

Cottage Theatre Presents
Nevermore
See page 3



SLSD Candidates Forum
See page 5



66
43

Cottage Grove
Wednesday, May 14
Mostly Cloudy

Creswell Fourth of July Rodeo set to be a fun family affair

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

It's been common knowledge for generations that the best place to be in South Lane County to celebrate America's Independence Day is in Creswell.

Its lengthy parade draws 100+ entries from near and far as thousands of spectators wearing red, white and blue and waving Old Glory line the route.

Officials estimate the town of 6,000 swells to 10,000 on the Fourth of July. Festivities begin in Holt Park with an early morning breakfast and later fills to capacity following the parade offering live music, contests, food trucks and vendors. By mid-afternoon the crowds thin out, with many returning at dusk for the fireworks show.

For years, community leaders have sought a strategy to keep the crowds in town. This year, a local family believes it offers the perfect solution to meet this need.

Longhorn Productions is a local business, owned by Phil and Courtney Long, that produces rodeo events throughout the Pacific Northwest. Courtney is the daughter of Wayne and Evie White and grew up in the family business, Wild West Events. Wayne is a widely-known rodeo announcer and, for 32 years, he was the Eugene Pro Rodeo's announcer before retiring last year.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Creswell Interim City Manager Spencer Nebel said for years the city and the Creswell Chamber of Commerce have partnered to plan the community-wide festivities. The Chamber coordinates the activities,



Courtesy photo

Rodeo action adds new excitement to this year's Creswell Fourth of July celebration. The afternoon event features saddle bronc riding with champions like Matt Shannon.

and the city provides funding to offset a portion of the cost.

"The City of Creswell has a very robust Fourth of July celebration that draws thousands of people to the community each year," Nebel said. "Longhorn Productions approached us and offered to provide a rodeo on private land on Melton Road near Bi-Mart."

"This will give visitors an opportunity to spend some additional time and money in Creswell and give our local residents an opportunity to enjoy another exciting event during the holiday festivities. The Chamber and community has expressed support for this event. The rodeo

will give several nonprofit groups an opportunity to raise money by assisting with parking, vending and other activities, and will generate additional business activity for the community."

Courtney said their goal is to bridge the gap in the day's schedule by offering a family-friendly, high-energy event that keeps parade spectators in town.

"We aim to support local businesses, encourage community engagement, and lay the foundation for a new annual tradition. History has shown that well-established rodeos in small towns can be tremendously impactful—bringing

increased revenue to restaurants, retailers, and service providers. Over the next couple of years, we'll have a clearer picture of the event's long-term economic influence, but we're confident it will be a win for Creswell," she said.

FAMILY TIES

The addition of a rodeo to Creswell's biggest and most exciting day of the year didn't happen by accident—it was born from decades of dedication, a deep-rooted family legacy, and a long-held dream finally coming to life, according to Courtney.

See **RODEO** Page 6

South Lane School Board meeting gets politicized

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Politics took front and center at the beginning of South Lane School District Board of Directors' May meeting that coincided with the first day of Teacher Appreciation Week.

The South Lane Educators Association (SLEA) board report focused primarily on the nationwide controversy over diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Speaking on behalf of the certified teachers in the district, Brandi Baker-Rudicel stated the Oregon Education Association and local teachers stand firmly and proudly in support of DEI efforts.

"Oregon stands at a crossroad regarding DEI and civil rights," Baker-Rudicel said. "We believe every student - regardless of race, background, gender identity, language and ability - deserve an environment where they feel seen, respected and supported. When we invest in equity we invest in excellence for all. It is not just a trend or a buzzword, it is a constitutional and moral obligation our union is committed to defending."

Baker-Rudicel said she believes disinformation campaigns in the community are targeting vulnerable groups and harassing and attacking those who advocate for inclusive education.

"Let me be crystal clear, when our educators are targeted for the work they do for the students they serve or for their own identity, we all suffer, and we will not stand by silently," she firmly stated. "Our schools must be places for learning, not battlegrounds for fear or division. Our teachers must be supported in delivering the curriculum, not intimidated for teaching the truth. Our migrant families, many of whom came here seeking hope and opportunity, deserve our compassion not our contempt."

She concluded her report by acknowledging Teacher Appreciation Week is a cause for celebration and that the current contract negotiations require all parties to be fair and faithful. She said, "The district's commitment to DEI is a challenge to be brave and unwavering. The challenges facing our community call us to be united and bold."

Public comment at the May 5 meeting followed the union report.

Speaker Johanna Zee told the board she was asked to speak about how the last four SLEA board reports have been "politically divisive and highly inflammatory". She believes the union's support of specific school board candidates is a conflict of interest because the board determines teacher salaries.

Zee expressed concern that at the April 29 School Board Candidates' Forum someone in the audience flipped off Rayla Campbell, a Position 2 candidate, every time she spoke. Zee criticized the incumbent candidates endorsed by SLEA for allowing state political action committee money and Congresswoman Val Hoyle's campaign team to run their campaigns and make

See **MEETING**, Page 6

12th Steet homeless camp now available through summer months

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove's 12th Street homeless camp site remains open with new hours in an effort to provide what city officials describe as a save overnight location for the unhoused.

"The number of people using the site really varies by night," Cottage Grove City Manager Mike Sauerwein said. "We have had as few as one or two, and sometimes as many as more than a dozen spend the night."

The fenced-in site, in a vacant lot along at the end of 12th Street, is opened and closed by the Cottage Grove Public Works Department staff. It had been opened from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. but most recently the hours were adjusted, opening at 5 p.m. and closing at 8 a.m. to better align with the public works staff hours.

According to Sauerwein, the cost of operating the 12th Street homeless camp has been minimized by aliening the operational hours to



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove Police checked on the campers during the Aug. 22 closing deadline at the 12th Street homeless camp.

that of the public works and police staffing.

"There is not a specific viable cost," he said. "We've tried to minimize the cost as much as we can with public works opening and closing the camp into our routine work."

Police have been called to the camp site on occasion, according to Sauerwein.

"If the public works department folks notice something that is an unsafe situation, someone has drugs or someone appears to be having a mental health crisis, they do contact the police," he said, adding that beyond police assistance, the city continues to be challenged with the lack of mental health services.

"Part of the issue that we have had with the homeless folks from the beginning in Cottage Grove is that we don't really have any access to services. The services are generally available in the metro area, Eugene and Springfield."

Sauerwein said his hope for a long-term solution to the homelessness issues lies with the state.

"It certainly isn't up to a city of 12,000 people. We aren't going to solve homelessness," he said. "This is a regional-statewide-national issue. The governor has talked about adding funding for additional resources and a higher level of coordination between state, county, and city services. We'll see what comes out of the Oregon Legislative session, but I definitely think there needs to be a higher level of coordination between the different government agencies."

BACKGROUND

In Aug. 2024, Cottage Grove shut down the larger 12th Street site and a similar location on Douglas Street.

See **CAMP**, Page 6

INSIDE

News — 1-3
Obituaries — 4
Death Notice — 4

Opinion — 5
Classifieds — 7
News — 8



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911 Dispatchers honored

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Cottage Grove City Council has honored its six 911 Dispatch Center dispatchers.

Cottage Grove Mayor Candace Solesbee presented a proclamation during the April 14 council meeting recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and the local dispatchers. Dispatcher Luke Monahan and Shanice Roselle accepted the proclamation from Solesbee. See the proclamation with this story at cgsentinel.com.

“We recognize their extraordinary commitment, strength, and the important role they play in keeping our officers and the Cottage Grove community safe,” Cottage Grove Police state in a Facebook post.

Cottage Grove’s 911 dispatchers are responsible for taking emergency calls



Courtesy from the City of Cottage Grove

Cottage grove Dispatcher Shanice Roselle, left, Cottage grove Mayor Candace Solesbee, center, and Dispatcher Luke Monahan, right during the Proclamation presentation.

for police, fire, and medical services, determining the nature and location of the emergency, and dispatching the appropriate resources to the scene. The dispatchers

also handle routine police dispatch, maintain communication coordination between agencies, and perform clerical tasks.

Governor details forecast for Oregon’s 2025 wildfire season

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Gov. Tina Kotek and agency leaders who manage wildfires and conflagration declarations have outlined a briefing as the 2025 wildfire season approaches, including the steps Oregonians should take to prepare.

During a media briefing Wednesday, May 7, Kotek also signed a proclamation declaring May 2025 as Wildfire Awareness Month.

“Record-setting wildfire seasons across the west are getting longer and more devastating. What we know to be an ‘average fire season’ has long passed,” Governor Kotek said. “Last summer’s devastating wildfires called for sacrifice, courage, and cooperation from everyone involved”

Kotek said the state has spent the off-season preparing to take on “what we know will be another dangerous summer.”

“So here’s my challenge to all Oregonians: support first responders and frontline workers by doing your part. Know the fire danger level where you are, get your home’s defensible space prepared and please follow all local fire restrictions. Let’s do everything we can to keep Oregonians’ lives, land, and property safe while enjoying the beautiful outdoors this summer.”

The 2025 wildfire briefing was held at the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Fire Cache. The ODF Fire Cache houses the critical equipment and supplies the agency’s teams and firefighters rely on when fighting a wildfire.

Kotek was joined by ODF Deputy Director of Fire Operations Kyle Williams, Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) Director Erin McMahon, The Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard Alan Gronewold, Public Utility Commission (PUC) Executive Director Nolan Moser, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and Department of Human Services (ODHS) Office of

Resilience and Emergency Management (OREM) Director Ed Flick.

Kotek briefed members of the press on what subject matter experts anticipate in the 2025 fire season. Though it is still too early to have insight into how the peak of the fire season will affect Oregon this year, forecasters are increasingly confident that the first half of the season will have hotter and drier weather conditions than what is normal for the western United States, according to a release from Kotek’s office.

In Oregon’s 2024 fire season, regardless of jurisdiction, the state had a record-breaking year with 1,956 fires that burned more than 1.9 million acres.

Early detection and aggressive initial attack are the cornerstones to effective response and protection of Oregonians and our state’s natural resources, the release states.

The state’s fire protection system is administered through two primary agencies, ODF and OSFM, who coordinate closely with federal partners, sovereign Tribal nations, state and local partners, landowners and the contract firefighting community.

ODF is charged with the wildfire protection of 16 million acres across Oregon and is responsible for the state’s complete and coordinated wildfire protection system. With early detection systems like the Multi-Mission Aircraft and Wildfire Detection Camera Program, ODF responds quickly and efficiently to new fire starts. Using these early detection tools and aggressive initial attack tactics, ODF kept 93 percent of ODF fires at fewer than 10 acres in 2024.

ODF relies on more than 700 permanent and seasonal firefighters to staff over 300 engines, operate heavy equipment and serve on fire crews. Through call-when-needed contracts, the agency provides firefighting aviation assets to wildfires. Additionally, ODF works with the Oregon Military Department and out-of-state partners for additional firefighting resources.

OSFM is charged with supporting statewide community

and structure protection against wildfire, through the partnerships with over 300 local fire departments. OSFM oversees the state’s Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS) which mobilized to a record 17 urban wildfire conflagrations last year.

Through OSFM’s Response Ready Oregon program, 76 new structural protection fire engines have been deployed to local fire departments across the state and “up-staffing grants” have once again been deployed this year to support the staffing of an additional 1,000 firefighters.

To rise to the challenge of the wildfire crisis in Oregon, OSFM is working diligently to prepare communities to be more resilient, the release states. Projects are underway across Oregon through community wildfire risk reduction grant funding. The agency and its partners have completed nearly 4,500 defensible space assessments. These assessments are critical to give home and property owners the knowledge to give them added protection against wildfire, according to the OSFM.

Kotek and the state agency officials said there are steps Oregonians can take today to be prepared; start with small changes that have a big impact:

- Space and prune trees to prevent fire from climbing into tree canopies and transferring fire to your homes.
- Remove leaves, pine needles, bark mulch, and other debris within 100 feet of structures or up to your property line.
- Clean roofs and gutters of flammable debris.
- Move combustible materials—like mulch and firewood—away from your home.
- Keep plants trimmed and clear of dead material, especially near the house.
- Avoid planting directly under eaves; leave at least a five-foot buffer.
- Know your evacuation routes, be two weeks ready and sign up for emergency alerts.
- Know your local air quality smoke conditions by keeping up with DEQ’s Air now program.

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, APRIL 28
03:01: Suspicious vehicle, 2700 block Mosby Creek Rd.
07:17: Paper service, 100 block Sweet Ln.
07:48: Dog at large, 1500 block S. 4th St.
09:52: Criminal mischief, 1800 block N. Douglas St.
10:02: Business check, 1400 block E. Main St.
10:10: Assault, 1000 block E. Main St.
11:05: Warrant service, 8th/Chadwick
11:08: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
12:43: Abandoned vehicle, 100 block S. 6th St.
12:44: Vehicle impound, 900 block Row River Rd.
15:27: Animal info, Clark/P St.
15:34: Abandoned vehicle, 1000 block S. 4th St.
17:07: Agency assist, 1500 block Village Dr.
18:53: Suspicious condition, 200 block N. 10th St.
19:43: Reckless driving, 400 block S. 1st St.

20:08: Info, 1000 block N. 9th St.
20:22: Welfare check, 77000 block S. 6th St.
23:37: Suspicious condition, 1400 block Daugherty Ave.
23:40: Animal info, 700 block N. River Rd.
23:48: Illegal camping, 10 block North P St.
TUESDAY, APRIL 29
00:38: Suspicious condition, 200 block N. 10th St.
03:45: Suspicious vehicle, East Regional Park
04:42: Suspicious condition, 1200 block S. 8th St.
05:49: Welfare check, 1500 block E. Main St.
06:58: Warrant service, 77000 block S. 6th St.
07:43: Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block S. River Rd.
09:01: Vehicle impound, 500 block Grant Ave.
10:45: Suspicious condition, 1100 block E. Madison Ave.
11:36: Welfare check, 300 block E. Washington Ave.
11:58: Abandoned vehicle, Grant/Boardwalk
12:40: Paper service, 900 block Arthur Ave.
13:31: Welfare check, 900 block Lincoln Ave.
14:43: Illegal camping, E. Main/N. River Rd.
15:16: Fire, 900 block N. 9th St.
16:35: Theft, 500 block E. Main St.
20:38: Disturbance, 700 block Hwy 99
21:42: Info, 900 block Row River Rd.

22:38: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30
02:44: Civil, 700 block Hwy 99
04:27: Disturbance, 600 block Benjamin Ave.
08:06: Alarm, 500 block Hwy 99
08:31: Disorderly subject, 100 block S. 10th St.
09:26: Mental subject, 1000 block E. Main St.
09:57: Suspicious condition, 1200 block E. Main St.
13:05: Found drugs, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
13:07: Illegal camping, 300 block S. River Rd.
13:25: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
15:18: Welfare check, 200 block N. 14th St.
16:00: Found property, Quincy/3rd
17:35: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
18:12: Welfare check, 200 block Quincy Ave.
18:21: Disturbance, 82000 block Davison rd.
19:17: Theft, 200 block Gateway Blvd.
19:35: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
19:48: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block N. River Rd.
19:51: Trespass, S. River Rd/Main
20:54: Welfare check, 78000 block Meadow Park Dr.
21:06: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block Gibbs Ave.
21:15: Bike stop, 1100 block E. Main St.
21:35: Disturbance, 700 block Row River Rd.
21:36: Juveniles on train tracks, River Rd/Harrison
22:15: Agency assist, 1600 block Gateway Blvd.
23:37: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
THURSDAY, MAY 1
00:23: Disturbance, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
08:20: Traffic hazard, Birch/M
09:04: Abandoned vehicle, 1700 block Harvey Rd.
09:05: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.

09:49: Suspicious condition, 1100 block S. 10th St.
10:10: Suicidal subject, 800 block Gateway Blvd.
10:13: Disturbance, 76000 block London Rd.
11:36: Suspicious vehicle, 400 block E. Main St.
11:49: Illegal camping, 200 block N. 12th St.
12:32: Trespass, Riverwalk/99
13:25: Disturbance, 200 block N. Lane St.
13:55: Found property, Main/River Rd.
13:55: Abandoned vehicle, M/Birch
14:11: Abandoned vehicle, 15th/Washington
15:56: Disorderly subject, 100 block Village Dr.
16:45: Disorderly subject, 1300 block E. Main St.
16:54: Motor vehicle crash, M/West Main
17:32: Harassment, 1300 block Birch Ave.

17:47: Illegal camping, 300 block Gateway Blvd.
17:55: Suspicious vehicle, Harvey Rd/Roberts Ln.
18:23: Business check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
18:40: Wanted subject, 900 block S. 6th St.
19:09: Wanted subject, 1400 block S. 6th St.
19:10: Criminal mischief, 100 block Sweet Ln.
19:31: Fire, 2000 block Carver st.
19:51: Theft, 200 block N. 12th St.
20:20: Found drugs, 1500 block E. Main St.
22:01: Theft, 1700 block E. Main St.
22:04: Suspicious vehicle, 1700 block E. Main St.
23:06: Trespass, 1100 block Hwy 99
FRIDAY, MAY 2
00:09: Harassment, 500 block E. Madison Ave.
00:16: Disorderly subject, 10th/Washington
07:09: Disorderly subject, 8th/Whiteaker
07:40: Illegal camping, 200 block E. Harrison Ave.
10:08: Citizen assist, 600 block S. 3rd St.
10:26: Welfare check, 100 block Gateway Blvd.
11:15: Agency assist, 78000 block Sears Rd.

12:19: Missing person, 900 block W. Main St.
13:19: Juvenile problem, 200 block Hayes Ave.
14:49: Found property, Gateway Blvd/Washington Ave
14:54: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.
17:36: Suicide, 2100 block Cemetery Rd.
19:20: Suspicious condition, 1500 block Hillside Dr.
19:24: Business check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
20:13: Fire, 1200 block Bryant Ave.
22:03: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.
22:15: Disturbance, 34000 block Garoutte Rd.
22:27: Harassment, 31000 block Kenady Ln
22:38: Disturbance, 1000 block E. Main St.
SATURDAY, MAY 3
00:34: Disorderly subject, 78000 block Cedar Park Rd.
01:00: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.
04:21: Welfare check, 2000 block S. 8th St.
06:51: Disturbance, 800 block E. Main St.
08:20: Welfare check, 1300 block Daugherty Ave.
09:09: Missing dog, 1900 block Harvey Rd.

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ODFW issues young wildlife advisory

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has issued a public advisory about finding young wildlife. Encountering a young wild animal on its own may make you think it needs help. But in most cases, the best thing you can do is leave it where you found it. The advice you are likely to hear from ODFW if you pick up or bring young wildlife home is “put it back,” the ODFW states in its advisory.

“Kidnapping young wild animals can take away their best chance at survival. The misconception that a young animal found alone has been abandoned or orphaned often leads well-intentioned individuals to intervene, but this can harm the animal and hinder its chances of survival. It could also lead to a warning or citation from the Oregon State Police (OSP),” the ODFW said.

Removing an animal from the wild is illegal under Oregon wildlife laws. (ORS 497.308 – No person shall remove from its natural habitat or acquire and hold in captivity any live wildlife in violation of the wildlife laws.)

Many wildlife species will leave their young while they forage for food. When people remove them from the wild, young animals miss the chance to learn where to hide, what to eat and how to escape from predators and other dangers, according to the advisory. The time young animals spend with their parents and in their natural environment is crucial for the development of survival skills long term.

GOOD INTENTIONS CAN BE DANGEROUS FOR WILDLIFE

Unfortunately, every year around this time, ODFW offices, licensed wildlife rehabilitators, and even Oregon State Police are flooded with calls from people who picked up a deer fawn, elk calf, fledgling bird learning to fly, or other young animal they assumed was orphaned because it was alone, the advisory states.

Even if these animals receive care from a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, successfully returning a young animal to the wild is not always possible. Options for long-term placement in wildlife sanctuaries or zoos are limited, and animals often must be euthanized if they lack the survival skills to be released back



Courtesy from the ODFW

Removing an animal from the wild is illegal under Oregon wildlife laws.

into the wild. Some animals raised by people can also become dangerous as they grow into adults and pose a serious threat to human safety, according to the ODFW.

“While it may feel like you’re doing the right thing by trying to care for a wild animal yourself, attempting to care for wildlife at home without a license is not only illegal, but it can also be extremely harmful to the animal’s health and survival,” the ODFW said in the advisory.

Licensed wildlife rehabilitators undergo specialized training to meet the unique medical, dietary, and environmental needs of wild animals—needs that the average person is typically unprepared to handle. Improper care can lead to malnutrition, illness, injury, or even death. And close contact with people can lead to habituation, making the animal reliant on people and unfit for release. Beyond the risks to the animal, unlicensed care also poses safety and disease transmission risks to people and pets.

HERE’S HOW TO HELP INSTEAD

- Keep pets and other domestic animals away from wildlife. Pets will stress wildlife, especially if there are young wildlife or fledgling birds in your yard. Keep dogs on a leash when recreating outside. Keep cats indoors to protect them and our native wildlife.

- Give wild animals time, space, and a chance to survive on their own. Wildlife face survival challenges and sometimes need time to recover before moving on.

- If you are certain an animal is orphaned because you saw the parent animal deceased, the animal has not moved on for a day or

two, or you see an animal that is injured, call ODFW, a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or OSP for advice.

- Don’t feed wildlife. All species of wildlife have a specialized diet that coincides with seasonal changes. Access to food provided by people can negatively impact their health, lead to conflict with people and in many cases has fatal consequences. It can also lead to wild animals losing their fear of people and posing a threat to human safety.

- Share this information with your friends, family and neighbors. Living responsibly with wildlife is possible and it’s up to everyone to do their part to give wildlife a chance.

DEER AND ELK

Oregon’s deer and elk give birth from May through July. It’s natural for mother animals to leave their young alone and hidden for extended periods of time while they go off to feed, so never assume a young animal is orphaned when you see it alone. The mother will return when it’s safe to do so—when people, pets or predators aren’t around. Deer and elk see dogs as a threat to their young and may act aggressively in response to disturbance from a dog.

MARINE MAMMALS

Harbor seal pups are born in late March through April. Females often leave their pups at haul-outs or along sandy beaches while searching for food. Under federal law, it is illegal to harass marine mammals – this includes picking up, moving, or handling a seal pup or any other marine mammal you find at the beach. Beachgoers should stay away from resting seals and sea lions and keep dogs away from these

animals as well. Marine mammal strandings should be reported to OSP’s hotline at 1-800-452-7888.

BIRDS

Birds nest in the spring and young birds may be found from late February through early summer. Some baby birds, called fledglings, may become separated from their parents as they learn to fly. These are sometimes thought to be abandoned and brought to wildlife rehabilitators. Unless obviously injured, birds should be left where they are or lifted carefully back onto a branch to help them avoid predators (like outdoor cats), so they have the best chance at survival.

Ducklings and goslings frequently become separated from their mothers due to disturbance from people or predators. If you spot young waterfowl without a mother, please leave them alone and leave the area so the mother can return.

Fewer detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Oregon continue this year but it is still important to avoid close contact with waterfowl (ducks and geese). Do not feed ducks and geese. Feeding congregates susceptible birds and enables avian flu and other diseases to spread between birds more easily. Also, note that Oregon’s wildlife rehabilitators are not currently accepting sick ducks and geese to protect other birds in their care.

“If you care about wildlife, the best thing you can do is observe from a distance, avoid interference, and let wild animals stay wild,” the ODFW advisory concludes.

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Cottage Theatre presents Oregon premiere of Nevermore

SUBMITTED

Cottage Theatre is pleased to present the Oregon premiere of Nevermore: The Imaginary Life and Mysterious Death of Edgar Allan Poe, written and composed by Jonathan Christenson. Nevermore runs from June 6 - 22, 2025, at Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Drive in Cottage Grove.

The grim world of Edgar Allan Poe is scrutinized in this macabre musical inspired by his gothic poetry and prose. This surreal piece weaves together original music and dramatic storytelling to unravel the tortured life and untimely death of the legendary writer.

Charting a course through Poe’s earliest memories, this show navigates themes of loss, addiction, and abandonment through poignant melodies and stunning visual imagery. As Poe’s troubled past and masterful creations intertwine, you will be transported to a mesmerizing place where reality and imagination collide. An Oregon

premiere, Cottage Theatre’s Nevermore will take you on a gripping ride through “fantastic terrors never felt before.”

DIRECTOR AND CAST

Nevermore is directed and designed by Kory Weimer, assisted by Naomi Castro as Assistant Director and Vocal Director. Ashley Lawn serves as Stage Manager.

The musical features Marc Siegel, Dylan Bunten, Cam Tunnell, Alana Merz, Laurel Merz, and Moura Stewart as Players, with Kory Weimer as Edgar Allan Poe.

A trio of puppeteers (Cayla Gaddis, John Young, and Ylectra Young) rounds out the ensemble. Costume design is by Chris Carter, lighting design by Amanda Ferguson, and makeup design by Holland Holub.

PERFORMANCES

Nevermore is on stage for three weekends at Cottage Theatre from June 6 - 22. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.cottagetheatre.org or by phone at (541) 942-8001. Tickets are \$29 for adults and \$15 for youth (18 & under). The show deals with some mature themes and is not recommended for young children. All seating is reserved and advance purchase is recommended.

COTTAGE THEATRE

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.”

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OBITUARIES & NEWS

Clint Van Antwerp

1934-2025

Clint Van Antwerp (1934-2025), born August 12, 1934, in Berthoud, Colorado, attended schools in Loveland, Colorado. As an adult, he was a committed individual with a sharp wit who sincerely cared for the people in his life here in Cottage Grove. Clint was dedicated to his church family and was a long-time caregiver for his mother. He was also a hardworking janitor for several businesses in town, US Bank, as well as his beloved United Methodist Church. From cleaning to helping with repairs around the church, Clint most



recently is remembered as the person who welcomed worshippers as they entered the building many Sundays. A memorial for Clint is planned for Saturday, May 17, 1:00, at Cottage Grove United Methodist Church

Gerald R. Astrella

Oct. 17, 1948 – Apr. 29, 2025

Gerald R. Astrella, born October 17, 1948, in San Francisco, CA, he grew up in San Carlos with his brother Tom and parents Joseph and Elenor Astrella.



Jerry spent summers with his family in the Russian River area, where his adventurous nature flourished. Jerry had a wonderful childhood and often said he “was the luckiest boy in the world”.

Jerry graduated from San Carlos H.S. in 1966, moved to Cottage Grove, (and later to Eugene) Oregon in the early 70’s. Here he joined the U.S. Forest Service and found his calling. Jerry earned a degree in Forestry at Oregon State University, spending his 30-year career in the Umpqua National

Forest, Cottage Grove Ranger District. Jerry’s favorite time of year in Oregon was fall and he was grateful that his career allowed him to spend much of his time trekking the forests of the Pacific Northwest.

Jerry had a life-long love of sailing, spending time on Dorena Lake, and sailing the San Juan Islands. Upon retiring from the U.S.F.S, he fulfilled his lifelong dream of sailing to Mexico, Hawaii and back.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Cathy Calisch, 3 children, 2 stepchildren and 6 grandchildren. Jerry died on April 29, 2025. He will be remembered for his unique take on life, his sense of humor, unrivaled ability to fix anything, and great story-telling abilities.

Cottage Grove Online

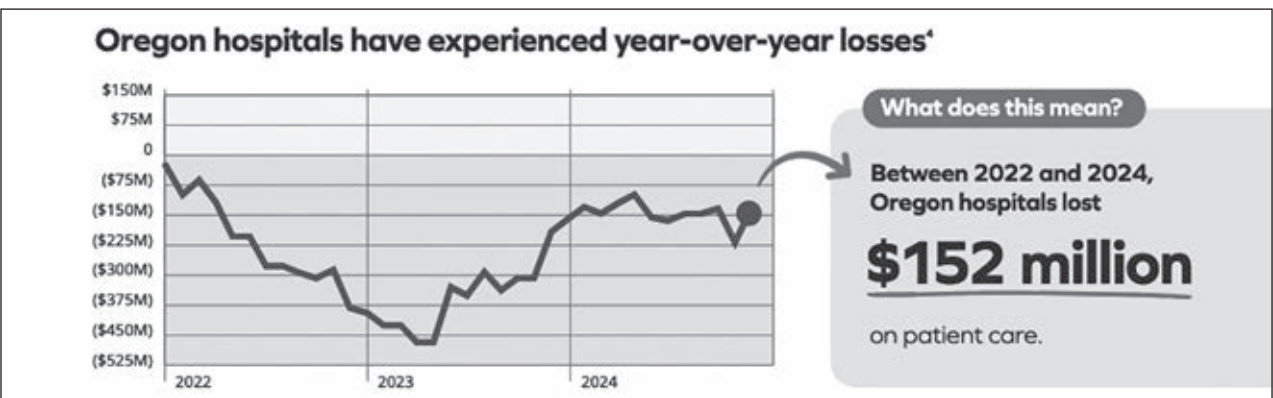
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‘Oregon hospitals are on the brink,’ new report highlights financial instability

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

A new Hospital Association of Oregon (HAO) report shows that hospitals are financially unstable, threatening the future of patient care in Oregon communities. Almost half of the state’s hospitals operated at a loss in 2024, and others barely broke even, according to a release from the HAO.

“Oregon’s hospitals are on the brink,” Hospital Association of Oregon President and CEO Becky Hultberg said. “They face a perfect storm of soaring expenses, complex and costly regulations, and payments that don’t cover the cost of care. And federal Medicaid changes contemplated by Congress could tip some hospitals over the edge.” The report highlights that while hospitals across the



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By the Numbers.

country were challenged during the pandemic and are now stabilizing, Oregon hospitals remain on unstable footing. “It’s becoming clear that Oregon hospitals operate in one of the most challenging environments in the country, shaped by a tough regulatory landscape and payments that don’t come close to covering the double-digit increases we’ve seen in expenses from salaries and benefits,” Hultberg said. “Patients are struggling to find doctors, wait times to see a doctor are long, and emergency departments are overcrowded. This is a result of the policy choices the state has made and insufficient payment from insurers.”

“In this challenging environment, Oregon hospitals have been pushed to make difficult decisions including cutting more than 800 jobs, seeking partnerships to shore up operations, reducing or divesting from services, and fundraising to replace broken or outdated equipment,” the HAO release states. “This is a trend that is likely to continue without shifts in health policy and increasing payments to hospitals to cover the cost of providing care.”

According to the HAO, Medicaid—the state’s largest insurer—is contributing to hospitals’ financial distress. The state only

pays hospitals 56 cents on the dollar for caring for Medicaid patients. Additionally, hospitals are subject to onerous state rules and regulations that demand resources for compliance, reduce revenue,

and community leaders cannot afford to ignore what’s happening in Oregon,” Hultberg said. “The choices the state makes are forcing the trade-off of services that our families, friends, and neighbors depend on.”

hospitals are the sixth largest private employer statewide, employing 70,000 employees. Committed to fostering a stronger, safer, more equitable Oregon where all people have access to the

Why are Oregon hospitals struggling?

<p>Hospitals' costs to provide care are rising steeply</p>	<p>Payments to hospitals do not cover their cost of providing care</p>
<p>Discharge delays are impacting patients and the hospitals that serve them</p>	<p>Oregon's regulatory environment is complex and costly</p>

Courtesy photo

The Struggle.

and increase operating expenses for hospitals. “Hospitals’ financial instability not only jeopardizes access to care but also threatens the economic stability of communities statewide,” the release states. “Oregon’s 61 hospitals serve as a crucial economic engine, generating \$32.4 billion in economic impact and supporting 160,000 jobs—including 70,000 direct hospital employees.” “In this pivotal moment for hospitals, policymakers

Read more about the state of Oregon’s hospitals in the Hospital Association of Oregon’s new report: Oregon Hospitals on the Brink.

THE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION OF OREGON
Founded in 1934, the Hospital Association of Oregon Association (HAO) is a mission-driven, non-profit trade association representing Oregon’s 61 hospitals. Together,

high-quality care they need, the hospital association supports Oregon’s hospitals so they can support their communities; educates government officials and the public on the state’s health landscape and works collaboratively with policymakers, community based organizations and the health care community to build consensus on and advance health care policy benefiting the state’s four million residents, the HAO states in the release.

Read all about it!

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Election 2025 - SLSD School Board Election Candidates Profile Position 2

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Editor's Note:
The Sentinel is presenting profiles of the South Lane School District (SLSD) Board candidates running in the May 20 Special Election.

BACKGROUND
In 1961, Cottage Grove's Union High School District and several elementary districts consolidated to form the South Lane School District. It is governed by seven local citizens who serve four-year terms that alternate every two years. This year, four of the positions will be on the May 20 ballot. While candidates must live within a specific geographic area they are elected district wide.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in the 2023-24 school year, the large 672 square mile rural district supported 150 teachers and 277 staff, specialists and administrators who served 2,680 students in nine schools with a \$48,264,000 budget.

Each candidate responded to three questions:

- 1. Why do you want to serve on the school board?
- 2. What do you see are the biggest issues facing the school district?
- 3. What qualities, skills, experience and perspectives do you have to address those issues effectively?

POSITION 2
After more than a decade of board service, Taylor Wilhour did not seek re-election. The two candidates running for this open seat are Diane Hicks and Rayla Campbell.



Rayla Campbell

RAYLA CAMPBELL
1. I want to serve on the school board because I believe in strong, traditional values and the importance of a quality education that focuses on academic excellence, personal responsibility, and parental involvement. Our schools should be places where students learn the fundamentals—reading, writing, math, science, and history. I'm committed to ensuring that taxpayer dollars are used efficiently, transparency is upheld, and families have a say in what their children are being taught. I believe in supporting our teachers while also holding our education

system accountable. I want to preserve the integrity of our education system and ensure that it reflects the values of our community.

2. One of the biggest issues facing our school district is a shift away from core academics and traditional values. Test scores are abysmal, we need to refocus on raising academic standards—making sure our students are proficient in reading, writing, math, and science—so they're prepared for real-world success.

3. I bring a common-sense, principled approach rooted in conservative values—faith, family, personal responsibility, and respect for hard work. I've spent years involved in local communities, whether it's volunteering with youth programs, coaching, supporting local schools, or staying active in civic matters. I understand the concerns of parents and taxpayers because I am one.



Diane Hicks

DIANE HICKS
1. As an educator I have seen the district from the "inside". I know how important a school board can be in shaping a community's opinions about education. It's important to have a board that believes in a quality public education for all students. I also saw that the district often lost the voices of community members and educators in the decision-making process.

2. The biggest issue facing the school district is addressing the gaps in student growth left from the loss of school attendance during the onset of COVID. Also, with the possible loss in federal funding, we must make sure that the students who are in most need of specialized instruction are getting it. The safety of students and educators also needs to remain a priority.

3. I can bring the perspective of a lifelong South Lane resident who has seen our school district through multiple lenses. I know that issues can be resolved by a board that is willing to tackle them. We will be stronger together than when we are alone. The district will grow with the new superintendent; I want to be part of facilitating that growth as we strive to meet the needs of ALL students.

See the SLSD Board candidate profiles at cgsentinel.com and in the print editions of The Sentinel.

EDITORIAL CARTOONS



Election 2025 - SLSD School Board Election Candidates Profile Position 4

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

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Each candidate responded to three questions:

- 1. Why do you want to serve on the school board?
- 2. What do you see are the biggest issues facing the school district?
- 3. What qualities, skills, experience and perspectives do you have to address those issues effectively?

The Position 4 board seat pairs two long-time Grovers. Local realtor Sherry Duerst Higgins has retained the seat for three decades and has provided leadership from a rural school district perspective

at the local, county, state and national levels. Chris Holoman grew up in Lane County and for many years his family owned Holoman Ford on the corner of Main and Hwy. 99. He brings leadership experience from a corporate business perspective. Both have children in local schools.



Sherry Duerst-Higgins

**POSITION 4
SHERRY
DUERST-HIGGINS**

1. I am a 4th generation Oregonian. I was raised in the Lorane Valley and graduated from Crow High School. I have been a volunteer in our community for 45 years and find joy in giving my time and talents to help others. My passion has been to help with public education. My three children and two grandchildren graduated from Cottage Grove High School, and I currently have three grandchildren attending South Lane schools. Providing a quality education for our children is essential to ensuring a bright future for Cottage Grove.

- 2. Increasing our Oregon test scores and graduation

rate. Increasing student attendance and educational opportunities. Continuing and expanding our Career/ Technical Education (CTE) programs. Having our students feel safe at school. Creating a communication plan to reach all parents and concerned citizens to rebuild trust within our community.

3. I care deeply about the success of our students. I am an advocate for public education to ensure improvements in how services are delivered to our school system from state and federal agencies. Progress has been made but there is much more work left to do. I would like the opportunity to complete what South Lane is working on to achieve academic success. The District is committed to high quality education. Our incredibly dedicated staff and educators support these educational opportunities for South Lane. They are working hard so that all of our students get a quality education and are prepared for life after graduation to be lifelong learners.



Chris Hoiman

CHRIS HOLOMAN

- 1. Why do you want to serve on the school board?

As a long-term Grover having had several children, and currently have a teenager going through the district, I am invested in how our schools perform. I love Cottage Grove and want to see our students succeed.

- 2. What do you see are the biggest issues facing the school district?

The failing academic test scores, with a continuous LOWERING of standards has been a recipe for disaster. We are doing the children a disservice by not preparing them for life after school. Other states spend half the money per student we do and get high rankings. I want to take a closer look at the budget. Do our teachers have the resources to support our students? We have, for too long, had the same people running our district, and the poor results show it. We can and must do better.

- 3. What qualities, skills, experience and perspectives do you have to address those issues effectively?

My extensive experience in corporate turnarounds and as a business owner give me a skillset that would be valuable to correct this failing system. We need fresh eyes and new innovative ways of supporting our youth. I listen to parents, their concerns, and I am a problem solver. Bring back the trades, allow and encourage parents to get involved, and work together for the success of the students.

See the SLSD Board candidate profiles at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.

Americanisms

“Mother is a verb.
It’s something you do.
Not just who you are.”
— Cheryl Lacey Donovan

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Weekly Online Poll

Should it be up to state officials to lead develop of a long-term solution to Oregon's homelessness?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Previous Poll Results

It's been 100 days since President Trump took office. Rate his performance.

☐ 35 % Excellent

☐ 6.7% Pretty good

☐ 3.3% Not so good

☐ 55% Poor

THE COTTAGE GROVE Sentinel

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BLOTTER

From Page 2

09:37: Suicidal subject, 700 block Chestnut Ave.
10:31: Fire, 78000 block Thornton Ln.
10:46: Harassment, 1200 block Hwy 99
11:11: Abandoned vehicle, S Court/ W. Harrison Ave.
12:13: Disturbance, 30000 block Gowdyville Rd.

12:27: Abandoned vehicle, River Rd/99
16:02: Disorderly subject, 100 block N. 9th St.
16:24: Dog at large, 200 block N. 12th St.
16:57: Found dog, 400 block N. 14th St.
17:08: Juvenile problem, 1900 block S. 8th St.
17:12: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
17:44: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
18:15: Disorderly subject, N. Lane/ Chamberlain

18:34: Civil, 78000 block Hwy 99
19:17: Disorderly subject, 1100 block W. Main St.
19:24: Theft, 200 block N. 12th St.
20:27: Disorderly subject, 200 block N. 8th St.
20:39: Business check, 1500 block E. Main St.
21:04: Wanted subject, 200 block N. 12th St.
23:25: Stolen motor vehicle, 800 block Gateway Blvd.
23:25: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

SUNDAY, MAY 4
00:36: Disorderly subject, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
01:54: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.
02:04: Nuisance, 800 block S. 1st St.
09:16: Fire, 77000 block Hwy 99
09:59: Agency assist, I-5 SB 181
11:41: Disorderly subject, 700 block N. River Rd.
11:44: Alarm, 600 block E. Main St.

12:04: Abandoned vehicle, 1700 block Harvey Rd.
13:46: Found drugs, 1200 block E. Main St.
13:47: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.
14:29: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.
15:38: Vicious dog, 1000 block S. 4th St.
16:04: Barking dog, 500 block Taylor Ave.
17:18: Alarm, 1400 block Hwy 99
18:17: Business check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.

19:23: Welfare check, 500 block E. Madison Ave.
19:26: Welfare check, 1200 block Hwy 99
19:38: Suspicious vehicle, 2000 block Getty Cir.
20:08: Disturbance, 500 block E. Madison Ave.
20:47: Welfare check, 1100 block E. Chadwick Ave.
21:31: Citizen assist, 1500 block Village Dr.
22:24: Disorderly subject, 400 block N. Lane St.

MEETING

From Page 1

derogatory public comments about other candidates in “action alerts”.
Speaking directly to the incumbent candidates, she criticized the action alert messages as dirty campaign tactics used on their behalf by people outside the community who will be gone after the election. She told them if they didn’t speak out against accusations in the action alerts they were condoning that behavior in our community.
“This ‘win at all costs’ (strategy) is not really serving our community,” Zee said. “That is not the way we want to do things: banding up as a slate with outside money paying for mailers that say things that are not

accurate. In the end, we all have to live together in the community and Val Hoyle’s campaign team doesn’t.”
CTE EDUCATION UPDATE
Interim Superintendent Brian McCasline said he participated in an all-day meeting May 2 with the District’s Career Technical Education teachers to coordinate the 10 different career pathways offered to students.
He highlighted the significant achievements in the 2024-25 CTE program:
• More college credits can now be earned.
• New CTE student clubs formed. Equipment was upgraded to industry standards.
• More industry partnerships allowed an increase in work-based learning through job shadows and internships.
The 10 career pathways were showcased during the high school orientation

“Let me be crystal clear, when our educators are targeted for the work, they do for the students they serve or for their own identity, we all suffer, and we will not stand by silently.”

Brandi Baker-Rudicel, SLEA

activities for 8th grade students and at Lincoln Middle School’s parent night. CTE educators are now exploring ways to increase collaboration district wide to introduce the career pathways to elementary students.
BUDGET COMMITTEE UPDATE
Karen Zeller, a local citizen who teaches in the Elkton School District, was appointed to the Budget Committee. The first

meeting of the Board/Budget Committee is May 19 to review the proposed budget document. By tradition, after review and discussion at the first meeting, the final version is adopted at the second meeting, which is scheduled for May 27. State law requires all public agencies to adopt a balanced budget by June 30.
SUPERINTENDENT TRANSITION
New Superintendent Todd Miller assumes his post on July 1.
The quick exit of past superintendents has given their successors minimal transition experience within the district and in the community. With this in mind, board members discussed the opportunity to purchase on-boarding training from either the Oregon School Board Association or the search firm Human Capital to guide the transition. The



The South Lane School District board meets at the district office at 455 Adams Avenue in Cottage Grove.

proposals vary regarding the number of meetings and travel expenses and ranged from \$1,700 to \$2,000. There wasn’t agreement on the need to make this additional expenditure and a decision was tabled to consult with Miller on his preference.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
The board met in a non-public session to discuss labor contract negotiations and to evaluate McCasline’s performance as interim superintendent.
Follow developments at the cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.

CAMP

From Page 1

Cottage Grove Public Works Department Director Faye Stewart told the city council during a public session Sept. 9, 2024, that the cost for the overall two-camp site cleanup amount to \$44,929.95.

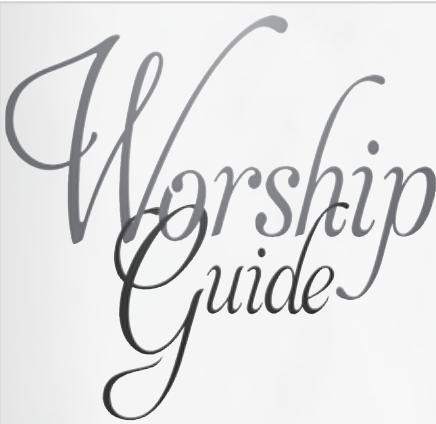
• Employee Cost \$10,207.07
• Equipment Cost \$13,580.00
• Landfill Cost \$20,667.88
• Swanson Pest \$ 475.00
Stewart said Swanson’s Pest Management installed rat traps at both sites on Aug. 23. Public works staff cleaned up the Douglas Avenue campsite Aug. 26 through 27, removing 82.5 tons of solid waste taking it to Lane County’s Short

Mountain Landfill. Public works staff cleaned up the 12th Street site Aug. 27, 28, 29, and Sept. 4, removing 122.36 tons of solid waste and taking that waste to the Short Mountain Landfill.
A smaller version of the 12th Street homeless camp site was reopened last fall.
“We had two camps that were unsafe and unsanitary and there was a lot of criminal activity, so our first goal was to close those unsafe

facilities, and our second goal was to provide folks with a safe and secure place to spend the night,” he said. “That’s what we are doing at 12th Street, providing folks with a safe and secure place where they can rest their heads for the night. Definitely I think people have a really positive attitude about the changes that we have made. I am guardingly optimistic that the state, through the legislative

process, will have a higher degree of coordination when the resources that are available to larger cities and reaching out to the county and rural areas. That remains to be seen.”
Sauerwein recommends any business or resident who believes there is criminal activity in Cottage Grove to contact law enforcement.
“Our police department really prides itself by being able to reach out and work

directly with individual businesses. So please, if you see something, let us know,” he said.
Join the conversation. Take the Sentinel’s online poll. Should it be up to state officials to lead develop of a long-term solution to Oregon’s homelessness? Follow Developments online at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of The Sentinel.



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RODEO

From Page 1

For the past 32 years, since she was a pre-teen, she has worked alongside her father at the Eugene Pro Rodeo. They have been a team across the Pacific Northwest, he as an announcer, and she as the music director, serving events sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, National Pro Rodeo Association and independent rodeos.
Wayne’s retirement as the Eugene Pro Rodeo announcer gave the family the opportunity to shift their focus and energy toward creating what they describe as “an epic hometown event”.
Courtney and Phil met while working rodeos across Oregon and Washington. Although Phil didn’t grow up in the rodeo world, he started working with bucking bulls and horses in his early twenties and quickly fell in love with the lifestyle.
In 2010, they launched their own company, Longhorn Productions Inc., and began co-producing and independently producing rodeo events.
From humble beginnings, they say their company has grown exponentially, and today they proudly operate the “Hell on Hooves Tour”, a high-energy, rough stock-focused rodeo tour that has built a strong following and reputation in Oregon and Washington.

Their two children, 14-year-old Gattlin Wayne and nine-year-old Sterling, have been along for the ride since day one, literally. Both attended their first rodeos at just two weeks old in Wenatchee, Washington. While Gattlin doesn’t share the same passion for rodeo, he appreciates the travel, the life experiences, and the exposure to diverse cultures. Sterling, inherited the rodeo blood and has already won three buckles. Her mom says she shows every sign of following in the family footsteps.
EVENT DETAILS
Hours: Gates will open at 1 p.m. with the rodeo events beginning at 3 p.m. Outlaw Shine takes the stage at 8 p.m. The concert begins immediately after the rodeo and will end in time for participants to go to the High School to enjoy the Chamber of Commerce’s fireworks show.
Tickets: are \$10.00 per person. Children 2 and younger get in free courtesy of Hartness Drywall, Dave and Terri Hartness. Tickets will be available in early June at Farmlands Market and Country Farms and Ranch Supplies in Creswell.
Seating: There will be limited bleachers available. Spectators will have access to “festival” style seating which means there will be designated rows along the arena where you can set up chairs. There will be lots of standing room around tables in the beer garden with good visibility to the event as well. Pop Up shade tents will not be allowed.
Parking will be in the field. 100% of the parking

proceeds will go to local kids’ groups that are working at the event. It was also important to us to make sure this event supported local non-profits centered around kids in our community whether it be agricultural groups, sports teams, school clubs while also providing work experience for them that could fund their programs.
DREAM COME TRUE
According to Courtney, the support and excitement the rodeo has generated in their small community has far exceeded anything they could have imagined.
“Bringing a rodeo to Creswell has long been a dream shared by my husband Phil and my dad,” Courtney said “To now see that dream become reality is not only exciting, but also incredibly meaningful for our family and for the community we love. We’re delighted to bring this new tradition to life and to add a thrilling new layer to Creswell’s annual celebration.”
Courtney noted, “Producing rodeos isn’t just a business for us, it’s a way of life, a legacy, and a passion we’re proud to carry forward into the next generation. Rodeo has a way of getting into your soul—it becomes more than just a job; it becomes part of who you are.”
Information to sign up kids for the Mutton Bustin event and upcoming ticket sales are available on the Hell on Hooves Tour Facebook page, at hellonhoovestour.com and on Instagram @hellonhoovestour.

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CG525-134
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that David Earnes has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of JANET BEVIER PLUMMER, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 25PB03972. 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 Ave, 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 Representative's attorney. DATED and published: 05/14/2025. /s/ David Earnes, Personal Representative

CG525-135
Notice of Budget Committee Meeting Three public meetings of the Budget Committee of the South Lane School District 4513, Lane County, State of Oregon, have been scheduled to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 and will be held in person at 455 Adams Ave, Cottage Grove, OR and virtually via ZOOM (see District website for link). The first meeting will take place on May 19, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and budget docu-

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

ments. The second meeting will take place on May 27, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting provides members of the public with an opportunity to ask questions about and comment on the budget document and for deliberation by the Budget Committee. Members of the public may submit written comments of testimony to tonya.kerns@slane.k12.or.us and clearly mark PUBLIC COMMENT in the subject line. Written comments received by 12 p.m. noon on May 23, 2025 will be read during the public comment section of the meeting on May 27, 2025. A third meeting is tentatively scheduled on May 29, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. and will take place on as needed basis. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 19, 2025 at the District Administrative Office at 455 Adams Avenue, Cottage Grove OR, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4p.m. This budget committee meeting notice can also be found on the school district website <https://www.slane.k12.or.us>.

CG525-128
NOTICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION VACANCY The City of Cottage Grove Historic Preservation Commission has one vacancy to fill on this volunteer body for a term that expires December 31, 2027. The Commission members are appointed by the City Council. The Historic Preservation

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

Commission meets once on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. People interested in applying for this position need to complete a Volunteer Appointment Application available at the Community Development Department at City Hall or online at www.cottagegrove.org. The deadline for receiving applications is May 21, 2025, by 5 p.m. For further information please contact the Community Development Department at 541-942-5501. Published April 30th, May 7th and May 14th, 2025.

CG525-129
NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY The City of Cottage Grove Planning Commission has one vacancy to fill on this volunteer body for a term that expires December 31, 2025. The Commission members are appointed by the City Council. The Planning Commission meets on the second and third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. People interested in applying for this position need to complete a Volunteer Appointment Application available at the Community Development Department at City Hall or online at www.cottagegrove.org. The deadline for receiving applications is May 21, 2025, by 5 p.m. For further information please contact the Community Development Department at 541-942-5501. Published April 30th, May 7th and May 14th, 2025.

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

DEADLINE
for all classified ads and legal notices is the Wednesday one week prior to the following Wednesday publication date. Ads and notices received after 5 p.m. Wednesday will not appear until two weeks later.

999 PUBLIC NOTICES



1. U.S. STATES: Which state is last, alphabetically?
2. MOVIES: What does the acronym S.H.I.E.L.D. stand for in movies about Marvel characters?
3. LITERATURE: Who wrote the short story "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"?
4. GAMES: How many cards are in a standard deck?
5. TELEVISION: On which sitcom did the character Harry the Hat appear?
6. BUSINESS: When did the first Kentucky Fried Chicken franchise open?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many Nobel prizes are awarded every year?
8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was the shortest at 5 foot 4 inches tall?
9. ASTRONOMY: Who was the first woman to travel into space?
10. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a baby platypus called?

Answers
1. Wyoming.
2. Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement and Logistics Division.
3. James Thurber.
4. 52.
5. "Cheers."
6. 1952 in Salt Lake City, Utah.
7. Six.
8. James Madison.
9. Valentina Tereshkova.
10. A platypup or puggle.

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FORM LB-1

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

A public meeting of the Lorane Rural Fire Protection District Board will be held on May 8, 2025 at 7:30 pm at the Lorane Fire Station located at 80287 Old Lorane Road, Lorane, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 as approved by the Lorane RFPD Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at Lorane Fire Station, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Monday May 5, 2025. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as used the preceding year.

Contact: Jim Bailor, Fire Chief Telephone: 541-942-1233 Email: loranefld@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount This Year 2023-24	Adopted Budget Next Year 2024-25	Approved Budget Next Year 2025-26
Beginning Fund Balance/Not Working Capital	73,901	74,473	68,164
Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges	0	0	0
Federal, State and All Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations and Donations	0	0	0
Revenue from Bonds and Other Debt	0	0	0
Interfund Transfers / Internal Service Reimbursements	0	0	0
All Other Resources Except Property Taxes	112,701	116,679	111,293
Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	118,919	122,491	127,977
Total Resources	231,620	239,170	239,270

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
	35,370	35,420	35,420
Personnel Services	35,370	35,420	35,420
Materials and Services	95,950	103,750	103,350
Capital Outlay	19,300	25,000	25,500
Debt Service	0	0	0
Interfund Transfers	56,000	50,000	50,000
Contingencies	5,000	5,000	5,000
Special Payments	0	0	0
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	20,000	20,000	20,000
Total Requirements	231,620	239,170	239,270

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM *			
Name of Organizational Unit or Program FTE for that unit or program			
FTE			
FTE			
Non-Departmental / Non-Program FTE			
Total Requirements			
Total FTE			

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 2.2952 per \$1,000)	2.2952	2.2952	2.2952
Local Option Levy			
Levy For General Obligation Bonds	0	0	0

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS		
LONG TERM DEBT	Estimated Debt Outstanding on July 1,	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1
General Obligation Bonds	\$0	
Other Bonds		
Other Borrowings		
Total	\$0	

* If more space is needed to complete any section of this form, insert lines (rows) on this sheet or add sheets. You may delete unused lines.



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Undersea volcano eruption likely off Oregon coast

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

One of the Pacific Ocean’s most active undersea volcanos could erupt before the end of this year, according to a new report from researchers at the University of Washington (UW).

The volcano is known as Axial Seamoun. It is 4,900 feet below the surface, centered 300 miles off the Oregon coast and last erupted in 2015.

The report states that scientists are excited about the latest signs from the volcano “because it is giving us a window into some of the

most important geological and biological processes on Earth.”

According to Maya Tolstoy, a marine geophysicist and Maggie Walker Dean of the UW College of the Environment, over two-thirds of the Earth’s surface was formed by volcanic eruptions at these mid-ocean ridges.

“So, the volcano is formed by these really fundamental processes that shape our planet,” she said.

The UW College of the Environment is home to one of the world’s largest under-water observatories hosting networks of sensors on the

seafloor and throughout the ocean waters. The Ocean Observatories Initiative Regional Cabled Array, which sends real-time data from 150 instruments to shore at the speed of light, spas the Juan de Fuca plate, from the Oregon coast to the summit of Axial Seamount 300 miles offshore.

“This facility has provided unique insights into the dynamics of the ocean and underlying seafloor since 2014 — including high-resolution images and even a live video feed — and when the volcano finally erupts, it will give scientists a front-row seat,” the report states.



Courtesy from the University of Washington

The Regional Cabled Array spans the entire Juan de Fuca tectonic plate, from the Oregon coast to the summit of Axial Seamount 300 miles offshore.

The report states that first sign of an eruption at Axial Seamount is a sharp increase in the number of earthquakes around the volcano, caused by magma moving toward the surface.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Axial Seamount is much too deep and far from shore for people on land to even notice when it erupts,” the report states. “An eruption at Axial Seamount also has nothing to do with seismic activity on land, so Pacific Northwesterners don’t need to worry about this event triggering a major earthquake or tsunami.”

While Axial Seamount does not produce particularly violent eruptions by most standards, the report states

that the interaction of hot, molten rock with the frigid waters of the deep ocean inevitably leads to some startling noises on the seafloor.

“When a pocket of seawater gets trapped beneath a lava flow, it heats up and turns to steam,” UW School of Oceanography Marine Geophysicist William Wilcock said. “When that steam finally escapes, it forms a bubble which cools very quickly and collapses, causing a loud implosion that we can pick up with our hydrophones.”

There are two primary factors that scientists look at to determine whether Axial Seamount is ready to erupt: how much the volcano is inflating due to a buildup of magma beneath the surface,

and the frequency of earthquakes coming from beneath the seafloor, according to the UW report.

“Scientists know that Axial Seamount erupted in 1998, 2011 and 2015. And thanks to the instruments in the Regional Cabled Array, in 2015 they were able to monitor the eruption live from start to finish for the first time,” the report states. “Now, after more than a decade of observations, they’re ready to refine their methods of predicting eruptions.”

See the full report at: <https://environment.uw.edu/news/2025/04/the-pacific-northwests-most-active-underwater-volcano-is-getting-ready-to-erupt/>

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‘Big One’ coupled with rising ocean could leave many in Northwest living in flood zones, study finds

ALEX BAUMHARDT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

If the once-every-500-year Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake doesn’t do enough damage to the coastal Northwest on its own, frequent and widespread flooding from rising seas that follows will take care of the rest, new research found.

Oregon, Washington and California are overdue for the recurring seismic event — popularly referred to as “The Big One” — which last occurred in 1700 and could cause Northwest coastlines to lower and retreat by more than 6 feet as land erodes into the sea.

Coupled with rising seas from climate change, many more coastal communities, such as Seaside, Oregon and Aberdeen, Washington, will essentially be on top of newly created floodplains and tidal zones amid rising waters.

The findings from researchers at Virginia Tech, the University of North Carolina, the University of Oregon and scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey were published last week in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. They found that if The Big One were to occur in 2100, when waters along the Pacific coastline might be three feet higher than today as global ice sheets melt, it’s likely 6.6 feet of Northwest coast would subside into the sea.

That means more than 17,000 people in the region would soon be living on top of expanded coastal flood plains, double the number currently living in such flood zones today.

Researchers’ modeling shows that triple the number of structures, such as hospitals, airports and water and electricity plants, as well as roads, would be exposed to frequent flooding in the aftermath as are today, and could remain that way for centuries.

more than 6 feet, the researchers wrote. In the aftermath, some communities had to relocate to higher ground because of increased tidal flooding. Similar coastal earthquakes in Sumatra and Japan in more recent history have also led to land loss and migration.

The Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake could reach a magnitude similar to that of the Great Chilean Earthquake, between 8.0 and 9.0, according to seismologists.

Hawkes said the point of the study is to improve preparation and planning in the coastal Northwest, not panic.

“The earthquake is kind of something you can’t really do anything about, right? It’s gonna happen,” she said. “But as you plan where you build in the coastal zone, something to keep in mind is that the sea level is continuing to rise, and that when you have these events, they will cause land farther upland to subside.”

She said there are communities along the coast that are already planning on moving or building critical infrastructure further inland because of projected sea level rise. The study Hawkes was part of, she said, can help them go further, by considering the impacts of The Big One.

“One of the best ways to think about it is that you could have a coastal forest or a salt marsh that you’re walking your dog along, and then this earthquake happens, and that land, physically, almost instantaneously, in a few minutes, subsides, potentially half a meter to almost 2 meters,” said Andrea Hawkes, a professor of earth and ocean sciences at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington who worked on the study.

“All the sudden, instead of standing on dry land, you are now in the tidal zone.”

Mega earthquakes

It’s not just a hypothetical. The study mentions several historical earthquakes that led to fundamental changes in coastal landscapes and the loss or relocation of whole towns.

The Great Chilean Earthquake of 1960 — the biggest ever recorded at a magnitude of 9.5 — caused more than 8 feet of coastal land in some parts of the country to slide into the sea, submerging pine forests and farms underwater and turning them into tidal marshes.

The Great Alaska earthquake in 1964 lowered coastal areas by

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