

South Lane collects five seismic grants

By Caitlyn May
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The bridges are expected to fail. Shortly after, the electricity will go. Estimates say cell phone service will go down and hopes of having modern conveniences up and running prior to weeks-long days are slim.

The Cascadia Quake has been the talk of scientific communities for decades but a Pulitzer Prize-winning article in the New Yorker brought the issue to kitchen tables and city council meetings. It's also become a contributing factor to budgets and buildings.

The South Lane School District was recently awarded five seismic grants to improve the structures at Lincoln Middle School which is comprised of 10 separate buildings.

The grants, obtained through the Department of Education,

were a tough get according to South Lane Superintendent Krista Parent. She informed the school board on Thursday, June 22 that the school district was only expected to earn two of the five grants they eventually were awarded.

According to documentation supplied by the school district, upgrades to Lincoln to adhere to new seismic codes are expected to cost approximately \$300,000 per building. The grant application focuses on only five of the 10 buildings on campus.

"These five buildings are of the same construction type and were built in the same time period and comprise the core of the school," the report on the grant funding states.

The buildings were built between 1958 and 1963 prior to the current seismic requirements.

"It's that flat roof that is the

majority of the problem," Parent told the board on Thursday.

According to maintenance and facilities manager Matt Allen, the work will revolve around collapse prevention.

"It's a combination of the roof and the construction of the walls. So, what we're doing is creating a better attachment of the roof to the masonry walls so the building can move without collapsing," he said. "The neat thing is that they approved us for all five of the buildings instead of just two."

The work is expected to begin at the end of June 2018.

The district received a total of \$2.2 million dollars to upgrade the buildings at Lincoln according to the following breakdown:

Building C:\$473,292

Building D:\$355,142

Building E:\$355,142

Building F:\$510,277

Building G:\$510,277

Construction is expected to be completed in September of 2019 and will be included in the rash of other projects taking place around the district.

In November of 2016, voters passed a bond focused on upgrading school properties. The majority of the money, nearly \$23 million, was earmarked for the new Harrison Elementary School scheduled to open in the fall of 2018.

The remainder of the money is scheduled to be spent around the district, most notably at the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center. The community pool has been in need of an upgrade, including its locker rooms and during Tuesday's meeting, Parent noted that the district is working to form a committee tasked with outlining the most crucial needs of the building before construction begins sometime next year.

BMD Countdown



Councilman Bob Ehler and Mayor Jeff Gowing

Time is ticking... Only 15 days until the 58th Annual Bohemia Mining Days festival, July 13-16. Here's a few steps to take now to enhance these four days of summer fun.

Volunteer to help. Call Volunteer Coordinator Wendy Johnson at 541-543-4869.

Be a vendor. Applications still being accepted.

Enter 3 BMD Parades and the BMD Gold Rush Twilight 5K Run/Walk. Details on festival website

Dress Up. Show some BMD spirit and dress up in Western or Victorian costumes. Handmade bloomer outfits are now for sale at The Crafty Mercantile, 517 E. Main St. & custom orders taken. Saturday is Dress-up Day.

All-day Carnival Rides. Discount Carnival Ride Bracelet Coupons are now at Cottage Grove Bi-Mart. \$22 in advance & \$30 on site. Save even more with 2 for 1 "Buddy Day" on Thursday (7/13). Limited number of coupons available while supplies last.

Enter Drawing for Home Free Concert Meet & Greet VIP Ticket Package. Tickets: \$5 (only 500 tickets available to support festival operations) Buy via BMD website or call festival office. Home Free \$15 general admission concert tickets available at TicketsWest.com or at Cottage Grove Bi-Mart.

Downloadable applications for vendors, Saturday parade and volunteers are on the festival website or at KNNND, CG Sentinel, and CG Library & CG Community Center Information Desk.

More information is available at www.bohemiaminingdays.org or call 541-942-5064.

"Animal House" celebration planned

By Caitlyn May
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Nearly 40 years ago, the "Animal House" parade scene

made up of local leaders, business owners, longtime residents and chamber members. Their task is to organize local resources and

court those involved with the movie 40 years ago to revisit Cottage Grove.

"For the 25th anniversary, Cottage Grove had a big event," said Cottage Grove Chamber CEO Travis Palmer. "We actually got the Guinness World Record for the largest toga party."

The city has since lost the title (to a university in Australia that boasted 3,700 togas) but Palmer, along with the Double Secret Society is determined to get it back.

It's only a portion of what the group has planned for 2018. Along with dressing every man, woman and child in a toga for the event, the society is hoping to include individuals who worked as extras on the film as part of the celebration. According to Palmer, the society has already been in contact

with Universal Pictures and Guinness.

"We'd also like to have showings of the movie and we'll be using the Death Mobile, of course," Palmer said. "We also want to add the world record for the biggest food fight."

As for who would be responsible for cleaning up the mess, Palmer said he hopes to use popcorn to make the job easier.

Cottage Grove City Manager Richard Meyers said of the plan to have half the city throw food at the other half that it's been done before during a city celebration of "Animal House." As for who's going to clean it up and what type of food will be thrown he said the city and chamber would have to have a discussion.

The food fight, toga party, recreation of the parade scene (complete with the construction of the famous floats), tours and a concert are expected to come in at a cost of \$50,000.

"We've reached out to Universal for a piece of it and we're going to try and piece it together where we can," Palmer said. "It's going to be lots and lots of sponsors and donations."

The celebration is scheduled for July or August of 2018 and is expected to take the full year to plan.



The Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce plans to roll out a replica of the "Deathmobile" it purchased to celebrate the movie's 40th anniversary.

put Cottage Grove on the map. Togas and the Death Mobile headed down Main St. and the city headed to the history books as the cult-classic's stomping grounds. Next summer, the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce has plans to capitalize on the movie's popularity and draw crowds to mark its 40th anniversary.

They call themselves the Double Secret Society for obvious reasons and the group is

HOME FREE COMING TO BMD

By Caitlyn May
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Bohemia Mining Days has been at the center of Cottage Grove's tourism

season for 57 years and this year, something new is coming.

"We wanted to find a way to keep the festival," said Joel Reiten, president of Reiten entertainment and 22 year-resident of Cottage Grove. His solution to the dying financial anchors of traditional country festivals? Build a new anchor.

"With Bohemia Mining Days, we're in a situation where it's well known but as things change, we don't have the timber barons anymore," said Reiten, "and so it becomes the question of, what can we do to keep this festival going financially?"

Reiten has self-funded a concert, scheduled for July 14, bringing the band Home Free to Cottage Grove.

"I think they have a wide appeal and a for-pay concert will have the funds going back to Bohemia Mining Days," Reiten said.

The festival has remained fairly free of charge and so the addition of a paid portion

raised issues such as crowd control, ticket sales and security. To monitor the crowd and ensure only ticket holders will be permitted in the stage area, the Bohemia Foundation is constructing a reusable fencing system. Faye Stewart of the Bohemia Foundation and the city's planning department noted the fence would encircle the amphitheater and stand four-feet high.

"It will be something we can re-use," he said. "It will be temporary and have a green mesh material with the Bohemia logo on it."

The partnership with the Bohemia Foundation has helped, said Reiten but in the future, he hopes to continue bringing bands to Bohemia Mining Days—with less of the financial burden.

"I'd love for us to get big sponsors to carry some of the initial, up-front costs," he said. "But we're competing with other festivals around the county at the same time, who would have the same type of sponsors."

Sweet Home and Brownsville, both in Linn County, host country music festivals in the months of July and August that draw thousands of tourists and are carried largely

by financial sponsors that cater to the same demographic as Bohemia Mining Days.

"Home Free has a wide appeal," Reiten said but he noted the band may draw similar demographics as the country music festivals. "They play country, gospel and patriotic music," he said.

The group took home first place on a music competition show and are currently touring the country. "They sing acapella but you would swear there's a band behind them," Reiten said.

Tickets are currently on sale and range from \$20 to \$150.

"The high-priced seats sold out immediately," Reiten said, who noted he is also working with veteran ticket agencies to provide tickets to service members. "What's moving slower are the cheaper tickets. We want to make sure if someone wants to see the show, they can because this is for the Bohemia Mining Days to keep it moving forward."

For more information, visit bohemiaminingdays.org.

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