



'Trashion' has its day at Opal Center, page 3A

Albrecht, Parent honored as Athletes of the Year, page 1B

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Sentinel file photo

The Eugene Symphony will make a return trip to Cottage Grove on Monday, July 18.

Summer of '16

As usual, CG has a packed schedule for the warm months

BY JON STINNETT
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

could really drive the point home. Yes, Cottage Grove adds a dizzying array of events — some recurring, some brand-new — to its already packed schedule this time of year, and it is our pleasure at the Sentinel to showcase some of this summer's most impactful events:

Last week's sizzling temperatures offered a clue that summer is near, and if the weather wasn't enough to clue Cottage Grove in to the changing of the seasons, the plethora of events coming up in the next few weeks and months

I hear a symphony

A large crowd enjoyed the Eugene Symphony's first visit to Cottage Grove last summer, and the ensemble will be back at Bohemia Park on Monday, July 18 for another program. The concert will begin with the music of local performers at 6:30 p.m., according to Cottage Grove City Manager Richard Meyers. The Symphony will thus start a half-hour later at 7:30 p.m. to allow for cooler temperatures to (it is hoped) take over. Last year, the Faye and Lucille Stewart Foundation contributed \$20,000 toward the \$30,000 cost of bringing the Symphony to town. About \$10,000 was made

through fundraising in the form of sponsorships for last year's event, Meyers said, though the City will be selling buttons and raffle tickets to finance this year's show. More sponsor tables are also being added to raise funds. Free concerts in Cottage Grove, Eugene and Roseburg are scheduled to kick off the Symphony's 51st season. "I am pleased that Eugene Symphony in the Park continues to be successful and grow in popularity," says Maestro Danail Rachev. "We love providing the opportunity to spend a summer evening outside listening to high-quality orchestral music with the community. It lets us showcase our orchestra to a broader audience beyond the concert hall."

Buster Bash

Cottage Grove's love affair with iconic silent film star Buster Keaton and the epic movie he largely filmed here, "The General," may reach their zenith in 2016, a year that marks the 90th anniversary of the movie and a summer of filming that involved much of the community back in 1926. Local Buster Keaton buff Lloyd Williams said the celebration will be in high gear beginning Friday, Aug. 12, when members of the 'Damfnos,' the International Buster Keaton Society, will visit Cottage Grove for a Buster-themed gathering that takes place every five years (the name references a habit Keaton had of saying "damn if I know" in response to a perplexing question.) Williams said around 40 Damfnos will converge from throughout the U.S., taking in sights such as the field behind Safeway where much of "The General" was filmed, Hansen Butte (a recurring

shot in the movie), and of course, the location of the iconic train-wreck scene over the Row River. The next day, Saturday, Aug. 13, Bohemia Park will play host to a special outdoor screening of "The General," a showing that will be set to music by Mark Orton, the Portland-based musician that composed the score for the Oscar-winning film "Nebraska." "It's not going to be a score you've heard before," Williams said, referencing a six-musician ensemble that also includes a sound-effects specialist. In a traveling show that Williams said has "grown legs" since Cottage Grove first started talking about commemorating 90 years of "The General," the movie and Orton's score will also travel to theaters in Portland, Coos Bay, Bend and Astoria, though this community will host the only free outdoor showing. The free showing of "The General" is set to begin at dusk, though it will likely be preceded by other entertainment.

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Candidate filings begin

Boone first to file for Mayor, though others are expected

BY JON STINNETT
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Amid the ongoing hoopla regarding the 2016 presidential election, it can be easy to forget that the campaign season for positions in local government has just begun. In fact, Wednesday, June 1 was the first day of availability for election packets for those interested in running for the offices of Cottage Grove's Mayor, City Councilor At-Large or City Councilors from Ward II or Ward IV in the Nov. 8 election. Each of these positions expires on Dec. 31, 2016. Mayor Tom Munroe has already indicated that he will not seek his third two-year term this fall. On Wednesday, City

Councilor Jake Boone announced via Facebook that he had already been the first candidate to file paperwork with the City to run for Mayor. On Monday, City Recorder Trudy Borrevik said that City Councilor Mike Fleck had requested but not yet returned the paperwork to run for Mayor. Fleck has already indicated an interest in running for the position, as has Councilor Jeff Gowing, who announced his intention to run at local radio station KNND prior to departing on a cross-country motorcycle ride in mid-May. Councilors Amy Slay and Kenneth Michael Roberts have indicated their interest in running for the positions they were each appointed to last year, though neither has yet filed for election, nor has any potential challenger for their Ward IV and at-large council positions. The council terms of Boone and Fleck do not expire for another two years, though Gowing's term as Ward II councilor ends

this year. This means that, should Gowing not be elected Mayor, he will find himself off the Council, an eventuality he has said he is prepared to handle. "In the event that I didn't win, I'd just as soon not be there," Gowing said recently. To qualify as a candidate for local office, a person must be a resident of Cottage Grove during the 12 months immediately preceding the election and a qualified elector within the meaning of the Constitution. Candidates filing for Ward positions must be a resident of that Ward at the time of the nomination and election and must live in the Ward during their term of office. Those interested in seeing which Ward they reside in can consult a Ward map on the City website at cottagegrove.org/city council. Those seeking more information on the election can contact City Recorder Trudy Borrevik at (541) 942-5501 or cityrecorder@cottagegrove.org.

Edible marijuana proves popular

Candy, cookies and other laced products now available for retail sale

BY JON STINNETT
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

The latest milestone in Oregon's evolving relationship with marijuana brought customers aplenty into Cottage Grove's dispensaries beginning last week. The sale and purchase of marijuana for recreational consumption became legal in Oregon for those over 21 years of age on Oct. 1, 2015, a day greeted with a frenzy of business at Cottage Grove dispensaries, which have until recently been the only outlets able to lawfully sell recreational pot. Since then, though, there have been items for sale at medical marijuana dispensaries that were not available for recreational purchase, including edible products like candies and cookies and marijuana-infused topical oils. On Thursday, June 2, local dispensaries were able to offer marijuana edibles and topical products to their recreational customers, and by all indications, a steady stream of customers came in to give them a try. At Mandy's Med Club, Cottage Grove's first medical marijuana dispensary, Megan Higley said the frenzy for edibles rivaled the first day of legal purchases last fall. "It's like recreational day," Higley said. "Every time someone walks out the door, somebody else walks in. And it's been that way all day." Higley said that even the lower dosage mandated for edibles meant for recreational consumption has not hurt sales. By state law, edibles can only contain 15 milligrams of THC, the high-inducing compound in marijuana, per serving. By contrast, medical edibles can contain



photo by Jon Stinnett

Jamie Boren browses the new selection of edible marijuana products at Mandy's Med Club while Megan Higley talks about their effects. Packages of "That Taffy" are pictured below.



much higher volumes of THC. Recreational customers are also only allowed to purchase one product per day. Higley said that the edibles meant for recreational customers at Mandy's, including chocolates, hard candies, cookies and taffy, are priced the same as their more potent medicinal counterparts. Still, their popularity was evident last week. Across town at Apothecaria, Shenna Whitlock said the dispensary took a precaution and was closed for business Thursday. "There was some confusion with our license," she said. "We wanted to make sure we were complying with the law 100 percent, and we were the whole time." Despite losing the first day of sales,

though, Whitlock said Apothecaria was still quite busy later on. "It's been crazy," she said. "I worked yesterday, and there was four times the amount of sales for what is typical for a Sunday." Both Higley and Whitlock said their biggest concern with the advent of edibles has been educating their customers, many of whom have not tried edible marijuana before. In contrast to smoking marijuana, edible products take effect more slowly, and their effect can at times be much stronger. "It's important to understand that you're ingesting this," Higley said. "It's a lot like taking a pill; it takes time to feel the effects. We've been working a lot on education so that people can find the chemistry that works right for them." Whitlock said she's talked to many customers so far about their options with regard to edibles. "It's good to start slow," she said. "Low and slow is our motto; even if there's a low dosage, we recommend taking half to see how it makes you feel. We don't want people to have a bad experience with edibles, especially with all the propaganda out their now saying how awful they are, because medically they're quite wonderful."

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