

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 30 and 60 years ago

August 5, 1987

Firm plans to build ‘McStop’

A Chicago investment group will team up with McDonald’s Corp. for a travel store and retail fuel station to be located south of McDonald’s Restaurant on Gateway Boulevard.

The facility, to be called “McStop”, would be built by Interpoint Corp., a group of four investors from the Chicago area led by former Chicago Cubs third baseman Ron Santo. The 2,400-square-foot retail store and fuel pumps would sit on land owned by McDonald’s.

Interpoint, McDonald’s and city officials had been discussing the proposal for several months before Monday’s announcement. A conditional-use and design-review proposal for the site will be considered by the Cottage Grove Planning Commission next Wednesday (Aug. 12, 1987).

Santo, who explained the planned facility in a telephone interview Monday, said Interpoint chose the Cottage Grove site over several others because of its proximity to Interstate 5 and the size and configuration of the existing restaurant and parking space.

The freeway’s high volume of traffic and the site’s relative remoteness from other fuel facilities also weighed in the decision, he said. The willingness of city officials to work with Interpoint and McDonald’s on the concept sealed the project, Santo added.

“It’s just a great location. I fell in love with it as soon as I saw it,” Santo said. “Cottage Grove is trying to attract tourists and this should only help. It will be a high-volume fuel facility.”

The complex will be compatible in appearance to the nearby restaurant and provide complementary products, Santo said. He described the retail facility as a travel store that will sell tourist items as well as food and convenience goods.

The fuel station will be able to service eight automobiles and four tractor-trailers at one time, he said.

When completed, the facility will provide 12 to 15 jobs and “create a lot of sales,” Santo said. He declined to say how much money is being invested in the project or its estimated annual economic impact.

“I think it’s going to bring a lot of business to Cottage Grove,” he said.

Wib Sutherland, vice president of real estate for McDonald’s in Oak Brook, Ill.,

said the facility would be the third such station-store arrangement between McDonald’s and private investors. One McStop is located in Minneapolis, and another is under construction in Thousand Palms, Calif.

“The idea (behind McStop) is simply offering three services - food, fuel and convenience - in a single site,” Sutherland said. “We thought that with the McDonald’s already there and the availability of land, it had all the attributes we want in the site.”

McDonald’s bought 1.41 acres of adjacent land for the project, yet plans to use only about 100 feet of the purchased parcel for the proposal, said City Planner Howard Schesser, citing preliminary site drawings by the project architect, The Balzhizer Group of Eugene.

According to the plot plan, truck access to the fuel pumps would come from an entry point just south of the current southerly entrance. Two more curb cuts would be made for automobile access, and vehicles could travel directly to the restaurant without re-entering Gateway Boulevard.

Santo said that if necessary permits are acquired soon, construction could start in October with the opening anytime between December and March.



National Beat

News from around the state and the nation

The state of Oregon is hot. Temperatures in the valley are expected to shatter records this week with several state agencies warning residents against the dangers of heat-related illnesses and offering tips on how to stay cool as well as opening cooling stations. For more information on how to stay cool in Cottage Grove, please see A1.

Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney, 74, has announced that he may consider retiring from his long-held position. Courtney's term is scheduled to be completed in 2019--if he holds out, he will become the longest-serving Oregon legislator.

The eclipse that has been dominating headlines for months is set to occur on August 21 and the event has hotels around the state booked. That much has been reported for months as well but as the event inches closer, other consequences of having tourists flood the state are coming to light included an increase in traffic and the national guard being deployed by Governor Kate Brown.

President Donald Trump has released Anthony Scaramucci from his position as White House Communications Director 11 days after placing him in the position. Scaramucci was quoted in a New Yorker article using profane language days before his termination.

Former Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio was found guilty of criminal contempt of court this week. "American's toughest sheriff" faced charges after failing to cease racial profiling practices in his department as directed by the court. He faces up to six months in jail.

Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro will face U.S. sanctions courtesy of the Trump Administration after holding elections on Sunday that would effectively end the country's government and retain Maduro as the country's leader.

Los Angeles will reportedly host the 2028 Olympics. The report comes after the city agreed to give up its bid for the 2024 games.

16-year-old Cruz Velazquez is dead after drinking liquid meth at an airport security checkpoint. Guards required the boy to drink the liquid to prove it was apple juice.

State Representatives

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POLICE BLOTTER

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

July 24

An individual on 3rd St. reported that suspects came onto his porch, moved items around and then took the sim card from the surveillance camera that morning around 4:00 a.m.

July 25

A man on Chamberlain stopped to get a soda out of a cooler in the back of his truck when an elderly man approached him and told him that he had called the police and that the individual was not free to leave the area.

A theft was reported after a woman received her medication in the mail, started doing other things and then set it down outside. When she went back to retrieve it, the medication had been taken along with the hose.

July 26

It was reported that a man in the Walmart parking lot with a Mohawk was throwing things, yelling and cussing near the bus stop.

July 27

A disorderly subject was reported in the 700 block of River Rd. at 6:40 a.m. when a woman was running around the property naked and yelling about trying to find her man.

July 28

Several white high school aged kids at Coiner Park were reportedly yelling racist comments at a black high school aged kid.

July 29

A male subject who had his bicycle with him was on 6th St. was reportedly “extremely high” and was repeatedly taking his shirt on and off.

July 30

Approximately six males were involved in a physical dispute at the intersection of 12th and Jefferson. No weapons were observed.

A man on Main St. reported that someone had poured bleach into his bathtub which resulted in injury to his feet.

A domestic disturbance was reported on 8th St. when a woman had locked an intoxicated male outside and he began screaming and kicking cars.

July 31

Living Faith Church reported that two black rubber mats were stolen from the steps of the church. They have the incident on video.

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY AUG. 3 106° 64° Mostly Sunny	FRIDAY AUG. 4 101° 62° Sunny
SATURDAY AUG. 5 97° 59° Sunny	SUNDAY AUG. 6 96° 59° Sunny
MONDAY AUG. 7 96° 59° Sunny	TUESDAY AUG. 8 93° 57° Sunny

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