

Award Winning

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Slice of Americana

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9258

Cottage Grove

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Mostly Sunny



Wednesday July 22, 2026 | 137 years

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\$2.00

Cottage Grove to play host to Botswana track team once again

WILL LOHRE
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Four years after hosting Team Botswana Athletics for their training camp ahead of the World Athletics Championships in Eugene in 2022, the City of Cottage Grove is once again set to welcome a delegation from Botswana, hoping to recreate the meaningful cultural crossover for the community.

The impacts of the previous visit are evident in the signed Botswana track team jersey hanging in the city council chambers and in the way the community continues to follow the team from afar.

The partnership came about when Travel Lane County approached Cottage Grove about the opportunity, and the city happily accepted. What came out of the experience is a connection between Botswana and Cottage Grove, and the city is proud to host the team's training camp once again ahead of the World Athletics U20 Championships from August 5-9, 2026.

The team will train at Cottage Grove High School ahead of the big event, but the visit will also give them time to enjoy the many prospects the area has to offer. Shauna Neigh is a project coordinator with the City of Cottage Grove, and she and the city are thrilled to bring the team back this year.

A warm welcome

When Travel Lane County said they needed hosts again, Neigh reached out to Amogelang Masalela, an Administrative Officer for the Botswana Athletics Association and a friend, to confirm the team wanted to come back. The reply was a resounding "yes!"

"I said, are you coming? I will hold your spot, and she said yes, definitely we will be there, and I wouldn't stay anywhere else," Neigh said.

Last time, not only did the team do workouts at the high school, but they also got a chance to go on a lake outing, hit the speedway, and enjoy a farewell dinner with elected officials from the community. The



Members of the Botswana track and field team at the Eugene Airport ahead of their Cottage Grove stay in 2022.

team stayed in local motels and were treated to meals from local restaurants.

The community came together to make them feel right at home.

"Everything that we're providing them is going to be local, and everything that we're sharing with them is just a piece of Cottage Grove, and something that we hold dear," Neigh said.

During the lake outing, locals took team members out on the water in their boats, and the athletes enjoyed the water by boat and by tube in the summer sun. At the speedway, the team was announced over the loudspeaker, and a coach even got to go out and wave the flag to start the race. This year, there will be a box at the speedway reserved for the team.

"I think Cottage Grove did a very good job of making a really big deal out of them. And I think they were just overwhelmed, and it was, it was a lot of fun," Neigh said.

The dinner before they left Cottage Grove was held at a farm, and Neigh said it was cool to learn about the team's culture and traditions. Cottage Grove locals and the athletes exchanged thoughts on differences between the United States and Botswana, and both gained unique perspectives on life in countries thousands of miles apart.

"We got to learn a lot about their country as well as, you know, they're learning about our country," Neigh said.

The week in Cottage Grove was capped with a parade through town for the team with a police escort and all, giving the Botswanian team a true hero's sendoff as they headed to Eugene to compete. There are similar plans this time around.

"I hope that the community will come out and cheer them the way they did last time. The police department will escort us around town, and I will provide a parade route so everyone knows where to go so they can come wave and wish them well, kind of like how they do when one of our teams goes to state," Neigh said. "I think it will be great."

More details about the parade will be available soon.

With the team coming to train at the high school, Neigh encouraged the community to come out and support the squad as they prepare

See **HOST** Page 6



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

Father Trey Smith baptizes his six-year-old daughter Lauren during the Living Faith Assembly's Centennial Celebration in Bohemia Park on July 12.

Celebrating a century of ministry in Cottage Grove

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Living Faith Assembly has marked its 100th anniversary with a gathering that felt like a family reunion.

Nearly 250 people filled the grove of fir trees at the south end of Bohemia Park, among them infants, teenagers, young families, and members in their nineties who came to worship and celebrate a century of loving Jesus Christ by serving others in Cottage Grove.

It was a sunny morning on Sunday, July 12, when the church's 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. congregations joined for one outdoor worship service during their annual Fourth of July picnic. They invited members of the Old Time Gospel Fellowship (OTGF), many of them former Assembly of God congregants, who left years ago when Living Faith transitioned to contemporary worship. Their return added warmth and history to the morning, as two branches of the same spiritual family stood together again.

Pastor Rulon and Dana Combs began their tenure as pastors in 2002. Combs said he was "very pleased with the turnout," noting how meaningful it was to see familiar faces from across the decades. "So many folks have contributed to the continuing influence of Living Faith in this community," he said.

CHURCH HERITAGE

In his introductory remarks, Combs noted that the church has existed for more than one third of the nation's 250 year history.

"That is a testimony of God's amazing goodness," he said. "I am thankful for the investments of the people for the last 100 years who came and served and taught and mentored and fasted and disciplined so that we could see the spiritual fruit of what we're seeing today."

Living Faith Assembly traces its Cottage Grove beginnings to 1924, when Brother Charles E. Price conducted three days of revival meetings at the Methodist Church. At that time, only one Pentecostal family, the Mullvihills, lived in town. The gathering sparked conversions and healings that drew the attention of

WHERE WE LIVE

A symphony for Stub's dream

CINDY WEELDREYER
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Next Monday evening, July 27, from 7:30-9 p.m., families and individuals from across South Lane County and beyond will unfold lawn chairs, spread blankets, and settle into the Bohemia Park Amphitheater to enjoy an evening of classical and cinematic music that has become a beloved community tradition for the past 11 years.

Music Director Alex Prior conducts the symphony this year, offering an evening of soaring symphonic favorites and cinematic music under the open sky at the annual free summer concert. Before the performance, food trucks will provide a variety of menus and beverages, and the popular Instrument Petting Zoo will give all ages a hands on chance to try orchestral instruments with Symphony musicians.



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

The 11th annual Eugene Symphony in the Park concert is next Monday, July 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bohemia Park Amphitheater.

The appearance is part of the Symphony in the Park series. The concert is free to the public thanks to the generosity of many community-minded individuals, businesses,

But this annual summer concert in Bohemia Park carries a deeper resonance: it is the living fulfillment of a dream envisioned by one of Cottage Grove's own.

L.L. "Stub" Stewart, one of the founders of the Bohemia Lumber Company, spent his life giving back to the state and community that shaped him. Long before Bohemia Park's amphitheater ever hosted a single note, Stub, who served 30 years on the governing boards that managed Oregon's state parks, imagined a gathering place in his hometown where neighbors could come together. He described his dream park as the town's "living room, family room and playroom." He pictured a place that would draw the community outdoors, foster connection, and celebrate the culture and history of the region he loved.

See **DREAM** Page 6

See **CENTURY** Page 8

A CLOSER LOOK

Wheelchair individual stuck in traffic lane

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

Officers are enjoying the Wednesday foot and bike patrols during Concerts in the Park. Thank you to everyone who stopped by to say hello!

- Your CGPD officers really put a focus on speeding and obeying traffic control devices this past week. You might have noticed they have been spotted in high-traffic areas throughout the community. These enforcement efforts are aimed at improving safety for everyone on our roads and encouraging drivers to slow down, stay alert, and obey traffic laws.

- The BB vandals struck again, this time targeting the historic building at 737 E. Main St. Sometime overnight, an unknown suspect fired a single BB into a second-story historic window, leaving one impact hole and causing approximately \$500 in damage. The case was documented and linked to the ongoing series of similar BB-related criminal mischief

investigations occurring throughout the city. If you have any information regarding these vandalisms, please call our non-emergency number at 541-942-9145, ext. 1 or submit your information to Cottage Grove Police Department Online Reporting - MyPDConnect (<https://cgpdpd.mypdconnect.com/>). You can remain anonymous.

- Officers were dispatched to assist a man attempting to cross Highway 99 in his wheelchair. He became stranded in the center median and was forced to stop, leaving his wheelchair partially blocking a travel lane and creating a traffic hazard. Officers safely stopped traffic as needed and assisted him across the highway, ensuring he reached the other side safely.

- Officers investigated a hit-and-run at Community Sharing. The driver bypassed an orange traffic cone and drove directly through a chain blocking the entrance, snapping one of the large support posts completely in half. Video surveillance was obtained, and it appeared the

vehicle came back a second time, after the initial damaged, circled the property, and left. The suspect vehicle is described as a black four-door sedan. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the non-emergency number.

- Dispatch sent officers to a residence to conduct a welfare check. During the investigation, officers discovered one of the individuals had an active warrant out of the Eugene Police Department for Resisting Arrest, Criminal Trespass, and Disorderly Conduct. The individual was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Lane County Jail.

- Officers responded to reports of a disturbance that was ultimately determined to be verbal only. During the investigation, officers contacted the individuals involved and learned one subject was on probation through Lane County. A probation detainer was issued, and the subject was taken into custody and transported to the Lane County Jail.



WEEKLY UPDATE

07/06/26 - 07/12/26



Accidents: 2

Arrests: 17

Disturbance: 9

Fraud: 1

Hit & Run: 3

Suspicious Condition: 3

Theft: 6

Trespass: 4

Vehicle Stop: 100

Welfare Checks: 10

Total calls --- 380

‘Historical sex abuse’ investigation leads to arrest in Creswell

A Creswell resident faces multiple criminal charges following what Lane County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) detectives call a “historical sex abuse” investigation.

At approximately 2 p.m. on July 9, LCSO deputies and detectives responded to the 100 block of Almond Way in Creswell for the investigation.

The suspect is identified as 61-year-old Jeffrey Scott Harris of Creswell. Harris was arrested by detectives and lodged at the Lane County jail for the below listed crimes:

- 10 counts of Unlawful Sexual Penetration in the First Degree
- 7 counts of Sex Abuse in the First Degree

According to the LCSO, this case is still active.

POLICE BLOTTER

The police blotter relates to the public record of incidents as reported by law enforcement agencies.

All individuals arrested or charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty. Information printed is preliminary and subject to change.

For specific details about cases listed, contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.

COTTAGE GROVE POLICE

MONDAY, JULY 6

02:52: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

07:22: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

09:10: Warrant service, 200 block N. 12th St.

10:06: Disorderly subject, 1400 block Gateway Blvd.

10:41: Theft, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

10:46: Abandoned vehicle, 1400 block E. Madison Ave.

11:15: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

11:40: Juvenile trouble, 200 block N. 10th St.

12:42: Theft, 1000 block E. Main St.

13:47: Motor vehicle crash, 15 SB 178

13:49: Drug activity, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

15:24: Trespass, 200 block Buttercup Lp.

16:13: Fire, 300 block Talamena Dr.

16:29: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

18:12: Juvenile trouble, 1100 block E. Main St.

19:02: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

20:19: Juvenile trouble, 700 block N. 11th St.

22:58: Assault, 400 block E. Main St.

TUESDAY, JULY 7

02:01: Prowler, Swartz Campground

04:41: Suspicious vehicle, 500 block N. 9th St.

05:41: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

06:18: Drug activity, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

08:21: Welfare check, 500 block Patrick Lp.

09:20: Agency assist, 300 block N. 7th St.

09:52: Alarm, 1200 block S. River Rd.

11:05: Abandoned vehicle, Main/Gowdyville rd.

11:36: Drug activity, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

17:43: Fire, 900 block Row River Rd.

20:52: Animal info, 800 block S. 3rd St.

21:51: Disorderly subject, 79000 block Hwy 99

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

00:35: Suspicious subject, 1400 block Gateway Blvd.

01:13: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block S. 10th St.

07:53: Alarm, 700 block Row River Rd.

08:52: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

09:14: Welfare check, 800 block S. 10th St.

10:09: Welfare check, 700 block E. Harrison Ave.

12:23: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.

12:34: Animal info, 900 block Row River Rd.

13:40: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

14:53: Agency assist, Exit 174 NB-on ramp

16:16: Agency assist, 600 block S. 10th St.



16:25: Abandoned vehicle, 1500 block Harvey Ln.

18:49: Theft, 1000 block Taylor Ave.

20:13: Reckless driving, Thayer/N. Lane St.

21:22: Suspicious condition, 1000 block Villard Ave.

22:36: Theft, 2700 block Row River Rd.

THURSDAY, JULY 9

01:47: Agency assist, 77000 block Hwy 99

06:12: Warrant service, 7th/Main

08:31: Found property, 400 block E. Main St.

11:14: Harassment, 200 block Buttercup Lp.

12:46: Trespass, 400 block N. River Rd.

13:31: Sex crime, 700 block Whiteaker Ave.

14:27: Disturbance, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

15:08: Fraud, 900 block Row River Rd.

15:37: Assault, 1100 block W. Main St.

15:58: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

19:07: Agency assist, 900 block Arthur Ave.

21:20: Wanted subject, 400 block E. Main St.

21:57: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

22:16: Suspicious subject, 1500 block Hwy 99

22:23: Alarm, 900 block E. Main St.

22:56: Warrant service, 200 block Buttercup Lp.

FRIDAY, JULY 10

00:49: Suspicious vehicle, 900 block Row River Rd.

01:01: Disturbance, 1200 block Hwy 99

01:04: Suspicious vehicle, 77000 block S. 6th St.

02:13: Suspicious subject, Main/7th

02:21: Suspicious vehicle, 700 block Hwy 99

04:29: Juvenile trouble, Hwy 99/Main

06:47: Fire, 900 block N. 9th St.

07:11: Alarm, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.

07:16: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

10:15: Disturbance, 1500 block Gateway Blvd.

10:55: Burglary, 800 block S. 2nd St.

12:14: Disturbance, 100 block Village Dr.

12:27: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

12:43: Criminal mischief, 1300 block S. 8th St.

14:37: Disturbance, 1700 block E. Main St.

14:37: Fire, 8000 block Horn Ln.

14:56: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

16:06: Disturbance, 1200 block E. Madison Ave.

16:40: Disturbance, 100 block N. 9th St.

21:22: Suspicious subject, Main/99

23:56: Order violation, 1500 block Red Hills Pl.

SATURDAY, JULY 11

00:21: Juvenile trouble, 1700 block Hwy 99

02:03: Suspicious subject, 8th/Whiteaker

03:57: Illegal camping, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.

04:13: Suspicious vehicle, 1300 block S. River Rd.

05:11: Alarm, 700 block E. Gibbs Ave.

07:29: Warrant service, 200 block Quincy Ave.

10:20: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

10:38: Theft, 700 block N. 11th St.

10:41: Hit and run, 1300 block Birch Ave.

11:50: Disturbance, 800 block N. 16th St.

13:05: Juvenile trouble, 700 block Hwy 99

13:22: Juvenile trouble, 1700 block Hwy 99

15:09: Criminal mischief, 700 block E. Main St.

20:37: Disorderly subject, 500 block Landess Rd.

23:24: Suspicious vehicle, 3200 block Row River Rd.

SUNDAY, JULY 12

00:22: Harassment, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

00:55: Suspicious vehicle, 100 block Gateway Blvd.

09:13: Abandoned vehicle, 1700 block Clark Ave.

10:12: Hit and run, 600 block Wilson Ave.

10:22: Fire, 1600 block E. Washington Ave.

12:49: Disturbance, 200 block N. 9th St.

13:13: Juvenile trouble, 1000 block N. 9th St.

14:58: Hit and run, 900 block Row River Rd.

15:36: Harassment, 200 block Gateway Blvd.

16:36: Harassment, 800 block S. 6th St.

17:24: Warrant service, 400 block E. Main St.

17:51: Illegal camping, S. River Rd/E. Madison Ave.

18:09: Agency assist, 1100 block W. Main St.

19:14: Theft, 1700 block E. Washington Ave.

20:22: Missing person, 1100 block S. 8th St.

20:58: Juvenile trouble, 100 block S. 10th St.

22:06: Suspicious condition, 500 block Taylor Ave.

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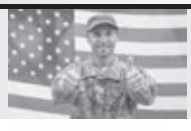
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JULY 22

• Senior Center Pinochle Games. 1 p.m. Senior Center. 700 E. Gibbs Ave.
• Summer Reading Program “Worms: Natures Recyclers” 2:30-3:30 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Library.
• Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 3–5:30 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
• Chamber Concerts in the Park: Greg Nestler (soul/blues/rock); Vendors 5:30 p.m. Concert 6:30–8 p.m.
• Acoustic Jam with Gregg Biller. 6–7:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
• Concerts in the Park After Party. 8–9 p.m. Cottage Grove Public Market.
• Garret T. Willie (Blues/Rock). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.
• Elks Lodge Bingo. Early Bird 6:30 p.m. Regular Games 7 p.m. Elks Lodge, 775 N. River Rd.

JULY 23

• T.O.P.S. Club. 9:30–11 a.m. Delight Valley Church of Christ, Saginaw.
• Baby Laptime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.
• Teen Gaming. 4 p.m. CG Public Library.
• Community Center Table Tennis. 4–6 p.m. Community Center, 700 E. Gibbs Ave.
• Bread Club. 5-7 p.m. CG Public Market
• Celebrate Recovery. 5:15 p.m. Calvary Chapel. 1447 Hwy 99N.

• Stone Hart (rock). 6–8 p.m. CG Public Market.
• Aslin & The Other Brothers. 6–8 p.m. (Folk/Americana). Coast Fork Brewery.
• Open Mic Night with Bradly and Urban. 7–8:30 p.m. Axe and Fiddle. (6:30 sign up)

JULY 24

• Storytime. 11:30 a.m. CG Public Library.
• Free Family Movie at the Library, Friday, 3-5 p.m. “The Lorax” (PG 2012)
• American Legion Bingo. 5–7 p.m. American Legion Post 32. 826 W. Main St.
• Elks Lodge Fish Fry Dinner. A la cart prices vary. 5:30–7 p.m. 755 N. River Rd.
• Last Friday Art Walk. 6–8 p.m. Historic Downtown District and 6th Street Businesses
• Tree House Trio. (folk, classic rock, country). CG Public Market.
• Saginaw Vineyard Friday Night Live. 6–9 p.m. 80247 Delight Valley School Rd.
• Jackson’s Pub Karaoke Night with Jesse Hart. 6:30 p.m. CG Public Market.
• Bell Tower (Bluegrass String Band). 6:30–9:30 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
• Weekly Pool Tournament. 7 p.m. Bohemian Tavern. \$5 entry; BCA rules.
• Kalan Wolfe and The Shift. (Rock/Reggae/Folk). 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.

JULY 25

• KNND’s 15th Annual Rock Roll and Rumble, All-Day
Car Show 8am-2pm, Coiner Park I Car Cruise 6-8pm Cruise Route begins at High School to Historic District and back
After-Cruise Dance 8:30-10pm at Coast Fork Brewery, 106 S. 6th St. features Coupe de Ville playing oldies songs
• Share Fair, 9 a.m. 1133 E. Main St.
• South Valley Farmers Market. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 7th and Main Street.
• Cottage Grove Museum, 1–4 p.m. Birch Avenue and H Street.
• Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 4–10 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
• Rob Lee (ambient vibey jazz). 6–8 p.m. Coast Fork Brewery.
• AlAnon “Courage to Change.” 7 p.m. Sinclair Room. City Hall.
• Molly Mars, Dirk Jeffrey & John Badger. 8–10 p.m. Axe and Fiddle. Free

JULY 26

• The Regulars (blues, country, rock). 1–3 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
• Cottage Grove Museum, 1–4 p.m. Birch Avenue and H Street.
• VFW Bingo. 2–4 p.m. VFW Post 3473. 3160 Hillside Dr.
• South Valley Athletics Bingo Fundraiser. 3:30–5:30



Cindy Weeldreyer / Cottage Grove Sentinel

All America City Opal Park.

p.m. Coast Fork Brewing. Cards \$1/10 Rounds
• Boxcar Figaro. (Folk/Americana Songwriter). 6–8 p.m. Axe and Fiddle.

JULY 27

• Hope in The Grove Church Vacation Bible School. 9 a.m.–Noon. 301 S. 6th St.
Free for children age 5 through 5th Grade.
• Seventh-day Adventist Church Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m.–Noon, 820 S. 10th St.

Free for children ages 6-12. For more information call 541.401.2521
• Cottage Bowl Open Bowling. 1–5:30 p.m. 740 Row River Rd.
• Senior Center Bingo. 12:30 p.m. Cottage Grove Community Center.
• Gardeners Meeting. 5:30–7 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.
• Symphony in the Park. 7:30–9 p.m. Bohemia Park Amphitheater Free

JULY 28

• Ukulele Club (for adults) 9 a.m. CG Public Library.
• Escape Room. (Tu-Th) 11 a.m.-3pm, Cottage Grove Library, 700 E. Gibbs Ave.
• Bilingual Story Time. 5 p.m. CG Public Library.
• Science on Tap. 5-7 p.m. Axe and Fiddle
• Trinity Lutheran Free Take Out Dinner. 5:15–6:15 p.m. 675 S. 7th St.
• Trivia & Games with Gerald and Cribbage with Ted. 6–8 p.m. Coast Fork Brewing.



Courtesy photo

Now in its second season, the Fix-It Booth program offers repair opportunities in Cottage Grove, Florence, and Oakridge.

Fix-It Booth program returns

It’s summer, which means it’s repair season again.
Lane County residents with broken or damaged household items can once again take advantage of free repair services this summer and early fall through the Fix-It Booth Program, sponsored by Waste Wise Lane County, a part of Lane County Waste Management.
Now in its second season, the Fix-It Booth program offers repair opportunities in Cottage Grove, Florence, and Oakridge. The program launched last year to expand access to repair services in rural communities.
Unlike larger Fix-It Fairs, which bring together multiple repair experts for a single event, the Fix-It Booth model features one repair specialist at a time. The fixers, focusing on one specific genre of repair, rotate bi-monthly, allowing for more frequent repair opportunities throughout the season. This approach provides residents with ongoing access to repair services while helping reduce waste and save money.
“Folks can bring in a wide variety of household items for repair,” Lane County Fix-It Fair Coordinator Mitra Gruwell said. “Bring bikes with flat tires, leather accessories, power tools, ripped

pants, jewelry, small appliances, phones, and much more.”
Because each fixer specializes in different types of repairs, residents are encouraged to check the repair calendar before attending. Current schedules, locations, and repair specifics are available at fixitlanecounty.org/calendar.
Last year, approximately 100 residents—across Cottage Grove, Florence, and Oakridge—received free repair services from 16 specialized fixers. Nearly 90 items were successfully repaired, meaning they were diverted from the trash, and put back into use.
“Every item we repair is one less item sent to the landfill and one more opportunity to conserve resources, reduce waste, and save residents money,” Lane County Waste Management Waste Reduction Supervisor Angie Marzano said. “Repairing what we already own is one of the simplest and most effective ways to build a more sustainable community, and we’re excited to continue expanding these opportunities throughout Lane County.”
The program is made possible through partnerships with community organizations, including Shift

Community Cycles, Lane Council of Governments, Florence Habitat for Humanity, Florence Farmers Market, Westfir-Oakridge Community Farmers Market, Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District, and the South Valley Farmers Market, which provide operational, venue, and financial support.
In addition to the Fix-It Booths, Waste Wise Lane County will host its annual Fix-It Fair on Saturday, September 20, at BRING in Springfield. The City of Eugene is also offering Fix-It Booths throughout the season at the Lane County Farmers Market.
For more information, visit FixItLaneCounty.org/calendar or follow Waste Wise Lane County on social media.
About Waste Wise Lane County
Waste Wise Lane County—a part of the Lane County Waste Management Division—empowers residents, schools, and businesses with education, tools, and resources that can be used to reduce waste, conserve resources, and live more sustainably. For more information, visit LaneCountyOR.gov/wastewise.

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Window decorating contest winner

Congratulations to The Flower Basket & Gift Boutique for winning the 250th 4th of July Window Decorating Contest conducted by the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce.
“Our team puts a lot of work into each window display so many thanks to the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce for



the kind words,” the Flower Basket operators said in a social media post. “We loved seeing all the businesses who

participated and contributed to making our charming downtown look and feel patriotic!”

OBITUARY

Robert “Rob” Donald Farquhar

September 11, 1950 - July 6, 2026

Robert “Rob” Donald Farquhar, known affectionately to many as “Huggy,” and often called “Santa” passed away on July 6, 2026, in Eugene, Oregon, at the age of 75, following a courageous battle with a brain tumor.



Rob was born on September 11, 1950, in Chicago, Illinois, to Donald and Lorraine (Girard) Farquhar. He carried the values of hard work, kindness, and loyalty throughout his life, and those who knew him remember him as a friendly and thoughtful man whose presence brought warmth and steadiness to the people around him.

He graduated from Granada Hills High School in California and went on to build a life centered on service and connections. Rob worked in sales, customer service, and as a restaurant manager until his retirement. In each role, he was known for his easy manner and his dependable approach. He had a natural gift for making people feel welcome, and that gift served him throughout his working life.

Rob was deeply involved in the Oregon Country Fair community, where he served as a security guard for 35 years. He valued the people he met there and took great pride in being part of an event that brought so many together. His long years of service reflected not only his commitment, but also the genuine enjoyment he found in community and fellowship. He appreciated the spirit of the fair and the friendships that grew from his many seasons there.

Outside of work, Rob enjoyed a wide range of interests that reflected his creativity and curiosity, but what made Rob the happiest was dressing up like Santa for his grandchildren and Molalla Train Park and Masonic Lodge #11 in Eugene. His grandchildren weren't

sure if it was Santa or grandpa. He liked working with G gauge trains, especially the inch and a half scale, and found satisfaction in the detail and craftsmanship involved. He also enjoyed camping and loved spending time at the beach. For many years, he was active in a bowling league until his back gave out, and he treasured the camaraderie and routine that came with it.

Rob was a longtime member in the Masonic Lodge and a willing volunteer at the Molalla Trian Park.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Farquhar of Eugene, Oregon; his son, Rian Farquhar of Springfield, Oregon; his daughter, Heather Farquhar of Eugene, Oregon; his stepdaughter, Sarah Peterson of Eugene, Oregon; and his stepson, Michael Warren of Gresham, Oregon; son Sean Fulston of Portland, Oregon; Jeremy Fulston of Salem, Oregon; and 7 adored grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Kaelen Tera Farquhar.

Rob will be remembered for his steady presence, his creativity, and the thoughtful way he moved through the world. He touched the lives of family, friends, and community members alike, and his memory will remain a source of comfort and gratitude to those who knew and loved him.

There will be a visitation at Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel 123 S. 7th St. in Cottage Grove on July 25, 2026, from 1:00PM to 3:00PM,

The Celebration of Life and reception will be at the Cottage Grove Masonic #51 Lodge 33322 Row River Rd. in Cottage Grove, Oregon, on August 8, 2026, at 11:00AM. His urn will be placed at Gethsemani Catholic Cemetery in Happy Valley, Oregon at a later date.

Oregon’s wildfire response enhanced with hi-tech advancements

As technology evolves, so does the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). ODF continues to adapt and integrate technological advancements into their work. During fire season, the agency uses several different types of tech for early detection, prevention, data collection and to support suppression efforts.

Wildfire Detection Cameras

ODF’s wildfire detection cameras play an integral role in the state’s early detection and response on fires. These cameras monitor thousands of acres of land.

The camera systems have software designed to notify the operator when smoke is on the landscape, however, the operator can also spot the smoke before the system notifies them. Using an augmented mapping system, the approximate location of the potential fire is sent to dispatchers, who then relay the information in real-time to responding resources.

The program now consists of 96 operational camera sites.

ODF and fire protection associations continue to work closely with our partners on the Oregon Wildfire Detection Camera Interoperability Committee to enhance relationships across the state and region with organizations that have similar reliance on early fire detection technology to keep fires small, to decrease fire costs and improve the quality of life for all Oregonians

Multi-Mission Aircraft

The Oregon Department of Forestry’s (ODF) Multi-Mission Aircraft (MMA) program has proved to be a critical tool in wildfire detection, disaster response, aerial ignitions, resource protection and the ability to deliver supplies.

The MMA program has transformed Oregon’s wildfire detection and response capabilities. Since its launch in 2020, the MMA has detected 149 fires, conducted 7 operational support missions, and completed 17 mapping missions.

The recent strategic investment in the new Twin Otter aircraft equipped with Forward Looking Infrared



Courtesy photo

ODF’s Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program started in 2017 and has been growing ever since.

(FLIR) Sensor, Augmented Reality System, Night Vision Systems and an AI-backed mapping scanner demonstrates a commitment operational effectiveness.

The demand for this resource continues to grow year after year, and the agency is proud of its accomplishments and the lessons learned to bring to future missions.

Before you burn

The Before You Burn program offers an innovative online platform that simplifies and coordinates burns, improves overall coordination, and provides real-time information to ensure the safety of our communities.

Before You Burn provides Oregonians simple, clear guidance on burning regulations and prevention measures for their specific location. The public can sign up for free by visiting the beforeyouburn.net website.

Once on the site, or mobile phone application, residents are prompted to enter their address. They will be immediately informed on whether burning is allowed for their location. If burning is allowed, they will receive instructions or options on local regulations that must be followed, like registering a burn or filing for a permit.

This system empowers community members with the knowledge they need to comply with local regulations.

FireWeb

The Oregon Department of Forestry recently implemented use of a new software platform, called FireWeb, to replace a

20-year-old technology platform (known as FIRES) as the database that collects and reports ODF fire incident data and statistics internally. FireWeb is also used as an enhancement to the GIS features of the detection service and is used as a computer-aided dispatch to make resource deployment more efficient.

The FireWeb platform is an improvement from the previous system with web-based, innovative features that now allow ODF to integrate data with federal reporting platforms, and to analyze data in greater detail than ever before.

Unmanned Aircraft Systems

ODF’s Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program started in 2017 and has been growing ever since. Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), or drones, help ODF to detect wildfire, as well as conduct operational mapping, and identify hot spots in dangerous terrain. Most importantly, UAS are used to provide situational awareness to our firefighters to keep them safe.

The maiden mission of ODF’s UAS Program was on the Eagle Creek Fire in Central Oregon. The agency used a fixed-wing unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) to gain real-time intelligence during periods of low visibility due to smoke. This mission gave the agency confidence in the capability and products that UAS can provide.

We expect the use of the program to continue growing and be integrated into more aspects of ODF’s work.

State of Oregon Fire Situation Analyst (SOFSA) Mapping System via Intterra

SOFSA is the statewide common operating picture of wildfire incidents and response for the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and the Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). SOFSA displays real-time fire intelligence from official fire reporting systems including national dispatch systems like ODF’s FireWeb.

Intterra provides software-as-a-service for fire departments in for the states of California, Montana, and Colorado, as well as several local organizations in Oregon. Oregon’s system displays a variety of wild-land, structural and rural fire service information for statewide situational awareness.

SOFSA also displays key weather, fire environment, and land ownership and reference information for situational assessment and analysis. Key data resources are satellite-based fire detection, lightning, smoke detection camera networks, and data from large fire Incident Action Plans.

SOFSA is also the primary viewer for infrared imagery, mapping information, and video from ODF Multi-Mission Aircraft which can be viewed in near-real-time when flight missions are active.

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JOBS REPORT



Metro Creative Connection

Oregon employers cut 600 jobs from nonfarm payrolls in June.

Oregon’s unemployment rate remains at 5.2%

Oregon’s unemployment rate was 5.2% in June. That was unchanged from 5.2% in May, and also matched the 5.2% rate one year ago, according to the Oregon Employment Department.

On a seasonally adjusted basis, Oregon employers cut 600 jobs from nonfarm payrolls in June. That follows a revised gain of 2,500 jobs in May. June’s gains were largest in private health care and social assistance (+2,000 jobs). Losses were largest in manufacturing (-1,700 jobs).

Total nonfarm payroll employment declined by

8,500 jobs between June 2025 and June 2026. That’s a loss of 0.4%. Both the private and public sectors lost jobs over the past year. Private-sector employment fell by 5,400 jobs (-0.3%), and government employment declined by 3,100 jobs (-1.0%).

Private health care and social assistance continues to lead job growth in Oregon. The sector added 14,000 jobs over the past year, a gain of 4.5%. Over the past year, growth within the sector was strongest in social assistance (8.6%) and nursing and residential care facilities (5.3

%). Ambulatory health care services (2.6 %) and hospitals (0.5%) also added jobs, but at slower rates.

Manufacturing employment continues to decline in Oregon. Manufacturers lost 10,000 jobs over the past year, a decline of 5.6%. Within manufacturing, employment in durable goods fell by 5,800 jobs (-4.6%). Nondurable goods manufacturing lost 4,200 jobs (-7.7%).

The U.S. unemployment rate was 4.2% in June, which changed little from the prior month (4.3%) or one year ago (4.1%).

EDITORIAL CARTOON



COMMENTARY

Why Oregon needs a strong Climate Protection Program

CHEYENNE HOLLIDAY
MARY PEVETO
Oregon Capital Chronicle

Sky-high energy bills. Record-breaking wildfires. Air too toxic to breathe.

Oregonians are already paying the price for pollution from large corporations, which is fueling climate disasters and extreme weather. To make matters worse, some corporate special interests are now trying to take away one of the best tools we have to lower energy costs and clean up our air: Oregon’s Climate Protection Program.

At its core, the Climate Protection Program is about reducing pollution and improving the health and livability of all of our communities. Shaped by comments from thousands of Oregonians across the state, the Climate Protection Program sets clear limits on pollution from the state’s biggest polluters and helps more Oregonians access clean, affordable energy. The program is thoughtfully designed, forward-looking, and absolutely critical — especially in this moment.

With D.C. politicians actively gutting clean air and public health protections, Oregon leaders must keep charting a path forward that delivers a cleaner, healthier, more affordable future for all of us: Every child should be able to play outside without inhaling wildfire smoke. Every family should be safe and comfortable in their home, year-round. Every Oregonian should be able to afford their utility bill.

The Climate Protection Program is the foundation for building this more resilient future. The program holds big polluters accountable and invests in

communities bearing the brunt of climate change; Black, Indigenous, and people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, seniors, and rural and coastal residents have shouldered higher costs, worse health outcomes, and more extreme weather.

But all Oregonians will feel the benefits of these investments. Every time we install an energy-efficient heat pump for a senior or weatherize a low-income family’s home, we help that household save money and live more comfortably while also reducing pollution and creating good-paying local jobs. Reducing energy use is good for all of us — it keeps the grid stable and reliable, lowering costs for everyone. Independent modeling has found that the Climate Protection Program’s investment in clean energy will add nearly 10,000 jobs and \$2.5 billion to Oregon’s GDP by 2050.

The economic benefit of climate action to Oregon is clear — so too is the cost of inaction. The Oregon Health Authority releases an annual report about how climate change is affecting Oregonians’ health, and, year over year, the findings grow more alarming. In 2024, wildfires burned a record 1.7 million acres across Oregon.

More than 1.2 million Oregonians experienced 28 days of combined exposure to both extreme heat and smoke, with some students forced to miss school days when temperatures soared to unsafe levels. And, tragically, 21 Oregonians died of heat-related causes.

This summer is shaping up to be no exception. Already, Multnomah

County officials have reported 4 deaths that they believe were related to June’s record heat wave. Drought has been declared in more than half of all Oregon counties, and experts warn that a severe wildfire season could be ahead.

We cannot afford delay, and we certainly cannot allow corporate special interests to roll back the progress Oregon has made. Oregonians deserve clean air, affordable energy, and a stronger, more resilient future. The Climate Protection Program is the path forward.

Cheyenne Holliday is a born-and-raised Oregonian who grew up on a small farm outside of Portland, where her family rescues and rehabilitates horses. As Verde’s Director of Policy and Advocacy, she focuses on policy development, education, and outreach around environmental and racial justice issues.

Mary Peveto, co-executive director of Neighbors for Clean Air. Peveto founded and helped build Oregon’s largest grassroots organization dedicated to clean air advocacy.

<https://oregon-capitalchronicle.com/2025/07/09/a-win-win-for-oregon-legislation-that-protects-public-workers-and-fosters-economic-growth/>

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CLARIFICATION

In the BMD 2026 Theme Story, in the Bohemia Nugget insert, it incorrectly said the rural communities of Dorena and Star were relocated during the construction of the Dorena Dam (1941-1949) and led to their relocation.

The Row River community of Dorena was relocated upriver due to the dam construction. The community of Star was an important logging camp stop along the Oregon Southeastern Railway. It wasn’t relocated it just quietly disappeared after the post office closed in 1923.

The Sentinel is happy to set the record straight.

Cottage Grove needs more of which amenities and services?

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

Since you are seeing this online, from where are you logging on?

- 37.5% Lane County
- 25% Somewhere in Oregon
- 37.5% Out of State
- 0% Out of the country

Quote of the Week

“I can resist everything except temptation.”

Oscar Wild



THE FIRST AMENDMENT

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How to Reach Us

Joe Warren | Chief Executive
jwarren@countrymedia.net

Newsroom

Jeremy C. Ruark | News Editor
jruark@countrymedia.net

Display Advertising

Gary Winterholier/Advertising
gwinterholier@countrymedia.net

Classified Line Advertising

cgsentinelofficemanager@countrymedia.net

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Host
From Page 1

for the competition. One of the special aspects of hosting the first time around was seeing the locals interact with the team and see world-class athletes up close and personal in their own backyard.

“We scheduled them to do their workouts at the high school, and we were able to have South Valley Athletics come and bring some of the children out, and they were able to meet some of them, along with the track team from Cottage Grove High School,” Neigh said. “It was very nice to see them interacting with the kids. They took time out of their training to take pictures, and really be a part, and talk to the kids, and they were very gracious with the people who were out there.”

The high school provided a welcome basket to the visiting delegation, including Cottage Grove High School shirts, shorts, and other items that the Botswanian team

still wear to this day. A luggage mix-up meant that some of the team didn’t have all their clothes, and Cottage Grove High School stepped up to meet their needs in the meantime.

“They were so jazzed to be able to have that, and my friend said that they actually still wear it quite frequently because they’re so proud,” Neigh said.

One of the athletes who lost his luggage was Letsile Tebogo. He competed at the World Athletic Championships as just a 19-year-old and broke the World Under-20 Record in the 100m with a time of 9.94 seconds. Just two years later, he won a gold medal at the Paris Olympics in the 200m, earning Botswana’s first-ever gold at the Games and becoming the first African man in history to win the event.

And to think, he was one of the athletes clad head-to-toe in Cottage Grove in 2022 because his bags were lost.

The men’s 4x400 team also claimed a medal in Paris, taking second, another point of

pride for Botswana, and the fans back in Cottage Grove.

Following along

Thanks to the connection sparked during the team’s 2022 visit, Neigh and other Cottage Grove residents have followed along and supported the Botswana athletes’ journeys. Neigh still keeps in touch with Masalela about how the team is doing, and she said getting to watch the athletes as they continue to compete has been an amazing experience.

“It was really special, because it feels like family,” Neigh said. “[They] have a huge community that’s following [them] and supporting [them].”

With the team returning for training camp this time around, Neigh is hoping the community will come out and rally around them. The bleachers at the track will be open, and Neigh encouraged people who are curious about the team to come down and watch. At the end of the training sessions, Neigh expects that the athletes will take time to talk, take

pictures, and mingle with the community.

The sessions will be on August 1, 2, and 3 at the Cottage Grove High School track, and athletes will also be working out at the Emerald Fitness Club, so people may run into them there as well. Training times will be available soon.

Above all else, Neigh wants people to understand what a “huge opportunity” this is for people in Cottage Grove to “see world-class athletes, and to be able to experience and talk to them.”

“We didn’t know that Letsile was going to go and win the gold medal in Paris. He was just a kid that was here, that we wanted to show how wonderful our city was, and he was just like any other kid. It was so nice to work with these serious professional athletes and see them in a way where they’re so human,” Neigh said. “Anybody, any one of these kids that we have in our community could one day be that person, you know? And



Courtesy photo from Shauna Neigh
Letsile Tebogo, a future Olympic gold medalist, in his Cottage Grove swag.

I really would like for people to come out and see and meet them and just experience what wonderful people they are and what wonderful culture they bring.”

DREAM
From Page 1

Stub didn’t live to see his vision realized; he passed away in 2005 at the age of 93. But the Bohemia Foundation carried his dream forward, transforming 14 neglected acres of a former railroad yard into the park Cottage Grove now enjoys. In a unique public private partnership, the Foundation owns the park and contracts with the City to operate and maintain it — except for the vast amount of grass that Faye Stewart and his family spend hours mowing for Grovers’ enjoyment.

The park includes a state of the art amphitheater built for exactly this kind of evening. The Eugene Symphony first brought its free outdoor summer concert series to Bohemia Park in 2015, extending a tradition

it began in Eugene in 2009. In the decade since that first Cottage Grove performance, the evening has grown into one of the community’s most beloved summer gatherings.

Next Monday, as the Symphony’s music drifts across the lawn and the Cottage Grove Mayor steps up for the traditional guest conductor appearance to honor military veterans and active duty personnel in the audience, the amphitheater will do precisely what Stub imagined: bring generations of neighbors together under the open sky. Children will dance near the stage and families will share picnics as the sun sets — a scene of everyday community joy that was once only a vision on paper.

For Stub Stewart, whose life’s final act of generosity gave Cottage Grove this gathering place, it is a dream, quite literally, come true.

Next Monday evening, July 27, from 7:30–9 p.m., families and individuals from across South Lane County and beyond will unfold lawn chairs, spread blankets, and settle into the Bohemia Park Amphitheater to enjoy an evening of classical and cinematic music that has become a beloved community tradition for the past 11 years.

Music Director Alex Prior conducts the symphony this year, offering an evening of soaring symphonic favorites and cinematic music under the open sky at the annual free summer concert. Before the performance, food trucks will provide a variety of menus and beverages, and the popular Instrument Petting Zoo will give all ages a hands on chance to try orchestral instruments with Symphony musicians.

The appearance is part of the Symphony in the Park series. The concert is free to the public thanks to the generosity of many community-minded individuals, businesses, corporations, philanthropic foundations, and the City of Cottage Grove, all of whom contributed to cover the Eugene Symphony’s appearance fee.

But this annual summer concert in Bohemia Park carries a deeper resonance: it is the living fulfillment of a

dream envisioned by one of Cottage Grove’s own.

L.L. “Stub” Stewart, one of the founders of the Bohemia Lumber Company, spent his life giving back to the state and community that shaped him. Long before Bohemia Park’s amphitheater ever hosted a single note, Stub, who served 30 years on the governing boards that managed Oregon’s state parks, imagined a gathering place in his hometown where neighbors could come together. He described his dream park as the town’s “living room, family room and playroom.” He pictured a place that would draw the community outdoors, foster connection, and celebrate the culture and history of the region he loved.

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CGS26-139
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will hold a public auction August 6, 2026 at 11 am at: Simply Storage 79177 North River Road Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424 The personal property heretofore stored with the undersigned. Y18, LeeAnne Cook A27, Richard Utt D08, Kathy Self V21, Karen Morris A06, Adam McDaniel V17, Wendy Hilgendorf

CGS26-140
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Penny Chapman has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of WILLIAM LLOYD STONE, JR., deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB05826. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months from the date of the first publication of this Notice to the Personal Representative at Willamette NW Law Firm, LLC, 735 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97402, or they may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court,

999 PUBLIC NOTICES

the Personal Representative, or from the Personal Representative's attorney. DATED and first Published: 07/22/2026. /s/ Penny Chapman, Personal Representative.

CGS26-141
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Donnell Dawson has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of MELISSA ANN HANSEN, deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 26PB05844. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months from the date of the first publication of this Notice to the Personal Representative at Willamette NW Law Firm, LLC, 735 W. 7th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97402, or they may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or from the Personal Representative's attorney. DATED and first Published: 07/22/2026. /s/ Donnell Dawson, Personal Representative.

Americanisms

"Friend something better than chocolate ice cream ... Maybe friend somebody you give up last cookie for."
— *Cookie Monster*

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Rock Roll “N” Rumble: A slice of Americana

JEREMY C. RUARK
Cottage Grove Sentinel

It is one of Cottage Grove’s signature summer traditions offering a variety of vintage automobiles close-up. The 2026 Rock Roll and Rumble presented by KNND Radio, and the Coast Fork Kiwanis Club is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 25, at Coiner Park in Cottage Grove. You can sign up during the pre-registration party at KNND, located at 717 East Main Street between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday, July 24. You can also sign up morning of the show at Coiner Park, or at Cottage Grove High

School if you are just interested in the cruise only. Registration is \$25 for the show, cruise admission, T-shirt, and dash plaque. Cruise only will be \$15. The car cruise is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 25. KNND is partnering with Coast Fork Brewing to present the After Cruise Street Dance featuring the Coupe Deville Band performing from 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Washington Street between Sixth and Seventh Streets in Cottage Grove. The outdoor event brings together car enthusiasts, oldies music lovers, and those seeking a full day of

nostalgia-fueled celebration. The celebration begins with the Car Show at Coiner Park that is open to all years, makes, and models of cars and trucks. “Rock, Roll & Rumble is more than a car show—it’s an annual gift we give to our community,” KNND Station Manager Cameron Reiten said in an earlier published interview with The Sentinel. “We’ve got Grovers of all ages coming out to celebrate the chrome, the music and enjoy a juicy slice of American Pie that is small town America on a mid-summer Saturday night.”



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Gove Sentinel

Vintage “rods” on display at the 2025 show.



Jeremy C. Ruark / Cottage Grove Sentinel

These two vintage autos illustrate years apart.



The vintage automobiles have been carefully specialized and preserved.

I hate Hamlet at Cottage Theatre

STAFF REPORT
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Theatre presents Paul Rudnick’s I Hate Hamlet as the fourth production of its 2026 season, starting August 7. A hilarious send-up of actors, ambition, and the Bard, I Hate Hamlet runs for three weekends, from August 7 - 23 at Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Drive in Cottage Grove. ABOUT THE PLAY Protagonist Andrew Rally seems to have it all: fame from a hit TV series, a beautiful girlfriend, a glamorous agent, a dream Manhattan apartment—and the chance to play Hamlet in Central Park. But things aren’t as perfect as

they seem. His show’s been canceled, his girlfriend is determined to remain chaste, and he hates Shakespeare. Enter the ghost of legendary actor John Barrymore, who, fueled by ego and champagne, is dead set on coaching Andrew into theatrical greatness. What follows is a hilarious clash of ambition, art, and egos as the young actor battles Barrymore, his doubts, and a very real sword. I Hate Hamlet is a fast-paced, sharp-witted comedy that skewers the acting world while celebrating its passions. THE CAST AND CREW Cottage Theatre’s production of I Hate Hamlet is directed and designed by



Courtesy photo

A hilarious send-up of actors, ambition, and the Bard, I Hate Hamlet runs for three weekends, from August 7 - 23 at Cottage Theatre, 700 Village Drive in Cottage Grove. Tony Rust. Costume design is by Rhonda Turnquist and Kali McDonald, and lighting design by Amanda Ferguson. Olive Bennett serves as Stage Manager.

The cast features Kory Weimer as John Barrymore, Kyle Carrillo-Magaña as Andrew Rally, Serene Zamora as Deirdre McDavey, Jennifer Sellers as Lillian Troy, Imogen Bentley as Felicia Dantine, and Michael Johnson as Gary Peter Lefkowitz. I Hate Hamlet is presented through special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection WHEN TO GO I Hate Hamlet is on stage for three weekends at Cottage Theatre from August 7 - 23. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm, and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 pm.

TICKETS Tickets are available online at www.cottagetheatre.org or by phone at 541- 942-8001. Tickets are \$32 for adults and \$20 for students. All seating is reserved and advance purchase is recommended. Matinee tickets tend to sell very quickly. ABOUT 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. For more information, contact susan@cottagetheatre.org or call 541-942-8001.

CENTURY

From Page 1

Assembly of God ministers Brother J.W. Nelson and Brother Robert Griffin. After attending an Assembly of God camp meeting in Berkeley, California, they returned to Cottage Grove and began organizing prayer meetings in interested individuals’ homes. Early revivals, street meetings, and Sunday School formation laid the foundation for what became the Cottage Grove Assembly of God

— but not without hardship. According to church history, “One Sunday afternoon (in 1924) a mob gathered with the intent of breaking up the service, burning and destroying everything. The Lord intervened and only some eggs were thrown at the evangelist and workers. The police would not give any protection so Brother Robert Griffin and his family left.” By 1926, Brother Tommy Griffin held a tent meeting on a vacant lot in the 700 block of East Main Street. The property was later purchased and the first tabernacle built. Today the former church

building is owned by Tim Schweitzer and sits between The Bookmine and his family’s iconic clothing store. Over the decades, pastors such as Brother White, Raymond Alcorn, Harro Barker, L.T. Bailey, Floyd Bailey, James Belmore, and Steven Bailey shepherded the congregation through building expansions, radio broadcasts, missionary work, and community outreach. Through every transition, the church’s identity remained rooted in Pentecostal worship, prayer, and service — a legacy Combs has carried forward for the past 23 years. A LEGACY OF FAMILY One of the morning’s special guests was Chuck Osban, now in his nineties, who played a major role in church leadership for 29 years. Today, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren still attend. “Four generations, one family, one church,” Combs said. “That is the power of longevity.” In 1969, the Osban family moved to Cottage Grove from Southern California as school violence increased and they sought a safer community.

They joined the Assembly of God congregation shortly after it moved from its original Main Street location into the Sunday School wing of the new church at South 10th Street and Monroe Avenue. The completed building was dedicated on October 17, 1971. Osban helped build the sanctuary on the west end of the property, a project he still remembers with pride. “I’m proud of how Living Faith has grown,” he said. “I don’t go to it now because I’m a guitar player and they started singing contemporary songs I couldn’t play. Many years ago, after the Old Time Gospel Fellowship first organized, my brother, Floyd Osban, pastored there for four years. We also had good friends going there, so we joined them. I feel very good today about how Living Faith has grown over the years, and I think Rulon is a great preacher.” THE CELEBRATION The worship team blended traditional and contemporary songs, with acoustic elements that reflected the church’s musical identity and bridged the congregation’s past and present. Behind them was

a banner that said “100 Years of God’s Blessing, 1926-2026”. Former Living Faith Assembly elder Jim Edwards, now OTGF’s longtime pastor, also took part in the service. OTGF meets in the former Lane Community College center at 5th Street and Washington Avenue. Because the celebration was a joint service for both congregations, Edwards provided insight into the morning’s scripture from Isaiah 43 and read it from a nearly 200 year old Bible his family carried with them on the Oregon Trail in the 1840s. The service included five baptisms, including six year old Lauren Smith, who was baptized by her father, Trey. Lauren’s parents both serve on the worship team, and her grandmother is the church secretary, making the moment a multi-generational milestone. The service ended with a trio of singers leading the congregation in an acoustic version of “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”, a simple, familiar hymn that brought both congregations together in one shared moment of worship. The observance ended, as all church special events do, with a wide variety of potluck choices on long tables laden with food. Combs said Living Faith’s contributions to Cottage Grove have grown steadily over the years. “Just in the last 20 years,” he said, “we’ve been involved in 4th of July in the Park, Party in the Park,

community Easter egg hunts, job fairs, painting the high school baseball facility, college scholarships, multi church prayer events, multi church worship events, drive through dinners during the pandemic, and more.” LOOKING AHEAD Combs described the spirit and purpose of Living Faith Assembly from its earliest beginnings. “I tell people that this church is made up of imperfect people pursuing a perfect God. We are a church family made up of loggers, teachers, mill workers, police officers, firefighters, school board members, mechanics, engineers, and nurses. God continues to use us, imperfect people, to accomplish His purposes in our community and in our world. He has specifically called us to go into all the world and make disciples, and that is what we are endeavoring to do.” As Living Faith Assembly enters its second century, the church continues to build on the foundation laid by generations of families, pastors, and volunteers — a legacy of faith rooted in a 1924 revival meeting and now stretching into the future with hope, gratitude, and purpose. RESOURCES • The church is located at 467 S. 10th St. • Phone: 541-942-2612 • Online: www.living-faithag.com or www.facebook.com

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