

# City kennel called 'hugely successful'

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The reasons they find themselves in police custody vary, but most eventually find their way home.

A four-run dog kennel at the City of Cottage Grove's shop property was built in 2014 and began housing dogs in late January; previously, the City paid a daily fee to Forest Valley Veterinary Clinic to house the animals after they were picked up, but the change to the City kennel has been described as "hugely successful" by City Manager Richard Meyers.

According to Meyers, the City has housed 56 dogs at the kennel, 47 of which have been reunited with their people. Six dogs were delivered to the First Avenue Shelter



This photo compilation shows some of the dogs that have been housed at the City of Cottage Grove kennel. So far, the kennel had housed 56 dogs by the end of last week, most of which had been reunited with their people.

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# City, public talk traffic at open house

Transportation System Plan details traffic needs for the next 20 years

BY JON STINNETT  
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Is a roundabout the best solution to traffic issues at the intersection of the Cottage Grove Connector and Highway 99?

City Planner Amanda Ferguson said the answer may be yes, though a traffic feature that doesn't get much attention in the U.S. is still a foreign concept to many. Ferguson and other City staff fielded this and similar questions at an open house to detail the City's Transportation System Plan on Tuesday, Oct. 6, which drew a little more than a dozen attendees. Those who attended often chose to weigh in on specific projects, Ferguson said.

The plan includes recommendations to augment the City's transportation system over the next 20 years, which Ferguson said particularly concerns developments in the City's Ur-

ban Growth Boundary. Also among these projects is a slew of improvements to the corridor between the Woodson Bridge on River Road and Exit 174 of Interstate 5, improvements that include new sidewalks, plans to widen the CG Connector bridge, replacing the crosswalk at Geer Avenue, infilling sidewalks adjacent to Highway 99, reducing part of Highway 99 from four lanes to three and adding bike lanes. Ferguson said the improvements carry an estimated cost of \$3 million. She added that the City is applying for non-competitive grant funding from the Oregon Department of Transportation for its 2018-21 grant cycle to plan the project.

"This is exciting," Ferguson said. "It's rare that a document like this can be a vehicle for real work and real results."

The Transportation System Plan can be viewed at cottagesentinel.org, and those who wish to comment on it can do so online or at the Community Development Department at City Hall. The final draft of the plan will be reviewed by the Cottage Grove Planning Commission at an upcoming meeting, likely Nov. 18.

# Local musician hopes song can aid healing

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

As students at Roseburg's Umpqua Community College return to class this week following the mass shooting that left nine dead and nine injured on its campus on Oct. 1, concerned citizens in Cottage Grove continue to lend their time, resources and talents in efforts to aid the healing process.

On Sunday evening, the Axe & Fiddle Pub hosted an open microphone benefit for victims

of the tragedy, which saw 30 percent of the pub's proceeds, funds raised from a silent auction and other donations compiled for donations to UCC aid charities. The benefit also featured a performance by Ron O'Keefe and wife Patti Hardy, which included a rendition of O'Keefe's original song, "Aftermath," penned in response to the Thurston High School shootings in 1997.

"Sadly, it is still relevant today," O'Keefe said, adding that he hopes the song "can help facilitate dialog that can broaden

understanding and eventually lead to the healing process."

O'Keefe's lyrics deal with a community's attempt to seek solutions to a problem that has gone on for too long:

"Should a campus be a cellblock, with wardens at school? A teacher, a leader or played for a fool?"

"We've got to cherish the children, husband and wife

"Cause it's slippin' away, our value on life."

O'Keefe is hoping to share the song with local students that can add their own visual ele-

ments to the song and create a music video. "Aftermath" can be accessed by searching "Ron O'Keefe" in iTunes.

In addition to serving as a local youth advocate for over 40 years, O'Keefe's mellow voice has become a fixture in Cottage Grove. He's no stranger to topical tunes, having recently shared a song entitled "End this Drought: A song to lift our voices and spirits" with the hope that other local groups would interpret the song with their own styles.

# Historic renovation grants available

The Cottage Grove Historic Landmarks Commission announces the opening of applications for the annual Historic Renovation Grant Program, which is designed to assist downtown business and property owners with needed historic renovations. The Commission has \$5,000 to distribute this winter in matching grants of up to \$2,500, depending on the scope of the project.

This is the fifth year of this

grant program. Prior recipients have included the Cottage Grove Hotel (new awning), Burkholder Woods (corbel repair), Mortier building (Coca Cola mural, masonry repair), 802 E. Main Street (new stucco, roof repair), the Bookmine (awning and siding repair), and the First National Bank (masonry cleaning, windows repair).

The Historic Landmarks Commission will make these funds available to Downtown

Historic District property owners or tenants who want to make improvements or perform maintenance on the exterior of their building.

Projects must meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to qualify. Also, project work plans must be approved by the Historic Landmarks Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office before work may begin.

Applications must be sub-

mitted by Nov. 1, 2015. Work must be completed (and receipts turned in) by June 30, 2016.

Those interested in applying are asked to contact the Community Development Department at 541-942-3340 for more information. Applications and grant program guidelines are available at [www.cottagegrove.org](http://www.cottagegrove.org) or from the Community Development Department, City Hall, 400 E. Main Street.

# Fire restriction eased, though fire season remains in effect

The recent rain has allowed the Douglas Forest Protective Association to reduce fire restrictions on the Douglas District, but they say that fire season remains in effect. Effective Oct. 11, DPFA reduced the fire danger to "moderate" on all DPFA protected land, and the Industrial Fire Precaution Level remains at IFPL 1. DPFA's Public Use Restrictions have been modified and now only restrict open fires:

Open fires are prohibited, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires and warming

fires, except at designated locations. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed elsewhere.

In addition to DPFA's Public Use Restrictions, the use of exploding targets, tracer ammunition, and sky lanterns remains prohibited under state law while fire season is in effect.

Fire officials saw as warm, dry conditions return to the area this week, forest fuels will dry out and will once again be susceptible to fire. Forest users are asked to use caution when working or recreating in wildland areas to prevent human caused fires.

For a complete list of public or industrial fire restrictions currently in effect, visit [www.dfgpa.net](http://www.dfgpa.net) or call DPFA's 24 hour information line at (541) 672-0379.



## COTTAGE GROVE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

OCTOBER 19TH 2015 FROM 4PM TO 8PM

AT THE COTTAGE GROVE BIBLE CHURCH 1200 East Quincy Cottage Grove

"BUILDING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY"

Bring a non-perishable food item to the event for the Community Sharing Program and receive an extra ticket for the many great door prizes!

Get your flu shot at Bi-Mart on the day of the event and receive an extra ticket for the many great door prizes! (must have proof of flu shot)

WELLNESS BOOTHS TO VISIT

HEALTH SCREENING

HEALTH & WELLNESS SPEAKERS & DEMONSTRATIONS


DOOR PRIZES & GIVE AWAYS

FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO YOU



SPONSORED BY: GROVE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT 541-225-5443

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## In Honor of All Veterans

The Cottage Grove Sentinel is preparing to publish its "Proud to Have Served," a special section devoted to all military veterans who are Cottage Grove-area residents or have a connection to this area.

If you are interested in sharing your military story in the annual Veterans Day publication, or in updating information that we have published previously, please complete the form below and submit it to the Cottage Grove Sentinel. Service photographs are also welcome.

Submit forms and photos (preferably) by e-mail to [cgnews@cgsentinel.com](mailto:cgnews@cgsentinel.com); or by mail to Cottage Grove Sentinel, Attn: Jon Stinnett, PO Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR 97424; or drop forms off at the Cottage Grove Sentinel, 116 6th Street, Cottage Grove.

Please be sure that all materials are carefully labeled with your name and phone number. **ALL FORMS AND PHOTOGRAPHS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 26, 2015.**

Thank you for participating in this project to remember and honor our veterans.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank Achieved (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Served: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_

Special Information (E.G., POW): \_\_\_\_\_

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Has your veterans information been published previously in the Cottage Grove Sentinel Veterans Publication?  
 YES NO  
 Do we have your military photo(s) on file? YES NO  
 (Note: If you have submitted photos in the past, we will still have them on file.)