

Search for missing Cottage Grove man continues

Cottage Grove Interim Police Chief Scott Shepherd said Monday that the search for a 36-year old Cottage Grove man who disappeared at the end of September is continuing, though police and family say clues as to his whereabouts have been hard to come by.

John Jarrell, who moved to Cottage Grove in May after recently living in Ashland, has been missing since Wednesday, Sept. 30. Jarrell, the father of a four-month old, has a history of depression and reportedly left his medication and cell phone behind. He has had no current bank transactions.

"There hasn't been a single lead," said his partner, Jeanna Bush-Minshall. "It's like he van-

ished into thin air."

Minshall said she's undertaken an extensive social media campaign since Jarrell's disappearance, adding that the shootings at Umpqua Community College the day after he vanished may have drawn attention away from her search. She said he had been struggling with depression and suicidal thoughts but hadn't left her side since the birth of their son. She tried to get him help, but mental facilities throughout the region were at capacity.

Minshall said that, despite his mental health issues, Jarrell is not a danger to anyone but himself.

"I've known him since he was 11, and I've never seen him strike anybody," she said.

Jarrell drives a white Chevrolet S-10 Blazer with a damaged bumper and license plate that reads either VSF 329 or 285 GAH. Minshall said the couple used to meet to go camping in the North Umpqua River area and that he might have gone that direction.

"We're still very much interested in information regarding his disappearance," Shepherd said. He said police have followed up on possible sightings of Jarrell and his car, including one at a local rest area and one near Medford of a vehicle matching his car's description and a male matching his. Still, police were unable to positively identify the male as Jarrell, Shepherd said.



John Jarrell

Anyone who sees Jarrell or his vehicle is urged to contact Cottage Grove Police Officer Doug Skaggs at 541-942-9145.

ROUTES

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houses, and they're typically single-family homes."

Many homeowners actually built structures or planted hedges in the City right-of-way, which Meyers illustrated with the use of Google Earth. He said that past City Councils "didn't have the guts" to compel homeowners to install the sidewalks. He said the area around Bohemia Elementary is in good shape, and the area around Cottage Grove High School isn't bad either.

"It seems like previous coun-

cils have been kicking these issues down the road," responded Councilor Jake Boone. "This is clearly a nettle that desperately needs grasping."

Boone said that if a property has been in the City for 20 years, its owners have had ample warning to install a sidewalk.

"I'm ready to go citywide as much as we can," he said.

Mayor Tom Munroe asked what the Council would do if homeowners responded by pointing out other areas nearby where sidewalks are needed. Meyers responded that the City cannot afford to build all of the

needed sidewalks on its own and place liens on properties and that the Council must "prioritize its spending."

"I'm not for doing it all at once," said Councilor Mike Fleck. "I think we prioritize the schools."

Councilor Garland Burback said he was "all in favor" of ordering homeowners to build sidewalks.

"People that don't have sidewalks know they're on city property," he said. "I just don't feel sorry for them."

Councilor Amy Slay asked about places in front of the

schools themselves that don't have sidewalks, and Meyers responded that it would be a good time for South Lane School District to include funding to pay for those sidewalks in a bond levy it hopes to pass to replace Harrison Elementary School.

"I get a sense that we want to look at doing the school ones (crosswalks) first," Meyers said, to which Boone responded that he would "like this to be the first part in an ongoing thing."

"Let's finish the sidewalks," he said.

LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON
For the Sentinel

Crow's sports awards ceremony will be held tonight, Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 6 p.m. at the high school.

Those who wish to participate in either basketball or wrestling and missed last night's sign-ups can call the office for more information.

Congratulations to the Crow Cougar girls volleyball team for making it to state playoffs. While they didn't win, they did a great job and had a wonderful season. Be very proud of your accomplishments!

Lorane Grange meets this Thursday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Their next spaghetti dinner and bingo evening is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 20. All the fun

and activities begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner. Bingo follows at 6:30 p.m. The blackout amount continues to grow since no one has won yet.

Those with scrap metal they need hauled off can use a bin at the Lorane Rebekah Lodge, a fundraiser to help with another project.

The holidays are here, and it's time to think of others. Those who know of anyone in need for the Christmas baskets can call Sandi Maxwell. There will be boxes out soon in all organizations, and those who wish to participate can buy a few extra non perishables when out shopping.

Next Saturday, Nov. 14 is the upcoming Rural Arts Council movie night at Lorane Grange. Everything starts at 6 p.m.

OFFBEAT

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workers gullible enough to sign onto what the locals considered a suicide mission.

Once there, the crew on the rock worked as quickly as they could, blasting and drilling and chipping out a level surface and laying the massive stone blocks — pinned together with heavy copper rods — of which the lighthouse was to be built. Supplies were at first landed via a

cable stretched from the rock to the mast of the Thomas Corwin. This was also the workers' way to sign on or off the island; they'd hang beneath the cable in a breeches buoy and, more often than not, get dunked in the sea at least once when a wave hit the ship. Later a crane was built, which picked supplies off the deck of the ship.

It was a job to remember. The days were usually full of hard and tedious work, and the nights were occasionally full of terror and dread. For the entire winter of 1879-1880 the crew was camped out on that tiny chip of granite under siege by an angry sea, first in a tent and later in a rough wooden shack. That first winter, a hurricane carried off the storehouse, and it was several hungry, fretful weeks before the seas were calm enough to bring the men food.

The following winter would be easier; a summer's worth of construction had provided them with sturdy stone walls to hide behind when the massive hurricane-driven waves slammed themselves into the granite. It was still very hard to find workers willing to take jobs on the rock, though. There is a rumor that the services of Astoria's shanghaiers were tapped to fill this need, and, although that seems unlikely, chances are pretty good that the supervisors dealt with sailors' boarding-house masters and other shady labor contractors whose men had no choice but to go.

All through 1880 they worked, and by January of the following year the light was almost ready to shine. The workers were given added motivation to move as fast as humanly possible when, on Jan. 6, the 1,300-ton British ship *Lupatia* sank within sight of the rock, leaving a three-foot section of mainmast jutting out of the water as a silent reminder of just how much depended on their speed. (The only survivor was a dog.)

Finally, on Jan. 21, 1881, the wick of the great lantern was touched to flame for the first time, and the angry North Pacific was lighted for the first time with a powerful beam from the top of Tillamook Rock.

The men had proven that it was possible to build a lighthouse on the least hospitable half-acre of land in the entire continent. Now the question was, could they keep it?

We'll talk about that challenge next week.

(Sources: Gibbs, James A. *Tillamook Light*. Portland: Binford, 1979; www.atlasobscura.com)

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