

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at a Sentinel story from 40 years ago

March 18, 1976

More funds necessary for city hall

An additional \$30,000 will be added to complete the construction of Cottage Grove's new city hall building on Main street.

City Manager Phil Kushlan told the city council that Monday night during a work session on the funding of the city project.

No decisions can be made during a work session under Oregon law, but the council agreed to Mr. Kushlan's suggestion that the city start the process to issue warrants in the amount of \$30,000 to insure completion of the project.

Legal advertisements, a budget committee meeting and official council action will be required before the city can actually issue the interest-bearing warrants.

Mr. Kushlan recommended, and the council agreed, that the warrants be paid out of funds the city will receive in July from the federal government's revenue sharing program.

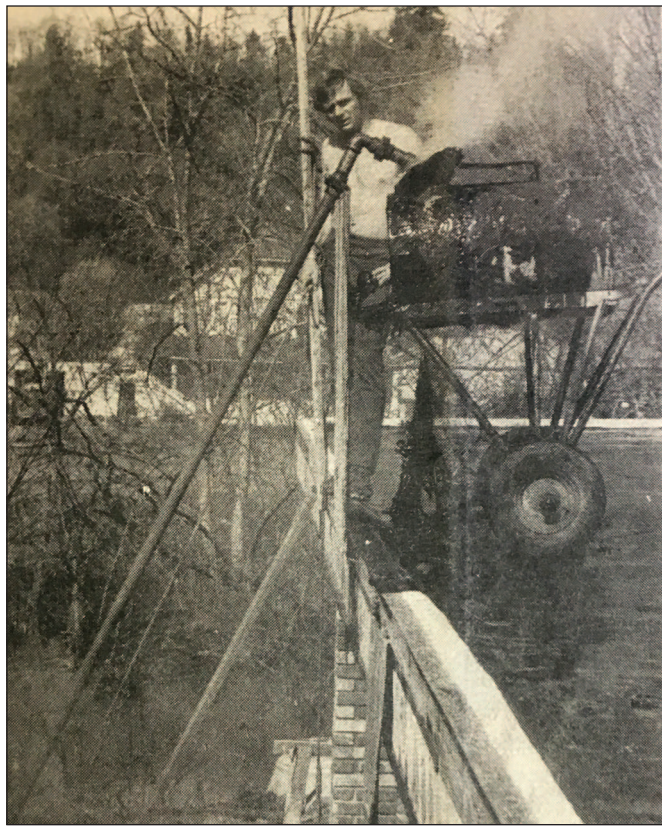
When the city council awarded the \$439,630 city hall bid last Au-

gust, there was talk about having to use money from future revenue sharing allocations to complete the project.

Monday night Mr. Kushlan said the project has experienced cost overruns of about \$13,000 because of changes made since the original bid was let.

Mr. Kushlan also asked the council to consider using \$10,000, originally allocated for new furniture but later changed to help cover construction costs, to purchase new furniture. He said warrants for \$10,000 could be issued to cover the transfer.

Covering the known overruns and the transfer to replace the allocation for furniture brought about the project to a figure about \$23,000 short of the \$457,929 available. Mr. Kushlan said future changes are likely to mean further cost overruns, so he suggested that warrants in the amount of \$30,000 be issued.



MARCH 18, 1976 If the weather holds, Cottage Grove's new city hall should have a nice new roof within a couple of work days.

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

POLICE BLOTTER

March 7

Drug Info, Row River Rd.

A white Chevrolet pickup truck appeared to be dealing drugs out of the parking lot of a business. The complainant said that two "tweaker" females were yelling at each other and one asked the other if "she wanted the pills or not." A station wagon was parked off to the side and appeared to be involved in the incident, and children were inside the vehicle.

March 8

Unlawful Lodging, Gateway Blvd.

Reporting person advised police of a motor home that was parked in the truck parking for the last 10 days or so. Beckenhauer hasn't been able to contact anyone regarding the illegal camping and requested an officer to assist. Everette Nielsen and Christopher Bailey were the ones contacted by the officer for the unlawful lodging, and it was determined that both parties had warrants for arrest. The subjects were transported back to the station for booking. Nielsen was given a citation in lieu of custody due to pregnancy.

Theft, Shoplift, Gateway Blvd.

A female last seen wearing a green hoodie with short hair and a heavy build stole a lot of items from a business at the location. The female also had a backpack, a red bag, another bag and a wire basket. She was arrested for third degree theft and was cited by the police.

Hit and Run, Property

Multiple calls came in advising police of a silver car that hit a fire hydrant in front of the Koffee Kup and is now in front of the Dollar Tree. The subject was attempting to leave the scene, but was arrested for a hit and run offense and a DUII offense.

Theft, Shoplift, Row River Rd.

A caller advised that a female ran out of a business at the location with a bag full of merchandise. The subject got into a primer grey Dodge Neon. The subject had sandy long brown hair in a ponytail and was wearing glasses. The subject was short with a heavy build and wearing a grey sweatshirt with blue jeans.

March 10

Special Event, CG High School

Units escorted the basketball team out of town as they headed to Hillsboro for the state tournament.

Dog Impound, E. Main St.

A veterinary clinic advised that a male black lab walked into the clinic. The lab had no chip and was less than two years old with marks for a collar. The dog was lodged in the kennels until the owner contacted the police department telling police that his dog was missing. The owner went to the clinic and the dog was released.

Follow up, E. Main St.

A caller advised that he possibly saw the missing man that was in the paper. At an unknown time and date (possibly a couple of weeks ago) the man told police that the subject matching the description was seen urinating against the outside wall of the building near the bottle room.

Burglary, Cherry St.

A real estate representative arrived at a house that should have been empty. Upon entering the house the representative saw the arm of a person inside and immediately walked out and informed the police. The building was later checked and cleared by police and an extra patrol was requested.

Reckless Driving, Row River Rd.

A tan pickup with a tan canopy was reportedly passing people on the shoulder on I-5. The truck also ran a red light at the intersection of Gateway and Row River Rd., causing people to slam on their brakes. The driver was arrested for reckless driving.

Intoxicated Subject, Lane St.

A caller advised that there was an intoxicated male laying in the roadway. Police contacted the subject and gave him a courtesy ride home.

Abandoned Vehicle, Jefferson St.

A caller advised that there is a boat and a motor home parked

in front of the location that has been there for about three weeks. It appears that people are living in the motor home because the complainant has seen cars come and go all day long.

Criminal Mischief, Coiner Park

A caller advised that a group of teens in Coiner Park were breaking things and state that there was glass flying everywhere. Upon arrival the police found no one.

March 13

Suspicious Vehicle, East Regional Park

Two vehicles were out in the park and were cited for offensive littering and were advised in the morning to gather their trash and move on.

Animal Abandonment, Parks

A caller advised that a male moved out of the location and left his dog behind. The house was reportedly "99 percent empty." The caller advised police that he is on the way to the location. He attempted to call the subject about the dog but the subject hung up on him.

Suspicious Conditions, Fourth St.

A caller advised of a really loud banging coming from the attic of the location. He tried to go up to look but something was blocking the door that wasn't there before. The caller slammed another door and the banging stopped.

CITY BEAT

From the City's Friday Update

Row River Trail Maintenance

On Friday afternoon, City Planner Amanda Ferguson, Fleet and Facilities Manager Russ Kaleese, Public Works Director Jan Wellman and City Volunteer Don Strahan attended the Bureau of Land Management's Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting in Springfield. The purpose of the meeting was for the RAC to hear presentations in regard to funding projects associated with BLM managed lands and resources. The Committee heard proposals from 19 different organizations seeking RAC funding for a wide-variety of projects. The City had submitted an application for RAC funding to continue the mechanical maintenance of the Row River Trail. The City was seeking a five-year agreement with the BLM in the amount of \$158,890 (\$31,778 per year for five years). The City's application was approved for one year in the amount of \$31,778. This will allow the City to continue to mow and blow the trail on a regular basis for one additional year.

ing the numbers of permits that are being issued for various types of construction work with the community. Below is a summary of the permits issued for the first seven months of this fiscal year (July 1, 2015 to Jan. 31, 2016).

Building Permits: 54
Plumbing Permits: 20
Mechanical Permits: 76
Electrical Permits: 75
Signs: 2
Public Works: 6

'The General' 90th anniversary

City Manager Richard Meyers and Chamber Executive Director Travis Palmer participated in a conference call with representatives from the Oregon Film Office, the Hollywood Theater in Portland, the Egyptian Theater in Coos Bay and the Tower Theater in Bend to discuss the plans for the 90th Anniversary celebration of the filming of "The General." The locations for possible showings has increased to possibly include other historic theaters in the state. The Cottage Grove showing with live accompaniment will be held in Bohemia Park on Saturday, Aug. 13.

Permit Activity

The City announced that it is going to be regularly shar-

Offbeat Oregon History

The Circuit Preacher Chronicles: Shanghaiing up a flock for the Lord

BY FINN J.D. JOHN
For the Sentinel

In their later years, most old frontier circuit riders looked back on their itinerant-preacher years through a nostalgic haze from a considerable distance — as most of us do when we get older. Days of mud and misery and discouragement went forgotten; days of joy and exhilaration and success were relived at every family gathering and church event, often growing noticeably more joyful and exhilarating and successful at each retelling.

These recollections are, of course, just as unreliable as any other kind of memoir. Although they hold themselves to a higher standard than most of us do, preachers are only human. But they make for very interesting reading.

Of course, the most common kind of story they tell is the inspirational kind, of the "Rogue River Jim swore he'd never come to Jesus, but after I pulled him out from under a landslide the Lord spoke to his heart and he got saved on the spot" sort. Such stories are all well and good if one is in the mood for them; but, and let's be honest here — they're far from the most entertaining.

Luckily, some of those old preachers kept a lively frontier sense of humor, and passed on a few less respectable yarns.

Episcopal Rev. Lemuel Wells was one such. Wells worked the circuit in the old Oregon Territory that included the area of Oregon, Washington and Idaho roughly centered around Walla Walla, and in later years he

settled in Washington Territory as bishop of Spokane. Wells had a bit of the lovable rascal in him, and at one point in his career he found himself in Tacoma, up in Washington Territory, helping with the founding of Trinity Church. When it was built, the community wasn't quite as welcoming as had been hoped, and Wells found he was having difficulty filling the pews.

Not to worry: Wells had a plan. Under his direction, the ushers of Trinity arranged themselves in ambush at the front of the church and waited for passers-by to walk along the street.

"They selected the most pleasing man in the congregation," Wells recalls in his memoir, "who would stand in front of the church and when anyone appeared in the street passing by, would step up to him and say, 'This is Trinity Church, I suppose you are looking for it,' and without waiting for a reply would take him by the arm, volubly telling him what a fine lot of men we had, and what a good fellow the clergyman was and what a fine preacher, until in spite of resistance he would firmly but gently push the would-be passer-by toward the church steps. The ushers would rush out to join the party, shake hands with the stranger — and help with the pushing. The protests of the victim would be drowned out by the cordiality of the ushers and before he knew it the poor man would be seated in the front pew."

"Strange to say, this method was rather liked by the victims," Wells adds, "and many an

Please see **OFFBEAT**, Page 10A

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY March 17 36° 60° Sunny	FRIDAY March 18 41° 64° Sunny
SATURDAY March 19 44° 61° Partly Cloudy	SUNDAY March 20 42° 57° Poss. Showers
MONDAY March 21 43° 58° Poss. Showers	TUESDAY March 22 44° 55° Rain

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I can do a lot more than just protect your car. And when you bundle coverage for your auto and home, I can help you save big.

Get the savings you deserve. Call me or stop by my office for a free quote.

Erik Benson
 541-942-2605
 130 Gateway Boulevard
 Cottage Grove, OR 97424
 erikbenson@allstate.com

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