

# Contest Corner

Grovers go all-out for victory



Slabtown (at right) eventually prevailed over Lemati in a close contest to win the Two Towns Tug O' War.



At right: Noe Valley spits a cherry pit for accuracy.



photo by Greg Lee

Shawna Bratton used a refined technique to become the top Fuse Winder.



photos by Sam Wright

BMD's Jake Boone with costume contest winners, from top, Helen Banneck, Niko Susec and Steve Coady.

## Feud winners, 2016

Twenty Miles by Wheelbarrow  
Jennalyn Kruger  
Paul Kruger

Two Towns Tug-O-War  
Slabtown

Fuse Winder  
First: Shawna Bratton  
Second: Kris Worley

Cherry Pit Spitting, Accuracy  
Men: Will Davey  
Women: Noe Valley  
Child: Bene Susec

Thread the Needle  
Chance Ralston  
Creed Lufkin

Cherry Pit Spitting, Distance  
Men: Scott Boxberger, 42 ft.  
Women: Jessica Downey, 27 ft.  
Child: Chance Ralston, 26 ft.

Candlestick Run  
First: Niko Susec  
Second: Chance Ralston

Diggin the Dark  
Jennalyn Kruger  
Bryden Huffman

Historical Treasure Hunt  
Friday \$100 winner: Anne-Marie Hallwyler  
Saturday: Jordan Kraker  
Sunday: Shawna Bratton  
\$200 bonus winner: Levi Wood

Costume contest  
Men: Steve Coady  
Women: Helen Banneck  
Child: Niko Susec

Beard, Stately  
Steve Dick

Beard, Untamed  
Ian Carter

# Cottage Grove on parade



photo by Bruce Kelsh

Friends of the Library parade members Samantha Duncan, Amber Sherman, Jace Meyer, and Mary McNamara led two electric cars and took home the Grand Miners Award.



The Prospectors and Goldiggers took home the Ambassador Award.



Madeleine Sisson goes royal as the Red Queen in the Storybook Theater float.



photo by Matt Emrich

The Rosie the Riveters had a ball at BMD.



Competition was fierce in the Gold Dash 500-meter kids' run.

## Grand Miners Parade winners

Grand Miner's Award  
Friends of the Cottage Grove Public Library

Bohemia Ambassador Award  
CG Prospectors and Goldiggers

Mayor's Award  
Shampoo Dolls Salon

Judges award  
Lauraine's ATA Martial Arts

Festival Award  
Cottage Grove Rodeo

Spirit Award  
One More Time Marching Band



Ben Price brought smiles with his tiny bike.

## Mayors and such

(Winners of the Bohemia Deputies contests)

Slabtown Mayor: Niko Fusec  
Lemati Mayor: Chance Ralston  
Slabtown Sheriff: Kira Shively  
Lemati Sheriff: No participants

## Kids deliver at CT melodrama

BY SAM WRIGHT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

To accompany the Bohemia Mining Days celebrations this weekend, the Cottage Theatre hosted an original melodrama written by Keith Kessler called "As the Butter Churns...Or All that Glitters is not Gold." It was another presentation of colorful fun and big laughs, but the play separates itself in that the entire cast was under the age of 15.

Executive Director of the Theatre, Susan Goes, organized a group of over 30 kids between the ages of nine and 14 in a performance that acts as a compliment to the BMD festivities.

The play is set in the late 19th Century, when electricity had just swept the nation. The small Oregon town of Leaven-Worth has been taken hostage by the Butterworth mafia, led by butter Tycoon Big Paddy Butterworth (Cormac Mayhue) and his butter bandits. Big Paddy has schemed the town into his pocket, and everyone is in debt to him. His final plot is to steal all of the money raised at the "Stairway to Leaven" festival, forcing foreclosure on homes and businesses and achieving "total town domination."

The heroine of the tale is the town librarian and family member of the city founders, Ms. Brulee Brioche (Kenady Conforth). Ms. Brioche is pressured

into marrying the villain to avoid foreclosure on her library.

The actors and actresses were wonderfully cast, as Conforth perfected the innocent "sweet girl" look, melting the hearts of the audience. And Mayhue's butter-blond head and pompous persona evoked plenty of "boos" and hisses, though he was able to get some laughs every once in a while, too.

By the first introduction of each character (or even by just looking at the program) it's easy to tell that Kessler went wild with puns. Bread and butter puns were so ubiquitous that it went past the point of ridiculous and back to cheeky and funny.

But perhaps the biggest assistants to the comic relief were never center stage. The "Town Curmedgeons," Loe and Bea Holde (Campbell Conforth and Kira Carver), were two senile old women who made witty and cynical commentary as the plot moved along and taking the pun game a step further when it got overwhelming on center stage.

The melodies were playfully directed and choreographed by Janet Rust, and the songs took buttery spin-offs of hits like "Surfin' USA" (Churnin' USA).

In this appropriately themed melodrama, it was impressive to see such a large group of young people achieve coordination and flair in their singing, dancing and acting. It was an encouraging display of youth acting.

## BMD

Continued from page 1A

As has been customary in recent years, the 2016 Two Towns Feud brought the historically "combative" towns of Lemati and Slabtown, two relics of Cottage Grove's early history, back to duel it out in a series of games. This year, it would be Slabtown (basically the area west of the Coast Fork of the Willamette River) prevailing 118-117 in the closest Feud in years.

On Saturday, appreciative crowds lined Main Street for a packed Grand Miners Parade.

Weeldreyer, who took the

BMD helm after years of serving as a volunteer, called serving as festival coordinator "a blast," though she was quick to highlight the work of others in making the event happen, even singling out festival board members Joel Reiten, Cathy Simmons, Jerry Vaverka and Jimmy Schapper for their efforts.

"The festival would not exist without the efforts of so many," she said. "I'm thankful for everyone, especially those who took on a double shift when we were short-handed."



photo by Jon Stinnett

The Bloomers Parade returned to celebrate Women's Suffrage on Thursday.



photo by Jon Stinnett

Little Lion Cheer Camp brought spirit to Friday's Kiddie Parade.