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# Cottage Grove Sentinel

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2015

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## Slew of events will kick off 2015 holiday season

BY JON STINNETT  
*The Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Cottage Grove has big plans to kick off the holiday season, plans that begin this weekend:

### Small Business Saturday

An initiative by credit giant American Express led to the first-ever "Small Business Saturday," an event to encourage patronage of local small businesses five years ago. But Shauna Neigh, coordinator of Cottage Grove's Main Street program, said involvement with American Express is not necessary to participate in the local version of the shop-small effort. Neigh said purchases — large or small — at many downtown businesses on Saturday, Nov. 28 will earn entry in a raffle that will be drawn on Monday. The prizes to be raffled can be viewed in the St. Vincent De Paul building at the corner of Sixth and Main streets. A "selfie" promotion involving shoppers taking pictures of themselves with hearts signifying their participation in Small Business Saturday will also be held. Christmas charms will also be available at many downtown businesses, and maps that showcase the location of the charms can be found at several locations downtown.

### Christmas in Cottage Grove

#### Jingle Bell Run/Walk

Christmas festivities will kick off in earnest on Saturday, Dec. 5, a date that has featured holiday events in years past but will be packed with even more happenings this year.

The day begins with the annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk at Cottage Grove High School. Kids events begin at 8:30 a.m., with the 5K race set to start at 9 a.m. Antlers, holiday music and bells add a festive spirit to the race. Those interested can sign up at signmeup.com/111346 or in person at Scarpelli's Short Stop.

#### Breakfast with Santa

A tasty breakfast and a visit with St. Nick are on tap for South Lane Fire and Rescue's Breakfast with Santa from 8-11 a.m. on Dec. 5.

#### Bazaars

The Prospectors and Goldiggers will host a holiday bazaar including shopping, lights and decorations at the Dr. Snapp House on River Road from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Dorena School will also host a bazaar at Cottage Grove High School to benefit Dorena's preschool music program from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the High School Cafetorium.

#### Shopping

Downtown businesses will present a variety of special shopping opportunities, and

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photo by Jon Stinnett

Officer Tami Miles makes a traffic stop during a 'directed patrol' on Thursday.

## Cops targeting crosswalk offenders in 'directed patrols'

BY JON STINNETT  
*The Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Parked at the intersection of River Road and Main Street in Cottage Grove, Officer Tami Miles gets an update from police dispatch about an SUV that's headed her way. Miles spots the vehicle and wheels her own SUV around in pursuit, making the stop on River Road within a few blocks. She cautiously approaches the vehicle with a lesson that's being heard by several drivers on this

Thursday morning.

What Miles heard from dispatch is that the SUV in question had failed to yield to a pedestrian in the crosswalk in front of City Hall. Another officer in an unmarked police vehicle had observed the alleged violation, with Municipal Clerk Shauna Bailey serving as the decoy for an operation to target drivers who don't yield at uncontrolled crosswalks in Cottage Grove. On the other side of the

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## Council talks garbage rate increase, library flag

BY JON STINNETT  
*The Cottage Grove Sentinel*

A busy Monday evening for the Cottage Grove City Council included a discussion of an increase in garbage rates and a flag at the Cottage Grove Library.

A letter from Manager Tim Alverson of the Cottage Grove Garbage Service indicated its request for a five percent increase on its services that would take effect on Feb. 1, 2016.

"Since our last increase on

Oct. 1, 2013, Lane County has increased the disposal fee 12 percent," Alverson wrote, "and the cost of commingled recycling increased in increments from no cost to \$40 per ton."

The Garbage Service recently discontinued its recycling service in rural areas in response to the increase in disposal cost for "commingle." The increase, if approved, would change the rate for garbage carts between \$.55 for a 35-gallon cart and \$1.85 for a 95-gal-

lon cart; one-yard containers would increase from \$104 to \$109. Councilor Mike Fleck said he was totally supportive of city staff crafting the increase into an ordinance for adoption at a later meeting.

Earlier on Monday, citizens who want a flag placed at the Cottage Grove Library petitioned the Council to have one installed. Unfortunately, many did not stay for City Manager Richard Meyers' report, which indicated that the City had been gifted

a flagpole in years past but could find no suitable place to put it.

"We started looking at locations, but we didn't want to take out parking," Meyers said. "We don't know where all the utilities are. We couldn't come up with a decent location."

Fleck countered that the City could stand to lose one or two parking spaces to accommodate the flag.

"I'd like to see this come back up at budget time," Fleck said.

## FARM-TO-SCHOOL

### Federal grant will help schools, farms collaborate

BY JON STINNETT  
*The Cottage Grove Sentinel*

Though this summer's growing season has faded into memory, students and staff at Harrison Elementary returned to their garden on Monday to once again enjoy its bounty.

The school held a harvest party of sorts complete with hand-pressed apple cider, with popcorn grown in the garden as a welcome snack. Presiding over events was Melissa Fery, mother of a Harrison student and employee of the Oregon State University Extension Service, who helped bolster efforts to enhance the garden at the school and who also helped craft a federal grant that will see similar developments in other South Lane schools.

Last week, U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley announced that South Lane School District had received a \$99,620 Farm-to-School grant that should allow the District to purchase more locally grown foods and enhance educational programs for local students.

Last year, a \$5000 grant from the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation helped Fery and others enhance the

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photo by Jon Stinnett

Volunteer Jim Brownson helps Harrison Elementary student Tyson Daniels learn to press apples to make cider. Harrison students were also treated to popcorn grown in their garden, a garden that will get added help from a federal Farm to Schools grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Also inside:



### School News

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### Hoops

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## Rain Country Realty Inc.

Warm and happy Thanksgiving wishes from our hearts and hearths to yours! From you friends and neighbors at Rain Country Realty Inc!

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### WEATHER



Partly Cloudy

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