

Election
Results

See page 3



CGHS
Sports

See page 8



Cottage
Grove

64
45

Wednesday,
May 27, 2026
Partly Cloudy



Wednesday May 27, 2026 | 137 years

www.cgsentinel.com

\$2.00

Main Street rebuild reaches finish line with community celebration

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove reached a long anticipated milestone on Saturday, May 16, with a community celebration marking the completion of the Downtown Revitalization Project, which rebuilt five blocks of Main Street in the Historic District.

Earlier that morning, the Gran Fondo's 8:30 a.m. mass start sent hundreds of colorfully dressed cyclists west on Main Street for the annual 70 mile ride into the Coast Range.

Periods of liquid sunshine punctuated the three and a half hour event that began at 11 a.m. and continued through 2:30 p.m. It featured live music, food, vendors from the South Valley Farmers Market, and thousands of dollars in raffle prizes donated by local businesses. At 11:30 a.m., well wishers gathered at the intersection of Seventh and Main to witness three ceremonial ribbon cuttings.

The \$6.3 million project was funded through a \$5 million federal grant from the Economic Development Administration, awarded through the American Rescue Plan, along with a \$1.3 million local contribution. Construction began in February 2025 and wrapped up in December, delivering the district's first full rebuild in more than 50 years.



Greg Lee Photography

(Top) From left to right, City Manager Mike Sauerwein, EDA Representative Wesley Cochran, Public Works Director Faye Stewart and Mayor Candace Solesbee cut one of three ceremonial ribbons celebrating the completion of the Main Street Refinement Project. City Councilor Randell Lammerman (background) fires a confetti cannon. (Bottom) CGPD's new bike patrol made its debut at the May 16 Main Street Dedication Celebration. Officers Buckland and Blalack pose with Public Works Director Faye Stewart.

The ribbon cutting marked the culmination of roughly 15 years of planning, design and pursuit of

funding to bring the project to life. City leaders and business owners say the improvements, new pavement, wider sidewalks, upgraded utilities and safer crossings, lay the groundwork for renewed investment and a more welcoming Main Street.

Public Works Director Faye Stewart, who served as the master of ceremonies, read from a long thank you list of project partners and volunteers before outlining the day's activities. The three ribbons reflected the groups that carried the project from concept to completion. The first honored city leadership, the second recognized the planning, engineering and construction

teams, including representatives from LCOG, Branch Engineering and Wildfish Construction, and the third acknowledged the community partners and organizations that supported the project and the day's celebration.

It was also a "ribbon cutting and confetti moment" for the Cottage Grove Police Department's new bike patrol to make its community debut. Officers Blalack, Israel and Buckland traveled to Bend, Ore., to attend an 8 hour Bike Patrol Course hosted by the Bend Police

See MAIN Page 6



Cottage Grove Garbage Service outlines recycling changes

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

From kitchen counters to curbside carts, Cottage Grove residents will soon sort their recycling a little differently as Oregon launches a statewide list of what can and cannot go in the bin. The statewide update aims to make recycling easier to understand and more uniform across the state.

Oregon lawmakers passed the Recycling Modernization Act during the 2021 legislative session as Senate Bill 582, and Governor Kate Brown signed it into law on August 6, 2021. According to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the law was designed to create a Uniform Statewide Collection List, reduce contamination, improve recycling system efficiency and require producers to share responsibility for managing packaging and paper products.

IMPACTS OF NEW LAW

According to its most recent report in 2022, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) reported approximately 1.7 million tons of material was collected statewide. That total

includes recycling, composting and other forms of material recovery across all 35 "wastesheds". Lane County contributed significantly to that total. The county generated 603,846 tons of material and recovered roughly 319,000 tons, giving it a 52.9 percent recovery rate, one of the highest in the state. Local officials say the numbers reflect strong participation from residents and businesses, along with long standing regional investments in waste reduction and reuse programs.

According to a DEQ video, the new law is based on studies and discussions among stakeholders in Oregon's recycling industry. The outcomes include the creation of one statewide collection list and increased public awareness of what can and cannot be recycled. The law created a system that meets the needs of unserved and underserved

See GARBAGE Page 6

Cottage Grove Garbage Service has produced this new Recycling Guide for customers.

Courtesy photo

Recycling Guide

Thanks for recycling these items! All items must be empty and dry.

Following the guidelines of what is allowed in your recycling bin saves natural resources, reduces pollution and creates jobs.

Scan for: العربية, 中文, ភាសាខ្មែរ, हिन्दी, Pусский, Af-Soomaali, español, Tagalog, українська, tiếng Việt.

Plastic

Bottles, tubs, buckets, and rigid plant pots

Caps OK if screwed on. All items must be 2 inches by 2 inches or larger.

Metal

Aluminum and steel cans, and scrap metal

Less than 10 pounds and 18 inches.

Cardboard and Cartons

Flattened cardboard, packaging boxes, and food and beverage cartons

Pizza boxes must be empty with no food residue.

Paper

Newspaper, magazines, office paper, paper egg cartons, mail, paperback books, paper bags, and non-metallic gift wrap

No!

No bagged recyclables

No batteries

No food or liquid (empty all containers)

No plastic bags or stretchy plastics (store or depot drop-off)

No hoses, cords, or wires

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541-942-8321 | cottagetrovegarbage.com

INDEX

- Police Blotter 2
- Calendar of Events -
- Opinion 5
- Classifieds 7/8
- Sports 8

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Latest news can be found online at:

www.cgsentinel.com

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Deputies save juvenile from LCC rooftop

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies are being credited with saving the life of a 14-year-old perched on top of a roof at the Lane Community College (LCC) campus.

The deputies were notified of the juvenile in crisis at 4 p.m. May 13, according to LCSO Sgt. Levi McKenny.

The family had reported the juvenile was on top of a LCC campus building. Deputies responded in emergency mode to the location and established contact.

Additional deputies also contacted the juvenile's family and gathered information about what triggered the incident.

"The juvenile was distraught and stayed near the edge of the roof," McKenny said.

Two of the deputies who responded are members of the Lane County Sheriff's Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT).

"These deputies were able to build rapport with the juvenile and worked to establish a de-escalation strategy," McKenny said.



Courtesy photo of the LLC Campus.

Fire and EMS personnel responded with emergency equipment, including a ladder truck.

"At around 5 p.m., after more than 20 minutes of negotiation, the juvenile came down off the roof unharmed. The juvenile was taken to a local area hospital for treatment," McLenny said. "The Lane County Sheriff's Office would like to thank LCC Public Safety and all of the Fire and EMT personnel who responded to assist."

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available.

A CLOSER LOOK

Hit-and-run victim follows suspect, police catch, cite juvenile

The following information is from the Cottage Grove Police Department's Weekly Update Facebook post:

- Thank you to Magnolia Gardens Senior Living for delivering several delicious pizzas from Pinocchio's Pizza in honor of Police Week!
- Our newest dispatcher started last Monday. Dispatcher Olson joins us with 10 years of experience, and we are excited to have her serving the Cottage Grove community.
- Chief Chase spent the past week attending the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police Annual Conference in Pendleton, Oregon.
- Officers attended and patrolled two large community events on Saturday. One event included the Gran Fondo road bike race hosted by Mudslinger Events, where bicyclists traveled up to 92 miles from Bohemia Park along Cottage Grove-Lorane Road and back.

Downtown Cottage Grove also hosted a large grand

opening block party featuring live music and strong community attendance. Officers provided high-visibility patrols on foot, on bicycles, and in patrol vehicles throughout the events to ensure public safety and assist with traffic and crowd management. The debut of our bike patrol was a huge success with great community engagement, and we look forward to providing more summertime bike patrols during special events in the downtown corridor.

- One of our Dispatchers competed in the Cottage Grove Half Marathon on Sunday and finished the race in 2:01. Congratulations, Dispatcher Monahan!
- Officers responded to I-5 to assist with removing a large couch that was blocking the freeway.
- Officers were flagged down by a resident reporting that a vehicle had broken down after one of its tires detached and went through her fence. The involved vehicle was still blocking the roadway when officers arrived. During the

investigation, officers identified the driver and learned they were driving with a misdemeanor-level suspended license and without proof of insurance. Due to the property damage caused to the fence, officers conducted a crash investigation. The driver was cited in lieu of custody for Driving While Suspended – Misdemeanor and cited for No Insurance. A crash report was completed and submitted through DMV. The tire was reattached, and the vehicle was moved out of the roadway.

- Officers responded to an active hit-and-run investigation in which the victim was following the suspect vehicle through town while providing updates to dispatch. During the incident, the suspect reportedly attempted to hide in the Bi-Mart parking lot before fleeing again.

The vehicle eventually stopped at the Get N' Go near Row River Road, where officers conducted the investigation. The driver, a juvenile, was cited in lieu of custody for Hit and Run – Property Damage. During the



WEEKLY UPDATE

05/11/26 - 05/17/26



Accidents: 2

Arrests: 9

Disturbance: 6

Fraud: 3

Harassment: 3

Hit & Run: 1

Suspicious Condition: 7

Trespass: 6

Vehicle Stop: 37

Welfare Checks: 14

Total calls --- 297

investigation, officers also learned that a passenger in the vehicle had been entered as a missing person from Junction City. Officers were able to make arrangements to ensure the safety of the missing person.

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, MAY 11

08:02: Suspicious condition, 1000 block E. Main St.

08:35: Wanted subject, 600 block Birch Ave.

10:13: Fire, 1300 block Elm Ave.

10:33: Welfare check, 700 block E. Main St.

10:56: Menacing, 1300 block Daugherty Ave.

14:54: Abandoned vehicle, 8th/Pierce

16:12: Fire, 100 block Village Dr.

16:24: Motor vehicle crash, Row River Rd/Cedar Park Rd

16:57: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

18:22: Juvenile trouble, 1500 block E. Chamberlain Ave.

20:48: Disturbance, 1200 block Hwy 99

21:38: Trespass, 1700 block Parks Rd.

22:03: Trespass, 34000 block Garoutte Rd.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

03:29: Welfare check, 1500 block Village Dr.

07:56: Abandoned vehicle, Birch/J

10:40: Attempted theft, 700 block N. 16th St.

10:59: Trespass, 1000 block Hwy 99

11:03: Suspicious vehicle, 32000 block Cleveland St.

12:48: Vicious dog, 32000 block McKinley Ave.

18:18: Abandoned vehicle, 800 block N. 19th St.

18:31: Found property, 1500 block S. 4th St.

22:46: Suspicious vehicle, 1200 block E. Main St.

23:04: Disturbance, 77000 block Hwy 99

23:24: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

23:26: Agency assist, 77000 block Hwy 99

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

00:08: Alarm, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

04:10: Alarm, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

04:53: Suspicious condition, 1200 block S. 13th St.

07:20: Suspicious condition, 1600 block Samuel Dr.

09:36: Abandoned vehicle, 16th/Ostrander

10:52: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

14:29: Abandoned vehicle, 600 block Johnson Ave.

15:37: Suspicious vehicle, 32000 block Cleveland St.

15:46: Motor vehicle crash, 1400 block Girard Ave.

19:30: Suspicious condition, 1800 block E. Main St.



THURSDAY, MAY 14

02:30: Suspicious subject, 2500 block E. Main St.

02:49: Disturbance, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

03:19: Alarm, 3300 block Row River Rd.

07:09: Alarm, 1200 block Hwy 99

07:38: Suspicious subject, 1100 block Riverfront Way

08:56: Illegal camping, 200 block N. 12th St.

09:12: Abandoned vehicle, 900 block S Court

09:19: Illegal camping, 700 block E. Main St.

12:04: Dog at large, Main/8th

13:32: Drug activity, 1300 block E. Main St.

14:24: Juvenile trouble, 1500 block E. Main St.

14:31: Suicidal subject, 1100 block Hillside Dr.

14:49: Abandoned vehicle, Hillside/Parks

17:34: Alarm, 100 block Palmer Ave.

18:17: Alarm, 3300 block Row River Rd.

20:07: Juvenile trouble, 700 block South R St.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

00:28: Suspicious vehicle, N.River Rd/Bennett Creek Rd

01:12: Harassment, 500 block N. River Rd.

01:46: Disturbance, 200 block N. 12th St.

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

09:11: Welfare check, 800 block Birch Ave.

09:58: Animal info, 900 block W. Main St.

11:41: Fraud, 200 block Grant Ave.

11:59: Fraud, 1000 block E. Chadwick Ave.

12:49: Disorderly subject, 1100 block Lord Ave.

12:57: Agency assist, 1800 block Marion Way

13:34: Suspicious vehicle, 1500 block S. 4th St.

17:58: Drug activity, 200 block Cherry Ct.

22:00: Juvenile trouble, 900 block S. 8th St.

23:09: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

01:38: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block Hwy 99

06:02: Fraud, 400 block E. Main St.

07:34: Welfare check, 1300 block E. Monroe Ave.

07:55: Alarm, 700 block Row River Rd.

09:02: Disorderly subject, 600 block N. 9th St.

09:06: Suspicious condition, 600 block N. 9th St.

12:43: Disturbance, 32000 block W. Saginaw Rd.

12:54: Order violation, 1600 block Daugherty Ave.

13:04: Hit and run, Connector

15:02: Juvenile trouble, 3000 block Row River Rd.

15:59: Abandoned vehicle, 500 block Adams Ave.

18:11: Warrant service, 700 block Hwy 99

18:49: Warrant service, 200 block N. 12th St.

18:49: Reckless driving, 4th/Hayes

19:39: Agency assist, 3200 block Arne Ln.

19:50: Warrant service, 4th/Taylor

20:17: Trespass, 100 block Village Dr.

23:28: Fire, 32000 block Rachel Rd

SUNDAY, MAY 17

00:39: Suspicious vehicle, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

00:52: Disorderly subject, 1300 block Pennoyer Ave.

07:20: Drug activity, 400 block E. Main St.

10:22: Fire, 800 block N. 19th St.

14:08: Harassment, 1400 block E. Main St.

15:45: Trespass, 1300 block E. Main St.

15:51: Fire, 76000 block London Rd.

16:07: Wanted subject, Main/Gateway

18:12: Warrant service, 22nd/Main

18:36: Shots fired, 3000 block Overholser Rd.

18:58: Disturbance, Main/14th

19:24: Harassment, 400 block E. Main St.

19:51: Disorderly subject, Sweet/99

20:29: Welfare check, 100 block S. River Rd.

20:37: Disorderly subject, 100 block S. 10th St.

20:40: Reckless driving, 900 block Row River Rd.



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PRIMARY ELECTION 2026

Primary Election 2026 unofficial results

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The South Lanne Fire and Rescue 5-year Local Option Tax was defeated in the May 19 Primary Election, according to unofficial results from lane County Elections.

Measure 20-383 was designed for general operations that would allow the District to impose \$0.94 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years beginning 2026-2027 to fund general operations.

South Lane County Fire & Rescue leaders warned the

Cottage Grove City Council on April 13 that the district is nearing collapse under rising medical calls and chronic understaffing. They said that without new funding from the levy ambulance service will be cut on July 1 to keep a fire engine staffed.

During the April council session presentation, Fire Chief John Wooten said the district responds to 15–16 calls a day with only five responders on duty, and some days see as many as 30 calls. He said the district serves 33,000 people



across a 132 square mile fire district and an 800 square mile ambulance district that includes rural communities and remote county areas with no other EMS provider.

Wooten said beginning on July 1, without new funding, the district will have only one ambulance for both Cottage Grove and Creswell to keep two firefighters available to staff an engine.

In the candidate race for Lane County Commissioner Position 5, Jake Pelroy was leading, according to the unofficial voting results.

The 2026 Primary Election results are scheduled to be certified June 15.

South Lane Fire & Rescue 20-383 Five-year local option tax

Yes 3022
No 4495
East Commissioner Position 5
Heather Buch 9149
Jake Pelroy 9529
Bob Zybach 909
See full unofficial Lane County Primary Election 2026 results here:
<https://apps.lanecountyor.gov/Elections/Document.ashx?id=4045>
Reporter Cindy Weeldreyer contributed to this article.

Oregon voters overwhelmingly rejecting hikes to gas tax and vehicle fees

MIA MALDONADO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oregonians are on track to overwhelmingly reject hikes to the state’s gas tax, payroll tax and vehicle registration and title fees that would have gone toward funding the maintenance and operations of public roads and bridges.

Initial election results from the Oregon Secretary of State’s Office shortly after 8 p.m. showed the measure failing by a 4:1 margin.

Had it succeeded, the measure would have doubled most vehicle registration fees, raised the gas tax from 40 cents to 46 cents, raised title fees from \$77 to \$216 and doubled the payroll tax used for public transit from 0.1% of a paycheck to 0.2% until 2028.

For cities and counties, the rejection means they won’t be receiving more funding deeply needed to fix many sidewalks and potholes, particularly in rural areas. Half of the money raised by the gas tax, car registration fees and title fees goes to cities and counties.

“Without sustainable revenue, counties will face increasingly difficult decisions that directly impact road user safety and increase long-term costs to the public, such as making long-overdue safety improvements on Oregon’s most dangerous rural roads, ensuring county road departments can maintain staffing levels and avoid operations and maintenance cuts and preserving investments counties have made in our shared transportation system,” Association of Oregon Counties spokesperson Erin Good said in an email.

Measure 120’s unpopularity doesn’t come as a surprise. Nearly 250,000 Oregonians frustrated by potential gas tax hikes signed the petition that placed the measure on the ballot. Plus, gas tax hikes in Oregon are historically unpopular. Oregon voters have rejected gas tax hike proposals on the ballot more than five times since 1928.

The vote also comes as gas prices continue to rocket upward because of the Iran war. As of Tuesday, motor club AAA tracked average prices in Oregon at \$5.34 per gallon — more than 80 cents higher than the national average and \$1.38 more than May 2025.

What’s next for transportation funding?

Kotek earlier this month convened 12 transportation and business experts and tasked them with finding a solution to Oregon’s transportation funding crisis.

The workgroup is trying to solve the same problem lawmakers tried to in 2025: How to sustainably fund road maintenance and operations across the state.

The issue has plagued lawmakers since January 2025, when lawmakers had six months during the legislative session to find ways to raise revenue for the Oregon Department of Transportation or otherwise face a budget deficit. By June, Republicans and Democrats couldn’t reach a compromise, and Gov. Tina Kotek had to call for a special session in the fall for Democrats to finally have the votes needed to pass a significantly smaller transportation funding plan.



Metro Creative Connection

The 2026 Primary Election Results are scheduled to be certified June 15.

enue from the gas tax despite those vehicles contributing to the wear and tear of public roads.

Kotek’s workgroup will present its final recommendations by the end of the year. Those recommendations will guide lawmakers in the 2027 legislative session.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/05/19/oregon-voters-reject-hikes-to-gas-tax-and-vehicle-fees/>

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OBITUARIES/NEWS

Wayne Lee Wiscarson

April 14, 1940 - May 8, 2026

Wayne Lee Wiscarson, born on April 14, 1940, in Cottage Grove, Oregon, passed away on May 8, 2026, in the same beloved community.

He was born to Melvin and Marion (Buckingham) Wiscarson and grew up in the Cottage Grove community he would always call home. Wayne graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 1958 and carried the values of hard work, loyalty, and neighborly kindness throughout his life.

On May 25, 1962, Wayne married Barbara Jean Munsell in Cottage Grove, Oregon, beginning a marriage that lasted 64 years. Together they shared a long and devoted life filled with love, family, and countless memories. He is survived by Barbara; his daughters, Barbara (Dayton) Sibley of Summerville, Oregon, Pam Wiscarson of Caldwell, Idaho, and Susie (Russ) Garrison; and his grandsons, Sam Garrison and Ben Garrison. His family was a source of great pride and joy to him, and he treasured the time he spent with them.

Wayne spent much of his working life serving others and contributing to the community. He worked as a grocery store manager and later retired from Lane Plywood in Eugene, Oregon. In every role he held, he was known for being dependable, capable, and willing to lend a hand. His practical nature and strong work ethic earned the respect of coworkers,



friends, and family alike.

Wayne also enjoyed a full and meaningful life outside of work. He loved traveling, camping, hunting, and fishing, and found great joy in the outdoors and in the simple pleasures of time spent with others.

He was also a proud and longtime member of Cottage Grove Elks Lodge No. 1904.

Having joined the Elks in 1964, he was a lifetime member whose dedication and involvement were recognized over the years with honors including Exalted Ruler of the Year in 1993-1994 and Elk of the Month, along with many other awards. His membership reflected his commitment to fellowship, service, and the values of the organization, and he valued the friendships and experiences he gained through his years with the lodge.

A service will be held at the Cottage Grove Elks Lodge on May 31, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Wayne will be remembered with affection by all who knew him, and his legacy will live on through the family he loved, the friendships he formed, and the many lives he touched throughout his life.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like you to donate to the Elks Lodge bottle and can fund and Alzheimer's Association.

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

Marie Longfellow

June 1, 1939 - April 24, 2026

Marie Longfellow, age 86, of Cottage Grove, Oregon, passed away on April 24, 2026, in the town where she was born and spent her life, leaving behind a legacy of intelligence, passion, and deep connection to her community and family history.

Marie was born on June 1, 1939, in Cottage Grove, Oregon, to Reazen Harlen and Muriel Ermine (Young) Longfellow. She grew up in Cottage Grove and attended Cottage Grove High School, where she began building the foundation for a life marked by curiosity, dedication, and achievement. She later attended the University of Oregon, where she was a member of the basketball team, and went on to earn a Master of Arts in Education from Arizona State University in 1967.

Marie devoted her professional life to education and preservation. She worked as a schoolteacher, where she shared her knowledge and encouraged learning in the lives of many students. Her interests and talents also led her into museum work, where she served as Board Chair of the Cottage Grove Museum and later as Director



of the Bohemia Gold Mining Museum from 2003 to 2008. In each role, she brought care, insight, and a strong sense of purpose, helping preserve the stories and heritage of the region she loved.

She was known for her love of the great outdoors and for the thoughtful way she followed and documented her family history, tracing it from the 1800s to the present day. This lifelong interest reflected her appreciation for the past and her desire to preserve meaningful connections across generations. Those who knew Marie will remember her as an interesting, intelligent, and passionate woman whose life was shaped by learning, service, and a genuine love of history.

Her memory will remain with those who knew her and with the community whose history she helped preserve.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, June 1, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Magnolia Gardens Senior Living.

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

Clyde (Chico) Lamar

September 28, 1935 - May 2, 2026

Cottage Grove — Clyde Louis Lamar, known affectionately as Chico, passed away on May 2, 2026, at the age of 90, in Cottage Grove, OR. Born on September 28, 1935, Clyde lived a vibrant life characterized by his warm, caring nature and his deep compassion for others. His radiant smile and spiritual demeanor left a lasting impression on everyone he met.

Chico proudly served in the Navy from 1953 to 1956, a period during which he forged lifelong friendships and developed a discipline that he carried throughout his life. After his military service, he embarked on a fulfilling career as an entertainer. He



traveled the world with various groups and his bands, sharing his love for music and singing with countless fans.

Chico's legacy is cherished by his loving family, including his daughters, Valerie McEchin and Valerie Haynes, and sons, Kevin and Darin Lamar. He was a proud grandfather and great-grandfather. His siblings and

his longtime partner, Shera Funderburgh, also survive him.

In accordance with his wishes, no services will be held in Oregon. Clyde's life was a testament to the joy and healing power of music, and his memory will continue to inspire those who knew him.

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DEATH NOTICE

Alan Dale Clendenin, 72, of Eugene, OR., passed on May 15, 2026. Arrangements by Sunset Hills Funeral Home, Crematorium and Cemetery in Eugene, OR

Iran war, skyrocketing fuel prices battering Oregon's economic forecast

ALEX BAUMHARDT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Oil prices have doubled since Oregon's top economists last met with reporters and lawmakers to discuss the state's economic outlook, creating a "new economic reality."

The latest forecast, which economists Carl Riccadonna and Michael Kennedy previewed for reporters the evening of Tuesday, May 19, ahead of a Wednesday meeting with the House and Senate revenue committees, is a sharp departure from February's. Then, higher-than-expected corporate profits, consumer spending and new federal tax cuts had provided a buffer against what was expected to be a steep drop in state income tax revenue from sluggish job growth and wage stagnation

plaguing not just Oregon, but the nation.

But President Donald Trump launched the ongoing U.S.-Israeli war with Iran in late February, oil prices have soared from \$50 to more than \$100 a barrel, driving up inflation, tanking the nation's economic growth estimates for the year and further eroding wages and hiring. Economic growth from last summer's federal tax and spending megalaw was expected to accelerate the nation's GDP by 1% in the first half of 2026. That expectation has been completely dropped in the last three months.

"Rising energy prices basically impose a tax on households and businesses," Riccadonna explained. "Often there's not a lot of flexibility around energy consumption,

which means when prices move, that very quickly translates into a new economic reality, and that's very much what we're grappling with in this forecast update."

Potential homebuyers and budding business owners who hoped interest rates would drop soon will be further waylaid.

"One quarter ago, we were talking about the Fed continuing this cycle of interest rate reductions," Riccadonna said of rates, which the Federal Reserve incrementally lowered by 2% over the past year. "Now it looks like, at best, they're on an extended hold, and in fact the market is now starting to price in the possibility of the Fed raising interest rates by the end of this year," he said.

In a statement, Gov. Tina Kotek said she is focused on keeping the state budget whole and policies that will ease the pain households are feeling as costs rise.

"Oregonians are feeling the financial pressure from high fuel prices and escalating inflation driven by the Trump administration's conflict with Iran, so I'm thankful that Oregon is maintaining a balanced budget to protect core services," she said.

State Republican lawmakers did not touch at all on rising fuel prices. Instead, House Minority Leader Rep. Lucetta Elmer, R-McMinnville, blamed it on, "a concerning economic trend brought on by pro-regulation, anti-business policies coming out of Salem."

Few winners
The only winners in the current economy are corporations raking in rising profits and wealthy individuals heavily invested in a booming stock market, Riccadonna and Kennedy explained. A small handful of tech "hyperscalers" are driving the perceived

gains, such as AI processing and data centers selling cloud computing and data storage and management, and the semiconductors needed for the server farms.

"We've just gotten a bunch of tax returns for 2025 in, throughout the filing season, and one of the things they're showing is weaker wage growth than we would have expected, but much stronger dividend growth, capital gains growth, IRA growth, everything that's market sensitive, market-based growth," Kennedy said.

Although income tax revenue generated from capital gains taxes on the sale of stocks is buffering overall earned-income losses in Oregon, at least \$23 million of income tax revenue state lawmakers expected to have on hand when they walked out of the Capitol at the end of the short legislative session in March has been lost due to declining wages and stagnant employment.

When they ended the session, lawmakers thought they were sitting on an end balance of \$368 million. Today, that's more like \$345 million, Kennedy said, and that \$345 million exists mostly because Democratic lawmakers voted to detach the state tax code from three of 115 provisions of the new federal tax code, a decision state Republican lawmakers oppose and have vowed to send to Oregon voters via ballot referral in November.

Private sector forecasters recently put the likelihood of recession this year at about 30%, Oregon's economists said, though they themselves forecast a likelihood closer to 22%, up from 20% three months ago.

Their modelling shows that if oil goes up to \$150

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VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY

Annual Field Day

The Valley Radio Club of Eugene announces its annual Field Day, beginning June 27, 11 am, and ending June 28, 11 am, at Jasper State Park, located at 85521 Jasper Park Road, in Pleasant Hill.

The Valley Radio Club is a group of local amateur radio enthusiasts, or hams, which has been continuously active in the Eugene area since 1929.

Field Day is an annual event sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) that has been held since 1933. The

purposes of ARRL Field Day are to:

1. Give local hams the opportunity to practice their radio skills in the outdoors.
2. Contact as many other ham radio stations around the country as they can, using voice communication, Morse code, and digital computer-assisted communication.
3. Introduce the world of ham radio to interested people.

This event is open to the public and will give visitors a hands-on opportunity to get on the air with a licensed operator at their side.

For this event, there will be six amateur radio stations

set up. There will also be an activity to help teach how to locate hidden transmitters. Additionally, there will be a special station using a vintage 1960's tube-style transmitter.

All ages are welcome. No license is required and no event fee will be collected (though there is a \$10 Oregon State Park parking fee).

For more information, please visit our web page at <https://www.valleyradioclub.org/field-day/>. Questions may also be submitted to field-day@valleyradioclub.org.

Nelson Farrier, NF7Z
President, Valley Radio Club

Bipartisan bill to tackle child care workforce shortage

Oregon's U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley and U.S. Representative Lucy McBath (D-GA-06) have led a bipartisan group of lawmakers to introduce the Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act.

The bipartisan bill would address the child care workforce shortage by investing in career and technical education (CTE) programs and incentivizing more students to enter the early childhood workforce upon graduation.

The Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act would:

- Award grants to eligible partnerships such as institutions of higher education, child care providers, or relevant workforce training programs with schools;
- Establish, expand, or support career and technical education and career pathway programs of study in early childhood education.

"As I hold town halls in all of Oregon's 36 counties every year, I hear from folks about child care being too inaccessible. Ensuring working families can access decent, affordable child care is an essential foundation for the middle class to thrive," Merkley said. "Our bipartisan bill invests in the child care workforce, a win for parents who need child care and for Oregon businesses who need more child care providers."

"Every parent deserves the peace of mind that comes with knowing their child is in good hands while they go to work and provide for their family. For too long, finding affordable, quality child-care has been out of reach for working Americans," McBath said. "The Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act will invest in career and technical programs that open doors for students who want to serve their communities as early childhood educators. It's our responsibility to prepare the next generation of childcare workers and give families the support they need to thrive."

In the House, U.S. Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-01), Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA-15), John Mannion (D-NY-22), Mike Lawler (R-NY-17), and Jen Kiggans (R-VA-02) co-led the introduction of the Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act.

"Child care is essential for children, families, businesses, and communities to thrive," Bonamici said. "We need more students to enter this critical profession, and career and technical education (CTE) programs have great potential to make it easier and more affordable for them to do so. I'm grateful to work with a group of bipartisan colleagues to introduce this commonsense legislation."

"The shortage of child-care workers has a negative effect upon families needing structured care environments and also our economy," Thompson said. "I am proud to support the Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act to help expand career and technical education, and create pathways in childhood education to meet the needs of parents, children, and workers."

"No parent should have to choose between earning a paycheck and caring for their children.," Mannion said. That's why I'm proud to join my colleagues in this common-sense bipartisan effort to address the child care shortage head-on. In Central New York and the Mohawk Valley, childhood poverty rates remain among the highest in the nation. This legislation will help strengthen career and technical education (CTE) programs, giving our children the strong foundation they need to succeed. It represents an important step towards a robust federal commitment to supporting children and families across the country."

"Working families depend on access to affordable, reliable childcare, but workforce shortages continue to make that harder to find," Lawler said. "This

bipartisan legislation helps build a stronger pipeline of early childhood educators by investing in career and technical education and creating pathways for students to enter the field. Supporting childcare workers means supporting families, strengthening our economy, and giving children the foundation they need to succeed."

"Access to affordable, reliable childcare is essential for working families and for the strength of our economy," Kiggans said. "Right now, too many parents are struggling to find quality care, while childcare providers continue to face severe workforce shortages. I am proud to support the bipartisan Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act because it takes meaningful steps to strengthen the pipeline of skilled early childhood educators and expand opportunities for students interested in this critical profession. We must ensure America's parents are supported and their children have a strong foundation to succeed!"

The bipartisan Early Childhood Workforce Advancement Act is supported by Advance CTE, American Federation of Teachers, Association of Career and Technical Education, Bipartisan Policy Center, Council for Professional Recognition, Center for Law and Social Policy, Child Care Aware, Children's Defense Fund, Early Care and Education Consortium, First Five Years Fund, First Focus Campaign for Children, National Education Association, National Head Start Association, National Partnership for Women and Families, National Women's Law Center Action Fund, Save the Children, and Zero to Three.

The bill is also co-sponsored by U.S. Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Adam Schiff (D-CA), and Ron Wyden (D-OR).

EDITORIAL CARTOON



COMMENTARY

A Day Without Child Care: Universal problem requires a universal solution

TY MORRIS
KENDRA VOTAVA
Oregon Capital Chronicle

We have been sounding the alarm for years: Oregon's child care system needs support. From early childhood educators and child care advocates, to parents and families, we are being pushed to the brink. We have been pleading with our elected leaders to prioritize children in our state's policies.

But now is the time to take action. Years of underinvestment have made educators unable to care for themselves and pushed families into impossible choices. During the National Day Without Child Care conducted May 11, child care providers across the state showed the true impact of continued underfunding in the child care sector. These Oregon workers shut down to demand what every working family deserves: universal child care, now.

The Day Without Child Care isn't about disruption; it's about clarity. Child care is not separate from other industries. When Oregon's child care providers walk out, we're showing exactly what happens when a system built on exploitation collapses.

In every corner of the state, families are struggling to access the affordable, equitable, quality child care they need, and entire communities are suffering the effects. When families cannot find child care, they cannot work. When families cannot work, local businesses become short-staffed and families decrease their spending. From there, windows are forced to shutter and the economy shrinks.

This is not an issue limited to certain people or regions; from our roles in Albany and in Portland, and across Oregon, we both have seen just how universal the problem is. As

of 2024, 34 of Oregon's 36 counties qualified as a child care desert for infants and toddlers.

Even for older children, when more care opportunities are available, a quarter of our counties remain deserts. Moreover, child care is unaffordable for nearly all families in Oregon, regardless of income. A recent Lending Tree study shows a household with two children needs to make over \$400,000 per year for child care to be affordable — which is nearly four times the median income for Oregon families.

We understand how difficult it is to have a system that doesn't work for families. Families that are referred for care might wait up to 18 months to be accepted if they aren't already on the list. That means families have a year and a half of no access to care, of limited access to work and struggle to provide for their children. By then, their child may have aged out of services, and missed benefits such as early math and literacy support, social skill development and early identification of disabilities. Losing further funds for such programs would be devastating.

If we want to stabilize this ecosystem and finally address the problems plaguing our system, investment is necessary. Funding child care isn't a luxury or an unnecessary add-on — it's the infrastructure that makes Oregon work. It is essential for our lawmakers to support educators, value children and allow families to work and local businesses to thrive. Our policies do not currently reflect this, but they can.

A universal problem requires a universal solution. This is why we support the campaign to win child care for all. It reflects the far-reaching nature of this industry: addressing the

racial, gender and economic inequities that are at the root of these discussions.

Oregon needs a child care system that guarantees quality care for every child, living wages for every provider and justice for the Black and Brown communities who have been carrying this system on their backs. We urge our leaders to give the child care industry the respect and resources that it deeply needs. We want our state to prioritize children over corporate profits and tax breaks for billionaires.

While the Day Without Child Care may be just one day, the campaign to win universal child care will continue until that goal is realized. There is a role for everyone — from the largest cities to the smallest towns — to share their values and uplift the importance of child care. Every Oregon family is deserving of quality, affordable care.

Ty Morris, based in Portland, specializes in trauma-informed anti-bias training and coaching for early educators and organizes with For All Families Oregon, a grassroots organization advocating for family-forward policies.

Kendra Votava is a child care provider based in Albany and organizes with For All Families Oregon, a grassroots organization advocating for family-forward policies.

<https://oregon-capitalchronicle.com/2026/05/08/a-day-without-child-care-universal-problem-requires-a-universal-solution/>

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@oregon-capitalchronicle.com.

Weekly Online Poll

What are your plans for the summer?

- Just keep doing what I'm doing
- Keeping my options open
- Take a vacation
- Do things I've never done before

Previous Poll Results

- How much do you depend on your mobile device?
- Can't go anywhere without it 100%
- I use it once in a while 0%
- I don't have a mobile device 0%

Quote of the Week

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God such men lived."

George S. Patton



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.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT:

1498 E. Main Street, STE 104, Cottage Grove, OR 97424
The Cottage Grove Sentinel website www.cgsentinel.com.
All subscriptions must be paid prior to beginning the subscription and are non-refundable.

Periodicals postage paid at Cottage Grove, Oregon.

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Electronic edition annually.....	\$75
Electronic edition monthly.....	\$9

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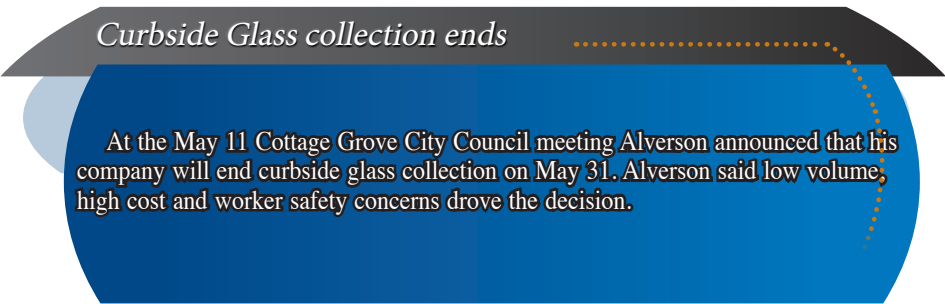
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BUDGET
From Page 1

more than half, leaving only the Library Director relying on volunteers to keep the building open. Public testimony at council meetings, the town hall and the budget hearings focused heavily on those two issues. Residents described the therapy pool as a vital health resource for seniors, people with disabilities and those recovering from injuries. Library supporters argued that the proposed staffing cuts would dismantle a core public service and eliminate programs that serve children, families and long time users. At its May 14 meeting, the Budget Committee voted to move \$75,000 from the housing development assistance fund into the general fund to support the pool. The fund is used to waive planning and construction fees for new affordable housing projects. The city’s annual payment to the school district reduces admission fees for individuals, families and users of the warm water therapy pool. The money will appear as its own line item in the budget rather than a yearly request. The committee also recommended that the city enter into a contract with the School District and secure a seat at the table for future decisions about the pool. In kind contributions will be part of that agreement. Ervin said the transfer buys time but is not a long term solution. **LIBRARY STAFFING ADDED** The library budget remained unresolved until the final meeting. During

the discussion, Committee Vice Chair Johanna Zee said, “At some point we have to approve an amount and trust the city manager to figure out how he will make it work.” After extended discussion, the committee approved a series of transfers within the proposed budget to move \$50,000 into library personnel. The committee shifted \$25,000 from the library’s materials and services budget, \$17,000 from the city manager’s materials and services budget for training and goal setting, and \$8,000 from a city council fund for travel and food at conferences and meetings. Budget Committee Member Linda Olson made a motion to recommend the council reduce library hours from five to four days a week. The motion passed on an 8-6 vote. **COMMUNITY PROMOTIONS** The committee also reviewed the Community Promotions budget, which distributes rural tourism dollars to local organizations. The proposed allocation is approximately \$55,000. He said the committee is feeling the strain in the community promotions budget and may face similar challenges next year. Councilor Randell Lammerman made a motion he later withdrew to take more money out of the Housing Assistance Fund to support all of the community promotions requests. “We should leave some money in the housing assistance fund as a stop gap for next year and not make aggressive fund transfers this year,” Ervin said, “We’re feeling the strain in the Community Promotions budget and may

face similar challenges next year.” **BUDGET PASSES 12-2** The committee voted 12-2 to recommend approval of the amended 2026 27 budget and set the city’s permanent tax rate of \$7.2087 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Councilors Jim Settelmeyer and Dana Merryday voted no. The budget now moves to the city council for consideration and possible adoption at its June 22 meeting. **URBAN RENEWAL BUDGET ADOPTED** Following the budget committee meeting, the Urban Renewal District Budget Committee convened and elected Ervin as chair and Darrell Wilson as vice chair. City staff estimate that the first year of collecting property taxes in the district will generate \$70,000. Staff recommended hiring a part time economic development specialist to recruit investors and support improvements within the district that will increase long-term revenue for city services. The committee voted unanimously to approve the Urban Renewal District budget for the 2026 27 fiscal year in the amount of \$140,600 and to levy property taxes for the maximum amount allowed. **NEXT STEPS** The city council will now review the full budget package, including the General Fund, enterprise funds, special revenue funds and the Urban Renewal District budget at its June 22 meeting. By Oregon law, the council must adopt a balanced budget by June 30. *Follow developments online at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.*



GARBAGE
From Page 1

communities and requires producers to share responsibility with local governments and ratepayers. The hope is recycling in Oregon will increase as it becomes easier and more accessible. Cottage Grove Garbage Service plans to roll out changes to curbside recycling as the new statewide rules take effect. General Manager Tim Alverson said the new rules give every residential, commercial and multi family customer the same consistent list of materials they can recycle. The expanded list includes plastic bottles, tubs, buckets and rigid plant pots, aluminum and tin cans, small scrap metal, flattened cardboard, packaging boxes, food and beverage cartons, newspapers, magazines, office paper, paper egg cartons, mail, paperback books, paper bags and non metallic gift wrap. **CURBSIDE GLASS COLLECTION ENDS MAY 31** At the May 11 Cottage Grove City Council meeting Alverson announced that his company will end curbside glass collection on May 31. Alverson said low volume, high cost and worker safety concerns drove the decision. “The amount of glass we collect in a year would fit into a 20 foot by 20 foot by

8 foot space. The volume just doesn’t justify a dedicated route,” he said. He estimated that a glass only route would cost about \$120,000 a year for personnel, fuel, insurance, maintenance and equipment. That cost would require an 8 percent increase in roll cart and container rates if the city chose to offer the service. Alverson said heavy loads and broken glass create safety risks for workers. Another danger is when fine particles of broken glass, called “sparkle” in the industry, are mingled with other material it can leave glass imbedded in paper that is destined to be recycled into new products. Customers can continue to recycle glass at the Lane County Waste Transfer Site on Sears Road. The company has notified customers about this option through monthly billing statements, its website and the back side of the Recycling Guide. Councilors asked Alverson and Sauerwein to meet and return with recommendations on the company’s requested changes to the Franchise Agreement. Sauerwein said he and the City Attorney have not reviewed the agreement yet due to other workload demands. “We plan to discuss it with the City Council at the June 8 meeting,” he said. Alverson said the company has not developed any options for a dedicated glass route. He noted that Oregon’s

“opportunity to recycle” statutes do not require glass collection and classify it as an elective material. **COMPANY ABSORBS COSTS THROUGH 2026** A new smart truck will begin service in mid-July. According to Alverson, it uses cameras, a control module and GPS to identify contamination and start passive education efforts. He said the system does not improve sorting accuracy. Instead, it helps the company monitor contamination and give feedback to customers. The price tag for the new automated recycle truck is \$430,000 and the cost of 3,000 new recycle carts to be distributed to curbside generators is \$150,000. Alverson said the company is absorbing significant operating costs as it expands its commingled collection system from one truck to two. The new system will use an automated truck for residential curbside service and a rear load truck for commercial, multi family and institutional customers. “We’re adding significant operating cost as we expand to a two truck system, and we don’t plan to request a rate increase until January 2027,” he said. *Follow developments online at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of the Cottage Grove Sentinel.*

MAIN
From Page 1

Department. The training marks the creation of the department’s new Bike Patrol Program, with the three officers serving as the inaugural team. The program will help increase officer accessibility, improve community engagement and enhance patrol capabilities in parks, downtown areas, community events and other locations less accessible by patrol vehicle.

The celebration also drew support from local organizations and businesses recognized in the program. Vendors from the South Valley Farmers Market lined Seventh Street on both sides of Main, and the Eugene based band Riffle played a variety of familiar songs that inspired some attendees to dance along. Additional partners involved in planning, engineering, construction and community outreach were acknowledged for their roles in bringing the project to completion. City Manager Mike Sauerwein said the

celebration was a meaningful moment for the community. “This was a fantastic event,” he said. “It is important for the City to celebrate our successes. Everyone had a great time. I especially enjoyed (Chamber Executive Director) Georgia’s confetti cannons.” He credited the many partners who helped organize the day, including the Chamber of Commerce, Bohemia Mining Days, the Gran Fondo organizers, the Downtown Business Group, the Farmers Market and City staff. Sauerwein thanked attendees for

coming “despite the Oregon sunshine.” Former City Manager Richard Meyers helped guide the plan’s adoption beginning in 2015 and said seeing the finished project was deeply meaningful. “It looks beautiful and is doing what it was meant to do,” he said. Meyers recalled the early years of the effort, when the City pursued multiple rounds of design work, held community meetings and applied repeatedly for federal funding before finally securing the Economic Development Administration grant that made construction possible. He said it was clear even in the late 1990s that Main Street needed a full reconstruction and that the long process reflected the scale of the work required. Downtown property owner Len Blackstone, who with his wife Deborah has invested in restoring historic

buildings, said the (Main Street) improvements have already changed the feel of the district. “If you look at the commercial real estate market, segments of it have been hit really hard,” he said, noting that retail, office and industrial spaces have struggled nationwide. “We are fortunate because the Bank Building offices are enticing to those who work remotely, and that has really helped.” Blackstone said the new streetscape signals that the community is investing in itself, something lenders and entrepreneurs notice. “I had lunch with a banker in Eugene I was trying to get funding from,” he said. “Although he never said it, it was clear after looking at the condition of our downtown he was thinking if your community is not investing in its downtown why should I. And now we have made the investment

to create a beautiful historic downtown.” Rebecca Allen Lamptey is the Executive Director of Twinberry Commons, the nonprofit organization that manages the Cottage Grove Public Market, which is anchored by the Blackberry Food Co Op. She said the revitalization project strengthens the district’s momentum. She pointed to a 2023 Cottage Grove Market Study that identified millions of dollars in unmet demand for food and beverage businesses, retail and a natural foods store. “That tells me there is space downtown for more sit down restaurants and more food trucks,” she said. “There is space for so much more than what we have right now.” She added that Cottage Grove is growing and that new businesses help meet the needs of both longtime residents and newcomers. “I do not see any of the new businesses as competition,” she said. “I see them as filling a gap.” Blackstone said, “Cottage Grove has the potential to grow its arts and cultural offerings. Downtown galleries and themed attractions could help draw visitors here.” As the celebration wound down, attendees lingered along the new sidewalks, visiting vendors, listening to music and taking photos beneath the fresh streetscape. Public Works Director Faye Stewart said the moment reflected both the community’s resilience and the significance of the work completed. “I feel incredibly blessed to be a member of an amazing team that transformed an old worn out Historical Downtown Main Street into an award winning, safe, inviting, pedestrian friendly and downright beautiful Historic Downtown Main Street that will be enjoyed by our community members today and for generations to come. This project is truly going to transform and revitalize Downtown Cottage Grove,” he said. *See previous Main Street Revitalization Project coverage online at cgsentinel.com*

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**999
PUBLIC NOTICES**

CGS26-127 NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET AND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING A regular session of the South Lane School District will be held at 455 Adams Ave. & virtually via Zoom meeting (see District website for link). The meeting will take place on June 1, 2026, at 5:30 pm. A supplemental budget will be considered at this meeting. The proposed supplemental budget does not change expenditures in any fund by more than 10 percent. 05/27/26

CGS26-130 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Giselle Fuller has been appointed

**999
PUBLIC NOTICES**

Personal Representative of the Estate of Frank Niderkorn, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB00929. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months from the date of the first publication of this Notice to the Personal Representative at Willamette NW Law Firm, LLC, 735 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97402, or they may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or from the Personal

**999
PUBLIC NOTICES**

Representative's attorney. DATED and first Published: 05/27/2026. /s/ Giselle Fuller, Personal Representative. 05/27/26

CGS26-125 NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING ROW RIVER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT June 4, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Row River Valley Water District, Lane County, state of Oregon, to discuss the Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, will be held at the Row River Christian Church, 37533 Row River Road, Dorena, Oregon. The meeting will take place on the 4th day

**999
PUBLIC NOTICES**

of June 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the Budget Message, to receive comments from the public on the Budget, and to review the past year's budget vs. actual figures. A copy of the Budget document may be inspected or obtained after June 4th, 2026, by contacting the Row River Valley Water District at (541) 946-1250. This is a public meeting where the deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs. 5/20/26, 5/27/26

Form OR-LB-NBC **Notice of Budget Committee Meeting** CGS26-128
Oregon Department of Revenue

A Use this notice if public comment will be taken at this meeting.

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the N. DOUGLAS PARKS & REC DOUGLAS, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, will be held at DRAIN POOL MEETING ROOM 100 ANNA DRAIN PARK, DRAIN OR. The meeting will take place on JUNE 1, 2026 at 5:30 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after MAY 20, 2026 at 120 W B AVE, DRAIN OR between the hours of 9:00 ☒ a.m. ☐ p.m. and 5:00 ☐ a.m. ☒ p.m.

150-504-063 (Rev. 11-19-21)

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SPORTS

Cottage Grove sees personal bests at 2026 Wally Ciochetti Invitational

WILL LOHRE
Cottage Grove Sports

Cottage Grove High School played host to 30 track and field teams at the 2026 Wally Ciochetti Invitational, and the Lions had a host of record-setting performances to highlight the weekend.

Both the boys’ and girls’ fields included 16 teams, with the boys scoring 22.5 points to place 10th and the girls posting 9 points to place 14th. Now in its 23rd year, the Wally Ciochetti Invitational saw several athletes post personal bests and marks that have them climbing up the school record books.

Some of the most notable performances came from the distance running duo of Ella Cardwell and Carly Knutson. In a field of 28 athletes in the 1500m, Cardwell and Knutson both placed in the top ten with personal-best times. Cardwell took fifth with a time of 4:47.78, beating her previous record by eight seconds. Knutson took 8th with a new personal record of 4:59.33, seven seconds ahead of her previous best, and ran below 5 minutes in the event for the first time. Another personal best came from freshman Kaliyah Ortiz in the 1500m, with a time of 5:22.49.

The events also put Cardwell and Knutson



into the history of Cottage Grove. Cardwell, whose previous record was the sixth-best in school history in the 1500m, now holds the #program’s 4 mark. Knutson’s record puts her at #8 on the all-time 1500m list at Cottage Grove High School.

On the boys’ side, three athletes led the pack with fourth-place finishes. Atlas Daves posted a personal best in the javelin, which was good for fourth. Lucas O’Hara added a fourth-place finish in the high jump, and Micah Hanke posted a PR in the 400m to claim fourth.

Hanke’s time of 51.39 made school history as the 10th-fastest in the 400m, beating the 51.44 mark set by Conner Richardson in 2013. Hanke and O’Hara were alongside Bentley Livingston and Peyton Ellison as part of the boys 4x400 team, which placed sixth with a time of 3:31, good for #10 all-time on the Cottage Grove High School list.

The final piece of Lions’ history was Atlas Daves’ javelin throw. The freshman’s toss of 153’ 6” moved him to #14 on the all-time CGHS list, moving him ahead of Brandon Phemister’s throw of 152’ 4”. With it being just his first season with the Lions, there may be plenty of history left in store for Daves.

The May 15 meet would not have been possible without over 40 volunteers who worked to make it happen. With the track resurfacing project coming more into focus in 2027, this may be one of the last times Ciochetti is run on this track, it’s only fitting there were some historical marks achieved.

Theatre holds auditions for I Hate Hamlet

Cottage Theatre will hold auditions at 7 p.m. June 15, for its August production, *I Hate Hamlet* by Paul Rudnick.

This hilarious send-up of actors, ambition, and the Bard will run for three weekends (11 performances) from August 7 - 23. Auditions will take place at Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Drive in Cottage Grove. Pre-registration is requested.

In *I Hate Hamlet*, we meet Andrew Rally who seems to have it all: fame from a hit TV series, a beautiful girlfriend, a glamorous agent, a dream Manhattan apartment—and the chance to play Hamlet in Central Park. But things aren’t as perfect as they seem. His show’s been canceled, his girlfriend is determined to remain chaste, and he hates Shakespeare. Enter the ghost of legendary actor John Barrymore, who, fueled by ego and champagne, is dead set on coaching Andrew into theatrical greatness.

What follows is a hilarious clash of ambition, art, and egos as the young actor battles Barrymore, his doubts, and a very real sword. *I Hate Hamlet* is a fast-paced, sharp-witted comedy that skewers the acting world while celebrating its passions.

This production is directed by Tony Rust. Actors are asked to come prepared to perform a short Shakespeare monologue and read from the script. Information and

a registration link are available on the Cottage Theatre website. Advance registration is requested.

Cottage Theatre, founded in 1982, produces a year-round season of plays and musicals featuring talented Lane County performers. The theatre also offers educational programs for youth. A member of the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT), Cottage Theatre was one of just six theatres in the country selected to produce a world premiere as part of the AACT 2024 NewPlayFest. The theatre is known for its strong production values, in keeping with its mission of “engaging and enriching our community through the magic of live theatre.”



Courtesy photo
I Hate Hamlet is scheduled to run for three weekends (11 performances) from August 7 - 23. Auditions will take place at Cottage Theatre.

State unemployment holding steady

STAFF REPORT

A key indicator of Oregon’s economy is the monthly unemployment rate. The Oregon Employment Department’s latest report shows the unemployment rate was 5.2% in each of the first four months of 2026.

There were 2,084,749 employed and 104,290 unemployed in April, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

In April, Oregon’s seasonally adjusted nonfarm payroll employment rose by 500 jobs, following a loss

of 4,300 jobs, as revised, in March.

GAINS AND LOSSES

April’s gains were largest in health care and social assistance (+1,900 jobs) and construction (+800). Losses were largest in professional and business services (-1,000 jobs); financial activities (-900); and retail trade (-800).

Health care and social assistance grew rapidly in the past 12 months, adding 12,500 jobs, or 4.0%. During

the past four years, the sector grew rapidly and consistently, adding a total of 58,100 jobs, or 21.7%, since April 2022. In the past 12 months, each of its component industries grew quickly: social assistance (+5,500 jobs, or 6.6%); nursing and residential care facilities (+2,800 jobs, or 4.7%); ambulatory health care services (+2,500 jobs, or 2.3%); and hospitals (+800 jobs, or 1.2%).

Professional and business services continued to shed jobs at a pace similar to the past three years. This major industry cut 9,300 jobs, or 3.6%, in the past 12 months. Losses were large in each of its three component industries: administrative and waste services (-4,300 jobs, or -4.4%); professional and technical services (-3,200 jobs, or -2.9%); and management of companies and enterprises (-1,800 jobs, or -3.7%).

Manufacturing employment dropped 400 jobs in April, following steep losses over the prior three years. In the past 12 months, durable goods manufacturing cut 5,500 jobs, or 4.4%, while nondurable goods manufacturing cut 1,500 jobs, or 2.7%.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.3% in both March and April.

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FORM OR-ED-1		NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING		CGS26-129
A public meeting of the South Lane School District 45J3 will be held on June 1, 2026 at 5:30 pm at 455 Adams Avenue, Cottage Grove, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 as approved by the South Lane School District 45J3 Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at 455 Adams Avenue, Cottage Grove, Oregon between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year.				
Contact: Celia Gowing, Director of Finance		Telephone: 541.767.3572 Email: celia.gowing@slane.k12.or.us		
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES				
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount Last Year 2024-2025	Adopted Budget This Year 2025-2026	Approved Budget Next Year 2026-2027	
Beginning Fund Balance	\$6,712,958	\$6,998,239	\$5,737,326	
Current Year Property Taxes, other than Local Option Taxes	12,509,575	12,751,186	13,347,712	
Other Revenue from Local Sources	8,683,153	6,141,176	6,793,615	
Revenue from Intermediate Sources	104,305	142,000	107,000	
Revenue from State Sources	36,175,244	37,648,191	38,642,880	
Revenue from Federal Sources	4,828,614	3,890,332	4,272,108	
Interfund Transfers	2,138,723	1,979,796	1,564,273	
Total Resources	\$71,152,572	\$69,550,920	\$70,464,914	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION				
Salaries	\$25,768,665	\$26,627,498	\$25,421,378	
Other Associated Payroll Costs	13,489,074	14,354,120	14,688,287	
Purchased Services	10,119,987	10,074,988	11,473,490	
Supplies & Materials	3,673,332	3,998,850	4,413,785	
Capital Outlay	685,227	405,000	190,862	
Other Objects (except debt service & interfund transfers)	1,110,772	965,130	1,089,516	
Debt Service*	8,319,191	8,744,786	8,808,125	
Interfund Transfers*	2,138,723	1,979,796	1,564,335	
Operating Contingency	1,217,580	783,636	650,000	
Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance & Reserves	4,630,021	1,617,116	2,165,136	
Total Requirements	\$71,152,572	\$69,550,920	\$70,464,914	
FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY FUNCTION				
1000 Instruction	\$31,529,890	\$30,760,001	\$31,989,272	
FTE	225.53	217.32	196.91	
2000 Support Services	20,406,002	22,077,984	21,709,208	
FTE	155.47	149.36	135.08	
3000 Enterprise & Community Service	2,838,346	3,527,601	3,511,838	
FTE	29.88	29.00	28.79	
4000 Facility Acquisition & Construction	72,819	60,000	50,000	
5000 Other Uses				
5100 Debt Service*	8,319,191	8,744,786	8,825,125	
5200 Interfund Transfers*	2,138,723	1,979,796	1,564,335	
6000 Contingency	1,217,580	783,636	650,000	
7000 Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance	4,630,021	1,617,116	2,165,136	
Total Requirements	\$71,152,572	\$69,550,920	\$70,464,914	
Total FTE	410.88	395.68	360.78	
* not included in total 5000 Other Uses. To be appropriated separately from other 5000 expenditures.				
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACTIVITIES and SOURCES OF FINANCING **				
PROPERTY TAX LEVIES				
	Rate or Amount Imposed	Rate or Amount Imposed	Rate or Amount Approved	
Permanent Rate Levy (Rate Limit \$4.7532 per \$1,000)	4.7532	4.7532	4.7532	
Local Option Levy	0	0	0	
Levy For General Obligation Bonds	\$3,303,750	\$3,264,000	\$3,477,000	
STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS				
LONG TERM DEBT	Estimated Debt Outstanding on July 1	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1		
General Obligation Bonds	\$46,575,001	\$0		
Other Bonds	\$31,229,327	\$0		
Other Borrowings	\$453,941	\$0		
Total	\$78,258,269	\$0		
150-504-058 (Rev. 11-05-21)				

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