

# Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at a Sentinel story from 40 years ago

## Sept. 2, 1976 Paper Streets?

A major part of the proposed 'R' Street extension in front of Cottage Grove's new Bohemia Elementary School is in an area that has very high water table during winter months.

Normally, that fact would mean the street's base would have to be filled with expensive crushed rock to protect the planned street from later damage caused by mud working its way up under the hard surface.

But the R Street extension is not going to be handled in the normal way.

According to City Engineer Roger Sinclair, the city has decided to try using a "filter cloth" to prevent mud from weakening the street in front of the new school.

The cloth is called Mirafer 140. It is produced by a subsidiary of the Dow Chemical firm.

Mr. Sinclair was on the project site Monday, watching as workmen for the contractor, Delta Sand and Gravel Company of Eugene, rolled out the long, wide strips of cloth-like material on the excavated street bed.

"As far as I know, this is the first time it's used in Oregon," Mr. Sinclair said, noting that the new technique has been used in other parts of the country with success.

Mr. Sinclair said the material will "form a tough membrane" that will be equivalent to six inches of crushed rock. The material will allow water to pass through when the winter rains come, but it will hold

back the mud that weakens streets when it mixes with the normal rock base.

If the "filter cloth" were not used, the R Street project would need about three feet of crushed rock fill, Mr. Sinclair said. But with the cloth, the fill requirement has been cut to 12 to 18 inches.

When it is finished, the R Street extension will run a street 42 feet wide about 1,200 feet north and south past the new school. The street will link W. Main Street to the north of the school with Harrison Avenue to the south.

The R Street project will include curbs and gutters. Mr. Sinclair said work on the curbs should start this week and paving should begin sometime next week.



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1355 W. Harrison Ave.  
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34456 Row River Rd. (just past Dorena Grange)  
Sat-Sun-Mon 9am-5pm

## POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

### Aug. 22

#### Child Abuse/Neglect, Main St.

A complainant reported that a toddler was locked in a green Toyota Camry for the past 15-20 minutes unattended and parked on Main St.

#### Welfare Check, HWY 99

A complainant advised that a little girl from a neighboring apartment came to the front door with her blanket and said that her mom went crazy and disappeared. Police arrived and transported the girl to the police department.

### Aug. 23

#### Assault, Gateway Blvd.

A complainant advised that his seven year old was assaulted by a six year old and he wants the juvenile arrested. The case was taken for information.

#### Theft, W. Main St.

A complainant at the department reported that her brother stole her mom's electric wheel chair.

#### Contraband Seized, HWY 99

A reporting person advised police that someone dropped three mature marijuana plants

out back near the old, abandoned trailers. The plants were lodged at the impound lot.

### Aug. 26

#### Trespassing, Row River Rd.

The assistant manager of Walmart advised police of a disorderly subject on the sidewalk near the front entrance. The subject came in with two packages of women's underwear and demanded cash. The subject was given a gift card and then went back out front trying to sell that.

#### Illegal Camping, Arthur Ave.

Police were out to clear out a transient camp in the blackberries next to a residence.

### Aug. 27

#### Property Recovered, E. Main St.

A complainant in the lobby advised that he dropped his cell phone down the storm drain in the alleyway behind a business. He asked for permission to take a crowbar and hammer to the drain. The subject was very intoxicated, but police units managed to recover the cell phone.

#### Suspicious Conditions, HWY 99

A hysterical female was on the phone stating that someone is killing her friend. The caller stated that a man took the victim in the middle of the night and took him down the river. The caller has found the victim's boat but cannot find him. The complaints were considered unfounded and the caller was intoxicated.

#### Domestic Disturbance, BMX Track

A male in black shorts and a black T shirt was witnessed hitting a female in a dress. The fe-

male was pushing a bike in the opposite direction of the male, and the male left in a light blue older van towards town. No prosecution was desired.

#### Mental issues, Jefferson Ave.

A complainant at the front counter requested to speak to an officer regarding his downstairs neighbor, who was allegedly threatening to kill him with religious statements. The complainant said the neighbor was violating his Second Amendment right not to be killed. Officers were unable to make contact with the neighbor.

## AWARDS

Continued from page 2A

### Division G – Crafts and Hobbies

Carson Rigel: sun catcher 1st; Hunter Rigel: sun catcher 1st; Seth Lebow: plane model 2nd, lamp 2nd, paper leaf 3rd; Carter Wills: cup & candleholder 1st; Corbin Kephart: Gator car 1st, Simpsons figures 2nd; Summer Lebow: collage 2nd, earth collage 1st; Eli Williams: rock collection 1st; Chloe Hinkle: string pictures

1st; Kailen Wills: mug & bowl 1st; Briahna Guevaro: coin collection 2nd; Kaylynn Guevaro: necklace 3rd, tie dye 1st & 3rd, lego train 2nd, bowl 3rd, piggy bank collection 1st, beanie collection 2nd, stuffed whales 3rd; Gabe Bunce: zip line Lego 1st, pirate ship 3rd, Eifel Tower 3rd; Abigail Bunce: tank top 1st, Jennifer Bryant: fairy house 1st; Fred Rigel: wooden crate with milk bottles 2nd, Tara Sue Hughart: fish bowl ceramics 1st, antique baby mugs 2nd; Ashley Rigel: rifle sling 1st, hat band 2nd; Sabrina Coop: handbag 1st, belt 3rd, spur straps

2nd; Steven Stroud: blind spider 3rd, ear rings 2nd; Veronica Geiger: bead button 2nd; Ken Turner: fabricated rose 2nd; Dave Fors: plaque 1st; Joyce Durham: antique picture 3rd, 'Indian Princess' 3rd, Bavarian Dolls 2nd, Grimm's Fairytale plates 1st, Embroidery collection 3rd; Joanne Skelton: turtle boxes 3rd, 'By the Sea' salt & pepper shakers 1st; Tinika Ossman-Steier: 'Insect' collection 2nd; Mary Lee Cooper: 1950's & 1960's baby dolls 1st; Mark Markham: woodworking 1st; Bill Towsley: wooden fishing boat 2nd, wooden boat w/ski's

1st; Corolene Corriea: mosaic box 2nd; Penny Schaaack: glass bead necklace 2nd, amber & turquoise necklace 1st; Carole Chapman: eeyore board 2nd; Ruth Dusley: girl w/balloons; Lois Stadt: America's Bottles Collection 1st;

### Division H – Photography and Scrapbooking

Summer Lebow: Chi Chi 1st, Baby & Mama Slugs 3rd; Ryan Lane: Lazy Lizard 2nd; Kayla Lane: Chicken Party 1st; Kay-

lynn Guevara: White Flower 1st; Eli Williams: Watusi Cattle 2nd, Inside of Tree 1st; Gabe Bunce: Praying Mantis 1st, Velvet 3rd, Horsetail Falls 2nd; Ashley Kephart: Dream 1st, Christmas 1st, Infamous Bowl Licker 2nd; Jennifer Bryant: Pasta Game 1st, 4-H Club Making Rocket Launcher 1st; Holly Whiting: Pink Bleeding Heart 2nd, Sweet Baby Girl 2nd, Baby Iris 1st, Old Wagon 2nd; Thomas Pryor: Tibetan Joy 3rd; Marlene Nowak: Spanning Over Time 3rd, Winter Sleeps 1st, Swinging on the Boardwalk 2nd, Mudding it

1st, Splash 2nd, Oh Yeah! 3rd; Aaron Kephart: Buoys 1st, Wildwood 1st; Paul Henrichs: Hummingbird 2nd, Ocean Sunrise With Boat 3rd, Umpqua River Reflection 1st; Jennifer Guevara: Emu Close-up 3rd; Susan Cameron: Kylemore Abby 1st, Shark Bite 1st; Jennifer Bryant: Goat 3rd, Good Life 2nd, Flower 3rd; Dustin Bryant: Creswell Airport 1st; Lois French: Gymnastics 2nd, Merry Go Round 2nd, Car Show 1st, Handprints 1st, 'A' Wedding 1st;

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## OFFBEAT

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The U.S. war department was not slow to realize that the Japanese had developed a weapon that, while not a war-winner, could certainly dramatically increase the amount of pain they'd be able to inflict. Should the Japanese think to rig the balloons with biological weapons – weaponized anthrax strains, smallpox virus, that kind of

thing – they could do tremendous damage. And worse, if they continued to launch them when fire season began in the Pacific Northwest ...

Now, the Yanks didn't understand what the jet stream was or how it worked yet, so they didn't know, as the Japanese did, that it was a wintertime thing. Come July or August, when the entire Pacific Northwest was a giant tinderbox, the balloons would

no longer be flying. But that was a problem easily solved with bombs rigged with very-long-running timers or even temperature sensors that would set them off when they hit 80 degrees or so.

Well, so far as is known, the Japanese did none of these things; they contented themselves with sending traditional bombs. Of the 9,000 they launched, about 300 were found, and it's estimated that another 500 or 600 either blew up harmlessly without witnesses around or fell into the woods somewhere and are still out there. But the U.S. government did such a great job of hushing the whole thing up that

the Japanese concluded that the whole program was a miserable failure, and there was no discussion of continuing the program after April 1945.

It was in May of 1945 that the fire balloons actually drew blood, when a group of church picnickers in the southern-central Oregon town of Bly found one of the balloons; while they were gawking and prodding it, it exploded, killing five children and a pregnant woman.

And then there was that mysterious forest fire that broke out in July, which we know today as the third Tillamook Burn ...

Historians almost universally agree there was nothing the Jap-

anese could have done to win that war. They had picked a fight with a country that by the end of the conflict was out-producing the entire rest of the world combined. Although there were some bad moments in 1942, the outcome of the conflict was inevitable, particularly after American aircraft design caught up with and surpassed the Japanese Zero (arguably the best all-around fighter plane in the world until about 1943).

But had the Japanese developed it a year earlier, and had they loaded it with anthrax spores and put the bombs on six-month time delay fuses before sending them over the sea, they would have dramatically changed the way the war is remembered in the United States. And they probably would have changed the very landscape of the American West for decades.

## 6-day weather forecast

<b>THURSDAY Sept. 1</b> 51°   74°  <b>Sunny</b>	<b>FRIDAY Sept. 2</b> 51°   77°  <b>Partly Cloudy</b>
<b>SATURDAY Sept. 3</b> 49°   77°  <b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>SUNDAY Sept. 4</b> 49°   77°  <b>Sunny</b>
<b>MONDAY Sept. 5</b> 53°   78°  <b>Sunny</b>	<b>TUESDAY Sept. 6</b> 52°   76°  <b>Poss. Showers</b>

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