

SQUALL

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Boone said that he worked at a game store in 1993, at the start of what he called a great "Board Game Renaissance."

"Back then, there was Monopoly and Life and a few others," he said. "You used to roll the dice, move to the right space and do what it said."

Now, Boone explained that gamers are enjoying the "Golden Age of Board Gaming," with the unbelievable array of games at Gamesquall acting as undeniable proof. On Thursday afternoon, guests could be seen playing Stratego, the Game of Thrones board game, Steam-punk Rally and a host of other games. The event also acts as an alcohol-free alternative to the typical New Year's Eve celebration.

"It offers a nice combination of face-to-face interaction with a minimum of awkward small talk," Boone said.

The Odd Fellows Hall hosts a



photo by Jon Stinnett

Many of the hundreds of available games belong to avid gamer Jake Boone.

similar but smaller gathering the first Sunday of each month from noon to 7 p.m., a gathering that has grown over time.

"As the gaming community grows, it's nice to get people together to have fun and share it with," Boone said. "These are just nice, decent people."

A few of those people — Johnson, Danny Hintze, Harry Anderson and Daniel West — could be seen attempting the "work-replacement" game "Raiders of the North Sea."

"It's all about managing your resources," Johnson said as another game got underway.

COUNCIL

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and has volunteered with several community and church activities. Ervin recently applied for the Council's Ward IV position, to which Councilor Amy Slay was eventually appointed. He wrote that he wishes to "play a role in securing opportunity" for his children's future in Cottage Grove. Ervin listed safety of people and property as two of the City's major concerns and wrote that hearing the concerns of citizens should be a Council priority.

Pam Reber served as director of the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council until last October, when she stepped down to assist with regional contract work in natural resources and to assist with a gubernatorial campaign. As director, Reber wrote that she worked extensively with many of the City's departments, and she also served on its budget and visioning committees. She wrote that the City needs to work on building capacity and that "first and foremost, we have a responsibility to run effective government using best

practices."

"The City should secure regular public input from the community," she wrote, adding that she would like to see the formation of a city parks department.

A busy agenda for its Jan. 11 meeting prompted the Council to schedule interviews of the four candidates at a worksession prior to its Jan. 25 meeting, after which it is expected to appoint a candidate to the at-large position. The appointed candidate will serve the remainder of Murphy's tenure, which is set to expire on Dec. 31, 2016.

CASCADE

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been active in the community, serving on Chamber boards in both communities, Planning Commissions, hospital and school boards.

About five years ago, Devine and Gillett said they began discussing the next chapter in their lives and that of their business.

"We knew that the best way was to sell to community-minded business owners," Devine said. "We were never comfortable with going with a big corporate, long-distance ownership."

"It didn't feel like the business could continue on the way we wanted if that happened,"

ALICE

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Department also took part in the training.

Denham, who explained that Monday's training was part of an effort to offer A.L.I.C.E. training to educators throughout Lane County, said the exercise aims to empower teachers and other employees to use new information and a new approach to an active shooter to decide what will work best in their situation and for their students. The first scenario offered a look at the classic lockdown response to a shooter, in which teachers and students cordon themselves off in a room and hide together from an intruder.

"We've always had a one-stop shop that said to lock down and wait," he said. "We don't want to do that anymore."

New thinking indicates the need and ability for teachers and employees to counter or actively resist a shooter and escape

Gillett added.

Instead, they talked to their representatives from the Do-It Best coop, who offered two or three options for people who might be interested in the purchase.

"From almost the beginning, the folks at Gold Beach Lumber looked like they had the potential to be a good fit," Devine said.

The stores will continue to be called Cascade Home Centers, and Devine said the Ringer family, now in its fourth generation of lumberyard owners, has "oodles of experience" in the business, with Ryan Ringer recently earning accolades as Do-

It Best's Retailer of the Year.

"They're just good business people and very accomplished," Gillett said. "They like our stores and are very civic minded; they plan to be very active in both communities. It's exciting for us, and it's going to be great for our employees."

There will be no change among the ranks of Cascade employees, Devine said.

"We've got great people that the town really respects," he said. "This has been a nearly seamless process. We've certainly enjoyed the ride, and we appreciate all the friends we've made here in Cottage Grove and in Creswell."

whenever possible.

"They're all independent situations, and they get to decide what to do," Denham said. "Some of them chose to barricade their doors, while others chose to escape. If they do lock down, we always want them to try to barricade the doors. The thought is that we're not just going to be victims anymore. They're going to counter with whatever they have. We hope to help them make a solid decision and go with it based on the situation, though of course that situation may change."

The training included the sound of live gunfire, and educators like Garrett Bridgens, who serves as South Lane's Communications Coordinator, were given options on what to do during the training.

"We had our door jammed shut," Bridgens said. "We were using desks, the podium, everything, and we thought we had it

secure, but the guy busted right through it."

Cottage Grove High School art instructor Erin Royce said that it was nice to be empowered through the training to act on behalf of herself and her students.

"It's nice to feel like you wouldn't just be sitting ducks," Royce said, "that there is a way you could lead your students to safety."

In a debriefing after the morning training session, one teacher noted an inability to properly barricade their classroom doors, an issue organizers said they were hoping to address in the near future.

According to Superintendent Krista Parent, the next step in training involves teaching area students age-appropriate drills that can impart the lessons of the A.L.I.C.E. method, training that is expected to take place this spring.

COOLEY

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Both the John and Alex Cooley houses were built circa 1868, and were nearly identical, at least from the outside."

It was thought that Eliza Shields' brothers were carpenters, and records show that her youngest brother, Zachariah Shields, had helped build both homes. A publication entitled "Style and Vernacular, a Guide

to the Architecture of Lane County Oregon," indicates that the home "is one of two houses built by 14-year-old "Zach" Shields for the Cooley family. This one differs only in minor detail from another built in the same year for John Cooley, one-half mile south at 32481 Howard Loop. Both houses have two front doors — an east coast tradition. Each also features a

broad roof, a gallery-like porch with square columns and exceptionally fine detail on the porch and eaves."

An entry from "Golden was the Past," a compilation of local historical articles penned in 1970, indicates that Alexander Cooley, who came to Oregon in 1853, was one of the early Cottage Grove merchants, on South River Road near the flour mill.

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