

# Cottage Grove Retrospective

## A look back at a Sentinel story from 40 years ago

March 24, 1977

### Homemade food — comfy atmosphere

Cottage Grove's newest restaurant — Blue Sky Café — opened this week in the Sunshine General Store, 824 Main St. specializing in good wholesome food.

The café is a cooperative effort by Gordon and Marta Beaman, Robin Bachtler and Joe Ernst. All foods served at the Blue Sky are prepared in the kitchen. "We make our own bread, desserts, soups, dressings etc. Nothing is commercially prepared except for the whole grain bread used in sandwiches," said Gordon, who is the chef. Homemade bread is served with certain foods on the menu.

The present menu offers soups, salads, entrees, sandwiches, desserts and beverages. But Joe stresses that the group is open to suggestions. "We want this to be a very open business," he said.

"This has been the key to the store also," noted Gordon, "We have always been open with people and encouraged their participation. If somebody has a good idea, we are anxious to hear about it."

The foursome said they are trying to create an atmosphere of friendship with quick service and good food at reasonable prices. The menu at Blue Sky will probably change periodically, agree the business partners. "Maybe in the future we could have specialty dinners a couple nights each week," said Robin.

Now the café is only open during lunch hours, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., so its menus is aimed at the lunchtime trade.

Starting a café in the general store was part of the original plan when the business partners opened the store last June. "There was so much work to



do in the store we thought we should it on its feet, before we put our surplus energies into a restaurant," said Marta.

"We're a growing store and café, we'll add things and experiment," said Gordon. He also said support from the town has been overwhelming.

All agreed, they love it here because of the true feeling of community. "People are wonderful, helpful, warm and concerned," said Marta.

As the store and café grow, there will be additions and de-

letions, the four agree. They hope to open certain weekday evenings for dinner, possibly provide live music, change the menu, and in general keep the café and store flexible.

"We're trying for theme ideas to put on the walls," said Robin. "Like show a place or forum for local talent." Right now there are four large macramé hangings on the walls. Limited music selections are also heard in the café.

## POLICE BLOTTER

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

March 15

### Burglary, Row River Rd.

A complainant advised that subjects broke into three different washing machines last night at the location. The case was taken for two counts of burglary and one count of theft.

### Civil Problem, Monroe Church of Christ

A complainant originally on a 911 call requested police assistance in getting her vehicle returned from her significant other. She said she threw the keys

to the car out in the grass. The complainant was able to get the keys from the individual and no crime had occurred.

### Shots fired, Bennett Creek

A complainant believed specific people were shooting off a rifle, and the complainant was fearful that it was related to a motor vehicle accident that happened the night before.

March 16

Information, E. Main St. PD  
A complainant in the lobby

reported random information. The complainant was very distracted but said she was a witness to a motor vehicle accident on Bennett Creek and then reported that a subject took items belonging to her.

### Reckless Driving, Alt HS

A complainant advised police that she heard at least one vehicle doing donuts in the parking lot of the school and could also hear voices yelling.

### Welfare check, Taylor Pl.

A complainant advised that a subject at the location was seen with a shortness of breath and chest pains. The subject was wearing a Walmart smock. When advised he needed to go to the ER, the subject refused and walked away. The complainant requested a welfare check at the location.

### Theft-third degree, Main St. Safeway

A subject was seen committing theft at the location. The subject was wearing a burgundy hoodie and a dark backpack. The subject was last seen near the Gateway Apartments.

### DUII, Row River Rd. Walmart

A caller advised seeing a male subject pull in crooked into a parking spot. The subject got out, staggered to an electric cart and went into the store. The subject was then seen staggering back to his vehicle and fumbling around with his keys. Police were unable to locate the subject after an extensive area check.

March 17

### Intoxicated Subject, Gateway McDonalds

The manager of the business advised that a male subject was passed out near the Red Box machine. Officers came out and put two subjects in custody for non-criminal detoxification.

March 18

### Suspicious Conditions, Row River Rd. Walmart

Right outside the doors from the business was a man in a light grey Dodge Dakota pickup truck. The male was in the driver's seat and holding a machete in his hand while a female passenger sat in the passenger seat crying.

March 19

### Domestic Disturbance, E. Main St.

A complainant called behaving hysterical after a dispute with her husband. She claimed that he is on drugs and out of control and was grabbing and hurting her. Two small children were in the house with her. The caller didn't know where the Smith & Wesson handgun was in the bedroom she had locked herself in. The husband was taken into custody.

## CAPITOL BEAT

News from the state legislature and around Oregon

### From the legislature

- The Oregon State Legislature passed a measure increasing the pay-back on bottle returns to 10 cents. The law is now headed to Governor Kate Brown's desk for her signature. The law will increase the price for bottles and cans from five cents and begin on April 1.
- The state's house of representatives voted to change the way Oregonians can obtain vesectomies. The 37-21 vote would allow nurse practitioners, as well as doctors, to perform the procedure. The bill must still go through the senate before becoming law.
- Governor Kate Brown released a statement concerning the possible changes to health care saying the proposed changes by the Trump Administration would, "Reduce coverage: As many as 465,000 Oregonians will lose health coverage, including approximately 80,000 next year. Oregon's uninsured rate will triple from 5 percent to more than 15 percent. Reduce federal funding: To maintain Medicaid enrollment, we estimate the AHCA would shift \$190 million in costs to Oregon starting in 2020 approaching \$1 billion in 2023. The cumulative cost shift would be \$2.6 billion over the next six years. Reduce economic activity: The AHCA risks the loss of more than 23,300 health care jobs that were created in Oregon after the ACA was implemented."
- House Bill 2469 will get a hearing in the legislature. The bill, concerning GMOs, would allow local governments to control legislation regarding the protection of farmers against GMO crops. The bill, if passed, would overturn current law that prohibits local government from regulating crops.

### From around the state

- The University of Oregon's men's basketball team beat out Rhode Island in a nailbiting finish to earn a spot in the Sweet 16. They join the women's basketball team from OSU in advancing.
- The Oregon State University Board of Trustees postponed a vote on possibly increase tuition by four percent for undergrads after protesters interrupted the public meeting on Monday, March 20.
- A report by Oregon State Police cites Oregon as the top supplier of black market marijuana. The report noted that production of the drug within the state exceeds the demand and much of the product is shipped out of state, illegally. The report was originally obtained by The Oregonian and a second report is expected by the state police which "refines" the information.
- Senior Trooper Paul Rushton of the Oregon State Police found Facebook fame after coming to the rescue of two bald eagles. The animals were reported as laying in a ditch, tangled together. After rescuing the birds, Rushton reported that animal care experts determined a tear in one of the bird's wings and noted it was possible the birds had tangled in a fall or during mating.

## State Representatives

Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Democrat  
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6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY March 23

60° | 46°

Mostly Cloudy

FRIDAY March 24

56° | 43°

Showers

SATURDAY March 25

53° | 39°

Showers

SUNDAY March 26

51° | 43°

Showers

MONDAY March 27

55° | 44°

Mostly Cloudy

TUESDAY March 28

55° | 41°

Mostly Cloudy

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