

# THE COTTAGE GROVE Sentinel

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82  
60

**Cottage  
Grove**



Wednesday, August 20, 2025  
Partly Cloudy

Wednesday August 20, 2025 | Number 34, 136 years

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\$2.00

## Soul Sweets & Things blends family, tradition, entrepreneurship

CINDY WEELDREYER  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

For Katie Souliyalaovong, baking isn't just a business—it's a legacy built from childhood memories, family traditions and a deep love for sharing joy through food.

Souliyalaovong is the owner of Soul Sweets & Things based in Cottage Grove.

Born and raised in Eugene, she grew up watching her father and uncle run a toy store. From a young age, she was behind the counter, learning how to count money, greet customers and answer phones.

"My dad taught me how to talk to people and handle the register," she said. "Now I do all of that with my kids. When they help me at events, I show them how to count money, follow sanitation rules and talk to adults."

Souliyalaovong and her husband have been together for 13 years and are raising four children: two 17-year-olds, an 11-year-old and a 6-year-old. She said motherhood has shaped every aspect of her business. She takes pride in cooking for her family and makes each birthday special by preparing the honoree's favorite meal and dessert.

That tradition extends beyond birthdays. For more than a decade, Souliyalaovong and her close friend Heavenly have hosted baking and craft nights with their families.

"We laugh, listen to music and make crafts together," she said. "Sometimes the dads join in. We still decorate our homes with things we made years ago."

**PANDEMIC SILVER LINING**



The entrepreneurial Souliyalaovong family, pictured from left to right, are parents Katie and Tony, Kamea (17), King (11), Ian (17) and Ikaika (6) in front.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, her kitchen became a creative hub. She made her first cake pops (German chocolate) for Heavenly's birthday. Watching how much the guests enjoyed them, Souliyalaovong decided she wanted

to make treats for others to enjoy. From there, word spread quickly, friends and family began placing orders. Her middle son proudly brought her business cards to school, helping secure orders from teachers and staff.

Soul Sweets & Things officially launched in November 2021. Her first public event was the Western Oregon Expo's Christmas Bazaar,

See **SWEETS** Page 6

## Missing Man



Herbert Elroy Stout

## Missing 80-year-old triggers intensive search

JEREMY C. RUARK  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The report of a missing Cottage Grove man spiked to the number one viewed story this past week on The Sentinel's website.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) first issued a release Aug. 8, that it had launched a search for 80-year-old Herbert Elroy Stout, who was missing from his residence in the 31600 block of Raisor Road, where he was last seen Friday morning.

The LCSO Search & Rescue team was actively searching the area, however Stout has been known to hitchhike and recently spoke about going to California, according to LCSO Sgt. Tim Wallace.

Stout is described as a white male adult, standing approximately 5'6" tall and weighing about 135 pounds. He has gray hair in a shoulder-length ponytail, blue eyes, and a white beard. He was last seen wearing glasses, a maroon shirt, and light blue jeans. Stout suffers from dementia and a seizure disorder.

Anyone with information about his whereabouts was asked to contact the Lane County Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4141.

The Sentinel reached out to Wallace Aug. 11 for any additional details about the search.

The Sentinel: What is the status of the search for missing 80-year-old Herbert Elroy Stout of Cottage Grove?

**Tim Wallace:** He is still missing, however based on the investigation, it is believed he left the area.

**The Sentinel:** What resources is LCSO using in this search and where is the search concentrated?

**Wallace:** The Lane County Sheriff's Search & Rescue responded to search the large property and the roadway into town, as he has been known to hitchhike. SAR has deployed ground searchers, SAR K9s, and drones.

**The Sentinel:** Do you know if this gentleman has gone missing before?

**Wallace:** The missing person has hitchhiked significant distances in the past, and the investigation indicates that is likely the case this time

See **SEARCH**, Page 6

## Grants to help expand local childcare access

CINDY WEELDREYER  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Two \$30,000 grants from the Woodard Family Foundation (WFF) will fund major childcare expansions in Cottage Grove, addressing what local leaders call a deepening crisis for working families.

WFF President Casey Woodard said the grants mark a turning point for Cottage Grove families navigating limited childcare options and long commutes. They support two initiatives: a new daycare center at First Presbyterian Church and a therapeutic toddler classroom at the Family Relief Nursery.

Local statistics reveal the motivation behind the Woodard family's strategic investment in Cottage Grove.

Cottage Grove families face 90-minute daily commutes to Eugene for childcare, a burden exacerbated by Lane County's severe shortage of licensed providers.

According to the Lane Workforce Partnership and Oregon State University's Child Care Research Partnership, Lane County has just one regulated child care slot for every seven children under age 3 and every three children under age



Metro Creative Connection

Lane County has just one regulated child care slot for every seven children under age 3 and every three children under age 5—qualifying it as a child care desert. By definition, a child care desert is a community with more than three children for every regulated childcare slot.

5—qualifying it as a child care desert. By definition, a child care desert is a community with more than three children for every regulated childcare slot.

The report notes that among Oregon's 36 counties, 35 are classified as childcare deserts. With annual costs topping \$18,000 and wages for childcare workers averaging just \$30,000, the shortage

has forced many parents out of the workforce.

**New Daycare Center Eases Commutes, Expands Access**

The first grant completes funding for a 35-child daycare center operated by Tip Top Grow, a licensed Eugene-based provider. The three-year-old business began as a small performing arts-based child care program—originally operating out

of a garage. In April 2024, Lane County invested \$25,000 to help Tip Top Grow expand operations to prioritize child care access for county employees in Eugene.

The foundation's support ensures the project can meet safety codes and remain on schedule for a fall opening on Sept. 1. The center will serve 11 infants, 14 toddlers and 10 preschoolers in renovated church space.

"Without this final investment, even a broken window could derail the launch," Woodard said, citing the need for HVAC upgrades, flooring remediation and security improvements.

Historically, a Montessori preschool was located in the church, and the newly remodeled classrooms will once again be used for early childhood education.

Church member David Hamilton led infrastructure planning, while grant writer Wendy Kelsh helped secure \$67,000 in total funding from Presbyterian Church (USA), the Cottage Grove Community Foundation and local donors. The Woodard grant provides the final

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FOLLOW DEVELOPING NEWS

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# Report of shooting leads to heavy law enforcement near Lookout Point

JEREMY C. RUARK  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

A Springfield man faces several criminal charges after a reported domestic violence incident at a Lane County campground.

Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies were called to the incident at the Ivan Oakes Campground near Lookout Point Lake at approximately 8:30 a.m. Aug. 10.

"The victim was injured and reported the suspect, Andrew Victor Meyer, 37, of Springfield, had shot at her," LCSO Sgt. Tim Wallace said.

Deputies responded to the area with an armored rescue vehicle, along with Oregon State Troopers and a Springfield Police officer with a K9.

The victim did not suffer a gunshot wound, according to investigators.



Courtesy photo from the LCSO

**This is the handgun located during the investigation.**

"Meyer was safely detained in the campground and the handgun was located," Wallace said.

After additional investigation, Meyer was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail on the following charges:

- Two counts of Strangulation
- Menacing
- Unlawful Use of a Weapon
- Assault in the 4th Degree - Felony
- Marion County Circuit Court warrant for DUI, Recklessly Endangering, and Fail to Perform Duties of a Driver - Property.

*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

- Cottage Grove Police**  
**MONDAY, AUGUST 4**
- 01:55: Alarm, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.
  - 03:57: Suspicious vehicle, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.
  - 06:24: Dog at large, 100 block S. 10th St.
  - 06:37: Wanted subject, 1300 block Ash Ave.
  - 07:25: Child abuse, 1800 block Carver Pl.
  - 07:58: Wanted subject, 500 block S. 15th St.
  - 08:44: Dog at large, Main/5th
  - 08:50: Fraud, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
  - 08:59: Dog at large, River Rd/Main
  - 09:07: Suspicious condition, 1300 block Birch Ave.
  - 09:53: Wanted subject, 1300 block Ash Ave.
  - 10:03: Welfare check, 1400 block Daugherty Ave.
  - 10:43: Theft, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

# Two-county pursuit ends in arrest

An Albany man faces several charges following a law enforcement pursuit from Benton County into Lane County.

Authorities released details Aug. 12, of the incident that occurred Aug. 9.

Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies responded at approximately 11 p.m. Aug. 9 to Junction City for a report of a stolen 2017 Toyota Highlander that was driving recklessly and eluding a Benton County Sheriff's deputy.

Officers and deputies from several agencies deployed spike strips, deflating all of the tires and slowing the vehicle, according to a release from the LCSO.

LCSO deputies continued the pursuit on River Road.

"The vehicle rammed a patrol truck before coming to a stop on River Road near Kingsbury Avenue," the release states. "The driver then exited the vehicle and threatened deputies with a club. A sergeant deployed a Taser to subdue the suspect, identified as 62-year-old Brennan Floyd McAdams, of Albany.

McAdams was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail on the following local charges:



Courtesy photo from the LCSO

**The pursuit ended at River Road near Kingsbury Avenue in Junction City.**

- Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer
  - Reckless Driving
  - Recklessly Endangering
  - Attempted Assault on a Public Safety Officer
  - Criminal Mischief in the 1st Degree
- The Junction City Police Department, Eugene Police Department, Coburg Police Department, and Benton County Sheriff's Office assisted in the incident.

## POLICE BLOTTER

- 11:04: Disturbance, 1500 block Ash Ave.
- 11:20: Animal info, M/Birch
- 11:23: Suspicious vehicle, 200 block Davidson Ave.
- 12:08: Warrant service, 1200 block Adams Ave.
- 12:22: Theft, 900 block E. Main St.
- 13:03: Harassment, 100 block S. 6th St.
- 13:34: Fire, 33000 block Howe Ln.
- 13:37: Alarm, 1500 block S. 4th St.
- 14:19: Disturbance, 1400 block W. 3rd Alley
- 15:03: Abandoned vehicle, 1200 block Ostrander Ln.
- 16:24: Assault, 1600 block E. Grover Ave.
- 16:44: Suspicious condition, 500 block Fillmore Ave.
- 17:36: Harassment, 300 block South S St.
- 19:17: Suspicious vehicle, 1000 block E. Grover Ave.
- 20:02: Found property, 4th/Taylor
- 20:09: Suspicious subject, 6th/Cleveland
- 22:43: Theft, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
- 23:14: Disorderly subject, 500 block Gateway Blvd.
- 23:52: Suspicious subject, 1300 block E. Main St.
- 23:58: Hit and run, Whiteaker/8th

- 10:18: Barking dog, 1600 block Fairview Pl.
- 10:27: Trespass, 100 block N. 6th St.
- 13:50: Abandoned vehicle, 1400 block S. 8th St.
- 13:54: Theft, 900 block Arthur Ave.
- 14:01: Disturbance, 77000 block Dugan Ln.
- 14:03: Abandoned vehicle, 16th/Main
- 14:59: Disturbance, 32000 block Nichols Ln.
- 15:21: Found property, 2200 block Whitaker Ave.
- 16:53: Wanted subject, 1300 block Ash Ave.
- 18:04: Alarm, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
- 18:26: Criminal mischief, 1100 block Adams Ave.
- 20:15: Theft, 200 block South R St.
- 22:08: Suicidal subject, 1500 block N. 19th St.

- 19:49: Order violation, 100 block S. 10th St.
- 20:01: Harassment, 100 block N. 16th St.
- 20:08: Suspicious condition, Taylor/6th
- 22:53: Suspicious subject, 100 block S. 6th St.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

- 00:30: Fire, 1400 block Jason Lee Ave.
- 07:16: Disturbance, 77000 block S. 6th St.
- 08:21: Agency assist, 100 block E. Harrison Ave.
- 08:40: Illegal dumping, 1300 block Elm Ave.
- 09:15: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 09:39: Fraud, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
- 11:42: Drug activity, 2400 block W. Main St.
- 14:28: Barking dog, 400 block S. 10th St.
- 14:35: Abandoned vehicle, 100 block N. 16th St.
- 15:11: Harassment, 800 block Gateway Blvd.
- 15:52: Fire, 700 block S. 2nd St.
- 16:56: Disorderly subject, 400 block E. Main St.
- 19:19: Dog at large, River Rd/Madison
- 20:32: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 20:50: Harassment, 600 block E. Main St.
- 20:59: Theft, 900 block W. Main St.
- 21:14: Menacing, 600 block Wood Ave.
- 23:41: Warrant service, 200 block N. 12th St.

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

- 02:34: Disturbance, 900 block W. Main St.
- 04:08: Disturbance, 900 block W. Main St.
- 05:08: Suspicious condition, 800 block Gateway Blvd.
- 09:05: Motor vehicle theft, 800 block S. 6th St.
- 09:10: Wanted subject, 100 block North I St.
- 09:46: Abandoned vehicle, 1000 block S. 10th St.
- 09:53: Found property, 7th/Washington
- 10:40: Fraud, 800 block Gateway Blvd.
- 10:45: Wanted subject, 1300 block E. Main St.
- 12:23: Theft, 800 block E. Whiteaker Ave.
- 12:39: Trespass, 1500 block Village Dr.
- 13:32: Illegal parking, 1900 block S. 6th St.
- 14:11: Fire, 1000 block Bennet Cr Rd.
- 15:56: Mental, 900 block W. Main St.
- 16:11: Welfare check, 1300 block E. Main St.
- 16:47: Nuisance, 700 block Benjamin Ave.

## TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

- 04:40: Suspicious vehicle, 900 block Row River Rd.
- 06:20: Runaway juvenile, 13th/Quincy
- 07:20: Trespass, 100 block N. 6th St.
- 08:23: Disturbance, 2700 block Mosby Cr. Rd.
- 08:28: Dog at large, Gateway/14th
- 09:08: Abandoned vehicle, 8th/Grover
- 10:03: Abandoned vehicle, 300 block E. Monroe Ave.

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

- 02:23: Disturbance, 1700 block Hwy 99
- 07:10: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 07:57: Alarm, 100 block N. 6th St.
- 08:23: Disorderly subject, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 09:41: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 09:58: Illegal parking, 600 block Johnson Ave.
- 10:37: Harassment, 600 block E. Main St.
- 11:56: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 13:47: Motor vehicle theft, 2500 block S. 8th St.
- 14:01: Theft, 1500 block E. Main St.
- 14:37: Suicidal subject, 100 block Waukeena Way
- 15:07: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 15:15: Alarm, 100 block Village Dr.
- 15:21: Harassment, 100 block North H St.
- 18:47: Suicidal subject, 77000 block Mosby Creek Rd.
- 20:05: Disturbance, 900 block W. Main St.
- 20:39: Suspicious condition, 600 block Wood Ave.
- 20:53: Welfare check, 500 block Gateway Blvd.

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# Local musician offers new album of love, lyrics, land

**STAFF REPORT**  
*Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Cottage Grove musician Forest Mountain Lion has unveiled his latest album developed over three years and recorded over six months.

The album blends themes of love, spirituality and environmentalism, featuring intricate arrangements and harmonies by Courtney Renea and Jacob Sellars, according to Lion, who noted his songwriting is rooted in his love for the land, belief in the power of people and resistance to exploitative industrial systems.

After years of performing in Los Angeles—where he was named an “artist not to miss” by the Los Angeles Times—Lion

said he returned to Oregon’s mountains with an acoustic guitar and elk-skin drum, trading gadgets for earthbound resonance.

He holds a degree in orchestral composition from the University of Oregon and has released several original albums, available on all major streaming platforms.

In an interview with the Sentinel in the spring of 2024, Lion explained that growing up on rural property west of Cottage Grove helped him develop a love of nature, music and wine. Forest said Cottage Grove was an ideal place to grow up.

“It felt a little slow sometimes as a young person, but after living in cities and seeing what that does to people, I

realized growing up in a quiet place gave me the mental space to become a creative person and an ability to be meditative, introspective and to think critically,” he said.

The 2008 Cottage Grove High School graduate was voted “Most Interesting” by his fellow seniors. Lion said when he was young, he discovered a sense of intrinsic motivation to teach himself instruments and it has never left him. He continues to hone his craft by trying to listen and follow what brings him the most joy.

*To explore Lion’s music, lyrics and upcoming performances, visit forestmountainlion.com.*



Courtesy photo from Mikayla Cagle  
**Forest Mountain Lion (center) with band mates Courtney Renea and Jacob Sellars.**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### COTTAGE GROVE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Businesses are open during the Main Street Revitalization construction. Keep shopping in Historic Downtown Cottage Grove and get stamps. Turn the stamps in at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce at 836 E Main Street for a chance to win \$500 in local gift cards each week until construction is finished. Details at <https://www.cgchamber.com/shoplocal/> or call 541-942-2411.

### AUGUST 20

Cottage Grove Public Library Summer Reading Program Wrap-Up Celebration. 2:30 p.m. at 700 E. Gibbs Avenue. Activities for kids and families, refreshments and presentation of awards.

Local Transit Service Rural Transit Virtual Meeting. 5:30 p.m. Lane Transit District hosts a public outreach session to engage South Lane County residents on upcoming changes to rural transit services. The Zoom meeting link is available at LTD’s events calendar.

Chamber Summer Concert Season. Concert from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Bohemia Park Amphitheatre, 101 N 10th Street in Cottage Grove. Performers scheduled are the Fox Hollow Boys playing classic rock songs.

Cottage Grove Speedway. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. Qualifying at 5 p.m. Racing at 6:30 p.m. 2150 N. Douglas Avenue in Cottage Grove. Call 541-942-7561 for details.

### AUGUST 21-24

Cottage Theatre Play: The Tempest. Thursday-Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at 2:30 p.m. 700



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

### The Coleman family children at the South Valley Farmers Market art table.

Village Drive in Cottage Grove. Cost: Adults, \$29. Youth (18 & younger) \$15. Ticket details at [www.cottagetheatre.org](http://www.cottagetheatre.org) Box Office Hours 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For more details, call 541-942-8001.

### AUGUST 22-23

P.A.W.S. Benefit Sale. Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at the United Methodist Church, 334 Washington Avenue in Cottage Grove. Stop by and browse for unique items and support animals in the community.

### AUGUST 22

Elks Lodge Community Dinner. 5-6:30 p.m. at the Cottage Grove Elks Lodge, 775 N. River Road. Menu: Steak (cooked to order), baked potato, green beans, salad and ice cream Cost: \$12 per person. For more details, call 541-942-3554.

Shady Oaks Summer Nights. From 6-8 p.m. at 77380 Highway 99 (3.5 miles south of Cottage Grove). The whole family will enjoy this laid-back summer evening of live music with dinner, drinks and desserts available for purchase. For details visit the Shady Oaks Summer Nights Facebook page.

### AUGUST 23

South Valley Farmers Market. From 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at 7th and Main Streets in Cottage Grove’s Historical Downtown District. Buy goods directly from local farmers, food producers and artisans. Discover a wide variety of locally-grown produce, pasture-raised meat and eggs, plants, honey, cut flowers, nuts mushrooms, fresh-pressed cider, jams, jellies, pickles and baked goods, raffles, & emergency vehicle displays. Vendors offer high quality handcrafts, soaps, wine, poetry, art and jewelry. “Sprouts at the Market” program offers bilingual story & activities for children. Kids who participate receive a \$10 Market Money voucher to spend. Double Up Food Bucks for SNAP shoppers is matched up to \$20. Live music featured from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

### AUGUST 27

Chamber Summer Concert Season. From 6:30-8 p.m. at Cottage Grove’s Bohemia Park Amphitheatre. Features Men from S.U.R.F. playing surf and hot rod tunes.

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OBITUARIES & NEWS

# Ronald "Ron" Irving Pupke

January 19, 1924 - May 16, 2025

Ronald "Ron" Irving Pupke, a cherished educator, coach, and valued member of his community, passed away on May 16, 2025, at the age of 101 in Cottage Grove, Oregon. Born to Herman F. and Stella F. (Tormoehlen) Pupke, on January 19, 1924, in Portland, Oregon, Ron's life was marked by dedication, service, and a passion for sports and education.



Away from work, Ron embraced his zest for life through various interests. A multi-talented athlete, he played on local adult basketball and softball teams well into his 40s. His long-time interests were collecting coins since 1936 and playing golf since 1939. He was a long-time member of the First Presbyterian Church and the Elks Club in Cottage Grove.

Ron married the love of his life, Gladeus "Sim" Simmons, on June 5, 1948. Together, they enjoyed over 68 years of marriage filled with love, teamwork, and mutual respect.

An alumnus of the University of Southern California and the University of Oregon, Ron received his Bachelor's Degree in 1947 and a Master's Degree in 1953, in education and physical education. His collegiate years were highlighted by his contributions on the basketball court, playing for the University of Oregon and the University of Southern California, as well as the Quantico Virginia Marine team.

Ron's service to his country was exemplified through his tenure in the Marine Corps, where he served three years during World War II and a year during the Korean War, ultimately reaching the rank of Captain. In 1952, as head track coach at the San Diego Recruit Depot, he led his team to the USMC track championship. His dedication to coaching continued as he taught and coached from 1947-1951 in Springfield and 1953-1984 in Cottage Grove. As an athletic coordinator, he made a lasting impact on countless young lives, fostering a love for sports and teamwork.

Ron's spirit shone through, as he spent his retirement attending Dixieland, ragtime, and Oktoberfest on the west coast. He and Sim went on Dixieland cruises to Hawaii and the Caribbean, also traveling with friends in RV's, made a 13,000-mile trip across Canada, trips to Louisiana, and other SE states. In 2010 they moved to Middlefield Estates. Prior to that in 1963 the Pupkes lived on 32 acres south of Cottage Grove. On their land they raised sheep and hay. Their children had horses while growing up.

Ron enjoyed seeing and doing business with his previous students. He appreciated being invited to his students' class reunions and events. His enthusiasm for life's adventures and his dedication to youth as a teacher and coach remain his enduring legacy. Ron will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by his family, friends, former students, and colleagues.

Ron is survived by his children Shauna, Renn, Vonn, Camee; sister Audrey and 1 granddaughter Mariah. He is preceded in death by his wife Sim and daughter Starly.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, August 30, 2025 at 2:00 PM at Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel and Crematorium.

# Matsutake mushroom permits available on Central Coast Ranger District

Applications for Matsutake mushroom collection permits are now being accepted for the Central Coast Ranger District of the Siuslaw National Forest.

Every year, 100 commercial-use permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Any person wishing to obtain a commercial matsutake collection permit should complete a request form following the instructions below by Aug. 25.

Commercial use permits are \$250 and are required for any individual gathering more than six matsutake mushrooms per day or for anyone gathering to sell. Each harvester must be age 18 or older and provide valid identification issued by a state or U.S. government. Permits are valid from the date of sale through Dec. 31, 2025.

Request forms can be mailed, filled out in-person, or sent by email to pdl\_r6\_siuslaw\_frontliners@usda.gov. Download and print the request form from our website in English or Spanish at https://www.fs.usda.gov/r06/siuslaw/permits/mushroom-permits. To mail the completed form, send it to the address below—postmarked no later than Aug. 20.

Central Coast Ranger District Attn: Matsutake PO Box 400 Waldport, OR 97394

Permits will be distributed in the order in which they were received starting the week of Aug. 25. Applicants will be notified by phone if their permit is approved. When called, individuals have the option of receiving the permit and receipt by email or office pickup. Payment

is due when the permit is issued. Credit or debit card transactions can be made over the phone or in-person. A check or money order may be included with the mail-in request form. Make checks payable to USDA, Forest Service.

After Sept. 2, remaining permits will be issued in-person from the Reedsport and Waldport offices. These offices are currently open for permit sales from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

For additional information about mushroom collection on the Siuslaw National Forest visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/r06/siuslaw/permits/mushroom-permits or contact the Reedsport office at 541-271-6000 or the Waldport office at 541-563-8400

# Rising crime, overdoses reflect pre-pandemic trends

MIA MALDONADO  
*Oregon Capital Chronicle*

For years, critics have blamed Oregon's 2020 ballot measure that decriminalized possession of small amounts of drugs for the state's rising crime and overdose rates. But a new study suggests otherwise.

Researchers from Portland State University's Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice released their final report examining the impacts of years of major drug policy changes between 2008 and 2024 on crime and drug-related deaths. The report, created in partnership with the National Institute of Justice, finds little evidence to support claims that Oregon's drug decriminalization policy caused higher crime and overdose deaths.

The report outlines a decade of Oregon's drug policy reforms, starting in 2013 when Oregon enacted a law reducing mandatory minimum sentences for marijuana and diverted more drug offenses to probation. Then in 2017, lawmakers passed a law to reclassify moderate drug possession felony offenses to misdemeanors for Schedule 1 or 2 drugs, such as heroin and cocaine.

Finally, in November 2020, Oregon voters passed Measure 110, which decriminalized

possession of small amounts of drugs, such as methamphetamine and fentanyl. The policy took effect in 2021, downgrading misdemeanor charges to a violation punishable with a \$100 fine.

Researchers found no evidence linking the measure to increased crime or drug deaths. Instead, the study found the COVID-19 pandemic and the emergence of fentanyl were the main drivers behind the rise in crime rates and drug-related deaths.

"Of all the events we examined, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the justice system the most, more so than any legislation," Brian Renauer, a lead researcher and university professor, said in a news release.

Overdose deaths were rising before Oregon decriminalized drugs. In 2020, there were 816 overdose deaths in Oregon — about 200 more than the previous year. That number more than doubled and peaked in 2023 at 1,833 overdose deaths.

Lawmakers anticipating a citizen-led initiative to repeal Measure 110 effectively ended the drug decriminalization experiment, when overdose deaths had already begun to decline. There were 1,480 recorded overdose deaths in 2024.

Since the new law took effect in September, people caught with small amounts of drugs can once again be arrested and face criminal charges. But they can avoid charges by entering a deflection program and receiving treatment.

Christopher Campbell, a lead researcher and associate professor at the university, said that while Measure 110 had its flaws and regional impacts, crime trends statewide were stable or declining by 2023.

"What we observed was far from a causal connection to Measure 110," Campbell said. "Rather, we saw an unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and fentanyl on public health and safety outcomes."

https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2025/08/11/rising-crime-overdoses-reflect-pre-pandemic-trends-not-drug-decriminalization-psu-study-finds/

*Oregon Capital Chronicle is part of States Newsroom, a network of news bureaus supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501(c)(3) public charity. Oregon Capital Chronicle maintains editorial independence. Contact Editor Lynne Terry for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com.*

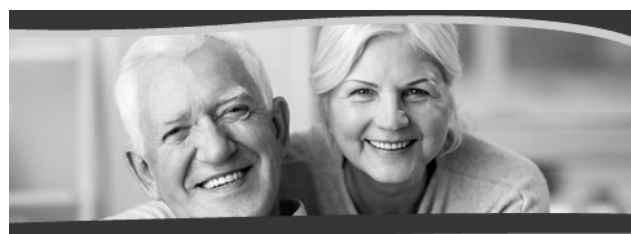
## Death Notice

**David Christopher Aber,** 60 of Eugene, Oregon passed away August 11, 2025. Arrangements are in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel and Crematorium.

Obituaries can be read online at: [cgsentinel.com](http://cgsentinel.com)

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## Under Trump budget, Oregon to lose \$15 billion

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

Gov. Tina Kotek has announced that the budget reconciliation bill backed by the Trump Administration and passed by Republicans in Congress is projected to cut \$15 billion in federal funding from Oregon for health insurance coverage, food benefits, and other programs.

Kotek's announcement Aug. 11, is the result of a preliminary analysis by the State of Oregon's Chief Financial Officer in coordination with state agencies upon the passage of President Trump's budget early in July. The analysis may change pending detailed federal guidelines to implement the bill.

The Trump Administration and Republicans in Congress have betrayed American children and families, who will become sicker, hungrier, and less prosperous because of President Trump's budget bill, according to Kotek.

"Oregonians will see less of their federal tax dollars coming back to our state for things they count on. Furthermore, President Trump and Congress knew that state governments cannot pay for this substantial gap in services but went ahead and did it anyway," Kotek states in a release. "I am going to work with Oregon lawmakers and community partners to do all that we can to stand up for Oregonians and get through this needless, callous hardship. I will continue to hold the line and push back as Oregon values are under threat. I hope Oregonians will stand with me as we fight this together."

Additional preliminary analyses of impacts to Oregon state agencies can be found through the link with this story at the Lincoln County Leader website.

According to the release, Gov. Kotek will convene state lawmakers and key stakeholders who work with or represent populations most at risk from the Trump Administration's budget cuts to consider possible strategies to reduce impact to people, and her office will continue to communicate impacts as they come into focus through implementation.

Kotek has called for a special session late this month to deal with the

Oregon Department of Transportation budget issues. When asked by The Sentinel if an additional special legislative session will be convened to deal with the Trump budget impact in Oregon, the governor's spokesperson, Roxy Mayer, responded saying that a separate legislative session to deal with the Trump budget is not scheduled.

"When the legislature convenes for a special session this month, the Governor expects lawmakers to act expeditiously and stay focused on critical, near-term solutions to stabilize basic functions at ODOT and local governments," Mayer said.

In an Oregon Capital Chronicle commentary, Karina Smith of Corvallis, a Henry A. Wallace Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, stated that in Oregon, one in three people rely on the state's Medicaid program, the Oregon Health Plan.

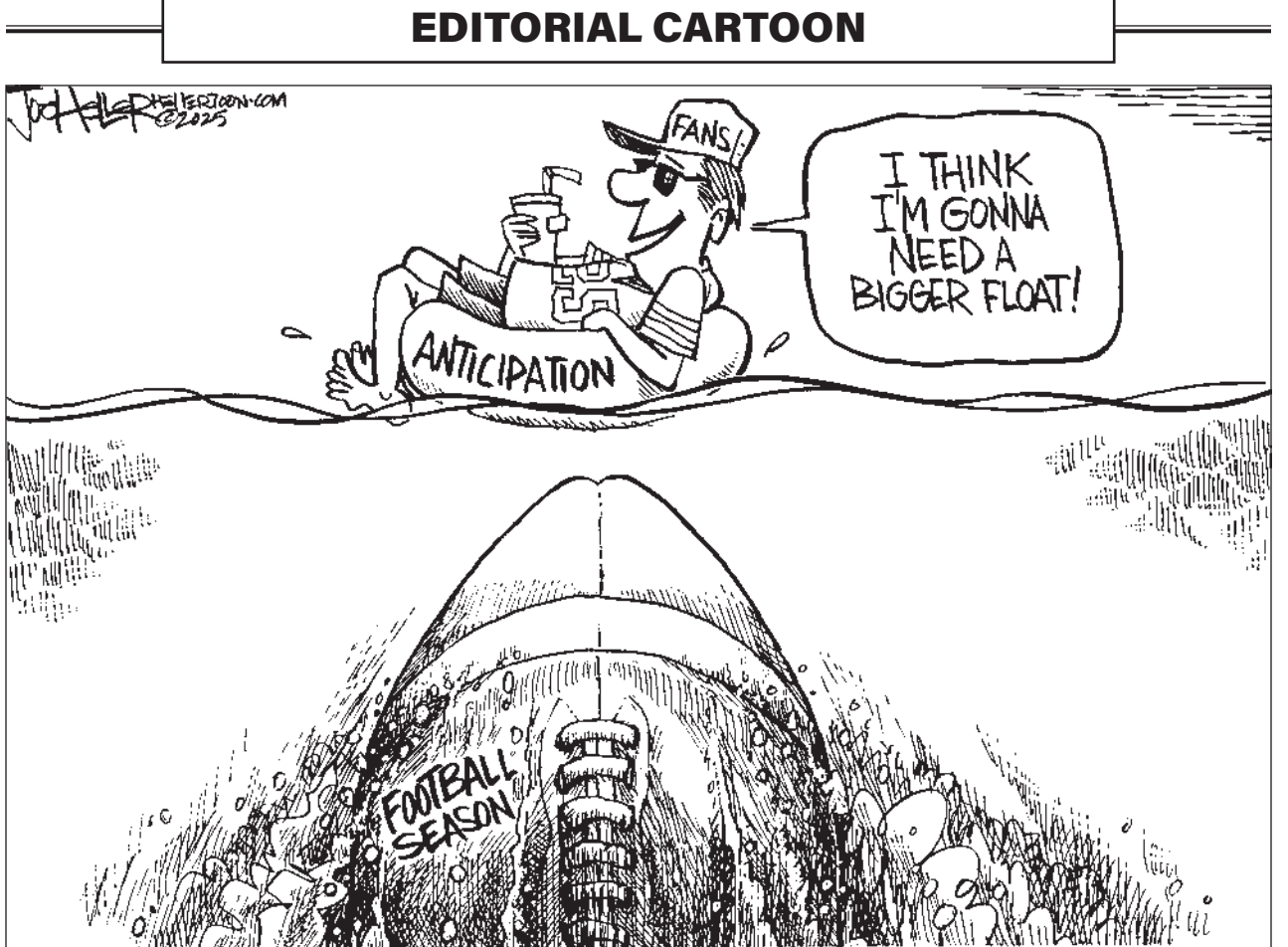
"Under the new GOP law, an estimated 200,000 Oregonians stand to lose that insurance, putting patients and providers alike in danger," Smith wrote. "Rural communities are particularly vulnerable to these cuts. Nearly half — 44% — of rural hospitals in the U.S. are already experiencing severe financial strain. This year alone, 16 rural hospitals shut their doors due to financial issues."

Medicaid is often the lifeline keeping rural hospitals afloat, according to Smith.

"But when that coverage is stripped away and thousands of patients go uninsured, hospitals are left to cover the cost of uncompensated care. More uncompensated care will lead to hospital closures and service reductions, causing more frequent and severe medical emergencies as patients are forced to navigate long travel times, overcrowded ERs, chronic staffing shortages and barriers to preventative care," Smith states in the commentary.

Read the commentary at: <https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2025/07/29/the-trump-gop-budget-is-a-dire-threat-to-oregons-patients-hospitals-and-nurses/>

Follow developments online at [cgsentinel.com](https://cgsentinel.com) and in the Wednesday print editions of *The Sentinel*.



### SENTINEL GUEST COLUMN

## Stay safe, healthy this wildfire season

**Dr. Kristina Petsas**  
*Leader Guest Column*

Clean air is something we might take for granted. But when the air quality becomes an issue, especially due to recent wildfire activity in Oregon, it can affect our daily lives.

Governor Tina Kotek has declared a state of emergency, citing an "imminent and ongoing threat of wildfire."

When smoke from wildfires infiltrates the air, it can create a mixture of gases and fine particles. These microscopic particles are what can cause health issues, including burning eyes, runny nose, and illnesses such as bronchitis.

While all Oregonians should prioritize their health during wildfire season, several groups may be more at risk when air quality becomes

poor. This includes people with lung diseases like COPD or asthma, people with heart disease, older adults over 65, young children and pregnant women.

It's important to take steps to prepare yourself, your loved ones, and your home from wildfires to reduce risk. Here are some additional guidelines that can help protect your health:

Check your local Air Quality Index using local news forecasts or AirNow.gov to see whether air is rated from "Good" to "Hazardous" and know when it's safe to be outside.

- Avoid exercising outdoors when air quality issues arise.
- Limit the time your child spends playing outside if air quality is unhealthy.
- Keep indoor air as clean as possible. Keep your

windows and doors closed, run an air conditioner but keep the fresh-air intake closed and keep the filter clean.

- Avoid activities that increase indoor pollution like burning candles, fireplaces and gas stoves.

- Don't allow anyone to smoke inside.

If the air becomes dangerous, everyone needs to take steps to help protect themselves. People most at risk should take precautions before air quality reaches "hazardous" levels, especially staying indoors with filtered air. If you must be outside for an extended period of time, consider wearing a tight-fitting N95 mask. Oregonians should generally keep activity levels low and use air filtration whenever possible.

Even if you are healthy, you may experience symptoms of poor air quality. Some symptoms to be aware of include coughing, irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, chest tightness and shortness of breath. For those with heart disease or other heart issues, be aware of the symptoms of heart attack and stroke.

Most health symptoms of poor air quality should go away when the conditions improve. During this wildfire season, Community members need to take care of themselves and each other to ensure safety this summer. If you have concerns about your symptoms, contact your health care provider.

*Dr. Kristina Petsas is Chief Medical Officer of UnitedHealthcare Oregon.*



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

**Gov. Tina Kotek speaking with reporters in a previous visit to Lincoln City.**

### Weekly Online Poll

**Are you ready for a dose of Oregon's cooling rain?**

- Yes  
 No

### Previous Poll Results

**Are you planning a last-of-summer vacation?**

- 25% Yes  
 75% No



#### 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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Joe Warren | Chief Executive  
[jwarren@countrymedia.net](mailto:jwarren@countrymedia.net)

#### Newsroom

Jeremy C. Ruark | News Editor  
[jruark@countrymedia.net](mailto:jruark@countrymedia.net)

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## GRANTS

From Page 3

“top-off” needed to complete renovations.

The new center will increase local child care capacity by 65%, adding to the existing 54 slots across three providers.

### Therapeutic Support for Vulnerable Toddlers

The Cottage Grove Family Relief Nursery (FRN) has served South Lane and North Douglas Counties since 1994, providing therapeutic child care and family support services. The organization was founded through collaborative efforts of local Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, healthcare

leaders, and community advocates.

The second \$30,000 grant funds FRN’s Toddler Therapeutic Classroom, which will serve 60 children over two years. The program offers trauma-informed care for 1- to 3-year-old toddlers facing poverty, substance exposure, housing instability, and other adverse childhood experiences during critical brain development years.

“This grant covers one-third of our costs and delivers life-changing support at just \$1,000 per child per year,” Kyle Riege, executive director of Family Relief Nursery, said in a press release.

The classroom maintains a 3:8 staff-to-child ratio and includes sensory integration, therapeutic play, emotional

regulation and wraparound family services. Since 1994, the nursery has maintained a 95% success rate, with graduates avoiding further involvement with the Department of Human Services.

### Catalytic Investment in Community Stability

Woodard called the grants “bold, collaborative solutions” to a crisis that fractures families and weakens the local economy.

“Every dollar invested multiplies through the community,” he said. “A functioning child care center strengthens the entire economic ecosystem.”

The Woodard Family Foundation has supported Family Relief Nursery since its founding, contributing to the permanent facility that

opened in 1997 alongside Meyer Memorial Trust and the Ford Family Foundation. In recognition of the foundation’s historic support, the Cottage Grove classroom will be named in its honor.

The foundation’s continued investments in local organizations reflect its generational commitment to building resilient families and a thriving Cottage Grove.

Established in 1952, the Woodard Family Foundation is the eighth-oldest grantmaking foundation in Oregon, with the third, fourth and fifth generations dedicated to supporting vulnerable populations and community-strengthening initiatives in Cottage Grove, with particular focus on catalytic investments that create lasting change.

Currently, Cottage Grove has only three child care providers with a combined capacity of 54 children, making the new learning center’s 35 additional slots a significant community resource.

Local child care advocates praise the \$60,000 investment by the Woodard family as a comprehensive approach—from therapeutic intervention for vulnerable toddlers to expanded access for working parents.

## BLOTTER

From Page 2

21:00: Suspicious condition, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

21:17: Fraud, 400 block E. Main St.

21:48: Welfare check, 1600 block Ash Ave.

22:05: Shots fired, 1200 block S. 8th St.

22:56: Fire, 100 block Village Dr.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

00:13: Suspicious vehicle, 200 block N. 12th St.

02:03: Agency assist, 36000 block Shoreview Dr.

03:23: Welfare check, 400 block E. Main St.

05:55: Mental subject, 900 block W. Main St.

08:39: Fire, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

10:32: Missing person, 1600 block Ash Ave.

10:51: Drug activity, 100 block S. 10th St.

12:08: Suicidal subject, 100 block Waheena Ct.

12:40: Disturbance, 1700 block Hwy 99

13:45: Assault, 900 block W. Main St.

14:13: Dog at large, 2nd/Madison

17:41: Unlawful entry into a motor vehicle, 100 block Hwy 99

17:48: Disturbance, 300 block North O St.

20:31: Suspicious condition, 1300 block E. Main St.

20:51: Alarm, 1400 block Gateway Blvd.

21:36: Missing person, 1300 block W. Main St.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

08:36: Disorderly subject, 200 block E. Harrison Ave.

08:41: Welfare check, 900 block W. Main St.

11:41: Mental subject, 800 block Gateway Blvd.

14:40: Disturbance, 2100 block South R St.

15:21: Suspicious condition, R/Main

15:23: Alarm, 3300 block Row River Rd.

16:54: Dog at large, L/Ash

19:09: Motor vehicle theft, 2500 block S. 8th St.

23:10: Stolen vehicle recovery, 400 block E. Main St.

23:54: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

## SEARCH

From Page 1

as well. He recently spoke about going to California.

On Aug. 12, the LCSO intensified its search and issued a second release.

“Stout may have walked away from the area or hitchhiked. Deputies have alerted

police jurisdictions where he may be headed,” the release stated.

The LCSO also requested Cottage Grove area residents with security cameras in the following areas to check their recordings for video of Stout on Aug. 8 from 9 a.m. to the evening:

- Raisor Road
- London Road
- Weyerhaeuser Road

• Cottage Grove Reservoir Road

• S. 6th Street Stout would likely be walking with a cane.

The Sentinel checked back with Wallace Aug. 13 for a status of the search, and he responded:

“We still believe he walked/hitchhiked out of the area,” Wallace said.

Follow developments online at [cgsentinel.com](http://cgsentinel.com).

## SWEETS

From Page 1

held shortly after pandemic restrictions were lifted. “It was magical,” she said. “It was then I knew for certain that this was what I wanted to do.”

She now vends at local events throughout the year, including this month’s W.O.E. Heritage Fair, selling hand-stomped lemonade, caramel apples, cookies and other treats.

Her menu changes with the seasons. She takes orders through her website and social media, offering

themed packages during holidays such as truffle boxes, cookie assortments and brownie packs. Pickup and delivery are available for local customers.

Among her favorite creations are red wine brownies made with B2 Wine’s Red Recess blend, topped with a wine ganache. She also makes apple pie and lemon curd cookies, with fillings prepared from scratch.

“I could eat a whole jar of my lemon curd if I didn’t have self-control,” she said, laughing.

### FAMILY AFFAIR

Balancing business and motherhood means working late at night or during school hours.

“Being a mom comes first,” she said. “Summers slow me down because the kids keep me busy.”

Her family is involved in every step of the business. They help load and unload supplies, serve food and run the cash register at events. Her middle son has taken an interest in crafting and selling alongside her.

In addition to sweets, she sells handmade crafts such as resin art, garlands, wreaths, personalized doormats and graduation leis. She said the flexibility of her business name allows her to adapt to different seasons and events.

She likes not being tied to one thing and can change

what she sells depending on what she’s excited about.

She credits the Western Oregon Expo and its organizers, Ken and Alice, with helping her grow her business. “They’ve been some of the most humble, enjoyable people to work with,” she said. “My kids love coming to the fair. It’s just good old-fashioned family fun.”

During the pandemic, she also took time to study Oregon’s cottage food laws and learn what she could legally produce and sell.

That research helped her expand her offerings and build a business that reflects her creativity and values. Her advice to aspiring entrepreneurs: “Stay humble. Be open to learning and remember it’s okay to make mistakes.”

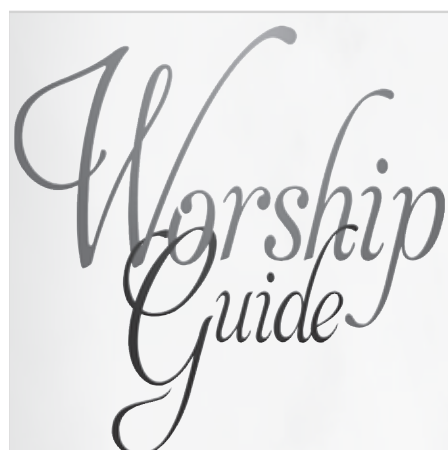
“I love that Soul Sweets & Things can be whatever I want it to be,” she said. “Sweet, savory, handmade—it’s all part of me.”

Looking ahead, Souliyalavong hopes to launch a mobile food unit working side-by-side with

her husband and offering both desserts and her family’s favorite savory dishes. Her heart’s desire is that Soul Sweets & Things continues to grow as a family-centered business rooted in tradition, creativity and community connection—one treat at a time.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Website: [soulsweetsandthings21.square.site](http://soulsweetsandthings21.square.site) or
- Phone: 541-981-7509
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ablesministorage@gmail.com

**CGS25-159 TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF SALE T'S NO: 25-73696** Reference is made to that certain Deed of Trust (hereinafter referred as the Trust Deed) made by FREDDIE E. LINKHART AND JANICE R. LINKHART, HUSBAND AND WIFE as Grantor to FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE INS CO., as trustee, in favor of WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., as Beneficiary, dated 1/19/2007, recorded 1/23/2007, as Instrument No. 2007-005060, in mortgage records of Lane County, Oregon covering the following described real property situated in said County and State, to-wit: LOT 16, BLOCK 6, SIUSLAW VILLAGE, AS PLATTED AND RECORDED IN BOOK 69, PAGE 37, LANE COUNTY OREGON PLAT RECORDS, IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON. 1979 SKYLINE HILLCREST SERIAL#O291O22OM The street address or other common designation, if any for the real property described above is purported to be: 520 SKOOKUM COURT FLORENCE, OREGON 97439 The Tax Assessor's Account ID for the Real Property is purported to be: 18-12-22-21-08700 1 1130739 Both the beneficiary and the trustee, ZBS Law, LLP have elected to foreclose the above referenced Trust Deed and sell the said real property to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and a Notice of Default and Election to Sell has been recorded pursuant to ORS 86.752(3). All right, title, and interest in the said described property which the grantors had, or had power

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to convey, at the time of execution of the Trust Deed, together with any interest the grantors or their successors in interest acquired after execution of the Trust Deed shall be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy the obligations secured by the Trust Deed and the expenses of sale, including the compensation of the trustee as provided by law, and the reasonable fees of trustee's attorneys. The default for which the foreclosure is made is: The monthly installment of principal and interest which became due on 1/1/2024, late charges, and all subsequent monthly installments of principal and interest. You are responsible to pay all payments and charges due under the terms and conditions of the loan documents which come due subsequent to the date of this notice, including, but not limited to, foreclosure trustee fees and costs, advances and late charges. Furthermore, as a condition to bring your account in good standing, you must provide the undersigned with written proof that you are not in default on any senior encumbrance and provide proof of insurance. Nothing in this notice should be construed as a waiver of any fees owing to the beneficiary under the deed of trust, pursuant to the terms and provisions of the loan documents. The amount required to cure the default in payments to date is calculated as follows: From: 11/1/2024 Total of past due payments: \$6,620.79 Additional charges (Taxes, Insurance, Corporate Advances, Other Fees): \$1,620.18 Trustee's Fees and Costs: \$1,846.50 Total necessary to cure: \$10,087.47

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Please note the amounts stated herein are subject to confirmation and review and are likely to change during the next 30 days. Please contact the successor trustee ZBS Law, LLP, to obtain a "reinstatement" and or "pay-off" quote prior to remitting funds. By reason of said default the beneficiary has declared all sums owing on the obligation secured by the Trust Deed due and payable. The amount required to discharge this lien in its entirety to date is: \$138,020.10 Said sale shall be held at the hour of 1:00 AM on 1/17/2025 in accord with the standard of time established by ORS 187.1 10, and pursuant to ORS 86.771(7) shall occur at the following designated place: At the front entrance of the Courthouse, 125 East 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401 Other than as shown of record, neither the said beneficiary nor the said trustee have any actual notice of any person having or claiming to have any lien upon or interest in the real property hereinabove described subsequent to the interest of the trustee in the Trust Deed, or of any successor(s) in interest to the grantors or of any lessee or other person in possession of or occupying the property, except: NONE Notice is further given that any person named in ORS 86.778 has the right, at any time prior to five days before the date last set for sale, to have this foreclosure proceeding dismissed and the Trust Deed reinstated by payment to the beneficiary of the entire amount then due (other than such portion of the principal as would not then be due had no default occurred) and by curing any other default complained of

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herein that is capable of being cured by tendering the performance required under the obligation(s) of the Trust Deed, and in addition to paying said sums or tendering the performance necessary to cure the default, by paying all costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation and Trust Deed, together with the trustee's and attorney's fees not exceeding the amounts provided by ORS 86.778. The mailing address of the trustee is: ZBS Law, LLP 5 Centerpointe Dr., Suite 400 Lake Oswego, OR 97035 (503) 946-6558 In construing this notice, the masculine gender includes the feminine and the neuter, the singular includes plural, the word "grantor" includes any successor in interest to the grantor as well as any other persons owing an obligation, the performance of which is secured by said trust deed, the words "trustee" and "beneficiary" include their respective successors in interest, if any. Without limiting the trustee's disclaimer of representations or warranties, Oregon law requires the trustee to state in this notice that some residential property sold at a trustee's sale may have been used in manufacturing methamphetamines, the chemical components of which are known to be toxic. Prospective purchasers of residential property should be aware of this potential danger before deciding to place a bid for this property at the trustee's sale. Dated: 6/26/2025 ZBS Law, LLP Dirk Schouten, OSB#1 15153 ZBS Law, LLP Authorized to sign on behalf of the trustee A-4847405 08/06/2025, 08/13/2025, 08/20/2025, 08/27/2025



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## IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO BUILD BOHEMIA CITY



## THANK YOU COTTAGE GROVE!

*The Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days Board of Directors extends our deepest gratitude to the volunteers, sponsors, vendors, performers, and attendees who made this year's festival a joyful success. Your energy, creativity, and community spirit brought Bohemia City to life once again.*

*From the parade and live music to the artisan booths and family fun, BMD 2025 honored our heritage while creating new memories. We especially thank our local businesses and civic partners for their generous support and collaboration.*

*We're proud to be part of a town that shows up, celebrates together, and keeps the Spirit of the Grove alive. Bohemia Mining Days is made possible by an incredible network of leaders, builders, sponsors and community partners who each play a vital role in bringing Bohemia City to life. From the big-picture planners to the hands-on helpers, this is a community-powered festival through and through.*

*To produce an event this size takes a small army and there is likely someone who isn't mentioned below. We regret any oversight and thank you for your valuable contribution to this year's successful celebration. (The names listed below are in alphabetical order by first name.)*

### **LEADERSHIP & EVENT COORDINATION**

*At the core of the festival is our leadership team, made up of volunteers, organizers, and coordinators who dedicate their time, energy and passion throughout the year. Their vision and dedication are the reason this event continues to grow and thrive each year.*

**Board of Directors:** Bradly Shepherd, Cathy Simmons, Dave Light, David DeRienzo, Dylan Mann, Jeremy Ferguson, Linda Oxley, Matthew Hewlett

**Leadership Team:** **Aaron Kitterman**, Sanitation Manager; **Austin Hufford**, Logistics Coordinator; **Brad Helsel**, Stage A Manager; **Bradly Shepherd**, Entertainment Coordinator; **Brandi Presley**, Info Booth Coordinator; **Cameron Reiten** & Stage B Manager; **Cathy Simmons**, Board Secretary & Vendor Coordinator; **Cindy Weeldreyer**, Publicity Coordinator & Fundraiser; **Dana Merryday**, Bohemia City Mayor (Feud Games); **David DeRienzo**, Television Media Relations; **Dave Light**, Bohemia City Marshal, Historian & Content Curator; **Deanna Jentzsch**, Art Show Coordinator; **Denice Barton**, Pie Eating Contest Coordinator; **Donna Hudson**, Vendor Support; **Drew Perini**, Parade Support; **Dustin Davey**, Digital Content Creator; **Dylan Mann**, Parking Coordinator; **Emily McDaniel**, Coast Fork Saloon; **Enya Combs**, Kid Zone Coordinator; **Gary Nelson**, Feud Games Coordinator; **Jeremy Ferguson**, Board President; **Joelie Saunders**, Parade Coordinator; **Kat Lippens**, Info Booth Coordinator; **Ken Lile**, Logistics Advisor; **Kyle Kishen**, Facade Wall Construction Coordinator; **Linda Oxley**, Treasurer; **Logan Perini**, Parade Support; **Matthew Hewlett**, Executive Director; **Ollie Nash**, Feud Games Coordinator; **Ralph Weeldreyer**, Banner Boss; **Roger Leach**, Metalwork Coordinator; **Rylee Ryan**, Youth Advisor/Parking Deputy; **Sharon Anseth**, Facade Wall Sign Painter; **Shawn Steele**, Metal Work Fabricator; **Sylvia Kitterman**, Volunteer Coordinator; **Tabitha Stanley Cooper**, Vendor Support; **Tara Blount**, Kid Zone Coordinator; **Tobi D'Amore**, Facade Wall and Construction Liaison; **Wendy Shugar**, Art Show Coordinator; **Zonnie Borg**, Lil Mr and Miss Bohemia City Coordinator

### **INFRASTRUCTURE & CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT**

The beautiful façade walls and on-site infrastructure were made possible thanks to the work of Kyle Kishen Construction, with generous material donations from Cascade Home Center, Fox Lumber, James Radway, Paul & Amy Hewlett, Steel House.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Annah Clark, Autumn Leach, Bill Christianson, Bill Simmons, Carol Little, Dave Johnson, Emily Kaylynn, Erik Fitzgerald, Ethan Stanley, Jacob Kitterman, Jamison Shaddy, Jammie Kitterman, Jan Repier, Jeff Arkyns, Jenn McCall, Joseph Haynes, Kerri Warren, Porter Burleson, Ralph Dinnel, Rich Thayer, Robert Zunke, Rori Mann, Rylee Ryan, Terry Smith

### **PRESENTING SPONSORS**

*We are honored to be supported by our presenting sponsors:* City of Cottage Grove, Starfire Lumber, Woodard Family Foundation. A special thank-you goes out to Casey Woodard of the Woodard Family Foundation for offering invaluable support throughout the planning process—helping us with historical details, business outreach, fundraising strategy, and much more.

### **SPONSORS**

*With gratitude to the sponsors below who are helping us build a legacy of the past for the benefit of the future.*

✓ **Wall Street Mine Sponsors (\$10,000+):** City of Cottage Grove, Starfire Lumber, Woodard Family Foundation;

✓ **Fairview Level Sponsors (\$2,500-4,999):** Cumulus Media, Kyle Kishen Construction

✓ **Noonday Level Sponsors (\$1,000-\$2,499):** Baker & Associates, Coast Fork Brewing & Feed Store, Cottage Grove Community Foundation, Cottage Grove Inn, Cottage Grove Sentinel, Dennis & Phyllis Washington Foundation, Emerald People's Utility District, Garland Burback, The Johns Family Companies (Territorial Seed Company, London Spring Farms, Maiden Azalea, Rolling J Ranch), Lane Electric Cooperative, Mike Contreras Insurance-State Farm, Pacific Power, South Lane Fire & Rescue/FireMed

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### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

*We're grateful for the many organizations and businesses who have helped make the festival—and our other events—possible throughout the year.* Bohemia Electric, Bohemia Gold Mining Museum, Cottage Grove City Council: Mayor Candace Solesbee, Councilors Christine Hynk, Dana Merryday, Darrel Wilson, Greg Ervin, Jim Settlemeyer, Randell Lammerman, City Manager Mike Sauerwein, City Staff: Faye Stewart, Jessica Klarr, Mike Cummings, & Mindy Roberts; Coast Fork Brewing, Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce, Cottage Grove Community Foundation, Cottage Grove Garbage Service, Cottage Grove Genealogical Society, Cottage Grove Historical Society, Cottage Grove Public Market, Cottage Grove Museum, Cottage Grove Sentinel (Joe Warren, Jeremy Ruark & Gary Winterholler), Family Relief Nursery, Friends of the Cottage Grove Library, Garland Burback, Len Blackstone, Opal Center for Arts and Education, Oregon Aviation Historical Society, Partners in History, Pour 818, Prospectors & Gold Diggers Club, Row River Fire Resource, Schweitzer's Work and Western Wear, Singing Creek Educational Center, Slabtown Coffee, South Valley Athletics, The Chronicle, The Huckleberrys, The Regulars, Western Oregon Exposition.

*Together, these individuals and organizations are the reason Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days is more than just a festival—it's a celebration of our past, present, and future. Thank you for building something truly special with us. See you next July 16-18 for BMD 2026—where history meets hometown fun.*