

# And the Wiener is...

## 2016 Wiener Dog Races & Pet Fest

### Saturday, August 20, 2016

#### 4-8pm WOE Fairgrounds



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Admission to the WOE Fair is free on  
Wiener Dog Day to dog owner; \$3/person or  
\$2 + can of food for all others (children 12 and under free)

## AIRPORT

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boundaries.

According to State Airports Manager Matt Mauss, the Department of Aviation believes annexation is the right move because it will put the Airport in position to utilize city services such as police, fire and permitting.

"We believe those services can help the Airport develop additional hangars," Mauss said. "Cottage Grove is currently one of the only of the 28 airports we manage that hasn't had any new hangar activity lately, and we were hearing that it may be because it's really difficult to get on approved by the County. We see this as having lots of benefits and few drawbacks."

City Planner Amanda Ferguson said that City staff are also in favor of annexation.

"There should be more commercial uses possible when city services are added," Ferguson said. "Adjacent property owners could negotiate for direct access to the airport for business purposes. Bringing in water to the existing hangars will also have

## OPAL

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she had always been a "big fish in a small pond" — now she was one student among thousands.

Opal Whiteley entered the UO in September, 1916 with more fanfare than a modern football star — no one could have lived up to the academic expectations of her. She took a huge load of coursework, enrolling both at the UO and at a Bible college while she still had to take a high school class in Springfield. Opal was still president of the Junior Christian Endeavor, which required much travel and communications. Opal also started a nature club and even played the sport of Lacrosse. Plus, she had to care for her mother, who lived with her and was dying of cancer.

One of her professors was later to say "Opal was in the university, but never of the university". She was considered "different" — doing things like singing to earthworms and running across campus to catch butterflies. Also, Opal was deeply religious, and college is when many students pull away from church.

One of Opal's relatives told me that she frequently mispronounced words and names. That makes sense, since much of her knowledge came only through her reading. Even though she knew the material quite well,

its benefits."

Currently, there is no running water available at the Airport, and the Kelleys and others have advocated for the construction of a pilots' welcome center that can provide visiting pilots with a reason to stick around when they stop in Cottage Grove.

"We'd have a real bathroom," Nadine Kelley said. "We hope it will spur growth at the Airport, and people may even move to Cottage Grove as a result."

One hurdle facing annexation concerned taxation. Hangar owners understandably do not want to pay property taxes to both the County and City. Thus, an agreement was reached that, for the first 10 years following annexation, the state would pay the difference of any increase in taxes for hangar owners. Improvements to their properties would be handled by the City's planning department, and any necessary permits would also trigger the change in taxation. The City also hopes to utilize the Airport to spray effluent from treated wastewater on the open spaces there.

Pilots contacted about the annexation were cautiously optimistic about the changes it could bring.

"It will help move things ahead so that we can get our pilots' welcome center, which is the result we want," said Doug Kindred, president of the Oregon Aviation Historical Society, which is headquartered in Cottage Grove.

"It will make this a destination with much more use," said Tom Cunningham. "Airports can be moneymakers, if cities know how to operate them."

"I hope nothing really changes," said pilot and hangar owner Kent Koester. "Whenever you see a small airport get involved in politics, it's generally not good. I just hope it doesn't cost more money. It's kind of like our garage here — we're a low-key airport that doesn't need a lot of help."

Pilot Lee Keller said he's adopted a "wait and see" approach with regard to annexation. And with the Council's vote in its favor, it looks like the wait is over.

she had never heard many of the scientific names spoken out loud.

Most lumber camps were small, having anywhere from five to fifty families. Everyone knew each other. A logging camp was a temporary settlement of a lumber mill and the lumber shanties for the workers. Once the nearby trees were cut, the entire camp, the mill and the small houses would be moved by railroad to a new place to cut trees. Opal lived in over 15 logging camps in the Row River Valley.

Lumbering had the highest mortality rate of any workers except deep mining. Opal's paper describes the fear each person in the camps feels upon hearing the four blasts of the mill whistle signaling a severe accident. Opal has personally known the terror that it could be her parent or friend who has been injured. She asks her readers to consider the essential humanity of those who work hard to produce things we use everyday.

In some ways her essay may sound like many papers that freshman or sophomore students have written. Young people have a strong sense of justice and what is "right" in their eyes. Most students are simply repeating what they have read — but not Opal. She has actually lived the life she writes

about. She has seen many men die in the 10 years she has lived in lumber camps. Few freshmen had seen so much death as Opal. Her grade for the paper was an "S" for Satisfactory.

Opal wrote this many years before the use of chainsaws and big trucks. Logging was still mostly done by men using an axe or large, cross-cut saw. Horses were still used for hauling lumber, and chainsaws were not widely used until after World War II.

However, fate was to change Opal's academic career. Just one year after Opal enrolled in college, her mother moved to Eugene for medical care. Elizabeth Whiteley had breast cancer. Opal's mother suffered a very painful death from cancer in May 1917. Mrs. Whiteley wanted Opal to quit college and take care of her siblings after she died.

Opal left Oregon in early 1918 during her sophomore year, partly because of pressures from her family. Like many young women who have been faced with this difficult choice when a parent dies, Opal chose to lead her own life, moving to Los Angeles where she published her book, *The Fairyland Around Us*. She never returned to Oregon, but did go to Boston where she published her childhood memoir in 1920.

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