

Chapman named Granges' outstanding volunteer

London Grange's Dennis Chapman was recently honored with the Oregon State Grange Volunteer of the Year Award at the Oregon State Grange 142nd annual session in Pendleton. Chapman received the award following a statewide nomination process from about 5000 grange members statewide. He received the award from Eva Frost, Community Service Involvement Director for the Granges.

A frequent volunteer for many Grange events and other organizations, Chapman has been a member of the London Grange for 62 straight years, and he is currently involved in teaching chess at two elementary schools. Chapman is also

president of the Boots and Sandals Square Dance Club and president of the Emerald Square Dance Center. He is the Grange representative to the Western Oregon Exposition Fair board and has spent many hours volunteering on behalf of the fair.

Chapman is also president and coordinator of the Old Schoolmates group of those who have graduated from Cottage Grove High School 50 or more years ago. He helps with upkeep and is a member of the Cottage Grove Genealogical Society and the Historical Society, is a church greeter and usher and assists with Community Sharing's annual holiday boxes program.



Longtime London Grange member and contributor Dennis Chapman receives the Volunteer of the Year Award from Grange Community Service Involvement Director Eva Frost at the Oregon State Grange gathering in Pendleton.

Police searching for missing Cottage Grove woman

Sondra (Sandra) Knapp hasn't been seen since July 24

Cottage Grove Police are seeking the public's help to locate a Cottage Grove woman who has been missing since July 24.

Commander Scott Shepherd said that 48-year-old Sondra (Sandra) Kay Knapp left Cottage Grove in a green 1993 four-door Volvo sedan with Oregon license plate WBU030 on Friday, July 24 en route to Salem to visit her son, who is in the Oregon State Penitentiary. Shepherd said Knapp and the two friends that accompanied her were supposed to return home that evening but have not been seen since. Family have received two text messages, Shepherd said, but he added that the messages cannot be definitively credited to Knapp herself.

Shepherd said Knapp's cell phone was "pinged" on Saturday and appeared to be in a parking garage at the corner of 10th and Oak streets in Eugene, though Knapp's vehicle was not at the location and the phone is believed to have subsequently been turned off.

Police say Knapp may be in the company of 42-year-old William Amos, who has an extensive criminal history including resisting arrest, kidnapping, weapons and sex offenses. They add, though, that Amos is not wanted at this time and that he is only a person of interest in Knapp's disappearance.

Knapp is described as a white female with brown hair and hazel eyes. She stands five feet, seven inches tall, weighs 190 pounds and was last seen wearing blue jeans with "sparkly gems." She has a tattoo on her left shoulder that has a heart with "Bentley Cuddy" written on it, according to CGPD. They ask that anyone with information on Knapp's whereabouts contact them at 541-942-9145.



Cottage Grove author pens book that aims to redefine battle against invasive plants

BY JON STINNETT

The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Blackberries, Scotch Broom, English Ivy — they're plants with quite different characteristics, but in these parts, where they're referred to as "invasive species," a battle rages with both private and industrial landowners fighting to reclaim lost territory from plants that seem determined to keep it for themselves.

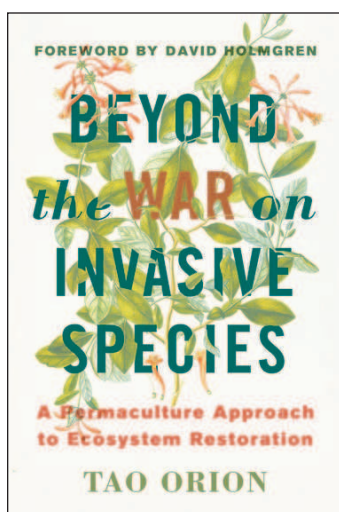
A new book from a Cottage Grove-based author, though, hopes to redefine the battle against Oregon's invasive plants. Tao Orion's "Beyond the War on Invasive Species: A Permaculture Approach to Ecosystem Restoration," was recently released by Chelsea Green Publishing, and according to the company, the book "offers a much-needed alternative perspective on invasive species and the best practices for their management based on a holistic, permaculture-inspired framework."

Orion, who is also a co-owner of Resilience Permaculture Design, LLC, said her work as part of a Lane County Public Works effort to restore a wetland made her aware of "just how much herbicide" is often used to reclaim land from invasives.

"As an organic farmer myself, I was shocked as I discovered how entrenched the mentality behind this was, so I started looking more in-depth and realized there needed to be a more holistic approach," Orion said.

The typical practice, undertaken by agencies that aim to restore land to its "native" state, involves bulldozing the land, spraying it with herbicides, seeding it with native plants and spraying herbicide again to control invasives in perpetuity. But as Orion states, the very idea of land "restoration" is ill-defined.

"There's a question of 'what do we go back to?'" she said. "Pre-colonization by white settlers has been the ideal, but everything that had been changed by human hands prior to that



has not really been taken into account. That's why the concept of invasive species is so limited, and there's even a lack of an objective scientific definition of the term."

Orion said that her research pointed out that invasives are a vehicle of ecological change and succession, and she believes that they are one more chapter in the evolution of a place and its organisms.

"The concept of invasive species is flawed, because most of these species exist here as relics of our cultural practices," she said. "I'm trying to expand the picture, to offer solutions without the use of chemicals. Native species are great, but I don't think we're treating them like we want them to stay here."

Orion said she's gotten lots of positive reviews for the book so far.

"I felt like I had to write it," she said. "Now I feel like people that are concerned about the topic can look at the references I've laid out, because there's a lot of information there."

"Beyond the War on Invasive Species" can be purchased at Kalapuya Bookstore and the Bookmine in Cottage Grove. Orion could be seen promoting the book at the Bookmine for Art Walk, and she will host a presentation and book signing at Cottage Grove's Healing Matrix Thursday, Aug. 6 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Interstate rollover sends driver to hospital

A rollover crash involving a truck and trailer on Interstate 5 just south of Cottage Grove Sunday evening sent its driver to the hospital with minor injuries and stalled interstate traffic for about two hours.

According to a dispatcher with Oregon State Police, the driver of a pickup truck and trailer (described by Cottage Grove Police, who assisted with the crash and subsequent traffic control efforts, as a 3/4-ton pickup towing a large "toy trailer") began to fishtail around 5:45 p.m. Sunday. The vehicle entered the highway shoulder,

where its driver was unable to regain control and the truck and trailer flipped.

According to OSP, the truck's trailer came to rest blocking both lanes of I-5 at milepost 173. The driver, identified as 41-year-old Justin Mundell of Eugene, was taken to Riverbend hospital with minor injuries. Jarrod Butler with the Cottage Grove Police Department said that local police were charged with re-routing interstate traffic through Cottage Grove for about two hours until the wreckage could be cleared.



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