

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 30 60 and 80 years ago

April 25, 1935

C. of C. pet parade draws large crowd

Saturday was a great day for the children and their parents who attended Cottage Grove's second annual pet parade, which was sponsored by the chamber of commerce. Led by the Cottage Grove band the children and their pets formed a parade six blocks long. Every kind of pet was led, ridden, or carried by the 192 enthusiastic owners.

Not only were the pets dressed up in ribbons and jackets but the children were also outfitted in everything from cowboy suits to old-fashioned dresses. The streets were lined from the bridge to the depot by interested parents.

Each entrant received a free candy bar and balloon from the chamber.

April 21, 1955

Indian dictionary wanted by Sentinel

A bit of a controversy seems to be rising from the meaning of the word "Lemati," the name early pioneers gave to East Cottage Grove when it seceded from Cottage Grove in 1894. (Lemati, on the east side of the Coast Fork Willamette River, merged again with Cottage Grove a few years later).

A sketch of Cottage Grove's "Rowdy" history, which appeared in the Northwest Magazine section of the Oregonian a few weeks ago, claimed that Lemati meant "Mountain." This would be an appropriate name, as residents of Cottage Grove proper, "Slabtown," were able to see Cerro Gordo while looking down Lemati's main street.

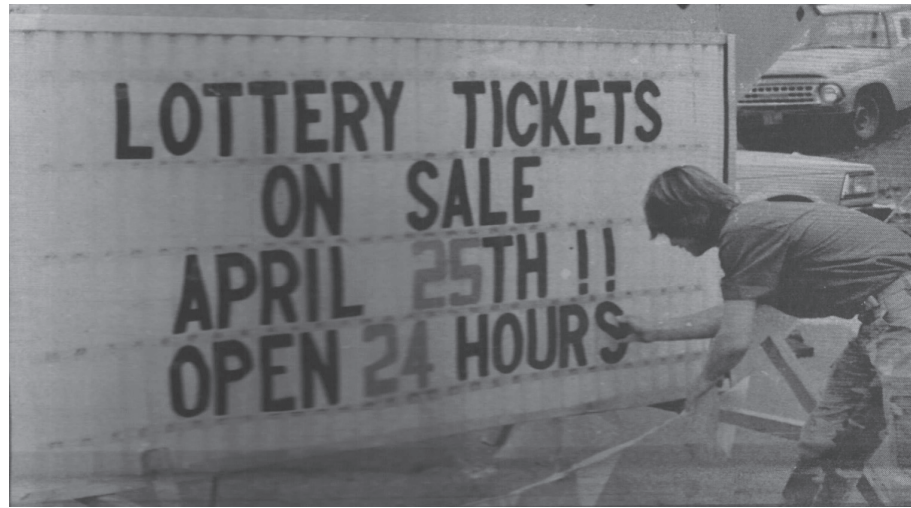
A more extensive story of this same era of CG's history appeared in The Sentinel the next week. It stated that Lemati was interpreted as meaning "Peaceful Valley." The writeup was obtained from Elizabeth Knox Anthony, who wrote the story in 1935 while working on the pioneer book for the University of Oregon extension. "Peaceful Valley" could be a fitting name, if it were meant as a satire of CG's brawl-

ing citizens.

Last week Manley Fuller, now a former employee of The Sentinel, received a letter from Elbert Bede, editor of The Sentinel from about 1911 to 1936, stating that early Grove pioneers told him that Lemati meant "Across the Water," which he stated made more sense, seeing that the new town was located across the river from Cottage Grove.

On one thing all three interpretations agree — that Lemati was an Indian word, taken from Chinook jargon.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of ANY Indian who was around Cottage Grove when Lemati was named, please send him to The Sentinel so the matter can be cleared up.



April 24, 1985: CG braces for lottery mania — Jackpot Food Mart assistant manager Steve Short adds final letters to a sign signaling the beginning of the Oregon Lottery.

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour
Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

April 13

Unknown trouble, Jefferson Park

CGPD received a report of a male wearing a black jacket, black baseball cap and brown shirt carrying a pistol in the parking lot of the location. No shots were reported.

Criminal mischief, Britz Jewelers

The caller reported that unknown suspects damaged tile on the front exterior of the building, causing \$500 in damage.

Suicidal subject, S. R St.

The caller said that the subject is threatening to commit suicide with pills. The subject was taken into custody and transported to the CG ER for an evaluation.

April 14

Hit and run — property, Main St. and Gateway Blvd.

The complainant said a semi, described as a blue and white tractor with 'Martin Trucking' on the trailer, hit the traffic control pole at the southwest corner of the intersection causing damage to it. The semi continued westbound on Main St.

April 15

Prisoner Transport, CG ER

The arrestee was transported to CG ER for a mental evaluation after saying that he wanted to harm himself.

Shots fired, Watagua Pl.

The caller said she heard lots of yelling and approximately eight gun shots.

Death investigation, Hwy. 99

The caller found her mom unresponsive and not breathing.

April 16

Missing adult, Shoreview Dr.

The caller said his friend is missing in the woods.

April 17

Drug — contraband seized, Lincoln MS

Less than one ounce of green leafy material — believed to be marijuana — was seized by the school, and submitted for evidence.

CITY BEAT

'From the City of Cottage Grove's 'Friday Update'

Bikes to Blooms

Registration is happening now for the wildflower tours at Bake Stewart Park and Row Point both along the Row River Trail on Saturday, May 9. Tours start at the parks at different times, and those attending the tours are encouraged to bike to the tours using the Row River Trail. Those seeking to register or for more information about the Bikes to Blooms Wildflower Tours visit the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council website at: www.coast-fork.org or see the attached flyer.

Registration is not required for the tours, but it will secure a spot on a chosen tour.

Branch pickup

With the weather apparently jumping directly to summer, the City says now is a good time to check all the

limbs and branches that overhang sidewalks or streets and trim them so they don't block vision or passage. Those who trim the branches can leave them for the City to pickup. City crews will begin the annual tree branch pickup on Tuesday, May 26.

Heritage Preservation Workshop Series

Cottage Grove's Heritage Partners successfully kicked off a series of Heritage Preservation Workshops on Tuesday, April 14. The first of five sessions on Collections Care, entitled "Basics of Collection Care", was held at Lane Community College Cottage Grove Campus on Tuesday evening. Twenty-four participants from as far away as Albany and Coos Bay received an overview of methodologies for proper care



photo by Cathy Bellavita

Twenty two people from Albany, Roseburg, Coos Bay, Oakridge, Oakland and Cottage Grove participated in the first of a five-part series of classes on caring for historic collections held at the Lane Community College Cottage Grove Campus last Tuesday evening.

of print documents including newspapers, books, photographs and textiles from Kuri Gill, Oregon State Historic Preservation Office Mentor-Corps instructor.

The next session in the Collection Care Series will be on May 12th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, at LCC.

It will cover "PastPerfect," the most

used museum collection management software in Oregon. Designed for those interested in trying the software, as well as those who have either no or very little experience using it in daily practice, the session will include demonstrations and hands on practice using the software. Anyone interested can register on-line through LCC or can

sign up at the door.

The remainder of the Collection Care Series covers Newspaper and Print Media Preservation (June 9), Textile Preservation and Storage (July 7) and Photo Preservation and Storage (Aug. 11). Participants that complete at least four of the five sessions in the series will earn a Program Completion Award from Lane Community College.

The workshops are funded through an Oregon Heritage All-Star Grant, in partnership with the City of Cottage Grove, Cottage Grove Historic Landmarks Commission, Lane Community College, and Cottage Grove Partners in History. Proceeds from the \$10 entrance fees will go to support the non-profit organizations that make up the Partners in History, including the Cottage Grove Museum, Cottage Grove Historical Society and Cottage Genealogical Society.

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

Now the crew of the Etoile de Matin knew they were in real trouble. They proceeded to do the only thing they could do — climb up into the rigging as the ship settled into the sand, above the reach of the walls of green water that were now regularly sweeping over the decks, and hold out as long as they could, and pray (in French, of course) for a miracle.

They must have been praying hard, because a miracle is ex-

actly what they got.

When the pounding breakers finally shattered the hull of the Etoile de Matin, it broke in an unusual way — and the entire keel came away from the ship.

Leaving its keel stuck in the sand, the battered ship, mostly full of water but floating because of its wooden construction, wallowed upriver with the incoming tide and drifted, as if guided by an invisible hand, into Baker Bay, as the exhausted and helpless Frenchmen dangling from its rigging stared around them

in wonder and disbelief.

Crews from other nearby vessels hastened to the rescue, bringing the sailors safely ashore and then returning to help with the salvage operation.

After a full 24 hours of labor, the salvors had somehow plugged the leaks, cleared the water from the holds and jury-rigged a box rudder to the battered ship's stern. Then the ship was towed up the river to Portland — where they actually were able to sell some of its damaged cargo, thanks to the scarcity brought on by the Gold Rush. The hull was eventually sold to a California company, after which time the Etoile du Matin fades from the history books. So whether it was stripped down

for a barge, or cut up to feed the Gold Rush-fueled demand for building materials, or even restored and put back out to sea under a different name — we'll probably never know.

(Sources: Gibbs, James Jr. Pacific Graveyard. Portland: Bin-fords, 1950; Victor, Frances F., writing as H.H. Bancroft. History of Oregon, 1848-1888. San Francisco: History Co., 1888)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finn-john.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

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6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY Nov. 25

38° | 43°



Mostly Cloudy

FRIDAY Nov. 26

39° | 47°



Showers

SATURDAY Nov. 27

37° | 45°



Showers

SUNDAY Nov. 28

37° | 44°



Showers

MONDAY Nov. 29

40° | 46°



Showers

TUESDAY Nov. 30

39° | 47°



Showers

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