

Fire damages abandoned home, page 9A

Blanchet downs Lions, page 1B

Daytripper skis, page 6A



Cottage Grove Sentinel

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SOUTH LANE COUNTY'S MOST AWARD-WINNING NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1889

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Two dead in apparent murder/suicide

Police say Edda Sue Kimberling died from a single gunshot wound; Kenneth Kimberling died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound

The Lane County Sheriff's Office has identified the two deceased subjects encountered at a home outside Cottage Grove following an apparent murder/suicide on Christmas Eve.

On Monday afternoon, the Sheriff's Office announced that the Medical Examiner's Office had conducted examinations of 65-year old Edda Sue Kimber-

ling and 70-year old Kenneth Kimberling that day. It was determined, LCSO said, that Edda "Sue" Kimberling died from a single gunshot wound and that the manner of her death was a homicide. Kenneth Kimberling died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

First responders including personnel from the Sheriff's Office, Cottage Grove Police and South

Lane County Fire and Rescue responded to a call reporting a deceased subject at 31310 Valley View Lane, located just off Highway 99 southwest of Cottage Grove, Thursday afternoon at 2:38 p.m. Upon arrival, police say it was determined that there were two deceased individuals at the location, adding that an initial investigation determined their deaths to be the result of a

murder/suicide.

The Sheriff's Office said it did not believe there were others involved in the incident, nor was there believed to be an ongoing threat to the public.

Several websites list the Kenneth Kimberling that resides at the Valley View Lane address as a forestry consultant.

Also inside:

'15 THE YEAR'S TOP STORIES

2015

A look back at the stories that made headlines, page 3A



By the numbers Measuring the 2015 fire season, page 8A

By Design

Cottage Grove-based innovator who planned and built machines for area businesses moves on after 25 years

BY JON STINNETT The Cottage Grove Sentinel



photo by Jon Stinnett

Harry Harris of Harris Machine and Design has built practical solutions to myriad problems in his 10th Street shop over the years.

— a set of metal stairs for the exterior of the nearby Boots and Sandals Square Dance Barn, a building that's undergoing intense renovation. Harris and shop veteran Denny Deatherage have been busy designing and then building this set of stairs for the past few months, and when it's complete, it will leave the shop for its new home, to be followed by all of the machinery that has helped bring it and other projects to life since 1991.

"I asked the Lord to give me a nice small business in a nice small town, and he's given everything I asked for," says Harris, who celebrated his 82nd birth-

day this month. "I just forgot to ask him how to give it up."

Soon, Harris will depart for Kooskia, Idaho, toward the home of his son and grandchildren and a new chapter in his remarkable career. He'll be taking his tools with him, to educate a new generation of youngsters on the craft that has served him so well over the years — that of confronting a problem, designing its solution and then bringing it into the world with his own two hands.

"When a problem comes up, Harry comes up with great solutions,"

Please see HARRIS, Page 9A

Landslides force closure of Brice Ck. trail system

Landslides in a popular recreation area southeast of Cottage Grove have led to the closure of a section of the trail system there, the U.S. Forest Service announced last week.

In a press release dated Wednesday, Dec. 23, Melissa Swain of the Cottage Grove Ranger District stated that several landslides along the Brice Creek trail system 25 miles southeast of Cottage Grove have resulted in dangerous trail conditions there. In response, the trail system has been closed due to concerns for public safety from Lund Campground upriver to the East Brice/Champion Creek trailhead. The lower and upper Trestle Fall trails are also closed due to these slides.

The Ranger District listed safer alternatives that are located downriver from the Lund Park Campground.

"As an alternate site to view waterfalls with abundant flow, visitors are encouraged to explore downriver from Lund Campground," the release stated. "Nearby trails to Parker Falls and Spirit Falls remain open. The Fairview trail in Sharps Creek is also a good alternative this time of year."

District employees plan to begin work on the trail system in January, and updates can be obtained by calling the District office at 541-767-5000.

Deli and ice cream parlor expected to open in January

BY JON STINNETT The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Father/son team Judd Van Gorder and Michael Cummings said they told almost no one about their plan to open a delicatessen on Main Street in Cottage Grove. But somehow, word got out anyway.

"It's the worst-kept secret in town," Cummings said, though Van Gorder added that everyone they've spoken to has been "really excited" about their new venture.

By next month, Van Gorder and Cummings hope to officially open the Carousel Delicatessen and Ice Cream Parlor at 616 Main Street, the former site of the Fleur de Lis French bakery, which closed in September of 2013.

They'll attempt to offer food that's "higher end, but not a higher price," including meats and cheeses and the aforementioned ice cream, according to Cummings, who recently left a job driving a truck at Lane Forest Products to go into business with his father.

"It won't be a lot of items that are pressed and processed," he said, pointing out that Eugene's Red Wagon Creamery will supply the deli's all-natural ice cream in its first foray in another city.

Van Gorder, who has operated Carousel House Catering since 1999, said he'll still work on catering orders in the back of the business, though they "might curtail" catering activities "a little" while they get their new restaurant up and running.

"We'll probably still cater for a few smaller events, but our main focus will be this," he said.

The duo has been exploring the idea of working together for some time, and the toll his former job was taking on his health helped convince Cummings to seek a new path.

"We looked at a lot of different places in Cottage Grove, and we decided that anything that can draw people downtown is what we're after," Van Gorder said. "Fleur de Lis drew a lot of traffic downtown, particularly in the mornings, and now there

isn't any."

Cummings said that he's enjoyed cooking with his dad for decades.

"Growing up, I'd say, 'Is dinner ready yet?' and he would say, 'If you get in here and help me, it will be done much faster,'" he said. Later, Cummings became immersed in Cajun cooking, and the two have taught Cajun cooking classes in Eugene.

"It was fun being able to teach him something, but we've always enjoyed cooking together," Cummings said. "Being able to work with him in the kitchen is the most exciting part of this for me."

Soft openings should introduce the deli to the public, and Cummings and Van Gorder say their ribbon cutting may also serve as the official grand opening of the business. They say the support they've gotten from other downtown merchants has been terrific.

"The other restaurants have been so supportive; it's been above and beyond anything we could have hoped for," Cummings said.



photo by Jon Stinnett

Judd Van Gorder and Michael Cummings plan to open the Carousel Delicatessen and Ice Cream Parlor at 616 Main Street in January. They say news of their new venture has been greeted with excitement throughout the community.

Rain Country Realty Inc. Happy New Year from All of Us to All of you! May this be the best year ever!

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WEATHER



Poss. showers

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CONTENTS

Calendar.....3B Obituaries.....2A Channel Guide.....5B Opinion.....4A Classified ads.....5B Public Safety.....5A Sports.....1B



1 Dollar