



# CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

## CHAMBER NEWS



Travis Palmer,  
Executive Director

### Note from the Director

Participation is the key to change and there is no better time to participate than right now. A local business owner recently made the statement that, "no one ever changed the score of a game from the sidelines" and I couldn't agree more. Getting informed and getting involved are the two best ways to not only feel more connected to your community, but to also help shape it's future for generations to come.

Getting better informed about local issues takes work and is the first key aspect of participation. Information has never been more readily available to people than it is right now but that is also part of a growing problem. Information now comes to us through so many different mediums that we are starting to see evidence that many people have simply stopped looking for it and now live under the expectation that "if it's big enough news, we will hear about it." The problem though, is that "important news" isn't always "big news." City council meetings, board of director meetings, and public notices often don't get a lot of fanfare but anyone who has followed the recent debates about our downtown refinement plan can attest that there are important issues being discussed at these meetings. Conversely, there are entire news organizations that are dedicated to telling us every move that Kim Kardashian makes and what idiotic thing Kanye West has done in the last 24 hours and none of those things have any impact on our lives or our community whatsoever. It is, and will always be up to us, as citizens of a community to look for the information that is important to us. Information is easy to find, for those who are looking but we cannot live under the expectation that it will simply present itself to us whenever we need it.

Getting involved is the second key

aspect of participation. To my knowledge, "Monday morning quarterbacks" have never changed the outcome of a game in the entire history of football. Knowing everything that there is to know about the game doesn't mean a thing unless you are a player, coach or referee. For those who are not into sports analogies, Constantin Stanislavski coined the theatre adage, "There are no small parts, just small actors." Each of us has a role to play in our participation and as Stanislavski quite brilliantly pointed out, there is no role that is too small for any of us to play, its how we choose to play the role that matters. Some may choose to participate by volunteering, some by leading, and some by following but all require the conscious choice to participate at some level.

I'd like to echo the words of our local business owner who is encouraging and challenging all of Cottage Grove's citizens and business owners to "get better informed, get involved, and participate!" It doesn't matter how large or small of a role that you want to participate in, it just matters that you look for an opportunity that fits your lifestyle and that you pursue it to the best of your abilities. Nothing more can be expected and nothing less should be accepted. Many thanks go out to all of the people who participate in the betterment of Cottage Grove. No matter what side of an issue you are on, if you are participating, you are doing something that sets an example for the rest of the world to follow.

Travis Palmer, Executive Director  
Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

### June Business After Hours

This month the City of Cottage Grove will host Business after Hours on Thursday, June 18 from 5:30 – 7:00pm, at Middlefield Golf Course, 91 Village Drive. They have some exciting things planned. Come out and enjoy some great fun and try out the Trifecta of Golf. What is the Trifecta of Golf? It is three different ways to experience the joys and thrills of golf; traditional golf, soccer golf and disc golf. Bring the family to this family oriented fun event at Middlefield Golf Course. Test your skills and see how you stack up against others and possibly even win a prize.

Bring your business card to enter the door prize drawing, learn something new, and have some fun! Refreshments and fun will be par for the night on June 18th at Middlefield Golf Course. Your attendance reinforces the spirit in which the Chamber provides these monthly activities. We look

forward to seeing you there! Many thanks to those who support our efforts and your fellow Chamber members by attending this Chamber program.

### Chamber Members!

Give us a call if you want to learn how to maximize your presence on our website:

- Enhance your home page information with pictures and text
- Post hot deals, job openings, and events
- Add keywords to help consumers find you when they run searches
- Run reports to see statistics for your home page

### Main Street Chili Cook Off Is Just Around the Corner

We're in the planning stages for the Main Street Chili Cook Off on July 25, 2015. We hope you'll join us and enter your favorite chili against your friends and neighbors in this year's cook off! We're pleased to hold this event in conjunction with KNND's Rock, Roll N' Rumble and look forward to a big crowd! Cook your chili on-site or cook it at home.

Either way we want you to enjoy an afternoon of fun!

We encourage churches, restaurants, financial institutions, and any other groups to find your favorite recipe and challenge your peers to a cook-off! Start thinking now about how you will decorate your booth for a chance at the **Most Festive Booth** award in addition to **Judges Choice** and **People's Choice** Awards. So pull out your recipes and form your teams. We need your CHILI and those secret ingredients that make this event a success! Entry forms are available at the Visitor Center, 700 E. Gibbs or on the chamber website [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com).

### Another Chamber Night at the Speedway!

It was a fun night of action-packed racing at Chamber Night at the Speedway in April. The winner of the 50/50 raffle that night walked away with over \$600! A special thanks to the speedway for offering the discount and our members who attended. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the next Chamber Night at the Speedway on June 27th. We look forward to another fun night at the race track!

2015 Visitor Center Stats	5/1 Thru 5/28	YTD
Phone calls	211	1281
Walk-In Visitors	365	1671
Relocate Requests	3	13
Visitor Requests	1	21
Referrals to Chamber Members	120	551
<b>2015 Website Stats</b>		
Business Directory Searches	1105	4815
Members Listed in Results	3352	17771
Member Page Views	1376	8054
Links to Member Website	198	926
Event Searches	1653	6995
Event Page Hits	842	3002
Hot Deal Searches	45	234
Job Searches	36	165

### 2015 Summer Concerts and Market Begin

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend these events brought to you each week through the summer by the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce. Join us on Wednesdays beginning June 17 at the Bohemia Park Amphitheatre on 10th Street. Bring a friend and support your local vendors, musicians and their sponsors by attending the Wednesday evening activities. These concerts are made possible with financial support through sponsorships. Concerts begin at 6:30pm. There is a large variety of music this season. Every week will be different than the next and we have great bands that are looking forward to entertaining you with style and an abundance of awesome talent. Below is this year's line-up:

Jun-17-15	Bradley Shepherd's Perfect Flavor Eclectic Covers and More	Aug-05-15	Blue Skies Big Band Classic Swing Jazz
Jun-24-15	The Larsen Group Jazz Fusion	Aug-12-15	Celtic Tradition Celtic Festival Music
Jul-01-15	The Men From S.U.R.F. Surf Rock / BeachBoys	Aug-19-15	CASCADA Latin Guitar World Music
Jul-08-15	Gumbo Groove Folk-Fueled Fungrass	Aug-26-15	Coupe de Ville 50's-80's Rock music
Jul-15-15	Fret Boys – Al Bennett Classic Rock	Sep-02-15	Left of Yellow Pop/Rock Cover
Jul-22-15	Ian McFerron Bob Dylan, Folk Rock, Folky pop, etc.	Sep-09-15	Umpqua Valley Bluegrass Band Traditional mountain style bluegrass
Jul-29-15	Flies with Honey Rock		

### 2015 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

#### Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

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**2015 Chamber Board of Directors:** Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

#### Officers

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Joe Raade, President Elect  
Paul Tocco, Vice President  
Amanda Akers, Treasurer  
Tim Wilson, Past President

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South Lane County Fire & Rescue  
Buster's Main Street Cafe  
Commonwealth Financial Network  
Universal Trucking

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Lindsay Laycock  
Jennifer Radcliffe  
Linda Schmale  
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City of Cottage Grove  
South Lane School District  
Cottage Grove Community Acupuncture

#### Visitor Center Volunteers:

Heidi Abbott, Susan Jeppesen, Suzy Kanich, Sunny Kennedy, Donna Laney, Chieko Tomasulo, Jim Vander Platt, Judd Van Gorder, Sharon Van Gorder, Sherry Wendt, Penny Westling, Nolene Wheeler.

#### Staff:

Travis Palmer  
Beth Martin  
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Executive Director  
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