

THE COTTAGE GROVE Sentinel

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Lions Wrap up Fall Sports
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48
35

Cottage Grove
Wednesday, December 3, 2025
Partly Cloudy

Wednesday December 3, 2025 | Number 48, 137 years

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\$2.00

Voters may decide fate of Governor's transportation package

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Volunteers with "Say NO to gas tax hikes" signs have lined the corner of 10th and Main Street in Cottage Grove in recent weeks, urging drivers and pedestrians to stop and sign a statewide petition.

If successful, the effort will place Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek's 2025 transportation package on the Nov. 3, 2026 ballot, giving Oregonians the final say on whether new taxes and fees should take effect.

A Nov. 25 news release from petition organizers said the campaign has collected more than 150,000 signatures—nearly double the 78,116 required by Dec. 30. They noted that a statewide "Sign Across Oregon" event gathered more than 25,000 signatures in a single day.

The legislation raises Oregon's 40 cent per gallon gas tax by 6 cents, increases vehicle registration and titling fees, and temporarily doubles the payroll tax that funds public transit. The fee hikes are scheduled to begin Jan. 1 unless the petition drive succeeds.

South Lane County petition coordinator Chris Wagner said local signature gatherers were encouraged by the steady stream of residents who stopped at Mickey's Affordable Auto car lot to sign.

"The governor deliberately waited six weeks to sign the legislation to reduce the time signature gatherers would have to meet the Dec. 30 deadline, and that really made people mad," Wagner said. "We finally got the approved petitions in



Marion Crisp and his wife are assisted by booth volunteer Tanya Sano to sign the initiative petition to put the Governor's Transportation Plan on the Nov. 3, 2026 ballot.

Cottage Grove on the afternoon of Nov. 14, and for the past two weeks our booth has been slammed by the number of voters who wanted to sign it. It's tapering off now because I think most people have signed."

Wagner added, "Road workers are just a fraction of ODOT's giant bureaucracy. What is really needed is an intensive audit that scrutinizes who is doing what and how much it is costing us to sustain it. I believe Oregon has reached a crossroads.

From here on, does Oregon government work for Oregonians? Or do Oregonians work for Oregon government? The latter is a terrifying prospect, but here we are in all its darkness."

Once the Secretary of State verifies enough valid signatures, the law is suspended. The tax and fee hikes cannot take effect until voters approve them.

The increases are paused, though other non tax provisions of the

law—such as planning measures and administrative changes—remain in place. If voters approve the package in 2026, the increases take effect. If they reject it, those revenue streams are permanently blocked, leaving the Oregon Department of Transportation to seek alternative funding.

Follow developments online at cgsentinel.com and in the Wednesday print editions of *The Sentinel*.



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove Police Department Chief Cory Chase shakes the Sabrina's paw following her swearing in ceremony during a city council meeting in mid-October.

Community mourns the loss of K9 Sabrina

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

The community is mourning the loss of K9 Sabrina following the police dog's death Nov. 19.

Cottage Grove Police Department (CGPD) Chief Cory Chase issued a release following the incident.

"We are deeply saddened to report that on Wednesday night November 19, 2025, at around 10:30 p.m., Cottage Grove Police Department K9 Sabrina exited the police department through an open door that led to the parking lot when an officer exited the building.

The officer and others on-duty attempted to call her back but were unsuccessful. They immediately began searching the area for her but were unable to locate her. Chief Chase was notified a short time later and he and his family immediately joined in the search both on foot and in vehicles.

After about an hour of searching, we received a call of a dog matching Sabrina's description being struck by a vehicle on

Highway 99 just north of River Rd. We quickly responded to the area and found that Sabrina had been struck and killed.

We are incredibly heartbroken and devastated by this tragedy. Sabrina was a loved member of our department and the Cottage Grove community. She had a profound impact on the lives of our staff in the short time she was with us.

We are all struggling with this tragedy and grieving the loss of our beloved Sabrina."

The K9 was a new addition to the CGPD, having been sworn into office by Chase during a mid-October Cottage Grove City Council meeting.

Described as super-friendly, the one-year-old black lab-golden retriever mix was trained as a comfort canine and is the second dog donated to the department by the nonprofit organization Working Dogs Oregon.

Sabrina's role was not enforcement or detection, but emotional support, trained to assist officers during high-stress calls, provide comfort to crime victims, and help

Christmas kickoff to light up downtown

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove launches the holiday season this weekend with its annual Christmas Kickoff, a tradition that fills downtown with music, lights and community spirit.

Families gather for festivities around town that mark the start of December with cheer and celebration.

There is something for all ages to enjoy. The Jingle Rush 5K Run/Walk kicks off the day. Santa makes multiple appearances around town. He flips the switch on the All-America City Square Christmas Tree then goes to his workshop in the Cottage Grove Armory to hear children's wishes.

There is a Victorian holiday bazaar, crafts, the Speedway's holiday lights display attraction, and the museum's candlelit stained-glass windows. The all-day kickoff provides Grovers the opportunity to experience the festive season together.

NOTE: The annual South Lane County Fire and Rescue Breakfast with Santa at the Firehouse will not happen this year due to staffing challenges.

Below is a list of activities happening this weekend to invite the Christmas spirit into the hearts of all ages.



Annah Clark and her dogs Cocoa and Bear visited Santa last year at the Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club's Dr. Snapp House Holiday Bazaar. Santa returns Saturday, from noon to 2 p.m. Dec. 6, to the historic Victorian-era house on South River Road.

MULTI-DAY HOLIDAY EVENTS THIS WEEKEND

DEC 4-7: Cottage Theatre Play: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Thu-Sat 7:30 p.m. Sun 2:30 p.m. 700 Village Dr.

Plot: Follow Alice down the rabbit hole in this magical, musical retelling of Lewis Carroll's beloved fantasy. This adaptation of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, by a playwright who grew up at Cottage Theatre, will appeal to you whether your own journey through the looking glass was last week or decades ago. Tickets: Adults, \$29 & Youth (18 & younger), \$15 For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.cottagetheatre.org or call the box office at 541.942.8001

DEC 5-7: Dr. Snapp House Holiday Bazaar and Open House. 360 S. River Rd.

Hours: Friday 6-8 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Features gently used items, holiday treats and crafts for sale. Hot apple cider and cookies. Bring kids to see Santa from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Proceeds provide scholarships to local high school seniors and maintain the historic house.

DEC 5-7: Cottage Grove Speedway Walking in a Winter

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FOLLOW DEVELOPING NEWS

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Separate sex abuse investigations net two arrests

STAFF REPORT
Cottage Grove Sentinel

In May of 2025, a Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputy assigned to the West Lane patrol area received information about two separate cases of adult males sexually abusing teenage children.

The deputy and detectives continued investigating the cases over the following months.

In one case, they identified the suspect as 40-year-old David Robert Neubert, Jr., of Florence. On Nov. 19, LCSO detectives served a search warrant at a residence in the

88000 block of Highway 101, north of Florence.

"Neubert was contacted and arrested. After additional investigation, he was lodged at the Lane County Jail on multiple charges," LCSO Sgt. Tim Wallace said.

The Lane County District Attorney's Office filed the following charges against Neubert:

- Three counts of Sex Abuse in the 2nd Degree
- Two counts of Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor

In the second, unrelated case, the suspect was identified as 44-year-old



Metro Creative Connection

The arrests occurred north of Florence and in Mapleton.

Jesse Michael Shelton, of Mapleton.

In June, detectives served a search warrant at a residence in the 10900 block of E. Mapleton Road, Mapleton. Evidence was located; however Shelton was not found.

On Nov. 19, deputies and detectives went to a residence in the 10400 block of Cedar Creek Road, south of Mapleton, to arrest Shelton.

"Shelton ran as they arrived at the location," Wallace said. "A deputy responded with K9 Ripp, who located Shelton hiding

nearby along the bank of Sweet Creek."

Shelton was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail on multiple charges. The Lane County District Attorney's Office filed the following charges:

- Two counts of Sex Abuse in the 2nd Degree
- Strangulation
- Unlawful Delivery of a Marijuana Item
- Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor
- Felon in Possession of a Firearm

The Oregon State Police assisted with the two cases.

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, Nov. 17

- 01:39: Barking dog, 13th/Taylor
- 02:55: Illegal camping, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 03:42: Suicidal subject, 200 block 58th St.
- 04:20: Fire, 200 block Sweet Ln.
- 04:24: Repo, 700 block E. Main St.
- 07:35: Alarm, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.
- 07:54: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 09:12: Harassment, 1500 block S. 4th St.
- 09:15: Disorderly subject, 200 block 16th St.
- 10:41: Harassment, 1500 block S. 4th St.
- 11:12: Fire, Hwy 99/Dugan
- 13:11: Business check, 1500 block E. Main St.
- 15:04: Welfare check, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
- 15:14: Motor vehicle crash, 900 block S. River Rd.
- 19:51: Nuisance, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

21:52: Disturbance, 1700 block Hwy 99

Tuesday, Nov. 18

- 02:53: Warrant service, 6th/Whiteaker
- 04:47: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.
- 07:44: Suspicious condition, NB 176
- 09:05: Hit and run, 1100 block E. Chamberlain Ave.
- 09:17: Criminal mischief, 900 block Row River Rd.
- 09:26: Abandoned vehicle, Palmer/Davidson
- 11:18: Fraud, 1400 block Bryant Ave.
- 11:57: Disturbance, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 13:33: Hit and run, 100 block N. 6th St.
- 18:19: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 18:39: Alarm, 1500 block S. 4th St.
- 19:16: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

- 01:33: Welfare check, 300 block S. 5th St.
- 07:12: Suspicious condition, 81000 block Davison Rd.
- 09:43: Disturbance, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 10:43: Unlawful entry into motor vehicle, 800 block S. 14th St.
- 12:07: Animal info, 1300 block E. Main St.
- 13:55: Theft, 900 block Row River Rd.
- 15:11: Abandoned vehicle, 2100 block Cemetery Rd.
- 15:30: Disturbance, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.
- 17:07: Nuisance, Bryant/R



- 17:33: Fire, 36000 block Row River Rd.
- 21:44: Warrant service, 500 block N. Douglas St.

Thursday, Nov. 20

- 01:26: Disturbance, 71000 block London Rd.
- 06:30: Disturbance, 6th/Quincy
- 07:23: Disturbance, 900 block S. 6th St.
- 07:35: Welfare check, 900 block S. 6th St.
- 07:59: Disturbance, 1200 block E. Main St.
- 08:08: Hit and run, 400 block S. 5th St.
- 11:38: Burglary, 900 block S. River Rd.
- 11:51: Abandoned vehicle, 16th/Gibbs
- 12:03: Dog at large, Gateway/Harvey
- 13:48: Suspicious condition, 6th/99

- 15:38: Suspicious condition, 600 block Birch Ave.
- 16:12: Welfare check, 6th/99
- 19:17: Harassment, 500 block Grant Ave.

Friday, Nov. 21

- 00:46: Fire, 600 block N. 9th St.
- 02:42: Disturbance, 34000 block Row River Rd.
- 04:48: Disturbance, 900 block S. 6th St.
- 05:36: Disturbance, 900 block S. 6th St.
- 06:14: Dog at large, 6th/Whiteaker
- 07:55: Suspicious vehicle, 1200 block Gateway Blvd.
- 08:12: Warrant service, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 08:15: Welfare check, Pennoyer/11th
- 08:36: Warrant service, Main/14th

10:26: Dog at large, 1700 block Adams Ave.

- 10:41: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 10:43: Welfare check, Main/River Rd.
- 11:23: Vicious dog, 100 block S. 21st St.
- 11:32: Order violation, 100 block N. 6th St.
- 11:45: Theft, 100 block Village Dr.
- 12:18: Fire, 900 block Row River Rd.
- 14:41: Welfare check, 600 block Benjamin Ave.
- 14:48: Order violation, 400 block North J St.
- 15:33: Disorderly subject, 1500 block E. Main St.
- 15:42: ATL DUII, Main/16th
- 16:03: Disturbance, 32000 block Rachel Rd.
- 18:01: Suspicious subject, 400 block S. 5th St.
- 21:47: Suicidal subject, 1200 block S. 6th St.
- 23:45: Warrant service, 1300 block E. Main St.

Saturday, Nov. 22

- 01:03: Welfare check, 300 block S. 5th St.
- 02:08: Suspicious subject, 600 block N. 9th St.
- 02:31: Disturbance, 900 block Row River Rd.
- 02:42: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 04:55: Intoxicated subject, 1500 block Village Dr.
- 05:48: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.
- 08:23: Mental subject, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.
- 10:01: Disorderly subject, 1300 block Elm Ave.
- 10:03: Found dog, Harrison/99

10:42: Suspicious condition, Madison/16th

- 15:50: Welfare check, 900 block W. Main St.
- 16:32: Theft, 8th/Cooper
- 17:08: Disturbance, 100 block Taylor Pl.
- 17:45: Death investigation, 77000 block Quaglia Rd.
- 17:58: Fire, 2700 block Row River Rd.
- 18:07: Hit and run, 1000 block Taylor Ave.
- 18:55: Theft, 700 block Hwy 99
- 19:22: Disturbance, 32000 block Picknell St.
- 20:33: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.
- 23:13: Disturbance, 200 block N. 12th St.
- 23:36: Alarm, 100 block Village Dr.

Sunday, Nov. 23

- 00:51: Business check, 900 block E. Main St.
- 03:11: Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block E. Main St.
- 05:54: Disorderly subject, 1000 block Taylor Ave.
- 08:22: Criminal mischief, 1300 block Elm Ave.
- 10:14: Disturbance, 1500 block Parks Rd.
- 11:03: Wanted subject, 100 block Sweet Ln.
- 12:25: Fire, 1100 block E. Chadwick Ave.
- 13:25: Motor vehicle crash, Hillside/Howard Lp.
- 15:52: Nuisance, 1300 block Elm Ave.
- 18:02: Motor vehicle crash, 79000 block Hwy 99
- 21:55: Suspicious subject, 36000 block Row River Rd.
- 22:01: Disturbance, 200 block N. 12th St.

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GENERAC

New rules to help prevent equine herpes virus spread

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has issued temporary rules to help reduce the risk of spreading Equine Herpes Virus (EHV)/Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy (EMH).

The rules filed on November 19, 2025, will immediately strengthen Oregon's ability to prevent the entry and spread of EHV/EHM by requiring additional safeguards for horses entering the state or attending high-risk events.

ODA was recently made aware of an outbreak of EHV/EHM in horses that were at or associated with barrel racing and rodeo-type events in Texas and Oklahoma. Several

cases of EHV/EHM have been confirmed in Texas and Oklahoma associated with these equine events, with numerous reports of additional cases and equine deaths pending investigation.

Oregon currently has no confirmed cases of EHV/EHM. ODA is coordinating with the affected states to quarantine any horses that have returned to Oregon after being exposed at the Texas and Oklahoma events.

Rules Overview

- All exhibitions where equines will be present must register with ODA at least 20 days before the event.
- Specific records must be collected at the time of entry.

• At least one designated veterinarian is involved in planning the exhibition and is available to provide care.

• Each exhibition where equines are present must have a designated isolation area.

• Exhibition requirements and registration: ODA Animal Health Website

• Filed rules are online at: Rulemaking at ODA

Equine Herpes Virus Information:

EHV-1 is spread from horse to horse through contact with nasal discharge or spread as aerosol droplets. Infected horses may not show clinical signs of the virus but may still act as carriers. Horses can also contract the virus

by coming into contact with contaminated surfaces such as stalls, water, feed, tack, and transport vehicles.

People can spread the virus from horse to horse through contaminated hands and clothing. Owners should watch for signs and symptoms and practice biosecurity measures.

Good biosecurity practices include thorough cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and equipment that come into contact with affected horses, and individuals who treat or come into contact with infected horses must follow appropriate disinfection protocols when handling multiple horses.

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WHO WE ARE

Longtime print shop opens new chapter

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

From a garage startup in 1996 to a full-service print shop serving more than 1,000 customers, Dirt Cheap Copies has recently opened a new chapter on Main Street—bringing its family-run legacy into a more visible downtown location.

The business began as an outgrowth of Oregon Internet Properties (OIP), a pioneering real estate and tech venture founded in the mid-1990s.

Founder David Work Sr. launched OIP with his late wife Becky in 1995, blending their professional backgrounds—IT consulting and real estate—into a business that helped local Realtors navigate the early days of the Internet.

In January 1996, with technical assistance from their friend Stephen Diercouff they set up shop in the Work's garage and rolled out the first Internet-based real estate listings in the area, using a manual system and the local Internet Service Provider (ISP) Peregrine Data Systems, which offered dial-up and DSL connectivity to homes and businesses in Cottage Grove. As their real estate advertising business grew, OIP bought the ISP and continued offering those services to new and existing customers.

Over the next two decades, OIP became a trusted resource for Realtors across Cottage Grove, Eugene and

Springfield, offering listings, websites, email services and Internet access.

"We trained and assisted almost every Cottage Grove realtor during that time," Work said.

The print side of the business began as a support service for real estate clients, producing flyers and business cards. But after a copyright scare involving website images in 2010, the Works decided to split the ISP and print shop into separate entities. With help from friend Jim Valenti, they named the new ventures Earthclick.net and Dirt Cheap Copies (DCC).

"We started printing with what was basically an office copier," Work recalled. "Now we've got a production printer, wide-format machines for banners and stickers, and we can print envelopes and magnetics too."

Walking in the front door of the building, that began as an A&W Restaurant in the middle of the last century, customers are greeted by Work's son David "DJ" Work, Jr. who sits behind a large oak reception desk donated by the Sentinel when it closed its office last month. There is an impressive number of large production machines that fill the east side of the building with David's office and additional machines on the west side.

He said, "We are grateful to the Sentinel for donating their beautiful reception desk to us. It makes a professional

first impression to people walking in the door."

ALL IN THE FAMILY

There are five members of DCC team with Diercouff, Earthclick.net's network administrator, working remotely from Oakridge. He said he loves working for a small family business.

"I've been doing IT work since the mid-1980s and what I like most about my job is that we are a small, local company and not a huge, faceless corporation," he said. "Technology can be challenging and is ever-changing, and being able to know our customers personally helps us track their problems better and makes it easier to help them."

In addition to the father and son, there are three other members of the print shop team: Carmen Dowell, her daughter Breanna Estrada, and longtime friend Monica Venice. Customer service is DJ's primary job and ensures customer orders are printed correctly. Dowell is a local artist and provides design services and assists DJ when needed. Estrada helps with social media, advertising and billing and Venice serves as a production assistant.

Dowell said she is excited about the big move and being a part of the family business.

"I love working with customers and businesses helping them making their visions a reality. Anytime I can be creative is a plus for me," she said. "I'm very excited about the big move



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Dirt Cheap Copies staff said they loves the new larger location at 1133 E. Main St. Pictured left to right are David Work Sr. David "DJ" Work Jr., Monica Venice and Carmen Dowell.

and love our new setup. After seven years, I now have a window—it's the little things in life that brings pleasure. I'm excited about our customers coming in and seeing our workshop and all the machines. It's pretty amazing how these machines work! I'm very happy for David & DJ as well, they are like my family."

SERVICES

DCC offers a wide range of digital printing services, including business cards, flyers, posters, calendars, banners, booklets, stickers, decals, labels and design support. There is a minimum \$15 charge for new file creation or modification and no charge

for PDF or printed proofs, depending on the job. Work encourages customers to submit print-ready artwork to save on design fees.

Earthclick.net LLC is Cottage Grove's oldest Internet Service Provider (ISP). It offers web hosting, email services, and domain name registration.

The print shop recently sent out moving notices to more than 1,000 customers, signaling both growth and a renewed commitment to community visibility. Though Becky passed away in June of last year from lung cancer, the family tradition continues with a thriving and growing printing business.

Work Sr. said, "We've served the Cottage Grove community since 1996. We love our customers and we're proud of our growth. Moving to our new location should give us even greater exposure. We invite folks to stop in and see how we can meet their printing needs."

BUSINESS INFO

New location: 1133 E Main Street
Hours: Weekdays 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon.
Contact: 541-946-3981 or orders@dirtcheapcopies.com
Who We Are is a frequent Sentinel feature highlighting the people in our community.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DEC. 3

Oregon Aviation Museum Open. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 2475 Jim Wright Way.

Coast Fork Kiwanis Club. Noon. My Boys Pizza. 96 N. Mill St. Creswell.

Senior Center Pinochle Games. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 700 E. Gibbs Ave.

Legos for Kids. 2:30 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Library, 700 E. Gibbs Ave.

The Rotary Club of Cottage Grove. Networking time 5 p.m. Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. El Tapatio Restaurant Banquet Room, 725 E. Gibbs Ave.

Acoustic Jam with Gregg Biller. 6-7:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing. 106 S. 6th St.

DEC. 4

T.O.P.S. Club. 9:30-11 a.m. Delight Valley Church of Christ, 33087 E Saginaw Rd. Weight loss support group.

Baby Lap Time. 11:30 a.m. Cottage Grove Public Library, Great socializing opportunity for parents and babies birth to 2 yrs.

Oregon Aviation Museum Open. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 2475 Jim Wright Way.

Bohemia Gold Mining Museum Open. 1-4 p.m. 308 S. 10th St.

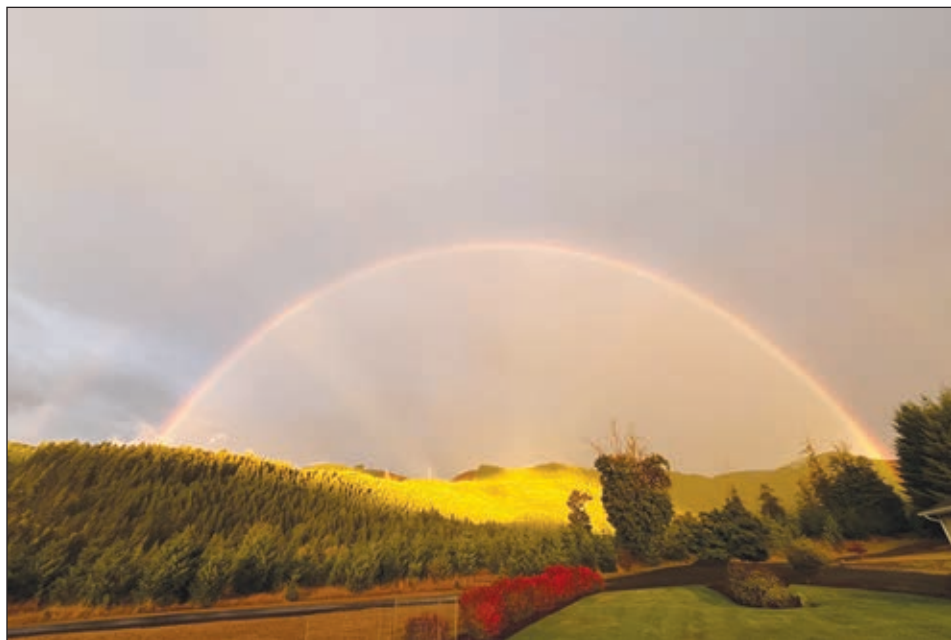
Teen Gaming Thursday, 4 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Library, 700 E. Gibbs Ave. Youth 11-18 are welcome to socialize and play games.

Table Tennis, 4-6 p.m. Community Center Reception Hall. 700 E. Gibbs Ave. Tables, paddles, and balls provided.

Bohemian Tavern. Football & Karaoke. Kickoff at 4:15 p.m. and Karaoke at 9 p.m.

Celebrate Recovery. 5:15 p.m. Calvary Chapel. 1447 Hwy 99N. CR is a Christian-based recovery program for any hurt, habit, or hang up that is based on 8 Principles and 12 Steps. A soup dinner is served at 5:15 p.m. and the large group begins at 6 p.m. For more details, call 541-554-8135.

AWANA. 6:30-8 p.m. Cottage Grove Bible Church.



Courtesy from Bill Parsons

Rainbow on a rainy day near Cottage Grove Lake.

1200 E. Quincy Ave. A midweek discipleship ministry for youth from Age 3 thru 8th grade. Features Bible memorization and fun, structured activities. Info: 541-942-4771.

DEC. 5

Cottage Grove Speedway Walking in a Winter

Wonderland. 5-9 p.m. 2150 N. Douglas St.

Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Annual Winter Soiree. 6-9 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing. 106 S. Sixth St.

Features Hawaiian-inspired menu and live music.

Friday Night Live. 6-9 p.m. Saginaw Vineyard.

80247 Delight Valley School

See **CALENDAR**, Page 4

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OBITUARIES & NEWS

Robert “Butch” Lee

3/11/1952 - 11/13/25



Robert “Butch” Lee of La Pine, Oregon, passed away on November 13th, 2025, at the age of 73.

Butch was born March 11th, 1952, in Yoncalla, Oregon, to Eldon Lee and Jeanne (Lunney) Lee. He was proud to be part of the fourth generation of the Lee Pioneer family that originally settled along Cox Creek in Yoncalla. He grew up with deep roots in the community that shaped him.

A 1970 graduate of Yoncalla High School, Butch began his lifelong career in the timber and wood products industry

shortly afterward. He first worked for Mt. Baldy Mill in Yoncalla and later spent over 30 years at P & M Cedar in Roseburg until its closure in 2001. He finished his career at Western Structures in Eugene before retiring.

In 1977, Butch married Kathy Mackrill, and together they had two children. Though they later divorced, their shared commitment to their family remained a lasting connection throughout his life.

Civic-minded from an early age, Butch dedicated many years to the Yoncalla Fire Department, serving as a volunteer fireman, assistant chief, and a member of the board. In 1993, he was elected Mayor of Yoncalla, a role he held until 2002. His time as mayor was one of the most meaningful chapters of his life. Butch loved his hometown deeply and took great pride in working to

strengthen and improve the community that had supported generations of his family.

After his years in Yoncalla and Cottage Grove, Butch eventually made his home in La Pine, Oregon, where he discovered a passion for fishing and built lasting friendships. It became the place where he felt truly settled.

Butch was preceded in death by his father, Eldon Lee, and his sister, Cynthia Lee Root.

He is survived by his mother, Jeanne Lee Newberg; his daughter, Serena McMichael (Dustin); his son, Kyle Lee (Courtney); and their mother, Kathy Mackrill. He also leaves behind many extended family members, friends, and longtime neighbors who will miss his stories, his humor, and his unwavering pride in the communities he called home.

Private Family Service

Death Notices

Matthew Quirkee was born on April 21, 1958 and died on Oct. 10, 2025.

Robert Murphy, 73, of Eugene, Oregon, passed away on November 17, 2025. Arrangements are in the care of Sunset Hills Funeral Home, Crematorium & Cemetery.

Timothy Luke Rabe, 47, of Eugene, Oregon, passed away on November 3rd, 2025. Arrangements are in the care of Sunset Hills Funeral Home, Crematorium & Cemetery.

CALENDAR

From Page 3

Rd. 541.942.1364 Call for performer info.
Cottage Theatre Play: Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. Curtain Times: Fri-Sat 7:30 p.m. and Sun 2:30 p.m. 700 Village Dr. Tickets: Adults, \$29 & Youth (18 & younger), \$15. Info: Visit www.cottagetheatre.org or call the box office at 541-942-8001.

DEC. 6
Share Fair USA 9 a.m. 1133 E. Main St. (Covered parking area next to Urban Kitchen). Reserve a space and share from your abundance with neighbors who are in need. Load up your unwanted items to give away for free (no bartering). Details about the weekly event is on Share Fair USA Facebook page or send email to eventsby-ananda@gmail.com

Christmas in Cottage Grove Kick-off Celebration. All Day. Multiple Locations. Begins with Breakfast with Santa at the Firehouse and continues with Santa Claus lighting the community tree and lots of family-friendly activities in the Historic Downtown District and concluding at the WOE Fairgrounds and Cottage Grove Speedway’s Winter Wonderland. The Chamber of Commerce hosts the tree lighting ceremony around 5:45 PM at All America Square. Soup, rolls, and cocoa served by local churches, Santa’s Workshop set up inside the Armory.
Jingle Rush 5K Run/Walk. 9-10 a.m. CG High School Track. 1275 S. River Rd. Free Kids Events at 8:30 a.m.

Register at South Valley Athletic Office at Community Center, 700 E. Gibbs Ave. or online at www.runCGrun.com
Olaf and The Grinch. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Cascade Home Center. 40 S. 5th St. Features free hot chocolate, coffee and cookies, Letters to Santa & Coloring Contest. Raffle for two Grinch-themed gift packages.

Cottage Grove Museum Open. 1-4 p.m. Corner Birch Avenue and H St.

Holiday Wreath Making Workshop. 4 p.m. Seeds and Flint Warehouse. 8th Street and Whiteaker Ave. Pre-registration required. Fee: \$45/person. Includes all supplies and instructions needed to create your own custom winter wreath. Light snacks and drinks available. For more details, call 541-510-6063.

Cottage Grove Speedway Walking in a Winter Wonderland. 5-9 p.m. 2150 N. Douglas St.

Stained Glass and Candlelight. 5:30-7 p.m. Cottage Grove Museum.

Corner of Birch Avenue and H Street Step back in time and explore local history in this unique octagonal building that was the original 19th century Catholic Church. Buildings open at 5:30 p.m. At 6:15 p.m. museum lights dim and the beautiful stained-glass windows are lit from the outside, with the tour guide offering a window by window presentation focusing on the beauty and symbolism of each one.

Triple Take Trio (Jazz, R&B, Pop). 6-9 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing. 106 S. 6th St.

Cottage Theatre Play: Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. 7:30 p.m. 700

Village Dr. Info: www.cottagetheatre.org or call the box office at 541-942-8001

DEC. 7
Cottage Grove Museum Open. 1-4 p.m. Corner Birch Avenue and H St.

Cottage Theatre Play: Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. 2:30 p.m. 700 Village Dr. Info: www.cottagetheatre.org or call the box office at 541-942-8001.

Cottage Grove Speedway Walking in a Winter Wonderland. 5-9 p.m. 2150 N. Douglas St.

DEC. 8
“Gem Tones” Community Choir practice. 6-8 p.m. Opal Center. 513 E. Main St.

City Council. 7 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers. 400 E. Main St.

DEC. 9
Axe & Fiddle History Pub. 5-7 p.m. 657 W. Main St. Topic: Oregon Aviation Pioneers and How They Changed Aviation Forever

Presenter: Tim Talen of the Oregon Aviation Historical Society and Museum
DEC 10
Oregon Aviation Museum Open. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 2475 Jim Wright Way.

Coast Fork Kiwanis Club. Noon. Sol Azteca Mexican Restaurant. 3015 Row River Rd.

Senior Center Pinochle Games. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 700 E. Gibbs Ave.

The Rotary Club of Cottage Grove. Networking time 5 p.m. Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. El Tapatio Restaurant Banquet Room, 725 E. Gibbs Ave.

Acoustic Jam with Gregg Biller. 6-7:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing. 106 S. 6th St



Courtesy from AARP

The toll on our family caregivers is great— financially, physically, and emotionally, according to the AARP report.

New AARP report reveals 23% of Oregonians are caregivers

New AARP caregiving data, Caregiving in the U.S. 2025: Caring Across States, finds that more than 23% of adults in Oregon — approximately 790,000 people — are family caregivers, providing

largely unpaid and unsupported care to older family members and friends, and children with disabilities or complex medical needs.

BY THE NUMBERS

Most family caregivers in Oregon care for an adult (93%) —most often a parent (47%). Thirteen percent care for a child with complex medical needs. The Oregon data can be found here: Caregiving in the U.S. 2025: Oregon.

“When a loved one needs help, family members, friends, and neighbors step up, that’s what we do,” AARP Oregon State Director Bandana Shrestha said. “But too often, caregivers carry this responsibility alone, often putting their finances, health and jobs at risk. As our state population ages, the demand for

care will only grow. With the release of this new data, AARP Oregon is urging policymakers at every level to act now to help family caregivers save money, time and get the support they need.”

Family caregivers provide \$8.7 billion in unpaid care each year in Oregon, helping family members live independently at home and in their communities—where they want to be. Their caregiving responsibilities range from bathing and meal prep to managing medications, arranging transportation and

handling medical tasks, with little or no training.

But the toll on our family caregivers is great— financially, physically, and emotionally.

- 80% of caregivers pay out of their own pockets to help meet their loved ones’ needs, averaging \$7,200 each year, or 25% of their income.

- In Oregon, 43% of family caregivers report financial setbacks— taking on debt, draining savings, or struggling to afford basics like food and medicine.

- One in three Oregon caregivers (33%) experience high emotional stress while caregiving. Three in ten (31%) have difficulty taking care of their own health while they focus on their care recipient’s needs.

- 62% of our state’s caregivers are also juggling full- or part-time jobs. Many must reduce work hours or leave the workforce entirely due to caregiving responsibilities, jeopardizing their own long-term financial security.

And at the federal level, AARP is working to save caregivers money through the Credit for Caring Act, a proposed federal tax credit of up to \$5,000 for working caregivers, and the Lowering Costs for Caregivers Act,

which would expand flexible spending and health savings account uses.

This National Family Caregivers Month, AARP Oregon encourages everyone to show support for caregivers and to join the growing movement of Americans raising their voices for change. Join AARP’s I Am A Caregiver movement and tell lawmakers it’s time to support those who care.

RESOURCES

To access free caregiver tools and local resource guides, visit:

- AARP’s state-by-state Family Caregiver Resource Guides to help family caregivers access key programs, services, and agencies right in their community.

- AARP’s online Caregiving Hub with tools and information available in English and Spanish.

- AARP and United Way Worldwide’s 211 program connects family caregivers to essential local services for themselves and their loved ones via the 211 helpline.

- AARP’s official caregiving Facebook group serves as a place for family caregivers nationwide to connect, share practical tips, offer support, and discuss their shared experiences

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FUEL EMERGENCY

Fuel leak in BP pipeline drives Oregon to declare state of emergency

ALEX BAUMHARDT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

A BP pipeline carrying 90% of Oregon's transportation fuel has been shut down since Nov. 17 following a discovered leak.

The disruption to the state's fuel supply, and the potential for impacts at the pump and at airports during a busy holiday travel season, prompted Gov. Tina Kotek to declare a state of emergency Tuesday that will last through Dec. 24, unless conditions change. BP officials on Wednesday said they had partially restarted the pipeline.

Oregon's emergency order will allow fuel suppliers and state agencies to bring more fuel into the state via truck and train and temporarily waive some reporting and fee-based regulations related to transporting fuel into the state.

Oregon is not experiencing supply constraints, according to a news release from Kotek's office. She does not expect flights at Portland International Airport or other Oregon airports will be impacted, but she is working with the Port of Portland to ensure supplies reach the airport. Some airlines operating flights out of Washington have had to adjust due to fuel supply issues, according to local news reports, and some long-haul flights have rerouted to out-of-state airports to refuel, causing some delays.

Washington Gov. Bob Ferguson declared a state of emergency over the pipeline

on Nov. 19, two days after BP shut down the pipeline and more than a week after employees discovered the leak in Snohomish County east of Everett on Nov. 11. It is the second disruption the pipeline has had in the last three months and the second leak in two years.

During the last Olympic Pipeline outage in September, gas prices in Oregon jumped 16 cents in a single week, according to AAA. Average gas prices jumped 8 cents in Washington and 9 cents in Oregon during the last Olympic Pipeline leak in late June 2023.

Any evidence of price gouging during the current emergency should be reported to the Oregon Department of Justice Consumer Protection Services, Kotek's office said.

BP's Olympic Pipeline runs transport gas, diesel and jet fuel across about 400 miles from Blaine, Washington to Portland, where it's distributed to much of the rest of the state.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2025/11/25/fuel-leak-in-bp-pipeline-drives-oregon-to-state-of-emergency-over-fuel-supply/>

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Contact Editor Lynne Terry for questions: info@oregoncapitalchronicle.com.



A man refuels at a gas station. Gov. Tina Kotek on Nov. 24, 2025 declared an emergency over the state's fuel supply following a leak discovered on a pipeline that provides 90% of Oregon's fuel.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



COMMENTARY

New ballot measure operation targets the Democratic coalition in Salem

TIM NESBETT
Oregon Capital Chronicle

It looks like we're about to enter another cycle of ballot measure warfare in Oregon.

From the mid-1990s through the early 2000s, Oregon voters confronted dozens of initiatives on every general election ballot, most of them devised to advance a limited-government, low-tax and anti-union agenda championed by Republican Bill Sizemore and a handful of big donors.

Now another Sizemore-like effort is being launched by a new crop of big donors, combining tax-cutting targets with proposals to loosen government regulations, promote government accountability and, in a populist twist, ban both union and business contributions to candidates. Their agenda is now on full display in 11 different ballot initiatives filed last week for the November 2026 election.

You can find these initiatives on the Secretary of State's website, listed as Initiative Petition 57 through 67. All are sponsored by John von Schlegell, managing director of Endeavour Capital, a Portland-based investment firm.

If there is one throughline in the array of these initiatives, it's that they all challenge the record of Salem's governing coalition — taxing business and the wealthy to raise more funding for education while failing to boost student achievement or make progress on worsening

problems like homelessness and drug addiction.

Like Sizemore, von Schlegell and his team want to limit taxes. But their approach to government looks more like a course correction than a frontal assault — accelerating timelines for issuing permits, posting school accountability reports, requiring judges to appoint public defenders rather than dismissing charges and adding land within urban growth boundaries. These are proposals to clear the cluttered political pathways that have stymied problem solving on many fronts.

As with Sizemore decades ago, this appears to be part of a plan to set agendas and challenge a governing consensus on a range of cherry-picked issues over multiple election cycles. Progressives should recognize that this will not likely be a one-and-done threat to their political standing.

The question now is how Democrats and their labor allies in Salem will respond. Will they tack to the center on any of the policies on von Schlegell's target list and perhaps refer compromise alternatives to the ballot? Or will they double down in defense of their policies?

In what is expected to be a blue wave election in 2026, the Democratic leadership and their union allies may relish another "fight back" campaign. After all, when Sizemore's operation collapsed and he ended up in

jail, public sector unions in Oregon inherited a fundraising operation that, on a per capita basis, generated more member donations for politics than their counterparts in any other state in the nation. And that financial advantage gave them the seat at the head of a broadening coalition table that shaped Oregon's progressive agenda for almost two decades. Why retreat now?

Well, that was then. It's hard to see how progressives can tap any new sources of political capital now, beyond what they've already brought to the table.

And, there are lessons to be remembered from the decade of "ballot measures gone wild" that Sizemore inaugurated.

For one, Sizemore pioneered the technique of working the system to gain winsome ballot titles for his proposals, giving him the pole position in the campaigns that followed and forcing his opponents to spend heavily to overcome that advantage.

Also, Sizemore had some wins, most notably when he won voter approval in 1996 for a limit on property taxes that remains in effect today.

Finally, even when he lost, Sizemore would brag about putting his opponents on the defensive, and it took years for public sector unions and their allies to turn the tables on him.

For their part, Von Schlegell and his team may feel confident that now is the time to force a reckoning

with what they see as the failures of the tax-and-spending policies of the Democratic coalition. They may think that whatever they take to the ballot will tap into voters' frustration with a high-cost governing strategy that has delivered poor results.

But timing is another matter when it comes to the economy. Sizemore's anti-tax crusade took place during an economic growth spurt in Oregon, when it was easier to backfill revenue losses to minimize cuts in services. Not so today, when the state and local governments are facing budget shortfalls that will magnify the impact of any tax cuts on services that voters care about — from schools to health care.

Sizemore's modus operandi was to file multiple measures and proceed to the ballot with the few that polled the best. Von Schlegell and his team are likely to follow suit. But I'd bet that when they do their polling, they'll find that their tax-cutting initiatives won't easily pass muster with the voters, while their results-oriented reforms of government will be better received.

So, perhaps they'll ditch their attempt to roll back taxes and promote the policies that will force state government to do a better job with the resources it has. Even I, who was part of the effort to defeat Sizemore those many years ago, would

See NESBETT, Page 6

Americanisms



"Men can starve from a lack of self realization as much as they can from a lack of bread."
— Richard Wright

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Weekly Online Poll

Will you be decorating a real Christmas tree or a fake tree this holiday season?

- Real tree
- Fake tree

Previous Poll Results

Will you be shopping local this holiday season?

- Yes 100%
- No 0%



THE FIRST AMENDMENT

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

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NESBETT
From Page 5

be fine to see that effort go forward in the years ahead.

See all 11 of John von Schlegell's petitions with this column online at ggsentinel.com.

<https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2025/11/14/new-ballot-measure-operation-targets-the-democratic-coalition-in-salem/>

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Julia Shumway / Oregon Capital Chronicle

The Oregon State Capitol through cherry blossoms.

CHRISTMAS
From Page 1

Wonderland. Friday-Sunday 5-9 p.m. 2150 N. Douglas St.

Bring the whole family and enjoy a walk-thru Christmas light displays, warming fires with s'mores kits, hot chocolate bar, great dinner menu, and pictures with Santa. Tickets: Adult (14+) \$10. Kids (3-13) \$5. Family (2 adults & 4 kids) \$25. Season Pass \$25/person. More information at: www.cottagegrovespeedway.com

SATURDAY ONLY EVENTS

9 – 10 a.m. Jingle Rush 5K Run/Walk. Saturday, 9-10 a.m. CG High School Track. 1275 S. River Rd. Free Kids Events at 8:30 a.m. Register at South Valley Athletic Office at Community Center at 700 E. Gibbs Ave. or online at www.runCGrun.com Packet Pick Up: Friday Dec. 5 between 6:30-8 p.m. | Saturday Dec. 6 at Cottage Grove High School from 7:45-8:45 a.m. Fees: Adult \$35 or (\$25 no shirt). Youth (18 and younger) \$10 (\$5 no shirt). Details: Call Jim at 541-968-2392

Proceeds benefit CG High School Key Club,

Community Tree of Joy & healthy community activities.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. South Valley Winter Market. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cottage Grove Armory. 628 E. Washington Ave.

Offers fresh local foods and artisan goods directly from farmers and producers. Live music and kids' activities.

10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Kickoff to Christmas Holiday Bazaar Cottage Grove Armory. 628 E. Washington Ave.

Stroll among the vendors to find the perfect gifts for those on your list this year. Food is available for purchase.

4 p.m. Holiday Wreath Making Workshop. Seeds and Flint Warehouse. 8th Street and Whiteaker Ave.

Pre-registration required. Fee: \$45/person. Includes all supplies and instructions needed to create your own custom winter wreath. Including a variety of fresh greenery, a wreath frame, wire, ribbon and two hours of wreath assembly instructions. We will have a variety of materials available to incorporate, but feel free to bring your own additional pinecones, ornaments, ribbons or other festive items you'd like to add to your wreath. Light snacks and drinks available.

For more details, call 541-510 6063.

5:30 – 7 p.m. 12th annual Stained Glass & Candlelight.

Cottage Grove Museum. Corner of Birch Avenue and H Street. Step back in time and explore local history in this unique octagonal building that was the original 19th century Catholic Church. Buildings open at 5:30b / pm. At 6:15 p.m. museum lights dim, and the beautiful stained-glass windows are lit from the outside, with the tour guide offering a window-by-window presentation focusing on the beauty and symbolism of each one.

5:40 – 8 p.m. Kickoff to Christmas in Cottage Grove Celebration.

The Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce hosts the tree lighting ceremony around 5:45 p.m. at All America Square, 711 East Main Street, featuring the South Lane School District Choir singing Christmas songs at 6 p.m. Inside the Cottage Grove Armory, soup, rolls, and cocoa are served by local churches and kids can visit Santa's Workshop for photos. Buy a raffle tickets to win a decorated tree from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Drawing at 7:30 p.m.

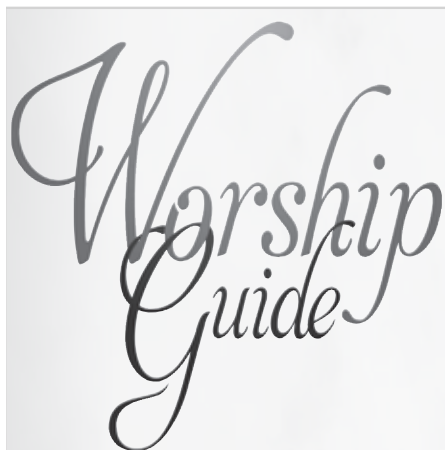
SABRINA
From Page 1

de-escalate tense situations. Her presence also supported officer wellness, a growing

focus in law enforcement agencies across the country.

Comfort canines are increasingly common in police departments, schools, and hospitals, where they help reduce anxiety, build trust, and support trauma

recovery. Unlike traditional K9s trained for narcotics or patrol, therapy dogs like Sabrina are selected for their temperament and trained to remain calm in unpredictable environments.



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PUZZLES

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Tasks
5 Why remark
11 Pericles
16 inaccurate
19 Starving
20 Abuse
21 Pericles
22 Money to the power yrs
23 Start of a race
26 Guarded
27 Endemic
28 ally
29 Forest growth
30 Comics cry
31 Oatmeal
35 Used a scull
37 USN VIP
39 Hiddle, part 2
44 Hiddle, part 3
47 Mayday!
48 Tuko to the road
49 Megarotor of Georgia
50 Avon's dentures
52 Steam-igniting toothpaste
54 "Year One" director
55 Greek in slang
56 Asian "way"
58 "Three's Company" creator
59 Suzanne

DOWN

1 Skull parts
2 Worker welfare org
3 Fodder-bait channel blockers
4 "Veritans" composer
5 Eek
6 Quercus
7 G-d on go.
8 Preke with (ten) a week
9 Eye to poets
10 Casual shirt
11 Tamed leopard
12 Pate tan
13 "Peach at"
14 "Sleeper"
15 Do of land in the ocean
16 Out last per
17 Brashly holding roof explorers.
18 Loss color
24 Bowl-shaped flying gear
25 Brand of PCs and tablets
29 Wash up with
31 Lotis with ris
32 Have or Helmsley
33 Othello se
34 Huskies, c-p
36 Expand on
37 Smss (text variety)
38 -Lama
39 M's game with matchsticks
40 "I'm -less"
41 Kappa from
42 Heart
43 Succot
45 Just slightly
46 Pips ato
51 Coup d (treason)
53 Do of land in the ocean
55 Is given the chance to chime in
57 Darth Vader, as a boy
58 Hoo
61 Roadwork go.
62 Ediz mark
63 80s sitcom
66 Took the gold
67 Pictor stake
68 Dale's main
69 Men-gar of myth
70 Where and is generally required
71 Whulu mal physically attending
72 Ice cream complexes
73 Fort EPS
77 Prolonged attack
78 Zappo! with a slanting wasp
80 Camel
82 QUAZ actor Ben Armin
83 - is an Englishman
84 "H.S. Phokole"
85 Kind of 35mm came o
86 Fig'n call
89 Furniture wood option
90 Bridal the word
90 Avon
91 mca
96 Rock guitar sl
97 Lulu hollow
98 Ward lin
99 piecases
102 Decimal base
103 Sheen-ell - biogenesis
106 Goat cheese
107 Mes away
108 Jacob's twin in the Bible
109 Region
110 Miles later
111 Exam "for an ally-to-be
113 Vietnamese New Year
114 Delectable
115 Anna of
116 Non-earthly ngs.
117 - long, wca brevs

PUZZLES

Weekly SUDOKU

1	9	5		4	8	6	2	3
8			3		5			
			9	1				
6		1		5	6	3	9	
	4		8		3			5
5	6				9			8
9	1	7						3

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

6	1	5	7	2	9	8	3	4
9	3	2	4	8	5	7	1	6
8	4	7	9	3	1	2	6	5
5	9	1	3	7	8	6	4	2
7	8	4	1	9	2	3	5	6
2	9	3	6	5	4	1	8	7
4	5	8	2	1	9	6	7	3
1	7	9	5	6	3	4	2	8
2	3	6	8	4	7	5	9	1

Answers

Super Crossword

ADVA TARS TISSUE
LEIT EATAT OUTIRAN MEGA
LET THE FORSEASONS INGS
EZEKIEL
SA TARS TISSUE
ROSE TARS TISSUE
LAPARS LYSAGE
TEARLESSE
AVAROLDANTBFFCILIA
SAISARSNSOFTENEST
THATWASTILLED
DISTRIBUTEMANUALSERSE
LAMBISGATTA SOMERS
ALABAMA WINTENER
HADAVHITSONSDRIVE
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In the Books: CGHS wraps up fall sports

WILL LOHRE

Cottage Grove Sentinel

The fall sports season is in the books for the Cottage Grove Lions, and two of the school's fall sports teams snagged playoff spots in their respective sports.

Let's take a look around the results and records for football, boys' and girls' soccer, and volleyball to see how the Lions stacked up around the state by the season's end.

Volleyball

The Lions put together a great season this year, landing them in the top 10 in the state when their final league game was played. Cottage Grove ended the season 12-7 overall and 5-3 in league play. Off the back of that strong record, the Lions finished the season as the #8 team in OSA's 4A rankings.

After starting league play 0-2, losing to Marist Catholic and Marshfield, the Lions picked up steam and ended the season on a 5-1 run to enter the playoffs.

Unfortunately, the season would end in the first round of the playoffs, when Cottage Grove crossed swords with Astoria. The Fishermen proved tricky to catch, and it was ultimately a bridge too far; Cottage Grove bowed out, losing 1-3. Though they lost in the first round, this season marked the third year in a row the Lions have made the playoffs.

Boys soccer

On the pitch, the boys' team was the other Cottage Grove team to earn a state playoff berth. Despite having a 6-7 overall record, the Lions were able to snare a playoff spot thanks to their 5-3 league record and



#16 ranking. They finished third in the Sky Em League behind Marist Catholic and Marshfield.

Two of the highlight results from the season were the 9-1 win against Junction City/Harrisburg on Oct. 20 and the 4-1 win against North Bend in the league finale on Oct. 22.

After losing to non-league opponents St. Mary's, Medford, and Gladstone, the Lions traveled to The Dalles for an away playoff matchup in the first round. The Dalles, ranked #2 in the state, delivered the defeat that ended Cottage Grove's season. The Riverhawks defeated the

Lions 7-0 to advance to the state quarterfinals.

Girls soccer

The girls soccer team had their work cut out for them in the Sky Em League this year. The Lions share the conference with two of the top ten teams in the state. Marist Catholic entered the postseason as the #1 team in the state with an 8-0 record. North Bend finished second in the Sky Em League.

For their part, the Lions held their own. They finished with a 2-5-1 record in league play and were 6-6-1 overall. They ended the season ranked #17 in the state but were unable to clinch a playoff spot.

Two of the biggest wins of the season came against Junction City and Marshfield. The Lions bested Marshfield in Cottage Grove's highest scoring game of the season,

beating them 8-0 on Sept. 29. The win against Junction City came in the penultimate game of the season, and the Lions beat the Tigers 3-0 in an endowment game on Oct. 20.

Football

The Lions had a bumpy transition getting back into 4A football. After going 9-0 in the regular season in 3A last year and losing in the first round of the playoffs, Cottage Grove was moved back to 4A. This season was a tough adjustment, as the Lions went 1-8 overall and 0-5 in league play.

The one win this season came against North Marion on Sept. 5. The Lions won their first game of the season 34-14, but things didn't get any easier after that. The Lions lost their final eight games of the season and finished the year ranked #24 out of 28 teams in 4A football.

Discovery reveals 580,000 years of climate history, OSU researcher says

MICHELLE KLAMPE

Sentinel Guest Article

Climate history recorded in a calcite deposit in a southern Nevada cave indicates that the hot, arid southwestern United States experienced significant shifts in temperature and rainfall over the last 580,000 years.

The findings, published in the journal *Nature Communications*, provide new insight into the region's hydroclimate and how it may evolve in the future, said Kathleen Wendt, an assistant research professor at Oregon State University and the study's lead author.

"What we see over this time span are glacial periods, when Nevada was cooler and wetter, followed by interglacial periods, when Nevada was hot and dry, like what we're experiencing today," Wendt said.

"But midway through those interglacial periods, the available groundwater dropped sharply and vegetation plummeted."

Wendt is a paleoclimatologist who studies deposits of the mineral calcite, which build up in caves over thousands of years, creating a record of Earth's climate history.

"While scientists have long used cores of ancient ice collected in Antarctica and Greenland to study climate history, it is difficult to find terrestrial, or land-based, environmental archives that record past climate, especially in places that are dry and arid, like the southwest United States," Wendt said. "Caves are one place we can look for these records."

Past research identified the Devils Hole cave system

in southwestern Nevada as a likely source for climate records. Devils Hole is more of a fissure than a traditional cave. Groundwater has been flowing through the fissure for hundreds of thousands of years and depositing calcite on the walls of the fissure, much like how hard water deposits inside the pipes of a home, Wendt said.

For her study, Wendt and colleagues descended 20 meters down a narrow shaft and squeezed through a tight opening to reach the deepest part of Devils Hole II. Once there, they drilled a one-meter-long core of calcite from the cave wall. The oxygen isotopes within the calcite vary based on climate conditions at a given time, allowing scientists to reconstruct the region's climate history.



Courtesy photo from Robbie Shone

Researcher Kathleen Wendt descends into Devils Hole 2.

"This meter-long core gives you a record of how climate has changed over half a million years," Wendt said. "There aren't a lot of caves like this in the world."

Analysis of the core showed how the region's hydroclimate changed during the last six ice ages, or global periods of colder temperatures and the interglacials, or warmer periods, that interspersed between them.

Researchers also learned about when and where rain fell and how that changed over time, said Christo Buizert, an associate professor in OSU's College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences and co-author of the study.

"Today, the bulk of the rainstorms coming off the ocean hit the Pacific Northwest, but during ice age periods, that same belt of rainstorms would land a lot further south," Buizert said. "That tells us these

storm systems can move up and down the coast, and they can shift quickly and dramatically."

If that rainfall occurs in the winter, it recharges the local aquifer. These changes in the availability of groundwater impact vegetation productivity; when temperatures were hot and groundwater availability was reduced, vegetation also declined, the researchers found.

The records from the calcite deposit provide a sense of timing for those vegetation changes in relation to climate change and suggest that temperature, availability of water and vegetation are tightly coupled, with changes in one area impacting the others, Buizert said.

"This raises questions about what we might expect in this region in the future as climate continues to change," he said. "This part of the world is already on the cusp of livability

with high summer temperatures and limited water resources."

Additional co-authors on the paper are Stacy Carolin of the University of Oxford; Simon Steidle; Gina Moseley, Yuri Dublyansky and Christoph Spötl of the University of Innsbruck; R. Lawrence Edwards and Mellissa Warner of the University of Minnesota; and Hai Cheng of the Chinese Academy of Sciences; and Chengfei He of the University of Miami.


Wendt, who worked on the project while with the College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University, recently accepted a new role at the University of Toronto.


Michelle Klampe is a writer-news researcher at Oregon State University Relations and Marketing. She may be reached at michelle.klampe@oregonstate.edu or at 541-737-0784.



Courtesy photo from Christoph Spötl / University of Innsbruck

Analysis of the core showed how the region's hydroclimate changed during the last six ice ages, or global periods of colder temperatures and the interglacials, or warmer periods, that interspersed between them.






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