

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 30 and 60 years ago



Dec. 11, 1985

Christmas Spirit falls on CG

From the working world, to fund raising and charity efforts, and to those who just welcome the good times in general, Cottage Grove rang in the Christmas season in earnest last week. The Tree of Joy at the Cottage Grove Bank kicked off another year on Wednesday, but the weekend's activities had something for everybody. Santa Clause performed his own tour by visiting children at the city's three major shopping areas. It also was the day downtown clothing merchants held a fashion show behind Homestead Furniture.



Dec. 18, 1975

'We'll put the tracks here...'

The old Southern Pacific depot at 9th and Main streets will soon be moving to a newly cleared site in the city's regional park, a wooded area northwest of the Cottage Grove freeway off-ramp. According to Jay Turley, staff assistant, the building's move is tentatively set for Tuesday.

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

Dec. 7

Information, Gateway Blvd
A reporting person named Eric requested a CAD note to document ongoing incidents of suspicious behavior by a customer over a period of time. The customer stays in the office for about 30 minutes whenever there are only female employees on duty and Eric isn't there. He is concerned for their personal safety, the customer is currently not there now. The caller was advised to have employees call whenever customer comes to the location and exhibits odd behavior.

Criminal Mischief, Holly & Kalapuya

An area resident reported unknown subject placed a "no parking, fire-lane" sign from another unknown location on the ground adjacent to the McFarland Cemetery sign at the corner of Holly and Kalapuya. The unknown suspect dug a hole and planted the sign but did not secure it. The caller knocked down the sign and laid it on the ground. It is unknown when the incident occurred.

Dec. 8

Burglary Attempt, Main St.

A caller advised that subjects were attempting to break into a business on Main St. the previ-

ous night. The case was taken for attempted burglary and criminal mischief.

Fraud, Goodwill

A caller advised that a clerk had accepted a fake 20 dollar bill the night before. The caller has confirmed it with the bank.

Motor Vehicle Accident, Row River Rd.

Subjects advised that they were struck by a vehicle. It was unknown if the vehicle was still on scene. One injury occurred and the injured subject was transported by medics to the Cottage Grove ER.

Dec. 9

Theft, Whiteaker Ave.

A caller advised that they had a new laptop computer stolen off of their front porch last night that had just been delivered. The laptop is described as a Dell 15.4 inch Latitude laptop computer. The approximate value is \$95. The serial number is unknown.

Dec. 12

Suspicious condition, Eighth St.

Caller advised of two subjects pulling a wagon picking up food set out for the food drive.

How can I protect myself from a flood?

Floods are one of the most common hazards in the United States. However, all floods are not alike. Some floods develop slowly, sometimes over a period of days. But flash floods can develop quickly, sometimes in just a few minutes and without any visible signs of rain. Be aware of flood hazards no matter where you live, but especially if you live in a low-lying area, near water or downstream from a dam.

Tips to stay safe during a flood

Listen to the radio or television for information.

Be aware that flash flooding can occur. If there is any possibility of a flash flood, move immediately to higher ground. Do not wait for instructions to move.

Be aware of stream, drainage channels, canyons and other areas known to flood suddenly.

Flash floods can occur in these areas with or without typi-

cal warnings such as rain clouds or heavy rain.

If you must prepare to evacuate, you should do the following:

Secure your home. If you have time, bring in outdoor furniture. Move essential items to an upper floor.

Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so. Disconnect electrical appliances. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.

If you have to leave your home, remember these evacuation tips:

Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you.

Do not drive into flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely. You and the vehicle can be swept away quickly.

CITY BEAT Selections from the City's Friday Update

Councilor-at-large Sockball fight vacancy

Cottage Grove City Councilor Heather Murphy will be leaving her at-large position after Dec. 31. The City is taking applications for the position. The deadline to submit an application for the Councilor at-large position is Friday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. Applications are available online at www.cottagegrove.org or at City Hall in the City Manager's office.

To celebrate the arrival of winter, the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council, in coordination with the Cottage Grove Main Street Program, will be holding a "sockball fight" in the Cottage Grove Armory on Friday, Dec. 18 from 5:30-7 p.m. The City is seeking donations of new socks in one of the collection boxes at City Hall, the Community Center or local schools. Once donated, the YAC will prepare the socks to be used as a part of the sockball fight. After the sockball fight, the socks will be donated to local organizations to distribute to those in need.

A sockball fight is essentially a snowball fight using balled up socks instead of snowballs. Spectators will be welcome to watch the fight; however, there are no guarantees that a stray sock won't get into the spectator area.

The City says the sockball fight is being held to provide more activities downtown and provide some entertainment for kids while parents can shop downtown.

Second week of leaf pickup

The Public Works Department will resume collecting residential leaves from city streets this week. The third and final week of leaf pickup will be Dec. 28-31. For specific tips on leaf placement in streets and other safety considerations, please review the Leaf Pickup Brochure on-line at www.cottagegrove.org or call 541-942-3349 to request a copy of the brochure.

Crash leads to serious injuries

South Lane Fire personnel said a white minivan overturned at Milepost 2 on Row River Road just outside Cottage Grove at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Medics transported the driver to PeaceHealth with serious injuries, though he could not be identified by press time Monday.



Fire damages home's attic

South Lane County Fire and Rescue personnel are reporting no injuries as the result of a fire in the attic of a home at the corner of Ash and "O" streets in Cottage Grove Monday morning. Division Chief Justin Baird said fire crews responded to the home at 10:45 a.m. Monday and required about an hour to extinguish a fire in the home's attic. Much of the damage caused by the fire was contained in the attic, though Baird said the Red Cross responded to assist the family in the home due to the loss of electricity as a result of the fire.

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

up so that the lights could stay on all the way up until the time the ship went down — apparently unaware of the connection between that extra convenience and the evening's deadly steam explosion — their jaws must have dropped. The newspaper

also had a word or two of praise for the Captain Harry Hobey's "heroic direction of the life-saving," noting that he went down with the ship in grand old maritime style. (It later transpired that he was killed when the funnel fell over on him, probably as a result of the steam explosion.) But a day or two later, the sto-

ry was already starting to wear a little thin. Passengers, now recovered from their ordeal, were telling of the panicky inexperience shown by the crew, most of whom had obviously never done

a lifeboat drill in their short young lives; the rough, rusty and leaky condition of the lifeboats themselves; and the total lack of coordination or management by the ship's officers.

Horner wrote, with considerable bitterness, that he never saw a single ship's officer on the deck where the lifeboats were being launched; everything was left to enterprising passengers and the overwhelmed, demoralized crew. He helped launch boat after boat until the ship sank beneath his feet, but he never even saw one of the ship's officers until he was taken aboard the rescue boat, after about eight hours of shivering in the sea. When he did see them, it was clear from the pristine condition of their clothes and uniforms that they hadn't been doing much hard work that night.

"You wouldn't believe it, but all the officers of the Alaska were in the same condition, didn't even get their shoes wet," he wrote. "How do you suppose they did it? They testified in S.F. that they didn't leave the sinking vessel until all passengers

were off ... so you draw your own conclusions."

The federal inspectors, after hearing all the testimony, drew their own conclusions as well, finding all three surviving ship's officers negligent a few days later; however, all were cleared of all charges at their formal hearing the following month.

(Sources: Allen, Cain. "Edgar Horner and the Wreck of the Alaska," Oregon Historical Quarterly, Spring 2001; Portland Morning Oregonian, Aug. 8, 9, 11, 12 and 19, 1921; www.wrecksite.eu)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finn-john.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

Board Position #3 Available



South Lane County Fire & Rescue services a 132 square mile area for fire/rescue/EMS services based on voter approved taxing rates, levies and bonds equaling \$1.80/\$1000 beginning with fiscal year 2016-2017. The current voter approved permanent and levied rate is \$1.50/\$1000 of assessed property value including a house and five acres within the District's boundaries. The District further provides advanced life support ambulance service to an area totaling 850 square miles. The area outside the District's 132 square mile area does not provide tax revenue. The District operates from four fire stations and staffs the Cottage Grove and Creswell stations 24/7 with a combination of career/resident and community volunteer personnel. The Saginaw station is staffed 24/7 with off duty residents and the Camas Swale station with community volunteers. The District is managed by the Fire Chief who reports directly to the five member Board of Directors. All other District personnel report to the Fire Chief utilizing a chain of command.

South Lane County Fire and Rescue has a current Board Position (#3) vacant due to a member resignation. An appointment would place somebody in this position who would finish out the remaining 2 years of the term. The district is seeking an individual who has the desire to contribute to ongoing efforts aimed at enhancing and improving fire services in the South Lane County community. Interested applicants must be at least 18 years of age, be an elector, or a property owner within the district. Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest including a brief description of their background, and why they believe they should be appointed to fill the vacant seat. Letters of interest must be submitted to the district office at 233 E. Harrison Ave Cottage Grove, OR 97424 by 5:00pm Friday January 8, 2016.

All candidates for SLCFR Board Position #3 should attend the South Lane County Fire and Rescue Board Meeting to be held at our Cottage Grove Station located at, 233 E. Harrison Ave Cottage Grove OR 97424 on January 21, 2016 at 6:00pm.

SCHOOL BOARD REQUESTS APPLICANTS FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE

The South Lane School Board of Directors is selecting citizens to serve on the District Budget Committee to represent Position 6. All positions serve a three-year term.

To be eligible for appointment, a school district budget committee candidate must:

- Not be an officer, employee or agent of the district
- Be a qualified voter of the district

Interested citizens are asked to obtain an application from the District Service Center located at 455 Adams and return it to Superintendent Krista Parent or Mary Dubbs, Board Secretary, South Lane School District, P.O. Box 218, Cottage Grove, OR 97424.

The deadline for application submission to the South Lane School District office is January 31, 2016.

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY Dec. 17 47° 48° Rain	FRIDAY Dec. 18 38° 49° Rain
SATURDAY Dec. 19 37° 47° Showers	SUNDAY Dec. 20 38° 45° Poss. Showers
MONDAY Dec. 21 39° 45° Poss. Showers	TUESDAY Dec. 22 36° 45° Snow

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