

# Nation of Patriots flag tour stops in Cottage Grove

BY SAM WRIGHT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

On Memorial Day a few months back, a United States flag left Wisconsin and traveled through various states. By Saturday, Aug. 6 the flag reached Oregon and even stopped by in Cottage Grove for a little over an hour.

The flag is transported by the Harley Owners Group (HOG), and it is passed along to different chapters across the country. The transportation of the flag is part of the Nation of Patriots, which honors and supports past, present and fallen military veterans. Each year, the Harley riders pass the flag along from Northern California to Medford, where the Medford chapter transports the flag up to Portland, accompanied by chapters in the surrounding areas along the way. However, this year was different in that the flag stopped in Cottage Grove, where the riders were treated

to a buffet at Big Stuff Barbecue downtown. "It's really tiring to ride on a motorcycle for that long, so I thought it would give everyone a rest to stop for some lunch," said Jeffery Arkyns, member of the Twin Rivers chapter in Eugene and organizer of the lunch.

Arkyns says that the HOG members try to hit every Harley dealership they can along the way. The entire route takes the flag through all 48 mainland states. The flag will go up along the coast before it is looped back to Wisconsin by early September. Upon the flag's return, the Nation of Patriots will host a homecoming ceremony.

Throughout the country, HOG says there are about 100,000 members in total, most of whom will participate in the flag tour.

The local chapters around Lane County support a variety of charities. While currently the focus is on veterans, Arkyns says that they also host fundraisers and events to help chil-



Harley riders made a brief stop in Cottage Grove with a flag that has made its way across the U.S.

photo by Sam Wright

dren and cancer victims.

"Many of these guys are veterans themselves," Arkyns said, "Viet Nam vets, Gulf War vets, Iraq War vets, we have a whole lot of different veterans in our organization, so this is an important occasion for them."

# Suspect still at large after upriver dispute

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Last Tuesday afternoon must've brought a feeling of déjà vu all over again to residents in the Brice Creek area and law enforcement tasked with handling what is being described as an ongoing neighborhood dispute.



Dakota Miller

Deputies with the Lane County Sheriff's Office responded en masse to a report of shots fired in the 39000 block of Brice Creek Road on Tuesday, July 26, citing the history of parties believed to be involved in a dispute there as the reason for such a heavy police presence. No one was arrested following that incident.

Almost exactly a week later, at about 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, another report — this time of a single shot fired — drew about 15 personnel from the Sheriff's Office to the same area, according to

Public Information Officer Carrie Carver, to handle a continuation of the dispute involving the same parties.

Lane County's Special Response Team responded to the call, and Carver said that, upon arrival, the team witnessed 25-year old Dakota Miller "bailing from the house." The Sheriff's Office, with the aid of the Springfield Police Department's K-9 Unit, searched the area for nearly four hours but was unable to locate Miller.

However, Shelia Miller of Dorena was reportedly taken into

custody for hindering prosecution, resisting arrest and interfering with police in connection with the case.

Carver said police believe that taking Miller into custody "will quiet down the neighborhood a bit," urging anyone who has seen him or has knowledge of his whereabouts to call the Sheriff's Office at 541-682-4141. She added that history indicates that Miller may be armed and should be considered dangerous, and as such it is not recommended that citizens attempt to contact or apprehend him.

# Rummaging through trash, recycling bins common

Taking items from trash or recycling, though, can lead to theft charge

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Recent comments on social media and elsewhere indicate that customers of the Cottage Grove Garbage Service are discovering that a mess has been left behind when they journey out to retrieve their trash cans and recycling bins after their scheduled

pick-up day.

According to Garland Burback, owner of the Garbage Service, customers have called to complain about the condition of their bins and the trash and recycling that are often strewn about the area, with many blaming garbage collectors for the mess.

"It's been an issue," Burback said. "They're blaming our drivers for spreading trash around."

Burback said the mess, however, most likely stems from individuals rifling through the garbage and recycling, often searching for cans that can be redeemed for a deposit. What the searchers may

not realize, however, is that such a search is illegal under Oregon law.

Officer Shawn Branstetter of the Cottage Grove Police Department said that those who tamper with trash left on the curb can be cited with Theft III, a Class C Misdemeanor.

"It's an interpretation of state law that a homeowner still has property interest in those items until the Garbage Service removes them," Branstetter said.

"Even if it's on a public sidewalk, it's still their property until it hits our trucks," Burback said.

Branstetter suggested that gar-

bage service customers not throw their mail away without shredding it for the very reason that it may be rifled through later.

"If you see someone looking through bins, call us," he said. "If they're coming onto your property to do it, that's a trespass issue."

Burback said he confronts those he observes searching through his own bins, but he offered another suggestion.

"A lot of people set their stuff out the night before, but I never do," he said. "I put it out at seven a.m. so there's not as much of an opportunity."

# Genetic Resource Center to mark 50th anniversary

Public is invited to open house and free tours of the Center's disease-resistance breeding

stakeholders from 9 a.m. to noon with a series of technical speakers presenting on plant genetics, whitebark pine health, and national efforts around native species production and restoration.

The Center was established in 1966 as the headquarters for the White Pine Blister Rust Resistance Program where specialists worked to develop trees with resistance to white pine blister rust. At that time, the name was the Dorena Project with Jerry Barnes as project manager. A name change took place in 1975 to the Dorena Tree Improvement Center to better reflect the work program. In January 2003, the name of the center was changed to the Dorena Genetic Resource Center, reflecting the center's enlarged focus on forest health.

In the early 1990's several new programs were added at Dorena, including the Phytophthora lateralis resistance program for Port-Orford-cedar, containerized seed orchards for western larch, and common garden studies to study genetic variation. It was at Dorena, that U.S. Forest Service employees developed tree climbing standards that went on to become adopted as national standards.

In the 1990s, several new greenhouses and a facility for rooting cuttings of trees, as well as raised beds for common garden studies, were added. In more recent years, the Center has expanded into development of plant growing techniques for a wide array of native species and produces them for site restoration on federal lands projects across the Northwest.

For more information, contact the Dorena Genetic Resource Center at 541-767-5700.

The USDA Forest Service's Dorena Genetic Resource Center is celebrating 50 years of serving as a regional service center for Pacific Northwest tree and plant genetics.

Dorena GRC houses disease-resistance breeding programs for five-needled pines and Port-Orford-cedar, a native plant development program, and a national tree climbing program for the Forest Service. Their program is known internationally as a world leader in development of populations of trees with genetic resistance to non-native diseases.

The public is invited to the 50th celebration on Thursday, Aug. 25 at the Cottage Grove-based center, located 34963 Shoreview Road. The Open House and public tours are scheduled from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tours of the center will include: Genetic Resistance Trials Inoculation 'Fog' Chamber Tree Improvement Activities of Grafting, Pollination and Seed Production Port-Orford-cedar Containerized Orchards Native Species Plant Development Seed and Pollen Processing Tree Climbing

A special guest at the event will be Jerry Barnes, the first manager at Dorena when established in 1966. All guests will be able to enjoy viewing informative posters about the programs and activities at the Center.

In addition to the afternoon open house, the Center is meeting with partners and

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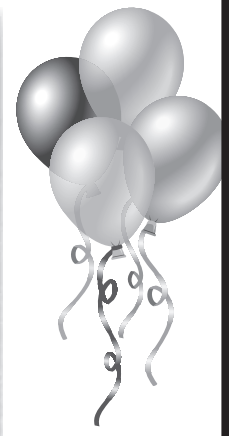
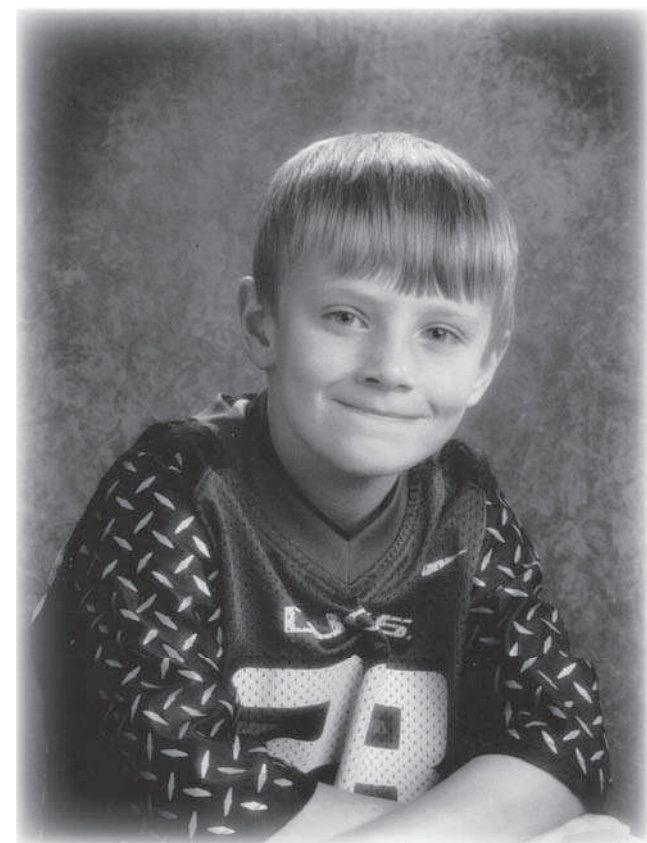
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