

Yoncalla woman's win of a lifetime

By Caitlyn May
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There is no one left who speaks the language of the Kalapuya Tribe.

Those hoping to save the language and broader culture from extinction rely on documents and voice recordings from the 1950s. They gather approximately 60 children at a summer camp and teach them drumming, dancing and ecology. They tell stories.

Ester Stutzman of Yoncalla does it all. and for her efforts, Governor Kate Brown awarded her the 2017 Governor's Arts Award after the award was shelved for 10 years. Stutzman was one of two individuals and three organizations to receive this year's award.

"It's for longtime storytelling," Stutzman said from her home in Yoncalla.

And that's what Stutzman is, she says, a storyteller. She visits classrooms and confer-

ences, presents to organizations and gives talks at museums and meets with scholars as part of her role as a storyteller with Mother Earth's Children—a Native American theatre group.

While she works to tell the stories of her tribe and preserve and reignite passion for the culture, she says there are rules to the story.

"I was taught the stories by my grandmother, uncles and aunts and they cautioned me on how to tell the stories," Stutzman said. "There's rules on how to pass them on."

Passing on the culture of the Kalapuya Tribe is a primary focus for Stutzman who takes part in a summer camp each year aimed at doing just that.

Every year approximately 60 to 75 Native American children gather to take part in drumming and dancing. They learn about local ecology and hear the stories passed down from earlier generations. And they've been doing it for 42 years.



"We promote language heavily," Stutzman said. "There is quite a bit of language on the reservations like Grand Ronde but there aren't have speakers left," she said of the Kalapuya language.

"I think all of what we try

to do is share what we know with the kids," she said. "That it is energized and makes them proud of their culture and gives them a means to pass that on."

Portland artist Arvie Smith was also honored by Governor Kate Brown.

Square dancers hosting free dance

Group hopes to attract younger crowd, new faces

By Caitlyn May
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Terry Nelson has been square dancing for approximately 17 years after a friend got him into it. Now, he's hoping to get others around the community involved and maybe wrangle some younger participants onto the dance floors.

"We haven't been able to get younger folks to take it up," he said. "We found it a real challenge to track people in their 20s and 30s, even their 40s. We started in our 40s but then you have kids and things drop off for awhile."

Nelson is hoping that with a little word of mouth, the Emerald Empire Square Dance Association he belongs to can stir up some interest in a free community square dance on Friday, September 29.

"We hope people will give it a try," he said.

While the interest in the art of square

dancing has ticked down, Nelson said stereotypes may be largely at fault. He noted that flannel shirts and cowboy boots are not mandatory and that music isn't always of the country variety.

"There was a stigma that it was always country music but there are callers that use all types of music," he said, rattling off jazz, rock and, occasionally rap, as examples.

As for where someone might find others who also spend their free time square dancing, Nelson said opportunity is there for those who look for it.

He and his wife belong to the Cottage Grove Boots and Sandals Square Dance Club here in Cottage Grove.

"It's suffering a little bit here," he said. "Because we don't have a lot of local callers. We have to get people from Portland, Albany and Roseburg."

A caller calls out the moves of each dance and while they sometimes also participate in the dance while calling, it's not standard



in modern square dancing.

To take part in the local square dance scene, one does not have to break the bank.

According to Nelson, lessons are \$3 per person.

"It's not a terribly expensive hobby," he said.

For more information on the upcoming dance to be held in Springfield, visit daretodancesquare.info. Or call Christine at 541-520-9549 or Terry at 514-688-2958.

Tiny Houses

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The money—courtesy of a grant from the Presbyterian Women Creative Ministries Offering Committee—is a drop in the bucket of the \$800,000 needed to complete the project but CVC said the funds would help generate additional fundraising and give the project an added perception of being a serious effort. "It's going to help us raise more money," he said.

"We get the funds in two payments," Kelsh said. \$50,000 is expected in October and the remaining amount in May of 2018. Under the terms of the grant CVC received from Meyer Memorial Trust, the project must be completed by the end of 2018.

"We still have \$600,000-odd to raise and we've met with the grant writers and we're still going after grants," Kelsh said.

CVC is the boots on the ground organization for Eugene's SquareOne Villages, a non-profit which headed Opportunity Village—a housing development for homeless individuals—and is starting work on another housing project in Eugene aimed at low-income residents. SquareOne received the Meyer Memorial Fund grant and purchased land on Madison Ave. in Cottage Grove earlier this year for Cottage Village.

SquareOne Executive Director Dan Bryant said the money would likely go to pre-development costs. "It puts us on the map as a national organization that shows the legitimacy of the vision. I think it will help us with other fundraising," he said.

Plans surrounding the development of Cottage Village have garnered mixed reactions from community members and have drawn ire from neighbors worried over property values. Initial plans for the community centered specifically around homeless individuals but a more recent narrative has shifted to focus on those in danger of becoming homeless including those who receive social security as their only source of income.

"If we could build a house to have something to show people, I think that would be helpful," Kelsh said. However, CVC has yet to decide on a model for Cottage Village or if the community will include houses of various sizes and floorplans. According to Bryant, the group could utilize the large shop on the Madison property to build a sample house and then move the structure onto the property once the plans for the community have been approved by the city.

"We don't have a timeline for going to the city right now," Bryant said. "But the committee might have done more work on that and we'll probably spend the fall working on it."

Cottage Village must meet city planning requirements, including city codes for sewer and water services, before construction can begin.

"We're really going to have to get moving," Bryant said. "There's a lot to be done."



Are you ready?

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Pet safety

Strong storms can barrel through a location with tremendous force, obliterating homes in the process. The prospect of a natural disaster often forces people to take inventory of their lives and make decisions about what items to protect and how to prepare for the inevitability of an approaching threat. When making disaster preparedness plans, pet owners need to factor in care of their companion animals.

Many people refuse to leave pets behind. However, faced with the prospect of an impending storm or other calamity, pet owners may not know where to turn when it comes to caring for pets. Some inevitably stay behind after disaster evacuations have been issued with the fear pets may not be allowed in shelters or could be turned away from hotels. This can put homeowners, pets and rescue work-

ers at risk for greater injury. Knowing how to behave during a disaster, and caring for a pet in the process, can assist with keeping everyone safe.

* Know your options. People who live in particularly vulnerable areas, like those prone to wildfires or coastal flooding, should map out a disaster plan. This plan will spell out what everyone in the home will do in the event an evacuation is needed or if you need to stay put with the potential for utility interruption. While some shelters are not pet-friendly, many are. The Red Cross has a network of Pet Disaster Shelters where pet owners can turn. Finding one may require a bit more travel, but it could offer peace of mind.

* Keep medical records handy. Have an extra copy of pets' veterinary records in case of disaster. Keep important papers in a water-proof container. Should you need to go to a shelter, staff may request proof of vaccinations. Dogs usually need to be up-to-date on distemper/parovirus, rabies and bordetella (kennel cough) vac-

cines. Cats will need distemper, feline leukemia and rabies shots in most cases.

* Create an emergency supply kit. Have extra food and water on hand for pets just in case you are stranded at home or need to go to a shelter. Store three to four days' worth of food and water in sealed containers. Take stock of any medications that pets take on a routine basis. Pack comfort items, such as toys or blankets, that have a familiar smell so that pets will be less skittish. Place these items with your own emergency supplies.



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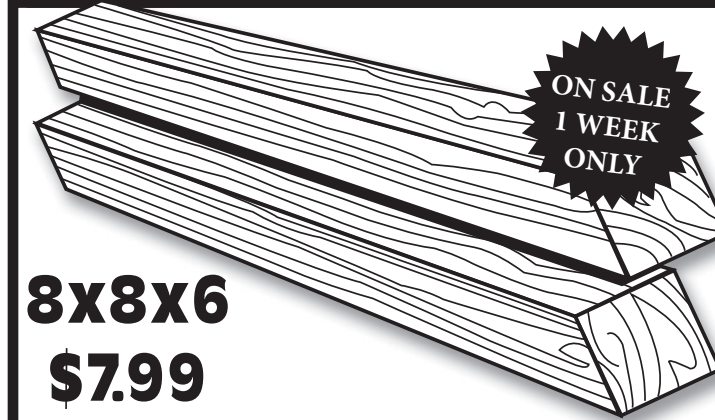
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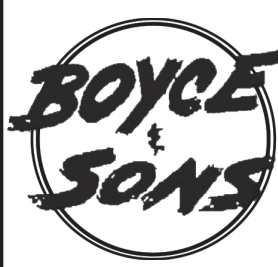


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JOHN KLOBAS

John is a retired professor who taught classes in Sociology and Neuro-Linguistic Programming at Lane Community College. He loves playing international and Old World music. He played for years with The Polka Pipers and as a talented musician he is often invited to perform the music he loves at special events. John also hosts a similar show on KLFO in Florence, Oregon.



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PUT TOGETHER A PLAN

Make sure all the pieces are in place to render you and your family prepared in the event of a natural disaster.

- Listen to radio or television newscasts for the latest weather information, and follow all evacuation directions and suggestions.
- Keep a stock of non-perishable food items as well as bottled water on hand inside your home.
- Keep a 72 Hour Kit on hand inside your home that is easy to get to in the event of a disaster.

For more information and tips on disaster response and preparedness, contact your local emergency services center.
South Lane Fire & Rescue • 233 Harrison Ave., Cottage Grove 541-942-4493 • 55 South 1st Street, Creswell 541-895-2506



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