark@countrymedia.net

Display Advertising

Gary Winterholter/Advertising

gwinterholter@countrymedia.net

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WILDFIRE
From Page 1

Before you leave, check TripCheck.com for current road conditions, closures and delays. TripCheck provides information from ODOT’s dispatch centers 24 hours a day and updates in real time as fire situations evolve.

- Travelers should:
- Plan routes that avoid active wildfire areas whenever possible.
 - Consider delaying travel if wildfire smoke is reducing visibility or creating unhealthy air quality.
 - Follow official detours. GPS may direct you onto local or forest roads that are also closed or unsuitable for traffic.
 - Start with a full tank of fuel or electric charge, especially when traveling

- through rural areas where services may be limited.
- Carry water, snacks, medications and an emergency kit in case of unexpected delays.
- Driving near wildfires**
Smoke can reduce visibility as quickly as dense fog. If you encounter smoke:
- Slow down and increase following distance.
 - Turn on your headlights using low beams. High beams can reflect off smoke and make visibility worse.
 - Keep your windows closed and set your vehicle’s ventilation system to recirculate.
 - Stay alert for changing traffic patterns, emergency responders and stopped vehicles.
 - If visibility becomes unsafe, pull completely off the roadway only when you can do so safely.
- Many fire camps and staging areas are located

- near highways. Fire crews and heavy equipment may be entering and exiting the highway frequently.
- When traveling near wildfire activity:
- Slow down and follow posted speed limits.
 - Watch for firefighters and emergency personnel working on or near the road. Move over when you can, slow down when you can’t and give them plenty of space to work safely.
 - Give fire equipment extra space to merge, turn and access the highway safely.
 - Obey all traffic control devices, flaggers and road closures.
- Help prevent roadside fires
- Drivers can also help reduce the risk of starting new wildfires by:
- Parking only on pavement, gravel or developed pullouts where hot exhaust systems and catalytic

- converters won’t ignite dry grass.
- Properly disposing of cigarettes or other flammable materials.
 - Securing trailer chains so they don’t drag and create sparks.
- More resources
- For current wildfire information, visit the Northwest Coordination Center or osfminfo.org
 - Visit wildfire.oregon.gov for wildfire preparedness information and resources before, during and after a wildfire.
 - Sign up for local emergency alerts at ORAlert.gov.
 - Monitor air quality and smoke conditions at OregonSmoke.org.
 - Learn how to prevent human-caused wildfires and help protect Oregon’s landscapes at KeepOregonGreen.org.

MURAL
From Page 1

of the week, strangers feel more like friends,” Solesbee said.

Over four days, 15 murals will be painted in the city, each one rooted in Cottage Grove’s real history — the city’s working past, the people of Cottage Grove, the city’s downtown, and

the moments that shaped the community, according to Solesbee.

“These murals will be permanent. Long after the scaffolding comes down, they’ll still be here, quietly telling our story every single day,” Solesbee said.

Follow the WallDogs project online at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Veterans give a wave during the parade.



Courtesy photo from Brandi Presley

Echo and her trusty steed, Spirit, pulling a small wooden wagon, won the Crowd Favorite Award at the BMD costume contest.



Courtesy from Greg Lee Photography

BMD 2026 Sponsor banners on Main Street. See more photos with this story at cgsentinel.com.

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cart, climbed back in, and the team pushed hard for the run back to the start and finish line. Kid carts were available this year for non-competitive entertainment.

Weyerhaeuser sponsored the event and its team finished first, Money Pit Mine placed second, and Lost Creek Mining took third.

MINERS BREAKFAST
On Sunday morning, Prospectors and Gold Diggers

Club members and volunteers served the 62nd annual Miners Breakfast on the Mountain in the Bohemia Mining District and sold 841 meals. Including breakfasts provided to volunteers, parking crews, and Oregon Department of Forestry staff patrolling for new wildfires, the reported number of meals served was about 900.

BOHEMIA CITY EVENTS
Since 1959, “Bohemia City” appears on the third weekend of every July and provides three days of live entertainment on two stages, more than 75 vendors, historical presenters, food and beverages, an art show, children’s performers, a kid zone, and themed fund raising meals that help cover operational expenses.

South Valley Athletics conducted a basketball skills competition, and

the Oddfellows hosted the Slabtown vs Lemati Feud games next to the gazebo. This year, Slabtowners continued their winning streak over Lematians, 52 to 38. Lemati won the Two Towns Tug-O-War. Individual event winners were not available at press time.

Thanks to Kyle Kishen Construction, more Old West façade walls are added each year to strengthen Bohemia City’s historic ambiance. After the COVID pandemic, carnival operators no longer found small town festivals profitable, so BMD organizers partnered with S and K inflatables to provide additional activities for kids.

OTHER CONTEST RESULTS
Pie Eating Contest Winner: Ray Perdue. Beard and Moustache Contest: Untamed Beard Chris Ceaham, Fancy Moustache Tim Schweitzer,

Crowd Favorite TJ Jones. Costume Contest: Youth Winner “Miss Sarah from Little Rock Arkansas,” Men’s Winner “Curly Bill,” Women’s Winner Becca Young, Crowd Favorite: Echo and her furry wheeled pony, Spirit.

NONPROFIT CONTINUES SUMMER FESTIVAL
Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days is the year-round non-profit heritage organization that continues the 67 year tradition. Executive Director Matthew Hewlett, 31, said the festival is SBMD’s gift to the community.

“Most people do not realize how much work goes into building Bohemia City each year,” Hewlett said. “It takes countless volunteers from across Cottage Grove and beyond, not just Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days, but City of Cottage Grove employees, Kyle Kishen Construction and crew, our sound teams, performers, entertainers, vendors, and most importantly our sponsors who help us and ensure the spirit stays alive.”

He added, “I want to thank everyone who helped make this year’s festival a success. Bohemia Mining Days celebrates not only what makes Cottage Grove special, but the spirit of Oregon itself. We have officially rolled up the sidewalks and closed Bohemia City for another year, but our work continues. We will be creating events, sharing history, and serving our community all year long.”

SBMD’s next event is the Kids Heritage Fair, scheduled for Friday, August 14, from noon to 6 p.m. at the Family Relief Nursery. The free event will feature small bites from local eateries, activity books, passports for kids, and opportunities for sponsors and community partners to support hands on heritage activities.

To learn more about SBMD visit www.spiritofbmd.com and follow the organization on its social media pages.

Community Spirit is a Cottage Grove Sentinel feature highlighting the spirit and pride of our community.

Worship Guide

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www.cg4.tv
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Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

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

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Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
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TLC Groups tlccg.com

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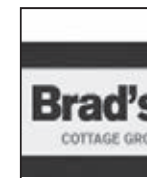
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Upcoming Cottage Grove High School events offer fun

WILL LOHRE
Cottage Grove Sentinel

With July winding down, the fall sports season is drawing closer, but there is still summer fun to be had for Cottage Grove’s youth, and Cottage Grove High School will be offering some exciting opportunities to kick off August.

Cottage Grove High School athletics has already hosted soccer, volleyball, and cheer camps this summer, but there is still time to get some time in with the Lions in the closing stages of the off-season.

First up is the 2026 CG Summer Smash Volleyball Tournament on August 7 and 8. It’s the first of what Cottage Grove Athletics hope will become an annual event, and all the proceeds will

go to Cottage Grove Boys Volleyball.

Hosted at Cottage Grove High School, there are three divisions to compete in at the event, including a 12- 15 Girls Division, a 16 - 20 Coed Division, and a 21+ Coed Division. For the 12-15 girls division, there is a \$100 registration fee per team, and games will be played on the afternoon and evening of August 7. For both coed divisions, the registration fee is \$150 per team, and the games will be played on August 8.

Only eight teams are allowed per division, and spots are only guaranteed once the registration form has been completed. If a division fills up, there’s still a chance to get in, and teams will be placed on a waitlist. Teams must have at least five players, with a maximum



Courtesy photo

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of eight. In the coed tournaments, there must be at least two women on the court at a time, with a maximum of

three men. If need be, teams can play shorthanded with five.

Whether people are seeking a good way to get active, a fun and competitive activity with their friends, or just want to show up and support local high school sports, the Summer Smash should be a great time.

To register or find more information, visit this web address: <https://sites.google.com/slanc.k12.or.us/cghsvolleyball/summer-smash-coed-tournament>

Also coming up is the 2026 Lions Football Camp Aug. 10-13. The deadline to register is August 1, but if you miss the deadline, you can still register onsite on the first day of camp, which will be hosted at Cottage Grove High School. The camp costs \$45 per athlete, and

preregistration guarantees a camp football shirt.

The camp will give students in K-12th grade a chance to get active and learn from CGHS Football players and coaches. Proceeds will go toward supporting the football program, and there are different sessions based on age group. Kids K-8 will have camp on the three days from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., while the 9th-12th grades will attend from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

For more information and to register, visit <https://students.arbitersports.com/programs/2026-lions-football-camp>

Summer may be halfway through, but there’s still plenty of time to have some great times.

State forest management plan approved

The Oregon Board of Forestry has approved a new Western Oregon State Forests Management Plan (FMP).

The long-term plan, along with locally-focused, shorter-term implementation and operation plans, ensures state forests provide the social, economic and environmental benefits required of state forestlands.

The new plan is aligned with the expected approval of the submitted Western Oregon State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by the federal services later this year or in early 2027. The board’s approval stipulates that the new FMP is to become effective once ODF receives an approved HCP and incidental take permits from the federal services.

“This plan, when implemented along with the HCP, will provide

economic certainty for timber harvests, environmental protections and enhancements, and continued recreational opportunities for all who depend on, use, and care about Oregon’s state forests,” ODF State Forests Division Chief Mike Wilson said.

The new FMP has been in development since 2018, and Wilson has been involved with the effort from the start.

“Developing a plan like this over such a long timeframe not only requires immense dedication from ODF staff, but an enormous amount of outreach and collaboration,” Wilson said. “Our county partners, tribes, other state agencies, stakeholders and the general public have been essential in crafting a plan that would be compatible with an HCP and still provide decision space for the board and



Courtesy

For more about the management of state forests see ODF’s website.

department to manage our state forestlands into the future.”

When effective, the new FMP will replace the 2010 Northwest and Southwest FMPs and the 2011 Elliott State Forest FMP.

(The Elliott FMP still governs the management of Board of Forestry parcels adjacent to the Elliott State Research Forest.) While state forests management is still government by the current FMP and associated implementation and annual operating plans, the board’s decision gives ODF the clarity to move forward with crafting new plans for fiscal year 2028 that provide more specific management objectives and operational details.

For more about the management of state forests see ODF’s website.

The Western Oregon State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan under review by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries, provides an integrated, collaborative, ecosystem-based approach to species conservation across the landscape and will ideally result in the department being

issued incidental take permits (ITPs) for 15 species of wildlife and fish.

The conservation measures in the HCP are designed to offset potential impacts from forest management, while the ITPs ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Together, the plan and permits provide a more holistic, cost-effective approach to ESA compliance, while also creating more certainty around the long-term financial viability of managing state forests for economic benefits. Learn more about the HCP at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/aboutodf/pages/hcp-initiative.aspx>

The Oregon Board of Forestry approved the plan in a 5-2 vote July 22.

Howard Buford Recreation Area’s improvements

STAFF REPORT
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Lane County Parks was scheduled to begin construction on parking lot improvements at Howard Buford Recreation Area’s Arboretum/Main Summit Trail parking lot Wednesday, July 22. Construction is anticipated to continue through October.

The project is funded by the voter-supported 2022 Parks Levy and was identified through community feedback gathered during the Parks levy outreach process.

Planned improvements include:

- Full parking lot reconstruction and paving
- New ADA-accessible parking spaces and curb ramps
- An expanded passenger/bus drop-off zone with new amenities
- New stairs to connect parking levels
- Bio-engineered stormwater facilities to improve drainage and protect water quality
- New wildlife-friendly parking lot lighting

“This project responds directly to community feedback gathered during Parks levy outreach,” Lane County Parks Division Manager Brett Henry said. “Howard Buford Recreation Area is one of our

most visited parks, and these improvements will create a safer and more accessible experience for visitors.”

Visitor Access During Construction

The Arboretum/Main Summit Trail parking lot is expected to remain open, although visitors should anticipate limited parking and periodic closures during construction. Lane County Parks is working closely with the Mount Pisgah Arboretum to help maintain access for scheduled programs and events.

Construction activities will occur Monday through Friday. Visitors should expect construction noise, heavy equipment, flaggers directing traffic, and temporary work area closures. Parking on weekends may be limited depending on the stage of construction.

All trails, including Summit Trail #1, will remain open throughout the project. However, access from the Main Summit Trailhead may be limited. Visitors planning to hike are encouraged to use the North Bottomlands Trailhead or the East Trailhead for easier access during construction.

For more information, contact Lane County Parks at

341-682-2000 or LaneParks@LaneCountyOR.gov.

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The Arboretum/Main Summit Trail parking lot is expected to remain open, although visitors should anticipate limited parking and periodic closures during construction.



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Mia Maldonado / Oregon Capital Chronicle

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STAPILUS

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notwithstanding, Oregon’s mechanisms for voting come remarkably close.
<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/07/16/no-oregon-elections-are-plenty-secure/>

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