

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at a Sentinel story from 31 years ago

This week's Sentinel retrospective pays tribute to Kathleen Richards, a longtime community contributor and First Citizen who passed away in June.

March 6, 1985

First Citizen Kathleen Richards: A Gracious Lady

If she wanted to, Kathleen Richards could be to Cottage Grove what Barbara Stanwyck was to "Big Valley" or the "Thorn Birds." She has position - her father was the late Warren Hiram Daugherty, one of Cottage Grove's most successful lumbermen and business barons. She has respect - for nearly 40 years she's been an iron-willed civic leader, volunteer and fund raiser. She has power - her name alone often commands results for the causes she chooses. And, she even has something of a Stanwyck impact - hair that's as white as a judge's wig, confidence that's as bright as a beacon. But when Kathleen Richards was announced as Cottage Grove's First Citizen at the 36th annual awards night banquet Feb. 23, the standing ovation and thundering applause that followed was not for someone of just power, pride and wealth. Rather, it was for her 40 years of selfless, gracious and sometimes back-breaking service to

the community, say those who know her best. When the test tubes and beakers in the hospital laboratory need washing, Richards often forgot her "position" and put her elbows to the suds to clean off the slime. When an elderly woman on the hospital's geriatrics ward asked for a shampoo, Richards is remembered for forgetting her "power" and literally stooping down to help. And, when everyone else was too busy to drive around the Cub Scouts and little leaguers, or when money needed to be raised for the high school swimming pool and the hospital, the stories go that Richards didn't let price stop her from doing the chores herself. "I feel that she's kind of had a mother relationship to this community," says Bud Taylor, the decorated swimming coach at Cottage Grove High School who credits a large part of his successes to the Richards' family support of the pool. "I think she's just been excellent - I can't think of the words to describe how I feel about Kathleen." Richards' long-time friend Louise Hansen, wife of the late Warren Hansen, says Kathleen learned her giving and humble ways from her mother, Ina Irvin Daugherty, who died in 1968. "Whatever task needed doing, they would do it. Even if it was scrubbing floors or washing dishes, they would help..." "The thing about them, they never flaunt their wealth. They are just people." Alan Richards, the youngest of Kathleen and Norman Richards' two sons, said his mom's



Kathleen Richards

endless community projects are simply motivated by a love for people. "She thrives on that kind of stuff," he said, and for evidence adds that it sometimes takes Kathleen two hours to buy groceries because of the people she's chatted with along the way. But as for Kathleen herself, she talks far less about what she's done for others than what others have done for her. "I've just been blessed," she says without a flinch, sitting with her back to the morning

sun in the kitchen booth of her and Norman's spacious home on South Sixth Street. "People have made things so easy for me - Dad, Mom, and my husband. He makes things easy." That's partly why she was so "speechless" - a rare occasion for someone who easily conquers the crossword puzzle in each morning's newspaper - when her name emerged as First Citizen for 1984. "I was surprised, but so pleased that people cared," she said.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

Sept. 19

Missing Child, Bohemia Elementary

A caller reported that her six year old grandson has been missing for the past 20 minutes. He was supposed to be dropped off at a Main St. stop but did not get off the bus. The caller contacted school authorities but said they have not seen the child. Officers eventually located the missing child who boarded the wrong school bus.

Missing Child, Gateway Blvd.

A caller reported that his four year old daughter attends Head Start at the old Delight Valley School in Saginaw and was supposed to be home an hour ago but the school bus has not shown up. When officers arrived on the scene, the school bus finally showed up and the child was returned home safely.

Intoxicated Subject, Quality Inn

A reporting person that was a taxi driver said that he picked up an extremely intoxicated male from the Axe and Fiddle. The driver first took him to a house where he did not live and then took him to the Quality Inn, where he did not have a room. The taxi driver was not sure what to do with the subject. Police transported the subject to the police department for non-criminal detoxification.

Sept. 20

Vehicle Recovered, Gateway Blvd

An employee at the Quality Inn dialed 911 to advise police that the suspect in an unauthorized use of vehicle case recently returned and is inside the lobby. Officers conducted a high-risk stop of Joseph Kellogg and took him in custody on

several charges: Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle, first degree theft, unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle and possession of methamphetamine. During the search of the vehicle, police found several stolen auto parts from Walmart and O'Reilly Auto Parts. Kellogg was charged additionally with second and third degree theft.

Sept. 24

Civil Problem, N. Eighth St.

A complainant advised that his neighbor is watering his flower bed against his will and has cameras pointing toward his house; he demanded that officers respond and take a report. Officers reported that the neighbor's hose is stretched out a little and water was hitting a little bit of the complainant's property. The camera was reportedly a trail camera in the neighbor's driveway and pointing at the neighbor's house. No privacy issues were determined.

Sept. 25

Intoxicated Subject, E. Main St.

An aggressive male customer at a bar was reportedly trying to get into the locked front door of the business. Officers contacted the subject and counseled him.

Suspicious Conditions, Penoyer Ave.

A complainant requested an officer regarding unknown subjects placing trash and debris in the un-lockable trunk of her vehicle on a regular basis when the vehicle is parked at the location. Officers contacted the complainant and assisted her with removing the debris.

Douglas G. Maddess, DMD

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CITY BEAT

From the City's Friday Update
Youth Advisory Council seeks youth

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council is seeking interested youth to join the YAC for the 2016-17 school year. Youth that are middle and high-school age are eligible to participate. Applications are available on the City's webpage and at City Hall and must be submitted on or before Monday, Oct. 3, 2016. All applicants should plan to attend the Oct. 3 YAC meeting in City Hall at 6:15 p.m.

Bicycle Tourism Studio

Travel Oregon working with the East Lane County Bicycle Coalition is inviting anyone interested in capitalizing on the growing bicycle tourism opportunities in East Lane County to participate in the East Lane County Bicycle Tourism Studio during three workshops held Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 13. The Studio aims to develop ways to enhance cycling assets and create connectivity that will benefit cyclists, local businesses and communities. To register

contact Natalie Inouye from Travel Lane County at (541)743-8754

Bohemia Park Amphitheater unsaddled

The official sign that summer is over happened this week as the Bohemia Park saddle span was lowered and disassembled for the winter. It takes a crew about five hours to put the structure away for the winter. Two years ago, Public Works acquired a large box trailer, which is used to store the cover material, support poles and security cameras. The trailer is parked at the City Shop over the winter months and the saddle span will be reassembled next spring for the 2017 concerts in the park series and other activities.

Police Department interviews

This week, the Police Department conducted interviews for the top three candidates for the position of Communications Specialist. Pending the result of the interviews, a conditional job offer will be tendered to the top-ranking candidate. They hope to fill the position left by retiring Communications Specialist Ken Erbes by mid to late-October.

Additionally, the newest CGPD member began work last week. John Williams joins the department as a part-time Community Service Officer.

Oregon Water Utilities Council

On Thursday and Friday, Water Production Superintendent Ray Pardee and Public Works Director Jan Wellman attended the monthly meeting of the Oregon Water Utilities Council (OWUC) in Bend. OWUC represents the interests of water utilities around the State in legislative, legal, regulatory, and policy matters.

Lane County Waste Management and Senate Bill 263

Last Monday and Tuesday, Public Works Director Jan Wellman attended two separate meetings with Lane County Waste Management (LCWM) detailing new waste prevention and recycling requirements and goals set in Senate Bill 263. The first meeting detailed the recycling goals that each city in Lane County will have to meet when population thresholds are met and the role of local officials in meeting those goals. Currently, Cottage Grove must meet three recycling elements, which include the provision of recycling containers, weekly same-day-as garbage residential collection, and commercial recycling. Once Cottage Grove reaches a population of 10,000, a fourth recycling element may be required, such as yard debris collection and composting.

6-day weather forecast

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| THURSDAY Sept. 29 43° 68° Partly Cloudy | FRIDAY Sept. 30 43° 63° Sunny |
| SATURDAY Oct. 1 42° 59° Rain | SUNDAY Oct. 2 42° 57° Poss. Showers |
| MONDAY Oct. 3 44° 59° Poss. Showers | TUESDAY Oct. 4 43° 59° Poss. Showers |

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