

# BEYOND THE GROVE

News from Lane County and CG's neighbors

## One year later:

Looking back on the cause and the cost of the Stouts Creek Fire

A release from the Douglas Forest Protective Association

One year ago, a careless act sparked a wildfire near the community of Milo that changed the course of the summer for firefighters, community members and landowners. Multiple homes in the path of the fire were evacuated as the fire went on to burn thousands of acres of timberland and critical wildlife habitat. Later known as the Stouts Creek Fire, it ignited on July 30, 2015 and went on to burn 26,452 acres of private, BLM and National Forest lands.

Fire investigators working on the Stouts Creek Fire determined that the fire was human caused and related to an individual mowing dry grass. In-



Devastation followed in the path of the Stouts Creek Fire, which burned 26,452 acres last summer. courtesy photo

vestigators discovered that the responsible party violated the Public Use Fire Restrictions by mowing dry grass during prohibited hours. Under Oregon law, those found to be willful, malicious or negligent in the cause and spread of a wildfire are liable for the complete cost of suppressing the fire. Because of this, the Oregon Department of Forestry will be billing the responsible party for the cost of suppressing the Stouts Creek Fire, which is estimated in excess of \$37 million.

"It's critical that everyone living, working, or recreating in wildland areas know and follow the Public Use Fire Restrictions that are in place throughout the summer," says Melvin Thorn-

ton, District Manager for the Douglas Forest Protective Association.

Currently, Public Use Fire Restrictions are in effect throughout the entire Douglas District and include restrictions on mowing dry grass, non-industrial chainsaw use, the cutting, grinding and welding of metal, off road driving, campfires, debris burning, fireworks, smoking, and electrical fence controllers. State law also prohibits the use of exploding targets, tracer ammunition, and sky lanterns during fire season. For a detailed list of restrictions, visit [www.dfpa.net](http://www.dfpa.net) or call DFPA's 24 hour information line at 541-672-0379.

## LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON  
*For the Sentinel*

Lorane Grange meets this Thursday, Aug. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Potluck snacks will be served.

Next week the RAC Summer Film Camp begins on Monday, Aug. 8 and runs through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon for two weeks. Those with questions or

who wish to enroll can contact Alyssa Shepherd at [malysa2@yahoo.com](mailto:malysa2@yahoo.com) or call 541-556-8151. The camp is free and open to all ages.

Remember the Lorane Community Potluck — open by 11 a.m. with meal at 12:30 p.m. — and the Lorane Volunteer Fire Department Ice Cream Social from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 14.

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The Stouts Creek Fire: One year later

Cottage Grove Sentinel

## Thank you, everyone!

The Family Relief Nursery would like to thank everyone who made our 2016 Sigh of Relief Luncheon a success!

### Corporate Sponsors

Banner Bank (Title Sponsor), First Presbyterian Church – Earth & Social Justice, MacGregor-Bates, Inc, Magnolia Gardens, PayneWest Insurance, Starfire Lumber Company, South Lane Fire & Rescue, Robert Ball, and Betty Wright

### Table Captains

Darla Avery, Lori Bass, Ryan Beck, Diane Hazen, Kate Hemsoth, John Hogan, Aura Jocis, Sunny Kennedy, Cari King, Glen Knox, Steve Nisewander, Joe Raade, Jennifer Rohman, Sarah Schmitt, Cindy Sharp, Andrea Sink, Bruce & Cindy Vogel, and Faith Wellman

### Special Thanks

AlSCO Linen, Robert Ball, Banner Bank, Garrett Bridgens, Cottage Grove Interact Club, First Presbyterian Church – Earth & Social Justice, Eynne Hollens, Peter Hollens, MacGregor-Bates, Inc, Magnolia Gardens, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Oregon Fresh Connection, PayneWest Insurance, Boden & Lucinda Riday-White, South Lane Fire & Rescue, South Lane School District, South Lane School District Food Service, Starfire Lumber, Larry Tardie, Tori Taylor, Faith Wellman, Betty Wright, Wrightson's Design ...and all the countless volunteers who helped put this event together.

*On behalf of the children and families you are helping us serve – thank you for your time, energy, and contribution!*

**Strengthening Families and Building Community. Family Relief Nursery serves the communities of South Lane and North Douglas Counties.**

## BRIEFS FROM BEYOND

### VBS at Drain Church of Christ

The Drain Church of Christ will offer its Vacation Bible School, themed "Deep Sea Discovery," from Monday, Aug. 8-Friday, Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to noon. It is intended for those in first through fifth grade. The church is located at the corner of Second and D Street. Questions can be directed to Joy at 541-214-3812 or the church at 541-836-2315.

### Cannabis Grower's Fair

The Oregon Cannabis Grower's Fair will be held Aug. 13-14 at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, marking the first time that live cannabis plants will make their appearance on the Oregon State Fairgrounds.

The Winning plants will receive the coveted blue ribbon and will be displayed during the 12 days of the Oregon State Fair.

Oregon Department of Agriculture, Energy Trust of Oregon and OLCC will be offering presentations both days. The event is open to the public, and Oregon's Craft Growers will be on hand to answer questions.

### 'Sound of Music' in Drain

On Thursday, Aug. 4, the North County Movie Wagon will host a free screening of "The Sound of Music" in Drain Civic Center Park. Pre-show fun starts at 5 p.m. with the movie starting promptly at 6 p.m.

### Music and a message

On Friday, August 5 at 7 p.m. in Bohemia Park, The Shelly Family of Roseburg is presenting free music for all. Pastor John Torres, of Word and Spirit International Church, will also be presenting a "Motivational and Miracle Message".





## facebook CONTEST



# I LIKE your garden!

Post a picture of your garden (vegetable, fruit or flower garden) on our Facebook page and earn the chance to WIN A \$200 GIFT CERTIFICATE

**CONTEST RULES:** Visit the Cottage Grove Sentinel Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cottage-Grove-Sentinel/> and upload a picture of your vegetable, fruit or flower garden to the photo album section of the page. In the comment space, describe what makes you so proud of your garden. **The person who receives the most "likes" by August 17, 2016** will win the \$200 gift certificate valid at one of the participating businesses. The name of the winner will be posted on our Facebook page on August 19, 2016. Participants must be 18 years old or more. Employees of the newspaper and participating businesses and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate in this contest.



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## Contest submission date EXTENDED!