



CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

Our Mission: The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to promote the economy and business environment of the Cottage Grove area so its citizens and businesses will prosper.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This month I'd like to take a moment to acknowledge one of the biggest and best economic development "wins" that Cottage Grove has seen in over a decade. PakTech's purchase of the old Kwieke building at 230 Davidson Avenue will do much more than just fill an empty space. Moreover, it took swift action and the support of many people and organizations to make the purchase possible. City staff worked closely with PakTech to identify any potential roadblocks that could eliminate Cottage Grove as a possible site for their expansion. Once identified, there was quick action from the city, not only to rally community support from the Chamber of Commerce and Community Development Corporation but they also worked to get all of the necessary decision makers at the table together to figure out how to overcome some significant logistical issues.

Emerald People's Utility District General Manager, Scott Coe recognized the importance of this project for Cottage Grove's economy as well as the additional benefits to the community that will soon be realized upon completion. Not only will PakTech have the power they need, but EPUD's other area customers will benefit from the improved stability and redundancy being built into the upgrades to their power distribution system. EPUD's leadership should be commended for their ability to see challenges as opportunities, their willingness to accelerate their long range plans and for investing significant resources to strengthen their partnership with Cottage Grove.

The most obvious benefit of a company like PakTech coming to our community is job growth. The projection of 35 jobs quickly growing to 100 or more family-wage jobs in Cottage Grove is a substantial boon to our local economy. An increase in the amount of good jobs leads to an increase in consumer spending, which leads to a better bottom line for our local shops, restaurants, and other businesses. An improved local economy will also likely lead to more investment in housing, infrastructure, retail, professional and entrepreneurial industries, which will in turn create even more jobs.

It's not often that a town the size of Cottage Grove can even attract the attention of a manufacturing company, let alone have the ability to mobilize all of the necessary people and resources to overcome the many obstacles associated with development. As a rural community, we simply aren't able to offer the millions of dollars in tax breaks and other incentives that larger cities often resort to. What we do have is the willingness to look at the unique challenges and opportunities of each situation. We can quickly identify and gather the people and organizations that are in a position to help and we will do whatever is possible to contribute solutions that will ultimately benefit the entire community. On behalf of the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce I hope you'll join us in welcoming PakTech to the community and thanking Richard Meyers & city staff, Scott Coe and the Board at Emerald People's Utility District, Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart, and the many others who have been supporting Cottage Grove's economic development efforts. Our work is far from over but we are certainly on a more prosperous path.

AMERICAN PICKERS TO FILM IN OREGON
Mike Wolfe, Frank Fritz, and their team are excited to return to OREGON! They plan to film episodes of the hit series AMERICAN PICKERS throughout the region this September. AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique 'picking' on History. The hit show follows Mike and Frank, two of the most skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find sizeable, unique collections and learn the interesting stories behind them. As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, Mike and Frank are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, the Pickers want to meet characters with remarkable and exceptional items. The pair hopes to give historically significant objects a new lease on life, while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way. Mike and Frank have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them. AMERICAN PICKERS is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a large, private collection or accumulation of antiques that the Pickers can spend the better part of the day looking through, send us your name, phone number, location and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinetflix.com or call 855-old-rust.

AUGUST CONCERTS IN THE PARK!

Join us on Wednesdays at Bohemia Park Amphitheatre from 6:30 - 8:00pm, bring a friend and support the musicians and their sponsors by attending. These concerts are made possible with financial support through sponsorships. If you are interested in being one of this year's sponsors, contact Travis Palmer at (541) 942-2411. Concerts begin at 6:30pm.

08/03 Ian McFerron Sponsored by Banner Bank
Ian McFeron's songwriting has been compared to Bob Dylan, John Lennon and Ryan Adams. Over the course of a decade-long independent music career, he has gained a loyal following and attracted media attention stretching across the Atlantic. He currently tours in support of his 8th studio album, Radio, recorded in Nashville, TN with Grammy nominated Producer/Guitarist Doug Lancio. Performers on the album have appeared on records by Robert Plant, Nora Jones, Elton John, Ray LaMontagne, Steve Earl, Patty Griffin, John Hiatt, Buddy Miller, and Eli Young Band among others. McFeron performs live with his Seattle-based folk-pop Americana band, which includes long time fiddler/cellist Alisa Milner as well as the soulful bass and drum duo, Moe Provencher and Aimee Zoe. McFeron's writing explores musical traditions ranging from rock to gospel, from folk-pop to alt-country, Americana, blues and swing.

8/10 Annie Mae Rhodes Band Sponsored by Cottage Grove Sentinel

If you like country-bluegrass-classics-originals-a touch of gospel and an occasional blast from the past you'll enjoy the -Annie Mae Rhodes band... long time area performers and great musicians that play a lot of different venues --fairs, conventions, fundraisers/benefits, birthday and wedding celebrations, an avid supporter for Habitat for Humanity at the Axe and Fiddle, and Habitat's annual Crab Feed Extravaganza...They will be playing some songs from their "Bluegrass State of Mind" CD...available at the show...AND...another NEW original - "Put on Your Dancing Shoes" so put on YOUR dancing shoes (or not ha...) It all comes together with loads of energy-enthusiasm-

and fun-fun-fun...so don't miss it ...you can't help but feel you are part of the show. Check out their blog site for other events coming this summer at--annierhodesband.blogspot.com---see you there!
Annie Mae: mandolin & lead vocalist/songwriter,
Neil Fain: lead guitar/vocalist, Herb Hill: bass/
drums, Kelly White: rhythm guitar/bass, Brad Markham: banjo.

8/17 Windy Ridge Sponsored by Lane Community College and South Lane County Fire & Rescue

At the very southern tip of the Willamette Valley, deep in the mist covered hills east of Cottage Grove, lies a secret. No, not that kind of a secret! It is a rarity among bands. Five guys born and raised in the same small town who have been playing music together for over 35 years and still actually enjoy each other's company!

After experiencing burnout, brought on by good times and hard living playing in clubs and bars throughout the state in the 70's and 80's, the remnants of two Cottage Grove bands, Daybreak and Hiwire, joined forces. In a small cabin on a breezy hilltop the five guys came together in 1990 with a different attitude. Older, wiser and united in the belief that playing their own brand of music, and the brotherhood required to make it work, was the most important thing, Windy Ridge was formed. The band consists of the Munsell brothers, David on guitar, keyboard and lead vocals, Curt: percussion and lead vocals, Ken Bachelder: bass and vocals, Joe Tennis: lead guitar, vocals, and Brian Gushwa: drums and vocals. Blend together rock and blues, throw in a little country and original material for flavor and you have a tasty, eclectic musical brew. So whether your thing is kickin' off your shoes and dancing, or just kickin' back and listening, 'the Ridge' has got just what you need!

8/24 The Reveleers...Revisited Sponsored by Jack Sprats

The Reveleers, that li'l semi-famous, circa 1962-1965 rock & roll band from Cottage Grove will make their FINAL stage appearance EVER at a free outdoor concert for their fans, family, friends, and other hoodlums who want to show up at the Amphitheater in Bohemia Park on south 10th street in Cottage Grove from 6:30-8pm on Wednesday, August 24.

It is being called "The REVELEER'S RUMBLE" which promises to be a *fabulous party* like the last one back in 2014, with dancing on the grass and several food carts nearby. (You can also bring your own personal dinner and beverage, if you wish.) This is your personal invitation to help the Reveleers celebrate the "really good" rock & roll music of the early and mid-60's that the 2 surviving members Darryl Wetzell and Steve Whaley performed together back then, and some newer songs are included that you'll probably recognize that are of that same flavor and drive.

The REVELEERS RUMBLE: it's about "connecting the dots" with friends and keeping the fires lit and values shared between the generations. Come and experience for yourself what it's STILL all about!

8/31 Calvary Creek Sponsored by Cascade Home Center & Wal-Mart

Calvary Creek is a group of eight people who simply love music. It all began a few years ago with two brothers, Scott and Jeff Smith, playing and singing old Beatles songs in coffeehouses for fun. Jeff pastors a Calvary Chapel in Cottage Grove and has some fabulous musicians in his church. One day he had the urge to create a band that not only performed well-known pop, rock and folk songs from the 1960s & 70s and beyond, but played with excellence! So he set a concert date and began to gather his group, one gifted member at a time, until each song he chose could be performed as closely to

the original as possible.

What's so fun about this group is the fact that it's multi-generational, with members in their 20's to their 60's. Singers Amanda Hinkle and Lynel Thomas blend beautifully with Jeff and Scott Lance Quackenbush plays a sweet keyboard, and despite his young age, loves this music! Bill Tattor is an extremely gifted 6-string bass player, while drummer Brad Helsel skillfully keeps the rhythm. Kevin Hampton and Jeff handle various 6-string & 12-string guitars with finesse, and Jeff occasionally adds harmonica.

Playing music from A (ABBA) to nearly Z (Young Neil), the diverse mix in Calvary Creek's repertoire stirs up wonderful memories. The band loves to see the smiles in the audience as they begin a familiar song. You're welcome to sing along if you know the words...and you probably do!

AUGUST BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

US Bank will host Business After Hours this month. Please join us on Thursday, August 18 from 5:30 - 7:00pm at 29 N. 7th for a time to network with others, learn something new, and have some fun. Bring your business card to enter the door prize drawing. Your attendance reinforces the spirit in which the Chamber provides these monthly activities. We look forward to seeing you there! Many thanks to those who support our efforts by attending this Chamber program.

Future Business After Hours

September 15 Emerald People's Utility District
October 20 PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
November 17 Village Green Resort

CHILI IN JULY? YOU BET!

What a great time we had at the Chili Cook-Off or Saturday! The sun shine accompanied a light breeze and the streets were filled with people and cars for the KNND Rock, Roll N' Rumble Car show. For those who thought it was too hot for chili...you missed out. The public had a chance to let their voice be heard by casting votes for their favorite. 3rd Place People's Choice went to Chili Knights/Pay It Forward, the new chef, Benjamin Gerlach at Axe & Fiddle brought his Texas roots to the kitchen to take 2nd place and the winner of this year's People's Choice chili went to Jack Sprats. A special thanks to our Judges for accepting the challenge of blind tasting all the chili and casting your vote. Cottage Grove Kiwanis Club earned the Judges Choice 3rd Place ribbon, Chili Knights/Pay It Forward took 2nd Place and Jack Sprats chili was a hit with the judges earning their 1st place Judges Choice trophy! The variety of Chili all around was a hit this year as several of our contestants ran out! Other contestants this year were: 5 Flying Monkeys, Shampoo Dolls Salon and State Farm who won the award for Most Festive Booth with their Hawaiian flair! Great job everyone. We thank everyone for your participation and look forward to your return next year! So start thinking about what chili recipe you'll want to enter and mark your calendar for next year's cook-off on July 22 2017! BIG thanks to our sponsors: Cottage Grove Sentinel, Cottage Grove Speedway, EPUD, Lane Community College, Pacific Power, Wal-Mart Weyerhaeuser, and contributors Cottage Grove Garbage Service and Grocery Outlet. Thanks also to those from the Greeter's committee who volunteered their time to serve. We couldn't have done it without you!

Please help us support Chamber member businesses and our local economy and "Shop Chamber Members first"!



2016 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

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P. (541) 942-2411

2016 Chamber Board of Directors: Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

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Candace Solesbee, Vice President	Shampoo Dolls Salon
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Staff:

Travis Palmer	Executive Director
Beth Martin	Office Manager
Mavis Bradsby	Bookkeeper

2016 Chamber Goals

- Increase membership by 25/year
- Increase networking opportunities by one/month
- Increase advertising efforts outside Cottage Grove
- Organize and be viewed as a business conduit and resource for businesses
- Improve communication about legislative issues affecting business