

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at a Sentinel stories from 30 years ago

May 14, 1986

District will miss Moira Bangs

Moira Bangs admits freely that her interests didn't lie in budget line items or maintenance projects. Reviewing the lease-purchase of several school buses held her attention, but it wasn't her favorite topic of discussion.

"A board agenda for me would be talking about curriculum, honoring somebody who has won an award... that kind of thing," Bangs said. "That's what I would like to see."

If there ever was a club for optimistic "people" persons, Moira Bangs (mother, businesswoman and outgoing South Lane School District board member) would be the group's president. Bar none.

During the past three years, Bangs has used her senses of humor and humanity to get in touch with the district's staff and parents. And her top concern was always the same: the students.

"She always placed the kids first, as

it should be," said board Chairman Dee Anderson. "The quality of her humanness, her accessibility with the public... both will be sorely missed."

Bangs, along with fellow board member Bob Zeek, resigned from the panel in April. Both cited personal reasons, including the frustrations of trimming school programs to meet budget guidelines, and slated their last day on the board for May 19.

Bangs and Zeek set the resignation date to coincide with the district's \$6.5 million tax base proposal, which will be decided Tuesday, May 20. Both have been integral parts of a board effort to inform the voters of the proposal's importance.

But while some may see the upcoming elections as purely a financial matter, Bangs prefers to view the request in human terms. She saw the flip side a



Moira Bangs left the South Lane School Board on May 19, 1986.

decade ago.

"I went through the '76 closure as a parent. That was a frightening experience," Bangs said of the 1976 schools closure, caused when the district went broke for several weeks.

"A lot of parents moved their children into private school, but that wasn't the answer. The answer was funding and confidence for what we had," she said.

CITY BEAT

From the
City's Friday
Update

Youth Advisory Council visits LMS

Members of the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council attended the Relay for Life assembly at Lincoln Middle School on Tuesday afternoon, May 3 and participated by providing a presentation on the dangers of tobacco. Eight YAC members attended and made a presentation urging the youth to make 'Every Day Tobacco Free.' The presentation was a part of the Youth Tobacco Elimination Project grant that the YAC received from the American Lung Association.

Bohemia Park Amphitheater saddlespan installed

The saddlespan that graces Bohemia Park each summer was re-installed this week in preparation of the summer activities in the park. Again this year, the Bohemia Park Amphitheater will be the site of a wide variety of entertainment and events. The 2016 Concerts in the Park series sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce will begin Wednesday, June 22. The Eugene Symphony will be coming back on July 18.

The signs of spring: Yard sale signs

The City says one of the signs of spring is the proliferation of yard or garage sale signs plastered all over town. They remind that signs placed within the City right of ways, parks, on street signs or posts and mounted to utility poles are illegal and will be removed.

"The signs are litter and clutter the community. They also create

hazards," City Manager Richard Meyers wrote, adding that anyone caught putting yard or garage sale signs up within the right of way can be cited into Municipal Court. The signs may be put on private property with permission.

Tree branch pick-up May 23

Just a reminder, the City of Cottage Grove's annual tree branch pickup will begin on Monday, May 23. Public Works crewmembers will pick up branches that are placed in street parking areas during that week only. More information about the tree branch pickup can be obtained on the City's webpage or by contacting the Public Works department at City Hall.

Divers clean raw water intake tanks

On Thursday and Friday, divers with Reliable Diving from Maple Valley, Wash. were at the Row River Water Treatment Plant to clean the two raw water intake tanks. There are two raw water tanks that supply river water into the treatment plant. The smaller tank is just behind the fish screens at the intake structure and measures 16'x16'x7'. The larger tank, which directly supplies water to the membrane filters, is just outside the treatment plant and measures 60'x17'x22'. Silt and sand from the raw water from the river settles to the bottom of these tanks and must be removed on a regular basis. Specially equipped divers enter the tanks and vacuum the silt and sand from the bottom of the tanks. The silt and sand is then land-applied to dry and return to the soil. This service is performed every other year.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

May 2

Criminal Mischief, Chambers Railroad Bridge

A complaint came in from the Chamber of Commerce which was advised by tourists that they were "accosted" by a group of juveniles. The juveniles were reportedly verbally abusive towards the tourists at the above location, which also was vandalized by graffiti inside the bridge.

ATL Information, Mosby Creek

A complainant advised that there was an older grey car full of people with a passenger hanging out of the window drinking from an alcohol bottle. Inside the vehicle, music was playing loudly, lights were flashing and the occupants were yelling "screw Donald Trump!"

May 3

Animal Information, Tyler and 1st St.

A caller advised that there was a cat under a green car that was foaming at the mouth and appeared to be very sick. The animal was transported to Gowdyville and dispatched.

May 4

Criminal Mischief, Bohemia Elementary

A caller advised police that her lawn mower was locked in the dugout at the location as she maintains the fields for South Valley Little League, and an unknown subject broke into the dugout and damaged her lawn mower.

Domestic Disturbance, S 6th St.

A caller advised that there are two subjects screaming and

yelling in the parking lot and heard the female yell "are you seriously going to put your hands on me again?" The issue was resolved and determined it was verbal only.

May 5

Animal Neglect/Abuse, Landess Rd.

A caller advised that her squatter/tenant has dyed her cat's coat purple. The caller said that it was a retaliation for her not letting the squatter use the water from the caller's house. All parties were contacted and the tenant agreed to leave the cat alone.

Suspicious Subject, Main St.

A male with a yellow hat and grey jumpsuit was attempting to sell "bags of mystery" to passersby and was being ag-

gressive. The caller stated that he appeared to be a tweaker.

Noise complaint, Stewart Park

A caller advised that there were kids in the park being extremely loud and standing on the picnic tables.

May 8

Firearm discharge, 13th St.

Caller advised that a male went into the backyard of location with a rifle and shot it into a piece of plywood in the backyard, then rushed back into the house. Gun was wrapped in a blanket like he was trying to hide it. Delay of 10 minutes...caller reported it was a potato gun.

Offbeat Oregon History

Edward F. Lee was Oregon's first fake-viagra scammer

BY FINN J.D. JOHN
For the Sentinel

Not much is known about Edward F. Lee, the Albany-based swindler sent up

the river for mail fraud in 1919. In fact, Edward F. Lee may not even have been his real name; he may have assumed it as an alias to encourage people to confuse him with a highly respected and trusted Seattle-area businessman and shipbuilder of the same name.

As swindlers often do, Lee's career as a huckster started out relatively mild. In the early 1910s, his small classified ads frequently appeared in the

Portland Morning Oregonian's business section, and their content was only slightly scammy. "\$8 EVERY DAY selling ORANGEADE POWDER, the new drink," reads one from May 1915. "It's the craze; everybody buys; sample package 10 cents; makes a gallon; send today: EDWARD F. LEE, Kennewick, Wash."

Of course, 10 cents was a lot of money to pay in 1915 for a packet of Kool-Aid powder, but

it's not against the law to charge high prices.

That can't have been all he was doing, though, because in 1916 Spokane County authorities arrested him for committing fraud through the mails. His advertisements in the Oregonian stopped for a time, and the next time they reappeared in the Oregonian, they were slightly different:

"VALUABLE FORMULAS and trade secrets. List free. EDWARD F. LEE, Albany, Oregon."

These formulas, such as they were, included recipes for home production of liquor, which had been outlawed in Oregon several years previously. But that wasn't what got Lee in trouble with the law — that would come from the other ads he was running at the same time, in publications far distant from Lee's new home city. Ads like this one, quoted without attribution in the Journal of the American Medical Association's report on his case:

"MEN OF ALL AGES—STOP GROWING OLD. You can recover and retain your youthful vigor and vitality without dangerous drugs and appliances. OUR NEW METHOD tells how. Send for free letter. The P. Presto Company, Albany,

Oregon."

This ad was, as you have likely guessed, a carefully coded appeal to men suffering from erectile dysfunction. At the time, ministering to this cohort of men was an extremely profitable and popular line for scammers of all types. For many men of that era, impotence was almost a fate worse than death; it was a severe blow to their masculine pride. They were desperate enough to try nearly anything in quest for a cure. And, even better, erectile dysfunction was a disease that most commonly struck affluent men in their 50s and 60s — meaning they'd have plenty of money to throw around to find that cure.

The hucksters rose to the occasion, peddling everything from fake folk remedies to the "electric belts" that were supposed to jolt men's reproductive apparatus back to life. There was even a quack surgeon in Little Rock, Arkansas, who offered to surgically implant a piece of a goat's testicle in patients.

Patients who had suffered from ingesting dangerous drugs or blasting their most sensitive parts with electrical current read Lee's advertisement with considerable interest. And better

Please see **OFFBEAT**, Page 10A

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY May 12

49° | 80°



Sunny

FRIDAY May 13

51° | 74°



Sunny

SATURDAY May 14

50° | 72°



Poss. Showers

SUNDAY May 15

47° | 71°



Partly Cloudy

MONDAY May 16

48° | 66°



Partly Cloudy

TUESDAY May 17

47° | 67°



Partly Cloudy

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



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