

PeaceHealth CG recognized nationally

Cottage Grove Community Medical Center ranks among nation's top hospitals

It was a day of celebration for PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center. The hospital has been nationally recognized for its service, and it hosted a celebration of recognition to the hospital and its staff on Wednesday, Sept. 16.

During the third quarter of 2014, which is the most recent reporting period, QUEST Performance partner Theresa Phipps placed PeaceHealth Cottage Grove's Inpatient Unit in the top two percent nationally for Patient and Family Engagement scores. Cottage Grove nursing leaders were asked to share Rural Hospital Best Practices for Patient Experience with other QUEST hospitals.

Chief Administrative Officer Tim Herrman credits the nursing staff for their pres-



CAO Tim Herrman presents the hospital's awards to department heads.

tigious recognition.

"It really comes down to what goes on at the bedside," Herrman said, "were our nurses and caregivers responding in a timely manner, and was the patient satisfied with the quality of care they received while they were with us."

Herrman has been working in Cottage Grove for the past year on his second "tour" at PeaceHealth Cottage Grove.

In June, national magazine for hospital business news and analysis "Becker's Hospital Review" named PeaceHealth Cottage Grove in the 100 best community hospitals

for 2015, one of three from Oregon to make the list. The other hospitals from Oregon were Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford and Salem Hospital in Salem.

President of Hospital Services Rand O'Leary credits this award to the community of Cottage Grove.

"It's true that who we hire is the key to achieving these service recognitions, but we also have a community that loves this hospital," O'Leary said. "The people in this

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Wiener race returns

The wieners are back. Once arguably the most action-packed event in Cottage Grove's annual calendar, the Wiener Dog Races and Pet Fest has returned from a one-year hiatus and will begin at 10 a.m. at Coiner Park this Saturday, Sept. 26.

Last held in 2013, the race — which pits diminutive Dachshunds against each other in a mad dash — took a year off due to waning volunteer availability. Previously organized by Cottage Grove's Board of Realtors, the event is now put together and will raise funds for Cottage Grove Area Habitat for Humanity.

Organizer Celia Gowing said the Board of Realtors previously chose two non-profit organizations to receive funds raised by the race, and as those non-profits typically aided efforts to provide housing and youth op-

portunities in the community, Habitat for Humanity is a good fit to continue the event.

The featured races won't begin until 1 p.m., but there's a full schedule of events that Gowing said are aimed to include pet owners who aren't wiener dog parents. A costume contest for all dog breeds begins at 10:30 a.m., and a doggy talent contest for all breeds follows at 11:30. A photo contest that's open to all pets begins at 12:30 (organizers say that photos, not pets, should be brought to the park for the contest). The final race time is scheduled for 3 p.m. Wiener dog owners are allowed to bring a favorite toy to encourage their contestant, but no food is allowed in the racetrack.

Those interested in more information can email cgpetfest@gmail.com or call 541-953-1351.

'Fiesta' planned for Art Walk

Fiesta Cultural is a county-wide initiative hosted by Lane Arts Council to celebrate Latino arts and culture, emphasizing the many Latino artists in Lane County and increase opportunities for integration of Latino individuals into the broader community. It will also be the theme of Cottage Grove's Downtown Art Walk this Friday, Sept. 25 from 6-9 p.m.

Cottage Grove Art Walk is the final of four Lane County Art Walks to celebrate Fiesta Cultural. During this special Art Walk, Ballet Folklorico Tlanese, a traditional Mexican dance troupe, will be performing at the Opal Center for Arts and Education. At the All-America Square, Orquesta La Combinación with Xavier Tavera from Havana Cuba will be playing salsa music, and the Seventh and Main St. intersection will

be blocked off for salsa dancing on the street! Fresh, homestyle tamales will be available for purchase at the square, while beautiful educational art panels will be displayed along Main Street to celebrate Latino arts and culture.

Complimentary treats, tastings, and live music accompany visitors throughout the Art Walk, a free event.

Artist Listing:

- Buster's Bottle Shop: Open
- Big Stuff: Open for dinner
- Axe & Fiddle: Open for dinner, Live music
- Kalapuya Books: Artist Shirley Froyd - Watercolors; Candee Brennan - Ceramics and paintings
- Coast Fork Feed & Brewstation: Open for dinner, Live music
- Analog Barbershop: Open
- Imagine It Framed: Alice Christensen - Day of the Dead Shadowboxes, Mixed Media; Music by The All Gringo Mariachi Band
- Timeless Treasures: Open
- Opal Center for Arts & Education: Performance by Ballet Tlanese between 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Victoriana's: Open
- Stacy's Covered Bridge: Open for dinner
- Bookmine : Glenn Hitt - Wood art; Music by Sierra Koifoid
- In Front of Pandora's Box: Marilyn Wilber - Antt Farm Textiles

Cottage Grove man survives Alaska plane crash



photo courtesy the Associated Press

This aerial photograph shows the wreckage of the floatplane that crashed near Iliamna, Ak. last week.

A 23-year old Cottage Grove man survived the crash of a plane on its way to a fishing trip in Alaska last week, a crash that killed three of the plane's other passengers.

The Associated Press reports that 23-year old Robert Westbrook was listed in fair condition after the Tuesday, Sept. 15 crash of a floatplane near the small town of Iliamna, located southwest of Anchorage. Westbrook is a 2010 graduate of Cottage Grove High School.

According to the AP, the plane belonged to Iliamna's Rainbow King Lodge; its pilot was identified as John Furnia of Covington, NY.

Killed in the accident were James Fletcher of Clovis, Calif., Tony DeGroot of Hanford, Calif. and James Specter of Shavertown, Penn. Westbrook was listed in fair condition following the wreck; other survivors were Rodger Glaspey and Robert Dinger of Fresno, Calif., David W. Wood of Westchester, Penn.; Seth J. Hofland, 25, of Bountiful, Utah; and Justin L. Schillaci, 27, of Greenville, Penn.

The National Transportation Safety Board's Chief in Alaska, Clint Johnson, said it is still too early to speculate on a cause for the crash and that an investigation is ongoing.



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